

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

City may need to look at water rate hike

An increase was last approved in Portland in 2004

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Current water rates are not sufficient to maintain the current cash balance and complete planned capital projects.

The city, however, has reserves to help cover the costs.

Portland City Council heard a report regarding the city's water fund from Ross Hagen of accounting and consulting firm Baker Tilly during its meeting Monday.

Council members also approved a take-home car policy for the police department and a recreational vehicle ordinance, both of which had been discussed at a work session last month (see related story).

Hagen noted that cash reserves have dipped to about \$3.7 million, down from \$4.05 million at the conclusion of 2023. (Cash reserves had been at \$4.2 million at the end of 2016 before dipping to \$3.48 million the next year because of water main work.) He said his firm recommends keeping a minimum cash balance of about \$1 million.

The water department's capital projects plan for 2025 includes two major projects — \$800,000 in water main replacements and \$180,000 to repaint the Tyson Road water tower. (Other years in the five-year plan show \$100,000 for water main replacements annually.) In 2026, plans call for \$130,000 for a new master control panel at the water plant.

"Rates are not really sufficient to fund all of your planned expenditures," said Hagen, "but the city has put itself in an advantageous position with the water utility having that extra level of cash balances above those levels of recommended reserves."

See **Water** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Voting with Virginia

Poll worker Virginia Burkey (right) helps Patricia Walker check in to vote Tuesday morning at Jay County Courthouse. Voter volume was low at the courthouse early Tuesday, with only about 10 voters having passed through as of 8 a.m. Polls were open until 6 p.m. For results from Tuesday's primary election, visit thecr.com.

FR awards water tower contract

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — The village is moving forward with construction of a second water tower.

How it will account for the additional cost is still to be determined.

Fort Recovery Village Council awarded a \$2,442,700 contract Monday from Caldwell Tanks of Louisville, Kentucky, for building the new tower on the north side of the village.

Plans call for a 250,000-gallon elevated water tower similar to the existing structure along Industrial Drive on the southeast side of the village with an additional 2,600 feet of water line to connect it to the village's distribution system.

Cost came in higher than expected at \$2.44 million

Fort Recovery received a \$1.25 million grant in June 2023 from the Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure program for the project, which at that time was estimated to cost about \$1.7 million. The village planned to contribute about \$450,000 from its water tower improvement and water capital funds for the project.

In March, bids for the project came in at higher than expected, with Cald-

well Tanks bidding at least \$600,000 less than the other two companies — Pittsburg Tank and Tower Group of Henderson, Kentucky, and Phoenix Fabricators of Avon, Indiana — who submitted offers. At \$2.44 million, Fort Recovery would pay approximately \$1.2 million — \$750,000 more than initially anticipated.

The village applied for a \$600,000 one-time Ohio Capital Budget grant

through Ohio Senate president Matt Huffman's office but has not received a decision yet. Village administrator Randy Diller noted the village may not learn if it has been approved for the state's budget is approved in June.

Caldwell Tanks' offer is valid for 60 days after bid opening, which puts the village's deadline to award the bid by May 14.

Diller and fiscal officer Roberta Staugler reviewed the village's capital improvement plans to see if the village would be able to pay for the additional funding.

"The bottom line is, yes, we can. How we're going to do it is to be determined," Diller said. "We may end

up having to borrow some money, we may not. It's going to cut us really close on a lot of things."

It could also impact funding for other capital projects on the timeline, such as improvements at the water plant and wastewater lagoons.

Diller said he doesn't want the village to miss out on using the Ohio BUILDS grant dollars it was awarded. He also pointed out re-bidding the project could result in more expensive contracts.

Mayor Dave Kaup asked how much it would cost the village to get out of a contract with the company if Fort Recovery doesn't receive the one-time funding.

See **Tower** page 2



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Vincent Alban

Ashton Spatz, center, a financial aid advisor with the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), assists Jessena Sanchez, left, and her daughter, Leslie Delve, right, a sophomore at the school, during a FAFSA workshop on Feb. 23 at UIC's Student Financial Aid Office.

FAFSA strategy launched

By ZAREEN SYED

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

The U.S. Department of Education announced additional steps on Monday to support the many students and their families who are in the process of completing the overhauled Free Application for Federal Student Aid after a shaky relaunch and complicated start for applicants.

"We are determined to close the FAFSA completion gap," said U.S. Deputy Secretary of Education Cindy Marten in a statement. "The funding we're announcing today will support states, districts, and community-based groups build capacity and leverage their power to ensure that every student who needs help paying for college turns in their FAFSA form."

Updated application process has been shaky, complicated

In a news release, the department said the \$50 million program is part of the "FAFSA Student Support Strategy" and addresses known issues with the 2024-25 form to help boost its completion. Since the application became available in December, only around 9 million forms have been successfully submitted, according to the Department of Education.

Jack Wallace, the head of government affairs and industry

relations at Yrefy, a Phoenix-based student loan provider, said there's a long way to go, as around 18 million people fill out the FAFSA each year.

The Department of Education said it has sent approximately 70 million emails to students encouraging them to complete the FAFSA form, which is being referred to as the "Better FAFSA" to reflect the many changes made to it since last year.

See **FAFSA** page 2

Deaths

Robert Langenkamp, 68, Portland
Hannah Hughes, 39, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Monday. The low was 55.
Expect rain tonight with a chance of thunderstorms and a low in the upper 50s. Winds will gust up to 25 miles per hour. Thursday's high will be in the upper 60s with more rain expected. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Cincinnatus League is accepting nominations for its Jay County Hall of Fame. Qualifications include devoting time and effort to the community beyond employment and being at least 65. Nomination forms are available by calling Karen Bailey at (260) 729-1249 or Barbara Street at (260) 726-5219. The deadline is May 27.

Coming up

Thursday — Results from this week's primary election in Jay County.
Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.
Saturday — Results from the JCHS girls tennis match against Richmond.



Obituaries

Robert Langenkamp

May 6, 1955-May 5, 2024
Robert H. Langenkamp Jr., age 68, of Portland passed away on Sunday, May 5, 2024, in the Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.
He was born in Coldwater, Ohio, on May 6, 1955, the son of Robert and Rita Carolyn (Burnham) Langenkamp. He was married in 1975 to Frances Adair who survives.
Bob was a truck driver and owner of Bob Langenkamp Milk Hauling for over 20 years. He recently retired from R.J. Becher and Sons Farming.
Surviving are his wife Frances; three daughters, Carrie Dye (husband: Jeremy) of



Selma, Amy Emerick (husband: Terry) of Pennville and Rita Wright (husband: Andrew) of Portland; three brothers, Roger Langenkamp (wife: Debbie) of Portland, Ray Langenkamp (wife: Jackie) of Fort Recovery and Ryan Langenkamp of Portland; four sisters, Rhonda Hoying of Portland, Rose Stephen of Portland, Rita Stephen (husband: Donny) of Portland and Roxann Abels (Dean) of Montezuma, Ohio; brother-in-law Jerry Huber of Tipp City; grandson Jakob Lawrence; grandchildren Karly Emerick, Mason Emerick, A.J. Wright, Landyn Wright and Lilly Wright; and great-grandchildren Finley, Nash, Brenna, Madi and Grady.
He was preceded in death by a sisters Ruth Langenkamp and Renee Huber and brother-in-law Dave Hoying.
Funeral services will be Friday, May 10, at 11 a.m. in the

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Brian Bailey presiding. Burial will follow in the Salamina Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m.
Memorials can be made to the choice of the donor.
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Hannah Hughes

July 1, 1984-May 3, 2024
Hannah Hughes, age 39, a resident of Portland, passed away on Friday, May 3, 2024, at IU Health Methodist Hospital following a sudden illness.
Hannah was born July 1, 1984, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Mike and Zina (Wysong) Spahr. She graduated from Jay County High School in 2002 and earned a bachelor's degree in business in 2006 from Ball State University and later earned her mas-

ter's degree in accounting in 2007.
Hannah was a Certified Public Accountant and was a partner at Bollenbacher and Associates in Portland.
She married Nate Hughes on Oct. 18, 2008.
Survivors include:
Her husband — Nate Hughes — Portland, Indiana
Her children — Jackson Hughes and Ameila Hughes
Her parents — Mike and Zina Spahr, Portland, Indiana
Two sisters — Kristen Gibson (husband: Josh), Portland, Indiana, and Lauren Ferner (husband: Brent), Portland, Indiana
Her grandfather — Byron Wysong, Portland, Indiana
Aunt — Kandy Spahr, Roscoe, Illinois



Two nephews, one niece and several cousins
Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held on Friday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.
Memorials may be directed to Hannah's children in care of Nate Hughes.
Condolences may be expressed at williamson-spencer.com.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Thursday 5/9	Friday 5/10	Saturday 5/11	Sunday 5/12	Monday 5/13
67/46	61/45	63/46	67/48	72/53

Lotteries

Powerball Monday 7-23-24-56-60 Power Ball: 25 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Daily Four: 3-5-6-0 Quick Draw: 1-5-7-8-14-20-21-22-33-35-47-48-53-55-64-65-67-70-71-77 Cash 5: 11-16-22-30-44 Estimated jackpot: \$266,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$306 million	Ohio Monday Midday Pick 3: 4-0-6 Pick 4: 9-0-4-1 Pick 5: 1-1-7-8-5 Evening Pick 3: 6-2-1 Pick 4: 3-1-8-2 Pick 5: 4-8-1-9-6 Rolling Cash: 3-8-9-20-31 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Monday Midday Daily Three: 7-1-3 Daily Four: 4-0-2-5 Quick Draw: 1-3-6-8-9-11-23-33-34-35-38-42-43-44-57-58-63-66-73-77 Evening Daily Three: 4-7-8	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.56 June corn4.56 Wheat5.32	June beans12.37 Wheat 6.02
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.62 June corn4.67 July corn.....4.57	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.46 June corn4.49 Beans12.29 June beans12.32 Wheat5.98
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.58 June corn4.53 Beans12.37	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.50 June corn4.53 Beans12.05 June beans12.15 Wheat5.76

Today in history

In 1846, United States troops declared victory after a two-day battle against a portion of the Mexican army at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. Mexican troops were forced out of Texas, and five days later, the United States declared war against Mexico.
In 1884, Harry Truman was born in Lamar, Missouri. Truman served as the 33rd president of the United States and led the country through the end of World War II and beginning of the Cold War.
In 1886, Coca-Cola was developed by pharmacist John Pemberton. The drink had been originally intended to be a cure-all tonic.
In 1945, Germany surrendered unconditionally, officially ending World War II in Europe. The war in the Pacific continued until Japan surrendered in September. — The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	Thursday 3 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, auditorium, Jay County Courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
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FAFSA ...

Continued from page 1
The new application is shorter, with only 36 questions, and most of the information will be pulled directly from income tax returns. A new IRS tool also simplifies the process, with the caveat that the family's 2022 taxes have been completed and can be easily imported into FAFSA.
Though the changes are intended to help, Wallace said the rollout hasn't been easy.
"Not only do you have students having a difficult time still getting on the website and getting things processed on the front end, but there's also a delay in getting the data to the schools," Wallace said.
The department has been in touch with hundreds of superintendents and principals to help drive submission efforts, gar-

nering over 200 commitments from companies, non-profits, and community organizations to help boost FAFSA submissions.
Minnesota-based Educational Credit Management Corporation will implement the multi-million-dollar support program to assist organizations with demonstrated experience in expanding college access and enrollment.
"The funding will be prioritized for organizations currently working with schools and districts, and those that have deep ties with students and families which have the reach and capacity to help decrease barriers and increase FAFSA submissions," the department said.
The application deadline for financial aid for the upcoming school year is June 30.

Tower ...

Continued from page 1
Diller said he is not sure, but that it could be an option.
Council members Al Post, Cliff Wendel, Scott Pearson, Erik Fiely and Greg Schmitz, absent Luke Knapke, agreed to move forward with Caldwell Tanks' offer.
Also Monday, council heard dredging the wastewater lagoons is estimated to cost about \$440,000. That figure doesn't include hiring a company to gather and haul away the sludge, which Diller estimated at an additional \$100,000.
He added that he's working on getting a total project cost for potential work from Lemna Environmental Technologies of Minnesota. The company has suggested a process that would utilize Fort Recovery's wastewater lagoons while adding in some mechanical aspects, a project initially estimated between \$1 million and \$2 million.
Council also learned a large recirculation pump has been installed in the lagoons, which should help to increase dissolved oxygen in the water. Plans are to resume using a sludge reduction product from Kainos Ag — it has been used through the warm months for the last few years — on the lagoons in the next couple weeks.
Also, council learned Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has pre-

liminarily approved the village — it's pending additional information — for a low-interest loan for the design portion of switching the village's water plant to a reverse osmosis facility.
Diller noted he has not yet received an answer on the village's application for \$4 million through the Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program, which allows Ohio communities to apply for up to \$5 million in grants for construction projects.
In other business, council:
•Approved the following: an ordinance amending to hire Julia Beyke as a lifeguard training instructor for 2024 per American Red Cross certification guidelines and a \$100,665.42 pay request from PAB Construction of Coldwater, Ohio, for reconstruction of Gwendolyn and Wiggs streets.
•Heard Diller awarded right-of-way acquisition services work to Dennis Ziccardi and Associates of Cincinnati for the planned multi-use trail along Ohio 49 and Sharpsburg Road, a project funded through Ohio Department of Transportation's Systemic Safety Funding grant. The process is required by Ohio Department of Transportation and the federal government.
•Were reminded about the Fort Street Car Classics Car Club's Cruise-In is slated for 6 to 10 p.m. Friday along the brick portion of Wayne Street and Fort Recovery's annual spring clean-up day May 18. Maharg's Trash Service will pick up trash items, which must be set on property curbs by 5 a.m. May 18.
•Learned Fort Recovery Cemetery Board raised the price per cemetery plot to \$525 from the previous \$450.
•Heard Ohio Public Works Commission should review recommendations and make final awards for the Small Government Program grant Friday. The village applied for a \$500,000 in order to reconstruct Butler Street between Fort Site and Main streets.
•Heard paving has been completed at Fort Site Park.
•Were informed Fort Recovery Ambassador Pool has been cleaned and refilled. The pool will be open for Memorial Day.

SERVICES

Thursday Hughes, Hannah: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Friday Langenkamp, Robert: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
June 15 Weaver, Larry: 10:30 a.m., Akron Community Center, 815 Rural St., Akron, Indiana.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

THANK YOU MR. LeMaster

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Attorney Greg LeMaster for his prompt response to the Election Integrity Survey, which I recently distributed to both Republican candidates for the Indiana State House of Representatives. Mr. LeMaster's thoughtful and thorough answers have been invaluable in providing insights into his stance on election-related issues.
If anyone would like to discuss the survey questions or Mr. LeMaster's responses in greater detail, please feel free to reach out to me at either Clayto55@aim.com or at (765) 730-3301. I would be happy to engage in further discussion.
Thank you once again, Mr. LeMaster, for your time and cooperation.
Best regards,
J. Clayton Phillips
Paid for by J. Clayton Phillips

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(400 Ft. Minimum) Cost. .. \$1.56 per foot
PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION CONDITIONS:
1.) Your dust control flag markers must be in place, at BOTH ends, of your application area by Thursday, May 30th.
2.) If potholes appear, during the summer months, in your dust control area; please contact the Jay County Highway Dept @ (260) 726-8701 and request grading or stone applied.
3.) The Jay County Highway Department retains full control and authority to maintain said dust controlled areas by grading. Grading will usually be necessary if the surface has deteriorated to a hazardous condition in the opinion of the Highway Department.
4.) I agree to pay, in advance, for the dust control solution applied by GREAT LAKES CHLORIDE, INC.
5.) Dust mats will be applied in 50 feet increments only. (400 feet minimum)
ONE APPLICATION ONLY
DEADLINE: Thursday May 30th, 2024
LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT
PAYMENT MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE
Cards, Checks or Money Orders Only
Jay County Highway Department
1035 E 200N, PORTLAND, INDIANA 47371
For More Information, call 726-8701

Lions donate

Portland Lions president Josh Gibson presents a check for \$2,100 to Mindy Weaver of the Jay County Humane Society. Proceeds came from a recent tenderloin fry partnership between Portland Lions Club and Jay County Humane Society.



Photo provided

Nominate citizens for Hall of Fame

Cincinnatus League is asking for nominations to its Hall of Fame.

The accolade honors individuals who have contributed to the community through volunteer efforts. Those selected will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on July 10 at Jay County Fairgrounds. To be nominated, an individual must have devoted time and effort to the Jay County community in ways in addition to employment and occupation, live in Jay County or have significant ties to Jay County and be at least 65 years old by July 10. Nominations must be received by May 27.

Taking Note

Free exhibit

A Ball State University professor's work is available for viewing at Jay County Campus of Arts Place. Scott Anderson's "Under Rodinia" will be on display through May 31 in the Hugh N. Ronald Gallery at Arts Place, 131 East Walnut St., Portland.

Husband tells wife to look elsewhere for sex

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for the last 25 years to a wonderful man, "Frank." We are very happy in all areas except for intimacy. Frank has lost all interest in intimacy and sex. It began about two years ago, and I have tried everything to reignite the flame in our relationship. Frank's sex drive has disappeared!

About a year ago, he told me I should find someone — a friend with benefits — to take care of my sexual needs. At the time I said no, hoping he would be interested again. Now, after a year of waiting, I am seriously considering finding a "friend."

Do you think I should follow through with it, or keep waiting and hoping Frank will change? Have you any advice about how to

Dear Abby



restart the intimacy in our relationship? — EXTINGUISHED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR EXTINGUISHED: You and your husband need to have another serious talk about this. He should also talk to his doctor and ask for a referral to a urologist and an endocrinologist, who may be able to help. The inability to achieve an erection occurs in

some men around age 50 and even younger, which is why Viagra is such a popular drug. If your husband is willing to discuss this with a medical professional, it may be the solution to his (and your) problem.

DEAR ABBY: I met a co-worker about a year ago and we started dating. He had been clean and sober from alcohol for more than 10 years. We got along very well, but he is drinking again, and his behavior has changed — there are mood swings, bouts of jealousy and finger-pointing.

When he drinks, it's unpleasant, and the smell seeping from his pores is nauseating. He finds almost any reason to have a

drink. When I try to talk to him about it, he says he does nothing wrong and he drinks because he wants to, or some other reason that makes no sense. I'm tired of the excuses. Then he begs for forgiveness or accuses me of not wanting him around.

I have told him he needs to work on himself and get back into the program, and he says all he can do is take one day at a time. He drinks and drives, which poses a danger to himself and others. He's jealous of my ex and my grown children. He plays the victim, and his answers to questions are, "I don't remember," "I didn't do anything," or "I don't know what you're talking about." I'm at my wits' end and can't take any more. Please help. — TOXIC

RELATIONSHIP

DEAR TOXIC: Draw the line. Remind your co-worker that when you started dating him, he was on the wagon. Tell him that when he drinks his personality changes, and you do not like the person he becomes. You need to educate yourself about alcoholism, and an effective way to do that would be to join Al-Anon and attend some meetings.

If you really "can't take any more," stop dating him! And, if it creates problems where you work, inform your boss or supervisor. I'm sure that because of the potential liability, your employer won't be thrilled about having a drunk for an employee.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

BRYANT/NEW CORYDON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

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

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4

p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the boardroom at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that

focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior; and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

SALVATION ARMY OF JAY COUNTY — Will host a meeting at 4 p.m. Thursday, May 9, in the community room at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. The organization is seeking volunteers to serve the community as advisory council members. For more information, contact northern Indiana regional liaison Angie Quinn at (765) 327-3986.

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday, May 9, at Pizza Hut in Portland.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 9, at the post at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday

of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

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

Friday

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

Saturday

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

Sunday

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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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Wonky move eliminated the wobble

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from May 7, 2014. It is, only occasionally, a dangerous proposition to be at work on the weekend. Usually the result is an empty office, free of distractions and prime for good work to get done. Other times, like the story Jack shared here, one can find themselves dealing with the latest equipment problem that has popped up. But as long as everything is ready to go again Monday, everything is OK.

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

It was about 2:45 p.m. on Saturday afternoon. And there I was, standing in the stairwell at the back of the newspaper building in Portland, halfway between the landing and the first floor, trying to make my way up from the basement. I was bent over like a creature from *The Lord of the Rings*. On my back was an eight-foot-long table. And I got the giggles.

"Talk about a beast of burden," I said to my fellow table-movers.

It all started Friday morning. When I was passing out paychecks in the pressroom, it was pointed out to me that one of the tables used by the inserters who

Back in the Saddle



stuff pre-prints from Menards, Walmart, Main Street Market, CVS, Walgreens and others into the paper was wobbly. The reason it was wobbly was that it wasn't really a table. It was an old door lying across a sink. The sink had been out of commission ever since we made the transition to computer-to-plate technology. The door — who knows where it came from — was placed atop the sink to create another work station.

It was a patch job. One of those things that seems to make sense at the time. But it really didn't make sense. Though it was a good height and a decent work surface, it wobbled.

When I mentioned it to Brian Dodd, our production manager who doubles as a recipe columnist now and then, he got right on

it. In fact, I figured he knew it was just a matter of time before someone pointed the problem out to the boss. By that afternoon, he'd found a suitable replacement table in the basement of the building. Though I told him it wasn't a pressing issue, Brian indicated he'd work on it over the weekend with his son, Aaron.

The real challenge, he thought, was to disconnect the plumbing from the old sink. He was wrong on that one. The plumbing turned out to be the easy part.

When I spotted Brian's truck at the office Saturday afternoon, I stopped by. My plan was to offer a few words of encouragement and maybe some strategic advice. Funny how that turned out.

When I got to the pressroom, I found the sink was gone. Disconnecting the plumbing was no problem. But I could hear voices from the basement. Brian and his son were debating how to get the table up to the first floor. They'd tried the elevator, and the table wouldn't fit. I could hear bits and pieces of their conversation coming up the elevator shaft.

At this point, it's important to explain that in this particular

case the definition of the word "table" is a little vague. The piece had apparently been built in the basement of the newspaper building with whatever pieces of lumber happened to be wandering by at the moment. The top looked like 19th century beadboard, used with the beadboard side down to create a smooth surface. That surface had been topped off with used aluminum offset plates, some of them still bearing images from the 1960s. The legs were 2x4s from back in the day when a 2x4 was a real 2x4. And it had been hammered together using spikes that were at least 4 inches long. Not something you'd want to take to the Antiques Roadshow for an appraisal. And it was heavy.

Before I knew it, my words of encouragement had been translated into sweat equity. Brian and Aaron had concluded that the "table" wouldn't fit in the freight elevator. And they were right. But over the next 45 minutes or so, it wasn't at all clear that the stairs were a better option.

The newspaper building has been around for more than 100 years, and what it lacks in youth

it makes up in strength. The three of us soon found we were dealing with more fixed objects than we'd like. The concrete steps weren't moving. The iron pipes that made the stair railing weren't moving. And the brick walls sure as heck weren't moving.

The only give seemed to be in human flesh and the "table" itself. But we pressed on, until that moment when I got the giggles, bent like a coal miner, carrying the thing on my back. That's when Brian suggested perhaps it wouldn't be a good idea to have the boss die in the stairwell on a Saturday afternoon. I agreed, which should come as no surprise. So we tried new tactics.

We rotated. We shifted. And finally we knocked off some of the legs, with Brian hauling out those spikes like they were dragon's teeth. Then, and only then, it went through the door from the stairwell into the pressroom.

I checked it out on Sunday, and it looks like a safe and functional — if funky — solution.

The best news: It doesn't wobble.

Automatic braking should be required

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

By the end of the decade, new cars and trucks in the United States will be required to have automatic emergency braking systems that can save hundreds of lives each year.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which announced the requirement Monday, called it the most significant safety rule in two decades. This is an important milestone. But why did it take so long? This technology has been available for years, though often sold as a luxury feature.

Most automakers voluntarily include some form of automatic braking in new models, but the capabilities can vary. The regulation makes the technology mandatory by 2029 and sets a minimum standard that all cars must be able to stop and avoid contact with the vehicle in front of them when traveling up to 62 miles per hour.

Carmakers have been slower to install automatic braking designed specifically to detect and avoid pedestrians, a problem because pedestrian fatalities have been increasing in recent years. The regulation will require that vehicles be able to avoid hitting pedestrians when traveling up to 40 mph and detect pedestrians in the dark, which is when more than three-quarters of such fatalities occur.

Since the 1980s, the number of people killed each year in car crashes in the U.S. has declined, thanks in part to safety requirements such as seat belts and airbags. That decline in fatalities stalled a decade ago, and traffic deaths spiked in 2020 and 2021. Experts attribute the rise to an increase in speeding and reckless and distracted driving.

Automatic braking is projected to save about 360 deaths a year, a small but necessary drop. There were 41,000 vehicle fatalities in 2023.

While humans deserve the blame for dangerous driving, there is growing

Guest Editorial

There is no reason for Americans to tolerate 41,000 traffic deaths a year.

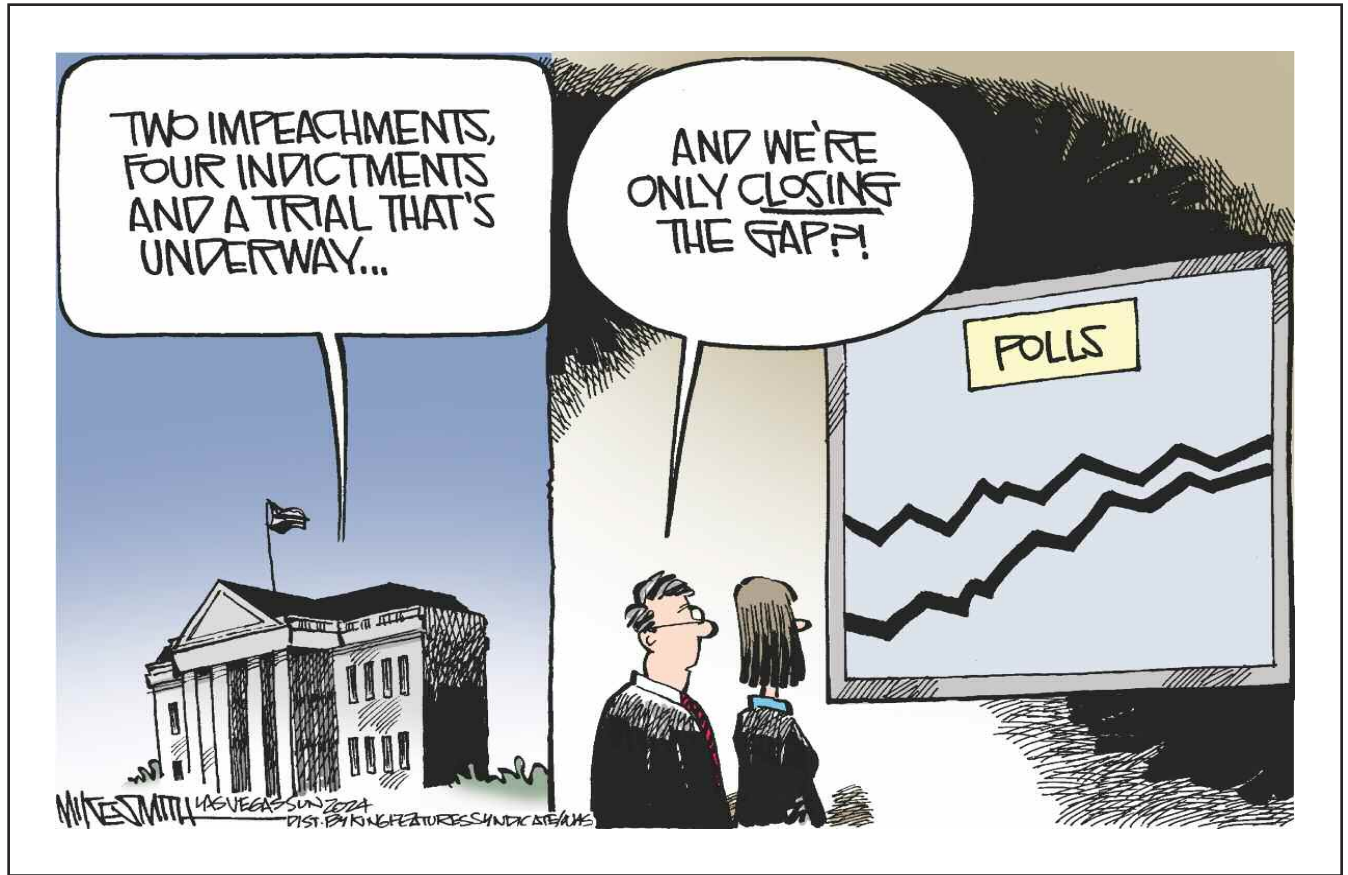
recognition that engineering and technology, from cars to roads, can prevent crashes and reduce the likelihood of serious injury and death when they occur.

Automatic braking is great, but it's just one safety feature. The federal government should be far more aggressive in promoting and requiring others; limiting heavier, taller trucks and SUVs that take longer to stop and strike with more force; and reducing reliance on dashboard touch screens that require drivers to take their eyes off the road.

Last year, the National Transportation Safety Board recommended — it doesn't have the power to require — that all new cars have systems to alert drivers when they are speeding. Such systems are required for new cars sold in the European Union starting in July.

California State Sen. Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, this year proposed requiring technology that automatically slows speeding drivers, but his bill was revised to require a speeding warning instead.

There is no reason for Americans to tolerate 41,000 traffic deaths a year. Most are preventable, and there are tools and design features available to make vehicles safer for everyone on the road. We just have to demand them.



Indiana has a lot to offer

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Heading into election week, I wanted to slow it down with a focus on what Indiana has to offer Hoosiers and tourists. Last year, I visited Madison and was taken by the quaint town. I also promised to do more things that Indiana has to offer. And that led me to Columbus, Indiana.

My sister-in-law Julie met me in between our two homes for a much-needed girls trip.

We started these trips after my brother, her husband, died in 2016. The first one was on the one-year anniversary of his passing and was meant to be a way to cope with that difficult time. Washington, D.C., was the first of the sojourns and we've been going strong ever since. Sometimes the trips are small and more local, such as French Lick or Chicago. And sometimes they are farther away, like Toronto and Philadelphia.

Julie had no idea what I was roping her into with this one, but we found a cute Airbnb and had a blast.

I crowdsourced some restaurant recommendations and we ended up at Upland's Pump House on Friday night. The place was hopping, and I can't recommend the whipped feta enough. It was a great atmosphere in a historic refurbished building.

There are also some lovely photos to be had if you venture down by the water the restaurant overlooks. But please be smarter than me and wear proper footwear.

The next day we headed to a tour of Columbus. I had been hearing for years about how the city of around 50,000 had become a surprising hub

Niki Kelly



of architecture. And I was fascinated to find out how that happened.

The American Institute of Architects ranked it 6th in the nation for architectural innovation and design — right behind Chicago, New York, Boston, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

The visitor's guide lists over 90 buildings and pieces of public art by internationally noted architects and artists. The two-hour tour introduced us to the likes of Eliel Saarinen, Eero Saarinen, Kevin Roche, I.M. Pei, Harry Weese, and Deborah Berke.

But mostly, I was fascinated by the public-private partnership created by the Cummins Foundation.

Cummins' former Chairman and CEO J. Irwin Miller wanted to help the community by providing an alternative to the standard, but uninspired, school buildings being built across the U.S. in the late 1950s and early 1960s. So in 1957, the Cummins Foundation made its first grant to support architecture fees, for the Lillian C. Schmitt Elementary School, designed by Weese.

The Architecture Program became a formal part of the Cummins Foundation in 1960 with a grant for Northside Middle School. It began with schools, but later grew to encompass all facilities in the county

owned and operated by public tax dollars.

Everywhere you turn there is an interesting structure in Columbus. It's a feast for the eyes. Now, not all of them were my aesthetic. The churches — First Christian Church and North Christian Church — were striking architecturally but not as warm as you would hope.

The love of architecture has also morphed to the city embracing art around the city as well, my favorite being the sculpture "Eos." The Bartholomew County Memorial for Veterans was also remarkable.

My one complaint about Columbus — uneven sidewalks — took me out, so we missed our second tour of the famed Miller House while I iced a knee.

But we made it back out later for a little shopping and ice cream at Zaharakos. I have been there several times to cover political events, whether it be a meet and greet with Mike Pence or Ted Cruz and his daughters choosing their favorite flavors. But I hadn't learned about its history or enjoyed the amazing ice cream itself until now.

For dinner I followed another restaurant recommendation, and we had pizza and breadsticks from ZwanzigZ. So tasty.

Here's hoping you take the opportunity to learn more of what your own state has to offer with trips like this.

Kelly has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Water ...

Continued from page 1
“That gives you the ability to strategically make decisions around your rates and what you might want to do with those.”

Hagen indicated that in order to pay for those projects and maintain the city's \$3.8 million balance, it would need to raise water rates by about 40% — an increase of \$7.84 from the current \$19.60 for the average user. If the city were to use reserves to pay for the two largest projects in 2025, it could get by with an increase of 25% (\$4.90) while still maintaining strong cash balances.

Water rates have not been increased in Portland since 2004. Hagen said they are currently well below the state average.

Council members had no questions for Hagen regarding the report and took no action on water rates at the meeting.

Also Monday, council president Kent McClung expressed concern regarding the future of Jay County Development Corporation following a story Saturday in The Commercial Review that quoted an email from Jay County Commissioner Rex Journay laying out what he called “decisions” for the county considering its funding for the organization moving forward. Those include not renewing the contract of executive director Travis Richards, returning the budget to county control via the



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The new water fountain, which includes a fountain for dogs, has been installed near the entrance to the amphitheater at Hudson Family Park. The Goodrich Family donated the fountain in honor of John and Sarana Goodrich.

county auditor, reducing membership to 9 or 11 and hiring a qualified director.

Noting that the city is also a financial contributor to Jay County Development Corpora-

tion, McClung expressed his feeling that those demands could end the organization “as we know it.”

“I don’t want to see it go that way,” said McClung.

“My hope is that you guys can figure this out,” he added later. “But I don’t think it’s gonna happen.”

He said the city will need to look at how it wants to proceed with economic development if there are major changes to the way Jay County Development Corporation operates.

Golden expressed his agreement with McClung’s comments and encouraged the residents of Portland to vote Tuesday.

Council also heard an update from community coordinator Nate Kimball that applications for the county’s owner-occupied rehabilitation program — it will help residents pay for home improvements such as replacing a roof, water heater or heating, ventilation and air conditioning unit, doing electrical work or making a home more accessible — will be open from May 28 through June 28. It is being funded by a \$1 million grant through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) in relation to the county’s participation in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP). Applications will be available in the auditor’s office at Jay County Courthouse, Kimball’s office at

the Community Resource Center in Portland, Redkey Town Hall and Dunkirk’s city building. Applications will also be available to print at jaycounty.net. (All applications must be filled out and turned in on paper.)

Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis via several steps, with OCRA making the decisions on what projects are funded. There is a limit of \$25,000 per household.

Answering questions from the council, Kimball said he expects a timeline of at least three months from submitting applications to completion of work. He noted that the county will group projects together for bidding in order to make them more attractive to prospective contractors.

Hilfiker asked who would be handling home inspections as part of the process. Kimball said the county has not yet selected an inspector.

In other business:

•Council approved an ordinance on second reading to set the city council’s meeting time at 5:30 p.m. (Council has met at 5:30 p.m. since 2014 but had not changed the ordinance to reflect that reality.)

•Mayor Jeff Westlake reported the following:

—A new drinking fountain has been installed at Hudson Family Park near the amphitheater. It includes a traditional drinking fountain, a water bottle

filler and a drinking fountain for dogs.

—The city’s wastewater department is working on mapping of the city’s sewer lines and manhole covers.

—Police are working on code enforcement until the city can hire a code enforcement officer.

—The fire department has gotten started with its first activity at its new training center.

•May asked about the status of Spruce Alley, which runs east-west connecting Meridian and Commerce streets just south of Bricker Auction Company. He said he’s had some complaints about the area and asked that the issue be put on the agenda for the May 20 council meeting.

•Council approved the following an additional appropriation for police equipment.

•May asked again about some blighted homes he had identified during a March council meeting. Westlake said he would look into the situation.

•Hilfiker thanked the street department for the installation of four-way stops at the intersections of North and Middle streets and Main and Ship streets.

•Goldsworthy expressed that he’s always available to talk to constituents about the issues affecting the city. “People have to remember, we’re never all going to agree,” he said. “We’re doing what we feel is best for the community.”

Council approves take-home policy

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The city has a new take-home vehicle policy for its police department and a new ordinance governing recreational vehicles.

Portland City Council approved the take-home vehicle policy and the RV ordinance during its meeting Monday, both on 6-1 votes.

The take-home vehicle policy stemmed from previous discussions about adding vehicles to the police department’s fleet. Some officers had been allowed to take home vehicles at the chief’s discretion over the years. The council then discussed the policy during a work session last month.

Police Chief Dustin Mock, who took over the role at the beginning of the year, told the council he had made three changes to his original proposal as suggested by council members at the work session. Those included:

•That officers are responsible for the proper conduct of passengers (passengers must be authorized by the chief, assistant chief or shift sergeant)

•Inspections of vehicles will be carried out quarterly or at random intervals

•If an officer is found to be negligent and causes damage to the vehicle, they may be subject to disciplinary measures and forfeit the assigned vehicle

The policy also includes that: vehicles may be used in Jay County and adjacent counties, subject to the chief’s discretion, and for authorized training or events; officers may not use a vehicle for personal purposes without written permission; officers may not leave firearms in a vehicle without it being secured in the trunk or by other means; and a minimum of one fully functional and equipped patrol car will be at the station and available for part-time and reserve officers.

Council member Mike Aker said he has heard concerns from residents regarding vehicles being driven outside of the city and county. He suggested a 2-mile radius around the city, questioned the amount of money being spent on gas for officers who live out of county to drive home and said he could not vote for the policy without tighter restrictions on where vehicles are driven.

Mock said it is difficult to recruit officers, especially if either city or county residence is required, noting that a current open position has had one applicant. He said he feels the improved response time in emergencies offsets the cost of driving vehicles home.

Council members Dave Golden, Kent McClung and Ron May said they had heard similar concerns to those raised by Aker. May agreed that vehicles should not be driven out of the county, while Golden expressed sympathy for the difficulties of recruitment.

Council member Ashley Hilfiker said she felt Mock has been flexible and had made the changes requested during the work session. She motioned to approve the ordinance, which passed 6-1 with Michele Brewster, Matt Goldsworthy, McClung, Golden, Hilfiker and May in favor and Aker dissenting.

(McClung addressed the city ordinance’s residency requirements for police officers. It states that applicants must “reside within the County of Jay, a county that is contiguous to Jay County; a county that is noncontiguous to Jay County, but is not more than 50 miles from the closest boundary of the City of Portland; or willing to establish this residence upon appointment.”)

Council approved a new recreational vehicle ordinance on second reading, having made no changes to the ordinance to the original proposal following a work session last month. The vote was 6-1, with May dissenting. He said he feels the ordinance goes too far from addressing the original issue of an RV that was blocking the line of sight for drivers at an intersection.

The ordinance says recreational vehicles, defined as RVs, motor vehicle carriers, motor homes, campers, boats, boat trailers, recreational equipment trails and trailers, may not be parked in a front yard unless they are in a garage, carport or driveway; when parked in a street or alley, recreational vehicles may not impede or obstruct traffic or the line of sight for a regular vehicle; recreational vehicles may not be parked “on residential premises” for more than 24 hours during loading and unloading; recreational vehicles may not be used for living, sleeping or housekeeping when parked or stored at any location not approved for that use. Violations of the ordinance call for a fine of between \$100 and \$1,000.

As she had last month, Portland resident Trisha Myers spoke against the ordinance, saying she feels it places an undue burden on RV owners. She called the ordinance “ridiculous” and said, “You make people want to leave the City of Portland, not stay here.”

She and council members had a brief back-and-forth before the vote.

HEALTHCARE

What is Parkinson's disease?

Who hasn't tapped fingers on a desk with anxiety or shook a leg under a table awaiting some sort of news? These motor impulses may seem involuntary, but they largely are under the control of the individual. For a portion of the population, fidgeting and tremors are out of their control, and are hallmarks of a movement disorder called Parkinson's disease.

The Parkinson's Foundation says Parkinson's disease (PD) affects 10 million people worldwide. PD is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder that predominantly affects the dopamine-producing neurons in an area of the brain called the substantia nigra.

Since PD affects the nervous system, various parts of the body controlled by nerves can be impacted by the disease. Symptoms often start slowly and may be virtually undetectable to the average person. The Mayo Clinic says the first symptoms may be a barely noticeable tremor in just one hand. Stiffness or slowing of movement also can be an early marker of the disease. Some people with PD may begin to have expressionless faces and speech may become soft or slurred. Symptoms worsen as the condition progresses.

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and



Stroke identify these four primary symptoms of PD, though it should be noted that everyone experiences symptoms differently.

• **Tremor:** Shaking often begins in a hand, although a foot or the jaw may be first affected. One tremor characteristic of PD is a rhythmic back-and-forth motion that may involve the thumb and forefinger and appear as "pill rolling." It is most obvious when the hand is at rest.

• **Rigidity:** Muscle stiffness and resistance to movement affects many people with PD. The muscles remain constantly tense and contracted so that a person aches or feels stiff. This rigidity can become obvious when another person tries to move the individual's arm, which will only move in short, jerky movements known as "cogwheel."

• **Bradykinesia:** This is a slowing down of spontaneous and automatic movement. Activities that were once eas-

ily performed now take much longer. There often is a decrease in facial expression, called "masked face." A person with PD may not move his or her arms while walking.

• **Postural instability:** This impaired balance and change in posture can increase the risk of falls. Postural instability also may affect walking gait. Someone with PD may appear to be shuffling.

The cause of PD remains unknown. Scientists believe a combination of genetic and environmental factors are at the root of the disease. There is no cure for PD, although there are treatment options that may help alleviate some symptoms. Currently there is no treatment to slow the progression of PD.

The Mayo Clinic says changes occur in the brains of people with PD. Notably there is the presence of clumps of substances called

Lewy bodies. These Lewy bodies often show a widespread protein called alpha-synuclein, which cells can't break down. Researchers have found alpha-synuclein in the spinal fluid of people who later develop PD.

The Parkinson's Foundation says people with PD take dopaminergic medications to replace missing dopamine in the brain. This helps to treat various symptoms. Ongoing research into PD has led researchers to find ways to identify biomarkers for PD that can lead to earlier diagnoses and more tailored treatments.

Various conditions can produce symptoms similar to PD. It is best to discuss any concerns with a doctor. A consultation with a neurologist likely will be recommended. With the right treatment and support, someone with PD can still live a quality life for years after diagnosis.

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

“Your blue eyeshadow makes nice sky, Mommy.”

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A very costly blunder

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ A Q 7 4
 ♥ K 10
 ♦ K Q 8 5
 ♣ A 6

WEST
 ♠ J 8 3
 ♥ 6 5 3
 ♦ 3
 ♣ Q J 10 8 7 2

EAST
 ♠ K 10 5 2
 ♥ 8 7 4
 ♦ 10 9 6 2
 ♣ 4 3

SOUTH
 ♠ 6
 ♥ A Q J 9 2
 ♦ A J 7 4
 ♣ K 9 5

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass
 2♦ Pass 4NT Pass
 5♥ Pass 5NT Pass
 6♦ Pass 7♣ Pass

Opening lead—queen of clubs.

A blind spot can occur at any time and to anyone during the play of a hand. The victim is often unaware of his transgression until it is later pointed out by someone (usually a spluttering partner), and he is then at a loss to explain why he did what he did.

That is what happened to South on this deal, where a blind spot cost him a cold grand slam. West led the queen of clubs, taken by dummy's ace. With 12 sure tricks in view, South planned to score a 13th by ruffing a club in dummy after drawing the opposing trumps.

Accordingly, he cashed the A-K of trump, but when West showed out at trick three, South was forced to put his plan to draw trump on hold. Instead, he led a club to the king and ruffed his third club with dummy's eight. East overruffed, and the slam was kaput.

South was undeniably unlucky to find the trumps divided 4-1 and the clubs 6-2, but North pointed out a simple line of play that was virtually foolproof. It would fail only if East was void in either hearts or spades, and thus offered a far better chance of success than playing three rounds of clubs without East ruffing.

North pointed out that at trick four, after cashing the A-K of trump, South should have played dummy's ace of spades and ruffed a spade with the seven. South would next cash the jack of diamonds, cross to dummy's king of hearts and draw East's last trump with the queen, discarding his losing club. South could then claim the rest with the high hearts in his hand.

Poor South had to agree with his partner's analysis and was left to wonder where he was when the lights went out.

Tomorrow: Magnificent defense.
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Peanuts

HERE'S SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT PARTNER..

THE FIRST TIME YOU DOUBLE FAULT, I'M GONNA HIT YOU RIGHT OVER THE HEAD WITH MY RACKET!

OKAY, GO AHEAD AND SERVE! AND DON'T BE NERVOUS...

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Rose is Rose

FOLLOW MEE, BUTTERFLAY!

I DON'T HAVE THE HEART TO TELL HER...

I'M JUST AN ATTRACTIVE MOTH

I'M NOT A BUTTERFLY...

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Agnes

THERE! THE BIKE IS ALMOST FINISHED. NO WHEELS. NO TIRES.

NO. NOT YET. THERE IS NO CHAIN... ONLY ONE PEDAL... THE HANDLEBARS ARE TWISTED... THE FRAMES BROKE.

APPARENTLY, YOU HAVE A LOFTIER DEFINITION OF "ALMOST FINISHED"

...AND YOU BETTER GROW SOME BUNS, BECAUSE THAT SEAT LOOKS LIKE A CRIPPLER.

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Hi and Lois

WHAT'S WRONG, TRIxie? DO YOU NEED A CHANGE?

WAAHH!

YES! YOU PUT MY SHOES ON THE WRONG FEET!

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Between Friends

JIMMY AND I WERE IN COLLEGE WHEN I GOT PREGNANT

WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO FINISH OUR DIPLOMAS AND WORK EVER SINCE OUR BABY WAS BORN

ONE OF THESE DAYS WE'LL GET BETTER JOBS AND FINALLY HAVE SOME WORK-LIFE BALANCE... HOW LONG DID THAT TAKE FOR YOU?

I'M HOPING WHEN I RETIRE

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Blondie

I'VE BEEN PUT IN CHARGE OF THROWING A PARTY FOR OUR ENTIRE OFFICE!

THAT'S FANTASTIC!

I'D LOVE TO HAVE A UNIQUE PASTRY MADE FOR EACH OF OUR EMPLOYEES, EVEN OUR PART-TIME HELP!

GREAT! HOW MANY EMPLOYEES?

250!

WOW! SPEAKING OF PART-TIME HELP!

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Snuffy Smith

LEM'S WIFE LEFT HIM !! HE'S PURTY MAD ABOUT IT !!

'CUZ SHE RUN OFF WIF ANOTHER FELLER ?

NO, 'CUZ NOW HE'S STUCK WIF ALL TH' CLEANIN', LAUNDRY AN' BARN CHORES !!

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Beetle Bailey

AW, MISS BUXLEY ISN'T IN TODAY? I'LL MISS HER

YES, SHE'S LIKE A RAY OF SUNSHINE

I SHOULD DROP MY PEN MORE OFTEN

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5-8 CRYPTOQUIP

PN HEYYPF'Y NST PY UETR
 GPQR EQU WF PY NFFHPQX
 GTFBBO XHSL, WF'Y E

LFHEQIWZHO LFHZQ IZHPPF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMEBODY CONCEIVED OF MAKING THE FIRST SHOVEL, IT WAS TRULY A GROUND-BREAKING INVENTION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals T

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 40 Small digit
- 51 Diana
- 52 "I don't care"
- 54 Chills and fever
- 55 Jackson 5 hit song
- 56 -majesté
- 57 Tampa and Chesapeake

DOWN

- 11 Patella site
- 16 Morays
- 20 Vintage
- 23 Prune
- 24 High card
- 25 "Gotta give him credit!"
- 27 Vat
- 29 Tic-tac-toe win
- 30 Before
- 32 Citrus fruits
- 34 Airport areas
- 37 Sault—Marie
- 39 Laugh-a-minute
- 42 Dam on the Nile
- 44 Fred's dancing partner
- 45 Beach crawler
- 46 Latvia's capital
- 48 Divisible by two
- 49 For fear that
- 50 "— chic!"
- 53 "Succession" aier

WILT **PSI** **ABBA**
ALES **SEN** **PROS**
FLAPJACK **PILE**
TSK **ALT** **OLETA**
JIM **ILE**
PAPAL **ODD** **JOBS**
ERIC **PRS** **AURA**
GASKETS **SCRAM**
FRA **YAK**
SNARE **PAC** **DIS**
TOFU **JACK** **POTS**
ESAI **ASH** **AMEN**
PERT **MOT** **NOMS**

Yesterday's answer 5-8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12										
15				16				17		
18										
			21							
23	24	25		26		27		28		29 30
31			32			33		34		35
36										
			41							
45	46								48	49 50
51										
54										
57										

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Sports

Back on track

Patriots pick up offense after slow start to snap three game skid

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

The Patriots lost a pair of extra innings contests to the top team in Class 2A over the weekend.

They had a chance to bounce back against a winless team to start the week. An early deficit gave the Patriots a scare, but then their bats came alive in the third inning and it was downhill from there for the Bearcats.

The Jay County High School baseball team picked its offensive output up in the third inning against Muncie Central on Monday, and the game snowballed from there to give the Patriots a 11-1 victory after only five innings.

"We got a slow start and I almost felt we were a little lethargic," JCHS coach Todd Farr said. "It took us a little to get going, but when we got going, good things happened. It's amazing what can happen when you put the ball in play."

The Patriots (10-9) managed two hits in the first two innings, but couldn't get any runners into scoring position.

Jay County cracked the scoring column in the third inning. Cody Rowles led off by reaching second base on an error by MCHS left fielder Isaiah Miller, with Jackson Edwards following with a walk.

A second error by Aaron Coggeshall at second base let Sam Myers reach base and Rowles score. Parker Nichols recorded the only hit of the inning as he singled down the third base-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School catcher Drew Schemenaur shows the home plate umpire the ball after tagging out Muncie Central's Kye Hiatt on a throw from center fielder Cody Rowles on Monday. The Patriots beat the Bearcats 11-1 to bounce back from three straight losses.

line to push Edwards across the plate.

Myers scored during Ryne Goldsworthy's at bat as Nichols stole second, allowing Myers to take home plate on the throw. Nichols took third base on the same play as shortstop Justus Allen threw the ball away when trying to get Myers out at home.

Allen committed another error on a ground ball hit by Goldsworthy, but Nichols would have scored on the play anyway. The

inning finally ended as Logan Campbell struck out Joe Geesaman and Garrett Bennett.

"It's always good to capitalize on their errors," Nichols said. "Come sectional time, there's not going to be so many errors, so if we capitalize on what they give us, we'll have a better chance to win."

The offensive onslaught continued in the fourth inning, as Jay County scored five more runs on the Bearcats (0-11).

Three of those runs came on a bases-loaded single by Sam Myers that Miller mishandled in left field. Myers later scored on a single by Geesaman.

The final run came from Nichols, who scored off of an error by catcher Gage Emberton as he overthrew third base as Nichols tried to swipe the bag.

Jay County entered the bottom of the fifth inning only two runs away from the mercy rule. It didn't take long as the first two

batters reached base on a hit-by-pitch and a walk. A wild pitch put both runners in scoring position for Edwards, who laced a two-RBI single down the right field line to end the game.

"That's where we're at," Farr said. "We aren't good enough to goof around and allow them to try and make a comeback, so the guys did a really good job of staying focused and getting the job done."

The Bearcats' only run came in the second inning. Allen drew a walk from freshman pitcher Geesaman and stole second base. He then scored on the following single by Charlie Graham.

Grant Wendel earned the win for Jay County by throwing 1 2/3 innings in relief.

Last year, Wendel's only win came against Muncie Central in a complete game in which he gave up just one hit. This year, Wendel earned a win on April 19 against Shenandoah to go along with Monday's victory.

Wendel ended with zero runs allowed despite surrendering four walks and one hit.

"I just tried to keep my confidence up," Wendel said. "Last year, coming into it I had all the confidence in the entire world."

Strong defense behind Wendel helped that confidence grow.

With two outs and runners on first and second in the fourth inning, Wendel gave up a single to Emberton. Kye Hiatt broke for

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Muncie Central Bearcats						
Muncie Central (0-11)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Campbell p	3	0	0	0	0	
Coggeshall 2b	2	0	0	0	0	
Emberton c	2	0	2	0	0	
Dabney 3b	2	0	1	0	0	
Beatty 1b	2	0	0	0	0	
Mullins ph	0	0	0	0	0	
Allen ss	1	1	0	0	0	
Graham dh	3	0	1	1	0	
Hiatt cf	3	0	1	0	0	
Cole-Westbrook rf	2	0	0	0	0	
Totals	20	1	5	1		
Jay County (10-9)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Edwards lf	3	2	2	2	2	
Schemenaur c	2	0	1	0	0	
Jetmore cr	0	1	0	0	0	
Myers ss	2	2	1	2	2	
Nichols 3b	3	2	2	1	1	
Goldsworthy 1b	3	0	0	1	0	
Geesaman p	3	0	2	1	0	
Foster cr	0	0	0	0	0	
Bennett dh	3	0	0	0	0	
Wendel 2b	1	2	0	0	0	
Sommers ph	2	2	0	0	0	
Rowles cf	2	2	0	0	0	
Totals	22	11	8	8		
Mun. Cent.	010	00X	X	—1		
Jay County	004	52X	X	—11		
LOB — Muncie Central 9, Jay County 4. SB — Muncie Central 2 (Emberton, Allen), Jay County 5 (Nichols 2, Myers, Geesaman, Wendel).						
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Muncie Central						
Campbell	4	7	9	3	2	8
Beatty	0	1	2	2	1	0
Jay County						
Geesaman	2.1	4	1	1	2	2
Wendel	1.2	1	0	0	4	1
Nichols	1	0	0	0	0	2

home as Rowles fielded the ball. An accurate throw to Schemenaur caught Hiatt dead in his tracks for the out to end the inning and prevent the run from scoring.

"I saw the kid turn three as the ball was coming in and it was on a laser," Wendel said. "Cody does what he does. He's been doing it all season and he's thrown quite a few kids out now. He's just outstanding in the outfield."



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