



Photo provided

Fort candidates

Fort Recovery High School will crown its homecoming king and queen before the Indian football team's game tonight against New Bremen. Ceremonies will begin at 6:30 p.m., with the game to follow at 7 p.m. Pictured, front row from left, are queen candidates Cora Kremer, Brylee Kremer, Rylee Bubp, Mallory Evers, Olivia Knapke and Zoe Dues. In the back row are king candidates Gabe Acheson, Reece Wendel, Joshua Evers and Reece LeFevre.

County slices facility budget

Council pushes for closure by end of June

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Jay County Country Living will be funded through June 30.

Jay County Council slashed the living facility's budget for next year in half on Wednesday following a first reading of the 2026 budget.

The budget, advertised last week at an estimated nearly \$26.6 million, sits at an increase of roughly \$2.5 million from the current year. It includes \$12.03 million in the general fund.

Council on Sept. 10 made several cuts to its budget, with the largest change resulting from bumping proposed raises from 3% to 2%. At that time, council member Harold Towell also suggested funding Jay County Country Living through the end of June 2026, six months earlier than the deadline set by Jay County Commissioners for the facility to close.

Council followed through on that proposal Wednesday, cutting approximately \$210,316 from Jay County Country Living's budget for next year. (Additional appropriations can be made if needed amid the transition, Towell pointed out Sept. 10.)

Efforts are in the works to find new homes for the remaining residents at Jay County Country Living. County officials have voiced hopes to have folks relocated by the end of this year.

See Slices page 2

Former French president sentenced

By GASPARD SEBAG
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Former French President Nicolas Sarkozy was handed a five-year jail term for criminal conspiracy at a trial over allegations aides and political allies covertly sought funding from the late Moammar Qaddafi's regime before his election in 2007.

While the Paris Criminal Court also cleared him of charges of embezzlement of Libyan funds, corruption and illegal campaign financing, judges decided that Sarkozy's pledge to appeal wouldn't lift the execution of the sentence. Agence France-Presse said that he's due to be summoned within a month to learn the start of his jail term.

Judge Nathalie Gavarino said Sarkozy had let people in his entourage reach out to Libyan authorities "in order to obtain or attempt to obtain financial support in Libya" for his 2007 presidential campaign, according to AFP. Some of his aides at the time were also convicted on Thursday.

Sarkozy lashed out at critics

who wanted him behind bars and called his sentence a "humiliation" for France.

"I will fight until my last breath to prove my total innocence," he told reporters outside the courtroom. "If they absolutely want me to sleep in prison, then I'll sleep in prison, but with my head held high. I'm innocent. This injustice is a scandal."

Braun calls for changes

By DAN CARDEN
The Times (Munster)
Tribune News Service

Gov. Mike Braun is pledging to take "an entrepreneurial approach" to address Hoosiers' soaring costs for electricity and other essential, state-regulated utilities.

The Republican chief executive did not precisely define his entrepreneurial vision for commodities whose retail prices are basically set by state regulators, other than to say he hopes those officials will objectively consider the impact of higher rates on Indiana utility customers.

"Ensuring that Indiana has efficient utilities without overburdening Hoosier families is critically important to me," Braun said.

Braun certainly will have a chance to put his stamp on utility costs in the months ahead as three of the five members of the rate-setting Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission are due to be replaced by the governor.

This week, he formally convened the IURC nominating committee to solicit applications and evaluate the individuals interested in serving as a state utility commissioner.

Applications for the \$152,000-

Governor says an 'entrepreneurial approach' is need on energy costs

a-year positions are available on Braun's in.gov/gov website and due by Oct. 14. The nominating committee is slated to interview prospective commissioners the final week of October in Indianapolis before providing the governor a list of recommended candidates.

"It is important that the IURC nominating committee look at applicants through a lens that considers one's ability to protect ratepayers while objectively weighing the facts and proposals that will impact Hoosiers for years to come," Braun said.

"If you are an entrepreneurial thinker and creative problem solver, I encourage you to apply to join the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission."

Records show the IURC in June authorized the electric utility serving Northwest Indi-

ana, NIPSCO, to raise its rates by 16.75% for the average residential customer over the next two years, following a 10% rate hike implemented over the previous two years.

Kerwin Olson, executive director of the Indiana Citizens Action Coalition and its "Stop Mike's Hikes" campaign, said that's symptomatic of a state energy landscape "carefully designed to benefit utilities and big industry."

"We need leadership that embraces real solutions and puts consumers at the center of Indiana's energy policy. Utilities always seem to get richer, and our families pay the price.

That must change, and we desperately need real leadership from the governor to reverse that trend," Olson said.

See Changes page 2



Special to The Commercial Review/Kristyn Fisher

Setting on Votaw

The sky turns red on the horizon as the sun sets in the distance in this view looking west on Votaw Street on Wednesday evening on the west side of Portland.

Deaths

Mike Weagant, 56, Fort Recovery
Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature was 79 degrees Wednesday in Jay County. The low was 66.

Skies will be clear tonight with a low in the lower 50s. Expect sunny skies Saturday with a high in the upper 70s. Highs will climb into the 80s again Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from the Jay County High School football game at Woodlan.

Tuesday — Coverage of the Jay County girls soccer game against Heritage.



Slices ...

Continued from page 1

On Monday, commissioners also decided on a 2-1 vote not to allow new residents.

Council member Cindy Bracy, who also serves as Jay County Country Living advisory board president, noted Monday that The Journey Home — an organization aimed at ending veteran homelessness — recently visited Jay County Country Living and expressed interest in moving from its Winchester location to the Portland site. (Randolph County Commissioners have been pushing the organization to find a new location, saying they feel the current space at Randolph County Center for Family Opportunity is not a good fit.)

When council broached the subject Wednesday of whether to fund the facility for half of 2026, council members looked to Bracy. She said she believed the June 30, 2026, deadline was reasonable.

“Maybe we'll have a straggler or two, but I got a message today that there were some other county homes that have reached out to Stacey, and she's taking some residents there, so that's a real blessing, because ... some people don't really qualify for assisted living but need assisted living,” Bracy said.

Council members Randy May, Faron Parr, Matt Minnich, Bryan Alexander, Towell and Bracy, absent Michael Brewster, then voted to cut approximately \$210,000 from facility's budget.

Council OK'd a few increases to the 2026 budget from the current year — they were already implemented into the recently advertised budget — at their meeting Wednesday, including an additional \$100,000 for medical supplies and an additional \$15,400 for utilities at Jay County Jail, as well as a \$3,825 increase in the annual contract for Purdue Extension Office services.

It also OK'd job classification changes, which would increase some employees' wages and increase the budget by approximately \$14,391. The changes were recommended by consulting firm Waggoner, Irwin, Scheele and Associates as part of a regular wage study.

Council also agreed to bump Jay County surveyor Brad Daniels' pay to match Jay County recorder Melanie Upp's pay.

Alexander proposed increasing Daniels' pay from the current year by about \$5,290, pointing out Daniels is on the lower side of the regional average pay scale based on the wage study.

Alexander said most other elected officials are above the regional average pay, with Jay County auditor Emily Franks noting council, commissioners and Jay County Coroner Brayden Fields are not included in that list. (Fields is slated for a nearly 16% raise — \$3,000 — for 2026.)

Also Wednesday, council took no action on a \$33,570 transfer request from commissioners to pay for planning work for a proposed new public safety building. The request originally died for lack of a motion at council's meeting Sept. 10.

Commissioners decided on a 2-1 vote Aug. 25 to move forward with MSS Engineering to draft plans for the proposed structure, which would house Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Health Department and Jay County Coroner's Office. Plans had been to place the structure on the county's 68 acres along Indiana 67 in Portland, although recent discussion among commissioners has led to suggestions of other locations. (Commissioner Duane Monroe suggested negotiating with IU Health Jay to see about expanding the current Jay Emergency Medical Service base in Portland.)

Commissioners president

Chad Aker shared plans to meet with representatives next week to begin planning. He pointed out that MSS Engineering's work would be the first step in the process, noting it needs to be done before construction work can be bid out in the future.

He added that the company has requested a down payment (\$33,570) before starting.

Bracy questioned where the additional \$70,000 for the contract will come from, with Aker saying it would come from next year's budget. Bracy voiced concern about moving forward with the work amid uncertainty.

Council members sat in silence for a moment, with the request again dying for a lack of a motion.

In other business, council OK'd transferring \$33,500 and \$14,000 between funds in Jay County Jail's budget to pay for holiday and overtime wages through the remainder of the year.

Council also agreed to hold another meeting at 5 p.m. Oct. 22 to adopt Jay County Solid Waste Management District's budget. (Franks noted a computing error with submitting the district's budget on Indiana Gateway earlier this month.)

Obituaries

Mike Weagant, Fort Recovery, died Sept. 23. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Springhill Cemetery, Fort Recovery.

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.

SERVICES

Today

Hart, Mark: 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.

Stump, Martin: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Shepherd, James: 2 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Saturday

Snow, Margaret: 10 a.m., Grace Bible Church, 6626 S. 150 West, Berne.

Wilson, Patricia: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 201 E. Franklin St., Winchester.

Lopez, Nancy: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.






Crouch, Fran: 2 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Tuesday

Weagant, Mike: 11 a.m., Springhill Cemetery, Fort Recovery.

Stewart, Linda: 1 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

CR almanac

Saturday 9/27	Sunday 9/28	Monday 9/29	Tuesday 9/30	Wednesday 10/1
 82/52 Saturday's forecast shows sunny skies, with the temperature reaching up to 82 degrees.	 85/54 Sunny skies on Sunday with highs climbing to the mid 80s.	 84/56 Mostly sunny skies are expected Monday when the high will be around 84 degrees.	 82/54 Tuesday's weather looks like mostly cloudy skies with a high around 82.	 79/49 Mostly cloudy skies are in the forecast for Wednesday when the low may hit 49 late.

Lotteries

Powerball 15-31-45-49-53 Power Ball: 19 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$145 million	Daily Four: 8-0-3-7 Quick Draw: 1-8-12-17-24-26-27-44-48-49-50-53-54-60-62-69-71-72-75-78 Cash 5: 2-29-42-43-44 Estimated jackpot: \$238,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$474 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 7-1-2 Pick 4: 9-8-4-0 Pick 5: 9-3-7-7-8 Evening Pick 3: 7-3-2 Pick 4: 9-3-5-4 Pick 5: 8-0-4-8-0 Rolling Cash: 2-24-25-26-38 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 2-9-8 Daily Four: 5-2-5-4 Quick Draw: 2-4-5-12-15-21-23-27-36-38-39-48-53-56-63-64-65-68-76-78 Evening Daily Three: 1-5-7	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.20 Oct. corn4.12 Dec. corn4.25	Dec. beans10.11 Wheat 4.75
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.19 Oct./Nov. corn4.09 Dec. corn4.29	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.97 Oct. corn3.97 Beans9.67 Oct. beans9.67 Wheat4.70
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.05 Oct. corn4.02 Beans.....9.59	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.20 Oct. corn4.05 Beans.....9.51 Dec. beans9.76 Wheat4.55

Today in history

In 1580, Francis Drake, an English admiral, arrived back at Plymouth Harbour, England, to complete his circumnavigation of the world.

In 1913, the Jay County High School girls soccer team tied the Yorktown Tigers 2-2. Yorktown had defeated the Patriots in each of the previous two sectional championship games, but JCHS would go on to top the Tigers 1-0 for its first sectional championship a few weeks later.

In 2022, Jay County Commissioners approved moving forward with MakeMyMove, an initiative that offers financial incentives to attract residents who work remotely.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 5:15 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center,	118 S. Meridian St., Portland. Oct. 6 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.
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Local/Indiana

Capsule Reports

Intersection crash

A Muncie man pulled in front of oncoming traffic at the intersection of Indiana 1 and Indiana 67 in Redkey, causing an accident about 7:53 p.m. Tuesday.

Ryan M. Duncan, 45, was driving a 2007 Chevrolet Silverado south on Indiana 1 near when he approached the road's intersection with Indiana 67. He told police he didn't see any vehicles at the stop and continued forward. At the same time, Sally M. Miller, 26, Portland, was driving her 2005 Hyundai Tucson east on Indiana 67. Duncan pulled in front of Miller, according to an accident report from Jay County Sheriff's Office, and Miller wasn't able to stop before hitting the back of the truck.

Miley Duncan, 13, Redkey, a passenger in Ryan Duncan's vehicle, complained of ankle pain but refused treatment on scene. Both vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Three vehicles

Damage was estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a three-vehicle collision at the intersection of county road 75 South and Indiana 67 about 3:42 p.m. Monday.

Felony arrests

Domestic battery

Three Portland residents were arrested this week for domestic battery.

Chad D. Carpenter, 46, 129 W. 300 North, Portland, was arrested Monday and charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for domestic battery and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He was released from Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

Isaiah M. Riggins, 21, 520 N. Williams St., Portland, was arrested Sunday and preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for domestic battery and a Level 6 felony for strangulation. He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Ryan A. Blount, 53, 1003 W. Water St., Portland, was arrested Tuesday and charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for domestic battery. He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

Drunk driving

Two Portland residents

Changes ...

Continued from page 1

Braun is leading the charge for nuclear energy in Indiana, which currently has none, despite the astronomical cost of nuclear compared to other energy sources and the fact that small modular nuclear reactors currently aren't commercially viable or available.

Earlier this year, Braun signed into law Senate Enrolled Act 424, sponsored by state Rep. Ed Soliday, R-Valparaiso, authorizing Indiana's investor-owned

utilities to immediately pass along to ratepayers their costs to develop, or even just contemplate, small modular nuclear reactors — regardless of whether a utility ever actually constructs or operates one.

Under the plan, the IURC can approve a utility's request for higher electricity rates to cover 80% of the utility's nuclear development expenses up front, with the remaining 20% included in the utility's next rate case.



ANNA (Crouch) SHEETS

from Jay County (Dunkirk, Pennville HS) is celebrating her birthday on

September 28th.

Anyone wanting to say Happy Birthday can email annasheetscontact@gmail.com or write to

3196 Country Park Drive Toddville, IA, 52341.

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55th anniversary



David and Freeda Osenbaugh - 2025

Freeda and David Osenbaugh

The Osenbaughs are celebrating 55 years of marriage today. David and Freeda Osenbaugh wed Sept. 26, 1970, at Portland Wesleyan Methodist Church. David Osenbaugh retired from Portland Forge in 2016, and Freeda Osenbaugh retired from Jay County Hospital in 2012. They have three children, Amy Osenbaugh of Huntington, Ben (Liz) Osenbaugh of Muncie and Sara Moorman (Phillip) of Huntington. They also have four grandsons. The Jay County couple plans to have a celebration with family and friends at Portland Nazarene Church on Saturday.

Nutrition may impact hair loss

By CINDY KRISCHER GOODMAN
South Florida Sun Sentinel
Tribune News Service

It may not be age that is making your hair thin or fall out, but rather what you are eating and drinking. New research shows certain foods contribute to hair loss, and others help with hair growth. Sugar-sweetened beverages and alcoholic drinks are associated with a higher risk of hair loss, according to research published in Nutrition and Health, which analyzed 17 studies on diet and hair. “When we consume high amounts of sugar, we get an

insulin spike that promotes inflammation and can distort the natural hair growth cycles,” explains Laura Acosta, a registered dietitian and associate professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition at the University of Florida. “With alcohol, it’s not that it necessarily directly causes hair shedding itself, but it does contribute to nutrient deficiency, nutrient malabsorption, liver stress, poor sleep, and systemic inflammation — all of which can wreak havoc on hair growth.” Not consuming enough protein also can lead to hair loss.

Gay man hurt by family members’ hateful posts

DEAR ABBY: I am a gay man who has been with my husband for more than 30 years. He’s from a different culture, as are our now-grown adopted children. Most of my family members are religiously and politically conservative. They have known I was gay since I was in my 20s and almost always accepted us, but they are often critical of differences in race and culture. I struggled with this situation emotionally for decades and have had professional counseling. With my parents now gone, I have attempted to maintain a connection and polite relationship with my siblings and other relatives, but during these politically charged times, I am finding it more and more difficult. During the past year, I have noticed some family members post anti-gay and anti-immigrant messages on social media. Some of them are so hateful and vile that I have quietly unfriended or

Dear Abby



hurtful to people they actually know. Having been subjected to those posts, it’s your privilege to refrain from exposing yourself further to the toxicity, and I endorse your decision. DEAR ABBY: I’ve been with my boyfriend for nine wonderful years. He’s loving, loyal, funny and one of the best cooks I’ve ever known. We share our home with two small and terribly spoiled Yorkies who are the center of his world. So much so, in fact, that he cooks gourmet meals — FOR THEM. I’m not exaggerating. Last week, the dogs had Wagyu steak with a drizzle of bone broth reduction. I dined on a turkey sandwich from the fridge that had expired two days earlier and a bag of potato chips. It’s not that I don’t love the dogs. I do. They’re family. But I’m starting to feel like the roommate who gets the leftovers while

the VIPs dine on prime cuts. He treats me well in every other way. But Abby, is it too much to ask for equal steak rights in my own home? — SECOND TO THE YORKIES DEAR SECOND: How do you know your boyfriend is a good cook if he only cooks for the Yorkies? Is it because they wag their tails as they wolf down their gourmet dinner? What does HE eat when he’s doing this? If you ate only an (expired) turkey sandwich because you weren’t offered anything better, open your yap and let him know you were so upset that you wrote to me — and be sure to read the comment section at Dear-Abby.com because I’m sure my online readers will have a lot to say about this. DEAR ABBY: We loaned my sister \$10,000 three years ago, and she has repaid only a fraction of it. She had promised it

would be paid back within six months. She has refused to take my calls on the holidays, and I haven’t spoken to her in many months. We used to be very close, but now money has come between us. I’m feeling resentful, and I wish this hadn’t happened. What would you do, Abby? — TOO GENEROUS IN CALIFORNIA DEAR TOO GENEROUS: If I had a signed note from my sister outlining the amount I had loaned her and the terms of repayment, and after 2 1/2 years had elapsed with no payment and my sister ducking my calls, I’d call my lawyer. Some sort of payment plan needs to be established. If she has property, perhaps a lien can be placed against it. I wish you luck on what is sure to be a bumpy ride. P.S. If you do NOT have a notarized agreement from your sister, you may be learning a very expensive lesson.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com. Today 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. Sunday A BETTER LIFE – BRI-

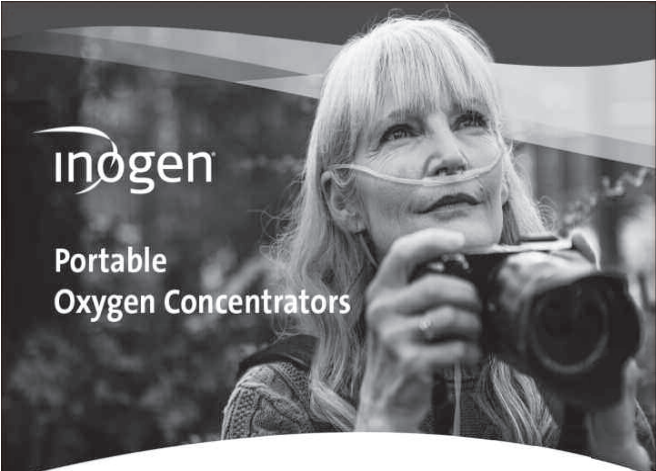
ANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006. Monday PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant. PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center. 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. BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome. NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday 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.

A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland. A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107. ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

Tuesday COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP —



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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday’s Solution

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

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.

What is the goal for state’s wages?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Indiana seeks jobs with higher wages.
But what is a high wage?
The Bureau of Labor Statistics conducts an annual census of employment and wages, from which we learn that the 2024 average wage for the United States was \$75,585, compared with \$62,727 for Indiana. That puts Indiana in 35th place among the states and the District of Columbia, or 17% below the national average.
Before the nay-sayers begin to gripe that I’m focused on the poor performance of the Indiana economy, let me acknowledge that we have moved up in the national rankings since 2018, when we

Morton J. Marcus



were in 36th place for the average wage. That emergence from the depths to our current prominence occurred as we managed to climb to 25th place for growth in wages, just ahead of Alabama. Yes, with our 31.8% growth from 2018 to 2024 — so close to the national average of 32% — we’ve really been rocking.
So, if we could bring in jobs

that met the annual national average of \$75,585 in 2024, we could claim we were meeting our objectives. However, there’s more than one way of calculating an average wage.
The national average wage shown above takes the total U.S. payroll and divides it by the total number of employees. That gives greater weight to high-wage, heavily populated states. It’s like the U.S. House of Representatives giving more seats to the more populous states. Alternatively, we could compute the average like the U.S. Senate, treating each state equally.
Taking the average of the states (plus D.C.) lowers the tar-

get for Indiana’s economic development agencies to \$70,379 — or \$5,200 less than the national average wage. If we had a DOGE (Department of Government Efficiency) for Indiana, as we so successfully did for the nation, we could lower the economic development budget by 7% because the target was lowered by that amount.
But wait, there’s more to consider in our quest to set a high-wage target. The median annual average wage of the 50 states (plus D.C.) in 2024 was \$67,366. That’s the midpoint of the range — the place where half the states are above and half are below. It was \$3,013 below the average of all states, and it was

Hawaii — still higher than Indiana’s \$62,727.
There, at last, is our goal for higher Hoosier wages. Let us only have new firms offer us more than the average wage in Hawaii.
Golly, with sports tourism giving us more table-waiting and room-cleaning jobs, we might get there.
Certainly, given climate change, with higher temperatures and rising sea levels, we might achieve our goals without an economic development agency.
.....
Marcus is an economist formerly at the IU Kelley School of Business. Contact him via email at mortonjmarcus@gmail.com.

Even pope is fed up with CEO pay

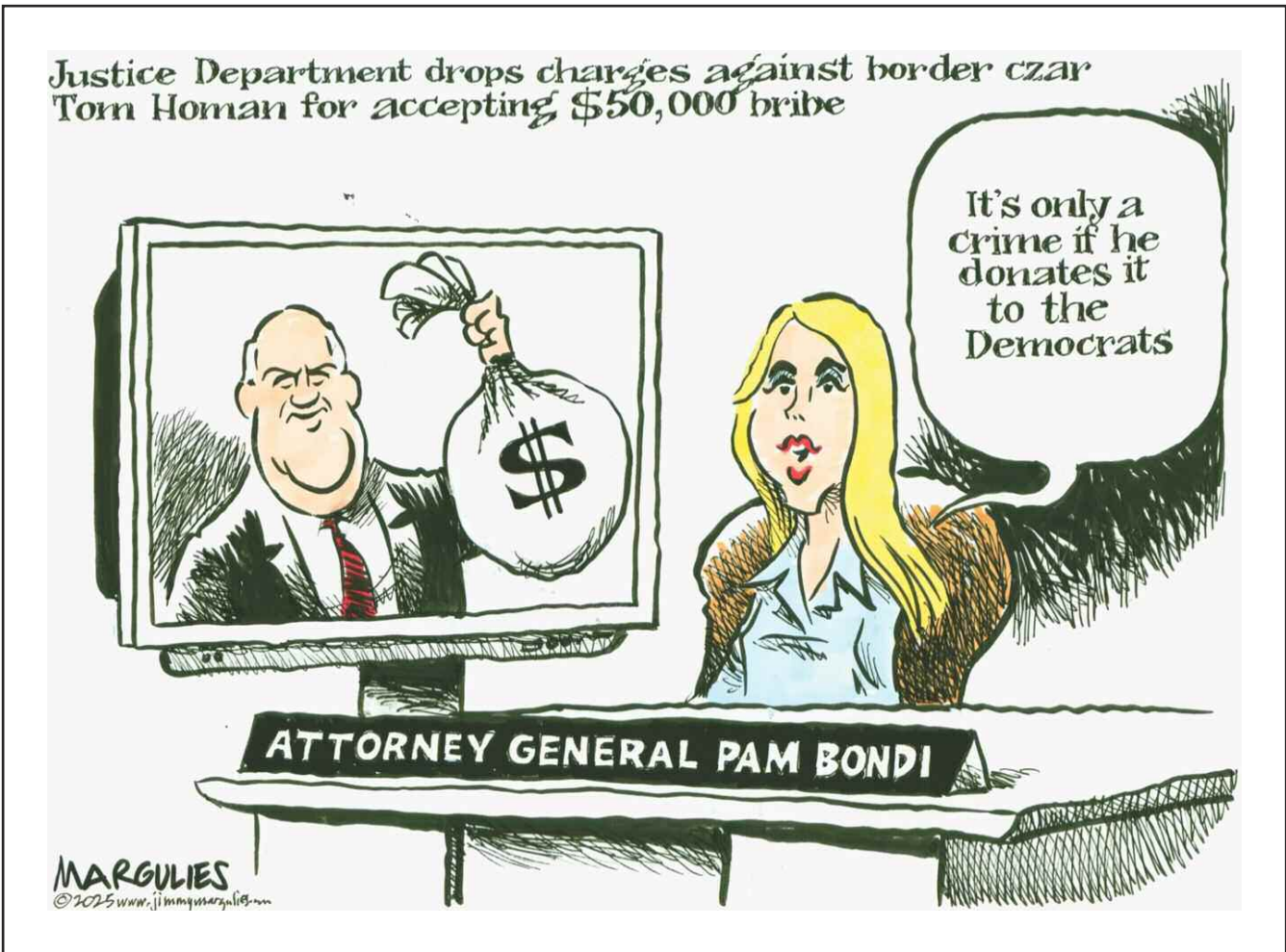
By SARAH ANDERSON
OtherWords

Americans are fed up with overpaid CEOs. And one of those fed up Americans happens to be the pope.
In his first interview since becoming the leader of the Catholic Church, Pope Leo XIV warned about the “continuously wider gap between the income levels of the working class and the money that the wealthiest receive.”
“For example, CEOs that 60 years ago might have been making four to six times more than what the workers are receiving,” he continued. “The last figure I saw, it’s 600 times more than what average workers are receiving.”
He’s right. That figure likely came from a recent report I wrote for the Institute for Policy Studies. We found that CEOs at America’s 100 largest low-wage employers now take home, on average, 632 times more than their median workers.

Sarah Anderson



We found that CEOs at America’s 100 largest low-wage employers now take home, on average, 632 times more than their median workers.



Fee highlight need for reform

The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

President Donald Trump’s decision to raise the fee to \$100,000 each for hiring skilled foreign workers may not be the best way to reform the broken guest worker program, but it should jump-start decades-old effort to bring fairness to the system.
The H-1B visas to which the fee applies are part of a deeply flawed program that both Republicans and Democrats have long sought to reform, despite intense lobbying by Silicon Valley’s tech giants.
Designed to allow American companies to find employees in fields they say are short of native talent, such as the IT, medical and engineering industries, the visas were sold as a means of keeping U.S. businesses competitive and to help them avoid the necessity of moving operations overseas.
Critics, however, argue that the visas have served to displace American workers and drive down salaries for all.
Employers in the high-tech sector are accused of exploiting the program to import cheaper labor from overseas, at the expense of U.S. workers, who are often called upon to train their foreign replacements.
The Economic Policy Institute, in a 2021 report, found that thousands of visa holders working at one of the leading subcontracting firms, which provided visa workers to U.S. corporations such as Disney, FedEx, Google, and others, appear to have been underpaid by \$95 million annually.
The institute said it was not just the foreign workers who were exploited, but also the Americans who “were either displaced or whose wages and working conditions degrade” when employers are allowed to bring in skilled

Guest Editorial

migrants at greatly discounted wages.
Trump’s fee is designed to make that practice less lucrative for large firms that abuse the system. But it also risks pricing small employers out of the market for skilled foreign help.
The Biden administration proposed amending the regulations governing specialty occupation workers to modernize and improve the efficiency of the H-1B visa program, as well as build in more safeguards against its misuse.
Among the abuses cited are hiring large numbers of foreign entry-level employees at salaries below the U.S. market rate, driving down starting pay for recent U.S. college graduates and discouraging others from entering fields where H-1B visas are prolific.
A large number of the 65,000 visas issued annually are snatched up by staffing firms that then lease the workers to companies at greatly reduced wage rates. Most vulnerable are older, higher-paid workers who can’t compete with foreign visa holders willing to work for far smaller salaries.
The \$100,000 fee, up from the current \$2,000 to \$5,000 charge, applies only to those visa seekers who enter the upcoming H1-B lottery. The administration has dismissed claims that existing H-1B workers would be required to leave the country or be denied the right to return if they travel abroad.
Those tech companies that are crying foul have only themselves to blame if they are hurt by the higher

visa fees. They have consistently resisted necessary reforms to the system.
Sens. Chuck Grassley, a Republican from Iowa, and Dick Durbin, an Illinois Democrat, have pushed a reform package since 2007 to keep the program from harming home-grown talent. The aim of the bill is to ensure U.S. workers get the first opportunity at high-skilled job openings.
The package would require employers who want to fish in the overseas talent pool to first demonstrate a good-faith effort to recruit American citizens. And it would beef up enforcement to help assure they are doing so.
Companies with more than 50 employees would have to limit visa holders to no more than 50% of their workforce. That should curtail the ability of outsourcing companies to bring foreign workers to this country for short-term training and then ship them back to their homes to do work that had been done by Americans. The Department of Labor would have enhanced enforcement power to close the loopholes that riddle the H-1B program.
The bills would explicitly forbid the replacement of an American worker by an H-1B visa holder, or to denigrate the working conditions of Americans through their hiring.
One goal of the H-1B visas is to ensure the U.S. can attract the best and brightest from around the world. It hasn’t worked out that way, according to a study by the University of California-Davis. A large percentage of those awarded visas are entry-level employees. The Grassley-Durbin bill would prioritize visas for established workers with advanced degrees and demonstrated skills.
Trump should put his shoulder into getting the reforms advocated by Grassley and Durbin pushed through Congress.

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Colorful leaves, colorful garden

Take steps to keep veggies thriving in the fall

By KATHERINE JACOBSON
Purdue Ag News

It's finally autumn, and soon alumni in black and gold sweatshirts will flock back to Purdue University for gameday tailgates. Students will gather in a dorm room to celebrate 'Friendsgiving' with their own potluck before Thanksgiving break.

Of course, fall festivities wouldn't be the same without sharing a cozy meal, from pies, to chili, to casseroles and more. But as temperatures drop, so does access to garden fresh ingredients.

Petrus Langenhoven, clinical assistant professor in Purdue Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, shares how you can keep your garden thriving with seasonal vegetables, perfect for fresh fall dishes.

What is harvested?

Just because it's getting colder doesn't mean there won't be plenty of fresh produce for holiday dishes.

“Soon there will



Purdue University

Pumpkins are among the vegetables that are harvested in the fall. There are steps gardeners can take to keep their produce thriving as temperatures cool down and leaves begin to fall.

be ample sweet potatoes, pumpkins and winter squash,” said Langenhoven. “Now this inspires many fall recipes, from pies to soups to casseroles!”

Root vegetables, like carrots and beets, and cruciferous vegetables, like kale, cabbage and broccoli, can also be harvested throughout fall. Some gardeners may have dry beans to harvest and

store—and perhaps use for game day chili.

How to prepare?

Some gardeners may still have tomatoes, peppers or eggplant, but these crops' yields will decrease and disease might start to set in. To extend your garden's life, Langenhoven suggests using a frost blanket to offer insulation from cold damage.

The start of fall is a good time to clean your garden out. Removing plant debris, composting it and applying the compost will make room and cultivate healthy soil for fall and winter crops.

What can I plant?

It might surprise some gardeners, but it's not too late to plant certain crops. “There is still plenty of time to plant garlic

cloves,” said Langenhoven. “You can seed radishes and spinach and plant leaf lettuce from transplants, too, although I'd recommend planting now, as we're nearing the end of the ideal planting window. Choose fast maturing radish, lettuce and spinach varieties.”

What about spring?

Langenhoven suggests planting a winter cover

crop to prevent soil erosion during the colder months. “I like to seed black oats. Although the crop will get killed in late December or early January, it will prevent erosion,” he said. “Or you can plant cereal rye, which stays alive all winter and starts to grow in the spring. It must be terminated at a young stage to prevent nitrogen tie up, though.”

Offices are being transformed into farms

By NATE BERG

Fast Company
Fast Company Magazine

Many of the office buildings emptied by the pandemic are still sitting vacant. A recent report from Moody's Analytics found that in the second quarter of 2025, office vacancy rates were still above 20% nationwide, and cities across the country are still trying to figure out what, if anything, to do about it. One startup has an unconventional solution: it wants to fill that empty space with crops.

Area 2 Farms is a three-year-old company based in Arlington, Virginia, that's taking the concept of indoor farming to unusual spaces. Its first farm, in Arlington, grows dozens of varieties of crops in a low-slung brick building tucked between a dog day care and a car repair shop. With a new infusion of venture capital, the company is planning to expand, and it's looking to empty office buildings as potential future farms.

“Part of our vision is that a farm can go anywhere,” says the company's founder, Oren Falkowitz.

Backed by \$9 million in new funding from Seven Seven

Project is intended to bring produce closer to purchasers

Six, Slow Ventures, 468 Capital, and Animo, Area 2 Farms is planning to build 10 new farms across the U.S. in 2026. Falkowitz says the company is currently pursuing opportunities in Philadelphia, Charlotte, Nashville, South Florida, Orlando, Austin, and Raleigh-Durham, and Atlanta. His goal is to build indoor farms within 10 miles of 90% of the U.S. population.

Proximity is the driving idea behind the company. Falkowitz grew up in south Florida and remembers a time when oranges were typically bought not at a grocery store but from the actual orange grove, directly from the farmers who grew them. Today studies estimate that most produce travels hundreds of miles before it reaches the end consumer.

“The production of our food just gets pushed further and fur-

ther away,” Falkowitz says. “As a result of this distance, the stores are asking growers to produce things that are more shelf-stable, not necessarily more diverse or more nutritional.”

Falkowitz, who previously worked for the National Security Agency and later founded two cybersecurity companies, proposes a hyperlocal alternative. “We move the farm, not the food,” he says.

The company's pilot farm in Arlington produced its first crop in fall 2022. The company estimates it has produced more than 20,000 harvests since then, using a modular rack-based system that automatically moves crops through a cycle of mimicked daylight and darkness.

Planted in box containers filled with soil, the farm is able to grow kitchen staples like lettuce, spinach, carrots, potatoes, tomatoes, and mushrooms, as

well as more niche items like amaranth microgreens and purple shamrock. Rising 18 feet tall, the racks cram 200 acres-worth of annual crop growing into 3,000 square feet of real estate.

Indoor farming is not new. Greenhouses are an essential part of the global food system, and Falkowitz notes that hydroponic farming has existed since the days of Babylon. “I would say it's only partially interesting to be growing vertical, and it's totally uninteresting or uninnovative to ship your products to Whole Foods, or Safeway, or Publix,” he says.

Area 2 Farms works more like those orange groves Falkowitz remembers as a child, but with the high-tech twist of its automated growing racks. Local farmers run the space and its customer base comes primarily from within a two-mile radius for weekly farm share pickups. “When we build a farm or we move the farm back to people, we want them to interact with it. We don't want anyone in between the farmer and the consumer,” he says.

The idea has caught on. “We've been sold out for the last hundred weeks,” Falkowitz says.

That's why he's keen to expand Area 2 Farms' modular farming technology to new spaces. “What we wanted the technology to be able to do is to fit wherever it could,” he says. “In order to build a greenhouse in a city you would need a quarter-acre to an acre of just land, and that does not exist.”

What does exist in cities is underutilized buildings and oddly shaped lots. Area 2 Farms is currently in the process of building its second farm on a trapezoid-shaped lot in Fairfax, Virginia, that's been vacant for 20 years.

Falkowitz sees even more potential in the empty offices that litter cities across the country, and he says cities and real estate owners have been open to the idea of taking this farming technology inside former offices. “They're just like, ‘have the space. We don't know what to do with it,’” Falkowitz says.

Area 2 Farms is one alternative, and perhaps a second chance for buildings that might have otherwise gone obsolete. “At the core, we're really focused on revitalizing underutilized or existing spaces,” Falkowitz says. “And that can be a wide array of shapes.”

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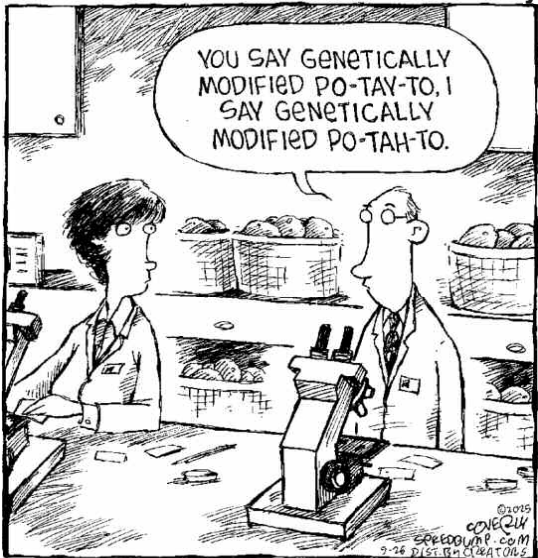
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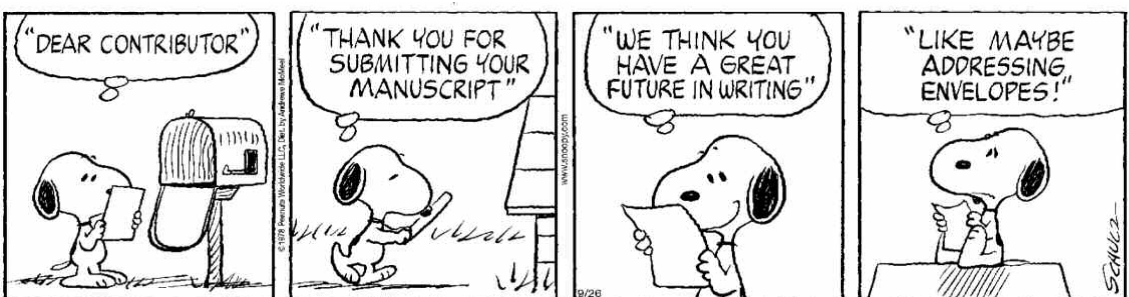
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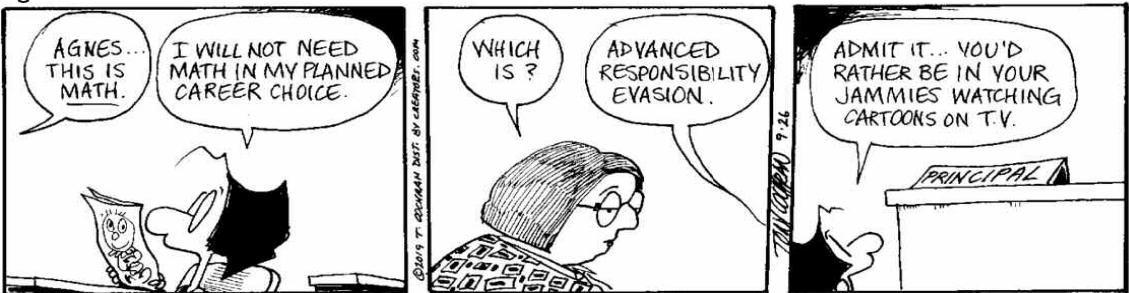
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Five Diamonds, the bidding having gone:

West	North	East	South
1♦	2♣	3♦	4♠
4♦	Pass	5♦	

North leads the king of clubs. How would you play the hand?

West: ♠ A K J 7, ♥ 8 5 2, ♦ Q J 9 8 6 3, ♣ —

East: ♠ Q 10, ♥ K 6 4, ♦ A 10 7 5 2, ♣ Q 8 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Spades, and North leads the queen of hearts, which you ruff. When you next play the ace of spades, North discards a low heart. How would you continue?

West: ♠ A K Q 10 7 3, ♥ —, ♦ A Q 8 6, ♣ Q 10 2

East: ♠ 5 4, ♥ K 9 6 2, ♦ K 7, ♣ A K J 9 4

ing to the singleton king, you're still on firm ground since the only tricks you can lose are a diamond and a heart. (If North shows out on the queen-of-diamonds lead, you put up dummy's ace and run your spades to assure 11 tricks.)

If you did not take the diamond finesse, you would go down if North started with the K-x of trump and fewer than three spades, and South had the ace of hearts.

2. Cross to dummy with a club, finesse the ten of spades, cash the K-Q and run the clubs until South ruffs with the last trump. That is the only trick you will lose. Played this way, you are certain of the slam, come what may.

Even if South had no clubs and ruffed the first club lead, you would still prevail by later leading a diamond to the king and taking the marked trump finesse.

The trap to avoid is entering dummy with a diamond at trick three instead of a club. If South had ♠J9862 ♥Axxx ♦xx ♣xx, you would lose the slam by crossing to dummy with a diamond first since South could then prevent you from ever discarding your fourth diamond on a club.

Tomorrow: A 20-point investment.
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9-26

CRYPTOQUIP

Z M D Q H , K X M Q Z L M F T D U V
C M M F D U V I L W I P K A ' X M W F Q M W H P
X D G D I M H Y L D U W K Q Y W T R K H D W

RMCKQM: WGDW XA.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DO YOU THINK OYSTERS, SNAILS AND TURTLES COULD TALK AND TAKE PICTURES WITH? SHELLPHONES.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals V

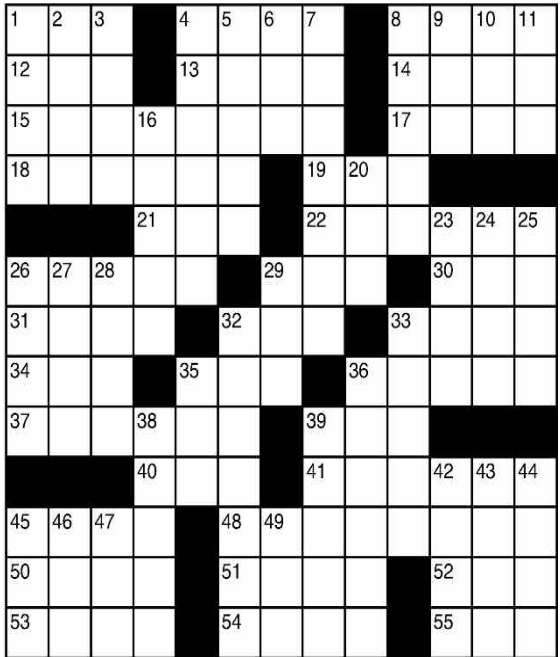
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 35 Under the weather | DOWN | 23 One of "The Martian" |
| 1 CNN founder | 36 Ravi's instrument | 2 Messes up | 24 Crystal gazer |
| 4 Author — Neale Hurston | 37 Dwell | 3 Calendar squares | 25 Pt. of U.S.A. |
| 8 "Pyg-malion" writer | 39 Salt Lake athlete | 4 High signs? | 26 Low digits |
| 12 Altar in the sky | 40 German article | 5 Lustrous gems | 27 Region |
| 13 Autobahn auto | 41 Like most pretzels | 6 Seminary subj. | 28 Stanley Cup org. |
| 14 "— nome" ("Rigo-letto" aria) | 45 Coffee | 7 Soviet premier | 32 In an attentive way |
| 15 Don in Coopers-town | 48 "Dusk in Autumn" poet | 8 Use elbow grease on | 33 Meadow suffix |
| 17 "Beetle Bailey" dog | 50 Apiece | 9 Bowler, e.g. | 35 Chemical |
| 18 Have at | 51 57, in old Rome | 10 Louvre collection | 36 Equilib-rium |
| 19 Sch. near Topeka | 52 Bar bill | 11 Romance | 38 The Gem State |
| 21 Tank filler | 53 Tropical tuber | 16 Wise ones | 39 Olympic track legend |
| 22 Plays the ukulele | 54 Desires | 20 Sault — Marie | 42 London gallery |
| 26 Ancient Mexican | 55 Golfer Ernie | | 43 Israeli carrier |
| 29 Born | | | 44 Society newbies |
| 30 Scot's refusal | | | 45 Lustrous black |
| 31 Pastoral greetings | | | 46 Motorist's org. |
| 32 Sashimi fish | | | 47 TiVo precursor |
| 33 Blaze | | | 49 Night before |
| 34 Away from WSW | | | |

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-26



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Guardians DH David Fry will miss rest of season

By CHARLES BAGGARLY
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Tribune News Service

Cleveland Guardians designat-ed hitter David Fry, a Grapevine (Texas) High School product, was hit with a 99.6-mph fastball on a bunt attempt Tuesday at Progressive Field in Cleveland.

Fry was taken to the Lutheran Medical Center and was transferred to the Cleveland Clinic Main Campus for further evaluation, according to the Athletic.

After the incident, Fry, stayed on the ground as trainers tended to the injury. He was able to walk

under his own power before being carted off the field.

The Guardians said in a state-ment Wednesday that Fry has multiple fractures and will be out for six to eight weeks, meaning he will miss the rest of the season.

Detroit Tigers All-Star Tarik Skubal, the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner, threw the pitch that hit Fry. He has a 2.21 ERA and is second in the majors with 241 strikeouts.

The Guardians ended up capturing a 5-2 victory to take the lead in the AL Central by virtue of a tiebreaker over Detroit. The

Tigers and Guardians have 85-72 records ahead of the final stretch of the regular season. The squads will continue their three-game series Wednesday and Thursday.

The Guardians have won 11 of their past 12 games and 16 of 18 to create a race for the AL Central crown that the Tigers appeared to have locked up. Detroit has lost seven straight and 10 of 11.

Skubal reached out to Fry via text after the game, according to MLive Media Group.

“I’ve already reached out to him,” Skubal said. “I’m sure his phone’s blowing up. I just

want to make sure he’s all right. He seemed OK coming off the field, and hopefully it stays that way. I look forward to, hopefully tonight or tomorrow morning, getting a text from him and making sure he’s all good. There are things that are bigger than the game, and his health is more important than a baseball game.”

Guardians manager Stephen Vogt said Fry stayed conscious.

“We are all thinking about David and his family right now,” Vogt said. “Obviously, we’re glad he is OK. But obviously, it is a

really scary moment. ... We’re thinking about him.”

After graduating from Grapevine, Fry went to North-western State, where he was a four-time All-Southland Conference selection. He was drafted 215th by the Milwaukee Brewers in the 2017 MLB draft.

As a senior with Grapevine, Fry hit .430 with two home runs. He was named the District 6-5A MVP.

Fry made the All-Star team for the first time last season. He is batting .171 with eight home runs in 66 games this season.



QR code provided

At left is a QR code to navigate to the Fort Recovery Film Archive YouTube channel. The channel will also be the first hit when searching the channel name on the YouTube website.

Film ...

Continued from page 8

It took Hull about three weeks to get the channel verified and after that he was able to upload at the rate that the videos were ready.

Between varsity football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball, and junior varsity and middle school teams, Hull has uploaded 461 videos to the Fort Recovery Film Archives channel and organized them into playlists by season.

He has also combed the rest of YouTube to find film of Fort Recovery’s games from other channels and organize them into another playlist for fans to view.

Film from the current sports seasons will be uploaded to the channel following the conclusion of the year. For now, fans can visit youtube.com/@fortrecoveryfilmarchive.

The obvious question is why go through all the work?

“Presentation is huge,” Hull said. “If I have the ability to represent Fort Recovery in the best and professional and most interesting way possible, then I’ll do it. That’s how I felt about this archive channel. ... I wanted this to be the best archive channel in the MAC.”

While many may want to just relive the 2015 state

championship, Hull also has a more personal reason that many may be able to relate to.

“There’s a couple of VHS tapes from 1985 and I’m hoping it’s basketball because that’s my dad’s senior year,” Hull said. “My dad died when I was a senior in high school. I never got to see any videos of him playing any sports, heck, there’s not a lot of videos of him period.

“That would mean so much to me, because I don’t have a lot of stuff of him anymore outside of pictures. ... I think a lot of other people would enjoy that too.”

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Boys tennis at South Adams — 5 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. Yorktown — 7 p.m.; JV girls soccer vs. Yorktown — 5 p.m.; Junior high cross country vs. Monroe Central/Union City/Wes-Del — 5 p.m.; Junior high volleyball vs. Union City — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high football at Richmond — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Volleyball at New Knoxville — 5:30 p.m.; Middle school football at New Bremen — 5 p.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Marion Local — 5 p.m.

Friday

Jay County — Football at Woodlan — 7 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Football vs. New Bremen — 7 p.m.

TV schedule

Today

7 a.m. — Golf: Ryder Cup (NBC)
2:20 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Chicago Cubs (FDSN Indiana)
2:30 p.m. — Bundesliga soccer: Bayern Munchen at Werder Bremen (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — College volleyball: Michigan at Michigan State (BTN)
7 p.m. — College football: Florida State at Virginia (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — College volleyball: Indiana at UCLA (BTN)
8 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Reese’s 150 (FS1)
8:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (FDSN Indiana)
9 p.m. — College football: TCU at Arizona

State (FOX)
9:30 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Phoenix Mercury (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Houston at Oregon State (ESPN)

Friday

2 a.m. — MotoGP: Japanese Grand Prix (FS1)
7 a.m. — Golf: Ryder Cup (NBC)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Brentford at Manchester United (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester City at Burnley (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Notre Dame at Arkansas (ABC); Rutgers at Minnesota (BTN); USC at Illinois (FOX); Georgia Tech at Wake Forest (ESPN); Louisville at Pitt (ESPN2); Cincinnati at Kansas (TNT); UCF at Kansas State (FS1)
12 p.m. — Serie A soccer: Juventus at Atlanta (CBS)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Nottingham Forest at Sunderland (USA)

2:20 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Chicago Cubs (FDSN Indiana)
3:30 p.m. — College football: LSU at Ole Miss (ABC); Auburn at Texas A&M (ESPN); UCLA at Northwestern (BTN); Ohio State at Washington (CBS); Baylor at Oklahoma State (ESPN2); Utah at West Virginia (FOX)
3:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Tottenham Hotspur at Wolverhampton Wanderers (USA)
4:10 p.m. — College football: Hawai’i at Air Force (FS1)
7 p.m. — College football: Airzona at Iowa State (ESPN); Memphis at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2)
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (FOX)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Alabama at Georgia (ABC); Oregon at Penn State (NBC); Appalachian State at Boise State (FS1)
10:15 p.m. — College football: BYU at Colorado

orado (ESPN); Idaho at Montana (ESPN2)

Local notes

Cooper to host

Cooper Farms will host its 18th Annual Turkey Trot 5K benefiting EverHeart Hospice on Nov. 1. The race will begin at Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant at 1 Cooper Farms Drive, St. Henry, OH. Registration is at 9 a.m. with the race beginning at 10 a.m.

There will be age groups from 9-and-younger to 60-and-older. Awards will be handed out to the top female and male from each age group.

Refreshments and a to-go turkey meal will be provided for all runners.

For more information on registering, visit speedyfeet.com and search “Cooper Farms Turkey Trot 5K” or email Tonya Huber at tonyah@cooperfarms.com.

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

90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	200 FOR RENT
LAND AUCTION MONDAY OCTOBER 13TH, 2025 TIME 5:00 P.M. LOCATED: 1 Mile North of New Mt Pleasant on Como Rd, Portland, IN REAL ESTATE 95.67 Acres In Section 16, Jefferson Twp, Jay County Indiana. Practically all tillable with Frontage on Como Rd. Property does have a Windmill, Lease and Payment will stay with the Farm. Wooded area not Included. Taxes to be prorated day of Closing. Possession upon Harvest of 2025 Crops. Drive by's are Welcome or Phone Auctioneers for More Information. Auction Held On-Site. OWNERS: Denney Family Properties, LLC 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	AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 103 S Washington Street, Montpelier IN Saturday Morning SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 10:00 A.M. REAL ESTATE 1 story home built in 1950 with 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and 1478 square feet of living area. Home has a gas forced air furnace, central air, gas fireplace, gas water heater, and a detached 1 car garage. For more information or a private showing contact Loy Real Estate, Kim Loy Broker 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160 HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - GUNS 3 pc. Queen size bedroom suit with Sleep Number mattress; Whirlpool refrigerator; Smith Bros. 3 cushion sofa; (2) leather recliners; Longaberger baskets; McCoy owl cookie jar; Diamond Arms 12ga single shot; Stevens 22 lever action single shot octagon barrel; baseball gloves; canning jars; Coke bottles; and many other items not listed. TRAILER - TOOLS 2 wheel 5' x 6' trailer; Troy Bilt 24i snowblower; Viper Earthquake roto tiller; Craftsman router; McCulloch Power Mack 320 chain saw; ; buzz saw blade; 2 man saw; levels; oil cans; pry bars; pliers; screwdrivers; and other items not listed. JEAN LANDIS Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 224 W 500 N Bryant, IN Saturday Morning OCTOBER 11, 2025	10:00 A.M. REAL ESTATE PARCEL #1: This parcel consists of a 2 story home, barn, pond, and approximately 6 acres. The 2 story home has 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and 1932 square feet of living area. Home has gas forced air with central air and an attached 3 car garage. The barn is 28' x 40' with a loft. PARCEL #2: 20 Acres of tillable land that is in the set aside program. It is in this program until September 2032. The owner receives \$4,603.00 per year. If this parcel sells separately from parcel #1 there will be a deeded 60' easement given on the east side of parcel #1. PARCEL #3 Combination of Parcel #1 and #2. House, barn, pond, and 26 acres. For more information or private showing contact Loy Real Estate 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160. RITA LEGGETT, DECEASED Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Jay County Fairgrounds Women's Building Monday evening OCTOBER 6, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. REAL ESTATE Parcel is located on 50 E just south of 200 S. Property consists of 8.48 acres of woods and has a driveway that runs from 50E back to the woods. This would be a good recreational site. 20% nonrefundable deposit day of sale with balance due at closing. Owner will provide Owners Title Insurance and General Warranty Deed. Buyer will assume taxes due and payable in May 2026 and thereafter. Any statements made day of sale take precedence over previously written or oral matter. Owner confirmation day of sale. For more information contact Loy Real Estate 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160. RON & DELAYNE MYERS Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY OCTOBER 18th, 2025 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 2782 S. 700 W. Portland, IN Please Access Location from the West due to Bridge out on 700 W. TRACTORS-SKID LOADER-DUMP TRUCK Kubota M 135 GX Tractor w/ LA 2254 Self Leveling Loader, 200 Hours. Ford 3415 Tractor w/ 2346 QT Loader, 506 Hours. Kubota SVL 65-2 Track Skid Loader w/ 95 Hours. 1996 GMC Single Axel Dump Truck, 350 FI, 350 Engine, PTO 62,000 Miles. 2013 Polaris Sportsman 500 HO ATV. Quick Attach Stump Grinder. Misc Harley Davidson Parts including Tanks, Frame, Fenders, Misc. Power Mate and Tote-Mig Welder. Buck and Cross Cut Saws and Other Primitive Tools. Shop, hand, and Power Tools. GUNS-KNIVES COINS-JEWELRY Colt Mark IV 45 Cal Pistol w/ Mag. Smith & Wesson Model 28 357 Highway Patrolman 6 Shot Revolver. Glock Model 23 40 Cal Pistol w/ Mag. Henry 12 Gauge Side by Side w/ Rabbit Ears. Large Lot of Ammo. Drum Magazines. Case XX 75th Anniversary 3 Knife Set. 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1935, Peace Dollars, Approximately 50. 1885, 1896, 1884, 1890 1921 Morgan Dollars, . Signed Marilyn Monroe Painting. 1965 Modern Scenes Retro Paintings. National Cash Register. Large Collection of Collectible Barbie Dolls. . 1939 10K Gold Pennville	Class Ring. 10K Gold Bracelet. 14K Mens Wedding Band. OWNER: Name Withheld for Security Reasons 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 PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY SEPT. 27TH, 2025 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 1499 N 100 W. PORTLAND, IN RTV-TRACTOR-MOWERS - MOTOR HOME-GOLF CART. Kubota BX2680 4WD Tractor w/ LA 344 Loader 29.3 Hours. Ferris 611 27HP Zero Turn Commercial Mower w/ Suspension 2020 Hours. 2004 Condor Motor Home w/ 2 Slide Outs, Built-in Generator, Sleeps 4, 20,875 Miles. 2022 EZ-GO Gas Lifted Golf Cart w/ Rear Seat, Street Legal. Paddle Boat. Flat Bottom Boat Trailer. GUN -CROSSBOW Savage 30.6 Model 110E Bolt Action. H&R Model 923 22 Cal 9 Shot Revolver. North Midlen Co. Black Powder Pistol. Ten Point XR-40 Crossbow w/ Scope and Crank. Gun Sight Stand. Small Combination and Gun Safe. ANTIQUES-HOUSEHOLD -MISC Authentic Signed Paintings Including West Point Painting. 6 pc Cherry California King Size Bedroom Suite Including Blanket Chest. 5 pc California King Walnut Bedroom Suite. Leather Power Love Seat and Chair. GE Washer and Dryer. Gaming Table. Golf Clubs. Pop-up Canopy. Cornhole Game. (8) 8' Poly Folding Tables. (34) Padded Folding Chairs. High Quality Auction with Large Selection of Modern Items OWNER: Gary L Morgan	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 100 JOBS WANTED AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489. AL'S ODD JOBS Repairs-Cleaning-Assembly-Carpentry-Painting-Pet Sitting and many other services. CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE. 260-251-0636 130 MISC. FOR SALE SCRATCH PADS ARE BACK various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm. PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information. FALL MARKET Menchhofer Farms 5679 Wabash Rd., Coldwater, OH 419-942-1502 Open Thursday-Sunday 1pm-7pm 170 PETS FREE NUTERED INDOOR & OUTDOOR male black cat 7 months old. Very friendly. 765-499-4411 2 YORKIE PUPPIES/FOR SALE Boy/Girl. Call 260-849-3138. 190 FARMERS COLUMN AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309	LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com 230 AUTOS, TRUCKS WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage 250 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice ORDINANCE 2025-13 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 75, SCHEDULE II AND IV OF THE DUNKIRK CODE OF ORDINANCES BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, INDIANA THAT Chapter 75, Schedule II, One Way Streets is amended to include the following: The east/west alley between 217 S Main Street and 213 S Main Street shall be one way between Main Street and the north/south alley between Commerce Street and Washington Street. Traffic shall only proceed in a westerly direction. The penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be the same penalty as provided in Chapter 7099 of the Dunkirk Code of Ordinances. BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, INDIANA THAT Chapter 75, Schedule IV is amended to include the following: Traffic on the above-described alley shall stop at its intersection of Main Street and only proceed into the intersection after it is safe to do so. The penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be the same penalty as provided in Chapter 7099 of the Dunkirk Code of Ordinances. PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Dunkirk, Indiana on this 22nd day of September, 2025. Attest: Kara Lowe, Clerk-Treasurer Jack Robbins, Presiding Officer Submitted to and approved by me on the date of adoption. Jack Robbins, Mayor CR 9-26-2025- HSPAXLP Visit Us At: thecr.com		

Visit Us At:
theocr.com

Sports

Film study

Perry Hull stepped in to get FR archive up to date

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Have you ever had the urge to relive the glory days?

Do you ever wonder what the team was like when your parents were on the field?

Perhaps you just want to learn more about the school and how the athletic programs got to where they are today?

Now you can do that on the Indians’ YouTube channel.

The Fort Recovery High School athletics department aided by the help of Perry Hull has uploaded footage of games dating back to the 1992 season onto Fort Recovery Film Archive, the school’s YouTube channel.

This project started years ago as former FRHS football coach and athletic director Brent Niekamp started uploading old football footage to the channel. When he moved on from coaching and teaching at Fort Recovery last year, he left the former media with Aimee Pottkotter, the current athletic director.

“When Brent Niekamp moved on to a different district, he brought me this big tub,” Pottkotter said. “I just looked at it and said, ‘Cool, alright.’ I talked to the tech guys to see if there was a good way to streamline from VHS, DVDs and these little CD things, all sorts of different types of media.

“I can slowly get it done because I know how to upload from Hudl to YouTube. That’s where it originally started and I just kind of let it sit there.”

While Niekamp uploaded a lot of old media to the website, Pot-



The Commercial Review

Cole Hull of the Fort Recovery High School football team takes a carry during the September 19, 2014, game against St. John’s 39-7. Cole’s older brother, Perry, helped the Fort Recovery High School athletics department upload film from the football, volleyball and boys and girls basketball teams dating back to the 1992 season. To see the game that Cole Hull played in back in the day, visit youtube.com/@fortrecoveryfilmarchive or scan the QR code from page 7.

tkotter was moving more recent games that were already digitized onto the channel.

That’s when Hull came in.

Hull, a 2010 FRHS graduate, has had experience working with a lot of this media after working for WOSN out of Lima, Ohio, before working in the animation industry for over 10 years for a variety of companies including Fox, Netflix, Hulu and Adult Swim.

While Hull has had a plethora of experience handling different forms of media, getting the videos up online wasn’t the fastest process, but he had the time due to starting his teaching career.

“My wife and I had to look for a cheap, but still working VHS player,” Hull said. “Then we have this little analogy to digi-

tal, digitizer essentially. So then I had to let the videos play, and that means letting the full thing play. It’s not like what we’re used to now, where you can just download it onto a .mp3 or .mp4 or .mov.”

He described that part of the process as tedious but not particularly hard work. Hull bought two 250 gigabyte SD cards so that one could upload one season of film while having another season ripped from the analogue medium into the digital form.

From there, he would edit the film in Adobe Premier to shorten the videos down to get rid of the timeouts and other major breaks in play and then render the video. Then all he needs to do is create a thumbnail for the video to post it online.

“I’d say thanks to Perry again,” Pottkotter said. “It’s a huge endeavor and he made it look easy. If I was doing it, this would take me a lot of years. He just knew how to do it ... and he did it pretty much in the matter of the summer.”

Outside of the inherent hurdle from the film largely existing on VHS tapes, Hull and Pottkotter ran into the problem of the amount of videos they could upload in a day. Without being the account’s sole owner or having the channel be verified, he could only upload 10 videos per day. To get verified, Hull needed to consistently upload and that the videos were all compliant with YouTube’s content policy, which means he had to go back and edit out any music that could create an issue with copyrights.

See Film page 7



Jay County Civic Theatre

presents

its production of



LEGALLY BLONDE

Music and Lyrice by
Laurence O’Keefe and Nell Benjamin

Book by
Heather Hach

Based on the novel by Amanda Brown
and the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer motion picture

Shows are 7 p.m. Sept. 25, 26 and 27, and 2 p.m. Sept. 28 at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland

Advance tickets:
\$12 for students and \$14 for adults
Available by visiting bit.ly/JCCTLegallyBlonde,
by calling (260) 726-4809,
or at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.



LEGALLY BLONDE
Is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MIT
www.mtishows.com

