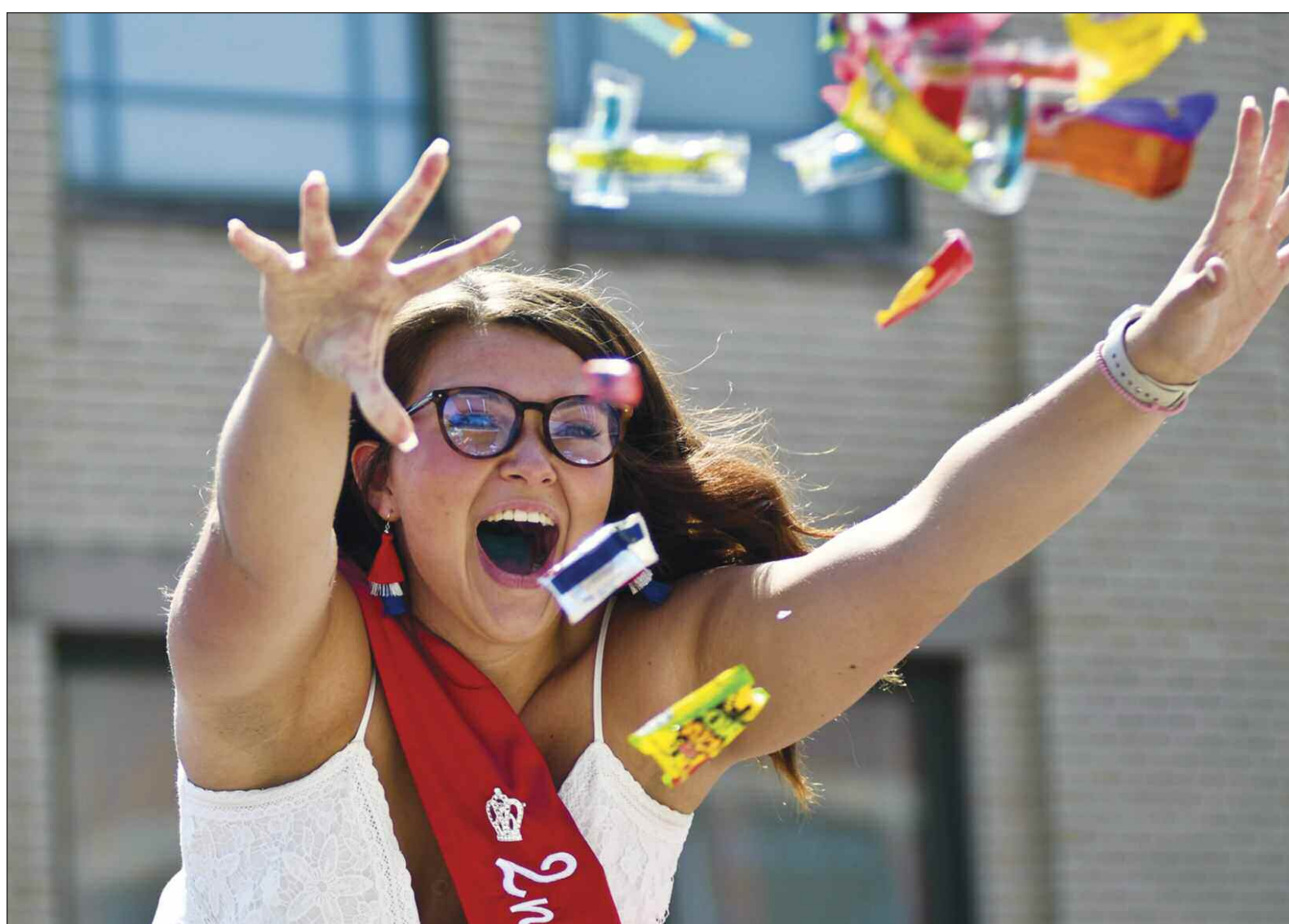


The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

PCC, Pioneer receive approval

Abatements OK'd for \$1.98 million in equipment

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Two new tax abatements have been approved.

Portland City Council on Monday approved abatements for new equipment at both Pioneer Equipment Leasing and Pennville Custom Cabinetry.

Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation, told council both abatement requests had received positive recommendations from the city's tax abatement advisory committee.

Pioneer was seeking a three-year abatement on \$1.62 million in new equipment to help automate its processes to keep up with the volume of its business. The abatement is expected to save the company about \$42,000 in taxes while generating about \$127,000 in taxes over a 10-year period.

Pennville Custom Cabinetry asked for a one-year tax abatement on \$356,000 in new equipment to modernize and automate its processes. It is expected to save the company about \$4,200 in taxes while generating about \$33,000 in taxes over a 10-year period.

See Approval page 2

Duke takes heat over outages

By SUE LOUGHLIN

The Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)

Tribune News Service

In the aftermath of last week's severe storm, many southwest Indiana residents have gone without power for four or more days.

Some, including Ken Fitzlaff, are critical of Duke Energy's response and believe more could have been done and in a speedier time frame.

"Duke Energy had the opportunity to have hundreds more additional linemen working in our community to restore power sooner. They declined this additional help very early during the emergency," he said in an email.

As of 3 p.m. Tuesday, Duke reported local outages in and around Terre Haute were down to 3,517. That represented a significant decline from mid-morning Monday, when 18,600 in Vigo were still without power from storms that began Thursday. Initially, 58,000 Vigo County customers were without power.



Candy and color

Independence Day celebrations included fireworks Monday night in Dunkirk and a parade Tuesday in Portland. Pictured above, Miss Jay County Fair Queen Chelsea Frontz tosses candy to the crowd on Meridian Street during the Jay County 4th of July Parade. At left, fireworks light up the sky as spectators watch from Dunkirk City Park. For more photos, see page 7.

Israel ends its West Bank raid

By ETHAN BRONNER

Bloomberg News

Tribune News Service

Israel said it's withdrawn more than 1,000 troops from the Palestinian refugee camp of Jenin, after sending them in to fight what it called an Iran-funded terrorist network.

The 44-hour raid, which included missile-laden drones and was the biggest air attack on the occupied West Bank in two decades, killed 12 Palestinians, some of them known militants. An Israeli soldier was shot dead during the overnight withdrawal, the army said on Wednesday.

Five rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip as the troops were leaving and were intercepted over southern Israel by the Iron Dome anti-missile system. Israel then struck Gaza, hitting what it described as an underground

Twelve Palestinians were killed over 44-hour attack

weapons-manufacturing facility belonging to Hamas, which rules Gaza and is allied with Iran.

"Over the past two years, Jenin has become a 'production site' for terrorism," said Defense Minister Yoav Gallant. "As a result of our activities over the past two days, this has come to an end. We have intercepted weapon production lines and confiscated thousands of explosive devices."

While Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is facing growing dissent over his plans to weaken

the Supreme Court, his domestic political opponents had little objection to the West Bank operation. Most said it was necessary to end dozens of attacks the military says emanated from Jenin.

Markets were also unmoved, with shekel and bond traders more concerned about the push to overhaul the judiciary.

On Monday, a parliamentary committee voted to move to the floor a proposed law that would stop judges from being able to reject government actions as "unreasonable." The

protest movement that has shaken the country for six months is stepping up its rallies.

For the 17,000 residents of the refugee camp — descendants of Palestinians displaced in the 1948 war that led to Israel's creation — the assault was painful, driving several thousand from their homes and leaving others without water or electricity amid ripped up roads piled with rubble.

Unlike Gaza, the West Bank is officially overseen by the Palestinian Authority which has historically worked alongside the Israeli military to keep Hamas and other Islamist militant groups at bay on the understanding that it would one day lead an independent state.

But with Israeli settlements in the West Bank growing and peace talks moribund, relations are

getting more strained, especially since Netanyahu's right-wing government, which opposes Palestinian independence, was formed late last year. The Authority is weak and polls show many Palestinians view its leadership with contempt.

This has led to the growth of rogue militias, especially in the northern West Bank around Jenin and Nablus. Smuggled arms from Jordan have meant that Israeli commando raids that used to happen with little resistance are now met with plenty of firepower.

Netanyahu made clear on Tuesday night as the withdrawal was starting that Israel wasn't pulling out for good.

"We will continue as long as necessary to stamp out terrorism," he said on a visit to a checkpoint near Jenin.

Deaths

Mary Rigby, 94, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 degrees on Independence Day. The low was 64.

Tonight's low will be in the upper 50s with a 70% chance of rain. Skies will be mostly sunny Friday with a high in the upper 70s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

At the fair

The Jay County Fair will hold a soft opening Friday night.

Rides will open at 5 p.m. There will be a husband calling contest at 7:30 p.m. in the Farmer's Building followed by Heartland, a Heart tribute band, performing at 8:30 p.m.

Gate admission will be free.

Coming up

Friday — Results from the Fort Recovery ACME baseball team against Minster.

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.



Approval ...

Continued from page 1
Council members Kent McClung, Janet Powers, Michele Brewster, Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker and Dave Golden, absent Don Gillespie, approved the abatements.
They also approved compliance forms for existing tax abatements on the recommendation of the tax abatement advisory committee. Business with existing tax abatements are Pen-ville Custom Cabinetry, FCC (Indiana), Fisher Packing, Fort Recovery Industries, IOM Grain, Joyce Dayton, Priority Plastics,

St. Henry Tile, Stay Jay Hotels (Holiday Inn Express), TLS by Design and Tyson Foods.
The compliance forms are required annually to ensure that companies are fulfilling the terms of their abatement agree-ments.
In other business:
•Council approved payment of claims for the month after hearing a question from Powers regarding overtime. She noted that there has been about \$40,000 in overtime over the last three months, asking why the number has been high. Clerk-treasurer

Lori Phillips indicated reasons include Portland Water Park staff, with the facility opening in late May, summer labor and end-of-quarter payments. Powers said she wants to make sure the overtime is accounted for during the budget process.
•Golden thanked Powers for her foresight regarding semis going off approved detours during construction projects. With several major road, sewer and bridge projects coming, Powers had pushed council to increase the city's fines being off the des-ignated route in order to deter

semis from driving illegally on city streets. Council in April increased the fine from to \$275 from the previous \$25 for the first violation and \$500 for each additional violation. Golden said he's seen a lot of semi driv-ers being ticketed.
•Following a question from Powers, Portland Mayor John Boggs said the start of construc-tion on the Meridian Street storm sewer project is still a few weeks away.
•Goldsworthy passed on a question from Jay County High School teacher Zach Keller, who

oversees homecoming activities, regarding this year's parade route as the Meridian Street storm sewer project is likely to be under construction. Boggs said city officials would work with the school corporation on a new route.
•Boggs briefly reiterated thoughts from his State of the City address last week, saying he feels the year looks bright for Portland. The mayor also thanked the Jay County 4th of July Committee for its efforts on the parade and free celebration at Jay County Fairgrounds.

CR almanac

Friday 7/7	Saturday 7/8	Sunday 7/9	Monday 7/10	Tuesday 7/11
79/59	78/62	79/61	80/62	83/64
Mostly sunny Friday, with a high in the upper 70s and slight wind.	There's a 50% chance of thunderstorms Saturday. The high will be in the mid to upper 70s.	Sunday has a 40% chance of showers with a high in the upper 70s.	More rain is possible Monday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Another chance of rain and thunderstorms under mostly sunny skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$546 million	Evening Daily Three: 8-7-3 Daily Four: 3-0-4-4 Quick Draw: 10-13-14-19-21-27-29-38-40-45-48-50-51-60-61-64-66-67-69-72
Mega Millions 21-33-54-61-67 Mega Ball: 12 Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$427 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 8-0-9 Pick 4: 4-7-5-5 Pick 5: 0-1-5-5-2 Evening Pick 3: 8-7-5 Pick 4: 7-9-7-0 Pick 5: 8-9-6-2-5 Rolling Cash: 6-23-28-31-34
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 2-1-0 Daily Four: 4-1-0-3 Quick Draw: 3-8-9-10-12-13-14-31-32-35-36-41-57-60-63-64-65-68-78-79	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.57 Oct. corn4.77 Wheat6.34	Wheat 6.30 July wheat6.30
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.60 Aug. corn5.30 Oct./Nov. corn4.82	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.39 July corn.....5.27 Beans14.77 July beans14.67 Wheat6.31
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.40 Aug. corn4.72 Beans14.65 Aug. beans.....13.25	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.20 Aug. corn5.15 Beans14.73 Aug. beans.....14.73 Wheat6.21

Today in history

In 1785, the U.S. Congress unanimously set the name of U.S. currency as the "dollar."
In 1885, Louis Pasteur saved the life of 9-year-old Joseph Meister with a rabies vaccine.
In 1942, Anne Frank and her family went into hiding in Amsterdam.
In 1957, Althea Gibson became the first African American to win a championship at Wimbledon when she defeated Darlene Hard 6-3, 6-2. She had already won the French Open in 1956 and went on to win the U.S. Open later that year. She finished her career with five grand slam titles, winning both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open again in 1958.
In 2002, sisters Serena and Venus Williams met in the women's championship match at Wimbledon. Serena won by a score of 7-6 (7-4), 6-3 for her first Wimbledon singles title. She has since won the tournament six more times.
In 2006, Jay School Board approved a tentative contract agreement with Jay Classroom Teachers Association. The two-year agreement included a freeze in teacher pay in the first year with a 2% raise in the second.
In 2012, Indiana High School Athletic Association released details of a study regarding its class format for basketball. Through 11 public meetings, 68% of those involved favored the state returning to a single-class system. However, athletics directors (79%), athletes (72%) and coaches (55%) voted in favor of keeping the multi-class system that was implemented beginning with the 1997-98 season.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, court-house auditorium, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, vot-ing room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Port-land.
4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, communi-ty room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

Obituaries

Mary Rigby

June 16, 1929-July 3, 2023
Mary Helen Rigby, age 94, of Port-land passed away on Monday, July 3, 2023, in Persimmon Ridge Health-care.
She was born in Jay County on June 16, 1929, the daughter of Arza and Doris (Haffner) Goodnight. She was married on Sept. 28, 1974 to John W. Rigby and he passed away on Oct. 28, 2021. She was retired from United Telephone and was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church where she was active with the food pantry, Women's Giving Circle and Red Hat

Society. She was a Poling High School graduate.
Surviving are one son, Greg Run-yon (wife: Jane Ann) of Portland; two daughters, Candy Runyon and Sandy Brackman both of Portland; six grandchildren; 12 great-grand-children; and six great-great-grand-children.
She was preceded in death by a son, Gary Runyon; grandson Jonathan Runyon; and sister Jacqueline Goodnight.
Funeral services will be Friday, July 7, 2023, at 10 a.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Larry Eads presiding. Burial will

follow in the IOOF Cemetery in Pen-ville. Visitation will be Friday from 9 to 10 a.m.
Memorials can be made to Trinity United Methodist Food Bank.
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.
.....
The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connec-tion 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.

Klutz becomes comptroller

By **MARISSA MEADOR**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com
State Auditor Tera Klutz will now be known as the State Comptroller to dispel the common mis-conception that the job of the state auditor is to audit — which has never really been the case.
The change became offi-cial July 1, when House Enrolled Act 1001 took effect. A comptroller, which generally oversees the accounting and financial reporting of an organization, was deter-mined to better represent

Klutz's constitutional role.
"The title of 'State Comptroller' provides a more appropriate depic-tion of the services we pro-vide," Klutz said in a press release. "We balance the state's checkbook, distrib-ute tax dollars, provide year-end financial report-ing and pay state employ-ees."
The role of auditing state government, local governments and individ-ual taxpayers falls to the State Board of Accounts and the Department of

Revenue. This has generat-ed confusion about what the state auditor actually does, and led Klutz to float the idea during her cam-paign for the office in 2022.
Although the new title will replace the title of "state auditor" on all con-tracts, stationary and other means of communi-cation, the change will not invalidate any documents using the original name, according to HEA 1001.
And voters still have to elect an Auditor because Indiana's Constitution

says so: "[t]here shall be elected, by the voters of the state, a Secretary, an Auditor and a Treasurer of State, who shall, severally, hold their offices for four years." This means the original name will appear on ballots and be used dur-ing primary conventions.
Passing legislation to enact the change was sim-pler than trying to change the state constitution, which requires passage in two successive general assemblies and then must be placed on the ballot for voters to approve.

Capsule Reports

Intersection collision
A Berne woman turned the vehi-cle she was driving into a Redkey woman's car at the intersection of Water and Meridian streets in Portland about 10:53 p.m. Tuesday.
Anastasia M. Hall, 34, was driv-ing a 2007 Chevrolet Uplander west on Water Street and continued through the intersection. At the same time, Isabel Morales, 18, was turning a 2003 Ford Explorer south onto Meridian Street.

The Explorer, which is regis-tered to Rex Pennington of Mon-roe, struck Hall's vehicle, causing between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in esti-mated damage.
Turning crash
A Michigan semi driver's trailer hit an Ohio man's vehicle at the intersection of Meridian and Votaw streets in Portland about 1:27 p.m. Monday.
Edward Bland, 68, Port Huron,

was driving a 2023 Freightliner Cascadia west on Votaw Street when he turned south onto Meri-dian Street.
His semitrailer hit a 2013 Chevrolet Traverse driven by 38-year-old Ricki S. Mooney of Sid-ney.
The Freightliner is registered to Equity Transportation Company of Oswego, Illinois.
Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Felony arrests

Dealing drugs
A Decatur man was arrested Tuesday for deal-ing drugs and related charges.
William J. Kelley, 59, 109 N. 16th St., was charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 4 felony for dealing in a narcotic drug, four Level 6 felonies for posses-sion of a narcotic drug, possession of metham-phetamine, unlawful pos-session of a syringe and maintaining a common nuisance and a Class C misdemeanor for posses-sion of paraphernalia.
He's being held on a \$20,000 bond in Jay Coun-ty Jail.

SERVICES

Today
Masterson, Randy: 10:30 a.m., Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funer-al Home, 308 W. Washington St., Bluffton.

Friday
Rigby, Mary: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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Partner wonders when to move forward

DEAR ABBY: I am a proud 42-year-old gay man. I was legally married to a man for four years, but we were together for 12. In 2011, I had to make the decision to remove him from life support after a sudden traumatic illness. I remained single for six years, and then I met who I thought was a wonderful man who was 16 years younger. After the first year, he became controlling and emotionally abusive. When I ended the relationship, I felt so much freedom.

I have met someone my age who reminds me of my late husband, and we have bonded and are forming a relationship. So far, it has only been dating and spending a lot of time together. I'm scared to start something so soon, but it feels right. When is a good time to move forward? When is a proper time to become intimate? We have both had bad relationships and respect each other's boundaries at the moment. I will never remarry, as I was entitled to survivor benefits from my late husband, and we both agree there

Dear Abby



are ways to protect each other and our financial needs other than marriage. Please help. — IN-BETWEEN IN COLORADO

DEAR IN-BETWEEN: It seems to me that you and this new man in your life are doing everything right. You are getting to know each other and taking your time before becoming intimately involved. The proper time to advance to the next stage would be when both of you are comfortable with the idea. Communication is key in every aspect of your relationship, and it appears you are doing that already.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 36 years old and married with three children.

I have two siblings I have a good relationship with. The problem is we have a half-sister two years younger than I am who doesn't know we exist. When my parents were married, my father had an affair with a married woman, and they conceived my half-sister.

My parents ultimately divorced. My father's mistress went back to her husband, and they remain married to this day. My half-sister was never told who her biological father is or that she has three half-siblings.

I have struggled my entire life with sharing this information with my half-sister because I don't want to ruin her life. My father passed away 20 years ago, so she will never have a relationship with him. My siblings also haven't been able to bring themselves to share this information with her, and I remain torn because we are close in age, look alike and have gone into similar fields of work.

I'd love to have a relationship with her I understand she may not want to have a relationship

with us and may have a lot of questions about why we waited so long to tell her: Is sharing the truth worth potentially ruining her life? — LONGING TO SHARE

DEAR LONGING: How do you think your half-sister is going to react after finding out she has been raised with a lie? Is a potential relationship with you worth the damage it may cause between her, her mother and her stepfather? If she were in need of an organ transplant, I might feel differently. Unless the reason is something equally urgent, do not intrude.

DEAR ABBY: On my first date with my husband, he told me his first wife was a "fox." I thought, "How would I compete?" We are married now, but he has never told me I was pretty or anything close.

Tonight, I was watching a game show and the winner introduced his "beautiful wife." The woman had a facial deformity, but you could tell he meant what he said.

It is hurtful that my husband never sees my inner beauty. We have been married 41 years now. I knew this was how he was when we married. He excuses it by saying this is the way he is. Yet I feel so very let down now. Can you comment? — UNPRETTY IN KENTUCKY

DEAR UNPRETTY: I'm surprised that after your suitor's remark there was a second, third or fourth date. Why would he feel the need to describe his ex-wife to you? I will assume that in the ensuing 41 years you have told him how sad you are that he hasn't AT LEAST mentioned that he appreciates your inner beauty and finer qualities and how lucky he feels to have you as his wife. "You knew how he was when you married him" is an excuse for his insensitivity, not an apology. I wish you would have elaborated on what makes him a great husband, because from where I sit, he's insensitive, withholding and not a very nice person.

Independence Day brings fun

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

Independence Day will be over by the time you read this. Most of the fireworks will have already given their all. There are always a few that will not go boom until a couple of weeks from now.

The pets can safely do whatever they do all day instead of panicking every time there is a loud noise. I confess that I hate all the racket and welcome the day when the neighborhood is quiet again.

When I was young we lived in a place that didn't allow private citizens to have fireworks. Every year I am surprised that all kinds of exploding things are as close as the next corner. Anyone has access to them.

A very long time ago I was given a piece of metal that was on fire. I was told it was called a sparkler and told to wave it around. Were the grown-ups crazy? This thing was on fire! I was a little kid and was convinced that the sparkler was going to set the entire world on fire and that we were all going to die. Thankfully, that didn't happen.

For a couple of years after we moved to the country we would

As I See It



visit with friends back in Dayton on the holiday. The show was easily seen from their backyard. We were close enough that some of the burning embers landed on their roof and had to be hosed down. This happened more than once.

Years later we didn't bother with fireworks or sparklers. The Fourth of July was just another day. It was only after I got married that we once again watched as color filled the night sky.

I have always considered all the pyrotechnics to be dangerous. There were 11 deaths attributed to fireworks last year. That is fewer deaths that have occurred in some of the mass shootings that seem to happen on a daily basis these days. On the other hand, there were more than 100,000 injuries. Please be careful that you do not become one of these statistics.

I may not like all the noise associated with Independence Day, but I do enjoy the local parade. It is always entertaining. I like the fact that anybody who wants to can be in the parade. From convertibles bearing the fair queen and her court, people running for office, the marching band, fire trucks from all around demonstrating that their sirens still work, and any number of other participants, all are welcome. Almost all of them toss candy at the children who line the streets. Yes, I said "at" not "to".

A few of them pass out bottled water, freezer pops or other goodies. The smallest kids seem to get the most candy. I wonder if they actually eat any of it.

I am always pleasantly amazed at how quickly any leftovers are cleaned up. It seems that half the town comes out for the parade and as soon as it is over, the streets and sidewalks are as clean as they are any other day.

There are other activities throughout the day. We all celebrate Independence Day in our own ways. I hope your day was a good one.

Community Calendar

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

Thursday

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.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Cen-

ter, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on

the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

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 - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., 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.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

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.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian 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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland.

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ADVERTISE

We have a busy schedule of special sections and pages coming up.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss them.

CR ONLY — *Swiss Days* (special pages only, not a separate section)
Wednesday, July 26 (ad deadline July 18)

NG ONLY — *Randolph County Fair results*
Tuesday, August 8 (ad deadline July 31)

NT ONLY — *Blackford County Fair results*
Wednesday, August 9 (ad deadline August 1)

UNIVERSAL — *Engine show*
Tuesday, August 22 (ad deadline August 14)

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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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Colleges should change their focus

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

The Supreme Court has spoken, invalidating racial preferences in college admissions as was widely anticipated. The six-justice conservative majority deemed the boost that universities give some applicants purely on the basis of their ethnicity or skin color incompatible with the U.S. Constitution's promise of equal protection under the laws.

There is plenty we disagree with in the reasoning as articulated by Chief Justice John

Guest Editorial

Roberts. He — and a concurring opinion by Justice Clarence Thomas, tapped for the court by George H.W. Bush in part, let's be honest, because he is Black — gives too-short shrift to the educational benefits of diversity. Colleges seeking to give their

students a well-rounded education and mint future leaders have very good reason to go out of their way to admit all types of people from different walks of life and backgrounds, including different racial backgrounds.

We cannot, however, dispute that racial preferences that disadvantage Asian-Americans are in tension with, if not at odds with, the same principles that seek to guarantee equal opportunity for all, including Black and Latino Americans. They could never last forever, so the

imperative is for colleges to find a better way to uphold high academic standards and comprise diverse academic classes.

The first thing to do: give applicants a boost based on their income-level or whether they'd be the first in their family to attend college. As liberal Richard Kahlenberg has written in these pages, class-based preferences can just as successfully produce varied student bodies that honor the American promise. Colleges public and private should follow that advice.

Simultaneously, the schools

should do away with the widespread practice that is the single worst offense against the American promise of fairness: legacy admissions, whereby the sons and daughters of alumni get easier entry based solely on the fact that their parents happened to attend. That practice privileges the privileged, and it should end.

Progressives furious at the court should redirect their energy to sculpting productive class-based admissions programs — and helping extinguish legacy admissions once and for all.

Haze underscores management need

By BRIAN YABLONSKI
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

As Canadian wildfire smoke blanketed Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday, the Windy City earned the unwelcome distinction of having the "worst air quality of any major city in the world," according to federal Air Quality Index readings. Authorities issued warnings instructing residents to stay indoors if possible or don masks if they had to be outside. As Chicagoans looked out their windows in horror and disbelief, people in the West likely were thinking, "Welcome to the club."

Wildfire smoke is a staple of life in the West. Most summers, our beloved mountain ranges disappear in a hazy shroud. Evenings resemble the eerie orange sunset scene from "Star Wars," while the taste of smoke can make you feel like you've swallowed a campfire.

And it is getting worse. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, fire season — the time of year when North America's forests go up in flames — has extended from five months to seven months since the 1970s. Wildfires today consume twice as much land each year on average than they did in the 1990s. In the past eight years, an area the size of Colorado went up in flames, with 10 million acres burned in a single fire season for three of those years — numbers unprecedented since the federal wildland fire agencies began keeping official data in 1983.

What is happening, and what can be done? Climate change is a contributing factor and receives most of the media attention, but the issue runs much deeper. There is simply too much wood in the woods.

After a century of misguided policy that sought to suppress all wildfires, U.S. forests have been transformed into tinderboxes more vulnerable to catastrophic wildfire. With an 80 million-acre forest restoration backlog, federally managed forests are in an unnatural and unhealthy state. Our forests are literally choking to death.

Forest restoration projects, which include the mechanical thinning of small-diameter trees and prescribed "good" fire, create healthier, more natural habitats. Indigenous tribes used these practices going back centuries. And today, with the exception of a few forest deniers, there is a broad scientific consensus that we need to get back to



Brian Yablonski

these practices.

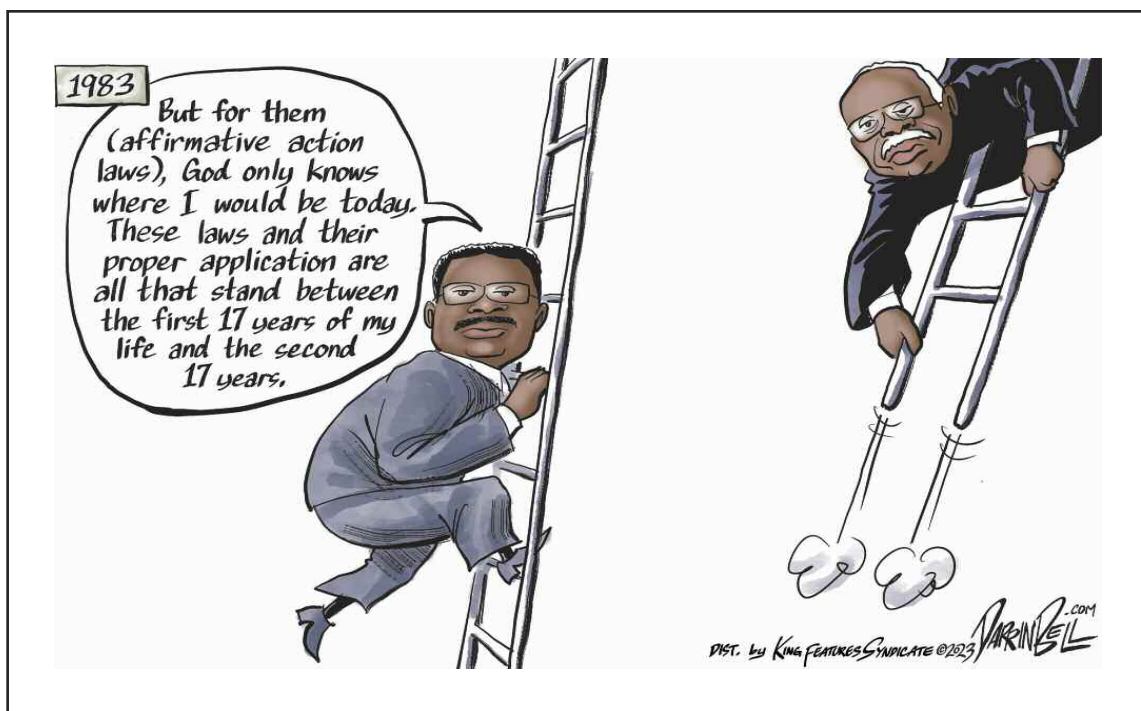
The biggest obstacle to getting there is not money or staffing, but red tape and unnecessary litigation. Recent research from the Property and Environment Research Center finds that federal permitting and litigation delays can mean it takes anywhere from five to nine years for these needed restoration projects to begin once they are initiated. In my home state of Montana, one Forest Service project has taken more than 15 years to get off the ground due to seemingly endless litigation and permitting hurdles.

The good news is there are bipartisan solutions moving through Congress to speed up this much-needed work. Lawmakers have introduced bills that would fast-track forest permitting, fix bad judicial decisions that contribute to project delays and make it easier for states, counties and tribes to participate in restoration. These bills need not get caught up in climate or partisan politics, lest we "lose the forest for the trees."

Make no mistake: Wildfires are a climate issue. But if we fail to take action on forest management, the impacts of climate change — drier, hotter, longer fire seasons — will only further contribute to the flammability of our overly dense forests. Fires in the Western U.S. in 2021 released 130 million tons of carbon dioxide — roughly a year's worth of pollution from 29 million cars. Climate policymakers who ignore accelerating forest management can expect a bellowing landscape pouring forth even more carbon dioxide emissions — and many more nights of Broadway in New York going dark because of smoke-filled air.

The wildfire crisis that drifted over Chicago this week is human-made, but we can fix America's forests with better and faster forest management. To do otherwise would be to fiddle while Rome burns.

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Yablonski is CEO at the Property and Environment Research Center, a nonprofit institute based in Bozeman, Montana, that creates innovative conservation solutions through markets and incentives.



Putin left in difficult position

By MEL GURTOV
PeaceVoice

Tensions between the Russian defense ministry and the head of the Wagner mercenary group, Yevgeniy Prigozhin, had been running high for months, mainly because of differences over war strategy and Prigozhin's accusations of insufficient battlefield support.

Last week those tensions reached the boiling point. Prigozhin accused Moscow of deliberately targeting his soldiers and, perhaps most importantly, insisting that his soldiers sign contracts with the defense ministry that would cause Wagner to "cease to exist." Rather than yield to Moscow, several thousand Wagner troops seized control of Rostov-on-Don, the southern military headquarters of the Russian army located on the Russia-Ukraine border.

Notably, it did so without resistance. Wagner soldiers then began marching toward Moscow on a major highway — to capture two top generals, Prigozhin says: defense minister Sergei K. Shoigu and Valery V. Gerasimov, chief of the general staff. They and other military leaders, expressing loyalty to Putin, accused Prigozhin of plotting a coup. Putin called it an "armed rebellion," a "stab in the back."

Nevertheless, Prigozhin's end game was never clear, though to some Russians in the elite who were later interviewed, a coup was far too ambitious even for Prigozhin. But the episode certainly represented a direct challenge to Putin's leadership that would have to end in one or the other's defeat.

Should we have rooted for Prigozhin? We have to consider that he's a staunch nationalist whose brutal mercenaries have killed thousands in Ukraine and carried out atrocities in Africa on behalf of autocratic leaders. While Prigozhin has criticized Putin's war venture — saying, for example, "The war wasn't needed to return Russian citizens to our bosom, nor to demilitarize or denazify Ukraine" — there's no way to know how Prigozhin might have acted toward Ukraine if he had succeeded in decapitating the military leadership.

Just as suddenly as his revolt began, Prigozhin called it off, ordering his troops to turn around after a talk with Belarus' dictator, Aleksandr Lukashenko. Supposedly, Lukashenko told Prigozhin he has a home in Belarus if he called off his

march and returned the Rostov base to the military.

That story is more than a little incredible, since Lukashenko takes orders from Putin. Evidently, the orders were to get Prigozhin out of the country in return for not prosecuting him or his men. Now we have to wonder if Prigozhin will survive, what he will do with his army based in Belarus if he does survive, and who will pay for it (since Putin has revealed that the Russian state paid \$1 billion for Prigozhin's services).

Putin's troubles

Putin's leadership surely has been called into question by this revolt. After all, for some time he tolerated Prigozhin's insubordination and refusal to integrate the Wagner forces with the regular army. The fact that Wagner was able to take over a major military base without resistance from the army or the police testifies either to Prigozhin's popularity or doubts about Putin's war.

And why, once Wagner troops began marching toward Moscow, did the military not launch a major strike on them? Why were Russian units in Ukraine apparently not called in to save the nation? As one observer writes, even with Wagner's defeat, "the dent to [Putin's] prestige and the damage to Russian military morale will be a major setback in Russia's already disastrous war on Ukraine."

The next question is what happens to Wagner now that Prigozhin has decamped to Belarus. Will it be reorganized under new leadership, allowed to return to Ukraine, dispatched to Africa, or kept cooling its heels in Belarus? The answers will surely have a bearing on Russia's ability to respond effectively to Ukraine's counter-offensive.

Then there are questions about Putin himself: Is his leadership permanently weakened? What will the coup attempt mean for Putin's next acts in the war? One logical guess is that he will seek to demonstrate that he is firmly in command, such as by launching even more deadly air strikes or calling up more reserves. Perhaps he'll seek to show outrageous defiance of his enemies by



Mel Gurtov

using a nuclear weapon. One thing we can count on is that Putin's propaganda machine will be spinning stories about how Prigozhin was a tool of the West.

Putin has to be worried about his relationship with Xi Jinping. Beijing media offered limited reporting on the insurrection; Chinese officials merely repeated their support of Putin's authority. But behind the scenes, Xi and his colleagues have to be concerned about Putin's mishandling of an outspoken critic, the Russian military's unity and effectiveness, the reliability of Russian intelligence, and the possibility that Putin will not survive much longer.

He's a weak partner with a weak internal security system. Such a revolt could not have happened in China, the Chinese are probably saying privately. And the parallel to Mikhail Gorbachev's takeover in Moscow in 1989, which Beijing viewed as a systemic threat to China, is surely not lost on the Chinese.

Implications

Ukraine, meanwhile, has every reason for confidence in its resistance because of the Wagner episode. The Kremlin looks to be in disarray, possibly avoiding a civil war in the midst of a costly invasion. Morale in Russia's military leadership and some army units may be adversely impacted by the Wagner revolt. Southern Ukraine, where Wagner seized the Rostov base, might be vulnerable to Ukrainian attack. The coming weeks may tell us a good deal about the resilience of Russia's military in the face of these extraordinary events.

Can Putin recover from an epic setback, and if so, how? That question begs another: Will Putin now be more or less likely to seek a peace settlement with Ukraine? The British historian Lawrence Freedman puts the matter this way: "Any suggestion that he [Putin] wants to get out of the war will aggravate the image of weakness; sticking with the war regardless of losses will aggravate his actual weaknesses."

Putin is stuck, a position that the U.S. and NATO can choose either to exploit or, hopefully, to press for peace.

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Gurtov, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Portland State University.

PeaceVoice is a project of the Oregon Peace Institute. It is devoted to changing the national conversation about the possibilities of peace and the inadvisability of war.

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VOLUME 150—NUMBER 47
THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2023

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) 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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—Thomas Jefferson

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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

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

Banner Christian Assembly of God
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Michael Burk
(260) 726-4282
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefontain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Gordon Jackson
Services: 9 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist
Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 10:45 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.unc.org

Christ Chapel
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
Quentin Elsea
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside)
1209 S. Shank St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

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., Portland
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
Gary Newton
(765) 669-1070
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
Gordon Jackson
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
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-portland.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.
fccftrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

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
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. David Porath
(419) 678-2071
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: 8:30 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., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 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. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor United Methodist
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
John Retter
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9 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) 755-6354
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 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, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First 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.
Chuck Hollandbeck
(765) 369-2676
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., Portland
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., Portland
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. Sunday

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
County roads 400 North and 550 West
Rev. Mike Heckman
(260) 731-4733
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

Sugar Grove United Methodist
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. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
(260) 726-8391
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:30 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

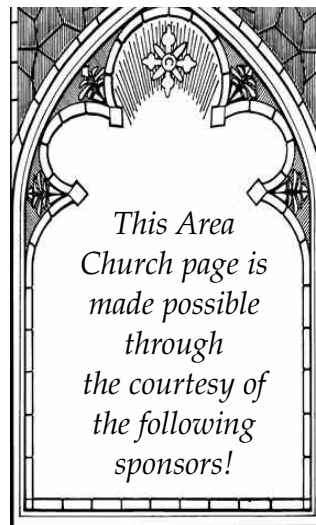
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

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., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

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



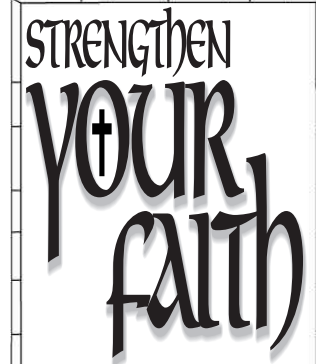
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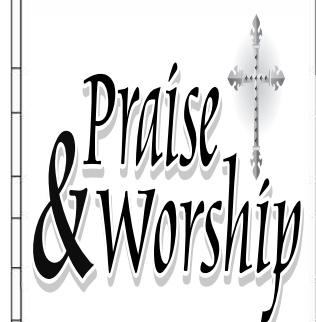


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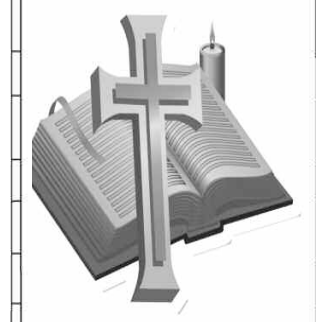


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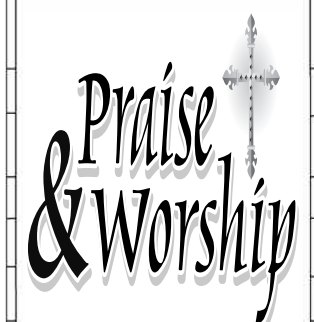
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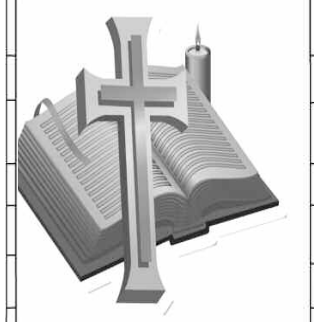
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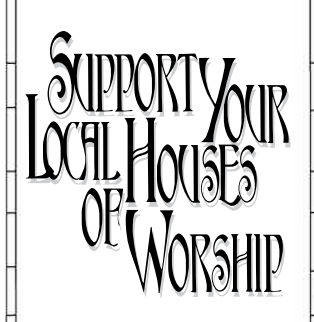
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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Two birds with one stone

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ Q 7 4
 ♥ Q 10 9 5
 ♦ A Q 10
 ♣ 9 6 3

EAST
 ♠ A 8 2
 ♥ 7 3 2
 ♦ 8 5 3
 ♣ Q 10 8 4

SOUTH
 ♠ 10 5
 ♥ A K J 8 4
 ♦ K J 7
 ♣ A J 2

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

Opening lead—six of spades. Assume you're East and partner leads the six of spades against four hearts, dummy following low. You win with the ace, and South produces the five. What do you do next?

Before making a decision, you try to figure out how the spades are divided. This is not exactly a herculean task; assuming the six is West's fourth-best spade, the Rule of Eleven tells you that South has just one spade higher than the six, and he hasn't played it yet. You also know it can't be the king, since your partner would have led the jack, not the six, from the J-10-9-6(-3).

It is clear that you should not return a spade at trick two, since if South started with only two spades, this would serve only to establish dummy's queen as a trick on which declarer can take a discard. And, given the dummy, that discard is almost certain to be a club.

You must therefore shift to a club at trick two — before declarer can establish the queen of spades as a trick — so the only real problem remaining is which club to lead.

If you return the four in the actual layout, South makes the contract by playing low from his hand, forcing your partner's king. Declarer is similarly successful if you return the queen, which South wins with the ace. The only return that stops the contract is the ten. Declarer must then lose two spades and two clubs, whatever he does, and go down one.

The ten play is easy enough to justify if you make the reasonable assumption that partner must have either the king or ace of clubs for the contract to be defeated. The ten is led to trap declarer's assumed jack and, at the same time, to neutralize dummy's nine, which is "surrounded" by your Q-8.

If it turns out that declarer has the A-K-x of clubs, returning the ten will not succeed — but in that case, neither would anything else.

Tomorrow: Test your play. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc.

7-6 CRYPTOQUIP

X U E R C H U X M L O E R K X R X I T
 L O H L E O X I T E Z X M C A M X I T E
 L A I T H I K M E Q E Z T O H H I , X M
 X K E R O H M M O H C H E O M E Q ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TEETH-STRAIGHTENING SPECIALISTS WHO FOLLOW TRADITIONAL FIXED PRACTICES: ORTHODOX ORTHO DOCS.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Laundry unit
 - 5 Spiced tea
 - 9 Mac alternatives
 - 12 — Domini
 - 13 Attila's group
 - 14 Carnival city
 - 15 Some fruit pastries
 - 17 Vichy water
 - 18 Discovers about
 - 19 Excited former partner
 - 21 Retained service charge
 - 28 Killer whale
 - 31 "— you sleeping?"
 - 32 USPS delivery
 - 33 Singer McGraw
 - 34 Seize
 - 36 Tic-tac-toe win
- DOWN**
- 1 "Dragnet" org.
 - 2 R.E.M.'s "The — Love"
 - 3 Scrambled wd. on the English Channel
 - 4 County
 - 5 Bloke
 - 6 "Ben- —"
 - 7 Hill dweller
 - 8 Edition
 - 9 Would rather
 - 10 "Arrivederci!"
 - 11 Tart rental
 - 16 Prom
 - 20 Expert
 - 22 Rockies range
 - 23 Medal recipient
 - 24 Actress Dennings
 - 25 Epoch
 - 26 Sri Lanka export
 - 27 Drifting ice
 - 29 109, to Caesar
 - 30 "Little Women" woman
 - 35 Sprite
 - 37 Cleveland squad
 - 39 Mar. 17 honoree
 - 40 Halloween mo.
 - 41 Poker token
 - 42 Pride parade letters
 - 43 Getz of jazz
 - 44 Opulent
 - 45 Jacob's twin
 - 46 RBI, for one
 - 49 Baton Rouge sch.
 - 50 Not 'neath

Solution time: 24 mins.

T	A	C	T	B	R	A	U	S	E		
E	L	L	E	O	D	E	T	A	R	A	
S	A	I	L	B	O	A	T	O	I	L	S
S	W	I	L	L	S	N	A	P	L	E	S
				S	O	T	A	S	I	A	
P	E	P	B	E	N	H	A	W	K	S	
A	G	A	S	R	C	A	N	A	I	L	
T	O	R	T	E	O	Y	S	Y	A	I	
				A	R	E	A	N	U	B	
R	E	S	I	G	N	R	E	A	C	T	S
A	T	A	N	S	T	A	I	S	A	I	L
T	R	I	G	E	I	N	I	S	E	E	
E	E	L	S	L	A	D	C	A	R	D	

Yesterday's answer 7-6

Peanuts

Rose is Rose

Agnes

Hi and Lois

Between Friends

Blondie

Snuffy Smith

Beetle Bailey

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40 NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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Jay County 4th of July celebration



Fun on Fourth

There was plenty of waving, games, music and other enjoyment to be had during the Jay County 4th of July parade and celebration Tuesday. Pictured above, parade grand marshals Rob and Mindy Weaver to parade-goers along Meridian Street between Water and Main streets in Portland. At right, 8-year-old Jacob Shannon reacts as he comes out of one of the various inflatable attractions during the celebration at Jay County Fairgrounds. At lower right, Kenzie Tobe of the Jay County High School Marching Patriots plays the trumpet during the parade.

Photos by Ray Cooney
The Commercial Review



90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, July 15, 2023
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 106 S West St., Eaton., IN
ANTIQUES - COLLECTIBLES - PRIMITIVES
Mercury, Sears, Radio Jet, Greyhound and others children's wagons, Aladdin and collectible hand painted lamps, Fredrick Cooper lamp, gold, silver and costume jewelry, full line of Jackie O jewelry, large collection of sports cards to include: Mark McGwire rookie card, Lawrence Taylor and Bo Jackson, Michael Jordan, and 100s more, Pokeman cards to include Snorlax 1999 first series in America, Garbage Pail kids cards, GI Joe figures and vehicles, signed sports pictures and memorabilia, and others.
FURNITURE- TOOLS- MISC.
Square dining room

90 SALE CALENDAR

table with 6 chairs and matching hutch, show and display cases, roll top secretary, Longaberger baskets, Craftsman 10 inch radial arm saw, shop and hand tools, lawn and garden tools of all kinds.
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Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, July 8, 2023
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 3430 W ST RTE 67 Portland, IN
ANTIQUES-FURNITURE-HOUSEHOLD
Large carousel horse on pedestal, complete Lionel train set,

90 SALE CALENDAR

Kerosene lamps, drop leaf table, wicker chairs and sofa, wrought iron tripod, Howard Miller grandfather clock with glass sides, lighted curio cabinet, leather rocker recliner, small roll top desk, jewelry boxes, end tables, globe on stand, Oak 5 piece queen size bedroom suite, 2 piece queen bedroom suite, Maytag washer and dryer, Amana washer and dryer, Kirby sweeper, lawn and garden tools, Confederate State quarter collection
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Sports

Chicago wins a wild one in 11th

By PAUL SULLIVAN

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service
MILWAUKEE — In one of the wildest games of the year, the Chicago Cubs wound up with a 7-6, 11-inning, Fourth of July win Tuesday over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Reliever Daniel Palencia won in his major-league debut, manager David Ross and first-base coach Mike Napoli were ejected, the bullpen blew a four-run lead for Kyle Hendricks and left fielder Ian Happ threw out runners at the plate for double plays to end the 10th and 11th innings.

“Super emotional,” Hendricks said. “Geez, unbelievable ending there. What can you say? Happer and Palencia coming up in his debut. Unbelievable ballgame and a great win, obviously, for us.”

Otherwise it was a dull day for the 41,133 fans in Milwaukee. The win snapped a three-game losing streak for the Cubs and was the latest chapter in a dizzying post-London stretch that had them on the brink of falling out of the race.

“We needed a win,” Happ said. “The momentum of that one made it a big win, but we needed to win a baseball game there.”

Chicago had lost seven of its last eight games to fall seven games behind the Cincinnati Reds and the Brewers, who were tied for the National League Central Division lead.

Reliever Michael Fulmer called the rest of the Brewers series “must-win” games, while Swanson said the Cubs need to “man up” and own it without looking for excuses.

The Cubs did just that Tuesday. They brought up Palencia from Triple-A Iowa before the game, and Ross turned to the rookie in the 10th after Alzolay gave up the tying runs in the ninth.

Nico Hoerner’s two-out, RBI infield hit in the 11th gave the Cubs a 7-6 lead. During Swanson’s ensuing at-bat, Napoli and then Ross were ejected.

Palencia came back out for the 11th after the emotional ending to the 10th. Happ caught Brice Turang’s one-out fly to left and nailed Miller at the plate.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Firing away

Zoe McLaughlin of the Redkey All-Stars follows through on a pitch during a 2-1 win over Yorktown on Monday evening as part of the 2023 Redkey Firecracker tournament at Redkey Morgan Park. The tournament originally scheduled for Saturday was postponed because of rain with games being played Monday evening and Independence Day.

Lillard has caused a trade vortex

By IRA WINDERMAN
South Florida Sun-Sentinel
Tribune News Service

MIAMI — For all the singular focus at this stage of NBA free agency, the possibility of a Damian Lillard trade is not a one-man proposition.

In fact, amid the desires of the

seven-time All-Star to relocate from the Portland Trail Blazers, with a preference of the Miami Heat as his landing spot, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the fates and fortunes of several other players could come into play before a resolution.

Among them, the Heat’s Tyler

Herro, Kyle Lowry, Duncan Robinson and Caleb Martin, as well as perhaps the Trail Blazers’ Jusuf Nurkic, the Brooklyn Nets’ Ben Simmons and perhaps even the Philadelphia 76ers’ James Harden.

From the start, because of salary-cap and luxury-tax

aspects, this never was going to be as simple as a player-for-player swap, particularly with Lillard, 32, due \$45.7 million this coming season.

Still, he’s the key to the rest of free agency, having averaged 32.2 points, 7.3 assists and 4.1 rebounds per game last season.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County Summer Swim Team vs. North Adams Central — 6 p.m.
Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Blues — 7:15 p.m.

TV sports

Today
6 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)
6 p.m. — USGA golf: U.S. Women’s Open (USA)
6:40 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at Miami Marlins (FS1)
7 p.m. — NBA Salt Lake City Summer League basketball: Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)
7 p.m. — WNBA basketball: Seattle Storm at Connecticut Sun (FOX)

Friday
6 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)
6 p.m. — USGA golf: U.S. Women’s Open (USA)
7 p.m. — NBA Summer League basketball: Portland Trail Blazers vs. Houston Rockets (ESPN)
9 p.m. — NBA Summer League basketball: Charlotte Hornets at San Antonio Spurs (ESPN)
11 p.m. — NBA Summer League basketball: Golden State Warriors at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)

Local notes

5K circuit continues July 22
The next race in the Jay County 5K Circuit is scheduled for July 22. The Bonus 5K is scheduled for 8 a.m. July 22. The race will be at the IU Health Jay trail.

Registration is \$20. The circuit features eight races running from April through August. Awards are presented in nine divisions. For more information, visit runjaycounty.com.

Flag football registration open
Registration for Jay Community Center’s Boomer Fall Flag Football is now open. The league is for children ages 3 through 12. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland. Registration is \$30 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

Swiss Days race set
Registration is open for the 50th annual Swiss Days Race. The event is scheduled for July 29 with a 5K at 8:15 a.m. and a 1-mile race for children 11 and younger at 9:15 a.m.

Awards will be presented to the top 10 in each age group and there will be refreshments for all participants. To register, search for “Swiss Days Race” at runsignup.com.

Chamber outing scheduled
Jay County Chamber of Commerce will hold its golf outing July 21.

The event will begin with registration at 9 a.m. followed by a shotgun start at 10 a.m.

Registration is \$250 per team and is open now by emailing tabby@jaycounty-chamber.com or visiting the chamber office at 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. The event is limited to 20 teams and the deadline is July 10.

For more information, call (260) 726-4481.

Soccer sign-ups available now
Registration for Jay Community Center’s Boomer Fall Soccer league is now open.

The league is for children ages 3 through 14. Games will be played on Saturdays from Aug. 26 through Oct. 7 at Jay County Recreation Complex, 5363 W. 450 South, Portland.

Registration is \$60 for those who sign up by July 31. For more information, visit jaycc.org.

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

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