

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Ordinance changes sought by council

Plans call for minimum fee, stopping trash pick-up

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

REDKEY — More changes may be coming to Redkey's ordinances.

Redkey Town Council discussed various ordinances and agreed to move forward with making some amendments during a nearly two-and-a-half-hour meeting Thursday.

Council agreed to require the minimum wastewater fee for properties hooked up to the town's wastewater service. It also agreed to stop a property's trash pickup if their water service is shut off.

Council member Brenda Beaty brought up the discussion by addressing residents hooked up to water and wastewater lines despite their services being turned off. She suggested residents either pay a monthly fee or have a plumber cap off their access.

"I want to put a motion on the floor that we ... address the sewer fees of homes that are not paying their fair share of the stuff being hooked up and allowing runoff to run into our sewer system," she said.

Beaty suggested charging the minimum water fee and the minimum wastewater fee. Town employee Randy Young noted the town can't charge property owners for water if they are not using it. If a property owner is connected to the wastewater lines, though, they can be charged a minimum fee, he added. If the property owner doesn't want to pay that fee, Young continued, they may have their access capped off at the property line on the town's side.

"That should help you be able to see if there is some other house that is flowing into this (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) issue, right?" said Beaty, noting the town's failure to meet last year's deadline for dealing with combined sewer overflows (CSOs).

Redkey was granted an extension and now has until Dec. 31 to update its CSO Long Term Control Plan and address the two CSOs. (One starts near Union Street, and the other originates in a rural part of the county just north of town and lets out near Main and George streets.) Choice One Engineering is conducting a master utility study for the town, which should be completed by the summer. While it will name the CSOs as a priority project, it won't create a plan for their removal.

Council, with "Watermellon" Jim Phillips dissenting, agreed to move forward with the change.

Clerk-treasurer Gloria May also noted a property owner has not paid their water bill that is now at more than \$1,400 and has had their water services disconnected, but they are still utilizing wastewater and trash services.

See **Changes** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Classic performance

Barbershop quartet Instant Classic — brothers Kohl Kitzmiller and Kyle Kitzmiller, Theo Hicks and David Zimmerman — performed Thursday night at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place in Portland to close the 2024 Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series. The group performed a variety of tunes, from Billy Joel's "Lullaby" to "You've Got a Friend in Me" from the movie "Toy Story." Hicks' wife Laura, the daughter of Pete and Lisa Vogler, is a rural Portland native and Jay County High School graduate.



Russia, China veto resolution

By LAURA KING and TRACY WILKINSON

Los Angeles Times Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — Russia and China on Friday vetoed a U.S.-backed resolution calling for an "immediate and sustained" cease-fire in the Gaza Strip — a turnabout from previous U.S. vetoes of measures aiming to bring a halt to nearly six months of fighting between Israel and the militant group Hamas.

The vote came as Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken was in the midst of his latest mission to the region since the war broke

U.S.-backed proposal would have called for 'immediate and sustained' cease-fire

out following a Hamas-led attack on Israel in October.

The diplomatic moves come at a tense juncture. The Biden administration has been on an increasingly combative footing with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu over the conduct of Israel's offensive,

which has killed at least 32,000 Palestinians in Gaza, according to Gazan health officials.

The Security Council resolution, in calling for an immediate halt to fighting, was meant to facilitate urgently needed deliveries of humanitarian aid to Gaza, where

international groups have warned of looming famine in the northern part of the narrow Mediterranean enclave.

Nearly all of Gaza's 2.3 million people have been displaced from their homes and large swaths of the territory have been flattened by intense Israeli

bombardment. Disease and hunger are rampant.

But the U.S.-backed effort broke down over Russia's accusations that the U.S., Israel's staunchest ally, was "misleading" the international community through some of the language contained in the resolution. The wording, which stressed the "imperative" for a cease-fire, also backed diplomatic efforts to secure the freedom of remaining hostages among some 250 people seized during the Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7 that killed about 1,200 people.

See **Veto** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Coach pass

Jay County High School volleyball coach makes a pass during a match Wednesday evening as part of student-teacher game night in the auxiliary gym.

At least 40 dead after terrorist attack

By HANNAH WAGNER and ULF MAUDER

dpa Tribune News Service

MOSCOW — The terrorist militia Islamic State has claimed responsibility for the attack in the Moscow region on Friday which left at least 40 people dead and at least 145 people injured, the Islamic State mouthpiece Amaq Agency reported, citing unnamed sources.

A security source told Amaq Agency: "Islamic State fighters attacked a large gathering of Christians in the city of Krasnogorsk on the outskirts of the Russian capital, Moscow, killing and wounding hundreds and causing great destruction to the place before they withdrew to their bases safely."

Russia's FSB domestic intelligence agency earlier said that

Russian authorities suspected a terrorist attack.

Unidentified men wearing camouflage clothing stormed the Crocus City Hall on Friday shortly before the start of a concert in the city of Krasnogorsk, north-west of Moscow, and opened fire, the Russian Prosecutor General's Office said.

Russian media had previously reported gunshots and the sound of explosions in the Crocus City Hall and dozens of dead and injured. The victims are said to be both employees and visitors to the concert hall. The Russian rock band Piknik had been scheduled to perform on Friday evening.

There are thousands of seats in the auditorium. Blazing flames and a huge cloud of smoke could be seen at the building. The roof has reportedly collapsed.

Deaths

Evelyn Green, 92, Portland
Emilie Steveson, 84, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature topped out at 41 degrees Friday in Jay County. The low was 30.

Expect a high in the low 40s today followed by a low in the mid 20s tonight. Skies will be mostly sunny Sunday with a high in the upper 30s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay School Corporation is seeking input as it begins the process of hiring its next athletics director. A survey is available at bit.ly/JayADSurvey2024. The deadline to fill out the survey is April 8.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the Fort Recovery baseball season opener.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.





Photo provided

Oratorical contest

Jay County Optimist clubs held their county oratorical contest March 18 at Jay County Christian Academy. Pictured above from left are finalists Adelee Rigby, Anna Fisher, Londyn Cavanaugh, Alyha Gilbert, Leah Steed and Benjamin Mahon, and alternates Colby Retter, Angelina Geesaman and Adam Keesler. The district oratorical contest will be April 11 at Jay County Christian Academy.

Best friend hurt that football ritual has changed

DEAR ABBY: My best friend since the 9th grade and I have always watched NFL football on Sundays. We have watched through the births of my children (he is the godfather to both; they are now adults), deaths in the family — everything. He has never married or had a significant other. He is very family-oriented, though. He has two sisters and two brothers.

Two years ago, his siblings

Dear Abby



moved to other states. It was a very sad time for him. The bond I thought would never be broken now has been. I completely

understand his visiting them during Thanksgiving, Christmas and any special event, but my view is, besides those visits, he could see them at any time during the entire six-month off-season from football.

When I said this, he told me things have changed, and although he has been back both summers, he tells me it's cooler and more pleasant to visit them in autumn. Of course, I am the

one who drives him to the airport every time. I truly miss my best friend on those Sundays. I'm hurt and would like your advice on what I can do. — LONELY SPORTS FAN OUT WEST

DEAR SPORTS FAN: I understand your sadness and hurt feelings, but it's time to start accepting reality. Your friend has explained that his family circumstances have changed, and you must accept

it. The changes in his circumstances have nothing to do with you and everything to do with his desire to stay connected to his siblings.

It's time to become proactive. Your next step should be to find ANOTHER sports fan who can watch (or attend) these sporting events with you, which will help to fill the void that now exists on football Sundays.

Community Calendar

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

Today

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — Will be

played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

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

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

Tuesday

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

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

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday

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

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

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

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at

6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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 Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

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

LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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.

**Sunday
March 24
2-4pm**

*Retirement
Reception for*
**Dr. Mark A.
Haggens**

*At Arts Place in
Portland, Indiana*

Nuclear energy derailed by politics

Las Vegas Review-Journal
Tribune News Service

In many ways, nuclear energy and renewable energy are the inverse of each other. One is reliable and efficient, but has a terrible reputation and faces onerous government regulations. The other is unreliable and inefficient but is widely popular and receives many government advantages.

Reason.com has released a documentary on "The political sabotage of nuclear energy." It's a fascinating overview of how misguided environmentalists derailed the clean energy of the future through opportunistic fearmongering.

"The United States knows that peaceful power from atom-

Guest Editorial

ic energy is no dream of the future," President Dwight D. Eisenhower said in his 1953 "Atoms of Peace" speech. "The capability, already proved, is here today. Who can doubt that, if the entire body of the world's scientists and engineers had adequate amounts of fissionable material with which to test and develop their ideas, this capability would rapidly be transformed into

universal, efficient and economic usage?"

Between 1967 and 1972, the country saw the construction of 48 nuclear plants. The future of cheap and reliable energy looked bright.

But the green movement pushed a false narrative linking nuclear power to the dangers and destructive capabilities of the atomic bomb. Then, in 1979, a meltdown occurred at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania. "The China Syndrome," a fictional movie about a nuclear plant on the verge of an accident and the attempted cover-up, had just come out.

This was an opening leftists coveted. Their anti-nuclear cru-

sade was widely successful at turning public opinion against nuclear power. New regulations stifled the industry, let alone innovation. Energy providers didn't build a single nuclear power plant for two decades.

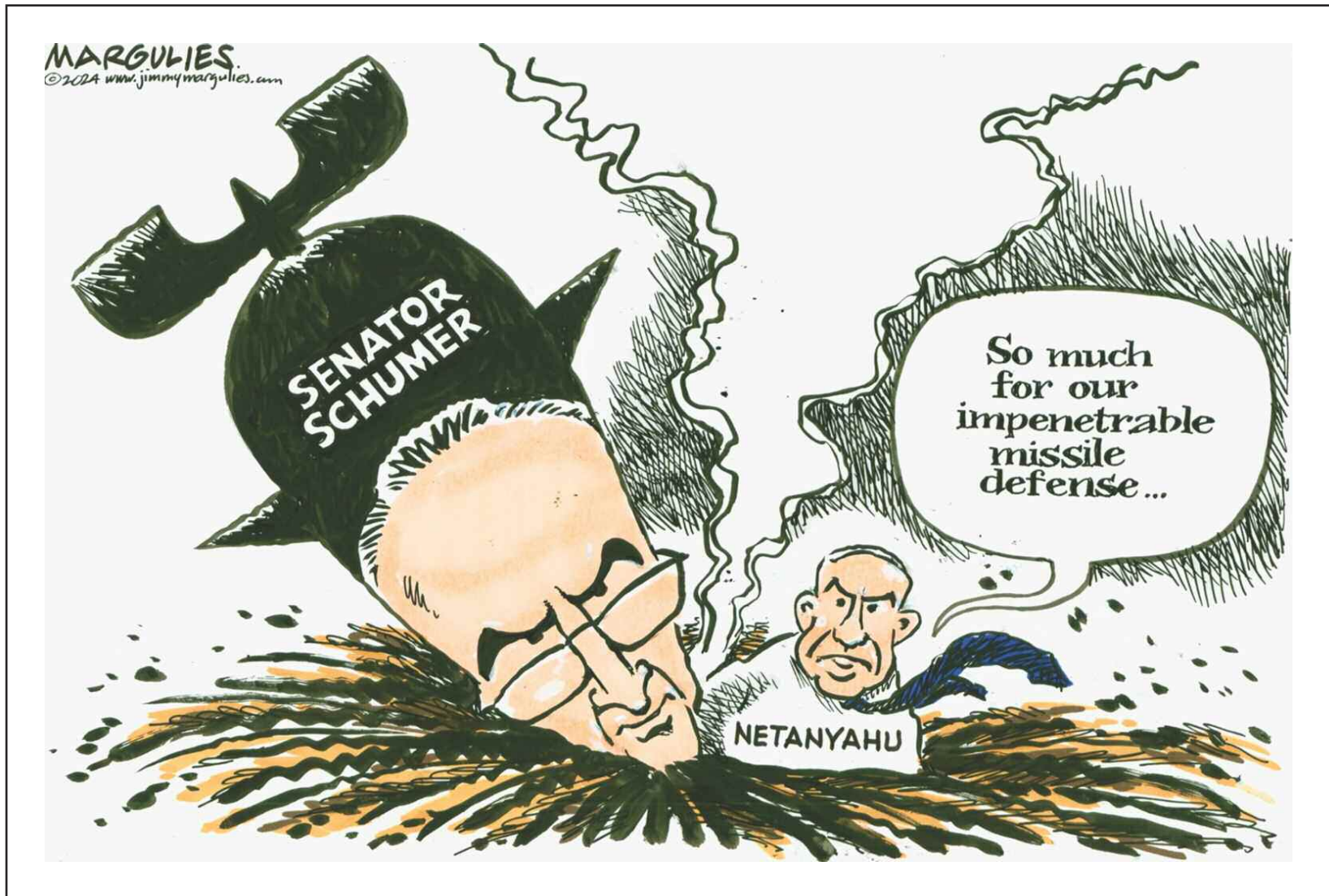
It's worth remembering that there were no deaths or injuries in the Three Mile Island incident. Also, there were "no adverse effects to the surrounding environment," the Department of Energy concluded.

In place of nuclear, environmental activists pushed renewable energy, such as solar and wind power. Those energy sources enjoy untold political advantages, including heavy government subsidies and mandates. Wind and solar are widely

popular, but they are unreliable, even as government handouts have artificially lowered their costs.

There are challenges to nuclear power, not the least of which is waste disposal. But nuclear reactors have a long track record in this country of reliability and safety. The second reactor at Three Mile Island produced power until 2019. In 2022, nuclear energy provided 18.2 percent of the country's electricity. Solar and wind provided 3.4 percent and 10.2 percent respectively.

Progressives like to talk about following "the science." For decades, they have been ignoring their own advice when it comes to clean nuclear energy.



Ideological chasm is going to remain

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

The debate over ideological diversity on campus won't end with Senate Bill 202. Also, the heart of the issue isn't what most people think. It doesn't fit easily into ideological labels of conservative or liberal, and it isn't about political party. The issue is not about gender, race or ethnicity, or the mix of ideas discussed on campus. It isn't about acknowledging lingering discrimination, recognizing the ugly parts of American history, or even choosing the right tactics to promote equality.

Many folks would like to make these claims, but the issues are far more fundamental, and far different, than we've seen in any American institution for a very long time. The central fight over ideological bias on campus involves two competing visions of the world. One view reflects the founding principles of the Constitution; the second is wholly different and incompatible with the Constitution.

In the first view, the individual is at the center of morality and law. In this view, we are each unique beings, created equal and responsible for our individual actions. That still-radical idea came to us from the Enlightenment, though some of us find it in our faith tradition. It took political form in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the bodies of laws that built upon them.

In the second view, classes of people, not the individual, are at the center of morality and law. In this view, individuals are irrelevant unless they are mobilized by class interests in a struggle for

Michael J. Hicks



political and economic power. The goal of that struggle is to dismantle the structures of oppression, colonization and exclusion. This view comes to us through an early 20th century branch of German Marxism, and has today become known as Critical Theory.

Many readers will have heard of Critical Race Theory or CRT as part of the culture wars. Critical Theory is a much broader ideology. Marxism focused on economic classes such as the proletariat and bourgeoisie. Critical theory adds to them intersections of race, ethnicity, and an expanding list to include queerness, body weight, trauma experience and the like. Critical Theory claims that the more a class is oppressed, the more merit it must possess and the greater its moral vision. As individuals, we are irrelevant and disposable. Only our intersectional class matters.

The debates on campus speech and ideology are really a struggle between these two wholly incompatible worldviews. Conflict is not only certain, but necessary.

Speech rules on public university campuses are derived from the first view, because the Constitution offers no alternative. In contrast, admissions, hiring, promotion and tenure are heavily controlled by the use of Critical

Theory. In many campuses you cannot be admitted, hired, tenured or promoted without pledging commitment to Critical Theory.

To be clear, I'm not talking about classroom teaching. The same freedom of expression required by our Constitution permits professors to teach Marxist and Critical Theory in classrooms. That is where ideas are challenged and succeed or fail on their merits. In contrast, Critical Theory explicitly views freedom of speech as a tool of the oppressors. As intended, this closes debate on campus.

Our culture wars are the direct result of this longstanding divide on campus. I also think much of the current political chasms stem from the use of Critical Theory as campus policy on admissions, hiring, funding, programming, tenure and promotion. Let me provide a concrete example.

In the late 1970s, as I grew into adulthood, women faced considerable discrimination. In higher education, to their credit, universities not only preached equality, but also practiced it. By the time I entered college in 1980, America's colleges were evenly split by gender. Occupations once closed to women began to open, first begrudgingly, then quickly. Facts and experience changed minds. It was a huge national achievement.

Today's college students inhabit a wholly different world. At Ball State, two out of every three students are women, and women earn almost seven out of 10 degrees. This is roughly the national average.

As institutions, universities rarely preach equality. Worse

still, they don't even attempt to practice equality. For example, men don't just attend to Ball State at lower rates, they are also accepted by the university at much lower rates.

Yes, it is likely that young men applying to Ball State are less qualified. After all, the use of Critical Theory in K-12 schools is downstream from the colleges that train teachers. But, men are now under-represented minorities, much in the way women were in the 1950s. Any discussion of this is off limits. One consequence is that Ball State, like other Hoosier schools, discriminates against men.

There are many small examples, or "microaggressions," in the language of Critical Theory. One obvious example are several scholarships available only to women in that bastion of male supremacy—nursing. This continues because campus diversity efforts aren't aimed at diversity. They exist to indoctrinate Critical Theory. Young men are the wrong class of students.

The campus message young men receive today is drastically different from the message of equality I received 40 years ago. Many find themselves being told that to be part of a campus community, they must reject outdated visions of masculinity. They are told that an objection to this is simply nostalgia for a time when their class had power. These bizarre examples are drawn directly from training offered to young men at my campus.

I write this firmly believing Ball State is better than most

schools on these issues, but that is far from sufficient.

After my last column on SB 202, one young man offered me this eloquent view of graduate school in Indiana: "... it was an incredibly stifling environment for anyone exploring alternative viewpoints, or even just expressing honestly held beliefs that didn't quite vibe with the consensus. At the time, as a privileged White man, I felt this was justified b/c quite frankly, didn't we deserve to be humbled into adherence? But in retrospect, NO, that's absolutely not okay, nor conducive to the mission of higher education, and although I believe the program truly opened my eyes to other viewpoints, I also believe that my own creative pursuits suffered as a result of the stifling environment."

This testimony should embarrass and humble every faculty member in the state.

The reluctance of universities and faculty to even admit a problem is why we see the legislatures addressing these issues in Indiana and nationwide. While many faculty members fear these laws as an attack by conservative legislators, they are mistaken.

The actual challenge to the use of Critical Theory as a guide to university admissions, hiring, promotions and tenure doesn't come from some right-wing conspiracy. It comes from the timeless words of Thomas Jefferson, and the Constitution.

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

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3-23 CRYPTOQUIP

Z P P Q Q C Y U N H G A H P M P T
I H N A O Q W V G N C Y C M A Y Y S U O W Y
U N V Y A W B I W B B Y W M Q A W N P A
U W N Q Y : G Y V U O H U Z H T A Y .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT SOMEBODY CALL BIRDS OF A FEATHER THAT VERY LITERALLY STICK TOGETHER? VEL-CROWS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals G

Trivial Review (Answers are printed below, upside down.)
Tourney time
1) What team finished third the most times in the NCAA men's basketball tournament?
2) Of the coaches with five or more Final Four appearances, only three made it with multiple schools. Who are they?

3-25 CRYPTOQUIP

Z E B W Y W F Y M S B Z U B B J C C F
B Z J F B Y A X Y G U O Y C N U M E N
J A H W B E Y M : " N U M X Y H G J J C
B Z J C U O U B Y M E S Z B ? "

Saturday's Cryptoquip: GOOD DESCRIPTION OF BIRTHDAY PRESENTS SUCH AS CRYSTAL BALLS AND TAROT CARDS: PSYCHIC GIFTS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals P

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to agriculture.
A. 11 22 19 20 8 18 11 24 17
B. 15 5 16 18
C. 10 20 1 11 13 17 12 6 7
D. 9 5 16 1 11 13 17

WORD SCRAMBLE
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to agriculture.
C P O S R

kids' corner
This season is a notable period for animal births.

What's the Difference?
There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B.
A: Cat on counter, 4. Left cabinet is wood
B: Missing tea kettle, 2. Extra vase

THIS DAY IN...
HISTORY
1806: CONSTRUCTION IS AUTHORIZED ON THE GREAT NATIONAL PIKE...
1927: SUNBEAM 1000HP BREAKS THE LAND SPEED RECORD AT DAYTONA BEACH.
1973: THE LAST UNITED STATES COMBAT SOLDIERS LEAVE SOUTH VIETNAM.

ON THE FARM WORD SEARCH
WORDS: ACRE, AERIAL, AEROPONICS, AGRICULTURAL, AGROECOLOGY, BALE, BIODYNAMIC, BORDER, BROADCAST, BUCKING, BUSHEL, CALVES, CARRYOVER, COMPOST, CULTIVATION, CYCLE, FARMING, FIELDS, GRAINS, IRRIGATION, LAND, ORGANIC, PESTICIDE, SEEDING.

ANIMAL FACT:
THIS SEASON IS A NOTABLE PERIOD FOR ANIMAL BIRTHS.

How they SAY that in...
ENGLISH: Bud
SPANISH: Capullo
ITALIAN: Bocciole
FRENCH: Bourgeon
GERMAN: Knospe

Did You Know?
MANY EARLY SPRINGTIME FLOWERS ARE BULBS, INCLUDING CROCUSES, HYACINTHS AND SNOWDROPS.

GET THE PICTURE?
Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 36 Vast, 37 Rock, 5 Tower, 9 Cranberry territory, 12 Japanese noodle, 13 Cries of aversion, 14 Vegetable peeler brand, 15 Optimum, 16 Beans go-with, 17 Wye follower, 18 Merit badge holder, 19 Expert, 20 Charged bits, 21 Supplement, with "out", 23 Samovar, 25 Hand in, 28 Country star West, 32 Viny shelter, 33 Swindler, 34 Outdoor meal.
DOWN: 5 Bashful, 11 Lavish party, 15 "Maureen" singer, 18 Vats, 2 Classic theaters, 3 Singer Diana, 4 Placing first, second or third, 5 Thing on a string, 6 Inventor Sikorsky, 7 Cloak, 8 Request head, 10 Yoked team, 11 Leaves, 20 Being produced, 22 Japanese beer, 24 Golfer Mediate, 25 Tree fluid, 26 Mentalist Geller, 27 Telly network, 29 Bubble, 30 Actor McKellen, 31 UFO pilots, 35 Twosome, 36 Yam color, 39 Bits of butter, 40 Nevada neighbor, 41 Not even one, 43 Deli array, 45 Prefix with byte, 46 "Metamorphoses" poet, 47 Being, to Brutus, 49 Broadway opener?

Solution time: 26 mins.

Grid for crossword puzzle solution.

Yesterday's answer 3-23

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A necessary assumption

South dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH: A J, A 10 5, K 7 5, A J 10 7 6. WEST: Q 9 7 5 3, 6 4, 6 2, Q 8 4 3. EAST: K 8 6 4, 7 3 2, J 9 4 3, K 2. SOUTH: 10 2, K Q J 9 8, A Q 10 8, 9 5. The bidding: South 1♥, West Pass, North 3♠, East Pass. Opening lead — five of spades. It is a basic principle of play that when a contract can be made only if the defenders' cards are distributed in a particular way, you must assume that the required distribution exists. Take this case where West leads a spade against South's six-heart contract. At first glance the slam looks hopeless since the loss of a spade and a club appears to be preordained.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: A 7 5 4, A 5, 6 5, A K 10 4 2. WEST: Q 9 2, K J 10 8 7 6 4, K, 9 8. EAST: —, Q 9 3 2, J 10 7 4 2, J 7 6 3. SOUTH: K J 10 8 6 3, A Q 9 8 3, Q 5. The bidding: South 1♠, West 2♥, North 3♠, East 4♥. Opening lead — jack of hearts. This deal occurred in the final of the 2001 Bermuda Bowl. At first glance the slam looks hopeless since the loss of a spade and a club appears to be preordained. But situations like this are right up the alley of the declarer who enjoys a challenge. He tries to visualize East-West hands that would allow the slam to be made, and eventually comes up with one. So, he wins the spade lead and cashes the A-K of hearts. He then stops drawing trump and plays the A-K of diamonds, followed by another diamond from dummy. When East plays the nine, South, holding the Q-10, is at the crossroads. Should he play the ten or the queen? Actually, there is only one correct play, even without seeing the opponent's cards. South must finesse because he has no chance for the contract unless East has the jack and the lone outstanding trump. First, let's see what happens after the finesse succeeds. South cashes the queen of diamonds, discarding the jack of spades from dummy as East helplessly follows suit. Declarer then ruffs the ten of spades and so ends up losing only a club trick. It can thus be seen why the finesse is the only possible play. If the diamonds are divided 3-3, the opponent with the missing trump will ruff the 13th diamond, leaving South with two losers. His only real hope is to find East with four diamonds and three hearts. The odds are certainly against this possibility, but it is his only legitimate chance. Martel's five-heart response to four notrump indicated two key cards (two aces, or an ace and the king of trump). His six-spade bid denied holding either minor-suit king, so Stansby settled for the small slam. Martel won the opening heart lead with dummy's ace, discarding a diamond, and then misguessed how to start the spades by cashing dummy's ace. This created a trump winner for West, and although it might seem that declarer was now in danger of also losing an eventual diamond finesse to West's king, Martel actually had matters well under control. He ruffed dummy's remaining heart, cashed the king of spades and then played the Q-K-A of clubs. If West ruffed, he would be forced to return a diamond into South's A-Q or else lead a heart, allowing declarer to discard a diamond from dummy while ruffing in his hand. If West did not ruff, he could later be thrown on lead with the spade queen to produce the same result. Either way, Martel was sure to make the slam. At the other table, the Norwegian North-South pair reached seven spades and finished down two after declarer also misguessed how to play the spades and subsequently lost a finesse to the diamond king. The 1,630-point gain gave the U.S. a 17-IMP pickup on the deal.

Tomorrow: Not all roads lead to Rome.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Deeds, 5 Up to, 8 Muffin choice, 12 Sneaker tie, 14 Greek vowel, 15 "Press on!", 16 Swiss-born painter Paul, 17 TV schedule abbr., 18 Puts on a happy face, 20 Entices, 23 Thor's father, 24 Formerly, once, 25 Audio streaming service, 28 PC key, 29 Anticipate, 30 Trail the pack, 32 Warm weather area, 34 Yard tool.
DOWN: 4 Music for seven, 5 "Toodledo!" in Dijon, 7 "I'm game!", 8 Two-piece suit, 9 Sandwich bread, 10 Suit to —, 11 Burnsian denials, 13 "CSI" settings, 19 Baseball glove, 20 Salonga of "Miss Saigon", 21 Web addresses, 22 Queue after Q, 23 October birthstones, 25 Worries too much, 26 Level, 27 Tibetan herd, 29 "East of Eden" girl, 31 Earth (Pref.), 33 Sweet drink, 34 High-tech workers?, 36 Wine valley, 37 Nemesis, 38 Competent, 39 Scrabble piece, 40 Jewelry, 43 Texter's "I didn't need to know that!", 44 Fanatic, 45 Writer Levin, 46 Cowboy's nickname.

Solution time: 21 mins.

Grid for crossword puzzle solution.

Saturday's answer 3-25

Grid for crossword puzzle solution.

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



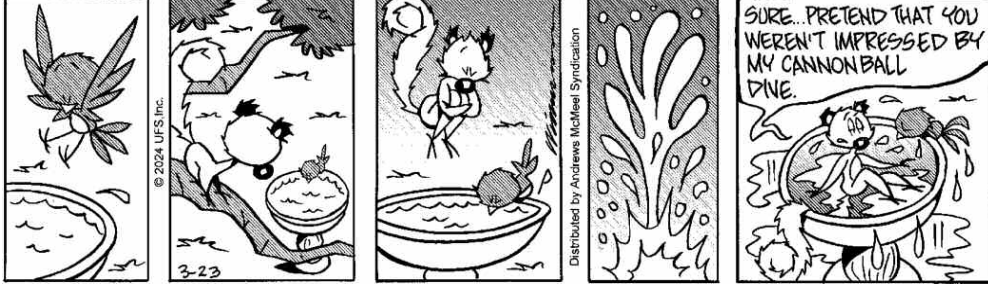
Peanuts



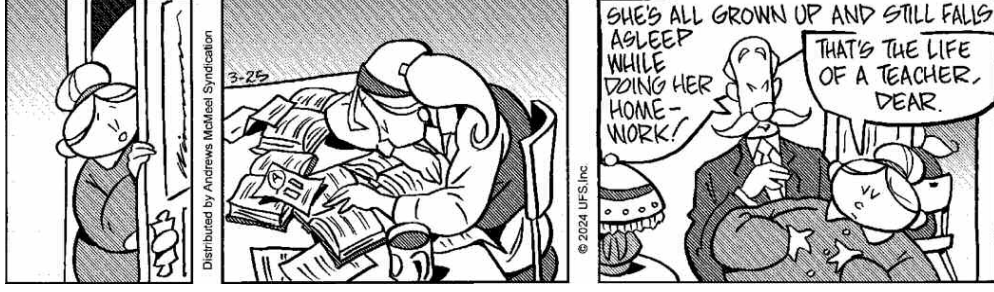
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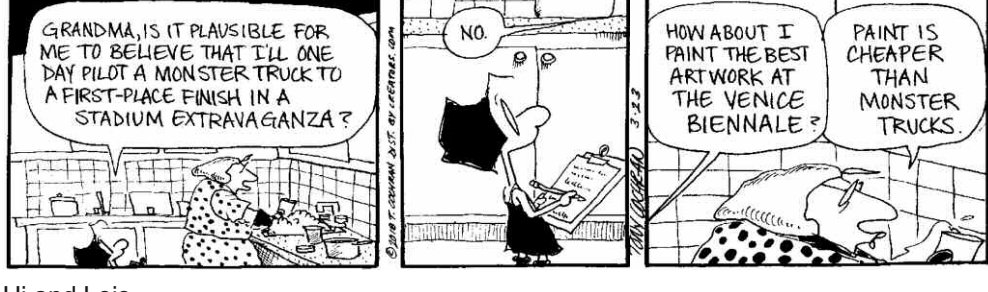
Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



Blondie



Blondie



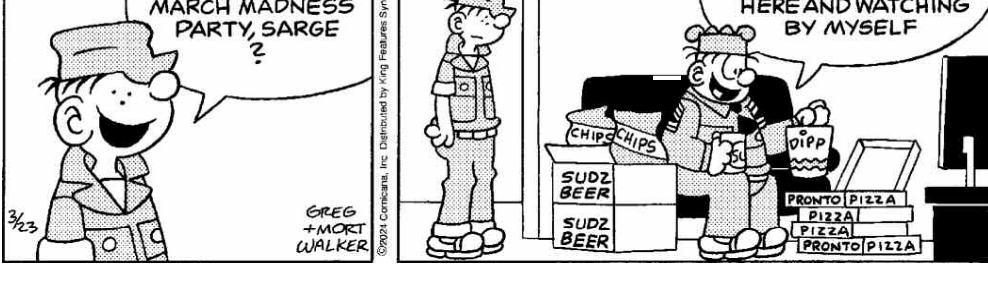
Snuffy Smith



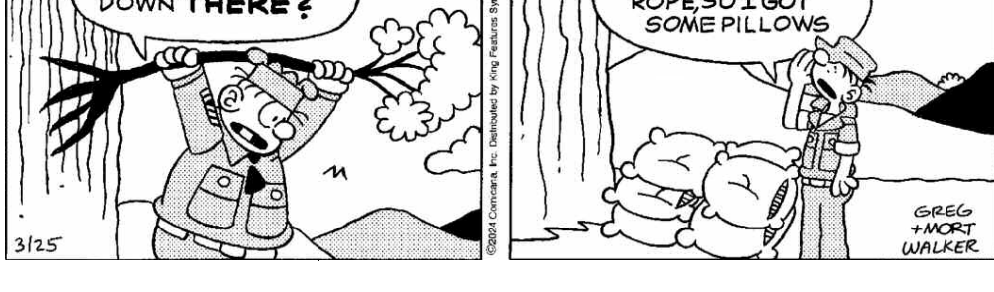
Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



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Laughter



Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

Sports



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Scrimmage stop

Fort Recovery High School second baseman Ava Grisez makes a stop during the Indian softball team's scrimmage Friday against Van Wert. The Tribe will open its season at 5 p.m. Monday when it hosts the Ansonia Tigers.

SDSU fights off the Blazers

By **MARK ZEIGLER**
The San Diego Union-Tribune
Tribune News Service

SPOKANE, Wash. — There is nothing easy in the NCAA Tournament.

There is nothing easy for this San Diego State basketball team.

Which means: Aztecs fans have no hair, fingernails or nerves left.

The fifth-seeded Aztecs are advancing to the round of 32, here Sunday against Auburn or Yale, after beating — no, surviving — a 12th-seeded UAB team that either refused to go away or the Aztecs refused to put away, depending on your perspective.

The final score was 69-65, but this was closer than even that narrow margin indicates. The Aztecs led by 12 in the second half before surrendering runs of 8-0 and 11-0 along with a lead they had held since the opening minute.

The final six minutes were all nerves, a back-and-forth game with the specter of another Mountain West collapse in the tournament anxiously hanging in the air at Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena.

It came down to this:

The Aztecs were up by one inside 25 seconds to go and the shot clock ticking down. The Blazers had switched to a man-to-man defense after playing zone most of the game, and Jay Pal had the ball at the top. And lobbed a pass over a 6-foot-9 defender to Jaedon LeDee, who was fouled.

LeDee calmly made both free throws, then grabbed the rebound at the other end off a missed UAB 3.

Just like he had done all game. LeDee finished with 32 points, one shy of his career high, and fouled out both UAB bigs. The Aztecs (25-10) got 15 points — and 5 of 6 free throws by a 57.1% shooter — from Lamont Butler, but no one else had more than six.

The Blazers (23-12) got 19 points from Efre

“Butta” Johnson and 14 from LSU transfer Eric Gaines, but 6-9 Yaxel Lendeborg was held to 11 points before fouling out.

In many respects, the game resembled last year's first-round encounter against a No. 12 seed, scuffling after an overmatched College of Charleston roster of Division II transfers until Micah Parrish made a clutch 3 to end it.

The hope, of course, is that this team will respond the same way: an imaginary weight lifted from their shoulders that morphs into a loose, free, confident and determined group going forward.

For only the second time in their last 15 games, the Aztecs actually led after five minutes, 11-9.

They quickly grew that into an 11-point margin by patiently getting the ball to LeDee at the high post against UAB's zone defenses, then letting him go to work. The result: LeDee had 18 points in the first half, and the rest of the team had 17.

The other strategic tweak was running off UAB misses, making them pay for sending multiple players to the offensive boards.

But it seems almost inevitable that this team eventually will encounter a massive shooting slump and, right on cue, it came after a Parrish basket put them up 27-17 with 8:35 left in the first half.

Next basket: 49 seconds left.

They opened the half shooting 11 of 16. They closed it shooting 1 of 12.

They still managed to score at the line, but UAB took the opportunity to climb back in a game that, to that point, they have zero business being in. And they did it without their best player. Yaxel Lendeborg, who averages a double-double, had zero points, two rebounds and three fouls when he went to the bench with 6:33 left.

Former Colt to sign with Philly

By **OLIVIA REINER**
The Philadelphia Inquirer
Tribune News Service

The Eagles announced Thursday they have agreed to terms with wide receiver Parris Campbell on a one-year deal.

Campbell, who turns 27 in July, is a five-year NFL veteran who spent last season with the New York Giants. In 12 games, Campbell had 20 receptions for 104 yards and no touchdowns. According to Pro Football Focus, the 6-foot-1, 205-pound Camp-

bell was on the field for 151 pass-play snaps, the majority of which came in the slot (122, 80.8%). He also had eight kick returns for a total of 191 yards.

The Indianapolis Colts selected Campbell in the second round, No. 59 overall of the 2019 draft out of Ohio State. The Eagles had the No. 57 pick in the draft, and as The Inquirer previously reported, they debated using it to take either Campbell or receiver J.J. Arcega-Whiteside out of Stan-

ford. Ultimately, the Eagles went with Arcega-Whiteside, who played in Philly for three seasons and is currently with the CFL's Toronto Argonauts.

Campbell spent the first four seasons of his career with the Colts, giving him familiarity with coach Nick Sirianni, who was the Colts' offensive coordinator from 2018-20. In Indianapolis, Campbell took the bulk of his snaps in the slot (633, 68%) while also playing on the outside (298, 32%).

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