

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Kadyne's career

Jay County High School senior Kadyne Nusbaumer and job coach Robin Williams chat with Kristen Osborne of JR Manufacturing on Wednesday during the career fair portion of Signing Day. Jay County Junior-Senior High School students mingled with various industry partners about potential internships and summer and full-time employment.

## Water park heater OK'd

*Timeline for installation is based on availability*

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The water park will be getting heated.

The timeline for the heater to be installed is still being determined.

Portland Park Board on Tuesday agreed to accept a gift of a heater for Portland Water Park from a group led by Bev Arnold and Rob Weaver.

Arnold presented the idea of installing a heater for the pool at the water park to the park board in December, saying she believed she could get donors to cover the cost. The board revisited the issue last month, reviewing options from JRT Pools and SPEAR Corporation that came in at costs of \$47,724 and \$67,808, respectively.

Park board members at that time agreed to research the issue further and asked street and parks department superintendent Matt Shauver and parks manager Ronnie Reynolds to gather information. Those details were presented Tuesday, indicating that average monthly costs to heat pools in St. Henry, Ohio, and Coldwater, Ohio, came in at about \$1,300. Meanwhile, Celina, Ohio, removed its heater in 2017. Park board president Brian Ison added that most pools in Indianapolis are not heated. Park board member John McFarland added that he researched facilities in Angola and Wabash that use their heaters for a couple of weeks to get the water up to temperature but then shut them down for the remainder of the year.

See Heater page 2

## JCDC board discusses two contracts

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The local economic development organization will approach Portland Board of Works and Portland City Council with concerns about rental contracts and utility responsibilities at Community Resource Center.

It will also present a signed contract to Jay County Commissioners.

Jay County Development Corporation's meeting Tuesday was dominated by those two topics, with the board unanimously approving addressing rental contract issues with the city and seeking \$140,000 in funding from the county via the contract.

Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation (JCDC), again explained the status of a proposed updated contract with the city for rental of its space in Community Resource

Center and a dispute over shared utility costs.

Richards noted that traditionally utilities have been in JCDC's name and paid for by JCDC, with the other organizations providing reimbursement. (Jay County Chamber of Commerce, Jay County Visitor and Tourism Bureau, Jay/Portland Building and Planning and the county-contracted community coordinator also have office space in the building.) However, when updated rental contracts were approved by the city late last year, the county's contract with the city for the community coordinator's office eliminated language regarding utilities. That language remains in the proposed contract for the other organizations. (Some have signed, some have not.) JCDC's current lease is up at the end of the month.

Richards said he talked with Portland Mayor Jeff

Westlake regarding the issue and that the mayor suggested JCDC should continue to pay utilities for the time being and revisit the issue in six to 12 months. It doesn't seem equitable, Richards said, for JCDC to incur utility costs for another organization. He suggested a push for the city to take over utility bills and pass on the costs to each tenant.

In order to move forward, Richards suggested two steps to the board:

- Visit Portland Board of Works regarding the contract disparities and ask that all lease agreements offer the same terms.
- Go to Portland City Council to request repayment for the utility costs

Board member Bryan Alexander was critical of the board of works as a powerful group that is not being held accountable. (He acknowledged that he has his own dispute with the board.)

"I don't think they think through things," he said. "That's clear to me."

He said there was a lack of process on the Community Resource Center contracts, questioning the timeline of when the contract was presented and executed.

"It's like 'Gilligan's Island' over there," he added.

"I think if you took this to any rational person and walked them through this thing, this doesn't make any sense," he continued. "There's a lack of institutional control at the city building."

Board member Mark Leavell said it seems like JCDC is being penalized for having been willing to coordinate the payment of billing for utilities.

"It needs to be fixed, cleared up, before we go into a new lease," said board president Angela Paxson.

There was also some

discussion about the county's responsibility for paying for utilities for the community coordinator's office, with county council president and JCDC board member Matt Minnich responding that the approved contract is the city's problem to deal with.

"If the board of works made that contract on behalf of the city, then the city's got to pony up their portion," said Minnich. "I'd push the city, and if they look like an idiot, they look like an idiot, but that's their problem."

The JCDC board approved Richards' suggested process to visit both the board of works and city council regarding the issues.

Sprunger said she would join Richards at those meetings representing the chamber, which has not signed a new lease agreement.

See Contracts page 2

## Brown gets 11 years

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

A Portland man will serve eight years in prison for drunk driving resulting in the death of an 18-year-old Bryant resident.

Michael L. Brown, 28, was sentenced in Jay Superior Court on Wednesday to 11 years — three of those years will be spent on probation — in Indiana Department of Correction for causing death while operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content equivalent to 0.08% or more, a Level 4 felony. He pleaded guilty March 6 to the crime charge that stemmed from a June 4 incident that resulted in the death of 18-year-old Devon Drumm.

According to a probable cause affidavit filed in connection with the case, Brown was driving a 2012 Kia Forte on county road 700 South near State Line Road. He told police a car passed him, and dust from the stone road impaired his vision, causing him to drive off the road. The vehicle hit a tree on the passenger side and Brown ejected.

### Portland man pleaded guilty last month Level 4 felony

Brown told police when he woke up he ran to the car and started slapping Drumm, who was a passenger in his vehicle, in an attempt to wake him, the affidavit says. Brown then fled the scene on foot.

Alcoholic containers were located at the scene of the accident, and Brown smelled of alcohol, the affidavit says. A test showed he had a blood alcohol level of 0.088%.

Hiram Roberts — he lives near the location of the accident — discovered Drumm in the vehicle and called police about 5:44 p.m. June 4. Drumm, who graduated from Jay County High School hours prior to the crash, suffered a fatal head injury and

was pronounced dead at the scene.

About 10 people sat on the public side of the courtroom Wednesday representing members of the Drumm and Brown families.

"Devon lost everything. His whole future," said Tara Drumm, Devon's mother.

The day he died, she added, her son hadn't been drinking or "partying" but had been home with her before he joined Brown on a trip to Ohio.

"Devon was doing the right thing, he even had his seatbelt on," she said. "It's not fair that Devon was completely sober and going along for a ride with his buddy, and he lost his life."

See Brown page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Michael Brown, pictured at left leaving the Jay County Probation Office, was sentenced Wednesday to 11 years in Indiana Department of Correction for causing death while operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol content equivalent to 0.08% or more, a Level 4 felony. The charge stemmed from a June 4 incident, which resulted in the death of 18-year-old Devon Drumm.

### Deaths

Patricia Henry, 76, Redkey  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County has a high temperature of 64 degrees Tuesday. The low was 43 and there was about 1.2 inches of rain.

More rain is expected this evening with a low in the lower 30s. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with a slight chance of rain and a high in the mid 40s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay School Board and Portland Board of Works have scheduled executive sessions for next week, the former at 4 p.m. Tuesday at General Shanks and the latter at 4 p.m. Thursday at city hall. Both executive sessions are being held to discuss alleged employee misconduct.

### Coming up

Friday — Dueling Pianos is performing Saturday at cancer society event.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS softball team's game against Delta.





# Contracts ...

Continued from page 1  
Also Tuesday, Richards noted that JCDC's proposed service contract with the county was last discussed extensively with Jay County Commissioners in December and that attorneys have since made changes based on discussions at that meeting.  
He referred to the contract in its current state as "probably the best we're going to get to."  
The lone item the organization has been waiting on, he

said, is the amount of money JCDC would receive via the contract. (Commissioners had requested financial information from JCDC, which Richards said he feels has been provided.) He suggested the board decide on a number, write it in, sign the contract and present it to commissioners at their meeting Monday. (He noted that Jay County Council allocated \$140,000 for JCDC.)  
Board president Angela Pax-

son suggested that JCDC should write in the full amount allocated — \$140,000 — with board members Ron Laux and Joe Johnston agreeing. Tabby Sprunger, a board member and executive director of Jay County Chamber of Commerce, asked commissioner Rex Journey, who is also on the JCDC board, if he feels the proposal will be acceptable to commissioners.  
Journey was noncommittal regarding both the contract

and the financial aspect, speculating that commissioners might want to hold a meeting to discuss expectations of JCDC.  
"We've discussed every possibility for responsibility for JCDC. It's been discussed ad nauseam at all kinds of meetings," said board member Joe Johnston. "The contract's been updated. Why it would every be necessary to have another meeting to discuss what the responsibilities of JCDC are is beyond me."

"I'm not going to argue with you, Joe," Journey responded.  
Board member Mike Medler was again critical of the county's contract with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District, which includes the community coordinator role, saying he feels the county is getting a great "bang for its buck" at \$140,000 with JCDC.  
The board unanimously approved writing that amount into the contract, signing it and presenting it to commissioners.

## CR almanac

Friday 4/5	Saturday 4/6	Sunday 4/7	Monday 4/8	Tuesday 4/9
<b>45/29</b>	<b>49/33</b>	<b>56/43</b>	<b>63/48</b>	<b>67/50</b>
Friday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a high of 45 degrees. The low may hit 29.	Saturday looks to be mostly sunny with a low at night around the freezing point.	Another day of mostly sunny skies is in the forecast for Sunday. There's a chance of rain late.	Showers may continue into Monday (40% chance), when the high will swell to the 60s.	There's a chance of rain on Tuesday, when the high will be 67.

## Lotteries

**Powerball**  
Estimated jackpot: \$865 million

**Mega Millions**  
7-11-22-29-38  
Mega Ball: 4  
Megaplier: 2  
Estimated jackpot: \$20 million

**Hoosier**  
Tuesday  
Midday  
Daily Three: 4-8-1  
Daily Four: 4-9-3-9  
Quick Draw: 1-2-3-4-7-14-20-25-35-40-43-46-48-51-60-63-71-75-76-79

Evening  
Daily Three: 7-7-4  
Daily Four: 0-8-2-7  
Quick Draw: 3-9-12-13-16-21-31-38-42-43-50-51-56-61-66-70-72-73-76-79

**Ohio**  
Tuesday  
Midday  
Pick 3: 6-6-1  
Pick 4: 2-5-5-9  
Pick 5: 3-7-2-3-5  
Evening  
Pick 3: 3-9-1  
Pick 4: 9-2-6-3  
Pick 5: 9-0-9-6-7  
Rolling Cash: 2-18-27-36-37  
Estimated jackpot: \$265,000

## Markets

**Cooper Farms Fort Recovery**  
Corn.....4.25  
May corn.....4.30  
Wheat .....4.34

**POET Biorefining Portland**  
Corn.....4.36  
May corn.....4.36  
June corn .....4.43

**The Andersons Richland Township**  
Corn .....4.15  
April corn .....4.15  
Beans .....11.73

April beans .....11.73  
Wheat .....5.30

**ADM Montpelier**  
Corn.....4.08  
April corn .....4.19  
Beans .....11.65  
April beans .....11.68  
Wheat .....5.27

**Heartland St. Anthony**  
Corn.....4.24  
April corn .....4.28  
Beans .....11.48  
April beans.....11.25  
Wheat .....5.09

## Today in history

In 1873, arguing in front of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania for her right to vote, Carrie S. Brunham said "It is not simply, whether I shall be protected in the exercise of my inalienable right and duty of self-government, but whether a government, the mere agent of the people, ... can deny to any portion of its intelligent, adult citizens participation therein and still hold them amenable to its laws ..."  
In 1986, two American servicemen and a Turkish woman were killed in the bombing of a West Berlin discotheque, an incident that prompted a U.S. air raid on Libya more than a week later.  
In 2012, 17-year-old Janelle Schwieterman of Fort Recovery was seriously injured when her vehicle was struck by a semi at the intersection of Ohio 49 and Sharpsburg Road. Schwieter-

man made a full recovery.  
In 2013, Fort Recovery High School freshman Jackson Hobbs earned his second career win, striking out eight batters in 3 2/3 innings as the Tribe baseball team thumped Mississinawa Valley 12-1.  
In 2016, Connecticut won its fourth straight women's basketball national championship, completing a perfect season by defeating Syracuse 82-51.  
In 2018, Jay County Council voted to form a committee to look for a way to ease the financial burden on residents who receive service from Jay County Regional Sewer District.  
In 2021, Wabash Road residents visited Fort Recovery Village Council to air their frustrations regarding odors coming from the village's wastewater lagoons.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Today**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Monday**  
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.  
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.  
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.  
7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Park Board, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

# Obituaries

**Patricia Henry**  
Aug. 20, 1947-April 2, 2024  
Patricia A. Henry, 76, of Redkey, Indiana, passed away peacefully Tuesday, April 2, 2024, while in the company of family members at Albany Health Care & Rehabilitation Center.  
Patricia was born in Portland, Indiana, on Aug. 20, 1947, a daughter of the late Julia Maxine (Bailey) Green and Leonard F. Mumbower. She was a graduate of Dunkirk High School and the loving wife of the late Darrell G. Henry, who she happily married on Oct. 14, 1966, and

sadly lost on July 20, 2021.  
Patricia was a dedicated homemaker, loving mother and grandmother who enjoyed bowling, arts and crafts, crime and Tom Selleck shows and was playing with Play-Doh with her grandkids, and was never afraid to have fun and be goofy.  
She is survived by a son, Kelly G. Henry (wife: Kelly); six grandchildren, Kristen Strohofer (Steven), Noah Mize, Cameron, Carter, Cohen



Henry

and Cadly Henry; and two great-grandchildren, Gabriel Strohofer and Emery Henry.  
Patricia was preceded in death by her parents; husband Darrell; one daughter, Dawn M. (Henry) Mize; and two brothers, Ray and Mike Mumbower.  
Visitation will be held on Friday, April 5, 2024, from 3 to 6 p.m. at MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel. Private graveside services will be held at the convenience of the family in Hillcrest Cemetery in Redkey, Indiana.  
Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel.

# Heater ...

Continued from page 1  
Arnold said she also talked to representatives from Berne Pool, which had a total bill of \$5,026 in 2024 for heating.  
Everyone in the discussion agreed that it's difficult to find "apples-to-apples" comparisons on costs because of the various depths, shapes and sizes of pools. Weaver noted that he had offered to raise the funds to account for the additional heating costs this year.  
Brian Ison, the park board president, noted that the water park's utilities budget is \$20,000 and last year went over that amount by about \$5,000. He noted that clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips told him the water park budget can't be changed for 2024, but park board member Michael Brewster pointed out that the board could request an additional appropriation from city council.  
McFarland said he researched pools in the Indianapolis area. Most are not heated, he said, but those facilities also had frequent com-

plaints about being closed because of cool temperatures.  
"When it's sitting there closed, it's not benefitting anyone," said park board member Michael Brewster.  
There was also a discussion about space for the equipment, with Shauver saying it would fit in the water park's pump house.  
Park board members Shauna Runkle, Jennifer Weitzel, McFarland and Brewster unanimously approved accepting the gift of the pool heater from the group led by Arnold and Weaver. They were in support of purchasing the more expensive heater from SPEAR because it has a projected lifespan of seven to 10 years as compared to three to five for the unit from JRT.  
The timeline for the project will be dependent on availability of the equipment in conjunction with preparing the water park to open for the 2024 season. Shauver said he planned to call Wednesday morning to check on the availability of a heater from SPEAR and how long it would take to be delivered. He agreed

to share that information immediately with the park board, Arnold and Weaver.  
Also Tuesday, the board approved new mulch for several parks, upgrades to the gazebo at Hudson Family Park and a new slide for Milton Miller Park.  
Shauver explained that mulch around the playground equipment at several parks was last purchased in 2018. He presented a quote of \$9,400 for four semi loads from Tawa Mulch and Landscape of Findlay, Ohio.  
He also noted a Milton Miller Park slide that was cracked and needs to be replaced at a cost of \$2,638.97 and a proposed project to wrap Hudson Family Park gazebo posts with metal. (The cost for the materials for the gazebo comes in at \$1,235.85, with the street and parks department to handle the work.)  
The board approved all three projects, with the mulch and slide to be paid out of the park board's repairs and maintenance budget and the gazebo materials from its capital projects budget.

# Brown ...

Continued from page 1  
Jason Drumm, Devon's father, pointed out his son and Brown were friends.  
"Michael gets whatever punishment is coming to him on top of living with it for the rest of his life," he said. "We've all made mistakes, and we've got to live with it."  
During his testimony, Brown mentioned he had apologized to Jason Drumm prior to Wednesday, and Jason Drumm said he has forgiven him.  
"(Devon) was a friend to me," said Brown. "We'd just tinker with stuff in my garage ... I never meant for any of this to happen."  
Brown continued, saying Devon Drumm shouldn't have died from the accident and that Brown himself shouldn't be alive today. He publicly apologized in the courtroom to the Drumm family.  
Chief public defender Brandon Murphy pointed out Brown suffers from illnesses including schizophrenia, autism, bipolar disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Brown told the court he was diagnosed at 14 years old and has been treated for his illnesses, and he confirmed the medication can impact his decision making.  
Addressing his actions after the crime, Brown said he "wasn't in the right state of mind" when he fled from the scene of the accident.  
Brown voiced hopes to go home to his wife — she was

present in the courtroom, along with his two uncles, his aunt and sister — and three children after he has served his time in prison.  
"There's nothing we can do to take back what happened with Michael Brown that day," said Murphy, who asked for a six-year sentence with two years suspended.  
Chief deputy prosecutor Zechariah Landers noted Brown's criminal history, which he said includes the following convicted charges: two counts of driving with a suspended license, both Class A misdemeanors; resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 felony; two counts of theft, both Class A misdemeanors; possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor; and possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor.  
Landers also pointed out Brown left the scene without calling emergency services.  
"He knows better," said Landers, pushing for the maximum 12-year sentence with four years suspended. "None of (his criminal history) impacted his decision. He still (drank) and drove ... he's sorry now, now that he's been caught ... he caused the death of a kid, practically."  
Jay Superior Court Judge Gail Dues pointed out five of Brown's charges have occurred in the last five to six years.  
"Your criminal record appears to be ... increasing or

## SERVICES

**Saturday**  
**Rathburn, Justin:** 10 a.m., Feller and Clark Funeral Home, 1860 Center St., Auburn.  
**Steveeson, Emilie:** 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.

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

Jesus words to St. Faustina  
"Say unceasingly the Chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priest will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation."  
Diary 687

## Jay County FFA Parent - Member BANQUET

6:30 p.m.  
**Friday, April 5, 2024**

in the Jay County Junior-Senior High School auxiliary gym

A pork chop dinner will be provided. Awards and a live auction will follow the dinner.

Jesus words to St. Faustina  
"The conversation prayer... O Blood and Water which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You." 3 times  
Diary 187





Photo provided

## Kate's Kart

Portland Evening Optimist Club donated \$300 to Kate's Kart. Pictured, from left, are Kate's Kart representative Krista Layman and Portland Evening Optimist Club president Linda Aker.

# Coworker, friend becomes outlet

DEAR ABBY: It seems I am a human landfill into which people dump their trauma. I'm not sure how this happened. It started three years ago, when an estranged friend called me and talked for more than an hour about what had led to him getting fired from his job. I was touched that he had reached out, and I expected us to resume our friendship, but he wasn't interested in much more communication.

Later, a work acquaintance invited me to lunch and began unloading the awful trauma she had endured 40 years ago. It was a one-way conversation, with not even enough pause for me to politely reaffirm what was being said. We never spoke after that because I left the company.

Now, a new co-worker I haven't made any personal connection with calls me a few times a week to "trauma dump." I try to change the subject, but her stories of abuse and peril never stop. In fact, I can put her on speaker phone while I loudly go about my business at home, and she'll continue talking. When she finally has had enough, she then abruptly ends the call.

I finally decided I'm done answering her calls. What can I do to ensure I am no longer seen as the trauma landfill? — DONE WITH IT IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR DONE: This keeps happening because you are a caring, empathetic and polite person who has the patience to allow these people to dump on you. The next time it starts to happen, say this: "This must have been terrible, but I am NOT EQUIPPED to advise you about it. This is something that should be addressed by talking to a therapist" (or, in the case of the former co-worker who called you, HR). After that, be less available.

DEAR ABBY: Last year, a dear friend was attacked by dogs and

Dear Abby



killed. My family enjoys hiking on public trails. Lately, however, our walks have not been enjoyable. I become nervous and very upset whenever I encounter dogs off-leash. I usually end up expressing my fear and asking the owner to put their dogs on a leash.

My 16-year-old daughter is not comfortable when I do this. Her view is that the owners have trained their dogs well enough to be off leash. I disagree. I tell her that animals are unpredictable, and I am speaking out because my friend was killed by dogs. Please help us understand the best way to handle this situation which ends up in conflict. — WALKING SCARED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WALKING: Your daughter's view is naive. Although the majority of dog owners are responsible and socialize and train their pets, not all of them do so, and the result can be tragic. Your friend's death is an example.

When your daughter decides to hike, she should always have someone with her, and carry pepper spray or gel to ward off a (possible) attack not only by canines but also humans. (Sorry, that's a reality these days.) As for you, you might be better off emotionally if, for the time being, you get your cardio exercise on a treadmill in a gym or at home.

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

# Learn to identify trees

Purdue Extension Office and Indiana Department of Natural Resources are teaming together to offer a tree identification workshop this weekend.

The workshop runs from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Davis Purdue Agricultural Center in Farmland. Participants will engage in classroom and field work and get a free tour of the Davis Purdue Agricultural Center Forestry, as well as get a free lunch and free tree saplings.

To sign up, call the extension office at (260) 726-4707.

## Quartet to perform

Thalea String Quartet will

## Taking Note

perform as part of Ball State University's Arts Alive Series at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, at Sursa Hall.

The quartet received the 2021 Ann Divine Educator Award from the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition. They have performed across the world, including at the Kennedy Center and Carnegie Hall.

"We are thrilled to welcome the Thalea String Quartet to our campus this Spring as part of our Arts Alive Series," said Dr. Seth Beckman, dean of the College of Fine Arts. "We are committed to providing world-class arts experiences to our students, faculty, staff, and the wider Muncie community. The Thalea String Quartet residency — including a masterclass open to all — embodies our belief in the transformative power of chamber music to foster meaningful connections and to both build and strengthen community."

The performance is free and open to the public.

# Community Calendar

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

## Today

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

**PORTLAND LIONS CLUB** — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be

served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

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

## Friday

**DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

## CINCINNATUS

**LEAGUE** — Will hold its next meeting at noon, April 5, at the Harmony Café.

**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.

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

## Saturday

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

**ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS** — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

**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.

## Monday

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

# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## Wednesday's Solution

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



## Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions at Holy Trinity Catholic Church on Sunday, April 7.

Confessions and Adoration begin at 2 p.m. and Divine Mercy Chaplet begins at 3 pm  
Benediction begins at 3:30 pm

Jesus' words to St. Faustina "I demand deeds of mercy. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy. The first- By deed, the second-by word, the third-by prayer. In these in unquestionable love for me."

St. Faustina's Diary 742



# Data illustrates our costs of living

By MORTON J. MARCUS

This week we'll confirm what you already know. It costs less to live in Indiana than in most places in the United States

But we'll put a number to that belief.

With a number, our boosters in and out of government can assert, rather than merely claim, what they see as a benefit of Hoosier residency.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis, one of the premier statistical agencies of the Deep State, annually estimates the Regional Price Parity (RPP) for each of our 50 states and the District of Columbia.

This might be thought of as a state-by-state Consumer Price

## Eye on the Pie



Index, which is not offered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Price parity means how much must be spent in one state to buy the same basket of goods as in another state.

Imagine a BoomBurger costs \$3.45 in one state, but \$4.50 to buy that same gut-wrencher in another state. Parity means that burgers can be had in the second

state with an expenditure 1.3 times the expenditure in the first state (4.50 divided by 3.45).

Therefore, if you have an employee (or a child at school) in the second state, that person will need \$32,500 if you have an employee (or child) that you're paying \$25,000 in the first state. This presumes both employees and children are consumers of BoomBurgers exclusively and are of equal value to you.

Indiana's RPP is 91.82 meaning that it takes \$91.82 in Indiana to buy what the average annual wage of American workers purchase for \$100. Thus if your average worker/child moves from Yourtown, Indiana, to Averagetown, USA (zip code not available),

you need to pay them 8.18% more so they can have the same buying power as residents in Yourtown.

In 2022, the average Hoosier worker had a wage of \$67,088, 33rd highest in the nation. This level of income permits them to buy the same basket of goodies as \$73,067 buys in Averagetown, USA.

Think about that as a bonus of \$5,979 for living in lower cost Indiana. That's nearly \$6,000 on which you don't pay taxes. Of course, that won't be true once we axe the personal income tax.

But why confuse fantasies? Let's return to the worker/child who, in a desire to better him/herself, decides to

move to Washington State where the average wage was \$87,240, ranking third highest among the 50 states.

You might decide to dissuade this optimistic, energetic dreamer from such a move. You would point out the RPP for Averagetown, Washington, is 109.85. That means earning \$7,822 (9% of that \$87,240 wage) just to have the same buying power as in good old Averagetown, USA.

Hold off from disparaging Washington State, however, until we bring in another load of data next week.

Marcus is an economist. Email him at [mortonjmarcus@gmail.com](mailto:mortonjmarcus@gmail.com).

# Uber overcharges, underpays drivers

By MARIAH MONTGOMERY

If you've taken an Uber ride recently, you've probably noticed it cost a lot more than a few years ago. Why is that?

PowerSwitch Action, my organization, conducted the largest-ever study of rideshare fares to find out. We discovered a story of gaslighting and greed that squeezes drivers and riders alike — while funneling our money to banks and billionaires.

In March, Minneapolis passed an ordinance requiring rideshare corporations to pay drivers at least \$1.40 per mile and 51 cents per minute. In a desperate attempt to block this pay floor, Uber and Lyft are threatening to leave the city, claiming the requirement would make rides too expensive for residents.

This argument — that higher driver pay would force big fare hikes — is one of Uber and Lyft's favorite scare tactics. As drivers across the country have protested poverty wages and organized for better pay, the rideshare giants have trotted out this line again and again — in Connecticut, Chicago, New York, and Seattle, to name just a few places.

We decided to test that claim. Our team analyzed over a billion rideshare trips, comparing four years of data in Chicago and New York, the only two U.S. cities that make rideshare corporations report detailed trip data.

In New York, drivers overcame Uber's fear-mongering and won a minimum pay standard that took effect in February 2019. In Chicago, drivers are organizing but haven't yet won pay protections. If Uber's argument were true, fares should have gone up more in New York after the pay standard took effect.

In fact, the opposite happened. Over the four years we studied, Uber and Lyft raised fares by 54 percent in Chicago, where drivers have no pay protections. In New York, they only increased fares by 36 percent. The reality just doesn't match Uber's scare tactics.

So if fares went up more in the city without a pay floor, what's causing these big price hikes? We looked at many possible explanations, but only one fits the data:

Mariah Montgomery



pressure from Wall Street.

For years, Uber used money from the likes of Goldman Sachs, BlackRock, and Jeff Bezos to subsidize cheap rides and decent pay. But now that Uber dominates the market, its investors are demanding their cut. So Uber has jacked up fares and cut driver pay.

The strategy is working: just last month, Uber reported an annual profit for the first time ever — and promptly announced plans to give \$7 billion to shareholders.

Letting rideshare corporations bully and bamboozle to get their way harms all of us. Riders are forced to pay more to get around, while drivers have to work long hours and still struggle to cover the bills. Falsely claiming that wage protections will drive up fares seems to be a tactic to pit drivers against passengers and obscure this massive transfer of wealth to Wall Street.

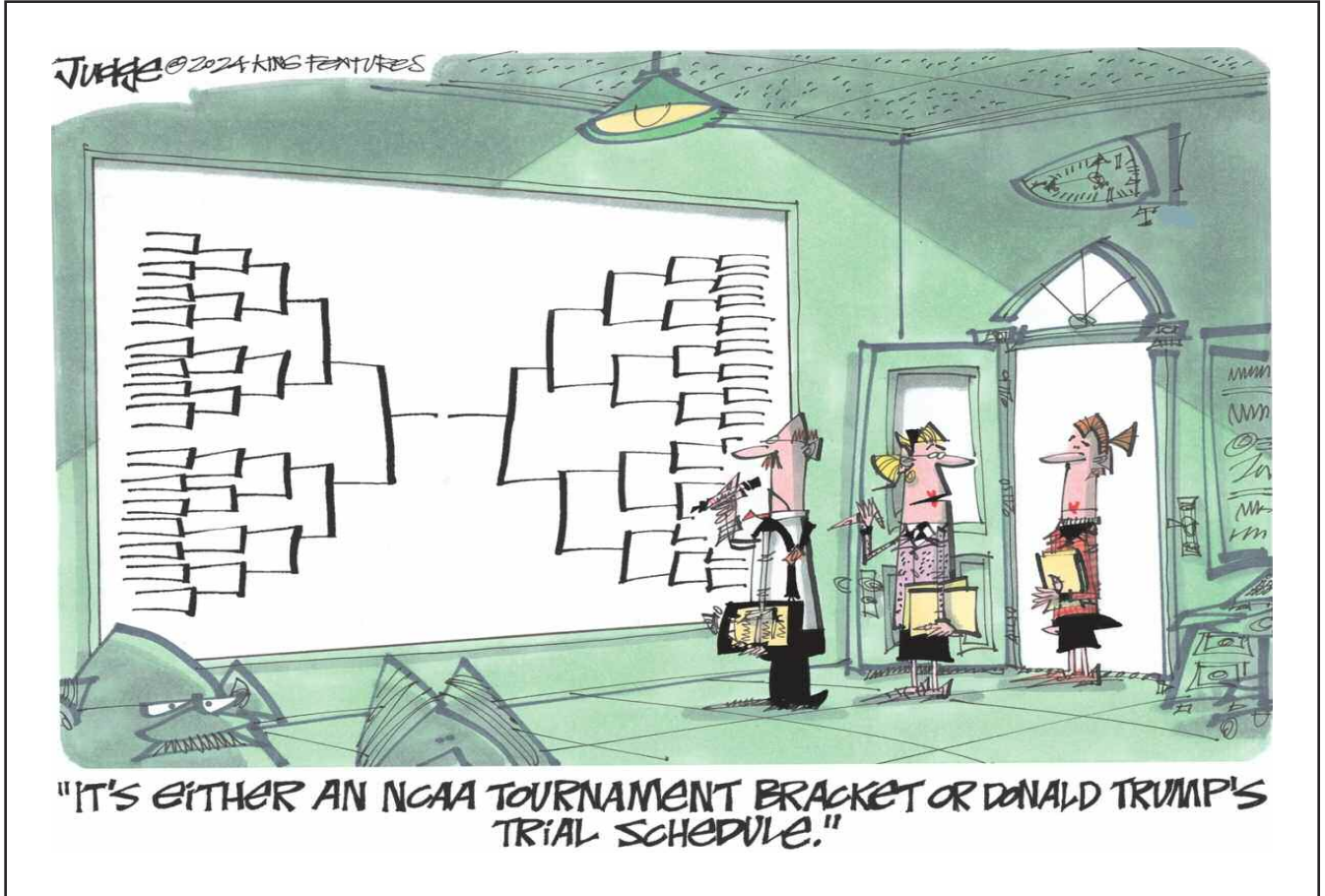
The good news is that communities are no longer falling for Uber's scare tactics. In Minneapolis, the city council stood with the city's drivers instead of giving in to Uber's bullying. And in Chicago, drivers are organizing for an ordinance setting a living wage and protections against unfair deactivations — and have the support of a majority of the city council.

These fights are far from over — already Uber and Lyft are turning to the Minnesota state legislature, which could pass a law banning the Minneapolis ordinance from going into effect.

But when drivers and communities stand together, these cities are showing we can say no to Uber's bullying, ensure drivers are paid enough to provide for their families, and shape a transportation system that serves us instead of Wall Street.

Montgomery is the national campaigns director at PowerSwitch Action.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.



# Energy boom has helped security

Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

North America's amazing energy boom has been a huge plus for U.S. domestic security over the past decade. Thanks to the rise of shale fracking and other game-changing technologies, the U.S. and Canada have produced more oil and gas than ever before, reducing the need for imports while breathing life into export markets.

This oil-and-gas bonanza came just in time to help American allies in Europe support sanctions against Russian fossil fuels imposed after the 2022 attack on Ukraine. America has become the world's No. 1 exporter of liquified natural gas, or LNG, and export demand for this important fuel is projected to double by the end of the decade.

The immediate benefits go beyond creating jobs and expanding the economy. Given how the LNG export market serves U.S. interests by helping American allies keep the lights on while punishing Russia for its aggression, you'd think President Joe Biden would be content to take the win and leave well enough alone. No such luck.

At the end of January, the Biden administration hit the brakes on LNG exports, announcing a "temporary pause" on federal authorizations for shipping gas to Europe and other strategically important destinations. The main effect is to halt construction of new export facilities that were in various stages of planning. No company can proceed with these multiyear projects now that the Feds have pledged to withhold the licenses for them until further notice.

In its announcement, the administration claimed that it needs time to assess the health impact of new export facilities on people living in their vicinity. It also cited the potential for increased costs to American consumers if more gas is shipped offshore, and it bemoaned the "perilous" environmental impacts of

## Guest Editorial

methane, which is the No. 1 ingredient in the natural gas used in furnaces, stoves and power plants.

There's no mystery about any of those questions, however: Living near petroleum facilities does indeed expose people to the risk of pollution. The price of gas has been driven down by the current glut and probably would increase over time if more were shipped abroad. As for methane, it is well known to be a potent greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming and climate change.

So, if all the administration wanted was answers, well, those are the facts and it's hardly a revelation that the petroleum industry is dirty but necessary, at least for now. Unsurprisingly, given today's politics, there is an unstated agenda.

It's no coincidence that Biden's LNG decision comes at the start of an election year, and the only good reason for it is to shore up Biden's support among hard-core environmentalists. Predictably, the greenest Democrats applauded the move against LNG exports, attacking natural gas as a planet killer while conveniently ignoring its essential role in replacing coal, which is dirtier to produce and far worse for the environment when burned.

In a perfectly green world, there would be no need for fossil fuels of any kind. In real life, it will take decades to make the transition to cleaner energy, and LNG is widely viewed as the best practical bridge to a future less dependent on the dirtiest fuels.

By attacking LNG, Biden is feeding the fantasies of the same people who think driving a Prius, recycling their kombucha bottles and banning

plastic grocery bags at their local stores will single-handedly save the planet. It's beyond frustrating to hear far-left nature lovers who oppose nuclear power and demonize natural gas then going on to applaud policies that put extreme new demands on the electrical grid.

Where will the juice come from to power the electric vehicles that environmentalists want so badly? Or to support the build-out of data centers and other technologies that require huge amounts of electricity?

More than 80% of the world's energy today comes from hydrocarbons. While Biden's Inflation Reduction Act will help to reduce that dependence, its impact will be felt only over a period of years. Meantime, demand for energy keeps increasing, and the preferred forms of "green" power, namely wind and solar, can't be scaled up fast enough to meet the need.

For Biden's political opponents, the LNG policy is a good example of why a change at the top is needed. Speaking at the recent Futures Industry Association conference in Florida, Mike Sommers, head of the American Petroleum Institute, put it bluntly: "I cannot think of a worse policy decision. It needs to be reversed as soon as possible. Natural gas is the transition."

At the same conference, Citadel founder (and former Illinoisan) Ken Griffin was even more emphatic about the Biden LNG policy: "What did we say to the world? Keep burning coal. It's absolutely mind-blowing to me."

We think Sommers and Griffin are correct on this issue.

Biden's sop to the far-left not only is self-defeating from an environmental standpoint, but it's a convenient gift to Vladimir Putin's Russia on the diplomatic front.

This roadblock to progress, this impediment to a thoughtful global transition, needs to be dropped today.

# The Commercial Review



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

**Asbury United Methodist**  
204 E. Arch St., Portland  
Joe Boggs  
(260) 726-8464  
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.  
asburyministries.org

**Bellefontain United Methodist**  
440 S. 600 East  
Pamela Freeman  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Bluff Point Friends**  
80 E. 650 South  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Boundary St. Paul**  
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East  
Ava Gannon  
(260) 726-2373  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Bryant Wesleyan**  
209 S. Hendricks St.  
Paul VanCise  
(260) 997-6231  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.  
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

**Calvary United Methodist**  
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk  
Susan Durovey-Antrim  
(765) 499-0368  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

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

**Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)**  
8472 S. 800 East, Union City  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Church of God of Prophecy**  
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland  
Nanette Weesner  
(260) 766-9334  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nanybell@yahoo.com

**Church of the Brethren**  
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland  
Kevin McClung  
(260) 729-7295  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Church of the Living God**  
South Broad Street, Dunkirk  
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

**Collett Nazarene**  
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27  
Billy Stanton  
(260) 251-2403  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Cornerstone Baptist**  
211 E. Main St., Portland  
Wayne Ward  
(260) 726-7714  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Cornerstone Church of Pennville**  
190 W. Main St., Pennville  
David Davidson  
(260) 202-9718  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Dunkirk Nazarene**  
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk  
Tom Fett  
(765) 768-6199  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Evangelical Methodist**  
930 W. Main St., Portland  
Steve Arnold  
(260) 251-0970  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Fairview United Methodist/Jay County**  
2875 E. 200 South  
Pamela Freeman  
Lay leader: Beth Stephen  
(260) 726-9184  
Services: 10:15 a.m.

**Faith Community**  
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk  
Joe Schmit  
(260) 251-5254  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Family Worship Center**  
200 E. Elder St., Portland  
Ronald Willis  
(260) 726-4844  
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday  
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

**Fellowship Baptist**  
289 S. 200 West  
Hugh Kelly  
(260) 726-8873  
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

**First American Baptist**  
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk  
Dan Coffman  
(765) 768-7157  
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

**First Church of Christ**  
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery  
David J. Nicholson  
(419) 375-2860  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
fccftrecovery.org

**First Community Baptist**  
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey  
Everett Bilbrey Jr.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.  
Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

**First Free Will Baptist**  
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

**First Presbyterian**  
402 N. Ship St., Portland  
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu  
(260) 726-8462  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.  
firstpcportland.org

**Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene**  
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff  
(419) 375-4680  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
frnaz@frontier.com

**Fort Recovery United Methodist**  
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Rev. David Yinger  
(937) 337-5781  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle**  
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk  
Robert Thomas  
(765) 348-4620  
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

**Geneva First United Methodist**  
100 W. Line St., Geneva  
Barry McCune  
(260) 368-7655  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Geneva Nazarene**  
225 Decatur St., Geneva  
(260) 525-8609  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.  
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

**Gilead Church**  
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren**  
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26  
Earl Doll  
(260) 731-4477  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**High Street United Methodist**  
435 High St., Geneva  
Rev. Joseph Hampton  
(260) 368-7233  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Holy Trinity Catholic**  
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Fr. Martin Sandhage  
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

**Hopewell of Life Ministries**  
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1  
Rev. Ruth Funk  
(260) 251-8581  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
506 E. Walnut St., Portland  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Fr. Martin Sandhage  
(260) 726-7055  
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

**Kingsley Full Gospel**  
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk  
Stuart Phillips  
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Mary Help of Christians**  
403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
(419) 375-4153  
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

**Mount Tabor Community Church**  
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
(765) 768-7273  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Mount Zion United Methodist**  
County roads 600 East and 200 North  
Rev. Darrell Borders  
(260) 726-4786  
Services: 9 a.m.

**New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine**  
4017 W. 200 South  
Randy Smith  
(260) 251-2406  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nbholiness.com

**New Covenant Fellowship**  
1238 W. 450 South  
Chuck Myers  
(260) 251-0063  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**New Life Ministries**  
415 S. Helen St., Portland  
Dr. Kay Fairchild  
(260) 223-2961  
Services: 4 p.m.  
drkayfairchild.com

**New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist**  
5905 S. Como Road  
Neil Butcher  
(765) 499-7838  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Noble Congregational Christian**  
1964 N. 800 East  
Aaron Huey  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove United Methodist**  
829 S. Indiana 1  
Neil Butcher  
(765) 760-9085  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Pleasant Hill**  
9945 N. 800 East, Union City  
Bruce Bryan  
(765) 964-3664  
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.  
mypleasanthillchurch.org

**Portland Church of Christ**  
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland  
Bob Graham  
(260) 726-7777  
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.  
Services: 10:20 a.m.  
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wednesday  
portlandcoc.com

**Portland First Church of Nazarene**  
920 S. Shank St., Portland  
Steve Cecil  
(260) 726-8040  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Portland Friends**  
226 E. Main St., Portland  
Herb Hummel  
(260) 202-9732  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

**Praise Chapel Church of God**  
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)  
Rev. Josh Canfield  
(765) 584-7045  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redeemer Lutheran**  
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant  
Father Dan Layden  
(260) 997-6787  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey Faith Ministries**  
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey  
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman  
(765) 369-2920  
Services: 10 a.m.  
RedkeyFaith.org

**Redkey First Christian**  
Union and Malin streets  
Jeff Hammers  
(765) 468-6172  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey United Methodist**  
122 W. Main St.  
Lori McIntosh  
(765) 369-2085  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church of the Nazarene**  
801 W. High St.  
Chuck Hollandbeck  
(765) 369-2676  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

**River of Life**  
722 W. Main St., Portland  
Susan Hathaway  
(260) 729-1095  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**The ROCK**  
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland  
Matt Ransom  
(260) 726-7474  
Services: 10 a.m.  
matt@therockjc.org

**Salamonia Church of Christ**  
3900 S. 600 East  
Bruce Phillips  
(260) 335-2017  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Second Chance at Life Ministries**  
228 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792  
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**St. Joseph Catholic**  
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk  
Rev. Kevin Hurley  
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

**St. Paul Catholic**  
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

**St. Peter Catholic**  
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Alexander Witt  
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

**Sugar Grove Nazarene**  
County roads 400 North and 550 West  
Rev. Mike Heckman  
(260) 731-4733  
Services: 11 a.m.

**Sugar Grove Church**  
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Temple Baptist**  
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk  
John Elam  
(765) 768-7708  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday  
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com  
templebaptistin.com

**The Church at Westchester**  
4487 E. 400 North  
(260) 726-6311  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Services: 10:35 a.m.  
churchatwestchester.org

**Trinity Lutheran**  
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery  
Robin Owen  
(419) 375-4498  
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)  
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity ArchBridge Church**  
323 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Dan Vore  
(260) 726-8391  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.  
Services: 10:15 a.m.  
portlandtrinity.com

**Union Chapel**  
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant  
Interim Pastor Chris Kruckow  
(260) 849-0687  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene**  
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)  
Fred Stevens  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Walnut Corner**  
County roads 200 North and 500 West  
Steve Rogers  
(260) 251-1113  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**West Walnut Church of Christ**  
204 W. Walnut St., Portland  
Gil Alicea  
(260) 726-4691  
Services: 10 a.m.  
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Robin Owen  
218 E. High St., Portland  
(260) 726-8832  
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com

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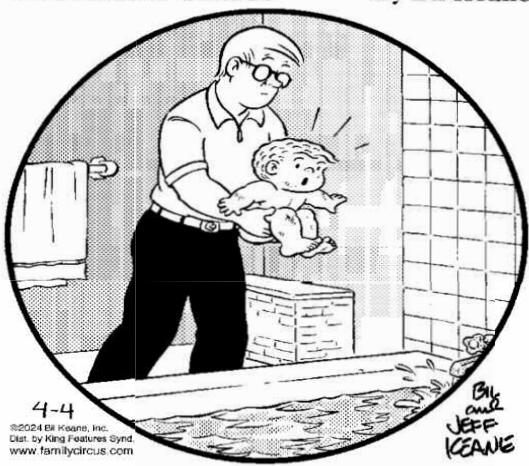
**SPEED BUMP**

Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

By Bil Keane



**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**Imaginative defense**

West dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K 8 6  
♥ A J 7 4  
♦ K J 5  
♣ Q J 8

**WEST**  
♠ Q J 9 7 5 2  
♥ K 9 8  
♦ Q 4  
♣ A 5

**EAST**  
♠ A 4  
♥ 6  
♦ 8 7 6 3 2  
♣ 9 7 4 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ 10 3  
♥ Q 10 5 3 2  
♦ A 10 9  
♣ K 10 6

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

Opening lead — queen of spades.

Assume you're West and South gets to four hearts as shown. You lead the queen of spades, which wins. East playing the four and South the three.

Partner obviously has the ace of spades, and you realize that, given the bidding, you have almost no chance of beating the contract unless declarer has the missing ten.

It is also clear that, even if declarer started with the 10-x of spades, the chances of setting the contract are far from bright, since South probably has every one of the remaining nine high-card points as yet unaccounted for. You are therefore unlikely to take more than two spade tricks and the ace of clubs.

Despite this dim outlook, though, there is a reasonable chance of scoring the setting trick in the trump suit itself, provided partner has the six (or ten) of trump. Since that is your only real hope, you put your plan into motion by returning the deuce of spades at trick two.

Partner takes South's eight with the ace and shifts to a club, just as you asked him to do when you led your very lowest spade as a suit-preference signal at trick two.

After taking the club with the ace, you lead another spade. Partner then comes through with flying colors when he ruffs dummy's king with the six of hearts. Declarer overruffs with the ten but cannot stop you from scoring a trump trick, and you wind up plus 50 instead of minus 420, thanks to your thoughtful defense.

Tomorrow: True-or-false quiz.  
©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Peanuts**



**Rose is Rose**



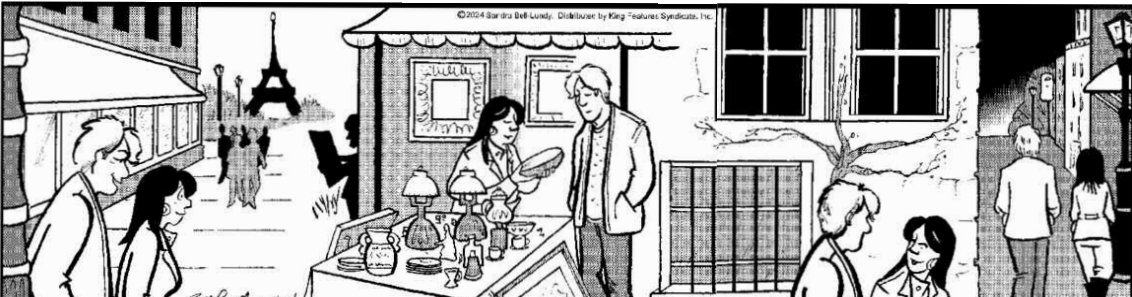
**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**4-4 CRYPTOQUIP**

JHMBW UYRJW BSWNCHUHJW  
PWCW JUZMTHME ZNCWZJU  
HM Z SRME, JUCZHEYU CRP,  
UYW JUZCJ YZT ZSHEMWT.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SHOULD YOU CONSIDER EVERY RETRIEVING DOG THAT'S BORN IN EARLY OCTOBER TO BE A LIBRA-DOR?  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals H

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

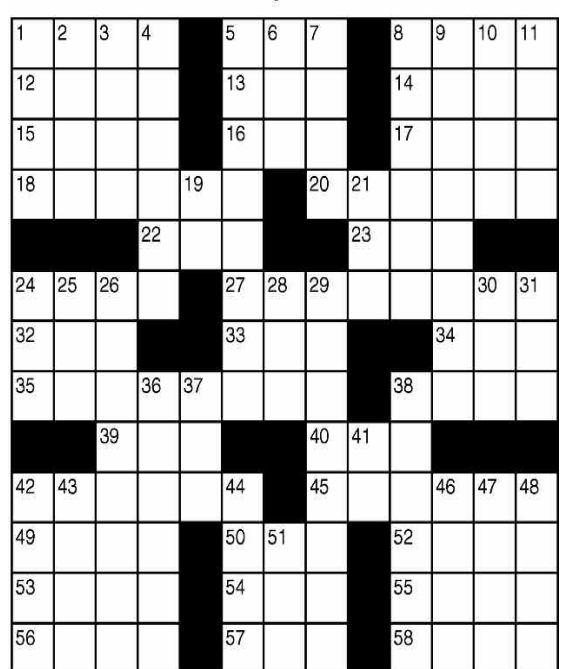
**ACROSS**  
1 Big fusses  
5 Embrace  
8 "Close one!"  
12 Neat  
13 Latin 101 word  
14 Tardy  
15 Scott Turow book  
16 Long. crosser  
17 Arm bone  
18 Be amazed (at)  
20 Sci-fi writer  
22 Little rascal  
23 "Kapow!"  
24 —  
27 Walk  
32 Singer  
33 Away from  
34 Scooted  
35 In-demand, hyped-up stock  
38 Revue segment  
39 Cen. parts

**DOWN**  
1 Teensy bit  
2 Actress  
3 Baltic Sea feeder  
4 Poet  
5 Monitor's request  
6 Ms. Thurman  
7 Ancient invader of Rome  
8 Like pins and needles  
9 Popular movie channel  
10 Sicilian spouter  
11 Gradually withdraw  
19 Dorothy's auntie  
21 "Aladdin" monkey  
24 "Hum-bug!"  
25 Yoko of music  
26 Mayor's workplace  
28 The Spartans' sch.  
29 Oktoberfest hangout  
30 — chi  
31 Sinusitis doc  
36 Van Gogh painting  
37 Tax form ID  
38 Soft and lustrous  
41 Exist  
42 "Got it!"  
43 Honey-comb division  
44 Chow  
46 Comic strip  
47 L-Q  
48 Lighten  
51 Dad on "Black-ish"

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 4-4



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# Reese details death threats

By PETER SBLENDORIO  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — Angel Reese detailed the death threats and diatribe she's endured since leading LSU to the women's basketball national championship last year, offering a poignant reminder during an emotional press conference Monday that "I'm still a human."

Reese choked back tears after Iowa eliminated her Tigers, 94-87, in their Elite Eight matchup in Albany.

"I've been through so much," Reese said. "I've seen so much. I've been attacked so many times. Death threats. I've been sexualized. I've been threatened. I've been so many things, and I've stood strong every single time."

Reese, a 6-3 junior who averaged 18.6 points and 13.4 rebounds per game this season, achieved widespread fame during her 2023 tournament run, during which LSU defeated Caitlin Clark-led Iowa in the national championship game.

The 21-year-old Reese averaged 23.0 points and 15.4 rebounds per game during the 2022-23 campaign, her first at LSU since transferring from Maryland, establishing her as one of the sport's biggest stars.

But Reese often faced scrutiny, including when she used John's Cena's hand-waving "You can't see me" gesture during the 2023 national championship game toward Clark, who had used the same gesture against Maryland two rounds earlier.

Reese on Monday said the attacks and threats occurred after LSU won the title.

## LSU's star receives threats following NCAA tournament loss to Iowa

"It sucks, but I still wouldn't change anything, and I would still sit here and say I'm unapologetically me," Reese said. "I'm going to always leave that mark and be who I am and stand on that. Hopefully the little girls that look up to me, hopefully I give them some type of inspiration."

Reese recorded 17 points and 20 rebounds in Monday's game. Clark went for 41 points, seven rebounds and 12 assists.

"Angel is one of the toughest people I've been around," LSU teammate Hailey Van Lith said afterward. "People speak hate into her life. I've never seen people wish bad things on someone as much as her, and it does not affect her. She comes to practice every day. She lives her life every day. She lives how she wants to live."

Fellow teammate Flau'jae Johnson wiped a tear off of Reese's face as they sat together at the postgame podium.

"I know the real Angel Reese, and the person I see every day is a strong person, is a caring, loving person, but the crown she wears is heavy," Johnson said. "She's the type of teammate that's going to make you believe in yourself."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## First handoff

Fort Recovery High School sophomore Matthew Marchal hands off the baton to freshman Breaker Jutte during the March 26 meet at Coldwater. Marchal and Breaker made up two legs of the 4x200-meter relay that placed fifth with a time of 1 minute, 47.47 seconds.

# Vikings suspend Wes Phillips

By BEN GOESSLING  
Star Tribune  
Tribune News Service

MINNEAPOLIS — The Vikings suspended offensive coordinator Wes Phillips for three weeks without pay beginning Tuesday, after he pleaded guilty on Feb. 15 to careless driving as a result of his Dec. 8 arrest on suspicion of drunken driving.

Phillips will miss the first week of the Vikings' offseason workout program, which begins on April 15. His suspension

mirrors the NFL's typical penalty for players charged with DUI for the first time, and likely means Phillips will not face further discipline from the league.

Phillips was pulled over for speeding on Interstate 394 in Minneapolis on Dec. 8, and registered a blood-alcohol level of 0.10%, above the state's legal limit of 0.08%. He coached in the Vikings' win over the Raiders two days later, and continued to coach through the end of the regular season, though coach Kevin

O'Connell said at the time he was "incredibly disappointed" and Phillips said he would accept whatever discipline came as a result of the incident.

Though Phillips coached through the end of 2023 and will not miss any games in 2024 as a result of the suspension, the Vikings chose to begin it at a critical juncture of their offseason. It means Phillips will be away from the team as players return to the building and the Vikings offense spends its first days together fol-

lowing quarterback Kirk Cousins' departure.

The team is also in its final weeks of preparation for an NFL draft where it could trade up near the top of the first round and select the highest drafted quarterback in franchise history. Phillips can return to work Tuesday, April 23, two days before the start of the draft. But he will miss several weeks of pre-draft discussions and many of the Vikings' on-site visits with draft prospects in Eagan.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Girls tennis at Belmont — 5 p.m.; Softball at Delta — 5 p.m.; Track at Adams Central — 5 p.m.; Baseball at Elwood — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high baseball at Madison Grant — 5 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Baseball vs. Parkway — 5 p.m.; Softball at Parkway — 5 p.m.

**Friday**  
Jay County — JV baseball at Marion — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Track at Celina Relays — 4:45 p.m.; Softball at National Trail — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Crestview — 5:30 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**  
3:15 p.m. — PFL martial arts: Heavyweights & women's flyweights (ESPN2)  
4:15 p.m. — MLB: Miami Marlins at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)  
5 p.m. — NRL rugby: Brisbane Broncos at Melbourne Storm (FS1)  
7 p.m. — College basketball NIT championship (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings at New York Knicks (TNT)  
7 p.m. — College baseball: Vanderbilt at LSU (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — College basketball slam dunk and 3-point championships (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Los Angeles Clippers (TNT)  
10 p.m. — AHL hockey: San Jose Barracuda at Coachella Valley Firebirds (FOX)  
10 p.m. — Premier League: Luton Town at Arsenal (USA)  
**Friday**  
2 a.m. — Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
1 p.m. — MLB: Oakland Athletics at Detroit Tigers (FOX)  
3 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Long John Silver's 200 (FS1)  
5 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: DUDE Wipes 250 (FS1)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Oklahoma State Thunder at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
7:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series:

8 p.m. — College gymnastics: Big Ten Championship (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)  
**Local notes**  
**Registration open**  
Registration for the Dunkirk co-ed softball league is now open.  
The league will start on April 7, and it will cost \$250 for each team to register. First and second-place teams win a payout of \$400 and \$200, respectively.  
To register, call Brock Farmer at (765) 209-4289.

Long John Silver's 200 (FS1)  
8 p.m. — College gymnastics: Big Ten Championship (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)

**Challenge set**  
The Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge for the 2024 season will begin April 20, where participants 19-years-old or older can compete in a total of eight races within Adams County.  
The cost to register for the challenge is \$150 and will enter participants in all eight races, with five needing to be completed for the Challenge Series award.  
Challengers don't need to be from Adams County, but only the first 100 entries will compete. Participation in individual events is available as well.  
To sign up or for more information, visit [www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com).  
\*\*\*\*\*  
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to [sports@thecr.com](mailto:sports@thecr.com).

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IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT  
COUNTY OF JAY  
CAUSE NO. 38C01-2402-MF-000001  
FEDERAL HOME LOAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FREDDIE MAC SEASONED LOANS STRUCTURED TRANSACTION TRUST, SERIES 2019-2, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF LLOYD E. ADCOCK, DECEASED, THE UNKNOWN TENANT, EUGENE S. MILLER and BETTY J. MILLER, Defendants.  
NOTICE OF SUIT  
The State of Indiana to the Defendant(s) above named, and any other person who may be concerned.  
You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court above named.  
The nature of the suit against you is:  
Amended complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage on Real Estate  
Against the property commonly known as 5640 E 900 S, Portland, IN 47371-8164 and described as follows:  
ALL THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY SITUATED IN MADISON TOWNSHIP, IN THE COUNTY OF JAY AND STATE OF INDIANA, BEING DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
BEING PART OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 22 NORTH, RANGE 15 EAST BOUNDED AND MORE FULLY DESCRIBED IN A TWO (2) DEEDS DATED AUGUST 5, 1985 AND AUGUST 5, 1985, AND RECORDED AUGUST 6, 1985 AND AUGUST 6, 1985, AMONG THE LAND RECORDS OF THE COUNTY AND THE STATE SET FORTH ABOVE, IN BOOK 150, PAGE 106 AND BOOK 150, PAGE 105.  
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s): The Unknown Tenant, Eugene S. Miller and Betty J. Miller  
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendant(s) whose whereabouts are unknown: The Unknown Heirs and Devisees of Lloyd E. Adcock, Deceased  
If you have a claim for relief against the plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or response.  
You must answer the Amended complaint in writing, by you or your attorney, within thirty (30) days after the Third Notice of Suit, and if you fail to do so a judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief demanded, by the Plaintiff.  
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By /s/ BRYAN K. REDMOND  
BRYAN K. REDMOND  
Attorney No. 22108-29  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
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# Sports

## Safe slide

Reece Wendel, a sophomore at Fort Recovery High School, slides into third base safely after taking off from first base on a Troy Homan sacrifice bunt on March 25. The Indians haven't played in over a week as rainy weather has kept them off the field.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Patriots reclassified to 3A

The Patriots will have a different path in the postseason next year.

The IHSAA announced the division alignments for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 seasons for the sports of football, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls basketball and volleyball on Tuesday morning. The Jay County High School football team will shift down into Class 3A for the next two seasons.

The Patriots will make the move from Class 4A to Class 3A, while sectional rivals Mississinewa and Western join them. Kokomo was reclassified to Class 5A, while the other

### Local roundup

teams from Sectional 20 remained in Class 4A.

JCHS is tied with Guerin Catholic for the highest enrollment in Class 3A at 800 students.

Despite the four-class sports (baseball, basketball, softball and volleyball) being distributed differently, Jay County will remain in the same levels as previous years.

The Patriots will also stay in Class 2A for both boys and girls soccer.

### Tryouts complete

The Jay County Junior High School held cheerleading tryouts recently.

Making the roster were Kaylyn Bell, Ashlynn Brunswick, Avery Carpenter, Jordyn Champ, Emery Forthofer, Audrey Hambrook, Ramzey Huftel, Aubree Hunley, Kamzy Johnson and Brooks Kahlig.

Also avoiding the cut were Jozey Kahlig, Miley Love, Ali Luna, Lexi Miller, Ayva Pitman, Journey Reynolds, Ella Roussey, Aubree Shannon, Leah Steed, Madysen Taylor and Tinley Walker.

## Harper powers Phillies past Reds

By SCOTT LAUBER

The Philadelphia Inquirer Tribune News Service

PHILADELPHIA — It wasn't a night fit for man or beast, to borrow a line from W.C. Fields.

Yet somehow it suited Bryce Harper.

Playing through steady rain, wearing a red ski mask as insulation from a whipping wind and stinging chill — and, oh yeah, 0 for 11 to begin the season — Harper hit solo homers in his first two at-bats Tuesday night, then banged a grand slam to power the Phillies' 9-4 thumping of the Reds.

Hittin' season? For Harper, sure.

It was too cold for a curtain call, even though many among the drenched 28,119 paying customers tried to coax Harper from the dugout with chants of "MVP! MVP!" But he did finish with six RBIs, a career high, in his second career three-homer game, nine years after the first (May 6, 2015, for the Nationals).

Harper became the 20th Phillies player to go deep three times in a game and the fifth in the last 25 years, joining Brad Miller (July 8, 2021), Jayson Werth (May 16, 2008), Ryan Howard (Sept. 3, 2006), and Mike Lieberthal (Aug. 10, 2002).

And while Harper provided the offense, the Phillies received nine solid innings from two unlikely pitching sources: fill-in No. 5 starter Spencer Turnbull and reliever Ricardo Pinto. The latter got called up earlier in the day and allowed three runs (two earned) in four innings in his first major league appearance since 2019.

If not for Harper, it might have gone down as the Ricardo Pinto Game.

With rain falling throughout the day and expected all night, officials from both teams met on the field at about 4:30 p.m. to make a determination. They agreed there would be a window to play the game.

And with more rain expected early Wednesday, the Phillies moved the start time of their series finale against the Reds to 4:05 p.m. It was initially scheduled for 1:05 p.m.

Given the uncertainty of being able to squeeze nine innings between the bands of rain, it was imperative to grab an early lead. With two out in the first inning, Har-

## Harper smashes three home runs in 9-4 victory

er fell into an 0-2 count against Reds starter Graham Ashcraft before crushing a center-cut cutter to straightaway center field and wiping the rain from his helmet as he circled the bases.

The Reds took advantage of a throwing error by shortstop Trea Turner, his second miscue in five games, and scored an unearned run against Turnbull in the third inning.

But Harper broke the tie on the first pitch of the fourth inning, jumping on a slider from Ashcraft and hitting it on a line into the right-field bleachers.

When Harper came to the plate in the seventh, the Phillies held a 4-1 lead. Facing lefty Brent Suter, he got a full-count sinker almost on his shoetop and hit it out to right-center field.

Harper nearly had an even bigger night. In his third at-bat, with a runner on first and nobody out, he drove the ball to center field and was robbed of extra bases on a diving catch by the Reds' Will Benson.

Turnbull, forced into the rotation late in spring training when Taijuan Walker was diagnosed with a shoulder impingement, was solid for five walk-free innings. He allowed three hits and struck out seven batters before passing the baton to Pinto.

Pinto came up with the Phillies, teaming with Ranger Suárez as teenagers in the Venezuelan Summer League in 2012 and making 25 appearances in the majors in 2017. He hadn't pitched in the big leagues since 2019 with the Rays and signed a minor league deal with the Phillies on Feb. 19.

But with the bullpen shorthanded because of early-season overuse, Pinto inherited a 2-1 lead, threw 73 pitches, and kept the game close until Harper's slam and Brandon Marsh's solo shot in the eighth inning broke it open.

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