

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

REA hired to develop plan for property

County purchased 68 acres earlier this year

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

County officials are moving forward with planning development of land acquired earlier this year.

Jay County Council approved a \$395,000 contract Wednesday with Rundle Ernstberger and Associates (REA) of Indianapolis for planning development of county-owned land on the western edge of Portland.

Also during a nearly two-hour meeting, council agreed to reduce the contractual services fund allocated from economic development income tax (EDIT) dollars in the 2024 budget to \$240,000 and increase Jay County Humane Society's allotment for animal control.

In August, commissioners approved a contract with REA to develop the 68 acres of land purchased by the county for \$1.1 million in American Rescue Plan Act dollars earlier this year.

Cynthia Bowen, a representative from REA, explained the company will undergo various planning stages for the land development, including creating a "vision packet," marketing images to attract developers and renderings, prepare phases, help with development and recruitment, identify other sources of funding and conduct surveys and environmental wetland delineation.

"We work for municipalities and counties all over the state of Indiana and help them understand and realize their vision, so taking their vision from a vision to reality and helping them achieve that reality, at least in the market," said Bowen.

See Develop page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Spirited celebrations

Jay County High School held its spirit night festivities Wednesday as part of homecoming week. Pictured above, from left, seniors Laila Waddell, Brenna Haines, Bella Denton and Sam Myers celebrated their team's victory in the championship volleyball game. Below, sophomores Grant Wendel, Elizabeth Barnett, Paisley Fugiett, Mya Kunker, Kayla Jetmore and Garrett Bennett cheer on their classmates. For more photos, see pages 7 and 8.



The Commercial Review/Scott Shaffer

Jay-Randolph Developmental Service recently opened a new thrift store in Winchester. In addition to donated items, it also sells merchandise created by JRDS clients. If the Winchester location is successful, the organization hopes to open a store in Portland as well.

JRDS opens thrift store

By SCOTT SHAFFER

The Commercial Review

Jay-Randolph Developmental Services recently opened Alley 58 Thrift Store as a way of both teaching its clients job skills and getting them work experience that can be placed on their resumes when seeking employment.

The store is located at the JRDS facility at 974 E. Base Road in Winchester. It is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Items may be donated from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the organization's Randolph and Jay county locations.

In addition to donated items, the store also sells t-shirts and other assorted items made by JRDS clients.

If Winchester site is successful, a location in Portland could follow

"The clients love working in the store," said thrift store coordinator Kristi Brown. "Their favorite part is sorting through all of the items that are brought in. They also enjoy being out in the public and meeting customers."

The money made from the thrift store goes to paying

wages of the clients who work at the store.

"This helps our clients experience what it is like to have a job, and give them skills that they can use when obtaining a job," said Brown.

The name Alley 58 pays homage to the history of JRDS.

See JRDS page 2

Deaths

Stephen McClung, 83, Portland
Jeff Ray, 66, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Wednesday. The low was 48.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 40s. Expect mostly sunny skies early Saturday with more clouds in the afternoon. The high will be in the mid 70s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

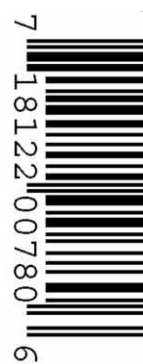
In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Photos from the Jay County High School homecoming parade.

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS girls golf team in the sectional tournament.



CR almanac

Saturday 9/16	Sunday 9/17	Monday 9/18	Tuesday 9/19	Wednesday 9/20
75/53	72/47	72/50	78/54	82/56
Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high of 75. The low will be in the low 50s.	There's a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms on Sunday.	Another slight chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high of 72.	More mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday, when the high will be in the mid 70s.	Sunny skies with a high of 80 degrees during the day.

Lotteries

Powerball 22-30-37-44-45 Power Ball: 18 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$596 million	Daily Four: 9-5-5-2 Quick Draw: 1-6-12-16-17-22-23-25-26-30-34-46-48-55-56-57-62-67-77-80 Cash 5: 13-15-17-26-35 Estimated jackpot: \$428,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$162 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 7-0-0 Pick 4: 5-1-5-8 Pick 5: 0-1-6-2-7 Evening Pick 3: 7-0-9 Pick 4: 9-2-2-2 Pick 5: 1-5-4-8-3 Rolling Cash: 7-24-32-34-39 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 7-7-8 Daily Four: 1-2-2-6 Quick Draw: 1-6-26-30-32-33-34-35-36-39-42-43-45-48-49-54-62-71-72-75 Evening Daily Three: 5-1-7	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.42 Sept. corn5.32 Wheat5.04	Dec. beans13.53 Wheat 5.10
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.57 Late Sept. corn5.32 Oct. corn4.77	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.32 Sept. corn5.12 Beans14.14 Sept. beans14.09 Wheat5.65
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.23 Sept. corn4.93 Beans13.15	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.22 Oct. corn4.37 Beans13.42 Oct. beans13.07 Wheat5.10

Today in history

In 1590, Giambattista Castagna was elected pope. He became Pope Urban VII but died 12 days later of malaria.

In 1821, a plan drafted by Agustin de Iturbide of Mexico was accepted by Central American officials. It would bring Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua independence from Spain.

In 1857, William Howard Taft was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. Taft is the only individual to have served as both president of the United States and Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

In 1894, Japan won the Battle of Pyongyang in the first Sino-Japanese War.

In 1916, the British used a tank for the first time in combat during World War I.

In 1935, Germany passed the Nuremberg Laws, which were among the first pieces of racist legislation by the Nazi party that would lead to the Holocaust. They denied Jews of German citizenship.

In 1949, "The Lone Ranger" debuted on TV. It had originally been a radio series.

In 1963, four girls were killed when members of the Ku Klux Klan bombed the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

In 1972, 19-year-old Phillip Wayne Jones of Dunkirk was charged with first degree murder in Hartford City City Court in connection with the Sept. 6 shooting of Chester Sloniker of Millgrove.

In 1976, author Agatha Christie was born Agatha Mary Clarissa Miller in Torquay, Devon, England. Her detective novels and plays, featuring detectives such as Miss Jane Marple and Hercule Poirot, have sold more than 100 million copies.

In 1978, Muhammad Ali won the world heavyweight boxing title for the third time by defeating Leon Spinks.

In 1989, Robert Penn Warren, a writer, critic and teacher, died. He was named the first Poet Laureate of the United States in 1986.

In 2021, Brian W. Snyder of La Fontaine and Trey M. Burbank of Silver Lake were injured when the 1997 Chevrolet Snyder was driving went off U.S. 27 in Bryant, rolled and struck a utility pole. Snyder, who sustained a neck injury, told Jay County Sheriff's Office he did not know what caused the accident.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, vil-

lage hall, 201 S. Main St.

Wednesday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.

Thursday
5:30 p.m. — Redkey Town Council 2024 budget public hearing, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

JRDS ...

Continued from page 1
"In the 1950s, special needs kids were often not allowed to attend the public schools," explained Brown. "A group of parents got together and formed a school for children with Down syndrome in an alley in Portland named Pink Alley. In 1958, the organization that would become JRDS became involved. Over the years, the organization has evolved to include clients with a variety of other conditions and needs." JRDS is dedicated to providing quality services that empower their clients to overcome barriers while transforming their personal abilities to help them achieve their full potential as a valued and productive member of society. "If all goes well, we are also hoping to open a store in Portland as well," said Brown.

Obituaries

Stephen McClung

Sept. 3, 1940-Sept. 12, 2023
Stephen Raymond McClung, award winning Hoosier artist, passed away peacefully at the age of 83 at IU Health Jay on Sept. 12, 2023, with his wife of 60 years by his side.

Steve was born on Sept. 3, 1940, at the Wiebusch homestead on East 7th Street in the summer kitchen. The son of Nellie Lola Wiebusch and Pastor Raymond Eckles McClung, he was the third of 10 children, who all led lives in the Indiana and Ohio area. His fond memories of his childhood and the landscapes that framed them were often the inspiration of his paintings.

He was preceded in death by his siblings Kathleen, Ronald and John. Surviving are his adored Martha, David, Barbara, Peggy, Kit and Kevin, the latter leading his memorial service this coming Saturday.

Steve married Sheron Sue Thorn on Nov. 11, 1962, who survives. Together they have three children, Kurt, Kent and Amy. Kent is married to local teacher Annemarie Huber McClung, and their three children, Ian, Lillian and Julia graduated from Jay County High School. Amy, who once worked at the forge, married to David Young from Portland and also gave Steve three grandchildren, Mackenzie, Kaitlyn and Addison. Kurt and Stephanie, and their son Charlie-Lee, who live in France, join the family in mourning.

Steve was a graduate of Portland High School's 1958 class and went on to study chemistry at Manchester College on a football and track and field scholarship. He loved the way chemicals would change colors, like by magic, when mixed together.

Steve proudly served in the Indiana National Guard for six years from 1963 to 1969 as a staff sergeant. He had amazing stories from that time from playing pinochle and learning jokes from every walk of society. He loved camping in Indiana and Kentucky national parks and fishing on the Wabash River, something he had done all of his life. Sheron and Steve were members of the Lamberlost Squares and loved dancing the Wabash Whirl.

To raise his family, Stephen worked at Portland Forge. After working in roofing, he went on to establish Steve McClung Construction where over the next 40 years he was proud of every chance he had to build something in the community. Among his proudest constructions were Memorial Hall at the Green Park Cemetery and the Baptist church on Charles Street. His fondest memories were working for local families and companies, renovating homes and offices. He taught all of his children how to crawl under a house or up on a roof.

Coach McClung, known for his gentle approach in a physical game, coached the Pee Wee Packers at the dawn of the Portland Pee Wee Football League from 1973 to 2009, working alongside his great friend and best man at his wedding, Frank Inman. He remembered nearly every name of the 500 plus kids that played for him, and the name of every coach he ever faced. Though he was a passionate competitor, he believed teaching sportsmanship and developing a passion for football were the primary goals of pee wee.

Steve was an active member of the Portland's Lions Club for most of his life, twice president and once district governor, where he represented District 25D at the International Convention in Taiwan. He loved working behind the grill at the Lionburger stand at Jay County Fairgrounds, collecting eyeglasses and delivering oranges at Christmas in particular.

Stephen was the son of a preacher, and one of his proudest part-time roles was to have been the song picker of Sunday hymns for the Rev. Kevin McClung, who continues the ministry at the Church of the Brethren on Floral Avenue.

Steve's proudest career achievement was to be recognized as an artist by both artistic peers and collectors. Self-taught, he credits bounds in the quality of his works to advice from his friend and artistic mentor, John Warner. His mentor helped him limit his color palette and to stop trying to paint pictures that would sell, but concentrate on painting memories that were important to himself. Steve's landscape paintings in oil on canvas began to gain recognition throughout the tristate area.

Stephen McClung has won several awards in Indiana and Ohio, the first major award was the Van Wert, Ohio, Charles F. Wassenberg Award for Trinity Barn. Minnetrista awarded and purchased Bloomfield Inn and Salamonie River Bank. His work was also featured in exhibits in the Indiana State Fair, Broad Ripple Framing Gallery, Fort Wayne Museum and the White Water Valley show. He was proud of a local show at the Hugh N. Ronald Memorial Gallery in Portland.

Steve travelled to Germany, Italy, France and all over America, bringing to canvas his unique perspective on the landscapes and locations that he felt simply worth painting. His favorite places remained the Indiana landscapes of his childhood, where colors and memories collided to take you into his child's eye view of his surroundings.

As time in his career passed, he eventually was earning a better living selling his paintings than fixing houses and was able to transition to a career of full-time artist. He accomplished what he had set out to become. He was commissioned by The Portland Foundation to paint a mural of Jay

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County's key landmarks that was used for a series of collector lithograph prints to raise funds.

Hundreds of paintings and illustrations remain as part of the artist's legacy in homes and collections on five continents. He has worked from his art shop for 20 years thanks to support from Bryan Alexander and Steve Takats, who he considered true patrons of the arts.

He was one of the founders of the Alcove arts club and taught art classes at Arts Place, something he truly enjoyed. The funeral lunch will be held there.

Memorials can be left to The Portland Foundation in Steve's name for a fund to be created for the arts.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15, at Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 16, at the funeral home with a meal to follow at Arts Place.

Jeff Ray

July 15, 1957-Sept. 13, 2023
Jeff L. Ray, age 66, of Portland passed away Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2023, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.

Jeff was born in Portland on July 15, 1957, to Max and Shirley Ray. He was married on Nov. 28, 2003, to Debra (Hamilton) Ray, who survives.

Jeff retired from Joyce Dayton in December of 2021 after over 20 years of service.

Surviving in addition to his wife Debra are two sons, Joseph Ray (wife: Tristan) of Portland and Christopher Daniels (wife: Sheena) of Portland; two daughters, Kathy Newlin (husband: Scott) of Portland and Dawn McCord (husband: Josh) of Lynn; two brothers, Todd Ray of Albany and Tim Ray (wife: Rebekah) of Albany; two sisters, Pam Ray of Albany and Regina Dee Ray-Abel (husband: Pat) of Yorktown; 15 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Max and Shirley Ray; one sister, Debbie Powers; and a nephew Brent Powers.

Funeral services will be held at Baird-Freeman Funeral Home on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, at noon. Viewing will begin at 10 a.m. till the service with Pastor Dave Keen presiding. Burial will follow at the Hillcrest Cemetery of Redkey.

Memorials can be made to Riley Children's Hospital. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.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.

SERVICES

Friday
Kegerreis, Wauneta: 10:30 a.m., Zwick & Jahn Funeral Home, 520 N. 2nd St., Decatur.
Brown, Sharon: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Perry, Sharon: 1 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Saturday
McClung, Stephen: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Mahorney, Brian: 6 p.m., Cornerstone Community Church, 440 N Standard Blvd., Montpelier.

Monday
Ray, Jeff: noon, Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS
120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

Ads must run in September
Rate does not apply to special sections

RESTAURANT

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The News-Gazette — \$250
The News Times — \$210
The News and Sun — \$210

Call (260) 726-8141 or email ads@thecr.com

BSU celebrates new amphitheater

Ball State University will hold a grand opening celebration Tuesday for its new Brown Family Amphitheater. The new outdoor performance center located between Park and Pruis halls on the Ball State University campus will host the event with backstage tours from 6 to 6:30 p.m., a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 7 p.m. and a Ball State Jazz Ensemble concert with vocalist Tatum Langley at 7:30 p.m. Food trucks will also be available.

INDOT opportunity

Indiana Department of Transportation is seeking applicants for its Engineering

Taking Note

Scholarship Program for undergraduate and graduate students. To be eligible, students must be accepted or enrolled full-time in one of Indiana's accredited civil engineering schools.

Recipients receive financial assistance and job opportunities during summer breaks and after graduation.

For more information, or to apply, visit

indotscholarship.in.gov. The deadline is Dec. 31.

Exhibit closing soon

It's not too late to see an exhibit about the history of girlhood.

An exhibition from the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum, "Girlhood (It's complicated)," is on display through Sunday.

The exhibit showcases how girls have been on the front lines of change and how they have made an impact on all aspects of American life, according to a press release from Minnetrista. It spans a timeframe of more than 200 years and showcases about 200

objects, highlighting figures such as Minnie Jean Brown and Naomi Wadler.

Internships available

The Indiana Senate Republican Caucus is accepting applications for paid internships for the spring semester.

In order to be eligible, a student must be at least a college sophomore. Recent college graduates, graduate students and law school students can also apply. The full-time positions are open to Indiana residents and anyone attending an Indiana college or university.

For more information, visit indianasenatepublicans.com/Intern.

Hopefest set for Saturday

Hopefest kicks off with another day of free food, games and other activities Saturday.

The event, a multi-organizational effort now in its second year, will be from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Jay Community Center.

Activities on the agenda include games, inflatables, a petting zoo and Ride4Life's motorcycle thrill show. Local organizations and services will be available to connect with for support. The event will also offer door prizes and other giveaways.

Wife returns to marriage falling apart

DEAR ABBY: I've been married for 34 years. During most of them, I was unfaithful. I never felt like I was truly married because my husband never gave me the time of day, but I liked my marital status because, I guess, we were companions. As soon as my kids married and the nest was empty, I left. I didn't feel I needed to stay and be unhappy, so I moved out. Why I didn't divorce him during those eight years is beyond me.

We are now back together, and I don't know why. We're not physically attracted to each other, and he is manipulative, selfish and sarcastic. Why, Abby, am I afraid to move on from this? I hate it when we're alone at home. I'd rather spend the day with my grandchildren. I didn't

Dear Abby



miss him at all when I was away, but he called me often and I felt obligated and guilty. What should I do? — SEARCHING FOR HAPPY IN ARIZONA

DEAR SEARCHING: If you really want to find "happy," the place to start would be in the office of a licensed psychotherapist. Once you figure out why you were willing to settle for marriage to a manipulative, selfish, sarcastic man to whom you are not

attracted, you will figure out what your next move should be. From where I sit, it should be in the direction of the office of a lawyer who can help you untangle yourself from your unhealthy marriage once and for all.

DEAR ABBY: I work for a department within law enforcement that has been on a hiring spree for the past few months due to retirements. One of our new hires is an obnoxious know-it-all. When we are talking policy, she constantly corrects us, usually incorrectly. When we try to explain to her about her being wrong, she twists whatever we're talking about to make her sound right, or says we're being rude.

It's not just policy stuff. Everyday conversation can be frustrating. I made a comment about a geographical location, and she proceeded to argue about it. She then Googled it and realized I was, in fact, correct. I don't want to argue with someone daily who thinks she's always right. I've tried to let it go or say, "Yes, OK, you're right," but it is hard sometimes. My boss is no help. He doesn't deal with her daily, so he doesn't see it and says we all "just need to get along." How do I professionally approach this situation? — OVER HER IN OREGON

DEAR OVER HER: If this new hire's personality problem continues, it could poison the entire department.

Ask your co-workers if they have experienced what you have with the woman and, if they have, how they feel about it. If they agree that her need to be right even when she's wrong presents a problem, approach your boss AS A GROUP to discuss it. That way, it will be chalked up as a personnel problem rather than a personal one.

TO THOSE WHO CELEBRATE ROSH HASHANA: At sundown tonight, the Jewish New Year begins. During this time of solemn introspection, I wish my Jewish readers, "L'shana tova tikatevu" — may you be inscribed in the Book of Life and have a good year. — LOVE, ABBY

Community Calendar

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

Thursday

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5 p.m. Sept. 14 at Pizza Hut in Portland.

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.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the post at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.

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.

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

Friday

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

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 ANONY-

MOUS — 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.

LOCALS MARKET — Is held from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in May through October on East Main Street in Portland. For more information, contact The Flower Nook at (260) 726-7166.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumsoldier.com.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIGANNA'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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

Switch to DISH for access to every professional football game this fall on YouTube, Prime Video, Peacock, and ESPN+.

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Aging Hoosiers need more support

By SARAH WADDLE
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Just like the rest of the country, it's a reality that Indiana needs to face. Our state's aging population is depending on our leaders to invest in a long-term supports and services (LTSS) system that adequately serves the needs of older Hoosiers and their families.

Over the years, AARP Indiana has been heavily engaged in advocating for independence, dignity, and autonomy for older residents. We know that Hoosiers want to determine and direct the LTSS they receive, which should include how and where those services are delivered and who provides them. These services should be comprehensive, in accord with individuals' values and preferences, and be provided in the least restrictive setting possible.

For most Hoosiers the setting where they want to receive care is

Sarah Waddle



at home. But while it may be their desire to age in place, the ability to make it happen proves to be much more difficult to accomplish.

Historically, Indiana hasn't had balanced spending between facility and home-based care with 80% of Medicaid funds going towards institutions rather than home and community-based services. By not focusing on maintaining a sustainable, person-driven LTSS system, too many Hoosier families struggle to find affordable, quality home care. Often the duties are falling to the estimated 790,000 Hoosiers who

are unpaid family caregivers. These individuals are providing more than 740 million hours of care to their loved ones which is valued at \$10.8 billion each year.

As Indiana's Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) transitions to managed care next year for long-term care, AARP Indiana will continue working to ensure Hoosiers see better, easier and more affordable choices. Many states have seen success under a managed care model and in a 2020 Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) study, enrollees in a managed care program were more likely to report satisfaction with their care and quality of life when compared to other types of programs. However, it will take continued stakeholder engagement and close scrutiny of the system to help Indiana achieve similar results.

A reform of Indiana's LTSS system is long overdue and as the

new system gets up and running, it's important that Indiana undertake robust monitoring, oversight, and evaluation because long-term care policy is not and should not be linear. There should be room to build and to pivot and we should be humble enough to recognize that even if we think our program was designed perfectly, it can always be improved using the tools, data, information, and first-hand experiences that are available.

One of the tools available to state leaders is AARP's LTSS State Scorecard. The Scorecard is a tool that measures long-term services and supports system performance at the state level. This compiled information provides policy makers, providers, advocates and other stakeholders a way to assess areas of strength and identify opportunities for improvement within their respective state's LTSS system. On September 28, the fifth

edition of the Scorecard, which is produced by AARP's Public Policy Institute with the support of the AARP Foundation, The SCAN Foundation, The Commonwealth Fund, and The John A. Hartford Foundation, will be released at a new website: ltsschoices.aarp.org. Indiana has lagged behind when compared to other states in previous scorecards, but with each new Scorecard comes updated data and insights.

No matter where Indiana ranks in this year's Scorecard, the fact remains that after a lifetime of hard work and contributing to our society, older Hoosiers deserve a long-term care system that makes them the sole focus and is responsive to their choices.

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Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

What could be more important?

The Seattle Times
Tribune News Service

When the federal government falters, the nation's most vulnerable residents feel the effects hardest and fastest.

That will be the case if Congress doesn't get its act together before the end of the month and approve funding for low-income families who receive federal food assistance.

After taking a month-long summer vacation in August, Congress has precious few days left to pass funding bills for a dozen major federal agencies. The current fiscal year ends Sept. 30. If Congress misses the deadline, much of the federal government would shut down.

Hold on, one might interject. Didn't we just go through a federal government shutdown crisis? Didn't Republicans and President Joe Biden strike a deal to keep things running months ago?

Yes, but never underestimate Congress' most-radical members' ability to manufacture a new crisis. Last time the fight was over the debt ceiling. This time it's over spending bills. See, there's a difference. (We wish we could insert an eye rolling emoji here.)

The far-right members of the House Republican caucus are demanding steep cuts, and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy lacks the fortitude to stand up to them.

A bipartisan deal is on the table. The Senate Appropriations Committee, which Washington Sen. Patty Murray chairs, passed a full set of funding bills with bipartisan support.

"We have provided a clear bipartisan road map to fund the government under extremely difficult constraints, proving Congress can work together and through its differences," Murray said.

McCarthy and the far-right holdouts aren't interested in working together.

Complicating matters — and here's where those low-income families come into it — the Biden White House has asked for supplemental spending on several items that some

Guest Editorial

It's a hugely successful program that helps young children get off to a healthy start in life.

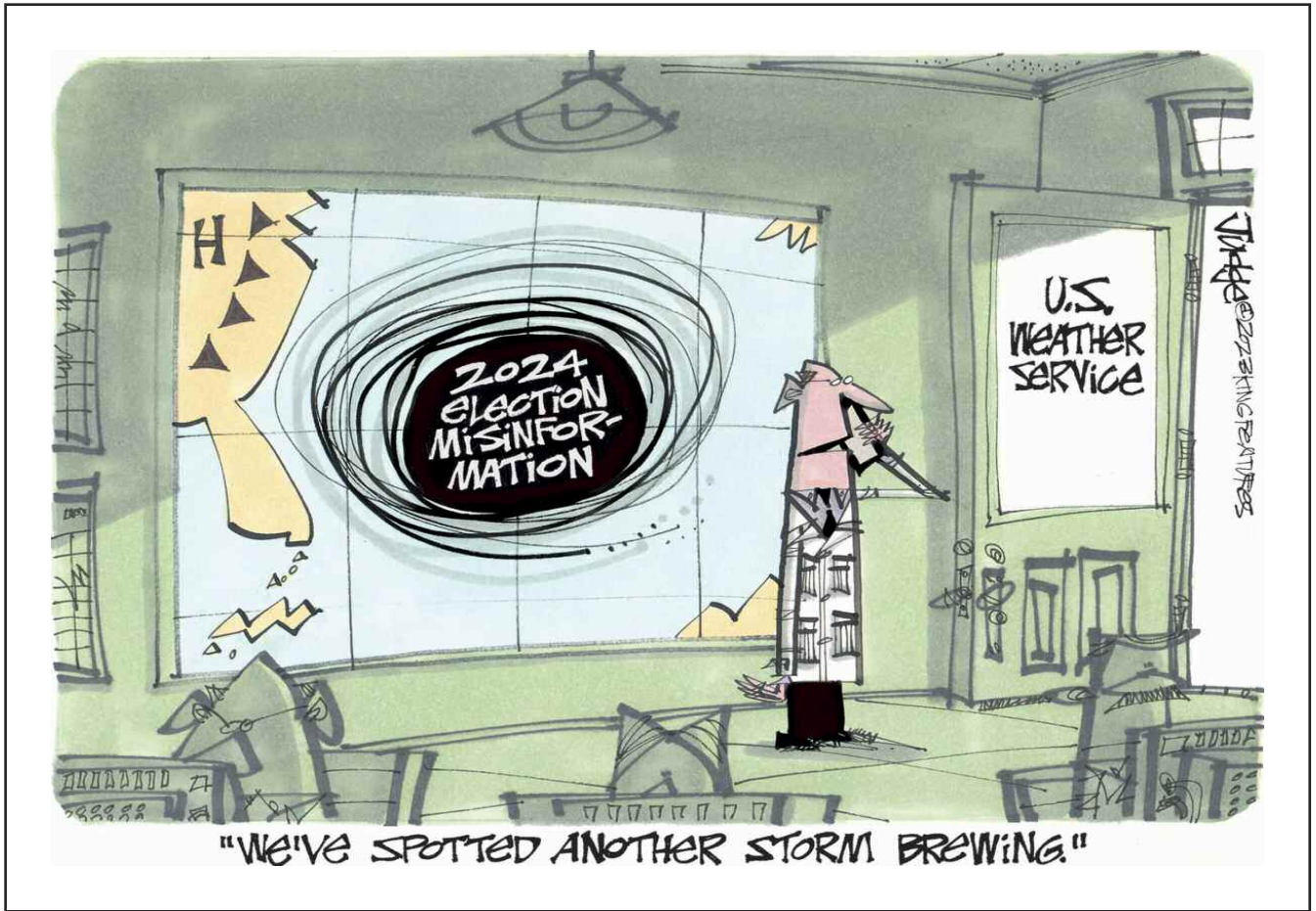
Republicans don't want to pay for, including money to bolster the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, called WIC.

During the pandemic, Congress increased and expanded WIC benefits to reach more low-income mothers, pregnant women and children. It provides healthy food to families and some money they can spend on fruits and vegetables. It's a hugely successful program that helps young children get off to a healthy start in life.

Inflation the past couple of years has pushed food costs up, leaving those families vulnerable to food insecurity. Biden therefore has requested \$1.4 billion to bolster WIC.

That money is tied up in the larger funding fight. If Congress doesn't act, many WIC benefits will run out in early October, and families will struggle to feed children nutritious meals.

Murray and her colleagues have a deal in place. It probably could get bipartisan support in the House after it passes the Senate. All it would take is for McCarthy to bring it up for a vote. That would infuriate the most conservative Republicans and potentially put his speakership at risk. He must ask himself what's more important, holding onto power in an untenable situation or feeding mothers and children?



Saving Medicare is viable goal

By KARL W. SMITH
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

Despite a robust economy, the U.S. budget deficit is poised to double over the next year — to an eye-watering \$2 trillion. As bad as that sounds, things would be a lot worse if it weren't for a surprising bright spot: health care costs, which have been growing more slowly than expected for more than a decade.

It's an odd situation that turns decades of Washington conventional wisdom on its head. People used to say that the key to deficit reduction was entitlement reform. Now entitlement reform seems possible — but only if people don't try to bring the deficit into it.

Rising health care costs were a constant source of budgetary pain for the public and private sector alike for decades. Between 2010 and 2020, however, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that Medicare spending was nearly \$1 trillion less than originally projected. Economists and health experts have theories, but no one is quite sure why.

After a brief spike upward because of COVID-19, the downward trend intensified. In February 2020, just before the pandemic, 21.7% of all U.S. household spending was on health care. That same figure was 19.6% by June 2022, its lowest level since 2008. It has rebounded a bit since, but still remains at levels comparable to 14 years ago.

Closing the federal deficit would require a combination of drastic spending cuts and huge tax hikes that neither Democrats nor Republicans are in the mood to contemplate. But closing the long-term gap in Medicare funding — long the nation's toughest budgetary challenge — could be done with biparti-

Karl W. Smith



san measures that are about as close to painless as they will ever get.

Economists expect that cost growth will soon return to its decades-old pattern, but the recent reprieve offers an opportunity to end a long-running budgetary nightmare.

Both sides would have to be willing to give something. Republicans should agree to eliminate what could legitimately be called waste, fraud and abuse in the Medicare Advantage program, which allows seniors to choose private insurance rather than traditional Medicare. It has long been trumpeted by conservatives as a way to use market forces to contain long-term costs.

The program has been popular with seniors and is in many ways a success. But the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates that overpayments to insurers participating in the program will cost taxpayers up to \$372 billion over the next decade.

Without getting too much into the details, the reasons have to do with how insurers measure something called the average "disease burden." While not illegal, this practice is widely acknowledged as an abuse of the system, and Republicans should be enthusiastic to see it go — even if it means reducing expenditures on their favored program.

Democrats, meanwhile, should be willing to rein in a kind of diagnostic abuse that occurs in traditional

Medicare. The program's reimbursement rates to doctors and hospitals are governed by regulations that demand any changes be budget-neutral: Reimbursement rate increases for one procedure must be balanced by reductions for another, or by some other cost-saving measure.

The catch is that these regulations don't apply to new procedures and services, and — unlike with prescription drugs — there is no rigorous system to determine their efficacy. Thus providers have a strong financial incentive to adopt new procedures or technology, rather than making more efficient and effective use of those already in place.

By 2033, according to one estimate, the addition of new procedures and services could increase Medicare spending by close to \$500 billion each year. Chris Pope of the Manhattan Institute, a conservative think tank, suggests that Medicare be required to accommodate new procedures and services in a budget-neutral way for up to six months. Medicare could then apply for additional appropriations to cover the ones it deems most cost-effective.

When combined with the savings from overbilling, a modest 10% decrease in spending on new services could save \$600 billion over the next 10 years. That's enough to cover the Medicare trust fund's deficit for the entire period.

When compared to a single-year deficit of \$2 trillion, that might not seem like much. But it would knock out a budgetary hurdle that has been tripping up Congress for decades.

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Smith is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. Previously, he was vice president for federal policy at the Tax Foundation and assistant professor of economics at the University of North Carolina.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Purdue researchers secure funding

By **EMILY MATCHER**
Purdue Ag News

Creating better vaccines. Averting animal pandemics. Helping farmers make smarter, more climate-friendly decisions. These are just some of the projects funded by the Purdue College of Agriculture's recent bumper crop of grants — a record \$106 million this past fiscal year, topping the \$85 million raised the previous year.

"We've got several years of back-to-back to back with record levels," says Bernie Engel, the Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture.

"The overwhelming majority of our research is supported by these kinds of dollars," Engel says. "These are the dollars that really enable us to have a much, much bigger impact than we would have otherwise."

Grants are highly competitive — as few as 10 or 20 percent of proposals are funded. The success in securing grants speaks to the quality of Purdue's researchers — the College of Agriculture is currently ranked number three in



Purdue Ag News/Tom Campbell

Kurt Ristroph, assistant professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, holds two vials of nanocarrier treatments being tested for treatment of plant diseases.

the nation, while the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering is number one.

It's a big number, but where exactly do those dollars go? How are they used? Here are some of the stories that provide that insight.

One of the researchers

making an impact with grant funding is Kurt Ristroph, an assistant professor in the Agricultural and Biological Engineering department. His lab focuses on developing nanomaterials and nano formulation processes for medical and agricultural uses. Ristroph has multi-

ple major grant-funded projects in the works, including one that stands to benefit almost anyone who will need an mRNA vaccine in the future.

This project, funded by a \$2.7 million FDA grant, involves looking at making lipid nanoparticles of the type used in the Pfizer and

Moderna coronavirus vaccines — but without the need for extreme cold during shipping.

"Shipping vaccines around the world at negative 80 degrees was extremely expensive and logistically hairy," Ristroph says.

In collaboration with a group at Princeton University and others, Ristroph's lab is trying to show they can process lipid nanoparticles into a dry form that can be later reconstituted in water, on-site.

"We think there will be major stability benefits in doing that," he says.

If it's successful, this new technique could benefit not only covid vaccines, but also any future mRNA vaccines made using lipid nanoparticles.

Ristroph's second major project funded last year is also health-related. His lab is working with an Indian pharmaceutical company to improve a medication with poor bioavailability when taken by mouth.

While, for reasons of industrial secrecy, Ristroph can't say what the medication is, he explains it's used to treat a disease

that affects some 90,000 Americans. He's working to process the medication into nanoparticles so it can dissolve and reach the blood stream more effectively.

Another of Ristroph's current projects affects anyone who enjoys a morning glass of orange juice. Last fall, he received a \$1 million grant from the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture to develop nanocarriers as an antibiotic delivery system to treat citrus greening disease. This plant disease, caused by a bacteria spread by an aphid-like insect called the Asian citrus psyllid, has devastated Florida's citrus industry and is spreading to Texas, California and beyond.

"In the 15 years since it came to the US in 2008, there's been something like a 90 percent decrease in Florida citrus production," Ristroph says.

In collaboration with other universities, Ristroph's lab is attempting to deliver antibiotics to the site of the bacterial infection, a difficult task using conventional methods.

Develop ...

Continued from page 1

Answering a question from council vice president Faron Parr, Bowen said the company can get started immediately on the process once the contract is approved.

County attorney Wes Schemenauer noted other proposals for the land development only covered part of the process. REA's contract is divided as follows — conceptual design for \$141,515, schematic design for \$214,745, surveying and platting for \$30,370 and environmental (survey) for \$8,370.

Council member Cindy Bracy argued the county should have REA complete part of the work, or the conceptual design, before agreeing to a contract for the rest of the project.

Council approved the contract on a 4-3 vote, with Jeanne Houchins, Dave Haines, Randy May and Parr in favor and Harold Towell, Matt Minnich and Bracy dissenting. (Minnich noted his hesitation stemmed from a desire to have access to the information sooner, noting council received an email about the \$395,000 contract Tuesday.)

Also Wednesday, Minnich asked commissioners president Chad Aker, who was present along with commissioner Brian McGalliard, what contracts will be paid for out of the contractual services fund allocated from EDIT dollars in the 2024 budget. (Council agreed to cut \$300,000 from the fund in August.)

Aker explained the fund will be used for contracts with Jay Coun-

ty Development Corporation and East Central Indiana Regional Planning District, which were set at \$130,000 and \$100,000, respectively. Other contracts approved to be paid for with EDIT funds would also come out of that fund.

JCDC originally requested \$250,000 in 2024, Aker noted. Minnich asked if commissioners had spoken with JCDC about how they planned to operate on a lower budget than originally anticipated. (The \$250,000 included room for a new community development director, a position that has since been replaced by the county's hiring of a community coordinator through East Central Indiana Regional Planning District.)

Aker said JCDC has since requested \$140,000, with the county's personnel committee settling on \$130,000. He pointed out JCDC has an additional \$64,000 left from its county allocation in 2022.

Minnich said commissioners have pushed that 75% of EDIT funds need to be spent on capital projects but that the current budget has been invested into other ventures. He made a motion council allocate \$240,000 for the fund next year, giving \$140,000 for a contract with JCDC and \$100,000 for the contract with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District.

Minnich and Bracy pointed out commissioners have a capital improvement project list but have not yet approved a full plan.

"It's not going to hurt anything to (let the money) sit there while we actually get a plan," said

Bracy. "And we have a plan, and then we just move it."

Council approved the \$40,000 cut on a 5-1 vote with Parr dissenting.

Jay County Humane Society consultant Linda Conn told council Wednesday the organization had proposed a 2024 contract with the county for \$66,325. (Council cut Jay County Humane Society's allocation for animal control services to \$55,000 during a special meeting in August. The group had originally requested \$68,500 but negotiated to the \$66,325 amount.) Conn explained the amount had been calculated using a formula developed by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Using census information, she calculated there are approximately 2,330 cats and 1,457 dogs in the rural, unincorporated portions of Jay County. Factoring in 10% of those dogs and cats, with each animal serviced at a rate of \$175, she came up with the contract request of \$66,325.

Conn noted Indiana mandates a certain level of care for animals before they're adopted, such as requiring them to be spayed or neutered. She added \$55,000 doesn't leave the organization enough room to pay for all it would need to provide adequate care.

"To go out and capture them, (the humane society doesn't) see any way of putting a vehicle on the road, paying insurance ... paying a person to go out and do that for anything less than what we had asked for," said Conn.

She added that the county is welcome to hire an animal con-

trol officer, but she noted it would likely cost the county more than it would pay the humane society.

So far, Conn said, Salamonina has approved a contract with the organization, and other towns and cities have been considering contracts. (Dunkirk has declined the contract, instead choosing to continue utilizing its own animal control service.)

On a 4-3 vote, with Houchins, Parr, May and Haines in favor, and Bracy, Minnich and Towell dissenting, council agreed to increase Jay County Humane Society's allocation to \$66,325.

In other business, council:

- Agreed, Towell dissenting, to give between 6% and 8% raises in 2024 to several employees, along with a 6% raise to Jay County treasurer and her first deputy

- Agreed to give the Jay County Jail matron an 8% raise in 2024 and bump part-time clerical positions to \$16.05 an hour from the current rate of \$14.79 an hour

- Approved Jay County Health Department's health maintenance fund for 2024, which came out to \$208,045.28. (The health department had been waiting on a response about its enhanced funding from the state next year. Plans are to use approximately \$92,000 for new health educator and health school liaison positions.)

- Formally approved creating a board to review Jay County Country Living's finances. The group includes Jay County clerk Jon Eads, local residents Vir-

ginia Burkey, Nancy Cline, Paul VanCise and Camile Elick-Shawver, and McGalliard, Houchins, Towell and Bracy.

- Heard a request for \$50,000 from Tasha Weaver, Firefly Children and Family Alliance region 7 director of prevention services, and Justin Litman of Jay County's branch of the Indiana Department of Child Services to fund a coordinator position. The employee would coordinate services used in a family resource center for Jay County.

- Made the following additional appropriations: \$30,000 for overtime at Jay County Jail; \$15,000 for repairs at Jay County Courthouse; \$7,500 in jury fees for Jay Circuit Court; \$5,000 for uniforms for Jay County Sheriff's Office and Jay County Jail; \$3,000

- Tabled a \$50,000 additional appropriation for truck and tractor repair at Jay County Highway Department

- Made the following transfers: \$46,000 for group health insurance to computer maintenance in the county general fund; \$25,000 for group health insurance to contractual services in the county general fund; \$8,000 for the wages, repair and maintenance to director wages for Jay County Country Living; \$7,500 for jury fees in Jay Circuit Court; \$5,000 for group health insurance to professional services for commissioners (pay for the county attorney); \$800 for clerical wages to maintenance of cemetery stones and \$75 for office supplies to maintenance of cemetery stones in the cemetery fund

University to have a hydroponic farm

By **NANDINI SIRCAR**
Khaleej Times
(Dubai, United Arab Emirates)
Tribune News Service

In the heart of the United Arab Emirates, nestled amidst the desert sands and futuristic skylines, a Sharjah university, has embarked on a truly unique and sustainable farming endeavor, dubbed Harvesting Hope.

The American University of Sharjah (AUS) has launched a hydroponic farming initiative that allows students to delve into the latest developments in agricultural technology while also enjoying the nutritional produce from the farm.

The fledgling initiative between the AUS student chapter of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (IEEE SIGHT) and The Big Heart Educational Center in Sharjah also strives to empower marginalized students from diverse national backgrounds in the UAE.

With a primary emphasis on addressing issues related to illiteracy, Sara Walid, a senior mechanical engineering student, chair of IEEE SIGHT and student project leader, said,

"The significance of hydroponics lies in the ability to cultivate plants in nutrient-rich water solutions, eliminating the need for soil. The establishment of hydroponic systems on the AUS campus enables workshops that educate students on optimal plant growth practices, covering topics such as system assembly, potential hydrogen testing, light-emitting diode and water pump configurations and nutrient solution management."

"The resulting produce will serve as both a hands-on learning tool and a source of fresh, nutritious vegetables, enhancing daily meals," she added.

With financial support from the IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Best Practices and Projects Committee, the project monitors its advancement by conducting frequent evaluations and involving students at The Big Heart Educational Center in interactive Kahoot quizzes. This approach ensures that students not only comprehend but also effectively apply the concepts presented.

Meanwhile, Harvesting Hope is aligned with the UAE's commitment to achieving net zero emissions by 2050.

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

9-15

“Do the tacks hold the ham together?”

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable, and the bidding has gone:

West	North	East	South
1♦	Pass	Pass	?

What (if anything) would you bid with each of the following five hands?

- ♠874♥K93♦AJ9♣KJ82
- ♠K65♥QJ6♦AQ8♣KQ73
- ♠KJ932♥1085♦10♣KJ64
- ♠J43♥AK7♦KQ9874♣3
- ♠AKQJ3♥AJ4♦63♣KQ6

1. **One notrump.** When you are in the balancing seat — that is, when the opponents have stopped bidding at a low level and it would be over if you passed — you are allowed to make bids that do not meet the usual requirements for the same bid made in a different situation. Here, the one-notrump overcall does not promise the normal complement of 15 to 18 points, but instead indicates 11 to 14. If a player in the balancing position actually has a stronger notrump hand, he must double first and bid notrump later.

2. **Double.** If you were North — immediately behind the opening bidder — you would overcall West's one-diamond bid with one notrump. But since you are in the balancing seat, you cannot bid one notrump because partner would expect you to have 11 to 14 points, as in the previous problem. Instead, you should double, planning to bid notrump your next turn.

3. **One spade.** Even though your hand would not qualify for a vulnerable overall if you were in the North position, here it is better to bid one spade than to pass. Partner probably has at least 10 points, which gives you a good shot at making a partscore. You'd lose this opportunity if you elected to pass one diamond.

4. **Pass.** Your best chance for a significant plus score lies in letting West play the hand in one diamond. The fact that you have the values for an opening bid does not mean that you must take action at this point. West will probably go down two or three tricks in one diamond — 200 or 300 points — which could well be the best result available. Note that you cannot double, since this would be for takeout.

5. **Double.** Here you have values that are completely independent of your being in the balancing seat. If you were North, you would double, and as South you should take exactly the same action. True, your double is suspect when you are in the balancing position, but you plan to take strong action at your next turn to identify your actual strength. It is much better to double than to bid two spades, which is strength-showing in the balancing position, but not forcing.

Tomorrow: Afterthoughts don't count. ©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

9-15 CRYPTOQUIP

R JY M ZN LZNU BNKKYBZRJX
 ZNJL NG QRLFYLL PJM
 QYBNQM PKFOEL. R'E QOJJRJX
 NOZ NG MRLB LUPBY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A GUY LENDS A HELPING HAND TO A BAND OF FOUR-STRING GUITAR PLAYERS, HE ASSISTS BASSISTS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Pool unit	1 Hide-aways
4 — Diego	2 Pester
7 "Mortal Kombat" agent	3 "Cry, the Beloved Country" author
12 Comedian	4 Meeting, in slang
13 Author Umberto	5 Find not guilty
14 City-related	6 Subjects, usually
15 Bankbook abbr.	7 Beer, slangily
16 Survival drama series for which Lee Jung-jae won an Emmy	8 URL ending
18 Aussie hopper	9 Cagers' gp.
19 Quests	10 Orange tuber
20 "Auld Lang —"	11 Chemical suffix
22 British verb ending	17 Thing
23 Casual shirt	
27 Diner order	
29 Like Zorro or Batman	
31 Yarns	
34 Stickum	
35 Needing change	
37 Cardinal cap letters	21 Critic Roger
38 Lion's share	23 Sacred song
39 — Dhabi	24 Approves
41 Creche trio	25 Allow
45 Door handles	26 Praise in verse
47 Aries	28 Baton Rouge sch.
48 Kin of three-card monte	30 Suitable
52 UFO fliers	31 Country singer
53 Equine	32 Year in Madrid
54 StubHub buys, slangily	33 Opener at Vegas?
55 "The Bells" writer	36 Tart flavor
56 Diminish	37 Hand in
57 Messy room	40 Marina sights
58 Illustrations	42 Venezuelan corn patty
	43 Croc's kin
	44 "No more for me, thanks"
	45 Swiss artist Paul
	46 Hot
	48 — Na Na
	49 Mischief
	50 Notable time
	51 U.S. military vessel

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 9-15

Peanuts

A PRIVATE SCHOOL MIGHT DO ME A LOT OF GOOD, CHUCK

I MIGHT EVEN BECOME ONE OF THE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE! WOULDN'T THAT BE SOMETHING?

I CAN SEE YOU NOW IN A WHITE BLOUSE AND A BLUE SKIRT RUNNING OUT TO PLAY FIELD HOCKEY...

DON'T HASSLE ME WITH YOUR SARCASM, CHUCK!

Rose is Rose

I AM CHOOSING TO IGNORE THE REQUESTS OF THE "TUNA FISH GUILD."

Agnes

WHAT THE...?

HAMSTER BUNK BEDS FOR NAP TIME AT THE HAMSTER DAY CARE CENTER

IT LOOKS LIKE OLD MUFFIN PANS ON THE WALL.

REPURPOSED AS SLEEPING PODS FOR TINY TUCKERED-OUT HAMSTERS.

AREN'T YOU WORRIED THEY WILL FALL OUT?

I DIDN'T WASH THEM. THEY'RE STILL STICKY.

Hi and Lois

THOSE GIRLS ARE SO CLIQUE-Y AND MEAN.

SO WHY AM I ATTRACTED TO THEM?

THEY'RE GIRLS.

Between Friends

THIS CHAIR YOGA THING'S NOT SO BAD

Blondie

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE HALFWAY THROUGH SEPTEMBER!

TIME SURE FLIES!

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'LL BE SURPRISING ME WITH HALLOWEEN, THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

WAIT! HALLOWEEN AND THANKSGIVING GIFTS?

IT WAS WORTH A SHOT, DEAR

Snuffy Smith

KICK!

WOW!! I GUESS YA GOT YORE ANSWER L'I'L TATER!!

OL' SUKEY DOES NOT WANNA SHARE HER STALL WIF YORE HOSS!!

Beetle Bailey

I'VE BEEN THINKING...

WHY START NOW?

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UNC's Brown won't apologize to NCAA

By **CHIP ALEXANDER**
The News & Observer
Tribune News Service

North Carolina football coach Mack Brown is not apologizing for any of his remarks concerning wide receiver Tez Walker and the NCAA's handling of his eligibility case.

The NCAA on Tuesday released a statement criticizing UNC leaders for comments about Walker and the NCAA's rulings. The NCAA says serious, possibly criminal threats had been received by some committee members who dealt with the case and the decision to deny Walker immediate eligibility as a two-time transfer.

Brown, on a media call Wednesday, said:

"I'm not going to apologize for standing up and trying to do what's best for our young person, and making sure that he understands we have exhausted every possibility that we can to help him.

"Because if we haven't, then we're not doing our job. And none of this was to

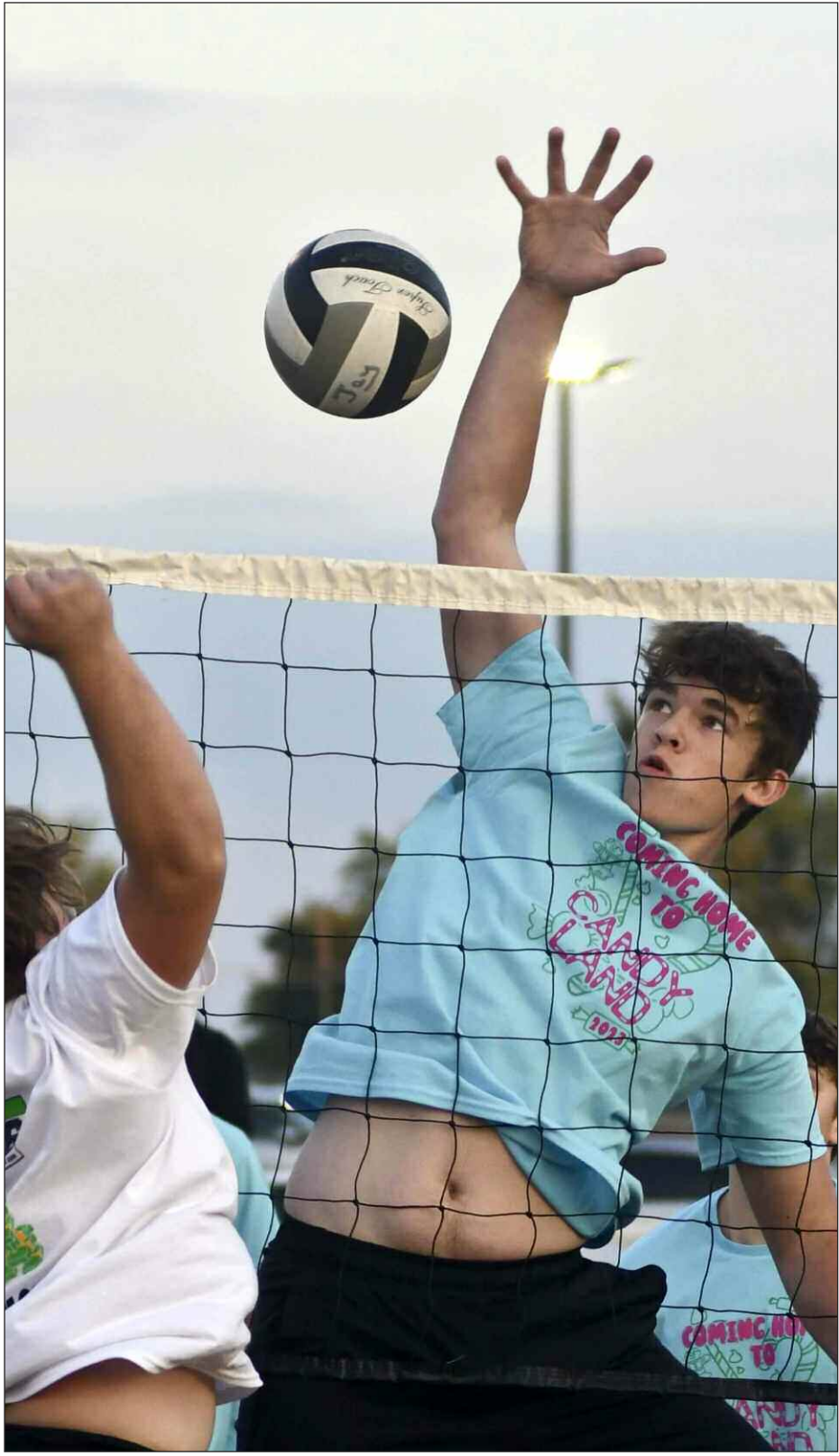
embarrass anybody, to get anybody threats. The only thing we've done is take up for our player. And I'm very proud of that. And if I had to do it over again, I'd do exactly the same thing. ...

"We're standing up for a player who we feel like was treated poorly and there was lack of judgment."

Brown publicly lashed out at the NCAA last week when the Committee for Legislative Relief ruled Walker would not be eligible this season, ending a statement by saying, "Shame on you, NCAA. SHAME ON YOU!"

UNC's board of trustees held an emergency meeting Monday to discuss all options concerning the Walker situation, including legal options.

The NCAA noted all 32 Division I conferences voted in favor of stricter eligibility waivers for two-time transfers. In its statement, it said some coaches had urged "vociferously" that the move be made, adding Brown.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

On the attack

Carter Wellman of the junior class takes a swing at the ball during the volleyball match as part of Wednesday's spirit night festivities. The juniors defeated the sophomores but went on to lose to the seniors in the championship match.

Grass ...

Continued from page 8

"I'm a fan of grass, for sure. Got to admit that. I like wearing seven studs and playing on grass, but I feel like the field — it's supposedly the newest and the greatest," he said. "There's obviously been a lot of conversation around grass field compared to turf field, but I feel like the other night, it's been one of the best surfaces I've seen that's artificial."

Rodgers, a four-time league MVP, was acquired from the Green Bay Packers during the offseason and anticipation was high for his regular-season Jets debut. ESPN reports the season opener between the Jets and Buffalo Bills drew 22.64 million viewers, making it the most-watched "Monday Night Football" broadcast since the network started showing the weekly games in 2006.

Checkup ...

Continued from page 8

In Anderson's 3-2 victory over the Belles, Montes logged 62 minutes on the pitch. Her only shot came two-thirds of the way through the match. The shot missed the goal high and to the right.

All three of the Ravens' goals

were scored in the final ten minutes to complete the comeback-victory.

Kyndall Ferguson netted the first goal at the 80:35 minute mark.

The second goal was scored by Lauren Brown unassisted less than 30 seconds later.

The game looked as if it was going to end in a tie before Bakah Blair broke it. Her goal went to the back of the net with only 39 seconds remaining in the game.

Whitley Rammel Fort Recovery - 2022

Found herself back on the court for a set in East Tennessee State's 20-25, 25-15, 25-19, 25-12 loss to the Davidson Wildcats on Saturday.

It was Rammel's first time back on the court since she started the match against Ohio State on Aug. 27.

The Buccaneers just didn't have enough firepower to take down Davidson in the match. The Wildcats finished with 12 more kills than ETSU, and were led by Jackie Bardin with 18. Mia Compas and Sola Omonije both had nine for Davidson as well.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Football vs. Bluffton — 7:30 p.m.; Junior High cross country at Selma — 4:45 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Girls golf Sectional at Crestview Golf Club — 9 a.m.; Cross country Yorktown Jim Leffler Invite — 10 a.m.; Boys soccer at Woodlan — 10 a.m.; Girls soccer at Woodlan — 12 p.m.; Junior High coed tennis at Hagerstown — 9 a.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys golf Nate Niekamp at Mercer County Elks — 9 a.m.; Football at Delphos St. John — 1:30 p.m.; Cross Country Troy Twilight at Troy — 9 a.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Anso-

nia — 10 a.m.

TV sports

Today
5:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Virginia at Maryland (FS1)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Army at UTSA (ESPN)

Saturday
5:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Singapore Grand Prix (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — NCAA Football: Penn State at Illinois (FOX)
12 p.m. — NCAA Football: LSU at Mississippi State (ESPN)

12 p.m. — NCAA Football: Florida State at Boston College (ABC)
12 p.m. — NCAA Football: Louisville at Indiana (BTN)
12 p.m. — NCAA Football: Wake Forest at Old Dominion (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — NCAA Football: North Dakota at Boise State (FS1)
3:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: South Carolina at Georgia (CBS)
3:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Western Michigan at Iowa (BTN)
3:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Minnesota at North Carolina (ESPN)
3:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Alabama at South Florida (ABC)
3:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Oklahoma at Tulsa (ESPN2)
4 p.m. — NCAA Football: Western

Kentucky at Ohio State (FOX)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Tennessee at Florida (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Northern Illinois at Nebraska (FS1)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: BYU at Arkansas (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Bowling Green at Michigan (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Syracuse at Purdue (NBC)
8 p.m. — NCAA Football: Pitt at West Virginia (ABC)
8 p.m. — NCAA Football: TCU at Houston (FOX)
10 p.m. — NCAA Football: Colorado State at Colorado (ESPN)
10:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Fresno State at Arizona State (FS1)

Local notes

Turkey Trot Signup
Cooper Farms will be hosting its 16th annual Turkey Trot Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant in St. Henry, Ohio.
Participation costs \$15. All proceeds benefit EverHeart Hospice.
The Race will begin at 10 a.m. There will be splits at each mile of the 3.1-mile course. There will also be chip timing for participants operated by Speedy Feet.
Water will be provided throughout the race, as well as a to-go turkey meal at the end.
You can register by visiting <http://bit.ly/cooperfarmsturkeytrot>, or registration will open at 9 a.m. at Cooper

Farms on the day of the race.

Hunt applications

Hunters can apply for a variety of reserved hunts by visiting on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.
Applications for the following hunts can only be applied for online. They include waterfowl and deer hunts in fish and wildlife areas, deer hunts on state park property, November game bird area hunts, Indiana private land access hunts, and December game bird area hunts.
Applications are due Sept. 24 by 11:59 p.m.
.....
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

90 SALE CALENDAR

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Located : 309 West Main Street, Portland IN.
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10 a.m.
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TRACT 1 - 40 acres located in Section 20 at the corner of CR 300 E and 500 N. There are 38.79 acres of mostly level tillable land with 1.21 acres of roadway.
TRACT 2 - 67.54 acres located in Section 32 on CR 400 E. There are 30.97 acres of tillable land along with 31.5 acres of Classified Forest and balance in ditch and roadway.
TRACT 3 - 95.832 acres located in Section 29 with an address of 3402 N 400 E. There are 62.32 acres of slightly sloping tillable land, 27.58 acres in woods with the balance in ditch and scrub. This tract also has an easement for a utility tower.
For more information please contact GARY LOY, AUCTIONEER at (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, BROKER at (260) 726-2700.
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By Mike Landers and Pam Hart, Trustees

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LOCATED: 8256 W 550 N. Pennville, Indiana
MOBILE HOME - UTILITY SHED
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Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 3430 W ST RD 67. PORTLAND, IN
ANTIQUES-COLLECTIBLES
3- Tokheim gas pumps, large round porcelain Gulf sign, Mobil gas porcelain sign, Mailpouch porcelain thermometer/sign, Royal Crown Cola sign, Broom maker (from Portland), motor oil cans, oil cans, porcelain light shades, pulleys, Ford Model T door, windshield and radiator, corn jobber, trunks.
TRUCK - TRACTOR - FARM EQUIPMENT - MISC
1976 Dodge step side little red express pickup truck, Allis Chalmers D17 series 3 tractor with rear weights (parts), large lot of riding and push mowers for parts, shop and industrial equipment.
LARGE AUCTION: Several items not mentioned.
LARRY STULTS

90 SALE CALENDAR

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FRHS grad drives win

After a rough week, Paige Fortkamp found a way to bounce back.

Following her five-game stretch with only 28 kills, she earned 11 in the University of Saint Francis' 25-18, 15-25, 25-18, 26-24 win over the Goshen College Maple Leafs.

Her 11 kills were the most for the Cougars and only trailed Goshen's Sadie Brenneman who had 17.

St. Francis moves to 5-2 when Fortkamp nets double-digit kills, while the team is 0-5 when she is held to single digits.

Fortkamp committed five hitting errors on 31 attacks, to earn her a 14.6% overall hitting percentage.

She also had six assists and three digs in the match.

Anhely Montes Jay County - 2020

Took two shots as the Anderson University Ravens split a pair of games against Huntington and St. Mary's College.

Montes played 57 minutes in the Ravens' 1-0 loss to Huntington. She took her shot 10:15 into the game, with the ball sailing wide left of the goal.

The sole goal of the match was scored 67:18 into the contest.

See Checkup page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Sophie snags it

As part of Jay County High School spirit night activities Wednesday, the seniors defeated the juniors 8-0 in the powderpuff football championship game. Pictured, Sophie Saxman of the seniors leaps to make a catch. Saxman scored the game-winning touchdown on a fumble return, with Brenna Haines running in the 2-point conversion.

NFLPA calls for grass fields

Players association wants to eliminate turf

By **CHUCK SCHLIKEN**
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Two days after New York Jets quarterback Aaron Rodgers suffered a season-ending Achilles tendon injury on artificial turf, the NFL Players Assn. called for the league to switch to all-grass playing surfaces.

It is not clear what role, if any, the playing surface had in Rodgers' injury Monday at MetLife Stadium, but the cries to replace all synthetic playing surfaces with natural grass have suddenly gotten much louder since the mishap that occurred four snaps into Rodgers' tenure with the Jets.

NFLPA executive director Lloyd Howell made such a demand Wednesday morning in a statement that didn't specifically mention the 39-year-old Rodgers or his injury.

"Moving all stadium fields to high-quality natural grass surfaces is the easiest decision the NFL can make," Howell said. "The players overwhelmingly prefer it and the data is clear that grass is simply safer than artificial turf. It is an issue that has been near the top of the players' list during my team visits and one I have raised with the NFL."

"While we know there

is an investment to making this change, there is a bigger cost to everyone in our business if we keep losing our best players to unnecessary injuries. It makes no sense that stadiums can flip over to superior grass surfaces when the World Cup comes, or soccer clubs come to visit for exhibition games in the summer, but inferior artificial surfaces are acceptable for our own players. This is worth the investment and it simply needs to change now."

The NFL has not issued a response to the NFLPA's statement regarding the playing surfaces.

Last season, the NFLPA called for teams that used a specific type of synthetic surface, known as slit film, to replace it because of "statistically higher in-game injury rates compared to all other surfaces."

MetLife Stadium, which serves as the home field for both the Jets and the New York Giants, switched from the slit film surface to one called FieldTurf during the off-season.

The new, more-forgiving synthetic surface received generally positive reviews from Jets players, including Rodgers, during the pre-season.

See Grass page 7



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