

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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## Council devolves into chaos

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — Town council's meeting Thursday devolved into chaos, broke up about a third of the way through the agenda and led to threats of a lawsuit.

The Redkey Town Council meeting turned contentious during a discussion about the location of a sewer clean out on property owned by Alisha and Bob Miller. Alisha Miller told council the sewer clean out was put in the wrong place — it's where she plans to put

### Meeting was adjourned abruptly, lawsuit threatened in aftermath

her driveway, she said — and asked that it be moved without any further charges.

That led to a lengthy back and forth between Miller, council members and others in

attendance. Council member "Watermelon" Jim Phillips said he had put in a work order to have the clean out moved, but that it had not been followed. Town employee Randy

Young presented a copy of the estimate for the work with locations marked and said he had also placed flags on the property indicating where the water and sewer lines would be. (Miller contended that she had another estimate with different locations, but she did not have documentation Thursday.)

At one point when Phillips told Miller the clean-out would be moved, Dudelston responded that he was "getting the cart in front of the horse." Phillips argued back, at which point

Dudelston told him he was out of line and that he would have him removed from the meeting. When someone in attendance at the meeting retorted that Dudelston was being rude, the council president said he would have her removed as well, leading to her walking out.

Cooler heads prevailed, for a few minutes, with Dudelston saying he felt the town had done its job by extending water and sewer to the property line, as required.

See Chaos page 2

## Community is key

### Building trust is a focus for planned facility

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Name it to claim it.

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition and Jay County Opioid Settlement Taskforce will be hosting a contest to determine the name of the recovery home — its potential location is expected to be announced in the next two weeks — coming to Jay County.

Since January, both groups have also laid more of the groundwork for the home's policies and expectations of residents.

Sober living facility policies and plans for community engagement were just a few of the topics covered Thursday during the public forum on recovery housing at IU Health Jay in Portland.

#### Background

Kimbra Reynolds, executive director at Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, noted Thursday that Jay County's statistics related to drug use are significantly higher than the state average. Relatives of those who have died from overdoses, Reynolds said, had suggested creating a sober living facility for those battling drug or alcohol addiction.

"Basically, the goal with a recovery house is to, you know, enhance access, reduce barriers and create hope for these individuals," Reynolds said.

Jay County Opioid Settlement Taskforce preliminarily selected a Redkey house in December as a potential location for a sober living facility. Jay County Commissioners at that time approved a \$35,000 request from National Opioid Settlement dollars to conduct a feasibility study on the home and put down earnest money. Commissioners later rescinded that decision in response to backlash from Redkey residents, who cited a lack of amenities and resources as well as safety concerns regarding the facility. The task force also pulled its offer on the house and has been looking for a different location.

The situation led to Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition seeking more community input in the process, hosting community forums Jan. 24 and Thursday, as well as a conversation with teenagers



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Kimbra Reynolds, executive director at Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, speaks during the public forum on recovery housing Thursday at IU Health Jay. The organization hopes to announce the potential location for its sober living facility in the coming weeks.

regarding addiction and recovery on Tuesday.

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition hopes to announce the location it is considering in the next few weeks. The group will still need to conduct a feasibility study on the property to determine if it is suitable.

#### Name it to claim it

"No good recovery starts without community," said Jake Martz, a youth life coach and drug prevention leader with Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition. "If you want to do any kind of growth, you need to have community."

That line of thinking, he continued, led to the idea of getting local residents involved in the process.

Martz explained that once the organization has officially selected a home in the next couple weeks, Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition will begin seeking surveys meant for

suggesting names for the new facility.

The contest winner will receive \$250 and their suggested name will be used for the new facility. Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition will then begin a similar competition for the facility's logo design.

"We want the community to take ownership in this because while we're going to have community inside that home, they need to have community support," he said.

#### Plans and policies

Ally Raines, who is director of PAST (Peer Addiction Support Team) Recovery Services for Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition and in October celebrated five years of being drug-free, addressed some of the questions from the previous forum that had not been answered.

Plans call for a facility designated for males in recovery, serving between

15 and 17 residents in a roughly 5,000-square-foot building. That includes one house manager who is in long-term recovery and oversees the facility at all times.

The intake policy would include an extensive application, interview process, drug screening — each potential resident must be sober and have already detoxed — and, if accepted, a trial period.

New residents would have their rent supplemented by Recovery Works dollars through Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. Once employed, residents must pay weekly rent.

Residents would be expected to:

- Complete chore lists and keep their areas clean
- Eat meals together as a group
- Meet with a peer recovery coach at least every other week
- Follow a curfew, for which a time has not been

designated yet. (Overnight passes may be earned over time.)

•Schedule and attend their own appointments (the facility will provide transportation if needed)

•Sign in and out of the building for appointments and other obligations

Raines said the facility will partner with area organizations to offer classes, trainings and other opportunities to residents. (Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition is looking for a yoga instructor willing to donate their time.)

Regarding neighbors with issues, added Raines, they will be given contact information to the person in charge, who will follow up with their concerns. Noise, loitering and parking complaints, as well as rude behavior and other complaints, will be taken care of immediately, she noted.

"We're wanting to give (the residents) a sense of

responsibility, and social cues," Raines said.

She also talked about a discipline policy, which would identify infractions in varying levels depending on the severity. After a certain number of infractions, residents will be dismissed.

The recovery community organization's board of directors will approve policies and procedures for the facility. (Per law, recovery community organizations boards must have at least 50% of their members in recovery. About 80% of the local board fits that criteria.)

As long as residents are abiding by the rules, they may stay at the home indefinitely until ready to seek other opportunities.

#### Public input

Among various questions addressed Thursday, building trust with the community was a key aspect.

See Community page 2

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Friday.

Skies will be mostly sunny today with a high around 50 and winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Sunday's high will be in the mid 50s with mostly sunny skies.

Lows this weekend will be in the 30s.

Expect frost early Monday before a high in the lower 60s under sunny skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Portland City Council and Redkey Town Council have both scheduled sessions for next week. Portland City Council will hold a work session at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in council chambers at the fire station. Redkey Town Council will hold a special meeting at 6 p.m. Thursday in the park cabin.

#### Coming up

**Tuesday** — Results from today's JCHS baseball game against Randolph Southern.

**Wednesday** — Coverage of next week's Jay County Commissioners meeting.

**Thursday** — Results from the Jay County softball game against Marion.



# Chaos ...

Continued from page 1  
Eventually, council member Brenda Beaty made a motion to move the sewer clean out at no cost to Miller.

That motion failed 3-2, with Floyd Life, Chance Retter and Dudelston voting against while Beaty and Phillips were in favor.

Beaty then made a motion to get Miller an estimate for the cost to have the clean out moved, saying she would start a GoFundMe page to raise the money. That motion didn't go any further, with Miller saying she would not pay for it to be moved.

"That's what they're wanting me to do," she said. "They don't want my taxes, my water bill, none of that. All they want to do is screw people that want to live in Redkey."

The meeting devolved further from there, with Dudelston and Miller exchanging "warnings" and continued arguments about whether the clean out is in the correct location.

Phillips made a phone call to a state agency, using speaker phone, at which point Dudelston told him to end the call in order to allow the meeting to move on. When Phillips did not end the call, Dudelston asked Redkey police officer Chris Boggs to remove him from the meeting. (Dudelston had announced

Boggs' hiring at the beginning of the meeting, though no vote was ever taken to hire him.)

When Boggs did not and Phillips continued his phone conversation, Dudelston slammed his gavel, declared the meeting adjourned and walked out. (Council was only about a third of the way through its agenda at the time.)

As the meeting broke up and the crowd began to disperse, Beaty began leveling accusations of illegal conduct by some of her fellow council members. She said Boggs was hired as a police officer last week without a council vote.

"They did not consult us," she said. "They did not have a meeting. They went behind our back."

She also alleged other council members tried to give Redkey Town Marshal Zach Moser a fraudulent contract and that Dudelston, Retter and Life discussed Miller's request in advance and had already decided how they were going to vote.

"They're agreeing to do stuff behind our back," she said.

Beaty said she would file a lawsuit over the issues. She also offered to share videos from discussions that were held April 12 among council members and Moser at Redkey Town Hall.

The Commercial Review had

learned early in the afternoon on April 12 about plans for Redkey Town Council to hold an "emergency" meeting that day. The newspaper then contacted clerk-treasurer Gloria May to inform her that such a meeting would be illegal. (Neither the media nor the public had received proper notice.) The newspaper also contacted then-town attorney Wes Schemenaur — he has since resigned from that role — who said he would reach out to a town council member to inform him that such a meeting would not be allowed.

Asked Thursday night if such a meeting was held April 12, Retter said no. Asked about Boggs' hiring, Retter said Dudelston made the call to hire him as a new officer. Retter confirmed that council never voted to hire Boggs.

Retter added that he contacted Moser last week about signing a reimbursement agreement for his training at Indiana Law Enforcement Academy — such contracts typically require an officer to repay a percentage of the cost if they leave a department within three years — and asked to meet him April 12 to discuss it. Dudelston had presented Moser with a contract from another town, which Retter said the marshal refused to sign.

Beaty shared the videos from the gathering at town hall, saying Moser called her and Phillips after being presented with the contract. (Among those in the videos are four council members — Beaty said Dudelston came to town hall but left — as well as Moser.)

The videos include Retter telling Moser he would have to sign a contract in order to be sent to the law enforcement academy. After Moser refused, Retter told him his "days are numbered." (In a second video, as the conversation cooled, Moser said he would sign the agreement if repayment of his wages for his time at the academy were removed from it.)

Retter said Moser did not sign the contract but started at the law enforcement academy Monday.

Retter also said in the videos that he plans to resign from council. He confirmed that statement, but has not yet made his resignation official.

Prior to Thursday's meeting devolving into chaos:

•Council voted 4-1, with Phillips dissenting, to stop utilizing former Hartford City clerk-treasurer Pam Collett for assistance for the town clerk's office and hire another consultant at a rate of \$140/hour to train May

and her staff. (In February, council had approved utilizing Collett for training on an as-needed basis.) May acknowledged that Collett has been helpful with issues when they arise, but said there are still some reports the clerk's office has not done. "Whatever is going on now is not working, so we've got to do something else," said Retter.

•Following comments from Jay County Council member and former Redkey Town Council member Randy May regarding the benefits of vacating alleys, council informally agreed to Tadeusz Kolodka's request to vacate an alley between Harrison and Butler streets connecting Grandview Avenue and Wayne Street. He and his wife own three of the four properties surrounding the alley. (May owns the other.) Council members told Kolodka to go through the proper process to advertise the change, after which they will take a vote.

Items on the agenda that council did not get to before its meeting fell apart included zoning, live streaming of meetings, a flag pole at the fire station, a grant opportunity through Norfolk and Southern Railroad, mowing bids, police vehicle bids, Schemenaur's resignation, claims, water bill adjustments and department reports.

# CR almanac

| Sunday 4/21  | Monday 4/22   | Tuesday 4/23  | Wednesday 4/24   | Thursday 4/25   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
|  |   |   |  |   |
| <b>55/26</b>   | <b>62/46</b>  | <b>63/42</b>  | <b>57/33</b>   | <b>60/40</b>  |
| Sunny skies are expected with a high near 55 degrees, with a chance of frost late. | More sun is expected Monday, when the high will be around 62 degrees. | Tuesday looks to be rainy with a 50% chance of showers. | Wednesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high in the upper 50s. | There's a slight chance of rain. Otherwise, mostly sunny. |

# Lotteries

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Hoosier</b><br>Midday<br>Daily Three: 2-0-4<br>Daily Four: 5-9-5-6<br>Quick Draw: 10-11-15-24-28-30-33-36-39-41-42-43-44-49-52-60-63-68-69-80 | Pick 5: 6-5-2-6-0<br>Evening<br>Rolling Cash 5: 7-11-21-25-32<br>Jackpot: \$110,000                             |
| <b>Ohio</b><br>Midday<br>Pick 3: 4-4-5<br>Pick 4: 9-8-4-4  | <b>Powerball</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$98 million<br><b>Mega Millions</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$178 million |

# Markets

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b><br>Corn.....4.38<br>May corn.....4.38<br>Wheat .....4.67        | May beans .....11.44<br>Wheat .....5.27   |
| <b>POET Biorefining Portland</b><br>Corn.....4.43<br>May corn .....4.43<br>June corn .....4.43    | <b>ADM Montpelier</b><br>Corn.....4.17<br>May corn.....4.20<br>Beans .....11.40<br>May beans .....11.44<br>Wheat .....5.23        |
| <b>The Andersons Richland Township</b><br>Corn .....4.27<br>May corn.....4.27<br>Beans .....11.44 | <b>Heartland St. Anthony</b><br>Corn.....4.23<br>May corn.....4.33<br>Beans .....11.21<br>May beans .....11.26<br>Wheat .....4.85 |

# Today in history

In 1871, Japan launched its first government-operated postal service with deliveries between Tokyo and Osaka.  
In 1973, former Redkey Public Schools superintendent DeWitt Ogan died at Shatton Nursing Home in Muncie at the age of 75. He had retired as Redkey's superintendent a decade earlier.  
In 2013, Ravi Patel was honored as Jay County High School's prom king while Gabbie Cross and Julie Valentine tied for the honor of prom queen. It marked the first time there had been a tie since Lauren McKee and Julie Bubb shared the crown 11 years earlier.  
—The CR

# Citizen's calendar

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Monday</b><br>3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.<br>5 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.<br>5:30 p.m. — Center Cemetery Board, Community Room, Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.<br>6 p.m. — Dunkirk | Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.<br>7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.<br><b>Wednesday</b><br>5 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.<br>6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St. |
|--|---|

# Felony arrests

## Drug charges

Two Jay County residents were arrested Thursday for drug charges.

Timothy J. Slaven, 39, 6289 W. 800 South, Redkey, was preliminarily charged with two Level 2 felonies for dealing methamphetamine and deal-

ing narcotics, a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. He was being held on a \$75,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Cheyenne P. Petro, 29, 816 N. Franklin St., Portland, was prelimi-

narily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She was being held on \$7,500 in bonds at Jay County Jail.

# Capsule Reports

## Variance denied

Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals denied a variance request Thursday from Steve and Tony Schwieterman.

The Schwietermans requested a 90-foot variance from the 100-foot setback requirement for a poultry confined feeding building at their property, 8346 E. Indiana 26, Portland. Their plans were to tear down existing buildings and construct a new facility, which would be closer to the right-of-way.

Board members Scott Hilfiker, Angela Paxson, Steve Ford, Caleb Hemmelgarn and Marla Lutes decided not to grant the variance.

## Backing accident

A Portland man backed his car into the vehicle a Portland woman was driving in the Family Dollar parking lot about 5:22 p.m. Monday.

Mathew Duff, 34, was

driving his 2002 GMC Sierra in the lot at 703 N. Meridian St., Portland, when he backed into a 2015 Ford Edge driven by 33-year-old Rachel Reff.

Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

## Pole hit

A Tennessee man crashed the semi he was driving into a utility pole at the intersection of Lafayette and Franklin streets in Portland about 7:10 p.m. Monday.

Roy D. Brown, 42, Decherd, was turning a 2002 International northwest from Lafayette Street onto Franklin Street when the semi's trailer struck a pole, cracking it.

Brown was cited for violating the truck ordinance in Portland. The semi he was driving is registered to Western Express in Nashville.

Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

# Community ...

Continued from page 1  
Martz pointed out strong feelings about those in recovery are going to continue.

"They have been negatively affected by people in active use," he said. "The effect is happening, so when people in recovery grow ... those sober people are helping the community to recover from an epidemic they've had for a long time."

Jay County resident Michael Keller, who said his home had been burglarized by three people struggling with addiction, noted he's not alone in having experienced trauma.

"There are people that have experienced very traumatic things by the drug picture," he said, noting it will take years to break down those walls.

Also Thursday, Jay County natives Dustin Louck and Ashley Franklin shared their stories with recovery.

Franklin, a local resident in recovery who is currently pursuing her master's degree in social justice, talked about her focus on advocating for the vulnerable. She mentioned family of those struggling with addiction.

"Even if the drug pandemic may not affect your everyday life, think of those that it does,"

Franklin said. "The mom who had to bury her 15-year-old son due to drugs or the son who spent all his life wondering why his mother loved drugs more than she loved him."

She also noted the facility will be focused first on Jay County residents in recovery.

Louck, a Redkey resident in his 40s, has spent a majority of his life battling drug and alcohol addiction. He lived in Salvation Army Harbor Light Center's transitional housing for an extended period of time and noted the usual 28-day rehabilitation process would not have been enough for him.

"There has to be that time, that I'm in a controlled environment with a little bit of freedom, where there's enough rules that somebody's telling me, you've got to be home at this time, you've got to pay bills," he said.

"I would be dead, if I had to come back to Redkey straight from rehab, I would be dead," continued Louck. "There's no question because, you know, I come right back to what I'm used to. If that's all I know, that's all I know, until somebody teaches me different, somebody walks me through how to be a normal person again ..."

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# Autism resource fair set for April 29

Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities is hosting an autism resource fair this month. The fair, held in conjunction with Autism Acceptance Awareness Month, will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. April 29 in Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities' (Mercer DD) gymnasium. Vendors ranging from the medical field to equestrian therapy will be available in an open house style event. The public is welcome to attend and learn about resources available to help individuals with autism or autism spectrum disorder. Mercer DD serves approximately 500 chil-

## Taking Note

dren and adults in Mercer County through programming, support and services. For more information, visit Mercer DD's Facebook page or contact transition specialist and event organizer Jessica Baltes at jbaltes@mercercdd.org.

**PHS alumni**  
Portland High School Alumni Association will host its annual banquet at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at

Wheel & Spoke Event Center in Portland. Honored classes this year are 1974, 1969, 1964, 1959, 1954, 1949 and 1944, but any Portland High School alumni are welcome to attend with guests. The meal will be served by Carla's Kitchen, and tickets are \$20 per person. Banquet reservation forms are available at portlandpantherproud.com, the association's new website. Reservations with payment should be mailed to Portland High School Alumni Association, PO Box 218, Portland, IN 47371. Alumni with questions should email portlandhsalumni.in@gmail.c

om or visit the Portland High School Indiana Facebook page.

**Take back drugs**  
Indiana State Police is partnering with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency as part of the Prescription Drug Take Back initiative. The program seeks to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft through proper disposal of unwanted prescription drugs. Prescription pills and liquid medications as well as electronic cigarettes without batteries or cartridges will be accepted. The service is free and anonymous. Collection sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Saturday, April 27, at the Indiana State Police posts in Fort Wayne (5811 Ellison Road) and Pendleton (9022 S. Indiana 67).

**Strawberry fest**  
Jay County Public Library and Jay County Farm Bureau are partnering together to hold a strawberry fest from 5 to 7 p.m. June 13. The event will offer various activities related to the red fruit, including edible treats and crafts. Shannon Anderson will also be reading her book, "I Love Strawberries," which was named the farm bureau's book of the year in 2023. There will be copies of Anderson's book available for sale as well.

**Author visit**  
Fort Recovery Public Library is hosting an author visit. Kimberly Nixon, author of the newly released "Rock Bottom Rising," will be at the library starting at 6 p.m. April 30. Nixon's book is a sequel to her biographical fiction novel, "Rock Bottom, Tennessee." The story is based on her grandmother's criminal conviction in 1920s Appalachia. Attendance is free and sponsored by Fort Recovery Friends of the Library. Nixon's books are available at kimerlynixon.com. To learn more, call at (419) 375-2869 or visit the library at 113 Wayne St.

# Divorce from decades ago is still sore subject

**DEAR ABBY:** My parents have been divorced for 30 years. It was an unpleasant divorce because Dad had an affair with a woman he worked with and married her soon after. Mom was devastated. She and Dad were high school sweethearts. Both have moved on from this — sort of. Dad has since divorced, remarried and divorced again. He's now with a woman he isn't married to, but who is wonderful to him. My mom remarried to a lovely man she knew in high school. But she still talks about my dad and how he hurt her. I knew about the affair when I was younger and, as I grew older, I discovered there had been many more affairs with other women. Mom takes some responsibility for the divorce. She mentioned that she wasn't always "there" for Dad because she had young children and was tired. I recently saw my father. He talked about Mom and opened up a new can of worms. He confided

## Dear Abby



and you would appreciate it if she wouldn't discuss it with you further. As to your father, he had no business discussing what he did with you. If he brings it up again, remind him that his marriage to your mother was only his first marriage, and you don't want to hear it again because it was inappropriate. ....

**DEAR ABBY:** We have a couple we occasionally invite over for games and dessert. For the last several months, they have been asking me if the dessert I've made is from a mix. They are not joking; they are serious. I'm a good cook and baker. They've eaten here often and know I cook from scratch. I try to make something special every time they come. To ask if I used a mix is an insult and very hurtful. I tried showing them the recipe I've made for an evening, but it hasn't put the issue to bed. I invite them to our home less often

because of this. If it were just me, I'd quit seeing them altogether, but my husband plays golf with the husband, and I don't want to mess that up. How can I figure out why this started and get them to stop? — TRYING TO GET ALONG IN NEVADA

**DEAR TRYING:** Call the wife and ask her calmly and privately why she and her husband keep doing this. Remind her that she knows darn well that you prepare the food you serve them from scratch, and you are puzzled about why she has been implying that you didn't. Then let her explain. After that, ask if she and her husband would prefer that, instead of you spending hours in the kitchen before their visits, you simply order pizza and a salad? .....

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband is a gun owner. I am not. My mother sometimes stays over and sleeps

in his office, which doubles as a guest room. My husband tells me before my mother goes into the room to sleep that I should make sure the gun is safely put away in case she snoops around and finds it and an accident happens. I told him that is HIS responsibility as a gun owner, not mine. I also told him my mother won't snoop in his workstation. He continues to tell me to check it "just in case," and I repeat that it's not my responsibility. Who's responsible to check if the gun is put away? — NOT MY TASK IN THE EAST

**DEAR N.M.T.:** You are both responsible to ensure the safety of your guests. Your husband's gun should be safely locked in a gun case to prevent anyone from shooting themselves in the foot (or you or your husband if a bullet should accidentally go through a wall). Because your husband shirks his responsibility, in order to protect your mother, you should do it.

# 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.  
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.  
MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

**Sunday**  
A BETTER LIFE — BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.  
**Monday**  
PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.  
PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.  
EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.  
TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30

p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.  
PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.  
BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.  
PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

**Tuesday**  
JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.  
COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.  
BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.  
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.

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## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

**Friday's Solution**

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

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## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**For Jay County Elementary Schools  
April 22-26**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Monday: Main Entrees:</b> Mini cheese stuffed ravioli, Garlic breadstick                                 | <b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick |
| <b>Sides for all meals:</b> Tater tots  |   |
| <b>Tuesday: Main Entrees:</b> Soft beef whole grain tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheddar cheese, salsa | <b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick |
| <b>Sides for all meals:</b> Seasoned black beans  |   |
| <b>Wednesday: Main Entrees:</b> Baked mozzarella cheese stick   | <b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick |
| <b>Sides for all meals:</b> Baked shoestring fries  |   |
| <b>Thursday: Main Entrees:</b> Waffle flavored chicken chunks   | <b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick |
| <b>Sides for all meals:</b> Herb roasted potatoes   |   |
| <b>Friday: Main Entrees:</b> Classic pepperoni pizza  | <b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick |
| <b>Sides for all meals:</b> Savory green beans  |   |

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# Collaboration is key to our success

By **TREVOR FRIEBERG**

East Central Indiana (ECI) hasn't been immune to challenges mirroring broader statewide trends.

From job losses to population decline, the headwinds facing our region have been strenuous. Over the last decade and post COVID, several counties within ECI have experienced a decline in population, talent and highly skilled workers, with concerns surrounding economic stagnation and outmigration. These realities cast a shadow of uncertainty over the future, leading many to question whether revitalization was within reach. Reshaping this narrative was the first hurdle we had to overcome.

Central to our mission was the recognition that strength lies in

*Trevor Friedeberg*



transcended county lines and individual interests. It wasn't always easy; changing mindsets and fostering trust required persistent effort. Yet, with every conversation, we witnessed the seeds of collaboration taking root.

### Forging the path

In 2023, the fruits of our labor were unmistakable. Over 3,000 voices joined in crafting a strategic roadmap that addressed regional concerns and aspirations alike. With the announcement of a \$35 million Regional Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI 2.0) grant from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), a \$20 million increase from the first round of READI, our collective determination has been affirmed.

unity — that by coming together, we could overcome even the most daunting of obstacles. Through open dialogue opportunities such as workshops, surveys and stakeholder sessions, we worked together to capture the pulse of our region, listening intently to concerns about access to education, housing, childcare and talent attraction.

The goal from here was clear: to cultivate a shared vision that

The partnership's comprehensive preparation for READI 2.0 was no small feat. Building on the lessons gleaned from READI 1.0, we meticulously refined our regional development plan and essentially rebuilt it from the ground up. The process was inclusive, transparent and driven by a shared commitment to propel East Central Indiana toward a thriving future.

### Looking ahead

As we eagerly anticipate the next chapter, it's clear that our work is not over. With the support of READI 2.0 funding, we're poised to turn vision into action. From bolstering infrastructure to enhancing quality of life initiatives, our goals are ambitious yet attainable. The road ahead may

present challenges, but with our newfound spirit of collaboration, there's no limit to what we can achieve. We're forging a path that isn't measured solely in dollars and cents; it's measured in the lives changed and communities revitalized.

### Closing remarks

We are so grateful of every individual, organization and community member who contributed to this journey, your dedication has been the cornerstone of our success. Together, we've proven that collaboration isn't just a buzzword — it's the lifeline for progress.

*Friedeberg is president and CEO of the East Central Indiana Regional Partnership.*

## Show appreciation for our ag producers

By **JULIA WICKARD**

I have the tremendous opportunity to work with some of the greatest employees in the federal government and we have the pleasure to serve and work for the American farmer — the original environmentalist, who cares for the land and our natural resources like no other. On behalf of Indiana Farm Service Agency (FSA) employees, we all are proud to be partners with the men and women who farm in the great state of Indiana. Agriculture is an honorable profession and we are privileged to do our part to help. We salute you — the American Farmer — on Earth Day, April 22, 2024.

Our nation's farmers work hard to provide food and clothing for our country and the world. Their dedication to the land and all-things conservation is an inspiration to all of us as Americans, and to the next generation of farmers. Without them, we would not have the abundant food, fiber, feed, and fuel supplies that we not only depend on, but often take for granted.

Agriculture involves sacrifice, dedication and hard work. As a young person growing up on the family farm, I mostly remember the sacrifice of sleep. Getting up early and working hard until sundown is not something that always comes naturally; rather, it usually must be learned — a lesson I learned from my parents and grandparents, and that my husband and I have worked to instill in our children.

The sacrifices and work ethic you learned while you were young continues as you get older. For those who start farming later in life, they quickly encounter the long hours, the hard work, and the risks associated with farming — caring for a sick animal, changing a machinery part, determining when to plant based on the weather, or financing next year's costs. These risks feed and clothe our families and friends.

USDA studies indicate that the agriculture sector is a bright spot in terms of economic stability and growth, with strong, global demand for U.S. agricultural products. Generation after generation of agricultural producers in Indiana get up early every day to keep this sector of

*Julia Wickard*



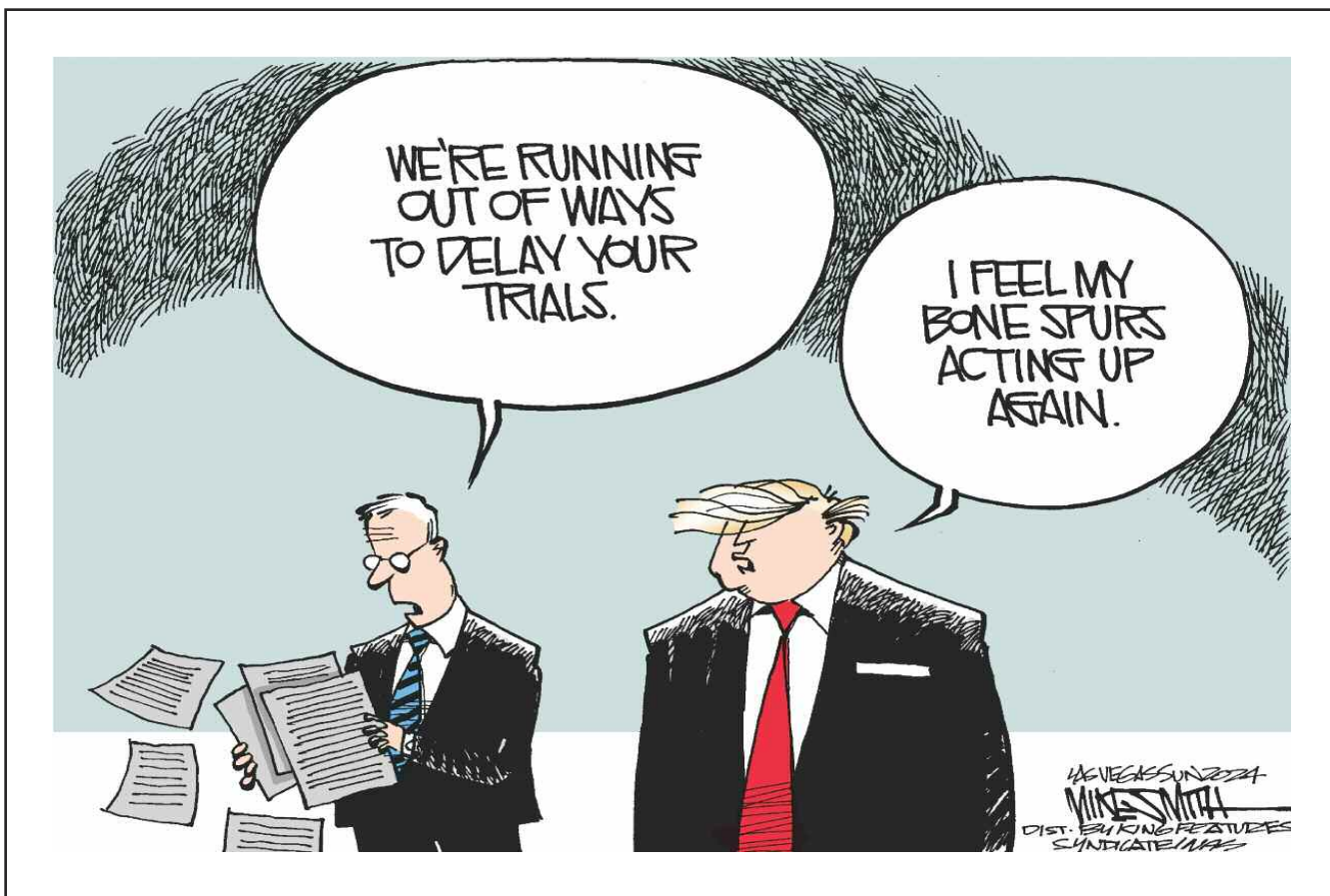
the economy viable, by providing jobs and income for both rural and urban families and communities. And they do it all while caring for the environment in which agriculture exists so this and the next, and the next generation will have a plentiful and healthy planet.

In 1960 each U.S. farmer provided food for about 25 people. Today, each U.S. farmer feeds more than 166 people worldwide, an increase of over 560%. Research and new technologies have boosted production, but someone still has to go outside, work in the elements and make things grow. Without regard for the wind, rain, snow, freeze, fire, and drought, day-in and day-out, farmers can be found tending to the crops, managing their herd, and making ends meet — in the environment.

Agriculture is America's number one export, and critical to sustaining a healthy economy. Here in Indiana, agriculture is a leading driver of our state's economy; with our state being a national leader in poultry production. However, Indiana also ranks in the top ten states in: popcorn, tomatoes for processing, ice cream production, mint production, pork production, corn, soybeans and several fruits and vegetables. Moreover, the diversity of crops and livestock on our over 53,000 Hoosier farms ensures economic growth and stability for Indiana's economy.

While it is easy to take agriculture for granted, we should never lose sight of the importance of a safe, abundant and affordable food supply. For this, we as a nation are fortunate. Please take the time to recognize and appreciate the men and women in agriculture who selflessly improve our quality of life and care for our Earth like no other.

*April 22 is Earth Day. Wickard is the state executive director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency in Indiana. Email her at julia.wickard@usda.gov.*



## Finish job, reauthorize FISA

**Chicago Tribune**  
Tribune News Service

Jaime Castenada Jr. was reportedly out celebrating a family baptism when he met an alleged drug dealer in Hammond, Indiana, now accused of selling him \$20 of cocaine. Within a few hours, Castenada was found outside, police say, propped between a car and a tree, bleeding from the nose. The drug had been laced with dangerous fentanyl, a coroner found, and death came swiftly for the 27-year-old father of two, as it has for the 100,000-plus Americans that opioids are killing every year.

The opioid epidemic that has rocked America for decades just keeps getting worse, and Congress has done little to stop the flow of these deadly narcotics into the U.S. A bipartisan border bill that would have made a big positive difference fell to election-year politics, after ex-President Donald Trump opposed it in a transparent effort to deny relief for one of President Joe Biden's biggest headaches.

Last week, Trump was at it again, opposing legislation to reform Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which authorizes warrantless spying on foreigners abroad. This page has long supported FISA, while acknowledging that it's vulnerable to abuse. The program has been vital for protecting America. It has saved American lives, and Trump, aided by the far-right bombthrowers in the House GOP, tried to scuttle an opportunity to expand it to address the opioid crisis.

On Friday, cooler heads prevailed, and America is on track to get an enhanced weapon against the opioid plague. Under 702, U.S. authorities work with telecom companies to secretly gather phone and electronic communications of foreigners outside the U.S., a process that needs to be more restrictive so that private information from American citizens isn't swept up in the net. Surveillance is focused on terrorism, nuclear proliferation and cyberattacks.

Along with catching terrorists,

### Guest Editorial

spies and hackers, 702 also has shown promise in exposing the network of drug smugglers supplying deadly fentanyl. We support not only renewing 702 but expanding its use against opioid trafficking — which in Illinois is killing more than twice as many people as motor-vehicle accidents, and more than twice as many people as homicides. The number of deaths is up more than 30-fold over the past decade, and, right now, there's nothing to stop it from continuing to skyrocket.

What's needed is a gloves-off response targeting Chinese companies that produce the chemicals used to manufacture fentanyl and Mexican dealers who mix the dangerous concoction and spirit it across the border. In just the month of February, the California National Guard alone seized more than 1 million fentanyl pills and over a thousand pounds of powdered fentanyl. A dose the size of a rice grain can be fatal. Obviously, a mind-boggling amount is getting through.

It's worthwhile to consider how America became such a fentanyl hotbed. In the 1970s and '80s, heroin and other addictive opium derivatives were a serious problem but came nowhere near killing as many people as opioids do today. Europe, too, has long dealt with the effects of heroin addiction.

During the 1990s, however, America and Europe diverged. In the U.S., Purdue Pharma, run by the notorious Sackler family, took advantage of lax oversight to make a fortune pushing synthetic opioids. Lying about the addictive properties of its cash-cow opioid OxyContin, Purdue flooded the streets with pills, raking in billions of dollars while destroying

lives and communities. In Europe, restrictions on pharmaceutical companies prevented their executives from following the Sacklers' lethal playbook.

As a result, apart from hot spots like Scotland, fentanyl is rarely abused in Europe. In the U.S., however, when Purdue was finally driven out of the pill-pushing business, the enormous market it created for opioids was filled with fentanyl. As of 2021, more than a million Americans had died, from babies and first responders to the elderly. The most vulnerable are young men, in their teens and 20s, who often have no idea they're ingesting such dangerous stuff.

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule in a month or two on a bankruptcy-court deal that would let the Sacklers walk off with much of their fortune and no further liability. The same avoidance of consequences has been mostly true of the Chinese and Mexican smugglers who have filled the gap left by Purdue and its ilk.

Not everyone is getting off the hook, however. In the death of Castenada, the 29-year-old Chicago resident accused of selling him \$20 worth of drugs is facing severe criminal penalties. He's been charged with felonies that, if he's convicted, could lead to decades in prison.

Anyone who sells someone a fatal overdose of an illegal substance must be punished, of course. But locking up small-scale dealers is not going to solve this devastating problem. Expanding Section 702 of FISA, on the other hand, could help a great deal.

At the eleventh hour, the House came through, voting 243-147 on Friday to advance legislation to the Senate that not only contains significant reforms of 702, but also expands its use to target foreign drug traffickers. The vote split both parties and there are no guarantees, but it appears likely the Senate will approve the bill, and President Joe Biden will sign this controversial but necessary measure. Score one for law and order.

# The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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CRYPTOQUIP

MKRNSJK EZFJK JCPLX-RFNEKU
VN VVNOJ KVMQNRKU, P
JSCCFJK EZKX'WK HPWKL
KNRZ FEZKQ ZKUHK-ZSHJ.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POPULAR TUNE ABOUT AN ADORABLE PET RABBIT THAT'S CHERISHED VERY MUCH: "SOME BUNNY TO LOVE."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals M

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

Asking about

- 1) What Pacific Northwest river is named for the ship in which Robert Gray explored it?
2) Duke University and NBA player Grant Hill's father played for what team in the NFL?

(1) Columbia River (2) Dallas Cowboys

CRYPTOQUIP

LXVOGEW - XEMP TGS GX YUG
OPYO TVNFTBEKNGXZ MWZBJG
OV NGS GKVL PGIOF MYKI
JBZMKGZ: KGU - WVU.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE THOSE SPINY-COATED MAMMALS EMBRACED, I SUPPOSE THEY'VE GIVEN EACH OTHER HEDGE-HUGS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals C

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to laughter. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 14 = E)
A. 10 2 20 14 Clue: Funny saying
B. 5 13 9 9 16 Clue: Humorous
C. 19 7 13 19 20 22 14 Clue: Laugh slightly
D. 1 25 8 22 14 Clue: Pleased expression

WORD SCRAMBLE
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to laughter.
MCCIO
Guess Who?
I am a football coach born on February 16, 1952 in Tennessee. I played tight end in college for Wesleyan University. I've coached a number of teams, but led one NFL team to victory at the Super Bowl six times.
Answer: Bill Belichick

kids' corner
HEALTH FACT: THIS ACTIVITY CAN RELIEVE STRESS AND DECREASE BLOOD PRESSURE, RESULTING IN A RELAXED FEELING.
ANSWER: LAUGHING

Crossword Puzzle
ACROSS: 1. Silliest, craziest; 5. Account of (abbr); 6. To a great extent; 7. Smiles slightly; 9. Either; 10. Not any; 11. Response to a situation
DOWN: 1. Happy sound; 2. Calm, pleasant place; 3. Midday; 4. Unlucky number; 8. Boy child

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
1849: HUNGARY DECLARES ITSELF INDEPENDENT OF AUSTRIA.
1894: THE FIRST EVER COMMERCIAL MOTION PICTURE HOUSE OPENS IN NEW YORK CITY.
1986: THE HEAVIEST HAILSTONES EVER RECORDED FALL ON THE GOPALGANJ DISTRICT OF BANGLADESH. THEY WEIGH 1 KG (2.2 LBS).

LOTS OF LAUGHS WORD SEARCH

PPMP S L O L R G F C O M E D Y U Y J
R M O F C H H E N G M P S A V C G O S D
V F D T E U V I B E B S I N B J L K L O H
G S F C N I Y R L L F E H F O Y S B O E
E U Y A T R H I B K J L L N L R A D O M
E M G I C A M Y O C A G S C O U T U F I
C I S M H S L A C A C G C L A U G H L D
P O G A O C O A P C A I E C G U O O I U
P I E S I O C P G T I G C U U N E M R J
E J F B A N V O D M H U R Y R C I T P J
M H F U J T C F M R B G T G R D S C A I
T Y I T O A K H H E E K I G P E B Y M E
O M Y B K G G J L U A D R K A R K I L F K F
Y B N P I I F P Y C R I C I B M M I I C
A E N V N O I P F N K B A I O T N O E T
R L U E G U Y G D L U L M N A R Y O F
B L F S G S D A T N D I E S K S F O O D
I Y S H C H E E K S S L J Y J P C N J B
K V J N B M V D R H O K B P G U V P O I
V G L G M P D K A D R P U C C I H N B V
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- APRIL FOOLS, BELLY, BRAY, BRIGHT, CACKLE, CHEEKS, CHUCKLE, COMEDIAN, COMEDY, CONTAGIOUS, CRYING, FUNNY, GIGGLES, HAHHA, HICCUP, JOKING, LAUGH, LOL, MOOD, POSITIVE, RELIEF, SMILE, SNICKER, SNORT

How they say that in...
ENGLISH: Laugh
SPANISH: Reirse
ITALIAN: Ridere
FRENCH: Rire
GERMAN: Lachen

Did You Know?
APRIL FOOL'S DAY FALLS ON THE FIRST DAY OF APRIL. IT IS A DAY WHEN MANY PEOPLE PULL PRANKS ON OTHERS OR TRY TO MAKE THEM LAUGH.

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

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 37 Navarro on "The View", 54 "So frustrating!", 55 Egyptian deity, 56 Chow —
DOWN: 1 "Prometheus" actor Idris, 2 Big rackets, 3 Latin word, 4 Not on the fringe, 5 Deluxe, 6 Thor's father, 7 Hand drums, 8 Jargon suffix, 9 Hawaiian party, 10 Goofs, 11 Regimen, 20 Atlantic current, 22 Whale's home, 24 Custard utensil, 25 Norm (Abbr.), 26 Bill's partner, 27 URL ending, 29 "Had a Hammer", 30 Hamilton bill, 31 Soon-to-be grads, 35 AM/FM devices, 36 Egyptian pharaoh, 39 Pizzazz, 40 Draft status, 41 Vow, 43 Spumante source, 45 Storybook heavy, 46 Hybrid fruit, 47 Animated figure, 49 Roman, 1006

Yesterdays answer 4-20
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12
15
18
21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31
32
34
35 36
37 38
39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47
48
49 50
51 52 53
54 55 56

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Painstaking care

North dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: A 8 4, K Q 10 3, Q 9 5 2, J 7 6. WEST: Q 6 2, J 6, J 10 6 4, K Q 10 8 3. EAST: J 9 7 5 3, 7 5 2, 7, J 9 5 4. SOUTH: K 10, A J 9 8 4, A K 8 3, A 2. The bidding: North Pass, East Pass, South 1♥, West 3♥. Opening lead — king of clubs. While it is true that some hands pretty much play themselves and require relatively little effort, others demand painstaking care for the best result to be obtained. Take this deal where West leads the king of clubs against six hearts. The first thing South does is to count his losing tricks. He sees that the only conceivable losers are a club and a diamond. The club loser is inevitable, so the only remaining

problem is the potential diamond loser, which is a threat only if the missing diamonds are divided 4-1 or 5-0. He therefore focuses all his efforts on dealing with that possibility should it exist. Careful thought provides the answer. After winning the opening trick, South draws three rounds of trump, plays the K-A of spades and ruffs dummy's third spade. He then cashes the ace of diamonds and exits with a club, content that this play will make the slam, no matter how the diamonds are divided. As the cards lie, if East wins the club, he is forced to return a spade or a club, thereby presenting declarer with a ruff-and-discard and the contract. If West wins the club, he is similarly hamstrung. He must either yield a ruff-and-discard or return a diamond, and whichever diamond he leads, declarer plays low from dummy and easily scores the rest of the tricks. The outcome is the same if East wins the club and started with four diamonds. He must also yield the slam, regardless of what he does next. The early preparation to cover all contingencies pays off in the end.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

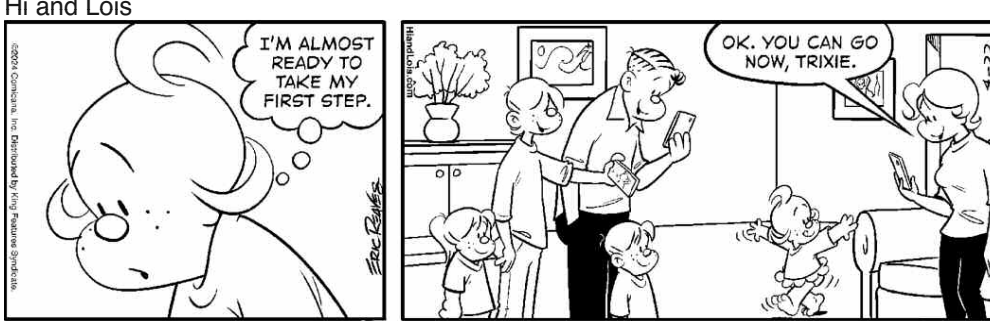
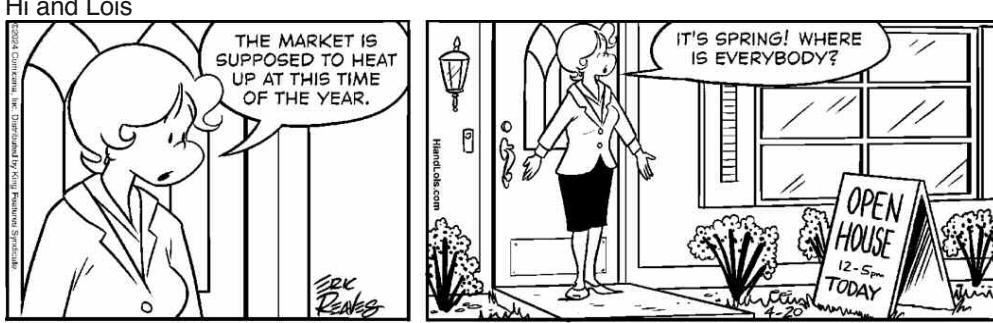
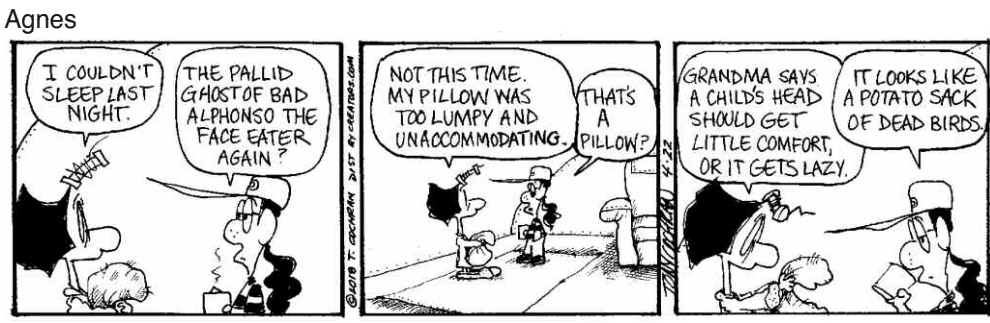
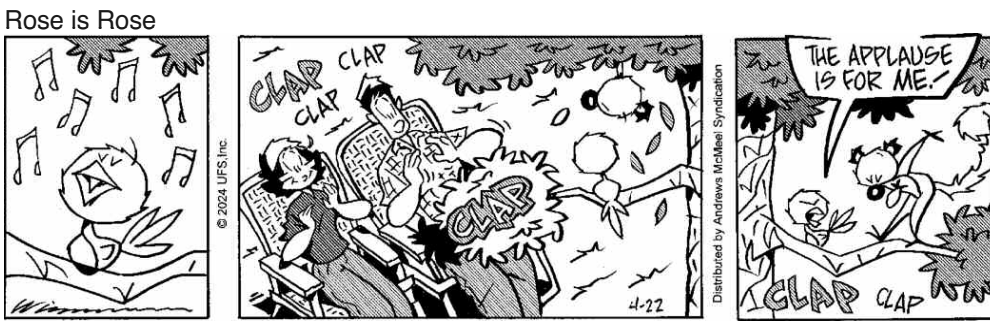
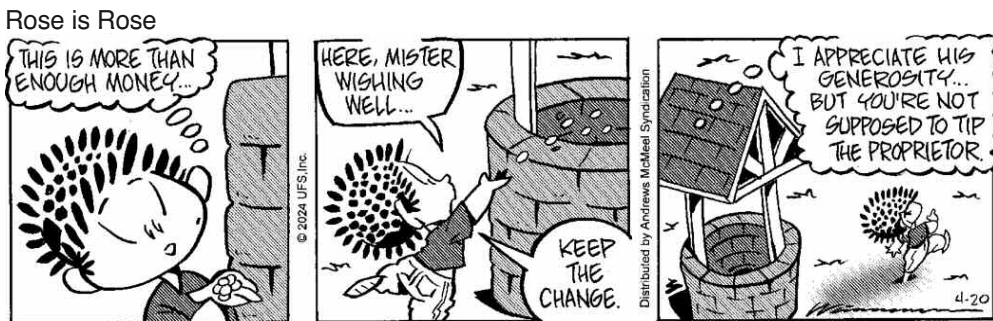
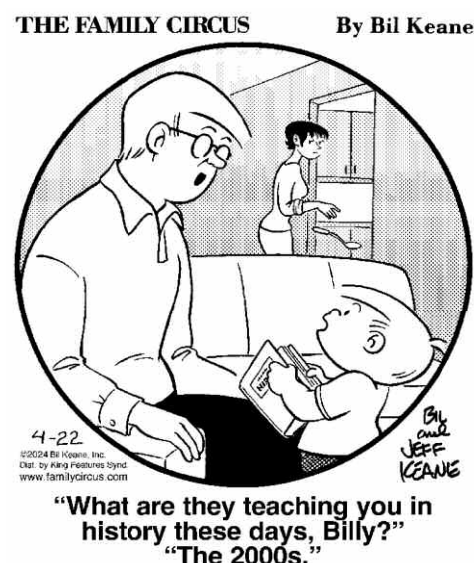
East dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH: J 8 3, A Q J 7 4, A K 7, 9 6. WEST: Q 10 7 2, 2, 8 5, A Q 10 8 4 2. SOUTH: A K 4, 8 5 3, Q 6 4 2, K J 7. The bidding: East Pass, South 1♦, West 2♣, North Pass, 2 NT, Pass, 3 NT. Opening lead — two of spades. This deal occurred in the 1980 London Sunday Times Invitational Pair Championship. It features exceptionally good declarer play by Billy Eisenberg, who got to three notrump on the bidding shown. West led a spade, taken with dummy's jack. Had Eisenberg elected to stake the outcome solely on a heart finesse, which seemed the natural thing to do, he would have failed in his mission. Suppose, for example, he had led a spade to the king at trick two and then finessed the jack of hearts.

East would win with the king and return a club to South's jack and West's queen, and West would play a third round of spades to eventually put the contract down one. But Eisenberg judged from the bidding and the opening lead that West's distribution was probably 6-4-2-1, with the singleton likely to be in hearts. So he cashed the ace and queen of diamonds, as well as the A-K of spades, and then led a heart to dummy's jack. This careful succession of plays left West with the queen of spades and A-Q-10-8-4-2 of clubs. East took the jack of hearts with the king and could do no better than return a club. South's jack lost to the queen, and West cashed the queen of spades, but he then had to return a club from his A-10-8-4-2, handing declarer his ninth trick. In all, Eisenberg scored three spade tricks, two hearts, three diamonds and a club. At no point during the play did he give up on the possibility that West might have the king of hearts — but at the same time he took steps to guard against the possibility that East might have that card and that the suit would not break 3-2. It is the practice of giving oneself more than one chance to make a contract that often spells the difference between success and failure.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 36 Blazing, 4 Comedy bit, 23 Rapper's entourage, 37 Indigent, 5 Eventful periods, 25 Got more intense, 40 Glitch, 41 Flightless birds, 6 State VIP, 7 Micro-wave for too long, 42 Tie, 47 Big name in oil, 8 Recital piece, 27 Always, 48 Impartial, 49 Black port, 29 2004 on a cornerstone, 50 "Ulalume" writer, 10 "Dagnet" org, 31 Away from NNW, 51 Lawman Benitez, 11 Super-model, 33 Overly proper, DOWN: 1 "Kinda" suffix, 13 Wrong WWII vets, 34 Crocheted blanket, 2 "The Love-birds" star Issa, 20 Numerical prefix, 36 BMW rival, 3 Alias abbr., 21 Harangue, 37 Classic soda brand, 22 — Domini, 38 "So be it", 39 Walrus tooth, 40 Innocent one, 43 Rock's Brian, 44 Jargon suffix, 45 DDE's opponent, 46 QB's goals

Saturday's answer 4-22
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
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17 18 19
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41 42 43 44 45 46
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# We Deliver

# 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*

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**90 SALE CALENDAR**  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Women's Building 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN Friday Afternoon April 26th, 2024 5:00 P.M..  
**HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
Maytag side by side refrigerator; GE Profile washer & dryer; Proform 585 treadmill; Marcy Power Series Fitness System; curved sofa; **WICKER:** couch, rocker, chair, coffee table and end table; Lazy Boy leather recliner; wood Adirondack chair; Master Built smoker; Kenmore gas grill; cement stand; decorative flower pots; vintage ladies hats; metal horse head; hat boxes; and many other items not listed.  
**MOWERS – SCOOTER - BICYCLES – TOOLS**  
John Deere X350 mower with 48" deck; Troy Bilt TB46 Hydrostatic mower; Drive Spit Fire Ex mobility scooter; Trek Multitrack 7000 men's and women's bicycles; Westward stack tool box; Stihl MS 170 chain saw; Stihl tree trimmer; Black & Decker cut saw kit; ; and many other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** Please note that we will be running 2 rings so please come prepared. Doors will open at 3:30 day of auction  
**JOHN SCARBROUGH, Deceased**  
Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN Saturday April 27th, 2024 9:30 A.M.  
**MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
Cochrane Oak dining room table 4 extra leaves, 6 chairs, and matching lighted hutch; Oak 3 section bookcase; Oak small church

**250 PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Public Notice**  
PUBIC NOTICE  
NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF  
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION  
Notice is hereby given to the taxpayers of the City of Portland, Jay County, Indiana that the Common Council of the City of Portland, appearing in the City of Portland Council Chambers, 1616 Franklin Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, on May 6, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. will consider the following additional appropriation in excess of budget for the current year.  
1101-007-472 Police – Equipment \$162,711  
Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriation as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government and Finance. The DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of action taken.  
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**90 SALE CALENDAR**  
pew; Lazy Boy reclining sofa with matching reclining loveseat; (2) Adirondack chairs; XPC golf clubs; Kitchen Aide Artisan stand mixer; Kitchen Aide food processor; Kitchen Aide chopper; Yeti cooler; **VINTAGE TOYS:** Structo Fire Dept Truck, Tonka Car Carrier, Service Center, Sears Motorific Super Torture Track, Big Red wagon; and many other items not listed.  
**MOWER -TOOLS**  
Cub Cadet CC – 30 hp Hydro Drive riding lawn mower; Troy Bilt Storm 2410 snow blower; Snapper SP70 self propelled mower with bagger; Craftsman 10" band saw; Craftsman reciprocating saw; Wagner power painter; furniture clamps; pole tree trimmer; and many other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** Please note we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview.  
**CHRIS & DEB WHITESEL, Deceased**  
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**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 4TH, 2024**  
9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South.  
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**110 HELP WANTED**  
mid to late August. Applications will be accepted at City Hall, 321 North Meridian Street, until Friday, May 3rd at 4:00p.m. The City of Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
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**260 PUBLIC AUCTION**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw Street, Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning  
**APRIL 27, 2024**  
9:30 A.M.  
**MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
Cochrane Oak dining room table 4 extra leaves, 6 chairs, and matching lighted hutch; 5 pc. queen size bedroom suit; Oak 3 section bookcase; Oak small church pew; Lazy Boy reclining sofa with matching reclining loveseat; Maytag Centennial washer and dryer; freezer; Frigidaire refrigerator; LG flatscreen TV; desk; bookshelves; (2) Lazy Boy recliners; roll top desk; Singer treadle sewing machine; Pine armoire; Kenmore microwave; Samsung TV; (2) lateral file cabinets; Bissell Pro Heat 2X carpet cleaner; Pro Form exercise bike; Shark sweeper; garment rack; card table and folding chairs; luggage and garment bags; drop leaf table; Huffy mens and women's bicycles; Wicker/Rattan sofa, loveseat, 2 chairs and matching stand; (2) Adirondack chairs; gas grill; patio chairs; 31 day mantel clock; floor lamps; XPC golf clubs; Kitchen Aide Artisan stand mixer; Kitchen Aide food processor; Kitchen Aide chopper; small kitchen appliances; Sony CD/Radio/Cassette player; 5 qt. cast iron chicken fryer; Corning Ware; cookware; baking dishes; knife set; set of Pfaltzgraff dishes; Corelle set of dishes; utensils; cookbooks; Eden Pure Heater; afghans; bedding; spa massager; blankets; large assortment of VHS tapes; figurines; Yeti cooler; **VINTAGE TOYS:** Structo Fire Dept Truck, Tonka Car Carrier, Service Center, Sears Motorific Super Torture Track, Big Red wagon; shepherds hooks; **DOLLS:** Jeannie Gymnast, California Roller Baby, Baby All Gone, Spice Girls and Casey Cartwheel to name a few; marbles; Tinker Toys; Skipper and Scooter doll case; Ken and Barbie doll case; vintage Barbie dolls; wrestling figurines; plastic and rubber cars; plastic train set; snow globes; Christmas lights; Lucky Strike tin; trophies; pack and play; assortment of collectible glassware; Santa Christmas Express train set; Easy Bake Oven; tennis rackets; leather coats; winter coats; children's books; comic books; childs table and 2 chairs, washer/dryer set, and kitchen set; Lego blocks; records and albums; Christmas decorations; baby scales; large assortment of games; frames; pictures; towels; cleaning supplies; canes; garden flags; and many other items not listed.  
**MOWER -TOOLS**  
Cub Cadet CC – 30 hp Hydro Drive riding lawn mower; Troy Bilt Storm 2410 snow blower; Snapper SP70 self propelled mower with bagger; Stihl F5 weed eater; Craftsman 20" and 14" electric hedge trimmers; Hitachi gas blower; Craftsman 5.5 hp – 30 gallon air compressor; Cummins 5 speed drill press; Craftsman 10" band saw; Craftsman reciprocating saw; Shop Vac; Remington electric blower; Black & Decker 4.8V drill; Craftsman 4-1 laser level; Craftsman jig saw; Black & Decker 10" deluxe table saw; wheelbarrow; Dremel kit; 2 wheel cart; Black & Decker circular saw; drop cords; soldering gun; plumbing supplies; Wagner power painter; bit set; wood step ladder; metal extension ladder; nails; screws; furniture clamps; pole tree trimmer; pipe wrenches; squares; small vise; Stanley tool box; Stanley laser distance measurer; screwdrivers; files; sockets; gas cans; shovels; rakes; saws; trimmers; hose reel; and many other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** This auction offers a nice variety of clean items. Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction.  
**CHRIS & DEB WHITESEL, Deceased**  
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# Two for Nichols



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Parker Nichols, a senior at Jay County High School, carries the W flag as he leads the rest of the Jay County High baseball team to the center field flag pole after beating the Woodlan Warriors 2-1 on Thursday. Nichols drove in both runs for Jay County, including a walk off RBI single that prompted his teammates to put the JC chain on his neck.

## Nichols' RBI single walks off Warriors in 2-1 ACAC victory

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

If the Patriots had a nickel for every time Parker Nichols came through with two outs and runners on second base, they'd have two nickels, which isn't a lot, but it's weird that it happened twice.

Nichols delivered the walk-off single to lift the Jay County High School baseball team past the Woodlan Warriors in the first Allen County Athletic Conference matchup of the season 2-1 on Thursday.

"We feel good," JCHS coach Todd Farr said. "It was our goal to win conference, so we've got to win the first one to get the rest of them."

"These guys continue to fight and there's no quit ... We finally got momentum going in the right direction, so we gotta keep them going."

The Patriots (3-5, 1-0 ACAC) and the Warriors (4-5, 0-1 ACAC) entered the seventh inning tied at one apiece. Aiden Phillips made quick work of Woodlan in the top half of the inning to set

up the chance of a walk off.

The inning started with Cody Rowles popping out to Adams and Jackson Edwards grounding out to him after.

Drew Schemenaur drew a walk to keep the inning alive. (Brady Jetmore entered for Schemenaur as a courtesy runner.) Then Sam Myers got hit by a pitch to put pressure on Gavin Sheehan.

With an opportunity with a runner in scoring position, Nichols came up the plate with a plan.

In his first three at bats, Nichols got first-pitch strikes from Sheehan. With the winning run on second base, Nichols looked for a fast-ball right away and he got it.

Nichols connected with the pitch, sending the ball over the shortstop's head into left field. With a good jump off of second base, Jetmore rounded third and headed home. He crossed home plate safely as the Patriots' celebration began, resulting

in Nichols being dogpiled by his teammates.

"Coming to the plate I was pumped," Nichols said. "I had so much adrenaline and I knew I was going to be able to get the job done."

"I don't care what anyone says. I don't care if you've never played baseball in your life. That is one of the greatest feelings in the world. Any walk off hit when you win the game like that is the greatest feeling ever."

The walk off wasn't the only example of clutch hitting from Nichols.

Again with two outs, Nichols attacked the first pitch resulting in a line drive to left field to score

Edwards from second base to put Jay County on the scoreboard in the third inning.

"We work on that stuff," Farr said. "We talk about those two-out backbreakers and that momentum there. That's something we practice and to see it executed in games is great to see."

The Patriots received strong performances on the mound from Zedrian

Vazquez and Aiden Phillips.

Getting the start, Vazquez retired the first nine batters in order, including five strikeouts. He only gave up one run over five innings as Clayton Rosier singled to lead off the fifth inning and later scored on Noah Beghtel's sacrifice fly.

Phillips had a rocky start walking the first two batters while throwing 10 of his first 11 pitches for balls. After the two hiccups, he dialed in to record the final six outs consecutively to end the game and earn his first win of the season.

"Zedrian threw a phenomenal game," Farr said. "For Aiden, even the balls that he threw, they were right around the zone. He's a kid that's going to bear down and get it done."

"We've got a lot of confidence in those two for us right now."

Woodlan had opportunities in both the fourth and sixth innings but couldn't push any runs across.

In the fourth, Braden

Smith led off with a single to right field. Drew Fleek replaced spots with him on a fielder's choice and Sheehan followed with a single. Acting as Sheehan's courtesy runner, Evan Koch made a costly mistake as Vazquez picked him off at first base.

The next two batters walked before Ethan Trygg rolled over a ground ball to third base that Nichols scooped up and recorded the force out.

In the sixth, after Phillips issued the pair of leadoff walks, he induced an infield fly and two ground balls to leave the pair stranded.

"We didn't execute," Woodlan coach Mark Koos said. "We got picked off and that really hurt. The young guy just froze. 'We're working with the kids and they'll learn from it. ..."

"Hats off to Jay County. They deserved to win. They're well coached and played hard and it was a tough loss for us that stung our guys a little bit."

### Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Woodlan Warriors

| Woodlan (4-5, 0-1 ACAC) |           |          |          |          |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                         | ab        | r        | h        | bi       |
| Smith cf                | 3         | 0        | 1        | 0        |
| Fleek c                 | 2         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Sheehan p               | 2         | 0        | 1        | 0        |
| Koch cr                 | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Adams 1b                | 2         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Reed 2b                 | 2         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Trygg dh                | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Rosier rf               | 3         | 1        | 1        | 0        |
| Halsey 3b               | 2         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Piedra ph               | 1         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Beghtel ss              | 2         | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| <b>Totals</b>           | <b>22</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |

| Jay County (3-5, 1-0 ACAC) |           |          |          |          |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                            | ab        | r        | h        | bi       |
| Edwards lf                 | 4         | 1        | 1        | 0        |
| Schemenaur c               | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Jetmore cr                 | 0         | 1        | 0        | 0        |
| Myers ss                   | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Nichols 3b                 | 4         | 0        | 2        | 2        |
| Sommers dh                 | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Geesaman rf                | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Goldsworthy 1b             | 1         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Wendel 2b                  | 3         | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| Rowles cf                  | 3         | 0        | 1        | 0        |
| <b>Totals</b>              | <b>24</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>2</b> |

|         |     |     |   |   |   |
|---------|-----|-----|---|---|---|
| Woodlan | 000 | 010 | 0 | — | 1 |
| Jay Co. | 001 | 000 | 1 | — | 2 |

LOB — Woodlan 5, Jay County 7. 2B — Jay County 1 (Rowles). SB — Woodlan 1 (Rosier), Jay County 2 (Jetmore, Nichols).

|                 | IP  | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
|-----------------|-----|---|---|----|----|----|
| Woodlan Sheehan | 6.2 | 4 | 2 | 2  | 3  | 2  |

| Jay County |    |   |   |    |    |    |
|------------|----|---|---|----|----|----|
|            | IP | H | R | ER | BB | SO |
| Vasques    | 5  | 3 | 1 | 1  | 2  | 6  |
| Phillips   | 2  | 0 | 0 | 0  | 2  | 1  |

# Tribe forces mercy rule on Marion Local

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians are trying to eliminate innings that spiral out of control.

In their most recent matchup, they didn't even allow the Flyers a chance to pile the runs on.

Britney Tebbe shut out the Marion Local Flyers in six innings, while the offense fueled a 10-0 victory for the Fort Recovery High School softball team on Thursday.

Over the six innings, Tebbe only allowed two hits and four walks. She struck out three batters and a strong defensive effort prevented extra runners from reaching base.

Fort Recovery (4-6, 2-2 Midwest Athletic Conference) jumped out early with four runs in the first inning and two more in the second. They finished the Flyers (4-6, 2-2 MAC) off with three runs in the sixth, the final coming on a single by Kayla Heitkamp.

Tebbe, Jenna Homan and Cali Wendel all led the way with two RBIs each, while Homan earned a team-high three hits. Ella Schoen scored the most runs with four.

## Local roundup

### Errors hurt

MARIA STEIN, Ohio — A four-run seventh inning wasn't enough for Fort Recovery's baseball team as the Marion Local Flyers pulled off a 6-5 win on Thursday.

Marion Local (8-5, 3-2 MAC) led the game 3-1 entering the seventh inning. A couple of runners reached base, allowing back-to-back RBI singles from Reece Evers and Mason Diller to tie the game. A third run scored for the Indians (4-4, 1-2 MAC) off of a Caden Homan single that pushed the lead to 5-3.

The bottom of the seventh started out rocky with Hayden Poepelman reaching first on an error by Alex Gaerke at shortstop. The next two batters walked to load the bases before an error by Wendel in left field allowed the first run to score. An error by Gavin Faller at

first base allowed the tying run to score next before Gaerke, now pitching, balked in the winning run of the game.

### Two-stroke loss

The Jay County boys golf team lost a close match 166-168 to the Northeastern Knights on Thursday at Portland Golf Club.

After a tough outing on Tuesday, Caleb DeRome brought his score back below 40. Gage Sims matched DeRome's score as they tied for match medalist with 39 strokes.

Cody DeHoff came in next with a score of 43, while Liam Garringer and Luke Fugiett tied at 47 to make up the team score.

The Patriots (1-2) will travel to Wabash Valley Golf Club as they try to stay undefeated in Allen County Athletic Conference play against the South Adams Starfires.

### Trojans sweep

The Jay County girls tennis team got swept 5-0 by the New Castle Trojans in an added meet on Thursday.

Meredith Dirksen and Sophia Sprunger played the closest match of all the Patriots (3-2).

The lost the first set of the No. 1 doubles match 6-3 before dropping the second 6-4.

Brenna Haines in the No. 1 singles match and the No. 2 doubles pair of Zion Beiswanger and Chloe Ruiz both dropped their matches 6-2, 6-3.

Maggie Dillion fell in the No. 2 singles contest 6-0, 6-2.

Lilly Johnson filled in for Brenna Bailey for her first varsity meet. She ended up losing the No. 3 singles match 6-0, 6-1.

All five junior varsity matches were also losses. Lucie Henneaux played the closest match but was defeated 8-6.

### Eagles dominate

Jay County's track team got swept by the Delta Eagles during a makeup meet on Thursday.

The girls tallied 35 points as Delta totaled 87 for the win. The Eagles boys defeated the Patriots 110-11.

The girls only won two events at the meet. Alexis Sibray came out on top of the 400-meter run with a time of 1 minute, 7.77 seconds. The second and third-place finishes also went to the Patriots with Moa Sakamoto as

the runner-up and Willow Hardy claiming third.

The 4x100 relay team of Morgan DeHoff, Jenna Dues, Ariel Beiswanger and Matilda Mende made up the other top finish with a time of 51.38 seconds.

The boys failed to capture first place in any event and only Adam Alig managed a second-place finish in the high jump.

### Junior high falls

The Jay County Junior High School golf team fell to Delta 124-150 in a six-hole match at Portland Golf Club on Thursday.

Karson Hines received match medalist honors for shooting a 34. The highlight of his match was a par on the second hole.

Tobe Swartenstruber and Bailey Towell followed up Hines with 38 strokes. Towell's best hole was also par-3 second hole, where she shot a bogey.

Crystal Swartenstruber and Camden Buckland rounded out the scoring for the Patriots (1-1) with 40s. Buckland shot for par on hole No. 2.

Kason Sims' score of 41 did not affect the team score.



# Off ...

Continued from page 10  
“We’ve just got to hit better because we’re better than two runs,” JCHS coach Doug Arbuckle said. “Numerous times we were out in front and hitting balls off the end of the bat. You just have to have a bit better mentality and discipline at the plate to sit back on it and hit it hard up the middle.”

Craig wasn’t overpowering hitters as she only finished with three strikeouts, but she found other ways to sit down the Patriots. While she allowed eight hits and three walks over the seven innings, she only gave up solid contact in seven of the 34 plate appearances.

Coming off of a leg injury that required surgery in the offseason, Craig only pitched 5.2 innings in three appearances before she went the distance against Jay County.

“I thought McKenna Craig kept them off balance,” said Madison-Grant coach Travis Havens. “(She threw) a lot of changeups, which is a pretty good change-up. Just overall, she’s probably a bit slower pitcher than maybe what they’re used to seeing anyways, but definitely her changeup kept them off balance.”

The Argylls’ winning run came in the top of the seventh inning.

Demie Havens led off the inning with a ground ball that led Jozey Shimp directly to first base for the out. Then back-to-back-to-back singles by Maegan Wilson, Johnna Hiatt and Carley Holliday plated the third run for Madison-Grant (4-4).

A walk loaded the bases, and after a mound visit, the Patriots pulled their infield in looking to get the out at home. Olivia Dunham hit the ball to pitcher Mallory Winner in the circle, who tossed it to Jaelynn Lykins for the out at home before she fired it down to Shimp to end the inning.

“Every inning, it’s our plan to manufacture at least one run however we have to,” Havens said.

| Box score  |            |            |           |            |     |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----|
| Jay County Patriots vs. Madison-Grant Argylls  |            |            |           |            |     |
| <b>Madison-Grant (4-4)</b>   |            |            |           |            |     |
|  | ab         | r          | h         | bi         |     |
| Havens cf  | 4          | 1          | 2         | 0          |     |
| Wilson 3b  | 4          | 1          | 1         | 1          |     |
| Hiatt c  | 3          | 0          | 2         | 1          |     |
| Clouse cr  | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Holliday 1b  | 4          | 0          | 1         | 1          |     |
| VanMatre rf  | 2          | 0          | 1         | 0          |     |
| Dunham dp  | 4          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Dixon 2b   | 0          | 0          | 1         | 0          |     |
| Stitt lf   | 2          | 1          | 1         | 0          |     |
| Craig p  | 3          | 0          | 1         | 0          |     |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>26</b>  | <b>3</b>   | <b>10</b> | <b>3</b>   |     |
| <b>Jay County (4-1)</b>  |            |            |           |            |     |
|  | ab         | r          | h         | bi         |     |
| Fraleley cf  | 4          | 0          | 2         | 0          |     |
| Winner p   | 2          | 1          | 1         | 1          |     |
| Garrett cr   | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Champ 3b   | 3          | 1          | 2         | 0          |     |
| Lykins c   | 4          | 0          | 1         | 0          |     |
| Shimp 1b   | 4          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Chowning pr  | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Trinidad ss  | 4          | 0          | 1         | 1          |     |
| Missicano rf   | 4          | 0          | 1         | 0          |     |
| Yates 2b   | 3          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| Bright dp  | 3          | 0          | 0         | 0          |     |
| <b>Totals</b>  | <b>31</b>  | <b>2</b>   | <b>8</b>  | <b>2</b>   |     |
| <b>Mdsn.-Grnt.</b>   | <b>101</b> | <b>000</b> | <b>1</b>  | <b>— 3</b> |     |
| <b>Jay Co.</b>   | <b>000</b> | <b>020</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>— 2</b> |     |
| LOB — Madison-Grant 9, Jay County 11. 2B — Madison-Grant 1 (Hiatt), Jay County 1 (Fraleley). HR — Jay County 1 (Winner). |            |            |           |            |     |
| <b>IP H R ER BB SO</b>   |            |            |           |            |     |
| <b>Madison-Grant</b>   |            |            |           |            |     |
| Craig  | 7          | 8          | 2         | 1          | 3 3 |
| <b>Jay County</b>  |            |            |           |            |     |
| Winner   | 7          | 10         | 3         | 3          | 3 0 |

The Patriots only successfully pushed runs across in the fifth inning.

Brooklyn Bright lined out to first base and Mady Fraley grounded out to third to start off the inning. Mallory Winner tattooed the first ball she saw to straight-away center field to finally get the Patriots on the board.

Riah Champ and Lykins reached base on a walk and single to right field to follow Winner’s home run. Then Shimp hit a ground ball to third baseman Wilson, who tried to tag Champ out but lost the ball on the play. Carley Trinidad rocketed a ball off of Craig to score another run and tie the game, but Morgan Missicano’s line out to the shortstop ended the inning at two runs.

“We got a key hit with runners in scoring position,” Arbuckle said. “Going back to that first inning, we had bases loaded with no outs and didn’t score. We’ve got to do better with that one.”

The other two runs for Madison-Grant came in



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Cali Yates, Jay County softball team’s second baseman, fields a short flyball in the top of the fourth inning in Friday’s 3-2 loss to Madison-Grant. The Patriots struggled to make solid contact throughout the game, resulting in only one inning of scoring despite gathering 10 hits.

the first and third innings. In the first, Havens opened with a single to shallow center field and later scored on a double by Hiatt to deep left center. The third-inning run was driven in by Wilson on a fielder’s choice to shortstop.

Last season, Jay County won its first nine games before suffering a loss. While the first defeat came a little bit earlier this season, Arbuckle isn’t worried and just wants his players to learn from it and move forward.

“It’s just a learning experience for them,” Arbuckle said. “I’m sure we’re gonna see something like this down the road. It’s not a conference game, so we’ll just take it in stride, enjoy the weekend and get back to it on Monday.”

# Jay County extends winning streak

MIDDLETOWN — The Patriots struggled to start the season, dropping their first five games.

Since their first win on April 13, they’ve put together a three-game winning streak.

It looked like that streak was heading toward an end before the Patriots broke out in the fifth inning.

The Jay County High School baseball team scored five runs in both the fifth and sixth innings to take down the Shenandoah Raiders 12-7 on Friday and extend its winning streak to four.

A five-run second inning for the Raiders (6-3) helped them to a 6-2 lead entering the top of the fifth. Kade Sommers led off with a single before Brock Wasson scored in place of him on a single by Ryne Goldsworthy.

A pair of walks loaded the bases and Jackson Edwards hit a sacrifice fly to cut the deficit to just two runs. Another walk loaded the bases back up before Sam Myers tied the game at six on a two-RBI single.

The final run of the inning crossed home plate on a single to right by Parker Nichols.

Jay County (4-5) only opened the game up further in the sixth. Runs scored on a walk drawn by Drew Schemenaur, a double by Myers and a ground out by Nichols.

Grant Wendle earned the win for the Patriots as he tossed the bottom of the fourth before the fifth inning onslaught. He gave up one run on a hit and two walks.

Myers’ had the best offensive performance as he drove in five runs on three hits, including the double, and scored once. The only other Patriots with multiple RBIs were Edwards and Nichols with two apiece.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys golf at South Adams — 9 a.m.; Baseball vs. Randolph Southern — 10 a.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Randolph Southern — 12 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Track at Milton Union — 9:30 a.m.; Baseball vs. Lincolnview — 11 a.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Boys golf at Winchester — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball at Monroe Central — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at South Adams — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Wapahani — 5 p.m.; Junior high golf at Bluffton — 4:30 p.m.; Junior high baseball at Adams Central — 5 p.m.; Junior high track at Heritage — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Softball vs. Tri-Village — 5 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Girls tennis at Union City — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Marion — 5 p.m.; Track at Heritage — 6 p.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Muncie Burris — 5:30 p.m.

2:15 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)  
2:30 p.m. — Premier League: Arsenal at Wolverhampton (USA)  
3 p.m. — LPGA Tour: The Chevron Championship (NBC)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: RBC Heritage (CBS)

**TV sports**  
**Today**  
3 a.m. — Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
5:30 a.m. — NRL Rugby: Canberra Raiders at Brisbane Broncos (FS1)  
10 a.m. — Premier League: Brentford at Luton Town (USA)  
10:30 a.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Ag-Pro 300 (FS1)  
12 p.m. — College football: Michigan spring game (FOX)  
1 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Orlando Magic at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN)  
12 p.m. — College softball: LSU at Tennessee (ESPN2)  
12:30 p.m. — UFL: St. Louis Battlehawks at Memphis Showboats (ABC)  
12:30 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Talladega (FS1)  
2 p.m. — College football: Illinois spring game (BTN)

3:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Phoenix Suns at Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN)  
4 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers (FS1)  
4 p.m. — College gymnastics: NCAA Championship (ABC)  
4 p.m. — USL Championship: Oakland Roots at Detroit City (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — IMSA SportsCar Championship: Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach (USA)  
6 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Philadelphia 76ers at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
6:30 p.m. — Wrestling: U.S. Olympic Trials (USA)  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Los Angeles Angels at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — UFL: San Antonio Brahmas at Michigan Panthers (FOX)

8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Los Angeles Lakers at Denver Nuggets (ABC)  
10 p.m. — USL Championship: Sacramento Republic at Orange County SC (FOX)

**Sunday**  
3 p.m. — Formula 1: Chinese Grand Prix (ESPN)  
8:30 a.m. — Premier League: Nottingham Forest at Everton (USA)  
11:30 a.m. — Premier League: Liverpool at Fulham (USA)  
11:30 a.m. — Bundesliga: Bayer Leverkusen at Borussia Dortmund (ESPN2)  
1:40 p.m. — MLB: Los Angeles Angels at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
3 p.m. — LPGA Tour: The Chevron Championship (NBC)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: RBC Heritage (CBS)  
3 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: GEICO 500 (FOX)  
3 p.m. — IndyCar: Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach (USA)  
3:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Dallas Mavericks at Los Angeles Clippers (ABC)

6 p.m. — MLS: Minnesota United at Charlotte (FS1)  
7 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Indiana Pacers at Milwaukee Bucks (TNT)  
7 p.m. — MLB: Texas Rangers at Atlanta Braves (ESPN)  
8:15 p.m. — MLS: San Jose Earthquakes at Los Angeles Galaxy (FS1)

**Monday**  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia Phillies at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7:40 p.m. — MLB: Chicago White Sox at Minnesota Twins (FS1)  
10 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Los Angeles Lakers at Denver Nuggets (ABC)

**Tuesday**  
3 p.m. — Premier League: Chelsea at Arsenal (USA)  
5 p.m. — College softball: Iowa at Nebraska (BTN)  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia Phillies at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Phoenix Suns at Minnesota Timberwolves (TNT)  
7:40 p.m. — MLB: Houston Astros at

Chicago Cubs (TB)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Indiana Pacers at Milwaukee Bucks (Bally Indiana)  
10 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Dallas Mavericks at Los Angeles Clippers (TNT)  
10:15 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Pachuca at America (FS1)

## Local notes

**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).

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# Sports

## Indians fall in seventh

ARCANUM, Ohio — The Indians found a way to tie the Trojans in the top of the seventh, but with two outs and the bases loaded, they couldn't prevent the loss.

Jordyn Garbig contributed the walk off single for the Arcanum Trojans to take down the Fort Recovery High School softball team 6-5 on Friday.

Cam Garbig led off the seventh inning by reaching base off of Britney Tebbe's error at first base. She then moved to second on a sacrifice bunt.

The Indians (4-7) intentionally walked Kenzie Byrne to get to Matty Noe, who grounded out to Cali Wendel at shortstop.

Fort Recovery then intentionally walked Ella Flatter to load the bases for Jordyn Garbig, who's infield single to Wendel pushed Cam Garbig across the plate to win the game for the Trojans (9-7).

Fort Recovery scored in the first, sixth and seventh innings, plating two in both first and last. Ava Grisez led in RBIs, hits and runs with two of each. She opened the scoring with a home run in the first inning.

Emma Will, Ella Schoen and Kayla Heitkamp all also had two hits, while Will added a pair for runs.

Jenna Homan suffered the loss, giving up six runs — four of which were earned — on 10 hits and three walks while going the distance. She also recorded two strikeouts.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School freshman Carley Trinidad fields a ground ball at shortstop during the Patriots' 3-2 loss to the Madison-Grant Argylls on Friday afternoon. Trinidad, who was filling in at shortstop for Hallie Schwieterman, drove in Jay County's second run in the fifth inning by hitting a line drive off of the pitcher with the bases loaded.

# Off balance

## Jay bats limited in loss to Argylls

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

Runs have not been in short supply for the Patriots this year.

On Monday, St. Henry got the

worst of it as the Patriots put up 20.

But against the Argylls, those runs ran dry.

McKenna Craig and the Madison-Grant Argylls had the Jay

County High School softball team off balance all night Friday, resulting in the Patriots' first loss of the season, 3-2.

Coming into Friday's game, Jay County (4-1) averaged more

than 12 runs per game. The lowest they had scored on the season came in the second game of a doubleheader against Blackford at seven runs.

See Off page 9

# Help us choose our

# TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Graphic Printing Company will honor its second Teacher of the Year in a special section in May (We may honor multiple teachers based on your nominations.)

Anyone can nominate a teacher.

The award is open to anyone who:

- Teaches in our coverage area (Jay, Randolph and Blackford counties, eastern Delaware county and Fort Recovery)
- Is a teacher who lives in our coverage area
- Is a teacher who previously lived in our coverage area.

To nominate, send us a letter that includes your name, the name of the teacher being nominated, their school, the grade(s) and subject(s) they teach and your reasons for nominating them.

The deadline is April 30.

You can send it to [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com)

