

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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State awards more than \$2 million

By **MARISA MEADOR**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The Indiana State Department of Agriculture this week announced a historic \$2 million in funding for the state's 11 food banks, doubling last year's funding. The money was authorized by the Indiana General Assembly as part of the budget bill passed last session.

"Providing for Hoosiers who are food insecure across our state is a priority," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, who also serves as Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. "I am proud that the general assembly recognized this by appropriating additional state funding towards our Indiana food banks."

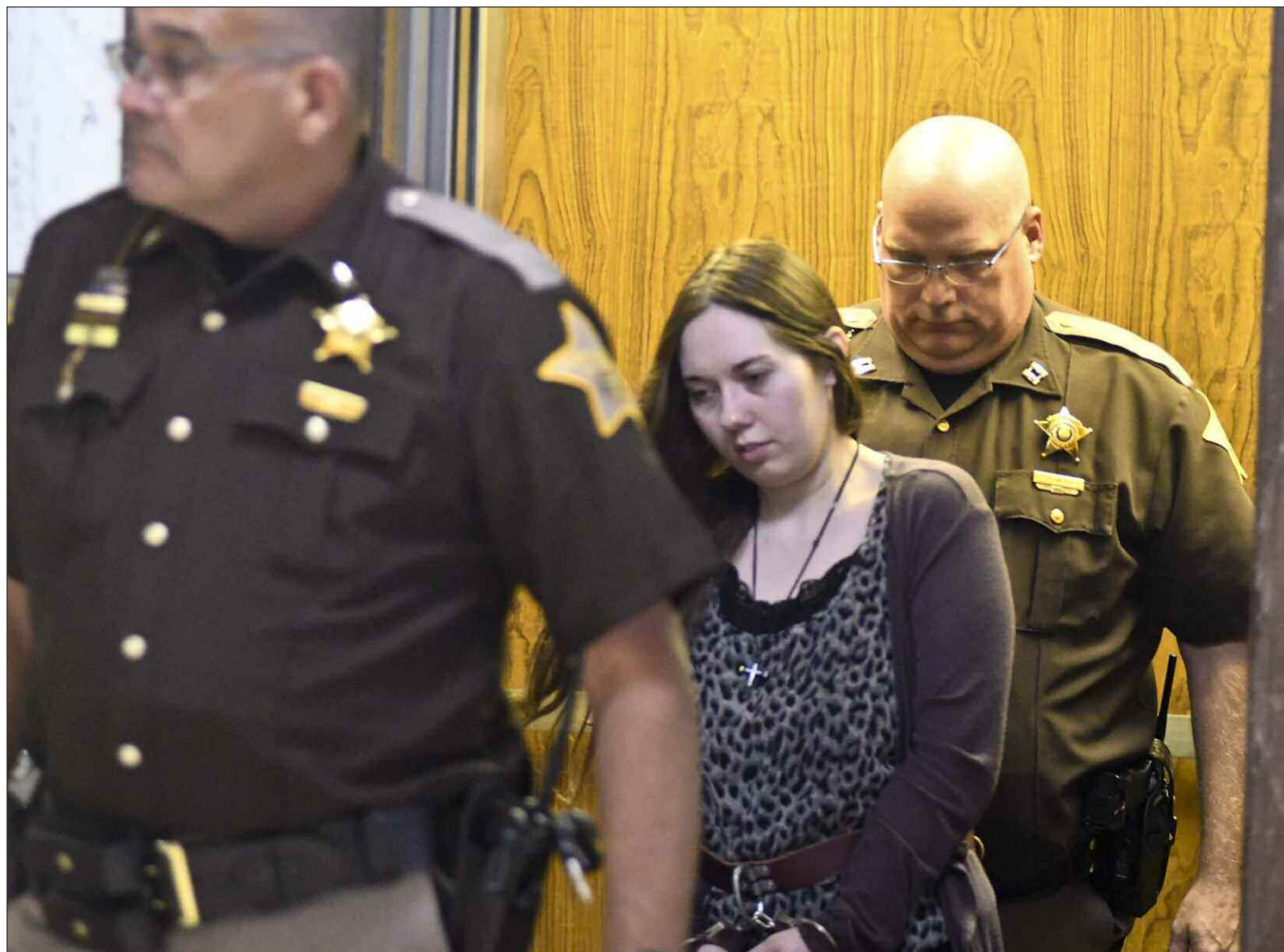
Last year, nearly one in six Americans received food assistance from charities, according to the release. The same year, 13% of Hoosiers experienced food insufficiency, which means they lacked consistent access to a healthy amount of food.

Indiana's 11 food banks feed into pantries and soup kitchens across the state, allowing various types of food distribution centers to receive additional food products. Funds were distributed to food banks according to the Emergency Food Assistance Program's fair share percentages, which are informed by poverty and unemployment levels for each county.

"Organizations like Indiana food banks are what makes growing food so rewarding," Don Lamb, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, said in the news release. "They have the necessary resources and skills to distribute large amounts of food and help community members in need. We are so thankful for the work they do for their communities across the state in helping food insecure Hoosiers."

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Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Life in prison



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balnko

Chelsea Crossland of Portland is led out of the elevator at Jay County Courthouse by Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton, with Patrick Wells of the sheriff's office following. Crossland was found guilty Thursday at the conclusion of a four-day trial of murdering her 5-year-old son. The jury subsequently voted to sentence her to life in prison without parole.

Crossland found guilty of murdering her son, jury recommends sentence of life without parole

By **BAILEY CLINE**
The Commercial Review

A 28-year-old Portland woman will spend the rest of her life behind bars for the death of her 5-year-old son.

A Jay Circuit Court jury recommended imprisonment for life without parole after finding Chelsea Crossland guilty Thursday of both murder and neglect of a dependent resulting in death.

Following court formalities, she will be officially sentenced by Jay Circuit Court Judge Brian Hutchison at 11 a.m. Aug. 24 for killing her 5-year-old son, Christian.

As Hutchison read aloud the jury's decision to put Cross-

land behind bars for life, two individuals in the crowd quietly cheered. Crossland remained stone-faced.

"What can I say?" responded Wes Schemenaur after the trial. "It was probably the most difficult case I've ever had the displeasure of being a part of."

He thanked professionals who worked on the case, including Indiana State Police.

"I think the jury reached the right outcome in this case," he said.

The jury needed barely more than an hour to reach its verdict after the prosecution and defense gave their closing arguments Thursday morn-

ing. (Both sides had rested their cases Wednesday.)

Jurors were then asked to take into consideration witnesses for "phase two" of the trial, which determined whether Crossland would be sent to prison for life without parole.

Jay County prosecutor Schemenaur called Jay County coroner Michael Brewster and child abuse pediatrician Tara Holloran of Riley Hospital in Indianapolis to the stand. Schemenaur asked Holloran various questions about the difference between child torture and child abuse.

To be defined as child torture, she explained, a caretaker must

have made at least two physical assaults or one prolonged assault resulting in distress as well as created two psychological abuse elements, such as isolation or deprivation.

Holloran mentioned the injuries on Christian's neck and ear, which she said could not have been sustained from falling or playing rough.

Touching on aggravating circumstances required to sentence a person to life without parole, Schemenaur noted Christian's age and said he was a victim of torture. He referenced the "prolonged 74-day horror show" that Christian Crossland endured.

See Life page 2

Airport runway extension awarded

Portland project is recognized with honor from aviation organization



Butler, Fairman & Seufert

This overhead view shows the completed Portland Municipal Airport runway extension that was completed in fall 2022. It will be honored next month by the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives' as the General Aviation Project of the Year.

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

Local officials worked on and off for decades to construct a longer runway at the city's airport.

Finally completed last year, it is now an award-winning project.

Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman & Seufert informed Portland Board of Aviation during its meeting Monday that its runway extension project has named the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives' General Aviation Project of the Year.

Portland Municipal Airport's project to extend its runway to 5,500 feet from the previous 4,000 feet was substantially completed in fall 2022. (Additional work to handle some grading and re-

seeding grass around the runway continued into this year, with the board on Wednesday giving its approval that the project has been completed.) It was the culmination of years of work, as the potential extension had been initially discussed in the late 1990s.

The Federal Aviation Administration gave approval for the runway extension in January 2015, with the first phase of construction beginning in 2021. Its intent is to allow larger aircraft to be able to land and take off from the airport.

The airport will receive its award from the Great Lakes Chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives at its annual conference next week in Dubuque, Iowa.

See Awarded page 2

Deaths

Beth Pinkerton, 51, Greenwood
Robert Imler, 78, Noblesville
Christina Roosa, 42, Ridgeville
Mark Steveson, 64, Great Falls, Montana
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 84 degrees Wednesday. The low was 59. Tonight's low will also be in the upper 50s. Expect skies to be mostly cloudy Saturday with a high of 80.
See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

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

Coming up

Saturday — Photos from this week's JCHS volleyball scrimmage against Winchester.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.



Obituaries

Beth Pinkerton

Sept. 21, 1971-July 18, 2023
Beth Pinkerton, age 51, of Greenwood, Indiana, passed away on Tuesday, July 18, 2023, in Greenwood.

She was born in Portland on Sept. 21, 1971, the daughter of Paul and Ruthann (Foltz) Pinkerton. She worked as an IT analyst for the BMV for 30 years.



She was a 1990 Jay County High School graduate, 2002 Indiana Business College graduate and member of Indianapolis Southwest Church of the Nazarene, played in the Kitchenette Band, and was a member of Jay County High School Band and 4-H. She helped with elections in Marion

County. She enjoyed playing the piano and accordion and spending time with her niece and nephews.

Surviving are one brother, Rex Pinkerton (wife: Cathy) of Portland; three sisters, Lynn Pinkerton of Portland, Irene Rodenbeck (husband: Scott) of Plainfield and Rachel Greene (husband: John) of Greenwood; her niece Madison; nephews Daniel, Tyler and Gabe; and her dog Daisey.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, July 22, 2023, at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Scott Robinson presiding. Burial will follow in the IOOF Cemetery in Pennville. Visitation is Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Band Boosters.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Robert Imler

Robert C. Imler, 78, of Noblesville, Indiana, the only child of Charles and Belva Imler, died July 7, 2023, of pancreatic cancer.

He was born in Frankfort, Indiana, in 1944.

He married Barbara Campbell of Detroit who survives, and they were married 55 years.

He is survived by children Stacie Bergdoll (Brant), James Imler (Anne Weiss) and Stephanie Knoth (Chris); and seven grandchildren, Owen and Claire Bergdoll, Millicent and Otto Imler, and Rowan, Max and Willa Knoth.

Mr. Imler attended Riley Grade School and Frankfort Senior High School. He also attended Michigan State University as a National Merit Scholar and received a master's degree from Ball State Univer-

sity. He worked for many years as a journalist in Washington State and Indiana.

During his more than 20 years of National Guard and Army service, he received a Bronze Star, the Cross of Gallantry with Palm, the Distinguished Service Medal and several State medals.

Through his years in journalism, he earned several awards and prizes for outstanding journalistic accomplishment and never encountered a witticism he did not appreciate.

Mr. Imler's ashes will be scattered on the family property near Lake Manistee, Michigan.

A gathering of friends and family will be held July 28, 2023, at Flanner Buchanan - Carmel, 325 E. Carmel Dr., Carmel, Indiana, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials

may be made to Jay County Public Library.

Christina Marie Roosa, Ridgeville, died Monday. Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday at Tribute Funeral Homes, Greenville Campus, Greenville, Ohio

Mark Alan Steveson, Great Falls, Montana, a Jay County native, Feb. 27, 1959-June 28, 2023. Graveside services with military honors will be at 11 a.m. Aug. 4 at Highland Cemetery in Great Falls.

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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Saturday 7/22	Sunday 7/23	Monday 7/24	Tuesday 7/25	Wednesday 7/26
80/60	82/62	83/63	85/66	87/68
Skies will be sunny with a high of 80 degrees.	There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. The high will be in the low 80s.	Skies will be mostly sunny with a high of 83 and a chance of showers and storms after 2 p.m.	The forecast calls for a slight chance of showers and storms. The high will be 85.	Expect the high to climb into the upper 80s under mostly sunny skies.

Lotteries

Powerball 7-10-11-13-24 Power Ball: 24 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Daily Four: 5-5-4-4 Quick Draw: 2-5-8-11-15-17-20-31-32-40-43-46-49-50-52-59-62-69-74-76 Cash 5: 6-7-18-35-43 Estimated jackpot: \$758,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$720 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 6-7-1 Pick 4: 6-5-2-7 Pick 5: 5-5-2-7-2 Evening Pick 3: 4-1-4 Pick 4: 0-5-9-9 Pick 5: 3-2-5-2-3 Rolling Cash: 11-19-23-24-38 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 7-8-1 Daily Four: 9-3-9-1 Quick Draw: 4-13-15-19-22-24-26-27-28-36-37-39-55-59-62-67-68-71-78-80 Evening Daily Three: 5-3-3	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.04 Oct. corn5.24 Wheat6.84	Aug. beans.....13.50 Wheat 6.87
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.30 Aug. corn5.95 Oct. corn5.29	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.34 Late July corn5.34 Beans14.01 Late July beans.....14.81 Wheat6.81
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.84 Aug. corn5.18 Beans14.90	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.99 Aug. corn5.99 Beans14.70 Aug. beans.....14.70 Wheat6.59

Today in history

In 1403, King Henry IV defeated the Percys in the Battle of Shrewsbury in England.

In 2007, the final book in the Harry Potter series — “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows” — was released.

In 2011, NASA ended its space shuttle program after 135 missions when the Atlantis orbiter landed at John F. Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

In 2012, Richard Williams of Portland climbed the standings after a slow start the previous night to finish seventh in the Double Header Classic at Montpelier Motor Speedway. Fort Recovery's Jamie Heiser was 10th.

In 2021, Jay County Council approved \$275,000 in economic development income tax (EDIT) funds to be contributed toward the construction of a new Jay County Humane Society animal control shelter.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, courthouse auditorium, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.	Tuesday 7 a.m. — Jay County Board of Health, health department, 504 W. Arch St., Portland.
Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.	

Life ...

Continued from page 1
Gladys Lanette Crossland, Chelsea Crossland's mother, shared information about her daughter's upbringing in Texas. (The family moved to Jay County in 2012.) Chelsea Crossland's father, Randy, has been in prison most of her life. She confirmed mental health issues in the family — she said Randy has anxiety and schizophrenia — as well as with herself and her daughter.

Upon questioning by public defender Jacob Dunnuck, Gladys Lanette Crossland confirmed her daughter had voiced a desire to self-harm or kill herself. She also said each of her daughter's boyfriends over the course of her life had beat and strangled her.

Dunnuck noted mitigating factors, such as Crossland's minimal criminal history — she had never been convicted of a felony — as well as other factors, such as her mental health, family history and limited resources.

He said justice had already been achieved for Christian with the two guilty verdicts the jury delivered that day.

“(I) just ask you put the brakes on a little bit with this phase,” he said. “Don’t dismiss the mitigating factors ... justice was served.”

Holloran initially took the stand Wednesday as the prosecution's final witness. She testified that Christian's caloric intake over the course of the last two months of his life was nearly zero calories a day.

The defense also shared its case, which lasted less than two hours.

Nick Riddle, Christian's father, said he saw Christian a few weeks before his death. He testified Christian looked “happy and smiley.”

Gladys Lanette Crossland confirmed different times she saw Christian over the course of his life, including on her birthday, Feb. 8, 2022. She told the jury he appeared normal that day.

She confirmed it took her an hour and a half to get to her daughter's

home after she called about Christian on the day of his death — March 24, 2022. She said she didn't have a car available, and she lived in Albany.

Landers then showed her a picture police took of Christian after he was found dead.

“That’s not what I saw,” she said, beginning to sob audibly. “He didn’t look like that.”

Answering a question from Jay County deputy prosecutor Zechariah Landers, Gladys Lanette Crossland admitted to learning about what other witnesses said during the trial via a phone call Tuesday from her daughter; a violation of the court's separation of witnesses order.

She left the courtroom in tears after being dismissed.

Crossland chose not to testify. During closing arguments Thursday, Schemenaur explained to the jury he was called by police to Crossland's home after Christian died.

“That image of him has never left my mind,” he said. “It’s never probably going to leave my mind. It’s never probably going to leave yours.”

“What do you say about a case like this?” continued Schemenaur: “Seventy-four days is what keeps coming back to me. Seventy-four days is how long it takes to starve a 5-year-old boy ... Every second of every minute of every hour for 74 days, she made a conscious decision to not feed her son.”

He pointed to testimonies given by Crossland's daughters. Her 8-year-old daughter testified she would sneak food to Christian when Crossland was asleep. They also testified, and Crossland also said via text message, that Christian ate his own feces.

“How could anybody, let alone his own mother, inflict horror on a little child?” Schemenaur asked.

He noted that Crossland's 10-year-old daughter testified that her mother asked what she would do with Christian's body and also got out a trash bag to put him in.

“This was a horrific way to kill somebody. It took 74 days of methodically sticking to the program of not feeding Christian and beating him,” he said. “We treat animals better than she treated Christian.”

Chief public defender Brandon Murphy pointed to Indiana's definitions of murder and neglect of a dependent resulting in death, and he argued the prosecution had not proved the former (Murder in Indiana is defined as the intentional killing of another human being. Neglect of a dependent resulting in death, a Level 1 felony, stipulates a person knowingly or intentionally placed their dependent in a situation that endangered the dependent's life or health resulting in death or catastrophic injury.)

“Murder requires an act,” said Murphy.

Murphy added that Christian had not been to a doctor and his death could have been preventable with treatment.

“That’s neglect, not murder,” he said.

He noted Crossland had given birth to another son in November 2021 and indicated she had postpartum depression. Murphy also mentioned Crossland's family and friends who he said had been around Christian and took no action.

“Not one of them picked up the phone to call CPS,” he said. “His death was preventable. It took one phone call from somebody else who cared.”

Responding to Murphy's closing argument, Schemenaur told the jury Murphy has a unique view of the case. He said the “act” of murder was demonstrated in Crossland withholding food and beating Christian.

“Adopting Murphy's logic, if I really don't like you, really want to see you dead, all I have to do is lock you in a cage and not feed you for a few days,” he said.

Awarded ...

Continued from page 1
Butler, Fairman and Seufert will give a presentation regarding the project at the conference.

The chapter covers a dozen states, including Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio, as well as the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Manitoba.

Also regarding the runway extension project, Clearwaters said HIS Constructors — the Indianapolis firm handled the first phase of the work — expects to have an issue with a local landowner resolved within the next month. (An issue regarding the site where the company bought fill dirt to level the area of the runway extension has delayed closing out that phase of the project.)

Clearwaters also noted that his firm can move forward with the process of completing the design of the airport's apron expansion as the related FAA grant is now in place. (Plans are to bid the project in early 2024.)

A wildlife hazard assessment is ongoing, and the airport is still waiting to hear back regarding a land acquisition reimbursement request from federal infrastructure bill funds.

In other business, the board:

•Learned from Clearwaters that the airport's automated weather observing system needs to have a survey marker installed about 100 feet away to identify true north. The marker is

used by the system to ensure that wind directions are being reported properly. Clearwaters will handle the work prior to the next aviation board meeting.

•Heard from Tavzel that the airport sold 6,210 gallons of fuel in June for \$29,384.31. That's down from 8,246 in June 2022 but up from 4,189 in June 2021.

•Discussed the need to slightly modify a lease with

Tavzel for the construction of a new Sunrise Aviation hangar. The change is needed to allow for more space for parking between the taxiway and the hangar. Clearwaters said he plans to have the lease amendment complete for the board to consider at its August meeting.

•Heard reminders from Tavzel that the airport's annual fly-in and breakfast, to be hosted by the

SERVICES

Friday
Keen-Jenkins, Amber: 3 p.m., The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday
Koenig, Ruth: 10:30 a.m., the Church of the Most Holy Trinity 7321 Indiana 67, Bryant.
Pinkerton, Beth: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Stultz, Treva: 2 p.m., Cornerstone Church of Pennville, 109 W. Main St., Pennville.

Tuesday
Roosa, Christina: 11 a.m., Tribute Funeral Homes, Greenville Campus, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio.

Aug. 4
Stevens, Mark: 11 a.m., Highland Cemetery, Great Falls, Montana.

Service listings provided by
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Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

FWC

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FOOD

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WORSHIP

CARNIVAL GAMES

ICE CREAM

Aging mother refuses to discuss inevitable

DEAR ABBY: My mom turns 85 this year. When my father died of congestive heart failure 10 years ago, our family had a clear understanding of Dad's wishes about the end-of-life care he wanted. We knew he didn't want "heroic measures," like a feeding tube or to be on a ventilator. Since Dad had been sick for a few years and he was open to these discussions, Mom felt confident making choices for his care when he could no longer communicate his wishes.

With Mom, it is a completely different story. She refuses to have conversations about this with my siblings and me, and accuses us of being "morbid." Although she has a

Dear Abby



will, she has made no decisions about a proxy or for her care. Do you have any suggestions for how we can help Mom feel more comfortable having these conversations and documenting her wishes? — LOVING, NOT MORBID, DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: Offer your mother resources that normalize discussions about end-of-life wishes and

care. Helping to ensure that she receives the care she wants is not morbid. It is a gift to her and your family. If something happens to a loved one and they can no longer communicate for themselves, you should not have to guess what their wishes would be in a crisis.

Start with the perfect gift for Mom: "Finish Strong: Putting Your Priorities First at Life's End," a book written by Barbara Coombs Lee, the president emerita and senior adviser of Compassion & Choices. Compassion & Choices is an organization I have mentioned before in my column and to

which I contribute. It offers a multitude of resources, including "My End-of-Life Decisions: An Advance Planning Guide and Toolkit." It would be a helpful starting point for a discussion with your mother. For more information, visit compassionandchoices.org.

DEAR ABBY: I am a divorced dad with two adult daughters and a 14-year-old daughter. My older daughters are learning to be responsible for themselves, and I'm proud of them. The question I need help with involves my youngest. She doesn't want to go to school. She stays awake on the phone.

I have taken two of them from her, yet her mom keeps giving her phones. I have unplugged the Wi-Fi. I've tried talking to my ex about this to no avail.

I'm not perfect. I have said things I regret, but I have always loved my daughters. I have explained that my teen is pushing me away, but my ex doesn't care. My heart hurts. Must I just let go? — HEART-HURTING DAD

DEAR DAD: Your ex-wife appears to be irresponsible in the care of your daughter. She is also attempting to alienate the girl from you. It is very important to find out why your 14-year-old doesn't want to go to school. Is she

being bullied? Has she fallen so far behind that she's afraid she can't catch up? Did the COVID lockdown impair her social skills as it has many other students?

Once you know what you are dealing with, you may be able to do more than lecture her about her truancy, and that is what I am recommending. She may need counseling.

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

Senior citizens plant herb garden, graduate course

By STACY PARKER
The Virginian-Pilot
Tribune News Service

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. — Doris Blount was raised in Burton Station. Now 89, she was honored at a graduation ceremony on the same ground where she grew up.

Affectionately named "the matriarch of the class," Blount and more than a dozen other residents who live in Tranquil-

ity at the Lakes, a senior apartment community, recently completed a 12-week health and nutrition course.

They learned how to prepare healthy foods, the value of taking time to rest and the positive benefits of keeping a journal.

Burton Station is a historically Black community in Virginia Beach. Tranquility at the Lakes, an affordable housing complex operated by Seniors

Unlimited Lifestyles, opened five years ago on Burton Station Road near Norfolk International Airport. It currently has 41 residents.

The Virginia African American Cultural Center funded the workshops with a grant from Sentara Healthcare.

City Councilwoman Amelia Ross-Hammond, who is chair of the VAACC's board, said the senior community was chosen

because many of the residents have not had access to education about health screenings and healthy eating.

On Friday, the students wore graduation caps and applauded each other as they walked to the front of the building's community room to receive certificates of completion.

"Y'all made this so easy because you showed up, you participated, you never com-

plained," said Chef Grace Peart, who led the workshops.

She's founder and CEO of Community of Destiny, a local nonprofit that specializes in culinary arts training in Hampton Roads and Atlanta.

Peart helped the residents plant an herb and vegetable garden at Tranquility at the Lakes. Guest speakers also led sessions on the value of self-care and appreciating oneself.

Back to school event is next week

A back to school event is slated for next weekend.

Jay Community Day is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. July 29. The free event at Jay County Fairgrounds

will offer free school supplies and haircuts, games, snacks, a bounce house, Batman and the Batmobile from Heroes 4 Higher and the Jay County Public Library Bookmobile.

Jay County Health Department will also be available to give vaccines.

For more information, call (765) 749-9918 or email jaycountyfairmanager@gmail.com.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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.

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.

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. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'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.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7

p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

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.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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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Stop continuing to feed the monster

By **NOLAN FINLEY**

The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg launched his latest social media platform, Threads, one day after a federal judge in Louisiana ruled the Biden administration likely colluded with Facebook and other such sites to censor unfavorable views during the pandemic.

The connection between the two events went largely unremarked upon. Progressives were just tickled that Zuckerberg was mounting a competitive challenge to Twitter and its dastardly owner Elon Musk, who dared to challenge their exclusive grip on social media, that they didn't want to be bothered with the danger of Facebook's information empire gaining even more dominance.

Meta, Facebook's parent company, reported 30 million sign-

Nolan Finley



ups in the first hours after the launch of Threads, an app that looks remarkably similar to Twitter. That number is bound to keep soaring, since Threads is linked to another Zuckerberg company, Instagram, which has 2.35 billion active monthly users.

Zuckerberg has not proved to be a good steward of such enormous power, Finley writes.

Facebook itself has nearly 3 billion accounts, while yet another Meta enterprise, WhatsApp, boasts of 2.75 billion active monthly users.

Even assuming generous

overlap among Meta's various user bases, it's a fair estimate that on any given day Zuckerberg's online products are reaching up to half the world's population.

Zuckerberg has not proved to be a good steward of such enormous power, as the Louisiana court ruling suggests.

District Judge Terry Doughty, issued a sweeping ruling banning a long list of federal officials, including White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre and all employees of the Justice Department and FBI, from having contact with Facebook and other social media sites for the purpose of infringing on First Amendment rights.

The judge declared the cooperation between the White House and social media companies to censor speech "Orwellian." Facebook was the key player.

Zuckerberg has acknowledged taking regular calls from administration officials during the pandemic, and that Facebook censored posts later proved to be true at the behest of federal health officials who wanted to control the COVID-19 narrative.

This came at a time when Americans needed and deserved the maximum amount of information about a virus that was threatening their lives and livelihoods.

And yet the most powerful government officials were conspiring with the world's most powerful information company to limit and distort that information. And for one purpose: To make the people more pliable and easier to control. Orwellian indeed.

Zuckerberg also has used his immense influence to put his thumb on the political scale. In

2020, he spent \$400 million to fund local election operations. One of the efforts he backed sent \$144 million to eight swing states, 90% of which went to counties that supported Joe Biden.

Conservatives have long complained of being censored by Facebook and other social media sites, a claim Zuckerberg and his counterparts deny. But he clearly has an interest in politics, and the ability to sway the electoral process by controlling the information his users see.

And now he has another tool to use, and too little competition. Twitter, with its 450 million active monthly users, is a poor counter to Meta's universe.

Follow the thread. The potential reach of Zuckerberg's new site and his propensity for censorship are not healthy for a nation that depends on the free flow of information.

GOP's voters deserve debate

The Miami Herald

Tribune News Service

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis tried to get under Donald Trump's skin this week by implying on a radio talk show that the ex-president arrogantly thinks he's entitled to the Republican nomination and that he would be short-cutting the process if he doesn't show up on the Milwaukee debate stage next month.

"You have got to earn the nomination," DeSantis argued.

DeSantis should watch out what he wishes for. If past performances are an indication, Trump could walk away from a debate stronger, while DeSantis is more likely to struggle in the spotlight.

That's not to say DeSantis is wrong. He isn't. Trump should do the debate so voters can see how the two leading Republican candidates — and the others, including Sen. Tim Scott of South Carolina — hold up under the intense pressure of a live debate. Even when candidates squirm away from embarrassing questions, there's a lot to be learned about their character from their behavior. If, as Trump continues to hint, he won't debate, it will be a disservice to voters — and behavior that will send yet another message as to his character.

Won't make the case

Further, as DeSantis points out, Trump lost to Biden last time. He should get on stage and tell Republicans why he is now a better candidate than he was in 2020.

That is, of course, an impossible case to make to anyone who isn't already Trump-blind, given the Jan. 6 insurrection that he incited after losing the election. Then there was the E. Jean Carroll civil case in May, when a jury found that he sexually abused her in the dressing room of a luxury department store in 1996, awarding her \$5 million for battery and defamation.

And let's not forget the classified records case here in Florida. Trump was indicted under the Espionage Act for hold-

Guest Editorial

ing onto secret documents at his Mar-a-Lago mansion and obstructing the government's efforts to get them back. His lawyers' latest ploy is to try to postpone the case until after the 2024 election. If he were convicted after winning, he could potentially pardon himself, setting a new high-water mark in corruption.

For any of Trump's challengers, the sound bite of him refusing to answer questions about any of those things would be campaign gold, of course.

DeSantis knows that, but he has other reasons to push the debate issue — namely, shaky donors as his poll numbers remain stubbornly low. A debate where he shows substance and strength against Trump could be that elusive game-changer his campaign has been seeking.

Challenges

DeSantis notoriously has struggled with a failure to connect with national voters in unscripted moments: During a 2018 debate preparation, one of his advisers even told him he should write the word "LIKABLE" in all caps on the top of his notepad, ABC News reported. But the risk of going on stage during a live event he can't control is probably worth it to him. Hence, his appearance on conservative radio host Howie Carr's show on Wednesday as he tried to goad Trump by calling him, in essence, a coward if he doesn't attend the debate.

Will it work?

Not likely.

But none of that changes the fact that Republicans, whose party has been hijacked by Trump, deserve to see a full debate on Aug. 23. Unfortunately, what they'll probably get is a pale version of that, with everyone in the room dancing around the one man who isn't there.



What is the value of wetlands?

By **SAM CARPENTER**

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Each morning that I can, I sit on my back deck and enjoy a cup of coffee, and take in the peacefulness and natural surroundings around me. I live in Indianapolis, and my view includes six ash trees that tower between my yard and my neighbors. It has been an investment, but I have no regrets about my decision to protect them from the emerald ash borer beetle when my wife and I purchased our home ten years ago.

What is the value of a mature hardwood tree? These particular trees enhance my own quality of life through their beauty and their shade. They provide habitat for squirrels, birds and other wildlife. They reduce the drainage onto my neighbor's yard, downhill from me; they reduce erosion on that slope and each tree can store over a ton of CO2 that would otherwise contribute to climate change. They are also rare and practically irreplaceable.

And it is this idea of scarcity of our valued natural resources that I want to explore. For so long, society has seen nature as abundant and ready to provide for our housing, development, minerals and land for agriculture. But we have passed the point where the value of exploiting natural resources for our benefit exceeds the value of leaving those resources untouched. Our natural infrastructure of wetlands, forests, and prairies play critical roles for our quality of life and our wildlife survival, but they are disappearing at alarming rates.

Take Indiana's wetlands, for example. A study by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the mid-1980s stated that around 85% of Indiana's original wetlands no longer exist and that number has only increased since then. Let's be clear: Indiana's vanishing wetlands provide much-needed services that are not easily — or affordably — duplicated. Wetlands absorb and hold excess

Sam Carpenter



water from storms, flooding, and water runoff.

How they help

Wetlands allow water to gradually seep down and refill our underground aquifers. This is important because we are constantly pumping water out of our aquifers to maintain our lives, industry and agriculture. Rain that simply hits concrete, roofs, and ground without deep rooted vegetation (such as our typical lawns and farm fields) rushes into streams and rivers, eventually flowing into the Gulf of Mexico, rather than refilling our aquifers. Rapidly moving water creates dramatic and costly land loss through erosion. Finally, as water is held and passes through wetlands, sediments, pollutants and excess nutrients which contribute to algae blooms are removed.

The value of wetlands is quantifiable: Indiana DNR estimates that Indiana's current wetlands provide around \$3 billion in natural infrastructure services annually! This is in addition to the nearly \$5 billion of annual economic impact related to recreation. The DNR also reports that Indiana wetlands received 2.1 million visitors in 2016 and outdoor recreation has grown since then.

As our wetlands disappear, it will be very expensive for our cities and towns to replicate their services. As taxpayers, this is concerning. Hoosiers pay millions to maintain stormwater systems that already are stressed by intense rainfall and lack of investment. Destruction of wetlands cost millions in damage from

increased flooding, erosion and increases to our spending on drinking water purification.

Value they bring

While wetlands cover just about 4% of our state, they are home to thousands of species, including a third of Indiana's endangered species. And while proposals are being made to spend billions of dollars to pump carbon dioxide deep underground in Indiana, our wetlands sequester carbon for free and have a remarkable capacity to do so. Depending on their type and location, they can store 81 to 216 metric tons of carbon per acre.

Hoosiers agree that our wetlands are valuable. A 2022 released Indiana Audubon Society poll found that 95% of Hoosiers believe we should either strengthen or maintain current protections for wetlands. This stands in stark contrast to the recently released White River Report Card on which Central Indiana received an F grade on protecting and valuing its wetlands. And in recent years, Hoosier Environmental Council has worked in a statewide coalition to push back on multiple efforts in the Indiana General Assembly to reduce wetland protections. While this is troubling, it has been made worse by a recent Supreme Court decision that removed federal protections from the majority of Indiana's remaining wetlands.

Faced with scarcity through destruction, the value of our wetlands and natural infrastructure is increasing. Not only do they provide valuable services and protection, they contribute to our overall quality of life. Join the Hoosier Environmental Council in asking our General Assembly to act now to save Indiana's remaining wetlands.

.....
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Purdue Ag News

Hattie Duncan was recently selected as the Purdue Animal Sciences department's leader of its livestock judging team. "Coming in as freshmen, students will get their first experiences with judging in our classes with live animal evaluation and learn to write out their reasoning and arguments."

Duncan named coordinator

By JILLIAN ELLISON
Purdue Ag News

After a yearlong search, Purdue Animal Sciences has selected Hattie Duncan to lead its livestock judging team as well as the department's newly formed livestock judging program.

Duncan is a Wingate, Indiana, native who was raised on a Hereford cattle farm.

After earning her master's degree in animal sciences from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Duncan lectured on beef production, animal ethics and introductory animal sciences courses at the university. She comes to Purdue

with extensive experience in livestock judging from both sides of the arena, having assisted in the organization of several judging events for Illinois 4-H.

John Blanton, professor and department head of Animal Sciences, said Duncan's talent and motivation for livestock judging will enable the newly formed judging program within the department to flourish. The program will include introductory judging experiences for first-year students so they can determine if joining Purdue's teams would be the right fit for them.

"Coming in as freshmen, students will get their first experiences with judging in our class-

es with live animal evaluation and learn to write out their reasoning and arguments," Blanton said. "Having Hattie as our livestock judging coordinator will also allow for better recruiting and hiring of judges, putting Purdue on the path to win a national championship."

Duncan said her decision to return to Indiana is one that she will utilize in her recruiting processes.

"I was a student who was passionate about agriculture and specifically livestock, and I left the state," she said. "I think there are a lot of people who found themselves in the same boat as me. So I think it's really

important we work to keep our in-state students here by providing opportunities for them to become the future leaders of Indiana agriculture."

One of the major perks Duncan hopes to replicate for Purdue students is the networking opportunities that come from being involved with judging teams.

"It is common during off weekends for competitors to take a group trip to a livestock operation to judge their animals as practice," Duncan said. "These excursions allow for students to meet so many important people to help in advancing their careers."

Drones seeing a rise in ag world

By JAMES ALLEN
Fergus Falls Daily Journal, Minn.
Tribune News Service

To battle the rising costs of fertilizer and ongoing equipment costs, many producers and farmers are turning to technology.

Agri drones can be used for a variety of applications. Chemicals would be the most common use, said Arthur Erickson, an agro-drone expert and CEO of Hyllo.

"Chemicals would be big, fungicides are a very popular usage for drones right now throughout the U.S. More and more customers seem to be doing fungicide applications because of fungus pressure on crops. After that, herbicides and insecticides are the next most popular applications. There is also a lot of cover crop seeding that producers do with these drones," said Erickson.

Erickson added that it is a very fast growing market, in fact, he said it seems demand has had no end.

"We've had to double our production year after year since we started selling these drones back in 2019 and it's still not enough to keep up with the market. We are already back up in terms of the ordering cue because the demand has been so intense," said Erickson.

Erickson mentioned they will have to expand their building space and hire additional staff as the current demand continues and to catch up.

"That's definitely one reason people look at drones, but also everything including fuel, tractors, parts and maintenance for tractors, maintenance for airplanes."

USDA grants offered

INDIANAPOLIS — U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Indiana State Director, Dr. Terry Goodin, recently announced that USDA is making \$21 million in technical assistance grants available through the Rural Energy for America Program to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses access federal funds for renewable energy and energy efficiency improvements.

He went on to announce that USDA Rural Development Indiana state office will be allocated between \$400,000 and \$500,000 to award in a competitive process to providers of Rural Energy for America Program technical assistance.

"The technical assistance grants announced today provide hands-on support to Hoosier farmers, ranchers and rural small business owners seeking federal funds for renewable energy systems, like wind and solar, and energy efficiency measures," Goodin said, "These investments not only help producers and small businesses lower energy costs, but also access new markets and strengthen their operations."

Eligible recipients for these grants include state, Tribal or local governments; colleges and universities; electric cooperatives and utility companies;

and for-profit and nonprofit organizations. Recipients may use the funds to:

- Help rural agricultural producers and small business owners apply for Rural Energy for America Program funding.

- Provide information on how business owners and agricultural producers can improve the energy efficiency of their operations and use renewable energy technologies and resources.

- Conduct required energy assessments and audits.

- Help agricultural producers and small business owners plan, build or develop renewable energy or energy efficiency projects.

USDA RD Indiana will give funding priority to applicants proposing to assist disadvantaged communities, applicants pursuing projects using underutilized technologies and applicants seeking grants under \$20,000.

The Rural Energy for America Program is also part of the Justice40 Initiative, which is advancing environmental justice by ensuring that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments reach disadvantaged communities that are marginalized and overburdened by pollution and underinvestment.

The Department also encourages interested applicants to contact USDA Rural Development Indiana state office.

Store launched to support family farms

By RACHEL MERGEN
La Crosse Tribune, Wis.
Tribune News Service

CASHTON, Wis. — Organic Valley has created a new opportunity for consumers to support the region's small family farms.

The Wisconsin-based farm cooperative has started an online merchandise store full of hats, shirts, totes and more, from which all revenue will end up in the pocket of its member farmers.

"We wanted to create a site where people could literally wear their support on their sleeve," said Organic Valley chief brand officer Jaclyn Cardin.

Cardin said the store addresses a growing interest among consumers about where their food

comes from and how it is made as well as requests from co-op members.

Cardin said people have started to think more about "human health, sustainability, animal welfare, (and) environmental impacts of food."

Organic Valley merchandise can be purchased online at shop.organicvalley.com.

She said, "All of those things make a brand like Organic Valley even more relevant, because this is something that has been hard coded into the DNA of Organic Valley since 1988."

Serving 1,600 family farms, Organic Valley is the nation's largest farmer-owned organic cooperative. Member farms are not allowed to use antibiotics, synthetic hormones, GMOs or toxic

pesticides when caring for their animals.

Organic Valley member Tucker Gretebeck, who lives and works on the family farm where his wife Becky grew in Cashton, is one of the many farmers who will benefit from the additional revenue source.

Gretebeck's farm is a unique member of the cooperative, as he grass-feeds his cows, which allows him to provide some of the milk that goes into Organic Valley's Grassmilk.

Gretebeck said it's wonderful to see Organic Valley create the merchandise store and that it gives him a sense of pride when he sees people wearing the gear out and about in daily life.

"It just makes it feel like you're part of something bigger than yourself," he said.

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Bidding quiz

Below are five bidding sequences. In each case, state whether you consider the last bid in the sequence to be forcing (compelling partner to bid again) or nonforcing (permitting partner to pass).

Opener

- 1 ♠
2 ♥
- 1 NT
- 1 ♣
2 ♣
2 ♥
- 1 ♠
3 ♣
3 ♠
- 3 ♠

Responder

- 2 ♠
2 NT
- 4 NT
- 1 ♥
2 ♠
3 ♣
- 1 ♥
3 ♥
- 3 ♣

1. **Nonforcing.** Responder has indicated at least 10 points by his two-diamond bid and does not show extra values by bidding two notrump in this sequence. Therefore, if opener has minimum values, he may pass. It follows that if responder has a game-going hand, he must bid three notrump, not two.

2. **Nonforcing.** This is an invitational raise in notrump and has nothing to do with Blackwood.

3. **Forcing.** Responder's first two bids were forcing, and so is the three-club bid. Responder must have a game-going hand, since he failed to pass two clubs and also failed to bid three clubs (invitational) instead of two diamonds. He is apparently looking for the best game or slam contract.

4. **Forcing.** Opener might be inviting partner to bid three notrump with a club stopper, or he might be angling for a slam in diamonds or hearts. Responder can't tell yet which it is, but he should make the most descriptive bid he can find at this point.

5. **Forcing.** When responder names a new suit below the game level, the bid is unconditionally forcing — even when the opener's bid is pre-emptive. This allows responder to explore for the right contract when he has a good hand without having to make a blind stab at the best spot.

Tomorrow: East lets the cat out of the bag.

CRYPTOQUIP

ONX ZJWOF ANI CDMLVJED
OHVVA M. FVIZHT XODT OD
XHM HF OJM XDCCJTW
LDVDZNTA? FOD EDMM ZHT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CUSTOMS, INSTITUTIONS AND MEDIA INFORMATION RELATED TO PONTIFICAL MATTERS: POPE CULTURE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Plead
- Small ammo
- TV's woman of letters?
- Suffix with cash
- Mine yield
- Strand during a blizzard
- French vineyard
- Endure
- Aachen article
- Andean animal
- Favorites
- Sign before Virgo
- Trudge
- Opposite of paleo-
- Long step
- Astronomer Carl
- Smidgens
- Decrees
- Letter sealer
- Chore
- Roofing goo
- Soprano — Huang

DOWN

- Upper arm muscle
- Haunting
- Hog's "hello"
- Soup serving
- Scouring pad brand
- Biological bristles
- Travel permit
- Play segment
- PBS funder
- Diarist
- "Treasure Island"
- Moreover
- Med. plan option
- Nosh at midnight
- Substitute
- Torched
- Mae (Whoopi's "Ghost" role)
- Moines
- Tolkien creature
- Aunt, in Mexico
- Fixed
- Nabokov novel
- PX patrons
- Pack cargo
- Squirm in pain
- Come up
- Deduce
- Tennis star
- Rafael
- Pesky insects
- Party time, briefly
- Skater Nathan —, 2022 Olympic gold medalist
- "Quiet!"
- As well
- Request
- Born

Solution time: 25 mins.

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HEN ZERO EDIT
ENDPAPER RIGA
EAR SEABASS
ALASKA NNE
MIV SRS ANDES
PROS FIG ATLS
MARTS BUS VET
RES TUNICS
THEOREM BAD
YELL MISSPEND
PALL INRE NOD
ETAS STAT DRS

Yesterday's answer 7-21

Peanuts

Rose is Rose

Agnes

Hi and Lois

Between Friends

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World Cup ...

Continued from page 8
Nine players were on the 2019 championship team in France, including co-captains Alex Morgan, 34, and Lindsey Horan, 29, and Megan Rapinoe, the outspoken forward with multi-hued hair.

Rapinoe will be playing in her fourth and final World Cup after announcing that she will retire at the end of this NWSL season. Rapinoe, 38, won the Golden Boot four years ago for most goals and the Golden Ball for top player. She is the oldest player on the team this time around.

Three veteran players will be missing due to injury: Becky Sauerbrunn, Samantha Mewis and Christen Press. Mallory Pugh Swanson, formerly Mallory Pugh was expected to be a key player and scored seven goals in six games this year, but she tore a knee tendon in April and will miss the World Cup.

Among the young players to watch are forwards Trinity Rodman, the 21-year-old daughter of former NBA star Dennis Rodman, Sophia Smith, 21, and Alyssa Thompson, at 18 the youngest on the roster.

Rodman scored two goals in a

U.S. Women's team begins bracket play tonight against Vietnam at 9 p.m.

warmup game against Wales a few weeks ago. Smith was the U.S. Soccer Female Player of the Year in 2022.

Despite the revamped roster, injuries and intense pressure to three-peat, U.S. coach Vlatko Andonovski is confident his team is up to the task.

"Would I be happy with anything short of a third straight win? No, absolutely not," he told reporters at the team's media day in late-June. "Our goal is to win the World Cup, there's no question about it."

Haiti making debut

The Haitian men's team qualified for the 1974 World Cup, but this is the first time the women's team made it. "Les Grenadiers" qualified for the 2023 World Cup

by beating Chile, 2-1, in New Zealand. They will face England, China and Denmark in the group stage.

Despite the country still dealing with aftereffects of the 2010 earthquake, heightened crime, and, most recently the president's assassination, the Haitian women's team was able to overcome immeasurable obstacles to reach the sport's biggest stage. Training camps were moved to Dominican Republic for safety reasons.

Fort Lauderdale native Milan Pierre-Jerome, a graduate of St. Thomas Aquinas High and junior defender at George Mason University, is on the team. She was overwhelmed with emotion on Feb. 22 when Haiti's team qualified.

"I am so emotional because being able to see what we were able to do in the span of a year is incredible," Pierre-Jerome told the Miami Herald. "To see us go through adversity and being able to put a smile on our country's face and every little Haitian girl who looks up to us is really special."

Haiti's team centers around 19-year-old Melchie "Corventina" Dumornay, who made headlines during the Under-20 World Cup in 2018 when she was 14. She plays for French team Lyon, one of the biggest clubs in Europe.

Haiti is among eight teams playing in their first Women's World Cup. The field expanded from 24 teams to 32, so new teams are making the cut.

Other newcomers are Zambia, the Philippines, Ireland, Vietnam, Portugal, Panama and Morocco.

Zambia, which has never played in a men's World Cup, is led by star forward Barbra Banda. The "Copper Queens," as the team is nicknamed, upset powerhouse Germany, 3-2, in a friendly in early July and Banda scored two goals. Zambia is in

the group with Spain, Japan and Costa Rica.

Marta's quest for trophy

Brazilian legend Marta has been world player of the year six times. But she has never won a World Cup, and at 37, this may be her last chance. She is recovering from a knee injury, so it is unknown how much playing time she will get. But her teammates have vowed to win the trophy for her.

2023 World Cup details

- When: July 20-Aug. 20
- Where: Australia and New Zealand
- TV: Fox, FS1, Telemundo
- Defending Champion: USA
- Favorites: USA, England, Germany, Spain France
- Players to Watch: Sophia Smith (USA), Alex Morgan (USA), Alexia Putellas (Spain), Lena Oberdorf (Germany), Chloe Kelly (England), Alessia Russo (England), Selma Bacha (France), Wendie Renard (France), Ada Hegerberg (Norway), Sam Kerr (Australia), Melchie Dumornay (Haiti), Christine Sinclair (Canada), Barbra Banda (Zambia).



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Snow swings

Maddy Snow of the Jay County High School girls golf team hits a ball on the first hole at Portland Golf Club during a practice Thursday morning. Snow's ball landed directly on the green, where she sunk the putt for par. The team will travel to Belmont on August 1 for its season opener.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Sunday
Portland Rockets vs. Battle Creek Merchants - 1 p.m.
Portland Rockets vs. Battle Creek Merchants - 3:30 p.m.

TV sports

Today
1 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Switzerland vs. Philippines (FS1)
3:30 a.m. — PGA Tour: Barracuda Championship (GOLF)
5 p.m. — Women's World Cup: Norway vs. New Zealand (FOX)
7 p.m. — MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — WNBA: New York Liberty at Washington Mystics (Ion)
9 p.m. — Women's World Cup: Vietnam vs. United States (FOX)

Saturday
3 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Japan vs. Zambia (FS1)
5:30 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Haiti vs. England (FOX)
7 a.m. — Golf: The Open Championship (NBC)
8 a.m. — Women's World Cup: China PR vs. Denmark (FOX)
10 a.m. — Motorsports: Hungarian Grand Prix (ESPN)
1 p.m. — WNBA: Connecticut Sun at Atlanta Dream (ESPN)
3 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Minnesota Lynx (ESPN)
3 p.m. — Motorsports: Hy-Vee Homefront 250 (NBC)
3 p.m. — NASCAR: HighPoint.com 400 (USA)
4 p.m. — MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
4 p.m. — PGA Tour: Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational (CBS)

5:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Pocono 225 (USA)

Local notes

Hunt applications open
The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for reserved hunts.
Applications can be made for dove, deer, squirrel, teal and goose hunts. Hunters will be selected through a random drawing.
To apply, visit on.IN.gov/reserved-hunt. The deadline is Aug. 6.

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 runjay-county.com.

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.

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.

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.

JC season tickets
Season tickets are available for the

2023-24 Jay County high school season. Tickets may be purchased during the school's office hours from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Patriots Passes and Senior Patriot Passes that provide admission to all high school and junior high events will be available. They cost \$105 and \$60 respectively.
Also available are super tickets. High school adult super tickets cost \$80, junior high super tickets come out to \$60 and senior super tickets are \$45.
A pre-paid sports pass that is good for 12 regular season events may be purchased for \$50 as well.
Boys basketball and football season passes will cost \$50 and \$25 respectively.
.....
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	100 JOBS WANTED	190 FARMERS COLLECTION	250 PUBLIC NOTICE
<p>PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Farmers Building/Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw Street, Portland IN Saturday Morning JULY 22, 2023 9:30 A.M. MODERN HOUSE-HOLD GOODS -OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS Leather sofa; leather chair; pub table with 4 bar chairs; Grandfather clock; industrial style coffee table; industrial style hall table; wood pulleys; Indiana Glass elephants; birds; Ertl Farmall toy tractors; John Deere toy tractors; and many other items not listed. TRACTOR-MOTORCYCLE - MOWERS-TOOLS 1951 Ferguson TO-20 wide 3 point tractor; grader blade; Ferguson 2 bottom 3 point plow; 2008 Honda Rebel Motorcycle with 4,366 miles, log splitter with gas motor on wheels; Craftsman table top hand planer; Craftsman 25cc gas blower; Craftsman sander; and many other items not listed. AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Richard recently passed away and Mary is down-</p>	<p>sizing. This auction offers a wide variety of items. We will be running 2 auction rings so please plan accordingly. RICHARD NEWTON, Deceased and MARY NEWTON Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, August 5, 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 9660 W 300 S Dunkirk, IN Open House Sunday, July 23rd from 1-3 pm or for private showing contact the auctioneers. REAL ESTATE 40 acre farm located in section 35 Knox township, Jay County Indiana. Offered in two tracts and entirety. Tract 1- 2/3 bedroom home containing 1988 sq ft. 80'x44ft pole barn, utility shed nicely situated on 2.1 acres. Tract 2- 38 acres with 27 acres tillable balance being wooded, frontage on county rd 300 S. VEHICLES-FARM EQUIPMENT-SHOP TOOLS-MISC. 1969 Nova SS 396 engine, 1968 Chevy 10 pickup</p>	<p>327 engine, 1953 Ford F250 pickup truck, Ford 860 tractor (parts), Husqvarna 27 horse MZ 61 zero turn mower, 10 ft wheel disc, and much more. GUNS Ruger Super Blackhawk 6 shot revolver, Smith and Wesson 357 mag 6 shot revolver with holster, Daisy Red Rider BB gun with box. ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD 5 ft. plastic Marathon sign, "Drink Coca Cola" cooler, barrel stove, Camel sign, , 2 combination safes, Harley Davidson clock. OWNERS: Joyce Cupit SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check AuctionZip for more photos.</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, July 29, 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 211 Belgian Lane, Bryant, IN REAL ESTATE 1.43 Acres located in the town of Bryant. Bearcreek Township.</p>	<p>With 30'x40' and 18'x34' pole buildings. 14'x21' utility shed. With access off of Belgian Lane. Great opportunity to purchase large lot with an abundance of potential. Phone auctioneers for private showing. BOATS - TRAILERS - ANTIQUES - MISC. 1993 Bayliner Classic 22 ft cabin cruiser with inboard/outboard motor and 1993 tandem axel boat trailer. 2 hay wagon running gears. Cycle bar motor. David Bradley garden tractor. IH rear weights. IH fast hitch. Tractor seat. Pot belly stoves. Feed cart. Vise. 5 gallon milk can. Lard press. Rocking chairs. School desks. Indian Buses. Large lot of 2x4 and other lumber. Several items not mentioned. OWNER: Larry Ellenberger SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.</p>	<p>AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.</p> <p>110 HELP WANTED</p> <p>WANTING Summer help painting please Call 419-852-0309.</p> <p>130 MISC. FOR SALE</p> <p>PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.</p> <p>ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side. .35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.</p> <p>170 PETS</p> <p>USE DD-33 ON DOGS & CATS to kill deer ticks & fleas on contact without stressing internal organs. At Tractor Supply</p>	<p>AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Work Recovery 419-852-0309</p> <p>200 FOR RENT</p> <p>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</p> <p>NEED MORE STORAGE? PJ's U-Lock and Storage, most sizes available. Call 260-726-4631.</p> <p>230 AUTOS, TRUCKS</p> <p>WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage</p>	<p>Public Notice NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That on 08/02/2023 at 10:30 a.m. a sale will be held at 1237 N US 27 (OFFICE) Portland, IN, for the sale of the mobile home located at: 1237 N US 27 #31, Portland, IN 47371. to sell the following articles to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of INDIANA against such articles for labor, services, skill or material expended upon a storage furnished for such articles at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed within thirty days of the publication of this notice. Park reserves the right to bid on the home. Name: Riley Modern Estates Name: Leonardo Garcia Mendez Vin #: 01L23473 1985 OAK BROOK Lien: \$961.19 CR 7-14-21-2023-HSPAPLX</p>

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Sports



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Getting ready

Daysha Mumbower tees off on the first hole at Portland Golf Club during a practice Thursday morning. The Jay County High School girls golf team will open its season Aug. 1 when it travels to Decatur for the Bellmont Invitational.

Leonard's status key to defense

By **GEORGE BREMER**
The Herald Bulletin
(Anderson)
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — There are few factors more important to the Indianapolis Colts this season than the availability of Shaquille Leonard.

The three-time All-Pro linebacker was optimistic throughout the spring about his ongoing recovery from back surgery, and he was a visible presence during many practices open to the media — even if he was not yet participating.

The momentum seems to be pointing toward a return to the playing field in the near future for Leonard, but the consternation surrounding the situation is certainly understandable.

After playing through a serious ankle injury throughout the 2021 season, the 27-year-old discovered the following spring the pain was associated with a misfiring nerve that began in his back.

Leonard underwent surgery toward the end of organized team activities last year and then sat out all of training camp. He was able to play in just three games, taking only 74 snaps, before undergoing a second surgery and shutting down his season in November.

Teammate Zaire Franklin worked out with Leonard during the offseason in Tampa, Florida, and saw the same drive and determination that have marked Leonard's career. It's even more encouraging Leonard has the feeling back in his leg and said this spring he already felt better than at any point last year.

The biggest questions now are how soon he can return to the field and whether he can rediscover the form that made him one of the NFL's best defensive players at any position.

Despite the constant pain in 2021, Leonard led the league with

eight forced fumbles and added four interceptions and three fumble recoveries in a career-high 16 games.

His ability to create turnovers is elite, and it was sorely missed by the Indianapolis defense last season. With young players expected to fill several key roles this year, Leonard's leadership on and off the field will be critical.

If he's healthy, the starting linebacker spots again appear to be a strength of the roster despite the loss of Bobby Okereke to the New York Giants.

Franklin enjoyed a breakout 2022 season during which he set a franchise record with 167 tackles and made a strong push for a Pro Bowl appearance. He can hold down the middle linebacker role with Leonard returning to the weak side in place of Okereke, and the two members of the 2018 draft class can form the heart of the 2023 defense.

E.J. Speed, who made a career-high five starts last year and finished with 63 tackles, one sack, two forced fumbles and two pass breakups, figures to be the starter on the strong side.

The concerns come after the top three.

There are no other linebackers on the roster with proven NFL production.

JoJo Domann, an undrafted free agent from Nebraska who had eight stops in 2022 on special teams, has a chance to move up the depth chart and see his first defensive snaps this year.

A tackling machine for the Cornhuskers, Domann appears to be a good fit as a replacement for Speed on the strong side or Franklin in the middle.

Speed also can play the weak side if Leonard is unavailable or needs a break.

Grant Stuard, who had nine special teams tackles in 2022, again is a favorite to make the roster as a specialist.

What to know as the Women's World Cup prepares to kick off

By **MICHELLE KAUFMAN**

Miami Herald
Tribune News Service

MIAMI — The Women's World Cup kicks off Thursday in Australia and New Zealand, which means soccer fans in the United States will be setting early morning alarms, as they did for the 2022 men's World Cup in Qatar and as diehard tennis fans do for the Australian Open.

The first match is New Zealand vs. Norway at noon Thursday in Auckland, which is 3 a.m. Eastern time. The second opening day game is Australia vs. Ireland at 8 p.m. in Sydney, which is 6 a.m. ET.

It is the first time the Women's

World Cup will be held in the Southern Hemisphere, in the winter, so don't be surprised to see players wearing long sleeves and leggings while fans are bundled up in the stands.

Here are storylines to follow.

Can USA three-peat?

The United States is ranked No. 1 in the world and a favorite to raise the trophy a third time in a row after winning back-to-back titles in 2019 and 2015. The Americans are in Group E with Vietnam, the Netherlands and Portugal.

Team USA opens Friday at 9 p.m.

against Vietnam, then plays July 26 at 9 p.m. against Netherlands and the group stage finale is Aug. 1 against Portugal at 3 a.m.

The U.S. team has undergone many changes in the past four years. Jill Ellis stepped down as coach. Carli Lloyd retired. Meanwhile, other teams have emerged as serious contenders, such as England, Germany, Spain and France.

Fourteen of the 23 players on the U.S. roster are going to their first World Cup, making it one of the youngest American squads in recent memory.

See **World Cup** page 7

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