

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Block closed

Late this morning, work crews shut down the stretch of Meridian Street between Water Street and the Salamonie River for the first stage of construction on the storm sewer project. The work, being handled by Watson Construction of Redkey, will add a new storm sewer line under Meridian Street from between Arch and Race streets to the Salamonie River. The project is focused on removing pressure from the Millers Branch line, which has a history of being overloaded and backing up onto downtown streets during heavy rain events.

City will replace Blaine main

Line has been patched repeatedly in last week

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

A water main recently broke on Blaine Pike.

Portland Board of Works OK'd replacing the unit during a meeting Tuesday.

Doug Jackson, superintendent of the city's water department, explained that on Aug. 2 the water main located between Western Avenue and 7th Street burst, causing several leaks. About 17 patches have been made since then. In March, the board of

works moved forward with a \$2.8 million paving and sidewalk project planned in 2024 for Blaine Pike and other city streets. The project is funded through a Community Crossings grant from Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT), with the city contributing a match of \$568,758.32. It includes milling and repaving the road from the railroad near Water Street to county road 150 South. A sidewalk will also be added.

"You can't go replacing water mains just because you're paving roads," Jackson said. "It's not feasible. You just can't do it."

But in this case, he said, the city has to take action. The water main could fail at any time, he added.

"If we don't replace it ... we're going to tear up new pavement," he said. See Main page 2

Square dance set for Friday

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

Get ready to do-si-do.

There's a square dance happening Friday at Arts Place in Portland.

John Cook, a Dunkirk resident and president of the Indiana Dancers Association, hopes to bring back the pastime to Jay County.

Square dancers will be performing from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Friday. It's open to the public, coming at no cost to spectators. Dancers pay \$5 each.

As the name suggests, square dancing starts with folks standing in square formation around the floor. "You're in a square with seven other people," said Cook. "If we're doing it right, we're all laughing."

Eight dancers are in each square, with two on each side facing the middle. A caller, standing outside the squares, speaks instructions or "calls" to dancers, telling them which moves to perform.

Formations shift from a square to waves, columns or diamonds.

Cook describes the dance as "organized walking."

"You don't worry about your feet, all you need to know is which is your left hand," he said.

Traditional square dance attire consists of women wearing a blouse, full skirt with a petticoat and pants underneath, and men wearing a western long-sleeved shirt, jeans or slacks. Boots are not required, noted Cook, who typically wears tennis shoes. He pointed out the traditional attire is preferred but not required.

Indiana Dancers Association recently hosted an exhibition at Dunkirk Farmer's Market. Cook would like to launch a local group again — the Portland club ended about 15 years back — because some folks have expressed an interest to join.

See Dance page 2

Board OKs exemption for Wendy's sign

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

Wendy's is open for business.

Soon enough, it'll have a sign to mark its location.

Portland Board of Zoning Appeals approved a special exemption use request Tuesday for Wendy's to put up a 30-foot sign next to its Portland restaurant.

Wendy's opened Aug. 3. Since then, customers have been swarming the establishment, with cars wrapping around the drive thru nearly every day.

Located at 524 N. Meridian St., the restaurant doesn't have a sign yet, but there are banners in front of the building that can be seen driving along Meridian Street (U.S. 27).

Per Portland's zoning ordinance, pole signs located in the central business district (downtown Portland) require a special

exception authorization from the board. Jay/Portland Building and Planning assistant director Pati McLaughlin pointed out this was the first time a new business has made a request to the board on the matter since the code was updated in 2009. (Other businesses in the downtown area existed prior to the ordinance change.)

The ordinance also limits businesses to putting up one sign, which may not exceed 100 square feet of surface area or a height limit of 35 feet.

Wendy's sign will stand about 30 feet tall and will be located on the north side of the property. (For reference, McDonald's sign is at the maximum height of 35 feet. It requested to put in a 53-foot sign in May 2022 after the old sign was blown over by high winds, but the request was denied.)

Mike Medler of Main Street

Connect voiced opposition to the new sign, suggesting Wendy's consider a ground level sign as an alternative. (Medler also owns the adjacent Medler's Furniture.) He recalled making a similar request at the meeting when McDonald's was denied a taller sign.

"I approached the board to look at some of these new signs that are sort of landscape style, like out at the hospital and so forth, instead of cluttering up the downtown (with) high signage," he said. "We felt, why continue to put up taller signs?"

John Hemmelgarn, director of Jay/Portland Building and Planning, noted the request meets the ordinance requirements. He suggested Medler and Main Street Connect approach Portland City Council if they would like to see the requirements changed.

See Sign page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Portland Board of Zoning Appeals on Tuesday approved a special exemption use request to allow the new Wendy's restaurant to put up a 30-foot sign. The restaurant at 524 N. Meridian St. opened last week.

Deaths

Robert Leonhard, 89, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 79 degrees Tuesday. The low was 59.

Tonight's low will be around 60 again. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a 20% chance of showers in the afternoon. There is an increasing chance of rain in the evening. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Gas Boom Days festival is scheduled for this weekend in Redkey. The parade is scheduled for 11 a.m. Saturday. A cornhole tournament will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, with Cook and Belle to perform at 4 p.m. Sunday's activities include Redkey Volunteer Fire Department pancake and sausage breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m.

Coming up

Friday — Results from the Fort Recovery High School girls golf team.

Saturday — Coverage of Thursday's Portland Board of Works meeting.



Obituaries

Robert Leonhard

May 6, 1934-Aug. 1, 2023
Robert "Bob" Dean Leonhard, age 89, a resident of Portland, passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2023 at IU Health Ball Hospital in Muncie.

Bob was born on May 6, 1934, in Portland, Indiana, the son of William H. and Mildred (Hanlin) Leonhard. He graduated from Gray High School in 1953 and served in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict.

Bob worked for Freuhauf

Trucking in Fort Madison, Indiana, and retired from Lynn Trucking in Lynn, Indiana. He also worked for many other trucking companies for over 50 years.

Bob was a member of the Portland American Legion Post #211, Portland Masonic Lodge, Scottish Rite in Fort Wayne, Shriners, Portland Moose Lodge, Portland Eagles Lodge,



Leonhard

VFW in Fort Recovery and Marine Legion.

Bob married Jean Upp on March 28, 1997.

Survivors include:

His wife — Jean Leonhard, Portland, Indiana

Children — Shawn Leonhard (wife: Karla), Hamilton, Illinois, Jeff Leonhard (wife: Ruth), Camdenton, Missouri, Julie Morrison, Portland, Indiana, and Dana Luebke (husband: Mike), New Haven, Indiana

Seventeen grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren

He was preceded in death by a son, Mark Leonhard; and two brothers, William and Harold Leonhard.

Visitation will be held on Friday, Aug. 11, 2023, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Masonic Services will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Funeral services will follow the Masonic Service at the funeral home and burial will follow at Green Park Cemetery in Portland. The American Legion Post #211 of Portland

will conduct military graveside rites.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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

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

CR almanac

Friday 8/11	Saturday 8/12	Sunday 8/13	Monday 8/14	Tuesday 8/15
83/66	85/64	83/63	77/58	77/57
Another day of mostly sunny skies with thunderstorms possible at night.	Saturday has a slight chance of showers. The high will be 85.	Mostly sunny on Sunday, when the high will reach the mid to lower 80s.	There's a 50% chance of showers or thunderstorms. The high will be around 77.	Sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday with a high of 77 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$170 million	Evening Daily Three: 3-8-3 Daily Four: 2-3-4-6 Quick Draw: 1-5-7-17-18-20-21-23-25-33-34-36-38-40-45-53-54-62-68-77
Mega Millions 13-19-20-32-33 Mega Ball: 14 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 2-2-8 Pick 4: 7-3-0-2 Pick 5: 8-9-3-6-4 Evening Pick 3: 5-9-8 Pick 4: 6-4-4-7 Pick 5: 3-8-6-7-9 Rolling Cash: 3-7-15-28-33
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 6-1-0 Daily Four: 9-2-6-6 Quick Draw: 2-8-9-14-16-25-31-37-39-43-44-45-47-49-55-59-62-75-76-79	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.49 Oct. corn4.74 Wheat5.60	Sept. beans12.67 Wheat 6.01
POET Biorefining Portland Corn5.61 Sept. corn5.31 Mid Sept. corn5.11	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.19 Late Aug. corn4.96 Beans13.47 Late Aug. beans13.42 Wheat5.90
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.31 Sept. corn4.70 Beans13.52	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.16 Oct. corn4.54 Beans13.52 Oct. beans12.62 Wheat5.84

Today in history

In 1675, the foundation stone was laid for the Royal Observatory in Greenwich, England.

In 1792, King Louis XVI and his wife Marie-Antoinette were imprisoned during the French Revolution.

In 1793, the Louvre opened in Paris.

In 1821, Missouri entered the Union as the 24th state. The first petition for statehood had been presented in January 1818. The Missouri Compromise of 1820 led to it being admitted as a slave state while Maine was admitted as a free state.

In 1874, President Herbert Hoover was born in West Branch, Iowa.

In 1962, author of the "Hunger Games" series Suzanne Collins was born in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1972, Anna Wile was named acting administrator for Jay County Hospital. Wile, who was director of nursing for the hospital, was selected to fill in after administrator Warren Phemister suffered a heart attack.

In 1993, Ruth Bader Ginsburg was sworn in, becoming the second woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1997, the last British troops left Hong Kong, turning the island over to China after 156 years of British rule.

In 2003, Yuri Malenchenko became the first person to get married while in space. He was on the International Space Station while his bride, Ekaterina Dmitrieva, was in Texas.

In 2021, Scout Clean Energy held an open house in the Farmer's Building at Jay County Fairgrounds to offer the public the opportunity to review plans and ask questions about its Sky Chief Solar project.

—The CR

Winning ticket sold in Florida

By MAYA MILLER

The Charlotte Observer
Tribune News Service

A record-setting \$1.58 billion has been snagged by one ticket sold in Florida, matching all six numbers for Tuesday's Mega Millions jackpot, the largest jackpot ever for the lottery game.

The winning Mega Millions numbers for the Tues-

day, Aug. 8, drawing were 13, 19, 20, 32, 33, and the Mega number was 14, Mega Millions officials said during the drawing just at 11 p.m. Eastern. The Megaplier, used in all states except California for an additional \$1, was 2X.

Lottery officials said Wednesday that one winning ticket was sold in Florida at a Neptune Beach

Publix supermarket near Jacksonville.

The top prize for Tuesday's Mega Millions drawing has an estimated cash value of \$783.3 million, according to California Lottery officials. The winner has to pay federal taxes, but California is one of just 10 states to exempt state income tax on lottery winnings.

This Mega Millions jackpot has been growing since April 18, having rolled 31 times. Officials said Tuesday night before the drawing that "sales are strong," ahead of the enormous grand prize, which could end up becoming the second-highest in U.S. lottery history, beating a Powerball drawing in 2018 that was worth \$1.586 billion.

Main ...

Continued from page 1
City attorney Wes Schemenaur pointed out that with the sudden break, it makes sense to put in a new water main before the

paving and sidewalk project, which has been in the works since 2016.

Portland Board of Works selected Watson's Excavating, which this week start-

ed work on the Meridian Street storm sewer project, to install a new main on Blaine Pike between Western Ave. and 7th Street at a cost of \$229,050.

Jackson noted the work should be complete within three to four weeks. He pointed out the road will need to be closed during construction.

Sign ...

Continued from page 1
Medler also questioned Wendy's choice in who would be putting up the sign. (Commissioned by Custom Sign Center of Columbus, Ohio, the same company will also be installing the sign.) He suggested Display Craft should do the work, saying in past meetings it had been said the company would

work with local businesses for construction.

Jae Schilling, director of operations for Wendy's, noted the company hired several local contractors, specifically 60 local residents.

"This is a national contract with Wendy's, they do all of our signage across our entire company, and there's only about two sign compa-

nies that are contracted with Wendy's to make the signs and put them in," said Jae Schilling.

Hemmelgarn added the board can't enforce rules on who the company hires.

Board members Aaron Loy, Kyle Teeter, Connie Roberts and Larry Petro approved the request unanimously.

Dance ...

Continued from page 1
If there's enough interest, Cook may set up an opportunity for local residents to take dancing lessons in September.

The music isn't limited to country, noted Cook. It extends to various genres, including rock and roll, show tunes, rap and heavy metal.

"It's just a whole gambit of music," he said.

His history with square dancing traces back to how he met his wife, Carolyn. They met at a square dancing event in New White-land. He had been learning how to dance in California, and his parents had been learning in Indiana.

"If it wasn't for my par-

ents learning, I wouldn't have met my wife," he said.

One of the benefits to square dancing is its functionality as exercise. The activity serves as a healthy workout.

"An evening of dancing is like a 5-mile walk," said Cook.

The Cooks have lived across the United States, spending time in Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina and eventually back to Indiana. (They recently attended a convention in Tennessee.) Through their travels, they've come to meet an abundance of other square dancers. At a dance in New Boston, Texas, they knew

about half the attendees in the room.

"One of our slogans is 'square dancing is friendship set to music,'" said Cook. "Which is a pretty good definition."

John and Carolyn Cook are a part of groups in Indianapolis, Muncie and Columbus, Ohio.

"But I want something closer. It would be wonderful to be back in Jay County," said John Cook. "People are always saying there's nothing to do — well, we want to prove them wrong."

To get in contact with Cook, he can be reached at swardance@aol.com or (765) 768-6329 and (765) 215-5924.

SERVICES

Today

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

Friday

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

Service listings provided by
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GRAPHIC

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NEWSPAPERS

Advertise in

The CR

We have advertising solutions that reach customers in Blackford, Jay and Randolph counties.

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 1 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council special session, Schoolhouse Community Center. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., Portland.	Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
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Photo provided

Scholarships awarded

The IU Health Jay Foundation in partnership with The Portland Foundation recently awarded Sharon Tobe Memorial Nursing Scholarships to Sydney Schwieterman, Eliza Bader, Abigail Knapke and Isabel Rogers. It also awarded Judith Sipe/Dr. Eugene Gillum Scholarships to Monica Grayson, Carissa Mercer, Danielle Pottkotter, Michelle Bousman and Lindsey Franks. Pictured, from left, are Tobe's daughter Melissa Sudhoff, Mercer, Grayson, IU Health Jay chief operations officer Christina Schemenaur and Ron Laux.

Arts Place hosts concerts, exhibits

Plans are in place for a variety of local arts events.

The Jay County Campus of Arts Place will host a pair of concerts and multiple art exhibits in the coming weeks.

The pair of summer concerts kicks off with Motown Sounds of Touch at 7 p.m. Aug. 24 at the Hudson Family Park amphitheater. New Frontiers, a Journey tribute band, will perform at 7 p.m. Sept. 14.

Both concerts are free. The Works by Lindsay Edwards exhibit in the Weaver Community Gallery closes Friday, with a display of photos by Jackie Comstock to begin Monday. In the Hugh N. Ronald Gallery, the "Sisters Exhibit" by Sarah, Allison and Rachel Hess runs through Aug. 27.

Also, registration for fall MusicWorks classes will open in mid-August, with classes scheduled to begin Sept. 5.

Taking Note

For more information, visit myartsplace.org.

Campaign underway

As the 2023-24 school year gets underway, Indiana Criminal Justice Institute has more than 200 law enforcement agencies participating in its Stop Arm Violation Enforcement (SAVE) campaign.

The campaign, funded through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, adds patrols looking for stop-arm violations, speeding and other forms of reckless driving around school buses and in school zones.

In April, a one-day observational survey found 2,091 stop-arm violations in Indiana.

Young nephew always involved in gatherings

DEAR ABBY: My brother is 53. He has one child, my 12-year-old nephew, "Conner." Our father was difficult, and neither of us has many happy memories of times we shared with him. Perhaps in response to this, my brother seems incapable of socializing without his son. Many times, he suggests outings to my husband or his friends and then throws in that he's planning on bringing Conner. We do not want the boy included in what should be adult outings, but we can't find a way of saying it. If I'm planning a dinner out or something else where I think he might invite his son, I preface it with a grownups-only clause. I can't discuss it with my sister-in-law because even though I know she would understand, she wouldn't

Dear Abby



be tactful in mentioning it to my brother. My husband is not the type to say anything; it would mean more coming from him, but he doesn't want to cause upset. By the way, my brother is very outgoing and socially adept, so it's not like he needs this 12-year-old crutch. Any suggestions would be most appreciated. — FRUSTRATED IN NEVADA

DEAR FRUSTRATED: Your brother may not need a

social crutch, but from what you have described, the same may not be true of your nephew. Most 12-year-old boys have friends they can socialize with other than Dad. Is that true of Conner, or would he be sitting alone in his room if his father didn't insert him into so many adult gatherings? Rather than tell your brother or his wife that the boy is unwelcome, it might be more helpful to ask whether Conner has difficulty socializing with his peers. If that's the case, he may need professional help.

DEAR ABBY: I have a sister-in-law who constantly one-ups me. Anything I mention, she has to chime in and let everyone

present know how much better her trip was, or that she got a better shopping deal, etc.

It has now turned to my grandchildren. For example, at a family dinner, if I correct their table manners, she comes back with a smart comment like, "You can leave your elbows on the table" or "It's OK to eat that with your fingers." She's trying to be the "fun aunt." Recently I barked right back, asking her not to undermine my comments about my grandkids' behavior. She did not reply. I do not want to harm our otherwise decent relationship. She has no grandkids of her own yet and occasionally babysits my grandkids. Is there something better I can do? — HAD IT UP TO HERE IN IOWA

DEAR HAD IT: Talk to your sister-in-law and lay down

some ground rules. Tell her that as much as you care about her, there are certain parameters it is important that she understands in her interactions with the grandkids. Explain what they are. If "Fun Auntie" cannot respect the boundaries, she should see them less often. Not enough young people these days are fortunate enough to have parents (and grandparents) who teach them appropriate manners. Kudos to you.

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

Community Calendar

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

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

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 10, at the post at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland. All auxiliary members are welcome.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

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.

58th ANNUAL Antique Gas Engine & Tractor Show

**Our special section featuring the
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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

Bring back the disputes of the past

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Where are the great debates of yore? Those disputes which enlivened our desultory discussions of great import? Why have we forgotten to ask, "What time is it in Indiana?"

Remember those golden years when we argued about time zones? Do you recall the vituperation we heaped upon the extremists who insisted on one time zone for the entire state?

What fun we had, certain of the appropriate time zone (Eastern or Central) for our county. What disdain we had for those who disagreed with us.

Eastern time was the natural choice for all counties adjacent to Ohio. Likewise, counties adjacent to Kentucky, from Louisville east, sought to be in sync with their neighbors.

Eye on the Pie



However, the northwestern counties in the Chicago TV market insisted on Central time as their natural right. Furthermore, the southwestern counties around Evansville had a strange preference for Illinois and St. Louis time. Without an interstate highway to Indianapolis, they felt estranged from the rest of Indiana.

Indianapolis and then-Gov. Mitch Daniels wanted Eastern time. Tradition and vanity

demanded central Indiana to be on Eastern time. It was essential, commercial interests claimed, to have the same time as the New York Stock Exchange. Otherwise, stock trading professionals and day-trading junkies would have to rise an hour earlier to enjoy the opening bell, a hardship to be avoided at all costs.

We coupled the Eastern versus Central dispute with the question of Daylight Saving Time (DST). Farmers claimed DST was unnatural and unethical. Animals were geared to solar time and we, animals ourselves, should not depart from nature's dictates.

Parents feared for the lives of their children waiting for school buses in preternatural darkness. After all, sunrise would be

an hour later with DST. Inflexible school administrators would not change schedules to save the lives of their students.

However, the proponents of DST always won out. That enormously powerful lobby, the golfers, favored DST as it extended playing time into the evening hours.

Farmers don't play golf. Bankers and their business borrowers do. Legislators play golf so they can buddy-up with bankers and their business pals. And the latter want to buddy-up with the legislators.

But times have changed. Golf is of less consequence in today's world. More women are in banking, business and the legislature; they don't play golf as frequently as a bonding activity.

But DST will survive. Young

adults attend their children's athletic events rather than playing golf. It's the new fashion in parenting. DST means more time for games after the work day.

As for the time zones, our population is aging. Older folks watch TV from 7 to 10 p.m., which favors being on Central time, a particularly important factor for watching "The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" and professional sports on TV. Today, stock market followers can do their thing at home in their pajamas.

Maybe we can resurrect the time zone issue and have some fun again.

.....
Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Lack of availability is hurting children

The Columbian
(Vancouver, Washington)
Tribune News Service

A shortage of early learning opportunities is not unique to Clark County. A combination of economic realities have combined to reduce the number of programs and teachers, leaving millions of young children across the country without access to a preschool setting that can influence their academic and behavioral futures.

Early education has a profound impact on children. And available, affordable programs are essential to allowing parents the option of working outside the home. Because of that, boosting the number of providers and addressing affordability should be a priority of lawmakers at both the state and national levels.

As a recent headline in The Columbian stated, "Demand for early learning programs vastly outstrips supply in Clark County." Reporter Griffin Reilly wrote, "Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the early learning and child care landscape has been largely reduced to at-home care and small-group daytime sessions."

One example can be found in Head Start and Early Childhood Educational Assistance Program services in Clark County. According to the Families Foundation, 70 new slots were created for eligible children during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years — but 1,153 additional children were eligible.

Similar stories are being told elsewhere. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, by late 2022 there were 100,000 fewer workers in child care and early development than there were prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a sub-headline in the New York Times asked and answered: "Where did they go? To better-paying jobs stocking shelves, cleaning offices or doing anything that pays more than \$15 an hour."

Finding adequate numbers of teachers is always going to be difficult in a capitalistic society. Schools — whether early learning or at the elementary and secondary levels — do not create

Guest Editorial

products that can be sold to generate revenue that is put toward creating new products. Instead, they require a commitment from a community and a nation that recognizes the value of investing in education.

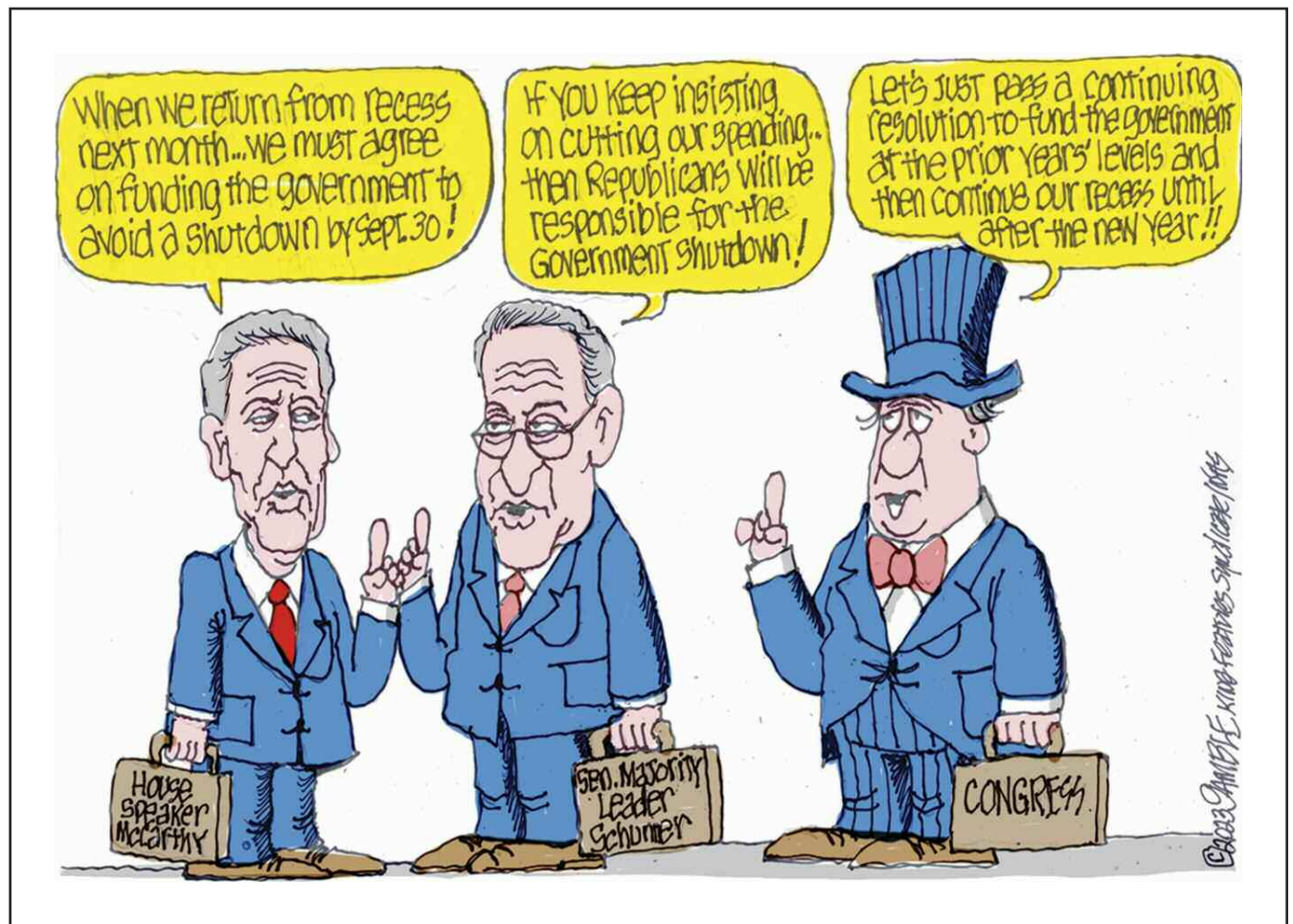
The pandemic has emphasized the importance of that investment, with educators at all levels working to mitigate the impact of learning loss and the behavioral issues that have accompanied extended periods of isolation. That is particularly true when it comes to early education; research from the Washington Department of Children, Youth and Families shows that the percentage of children identified as developmentally ready for kindergarten in the state has dropped sharply since 2019.

"Coming into the program at an early age helps them gain trust with their peers; learning to share, how to use their words, not to use their bodies for action," one educator told The Columbian. "Addressing those behaviors later down the line once they're worse might not be too easy; once they get a little older, they're harder to change and more stubborn in their ways."

For years, studies have demonstrated the long-term benefits of early childhood education. The National Education Association reports that early learning opportunities result in students who are more likely to graduate from high school and are, on average, higher earners when they enter the workforce.

But the United States has long been reluctant to fully support such programs. In 1971, President Richard Nixon vetoed a universal child care bill and said it was a "communal approach to child-rearing" and had "family-weakening implications."

The same arguments persist. And they are holding back our nation's economy and its future.



Let's talk about costs, benefits

By STEPHANIE WELLS
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Last week the Indiana Economic Development Corporation asked for and received permission from the State Budget Committee for \$120 million in incentive funds for an advanced manufacturing project planning to invest \$3.2 billion in a new facility which should create 1,400 high wage jobs.

This request comes out of a new \$500 million "Deal Closing Fund" that was created in the budget passed in April.

This is the second time that the IEDC has come forward to ask for significant funding since the budget was finalized. In June, IEDC asked for and was granted a release of \$122 million for a \$50 billion semiconductor investment in Boone County's LEAP district. IEDC should be commended for their capacity to move swiftly when such advantageous opportunities arise.

From my perspective, it is also commendable that IEDC must run requests of this type past the State Budget Agency, providing some measure of transparency around its work. The reality, however, is that the public will still not ever hear many of the details about these deals, or what the downstream impacts of the investments are.

The IEDC was created as a quasi-governmental body, which is different from a typical government agency. The thought was that the organization needs to maintain the confidentiality of the businesses that it works with, and will ensure, on the public's behalf, that the companies create high wage jobs that benefit Indiana.

No publicly available comprehensive evaluation of their work has been released, to date.

This arrangement means that the public doesn't have information on how these investments are benefiting Hoosiers and communities, even

Stephanie Wells



though IEDC's work is done with taxpayer dollars. The IEDC announces each year in their annual reports about how they impact the amount of private investment and new jobs secured for the future. But is this what we need to know? And are we measuring the right thing?

One may reasonably argue that the metrics of success of economic development are not, in fact, only capital investment and job creation, but rather how these investments positively impact Indiana communities. Are the promised high wage jobs being realized? How is the investment impacting GDP in the communities in which these companies are a part? Which IEDC investments realize better outcomes for communities?

Are local governments near the investment (who often lay their own economic development funds on the table to lure new companies) realizing additional tax revenue from these deals to provide additional services and enhance quality of life improvements? How is new business attraction impacting existing Indiana businesses, our perilously tight labor market, and shortage of housing?

This question arises during a time when the state has granted unprecedented funding and authority to IEDC. In the last budget, in addition to the deal closing fund, Indiana set aside \$500 million for a third wave of regional quality of place investments (that have yet to be evaluated or results reported) and \$150 million for IEDC to use for site acquisition.

In fact, appropriations in the most

recent budget for the IEDC topped out at over \$1.3 billion, or roughly 3% of the total \$44.6 billion budget. This is more than twice as much funding provided for IEDC from the previous budget. In 2022, the state gave IEDC the authority to create Innovation Development Districts — the first of which is LEAP district in Boone County.

These actions have enabled IEDC to realize their vision and lean into their 5E strategy — all without a thorough public understanding of how this will impact Hoosier taxpayers and communities on the ground. The funding dedicated to Innovation Development Districts, in particular, makes the need for transparency more important than ever to the public.

The Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute is focused on a strong business climate and the economic health of the state. IFPI supports the mission of the IEDC, but it is time for a public evaluation and discussion about how the organization's strategies serve Hoosiers. The Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute would be pleased to partner with the state in measuring the impact of IEDC investments to date.

As we transition to the innovation economy, we need to level set what our economic development policy is and what it seeks to achieve — a state in which it is a good place to do business of course, but also a good place to work and live.

It is possible, given a proper public discussion around these issues, that IEDC should be given even more tools to help Indiana realize its full potential — but first we need more information.

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Wells is President of the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute.
Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

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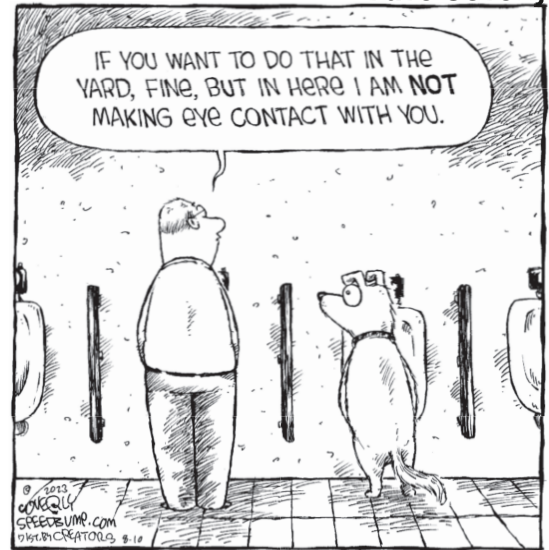
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—Thomas Jefferson

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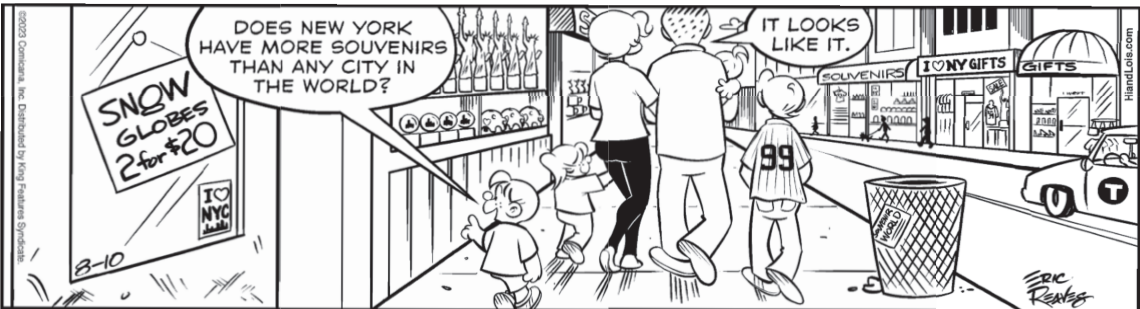
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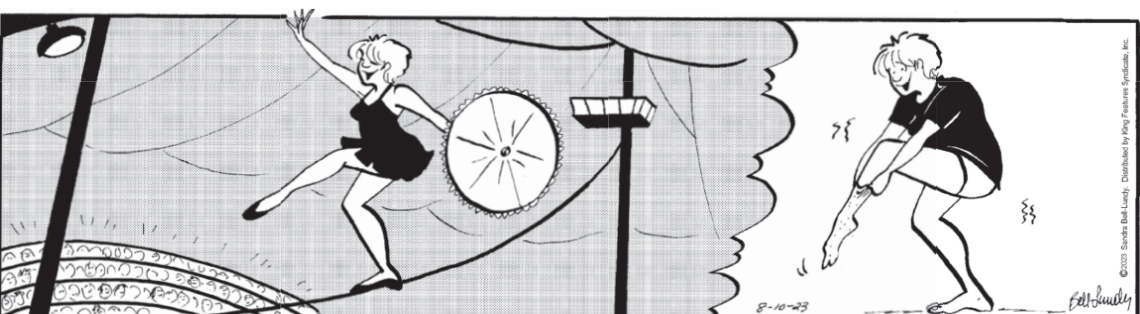
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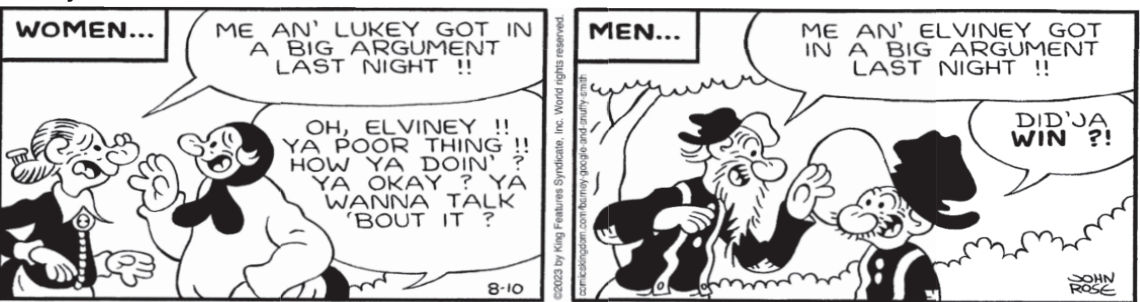
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The Merrimac Coup

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: ♠A3, ♥76, ♦82, ♣AKJ6542. WEST: ♠10752, ♥J10432, ♦QJ10, ♣9. EAST: ♠KJ94, ♥A9, ♦A95, ♣10873. SOUTH: ♠Q86, ♥KQ85, ♦K7643, ♣Q.

The bidding: South West North East Pass Pass 1 ♣ Pass Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — three of hearts.

The Merrimac Coup is featured in many books on the play of the cards, but it seldom occurs in real life. However, the opportunity to use it arose on this deal from the 1979 world championship. The hand was played at six tables, and at four of them East proved equal to the task.

South was declarer in three notrump at all six tables. In the Brazil-United States match, the opening lead at the first table was a

heart. After taking the ace, East returned the king of spades! This was the Merrimac Coup, a defensive play aimed at killing a vital entry to dummy, and as a result, South went down one.

At the other table, West's lead was the queen of diamonds. Here too East won with the ace and returned the spade king and South also finished down one.

In the match between the Far East and Australia, the opening lead at both tables was a heart. At one table, the Far East declarer made four notrump when the Australian East won the ace and mechanically returned the nine of hearts. At the other table, East took the heart lead with the ace and returned the king of spades to sink the contract.

In the match between Italy and a Caribbean team, both Souths made the contract. At the first table, West led the diamond queen, to which East followed with the nine, and the Italian South finished with nine tricks. At the second table, West led a heart and East found the killing king-of-spades shift after taking the ace. However, West, for reasons unknown, later discarded two hearts when the A-K-J of clubs were played, and declarer wound up with nine tricks.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc.

8-10 CRYPTOQUIP

VOWM AGUOM EQH BWTTPQASZQKE VOQ GP ZGU QFPSTTGFU UQQKP MQ BHPMQASCP?

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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: T equals L

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 24 mins and a crossword grid with letters filled in.

Numbered crossword grid for the puzzle.

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Hunt makes visit to Indy

By **JEFF SCHUDEL**
The News-Herald (Ohio)
Tribune News Service

Kareem Hunt has suddenly become a wanted man in the way an unemployed football player would like to be wanted.

Hunt, former running back with the Chiefs and Browns, visited the Saints on Aug. 8. Dianna Russini of ESPN reported the Saints would sign Hunt if he passed his physical, but around 4 p.m. Ian Rapoport of NFL Network had a different take.

"Source: FA Kareem Hunt had a great visit with the Saints and is now on his way to Indianapolis to meet with the Colts tomorrow," Rapoport tweeted.

Russini issued her initial tweet about Hunt around noon. About 15 minutes after Rapoport said Hunt was on his way to visit the Colts, Russini tweeted her own update.

"How about this twist? RB Kareem Hunt was called by Indy before he even stepped foot on the field to work out for the Saints and was offered more money, per source. He was advised to leave and head to Indy with the Colts for a visit."

The Saints need a running back because Alvin Kamara is suspended for the first three games and because Eno Benjamin is out for the season with a ruptured Achilles. But the Colts are in an even more desperate situation.

Jonathan Taylor, the Colts' primary running back, has a \$4,304,000 contract for 2023, but he is unhappy. Taylor has demanded a trade and isn't practicing. Taylor's back-up in 2022, Zack Moss, is out with a broken arm. Deon Jackson, who was third for the Colts in rushing last season, is out with an unspecified injury.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS senior Brynn Stammen hits her iron on the 258-yard, par 4 seventh hole at Wabash Valley Golf Club during the Indians match against South Adams. Stammen shot a team-best 52 in the match, but Fort Recovery fell to the Starfires 212-222 in the contest.

4th ...

Continued from page 8
LeFevre's highlight came on the par-4 11th hole, where it only took him three strokes to find the cup as he earned a birdie. Four pars also helped him out in

the match, but he doubled par on the third hole to hold his score back a bit.
Only one stroke behind LeFevre was Eli Lennertz with 91. He shot for par seven times,

including three in a row on holes No. 8, 9 and 10.
Nate Jutte had the final qualifying score for the Indians with 95 strokes. Jutte earned birdies on both the par-5 second hole

and the par-4 14th. He also had two pars and six bogeys.
Alex Dues and Matthew Romer had scores of 97 and 106, respectively, did not factor into the team score.

'I know everybody wants to hit a driver now but you're gonna score around the green with your short game.'

—Jeff Vaughn
FRHS assistant coach

with a 57. A trio of holes on which she double-parred held her back in the round, but a par on the 255-yard, par 4 first hole and a bogey on No. 7 helped make up for it.

Her drive on the seventh had good distance but flew right of the cart path. Her second shot advanced her forward another 75 yards. She found some luck on her third shot as her ball lased over the bunker and, slowed by the sand, rolled to the front of the green. A chip that came up short of the cup left her in prime position to convert her putt for bogey.

Overall, Vaughn was happy with the girls' performance.

"Our scores weren't great, but overall, we didn't have any scores in the 60s," Vaughn said. "We've just got to keep working at it."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Volleyball (scrimmage) vs. Mississinewa — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Mississinewa at Winchester Golf Club — 4:30 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football scrimmage at Richmond — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Botkins at Shelby Oaks Course — p.m.; Football scrimmage vs. Indian Lake — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today
6 a.m. — LPGA Tour: Women's British Open (USA)
1 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)

5 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NFL: Houston Texans at New England Patriots (ABC)
7 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Indiana Fever (Bally Indiana)

9 p.m. — Women's World Cup: Netherlands vs. Spain (FOX)
9 p.m. — Camping World SRX Series: Eldora Speedway (ESPN)
9 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NFL: Minnesota Vikings at Seattle Seahawks (NBC)

Friday
3:30 a.m. — Women's World Cup: Sweden vs. Japan (FOX)
6 a.m. — LPGA Tour: Women's British Open (USA)
7 p.m. — NFL preseason game
7 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Pittsburgh Pirates (Bally Indiana)

8 p.m. — WNBA: Chicago Sky at New York Liberty (ION)
10 p.m. — WNBA: Washington Mystics at Las Vegas Aces (ION)

Local notes

Adams Memorial Hospital 5K
The Worthman Fitness Center and the Diabetes Education Team of Adams Memorial Hospital will host the "Catch Your Breath ... while you Dash for Diabetes 5K Run/Walk" on Sept. 9 in cooperation with Adams County Parks and Recreation.
Pre-registration is open for \$20 through Friday, Sept 1, at which point

the entry fee will be raised to \$25. Participants may also sign up at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 9 at the Adams Memorial Hospital under the Cancer Institute terrace.

For more visit adamscounty5kchallenge.com or contact Macy Jauregui at (206) 724-2145 ext. 11036.

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.

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Sports

Tribe 4th in Mercer County

Muhlenkamp leads boys in season's first event

CELINA, Ohio — The Indians managed one score in the 80s and two more on the verge. It was just enough for them to eke out the No. 4 spot in the county.

The Fort Recovery High School boys golf team opened their season with a fourth-place finish at the Mercer County Invitation on Tuesday morning at Celina Lynx Golf Club.

The Indians' score of 365 was 37 strokes behind first-place Coldwater (128). Fort Recovery's score narrowly edged out Celina (368) and Parkway (383).

Keegan Muhlenkamp led the way with a team-low 89. He achieved the score with consistent play throughout the match, including parring half of the 18 holes. Three of the nine holes he didn't shoot for par were bogeys.

Following Muhlenkamp was Reece LeFevre, who only had one extra stroke on his score for a 90.

See 4th page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School junior Emma Will chips on the green of hole No. 4 at the Wabash Valley Golf Club during Tuesday's match against South Adams. Will finished with a score of 55 as the Indians fell to the Starfires 212-222.

FR falls to Stars

Stammen showed big improvement over opener

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

GENEVA — Brynn Stammen's score didn't count toward the Indians' total on Monday.

She made sure that changed Tuesday night.

Stammen led Fort Recovery High School's girls golf team in scoring in Tuesday's 10-stroke loss to South Adams at Wabash Valley Golf Club.

Stammen improved her score by eight strokes to shoot a 52 and led the Indians (0-1) to a team score of 222. South Adams' No. 4 golfer, Addy Hinton, led the Starfires with a score of 50 en route to a 212 team score.

"(Stammen) played really well today," FRHS assistant coach Jeff Vaughn said. "I know she had (some) triples on her card, so to come back and shoot a 52 is great ... I'm glad to see that out of her and we'll need that."

Stammen started the match strong, parring her first two holes, which were the 370-yard, par-5

second hole and the 132-yard, par-3 third.

"The par five, I actually got par on that, which felt pretty good because that's not usual for me," Stammen said. "(On the third,) I got a decent chip on the green and I could one-putt it, so one-putting it helps a lot whenever you can get it on and close to the hole."

She suffered her first triple-bogey of the day on hole No. 4 and followed it up with a double bogey.

Things didn't look great to start the sixth hole.

As she teed off on the 303-yard, par 4, her ball went left directly toward the water. However, her drive was low and hard enough that her ball skipped off of the water and rolled into the rough just left of the fairway.

Crisis averted.

"My ball bounced off the water and, honestly, I was just hoping it would all work out and it did," Stammen said.

She hit an iron to put the ball just 5 yards short of the green. Stammen chipped her ball about 8 feet short of the pin, left one putt short and tapped her ball in to save a bogey on the hole.

Stammen triple bogeyed the next two holes before recording her final bogey of the day on the ninth hole. She finished her round with a fourth triple-bogey on hole No. 1.

See Falls page 7



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