

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

County awards paving contract

Work is set for roads west of Indiana 1

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A construction company has been selected for paving a few county roads.

Work should begin later this year.

Jay County Commissioners awarded a \$1,088,045 contract Monday to the lowest bidder, Brooks Construction of Fort Wayne, for road work on several roads west of Indiana 1, just south of its intersection with Indiana 26.

Milestone Contractors of Portland also submitted a bid for the work at \$1,296,250.

Roads set to be paved are Knox Road and county roads 100 South and 150 South. Commissioner president Chad Aker explained the roads, which are currently stone, are commonly used as a bypass when Indiana 1 floods. Converting the roads should help decrease the county's spending on stone in future years, he said.

The work will be paid for using a Community Crossings grant the county received last month. Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb and the Indiana Department of Transportation announced in April that Jay County had been awarded \$1.18 million for the project.

Originally, the county planned to apply for Community Crossings funding to replace the Seventh Street Bridge over the Salamonie River between Blaine Pike and Meridian Street in Portland. The project was delayed because of issues with receiving right-of-way access for the project from an adjoining property owner.

Jay County will contribute about \$393,914 for the Community Crossings project, which requires a 25% match.

Also Monday, commissioners OK'd contributing \$10,000 in economic development dollars or American Rescue Plan Act dollars toward items at Bryant Area Park.

The town has developed its park in the last three years on five acres of former railroad property west of Meridian Street and north of Elm Street. With help from state and local grant funding, the park includes various amenities, including playground equipment, a new parking lot between Elm and Main streets and the 130-year-old former jail building, which has been repaired and relocated to the southwest corner of the park. It also includes a more than half-mile walking trail — construction was completed on the project in November — that starts along Wilson Street and continues north, passing the community pavilion and traveling along the west side of the park until reaching Indiana 67.

See County page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Fishing fun

Kieara Lambert, 7, juggles her fishing rod Wednesday at Hudson Family Park. Kieara Lambert, her 5-year-old sister Zoey Lambert, and other friends spent their day fishing with their mothers and playing at the park.

Documents offer some info on spending

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

New, partially-unredacted public records offer a glimpse into public dollars so far spent to defend Attorney General Todd Rokita's law license.

Payments related to the attorney general's disciplinary case is likely far greater than what's visible in the documents, but redactions continue to make a total sum difficult to calculate.

Rokita's office last week released 86 pages of attorney invoices from the Schaerr Jaffe law firm dated between August 2022 and October 2023. An earlier batch of records

obtained by reporters last year were heavily redacted by the Indiana Comptroller, who pays the invoices.

The Washington, D.C.-based law firm was hired by the state to defend Rokita, whom the Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission began investigating after a complaint was filed in late 2022, as

first reported by the Indiana Citizen.

The investigation — and ultimate reprimand — stemmed from the Republican attorney general's televised comments about Indianapolis doctor Caitlin Bernard, who oversaw a medication abortion for a 10-year-old rape victim from Ohio in 2022.

But the same firm was handling the attorney general's medical licensure case against Bernard, along with other cases. Black-outs to the invoices had previously made it impossible to distinguish which expenditures were related to Rokita's disciplinary matter.

See Documents page 2

Removed redactions show \$100,000 spent in the weeks surrounding Bernard case

Severe storm slammed Dallas

By SARAH BAHARI,
LANA FERGUSON
and JAMIE LANDERS
The Dallas Morning News
Tribune News Service

DALLAS — Ferocious winds and heavy rain swept through North Texas early Tuesday, flooding roads, downing trees and power lines and knocking out power for hundreds of thousands of people.

Many in the Dallas area woke to the wail of tornado sirens when the National Weather Service issued a tornado warning.

"Take cover now!" the weather service in Fort Worth said at 6:13 a.m. on X. The storm packed nearly 80 mph winds, golf ball-sized hail and the threat of flash floods.

Dallas County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins issued an emergency declaration and warned some resi-

dents will be without power for days. At a news conference Tuesday, Lewis Jenkins said the extent of the damage and number of people affected make this storm unusual, and he urged patience.

"I've been doing this for 14 years and I don't remember ever having a multiday event quite like this one," he said.

The storm comes just days after a tornado tore through North Texas, killing seven and injuring more than 100 people around Valley View, a town about 60 miles northwest of Dallas.

On Tuesday, crews assessed and cleared damage across the Dallas area as smaller storms popped up throughout the day, and were expected to continue their efforts through the night.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Teal tugs

Members of Fort Recovery Middle School's teal team pull during the tug of war competition portion of field day activities Friday. Fort Recovery students celebrated their last day of school competing in games, ending with the tug of war at the LeFevre Family Baseball and Softball Complex.

Deaths

David Downing, 75, Redkey
Sheila Lightle, 61, Portland
Shirley Ellenberger, 80, Greenfield
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Tuesday. The low was 55.
Tonight's low will drop into the mid 40s. Expect sunny skies Friday with a high in the mid 70s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Portland Foundation is accepting applications for its summer grant cycle. Deadlines are July 11 for Women's Giving Circle grants, June 12 for scholarships and June 27 for regular grants and teacher creativity mini grants. Applications are available at portland-foundation.org. For more information, call (260) 726-4260.

Coming up

Friday — Jay-Randolph Developmental Services opening new thrift store.
Saturday — Results from the Fort Recovery track team at the state finals.
Tuesday — Coverage of Jay County High School's graduation ceremony.



Obituaries

David Downing

Aug. 16, 1948-May 26, 2024
David L. Downing, 75, of Redkey, Indiana, went home to be with his Savior Jesus on May 26, 2024. Dave lost his battle with pancreatic cancer but gained his eternal life in heaven.



Downing

David was his wife's love of her heart, her best friend, her beach and travel buddy, her love forever more, the best father to Brian and Andy, best grandfather to Aly, and the best great-grandfather to Grayson. He touched so many loves throughout his 75

years and made the world a better place.

Dave was born in Bluffton, Indiana, on Aug. 16, 1948, a son of the late Edna Ruth (Hines) and Robert Lemuel Downing. He was a 1966 graduate of Markleville High School and went on to further his education at DeVry Technical School graduating in 1968.

Dave proudly served our country in the United States Air Force and worked as a technician for Indiana Bell and Ameritech, and retired from AT&T in Anderson, Indiana. He was a member of Redkey Faith Ministries Church and enjoyed wood carving, fishing, art painting, euchre playing, crochet art,

gardening, bird watching, hunting, small engine repair, raising and painting gourds, and volunteering at church.

Dave is survived by his lovely wife Barbara Kay (Wood) Downing; two sons, Brian Downing and Andrew Downing (wife: Sara); one brother, Jim Downing; one sister, Linda Shock (husband: Michael); one granddaughter, Alexandra Downing; and one great-grandson, Grayson Perkins.

Visitation will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Redkey Faith Ministries Church, 9811 W. Indiana 67, Redkey, IN 47373. Funeral services will follow at 1 p.m. with Pastor Craig Cotherman

officiating. Private burial and military honors will be held in Memorial Park Cemetery in Anderson, Indiana.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Redkey Faith Ministries Church in care of their Adopt a School Project, which provides all the school supplies for every child at Redkey Elementary School.

Checks may be sent to Redkey Faith Ministries Church, 9811 W. Indiana 67, P.O. Box 93, Redkey, IN 47373.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel.

Sheila Lightle, Portland, Oct. 12, 1962-May 25, 2024. Services will

be at 11 a.m. Friday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Shirley Ellen Ellenberger, Greenfield, a former Geneva resident, Sept. 12, 1943-May 25, 2024. Services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at First Missionary Church, 950 U.S. 27, Berne.

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

Friday 5/31	Saturday 6/1	Sunday 6/2	Monday 6/4	Tuesday 6/5
75/52	79/60	79/61	84/66	85/67
Friday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high in the mid 70s.	There's a slight chance of rain throughout the day. Storms are also possible.	Another chance of thunderstorms on Sunday under mostly cloudy skies.	Monday also has a chance of thunderstorms. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	There's a chance of showers and thunderstorms Tuesday under mostly cloudy skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$143 million	Evening Daily Three: 4-3-7 Daily Four: 5-5-2-5 Quick Draw: 1-3-5-11-16-19-26-33-41-46-52-53-54-63-65-66-68-78-79-80
Mega Millions 12-18-48-57-62 Mega Ball: 4 Megaplier: 5 Estimated jackpot: \$522 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 4-0-4 Pick 4: 7-6-0-3 Pick 5: 2-4-2-2-7 Evening Pick 3: 2-3-3 Pick 4: 9-9-1-3 Pick 5: 2-9-9-3-8 Rolling Cash: 3-4-5-14-34 Estimated jackpot: \$294,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 8-6-8 Daily Four: 2-5-4-3 Quick Draw: 7-9-11-15-20-21-25-29-33-35-41-45-46-52-54-55-67-71-78-80	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.44 June corn4.48 Wheat5.79	June beans12.07 Wheat 6.50
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.50 June corn4.50 July corn.....4.45	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.36 June corn4.38 Beans12.05 June beans12.05 Wheat6.44
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.46 June corn4.41 Beans12.03	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.46 June corn4.46 Beans11.81 June beans11.86 Wheat6.29

Today in history

In 1381, the Peasants' Revolt, which was the first popular rebellion in the history of England, erupted because of an unpopular poll tax.

In 1431, Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. The woman who had led the French Army to a victory over England and Orleans during the Hundred Year's War had been convicted of heresy and witchcraft.

In 1806, Andrew Jackson, who went on to serve two terms as president, fatally shot Charles Dickinson in a duel.

In 1854, the U.S. Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which

indicated that the status of slavery in the Kansas and Nebraska territories would be determined by popular sovereignty.

In 2003, Fort Recovery High School senior Tyler Niekamp finished as the district runner-up in the long jump to earn a berth in the OHSAA Division III Track and Field State Finals.

In 2022, Jay County High School baseball coach Lea Selvey's 34-year career came to a close as the Patriots lost 6-2 to New Castle in the semifinal round of the sectional tournament at Yorktown.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Tuesday
4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation,

Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.
7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, School-house Community Center,

County ...

Continued from page 1

Park director Paul VanCise explained that because of inflation, additional items had to be cut from the project. He asked commissioners Monday to contribute \$10,000 to purchase a new drinking fountain, bike rack, trash cans and a leaf blower.

Commissioners agreed to contribute the funding, noting the decision requires joint approval from Jay County Council.

In other business, commissioners Rex Journay, Brian McGalliard and Aker:

- Amended a letter of intent signed on April 22 to Portland Economic Development Corporation regarding a 75-acre parcel on the southwest side of Portland. The new version allows the county to negotiate giving road frontage or an easement to Portland Economic Development Corporation, explained county attorney Wes Schemenaur, to prevent the remaining parcel from being landlocked.

- Heard from Bill Walters of East Central Indiana Regional Planning District, who shared a presentation on projects his organization has worked on since its partnership with Jay County was reestablished in October 2022. He highlighted a few projects, including: MainStream Fiber Networks' proposal to install 395 miles of fiberoptic internet throughout rural Jay County and efforts toward the Broadband Equity,

Access and Deployment (BEAD) program; and work on the owner-occupied rehabilitation program, a \$1 million home repair program for residents with low to middle-range incomes that opened applications Tuesday. He also noted at least \$500,000 in grants procured and the comprehensive economic development strategy (CEDS) grant initiative, which requires the district to produce a plan for the region every five years.

- Approved the following: amending the salary ordinance to give employees discounts on their health insurance for the next six months, which comes as a result of a refund distributed by Physicians Health Plan; paying \$32,700 for a new mower from Kalida Truck Equipment of Kalida, Ohio; Jay County Highway Department's annual operations report; transferring a truck from Jay County Country Living to Jay County Health Department; a contract with regional workforce development group Eastern Indiana Works for being a part of economic growth region 6, which includes Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Henry, Randolph, Rush, Union and Wayne counties; an agreement with Comcast to provide Jay County Purdue Extension Office internet service at Jay County Fairgrounds during the Jay County Fair; reimbursement agreements with Jay County Sheriff's Office deputies Brinnin Kobe Wasson and James B.

Robinette for their training at Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.

- Heard about a recent Indiana Department of Environmental Management inspection at Jay County Country Living, which cited a few violations at the property. Jay County Health Department environmentalist and administrator Heath Butz, who also serves as a site facility operator (water tester) at the facility, explained the county will need to make a few changes. One of those includes Butz visiting the property three times a week instead of once.

- OK'd Jay County Country Living to pay \$39,974.16 to Medler's Furniture for installing new flooring throughout the facility. The funding, which comes from an Indiana Residential Care Assistance Program grant, must be spent by June 30.

- Discussed whether to allow pets at Jay County Country Living.

- Forwarded a request to Jay County Personnel Committee from county clerk Jon Eads to raise the reimbursement amount for meals for county employees while at conventions in-state. (Currently the amount for out-of-state reimbursement is higher.)

- OK'd accepting sealed bids of at least \$1,500 for a decommissioned ambulance.

- Appointed Aker to a committee studying animal control ordinances for Jay County Humane Society.

- Paid \$1,390,321.04 in claims.

Documents ...

Continued from page 1
The new records made available by Rokita's office show only a few expenses directly related to his disciplinary case. Even so, documents bring other spending to light — indicating more than \$100,000 spent in the weeks surrounding Bernard's case before the Indiana Medical Licensing Board.

Rokita's office referred the Indiana Capital Chronicle to a statement it issued last year:

"We will continue using Schaerr Jaffe as this office has done throughout multiple administrations — whether it's related to abortion activist, Caitlin Bernard, separate pro-life issues, or other cases in general. Of course, public money is involved in any matter which defends the work of a state attorney whose efforts are performed on behalf of the state."

The Capital Chronicle and Indiana Citizen first requested the invoices in October 2023.

The Indiana Comptroller handled the initial request and released 44 pages of heavily redacted documents shortly after.

Luke Britt, the Indiana Public Access Counselor (PAC) said in a March 12 report that some of those redactions were appropriate, but recommended that state officials only block out portions of the documents "consistent with basic tenets of transparency and good governance."

In response to a records request made after Luke's opinion, Rokita's office released the slightly-less redacted invoices last week.

Relevant invoice entries cite "disciplinary commission" or "DC case" to reference work logged and billed by staff at the Schaerr Jaffe firm.

Visible among the charges are at least \$385 spent on "next steps in litigation" in July and August

2023. Another \$300 was spent in September 2023 on "continuing education" for Schaerr Jaffe attorneys working on Rokita's case.

It's still unclear what redacted invoice items around the same time were related to, but those charges total thousands of additional dollars.

.....
This story was edited for length. For the full version, visit indianacapitalchronicle.com.

SERVICES

Today
Lykins, Jeremiah: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Weesner, Frances: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday
Schwartz, Elizabeth: 9 a.m., Emanuel F. Schwartz residence, 7735 S. 150 West, Berne.
Lightle, Sheila: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Monday
Downing, David: 1 p.m., Redkey Faith Ministries Church, 9811 W. Indiana 67, Redkey.

Saturday
Houser, Richard: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Sunday
Snyder, Wesley: 1:30 p.m., Portland Church of Christ, 1217 W. Votaw St., Portland.

Tuesday
Ellenberger, Sheila: 11 a.m., First Missionary Church, 950 U.S. 27, Berne.

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

ANTIQUE Printer's Turtles



FOR SALE
\$150 ea.
23 3/4" (W) X 28 1/4" (D) X 37 3/4" (H)

CALL
260-726-8141
GRAPHIC PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS
309 W. Main St.
Portland, IN



Photo provided

Five generations

Pictured are five generations of the Iliff, Post and Timmerman family. From left, front row, are great, great grandmother Patricia Iliff holding Kinsley Timmerman and sitting next to mother Taylor (Post) Timmerman. In the second row are great grandfather Terry Iliff and grandmother Kristi (Iliff) Post.

Siblings abandon their relative in time of need

DEAR ABBY: My husband passed away from COVID in 2021. A year later, after it was safe to socialize, I had a memorial dinner to commemorate him. Not one of my seven local siblings attended. They said, "That was for HIS family." I didn't argue or try to convince them that I needed them. It was terribly embarrassing when my friends and my husband's friends kept asking to meet my siblings.

It's been two years since the service and three years since his death, and I can't get over feeling abandoned. Although I am cordial, I don't rely on any of them. No one seems to notice my withdrawal — at least they don't discuss the change in my behavior with me. I suppose I need to "get over it," but I can't. — SO DISAPPOINTED IN VIRGINIA

DEAR SO DISAPPOINTED: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your husband. It must have been a terrible shock. Your siblings were either grossly insensitive or they may have disliked your husband. That they would avoid his memorial rather than attend and be supportive has to have been painful, and your reaction is understandable.

Healthy people don't "get over" being abandoned in their time of need. I'm not suggesting that it's OK to carry a grudge that would further isolate you, but stepping back seems to have been a wise and self-protective decision.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Gary" for six years, but he has never proposed. I'm very independent. My husband died when my kids were small, and I had to raise them and keep a roof over our heads, which made me even more independent. In fact, there are times I don't think I even want to remarry.

Gary and I love each other. We get

Dear Abby



along well and do a lot of things together. I know we are lucky to have each other in our lives, but there are times I want to break off our relationship because he hasn't asked me for a commitment, and I still want to find somebody who wants to commit himself to me. Although Gary says he is committed, I know being engaged isn't a magical solution either. I have been engaged before.

I have tried breaking it off with Gary, but he never takes me seriously. I have felt this way for most of our relationship. I am a counselor, so I know about typical recommendations such as attending therapy. Should I stay, or should I go? Trying to go has not worked out in the past. I need some advice. — TO MARRY OR NOT IN ILLINOIS

DEAR TO MARRY OR NOT: It's time for a candid discussion with Gary about your feelings. Tell him that after six years, you need a commitment from him, and WHAT EXACTLY THAT ENTAILS. If you do, it may help you to clarify in your own mind what you need and what you think is missing. I don't think you need therapy to figure this out — you simply need to be honest with yourself.

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

Community Calendar

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

Today
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.

Friday
PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addic-

tion 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.

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.

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

information, call (260) 726-8463.

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 - BRANNA'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. 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.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St.

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. 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.

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-

9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday
COMPASSIONATE CON-

NECTIONS 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.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Special

Our **Senior Citizens Special Section** will be distributed in
*The Commercial Review (Portland),
 The News-Gazette (Winchester),
 The News Times (Hartford City)
 and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)*

FULL-PAGE COLOR — \$600
(only one available)

FULL-PAGE B&W — \$500

1/2-PAGE COLOR — \$450
(limited availability)

1/2-PAGE B&W — \$400

1/4-PAGE COLOR — \$350
(limited availability)

1/4-PAGE B&W — \$250

Big business card (3x3.5) — \$100

Business card (2x2) — \$60

WOW!

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.
Deadline for ads is Wednesday, June 12.

Contact Lindsey at
L.Cochran@thecr.com
 or **(260) 726-8141**

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

Gas prices fluctuate with the times

By MORTON J. MARCUS

On May 25, 2014, the average price of regular gasoline nationwide, according to the popular app GasBuddy, was just over \$3.68.

Ten years later, on May 25, 2024, the price was a bit under \$3.68.

If you want to look at gas prices in political terms, forget the president, who has extremely little influence on those prices. When Barack Obama handed the baton of state to Donald Trump in 2017, the price was below \$2.35. When the exchange was made from Trump to Biden, that average stood about \$3.02 per gallon.

During Trump's time in office, the average price of regular

Eye on the Pie



gasoline rose by nearly 29%; for Biden's term thus far, it has gone up about 20%.

Prices fell to \$1.70 in 2020 when Americans stayed home from work and limited other driving during the COVID pandemic. Then prices rebounded to almost \$4.35 per gallon as the nation went back to more ordinary times in 2021. Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine in 2022

caused a temporary boost to almost \$5, a high from which they are descending slowly.

Gasoline prices are posted in bright colors on huge signs easily visible as we drive from here and there. No other product has prices advertised so prominently, routinely in front of our eyes. We are aware of every change, up or down, and we couple that with our memories of prices past.

Friends near my age recall 19 cents in the gas price wars of the early 1960s; we also recall 34 cents a decade later. Virtually every driver recalls a price lower than today's.

Recently, Indiana's average gas price is pennies different from the national average, although that variance has been

as much 25 cents higher or lower during the past three years.

Within Indiana, there are consistently variable prices. In the 30 days from this writing, Evansville's prices have fluctuated only 5 cents around \$3.35; Fort Wayne and Indianapolis have ranged together from \$3.30 to \$3.75. Most often Gary is about 25 cents higher than Indianapolis, but briefly they were just 3 cents apart.

Back to the national level. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for regular gasoline in April 2024 was 29.5% ahead of the same month in 2019. During the same period, the CPI for all goods and services increased by 22.7%.

Domestic gasoline prices are subject to international events

(Ukraine) and the decisions of the Saudi-led OPEC cartel. But what counts most is how American workers' earnings are doing relative to inflation. While prices in general have risen by 22.7% in the past five years, earnings have increased by 24.3%.

Want to beat gas price inflation? Unless your job, not your hobby, requires one, don't buy that gas-guzzling pick-up truck or van. Instead get an economical gas/electric hybrid car like my Prius. (Toyota has not paid me for this endorsement of their product.)

.....
Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

It's time to deal with marijuana law

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The Indiana General Assembly has been hiding from the topic of marijuana for years now. But with the federal government set to ease restrictions, it's time for lawmakers to tackle the policy debate.

U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland has proposed loosening the illegal status of marijuana at the federal level. Moving marijuana from the government's list of the most dangerous and least useful substances to a less serious category is a clear signal that the federal government is turning the corner.

Cannabis has been listed as a Schedule I drug under the Controlled Substances Act since 1971, even as many states have moved to legalize recreational use for more than a decade and medicinal use for even longer.

State-legal marijuana businesses make up a multibillion-dollar industry, but the illegal status of the drug under federal law creates barriers unseen by other industries, including a lack of access to banking and the inability to deduct business expenses from taxes.

The move to Schedule III would enable a more permissive approach to the drug, including by allowing greater study of medicinal uses and letting related businesses use a common tax deduction.

We know where Hoosiers stand.

Results from Ball State University's 2023 Hoosier Survey shows 54% of respondents say marijuana should be legal for personal use by adults. In comparison, 32.2% selected "It should be legal for medicinal use."

Just 9.8% of respondents selected "It should not be legal."

Those findings generally mirror the year before, as well as many other polls.

Dozens of states have moved down this path. The National Conference of State Legislatures reports that as of April 2023, 38 states, three territories and the District of Columbia allow the medical use of cannabis products. As of November 2023, 24 states, two territories and the District of Columbia have enacted measures to regulate cannabis for recreational use.

This isn't new or groundbreaking. We can learn from other states and craft our own path.

Until then we will continue to struggle with situations such as delta-8.

Niki Kelly



Congress revived the industrial hemp industry in 2018's agriculture-focused farm bill by removing the plant and its seeds from the definition of marijuana. It's generally considered legal as long as it contains less than 0.3% delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol — or THC, the major psychoactive component in the plant — by dry weight. Above that, it's considered banned marijuana.

Indiana promptly followed suit. Lawmakers in 2018 legislation used the same delta-9 cutoff in legalizing low-THC hemp extracts, and added more hemp-related regulations in another law the following year.

The state's delta-8 industry has boomed, as an apparently legal alternative to marijuana.

About 540 Indiana retail stores and nearly 1,400 gas stations have sold about \$637 million worth of hemp-based cannabinoid products, according to a 2023 study by hemp-cannabis data firm Whitney Economics. Those sales made a total economic impact of about \$1.8 billion, the company found.

But the Indiana State Police, the attorney general and some prosecutors disagree on the law, which has led to a lawsuit.

It seems odd to be writing this since I have never used marijuana — not even a gummy or a college toke. And I certainly don't want Indiana to reek of the drug like other places that have legalized it.

But I also feel like it's time to stop avoiding the topic and craft a sensible law. We are surrounded by states that have legalized the drug, which creates its own issues along the border. Most importantly, I would love to see all lawmakers — not just Republicans making decisions in private caucuses — publicly weigh in.

Maybe it would pass. Maybe it wouldn't. But let's debate it. Let's put the votes on the board.

.....
Kelly is editor-in-chief of *Indiana Capital Chronicle* and has covered the *Indiana Statehouse* since 1999.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.



Illinois shows reform works

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

California lawmakers passed a bill eliminating money bail in 2018, but voters overturned the important reform in tumultuous 2020 after a fear-stoking referendum campaign led by the bail bond industry. The state is now slowly picking its way through more modest improvements set in motion by court policies and lawsuits, leaving us with a piecemeal system that is too slowly and inconsistently rolling back the role of wealth and poverty in determining who gets out of jail before trial.

That left leadership to other states. The Illinois General Assembly passed a law in 2021 that made the state the first in the nation to eliminate money bail. Opponents (again, supported by the bail bond industry) sued, but the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the law last year. Now people who are arrested stay in jail, regardless of how much money they have, if they are deemed by a judge to be too risky to public safety to be released. Those not considered a risk are set free, sometimes with conditions such as ankle monitors, no matter how empty their wallets may be.

Bail reform opponents predicted mayhem. Too many criminals would be caught, ticketed and turned loose to commit more crimes, they said.

They were wrong. Nearly a year later, data show Illinois' no-money-bail program is working out quite well. Arrests for new crimes by people released pending trial are coming in so far at about 4% in Cook County, which includes Chicago and much of the state's crime. That's about on par with or slightly better than the pre-reform rearrest rate over the last several years. Defendants who promise to show up for their hearings do, for the most part. Warrants are issued for the approximately 10% who don't — again, about the same as

Guest Editorial

the proportion previously released before trial with or without having posted bail.

Numbers of rearrests and failures to appear across Illinois' other 101 counties range from similar to sharply lower.

There are some costs to the no-money-bail program — for example, in court time. Judges who in the past might have decided to hold or release defendants based on their ability to pay are now spending more time in pretrial hearings to weigh arguments and evidence. That's as it should be. Imagine a system in which a court hands out convictions or acquittals based on how much money the defendant pays, rather than on the weight of witness testimony and other evidence.

Such a system would be the very definition of corruption and injustice. Yet that's what money bail systems do during the period before trial.

There are also benefits. Billions of dollars in bail bond payments that were previously extracted from families, usually from those who could afford it the least, can be used for housing, food and other daily expenses. The burdens of poverty that are borne disproportionately by people of color now no longer turn automatically into disproportionate pretrial incarceration. Jail populations in Illinois are declining, meaning less taxpayer money spent to feed and house people who would be safe to release.

The biggest losers in Illinois are, predictably, members of the bail bond industry, including agents and the sureties — in effect, insur-

ance companies — that work with them.

Illinois' no-money-bail system is leaps and bounds ahead of Los Angeles County's extremely modest program. For one thing, the program designed and operated by the Superior Court only applies to low-level crimes. Anyone accused of a serious felony is ineligible for no-money-bail release, yet ironically can still be set free — and in some cases must be set free — if they pay their bail, even if they are at high risk to public safety.

For another thing, L.A.'s program only applies in the short pre-arrest phase — the period between arrest and the defendant's initial appearance before a judge, which is usually only two or three days. A defendant who is freed at the police station might be out for 30 days, then at the arraignment ordered into custody all over again — or even ordered to pay money bail.

More than two dozen cities are suing the Superior Court in the wildly misinformed belief that using risk factors to determine which defendants to detain and which to release, instead of payments, somehow makes the public less safe. City officials may believe, falsely, that defendants out on bail will forfeit their money if they are arrested again while waiting for trial. Defendants forfeit their money only if they fail to show up for hearings, and usually not even then. Bail does not provide much of a financial incentive to alter behavior.

Or they may believe that people with money are just naturally better risks than people without, although there is no evidence to support that.

Or they may be just too eager to listen to fairy tales told to them by members of the same industry that defeated bail reform in California four years ago, but was thankfully unable to do the same in Illinois.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer; signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

VOLUME 151—NUMBER 21
THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2024

www.thecr.com

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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days — \$3; Monthly auto-pay — \$10; 13 weeks — \$32; six months — \$60; one year — \$108.
City (walking — where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$11; 13 weeks — \$36; six months — \$68; one year — \$122.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$12; 13 weeks — \$44; six months — \$74; one year — \$140.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay — \$13; 13 weeks — \$49; six months — \$80; one year — \$151.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588




This Area Church page is made possible through the courtesy of the following sponsors!



Great Food, No Bull!
1204 W. Votaw Portland
(260) 726-9647




Portland Insurance
Insurance made simple
(260) 726-9345
115 E. Main St. Portland, IN
www.portins.com



Praise & Worship

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home
The Teeter Family
221 N. Meridian St
Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-7171




Williams Auto Parts
Used Auto and Truck Parts
www.williamsautopartsinc.com
1127 S. Detroit Ave. Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8001
All inventory online

STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH



Swiss Village, Inc.
Independent Duplex Homes
Independent Living Apartments
Residential & Assisted Living
Short Term Rehabilitation
Healthcare & Dementia Care
Therapy Services
Berne, IN • 260.589.3173 • www.swissvillage.org

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOUSES OF WORSHIP

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Christ Chapel
2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sugar Grove Nazarene
3984 N. 550 West, Portland
Pastor Mike Heckman
(615) 517-1017
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Bible study: 6 p.m. Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

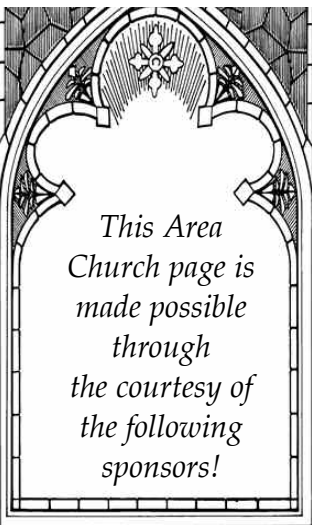
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris Kruchkow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

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

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

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

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



This Area Church page is made possible through the courtesy of the following sponsors!

Williamson, Spencer & Penrod Funeral Homes, Inc.
Todd & Rob Penrod
"Serving As We Would Be Served"
From 2 Convenient Locations
PORTLAND (260) 726-7111
PENNVILLE (260) 731-8811




pak-a-sak
We're your Convenience Store and a whole lot more!

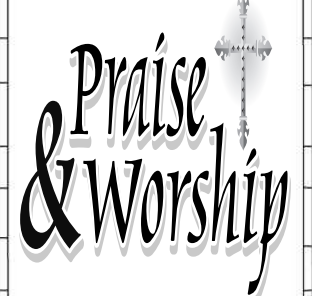
STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH

Behind every project is a **True Value**.
Portland True Value
Shop Local
Save Time • Save Money
(260) 726-6263
1100 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN

Arm's Auto Body
260.726.7343
Mike Blowers, Owner
801 N. Wayne Street - Portland, IN
Quality Work Since 1969
All Makes & Models
All Insurance Companies

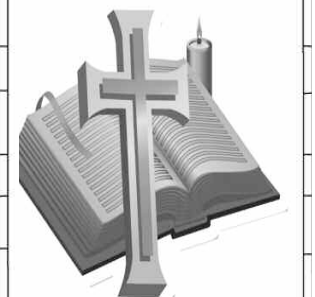


Hours: M-F 8 to 5



Praise & Worship

MAY FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.
LIFE • HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
MEDICARE
SUPPLEMENTS
ANNUITIES
JEFF HALL
your hometown agent
for over 30 years
(260) 729-5200
jeff@mayfig.com
111 W. Main Street • Portland, IN



R. DAVIS & SONS
CONCRETE • EXCAVATING
Complete Septic Systems
Backhoe • Dozer
Hauling • Trenching
Drain Cleaning
3042 West 400 North, Portland
p 260.726.2230

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



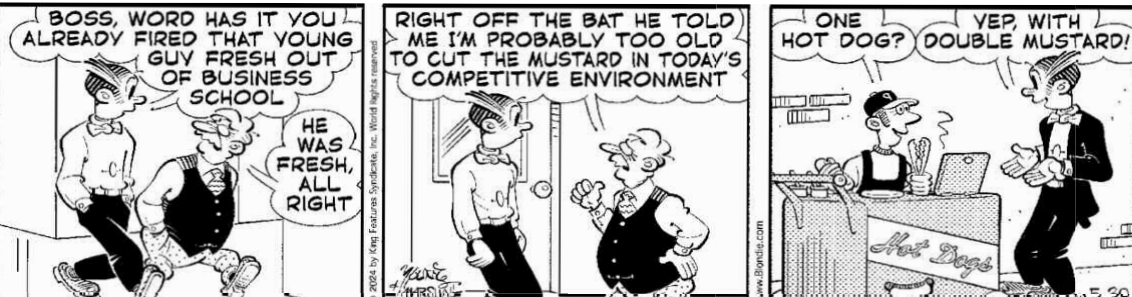
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Resisting the impulse

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: 832, Q95, AJ, AJ1098. WEST: KQJ105, 8643, K7, 62. EAST: A96, 72, Q10854, 743. SOUTH: 74, AKJ10, 9632, KQ5. The bidding: North East South West 1 Pass 1 Pass 2 Pass 4 Pass 1 Pass 1 Pass. Opening lead — king of spades.

There is normally an urge to win a trick when the opportunity presents itself, but it is not always wise to yield to this urge.

Assume you're in four hearts in today's deal and West leads the K-Q of spades. If you ruff the third spade and play three rounds of trump, hoping they're divided 3-3, West turns up with four trumps and East with two.

There isn't much more you can do

at this point than to start running your clubs, but West ruffs the third one and cashes two spades to put you down two. All told, you lose the club ruff and four spade tricks.

Now let's go back to trick three and discard a diamond on the third round of spades instead of trumping it. This is certainly not an extraordinary play; all you're doing is refusing the opportunity to win the trick.

But the indisputable advantage of discarding a diamond on the third round of spades is that you make the contract instead of going down. It doesn't matter which suit the defense elects to return at trick four, because you can't be stopped from scoring four hearts, five clubs and a diamond.

Furthermore, it doesn't even cost you a trick to discard a diamond on the third spade, since even if the trumps were divided 3-3, you could never make more than 10 tricks.

The bottom line is that if you discard on the third spade lead, you make the contract whenever the trumps are divided 3-3 or 4-2, an 84% probability, instead of only when they're divided 3-3, a 36% probability. That's reason enough not to give in to the urge to trump the third spade lead.

Tomorrow: Test your play. ©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

5-30 CRYPTOQUIP

MRDIJ DK HSDIS BMMDITPW

CPN CB CPUJ YBHK U MTH

VWVGICTY RBUK WSUPJW:

"CST VWVPN VWVGICW."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT ONE CALL A BIG MUSICAL WORK FEATURING A BUNCH OF ARIAS ABOUT SKIING? A SLOPE OPERA.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals F

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 24 mins and a list of yesterday's answers.

00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS 260-726-8141 ADVERTISING RATES 20 Word Minimum Effective 07/01/2018: Minimum charge... \$12.40 1 insertion.....62¢/word 2 insertions.....81¢/word 3 insertions.....96¢/word 6 insertions.... \$1.14/word 12 insertions. \$1.52/word 26 insertions. \$1.77/word Includes Online.....FREE Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00 In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00 Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

60 SERVICES

AMISH CONSTRUCTION CREW Building new & remodeling. Garages, Pole Barns, Roofing, siding, windows, ect. Call 567-279-2591 J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC. Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message. "SEAMSTRESS NAN" HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, Applique, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334 GOODHEW'S ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

The Commercial Review Newspaper Delivery Comments or Problems? Call our Circulation Hotline 260-251-9588 After 5:00 p.m. Leave Message Please. Carrier Delivery Deadlines Tuesday - Friday: 6:00 p.m. Saturday Morning: 8:00 a.m. The Commercial Review 309 West Main St., Portland. Front Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Circulation Department Hours: 10:00 am - 4:30 p.m.

Little JJ's Tree Service Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding, Firewood available 765-509-1956

GABBARD FENCE FARM • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL • VINYL SINCE 1967 rgfence@yahoo.com (765) 546-8801

Wendel's Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning Von Schrader Dry Foam Cleaning For Quick Drying, Residential & Commercial Dave Wendel Ph. 260-726-4520 Cell 260-729-2797

E and E Construction Amish Crew BARN RESTORATION Specializing in metal roofs, decks & more FREE Estimates 260-301-1777

Dave's Heating & Cooling Furnace, Air Conditioner Geothermal Sales & Service 260-726-2138 Now accepting MC/Disc/Visa

BOOLMAN'S Auto Sales & Service, Inc. Highway 67 W, Portland, Indiana 260-251-9735

BAIL BONDS Travis Weaver 260-726-3189 across street from Jail

A & S Building Construction, LLC All Types of construction New Homes, Remodeling, Roofing, Siding Garages, Barns, Concrete work, Basement & Foundation Replacement Leave Message 260-341-3023

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD in The Commercial Review CALL 726-8141

Bricker's Flowers & More 414 N. Meridian St. Portland Call or text to order 260-703-0304 Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday 9:30-3:00 Saturday

Out The CR Classifieds www.thecr.com

Hernandez retires from MLB

By KEVIN MANAHAN
nj.com
Tribune News Service

Angel Hernandez, mocked and lampooned by fans and players for decades as the worst umpire in the major leagues, is retiring immediately, according to USA Today.

A high-ranking MLB official spoke to USA TODAY Sports on the condition of anonymity since he was not granted permission to speak publicly before MLB made the announcement official Tuesday.

MLB and Hernández, 62, had spent the past two weeks negotiating a financial settlement before reaching a resolution over the weekend — likely a byproduct of Hernandez's record and a lawsuit he filed against MLB. Twitter accounts wasted no time in posting videos of his worst calls.

How bad is Hernandez? He worked only 10 games last season because of a back injury, but he missed 161 calls, according to Umpire Auditor.

Despite his checkered record as an umpire, Hernández filed a

racial discrimination lawsuit in 2017, alleging that he was passed over for a crew chief position and World Series assignments because of race.

He last umpired a World Series game in 2005 and a League Championship Series in 2016.

The lawsuit was dismissed in U.S. District Court in 2021, and the Second Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the decision last year.

Hernandez was mocked on social media earlier this season after a typical game: Texas Rangers rookie Wyatt Langford struck out on three consecutive pitches that were outside of the strike zone.

Hernandez missed on seven other pitches that were at least three inches outside the strike zone.

Hernández worked his last game May 9 as the home-plate umpire in the Chicago White Sox's 3-2 victory over the Cleveland Guardians at Guaranteed Rate Field. He was replaced by Jacob Metz.

Hernandez had three calls over-

turned at first base in Game 3 of the 2018 American League Division Series between the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox. At one point, Hernandez turned to Yankees first baseman Luke Voit and said, "I'll get the next one right."

The next night, for Game 4, Hernandez was behind the plate. Yankees starter CC Sabathia, who took the loss in the series-clinching 4-3 defeat, targeted Hernandez following the game.

"I don't understand why he's doing playoff games," Sabathia said.

"He's terrible behind the plate. He was terrible at first base. It's amazing how he's getting a job to umpire in these playoff games."

During phone interviews during an investigation in 2020, MLB charged that Hernandez unethical-ly remained on the line to eavesdrop on others being questioned.

The Cuban-American Hernandez was hired as a full-time MLB umpire in 1993, and has long been considered by players and managers as the game's worst umpire.

Roundup ...

Continued from page 8
Wyatt Shawver, Harvey Hemmelgarn and Jaxon Allred added extra-base hits for POET as well.

Paxson Hudson powered the Pak-A-Sak offense in the loss. He hit two doubles, two singles and scored two runs.

Jaxson Curtis, Rickey Heitkamp and Cage Reynolds all scored a pair as well to support Hudson. Reynolds slashed a triple and a double, while Curtis and Heitkamp each added a double.

Williams wins

Williams Auto Parts dominated Barnett's Auto parts for a 12-1 victory in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball on Tuesday.

Ten batters contributed to the offensive onslaught by Williams Auto Parts that included 24 hits.

Brett Huntsman drove in the most runs as two triples and a single plated four runners.

He also scored two runs to match Carson Dailey, Thobe Keller, Zander Williams and Daylan Winters for the team high.

Other players from Williams Auto Parts with three hits include Dailey, Keller, Winters, Dax Davis, Wyatt Fenning and Boone Locke.

Chett Childress was the only player for Barnett's Auto Parts with multiple hits. He also scored its only run of the game, driven in by Drayden Brown.

Tribe ...

Continued from page 8
"I think they've worked hard on improving their approach at the plate," Eyink said. "They're seeing the ball and hitting the ball well. Put all of that together and we're playing pretty good."

Continuing to hit well, will help the Indians counter the Locomotives' batting order that features seven players hitting .0317 or better. Sophomore Kenneth Smeltzer leads Montpelier (13-9) with a 0.451 batting average.

The Buckeye Border Conference champions also like to run, as the Locomotives swiped 122 bases on the year. Five players have stolen bases 13 or more times, including Smeltzer with 24, who was only outdone by Griffin Cooley with 33.

Eyink plans to roll out his ace, Alex Dues, in an effort to limit the amount of runners that reach base to keep them from trying to run.

"We obviously have to win the first game," Eyink said. "The goal is to move on. So we'll use Alex, our best guy and hopefully he can really limit them and give us a shot to win."

Dues mentioned feeling a mix of stress and confidence earlier in the week.

He said there is inherently a level of stress that comes with pitching in high-leverage situations such as a tournament game, but he also feels confident after facing the high level of competition the MAC provides throughout the regular season.

Before today's game, Dues did what he could to take a relaxed approach to keep himself centered for when he hits the mound.

"I'm just going to get some rest, eat well and bond with my team to enjoy this run and make the most of it," Dues said. "I'm feeling great and I can't wait for Thursday. I can't wait to see how we're going to do."

"I hope we get up early so it makes it less stressful than anything else."

A win today would set a date with the winner of Leipsic and Riverdale tomorrow at 5 p.m. Both teams have over 20 wins on the season.

Leipsic, who beat Riverdale 4-3 in early April, finished 13th in the Division IV rankings and is favored to win the game.

Caden Grisez is slated to make the start for Fort Recovery as long as he isn't needed against Montpelier.

"The challenge of not knowing a lot about them and not having a lot of time

in between to get a clue limits you a little bit," Eyink said. "And obviously they're really good teams to have 20 wins. ... But baseball is any given day and you can have a hot day and they may not. Hopefully everybody's on their second pitcher and that will help too."

While there won't be much time to digest Thursday's result before a potential regional championship on Friday, all the Indians can do is go out and try to win each game one at a time.

Troy Homan has described the run as "magical." While there was an internal belief from the players that they could make it this far, putting it together has been nothing short of special to many of the Indians, and they hope to extend it one more week.

"It would mean everything (to win)," Homan said. "We're going one game at a time right now, but we don't want to be done yet. After that game Friday night, we enjoyed it that night and a little bit Saturday morning, but right after that we were focused. We're ready to go against Montpelier. We're going to get two more wins so we can go on that state run."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS seniors Sage Wendel (14) and Gavin Faller (27) celebrate following the Indians' 12-8 comeback win over Parkway on May 22. The Indians are playing in the regional tournament for the first time since 2016, when they made it to the state semifinal.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Track state tournament at University of Dayton — 4 p.m.; Baseball regional opener vs. Montpelier at Elida — 5 p.m.

Friday
Fort Recovery — Track state tournament at University of Dayton — 6:30 p.m.

TV sports

Today
12 p.m. — College softball tournament: Alabama at UCLA (ESPN)
2 p.m. — PGA Tour: U.S. Women's Open (USA)
2:30 p.m. — College softball tournament:

Duke at Oklahoma (ESPN)
7 p.m. — College softball tournament: Stanford at Texas (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — WNBA: Seattle Storm at Indiana Fever (FOX)
8 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Florida Panthers at New York Rangers (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Minnesota Timberwolves at Dallas Mavericks (TNT)
9:30 p.m. — College softball tournament: Oklahoma State at Florida (ESPN2)

Friday
12 p.m. — Tennis: French Open (NBC)
12 p.m. — College baseball: Coastal Carolina at Vanderbilt (ESPN2)
2 p.m. — PGA Tour: U.S. Women's Open (USA)
2:20 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs (Bally Indiana)

6 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Toyota 200 (FS1)
6:40 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Philadelphia Phillies (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — College softball tournament (ESPN2)
9:30 p.m. — College softball tournament (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — AHL: Milwaukee Admirals at Coachella Valley Firebirds (FOX)

Local notes

Date set
The 42nd annual Cancer Association of Darke County/Annie Oakley Golf Tournament is set to take place on July 22 at Turtle Creek Golf Course in Greenville, Ohio.
Lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m., with a shotgun start to follow at 12:15 p.m.

All proceeds will go to the Cancer Association of Darke County.
For additional information or an entry form call (937) 548-9960 or email director@cadccinfo.org.

Races coming up
The Adams County Challenge has two races scheduled for June.
On June 8 at 8 a.m., the Youth for Christ 5K will start at Ceylon Covered Bridge outside of Geneva. Participants can register online at bigjawsfc.org/event/5k for \$20. A t-shirt is included for those who register before June 1.

The Superhero Fun Run for those 12-and-under will be held at 8 a.m. with a 5K following at 8:30 a.m. on June 15. Both races will begin at 141 N First St., Decatur.
Registration costs \$15 and will also include a t-shirt if done before June 1.

Outing scheduled
The annual City of Portland Mayor's Golf Outing has been scheduled for Friday, June 14, at Portland Golf Club.

Registration for the event will be held from 11 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. on the day of the outing. A meal will also be provided for the four-person teams at this time. Registration is limited to the first 20 teams and must be completed by June 10 and submitted to 321 N. Meridian St., emailing mayoroffice@thecityofportland.net or calling (260) 726-9395.

Golfing will begin with a shotgun start at noon. Those interested can also sponsor the event. It cost \$150 to sponsor a hole, \$200 to sponsor a team and a meal or \$300 for to sponsor a team, a meal and hole sponsorship.

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	130 MISC. FOR SALE	200 FOR RENT
E & M BLACKSMITH SHOP 13th Annual Consignment Auction Saturday, June 1, 2024 8:30 a.m. 2404 W 350 S, Berne, IN Horses; Ponies; Horse-Drawn Machinery; Produce Equipment; Buggies; Harness; Carts; New Tack; Saddles; Shop Tools; Lawn/Garden Tools; Sausage Grinder/Stuffers; New/Used Furniture; Washing Machines; Hay, Straw, Firewood. Accepting consignments every evening that week from 4pm-8pm and all day Thursday, May 30th/Friday, May 31st from 7am-8pm. Call 260-589-2743 Leave message to consign horses. Auctioneers John P. Troyer AU10900141 Also with J. S. Auctions AU10700049	PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Woman's Building Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN Saturday Morning June 1st, 2024 9:30 A.M. HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - COINS - MISC. Cico scooter; Juke box with records; large Replogle Globe Company globe on stand; Trek 8000 bicycle; Trek Jet Twenty bicycle; Gottleib's Super Soccer pin ball machine; 2 pc. china hutch; hammered copper farmhouse sink; Rinnai tankless water heater; large copper weathervane; Schwinn bicycle; Sheffield Silver Co ice bucket; Teeter 900 LX Inversion table; French style easel; Oak commode with towel bar; Oak dresser with mirror; #5 Red Wing crock with handles; #3 Bee Sting Crock; CANNING JARS: Ball, Mason, Crown, Atlas, Kerr, Presto, Perfect seal, Swazee, Root to name a few; oil lamps;	COINS: 1923 Peace Silver Dollar, Walking Liberty Half Dollars, 1838 & 1861 Sealed Half Dimes, 1840 & 1891 Seated Liberty Dimes, Barber, Mercury & Roosevelt Dimes, Replica of \$20 gold piece made of 24k, Eisenhower Dollars, and many others not listed. Sinclair dog and apple; Bose radio; Kenwood stereo and speakers; sewing cabinet; Art Glass; quilts; fishing poles; small kitchen appliances; antique baskets; Murano clown; Evinrude 25 motor; Skil belt sander; and many other items not listed. NOTES: Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview. HEMM FAMILY Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112	PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY JUNE 1ST, 2024 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: Bob Schmit Memorial Building - Jay County Fairgrounds E Votaw St. Portland, IN. COINS-GOLD JEWELRY 1795 and 1796 Silver dollars; (4) 1oz Silver bars; (5) 1oz slugs; Silver quarters and proofs; 2007 10oz silver dollar; Mercury dimes; Buffalo and war nickels; Coin collector books; Indian, wheat, and steel pennies; Red seal \$2 bills; Chicago Bears and other gold rings; 2.5 gram gold necklace; 12k pageant necklace. ANTIQUES-HOUSEHOLD-GARAGE ITEMS Arrow heads; stamp collection; 1997 Alaska State Fair belt buckle; JD toys and gas pump; Mitsubishi baby grand piano; JD LX 172 14HP mower with 38" cut; Craftsman 24" snowblower; Craftsman 7.5" table saw; Fishing poles and tackle. Several	items not mentioned. OWNER: Rose Snow and Shreves Family TERMS: CASH-GOOD CHECK-CREDIT CARD NOTE: Check Auction-soft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com - Auctioneer ID #4243 100 JOBS WANTED AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489. 130 MISC. FOR SALE PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.	ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side. .35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141. 190 FARMERS COLUMN AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309	LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com FOR RENT 2 Bedroom House Dunkirk, IN. Call 765-716-1031 or 765-717-4910 230 AUTOS, TRUCKS WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

Visit Us At:
thecr.com

READ THE CR
THEN RECYCLE

THE CLASSIFIEDS
Find it
Buy It
Sell It!
(260) 726-8141

Out
The CR
Classifieds
www.thecr.com

Sports

One day at a time

Tribe baseball team excited to open regional tournament today

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

The Indians had a different look the last time they played in the regional tournament.

Kevin Eyink was an assistant coach.

Ben Homan and Ben Will were both players.

Troy Homan was a fourth grader, serving as a bat boy.

Those were the roles that current members of the Indians filled in the 2015 and 16 seasons when they made it to the regional.

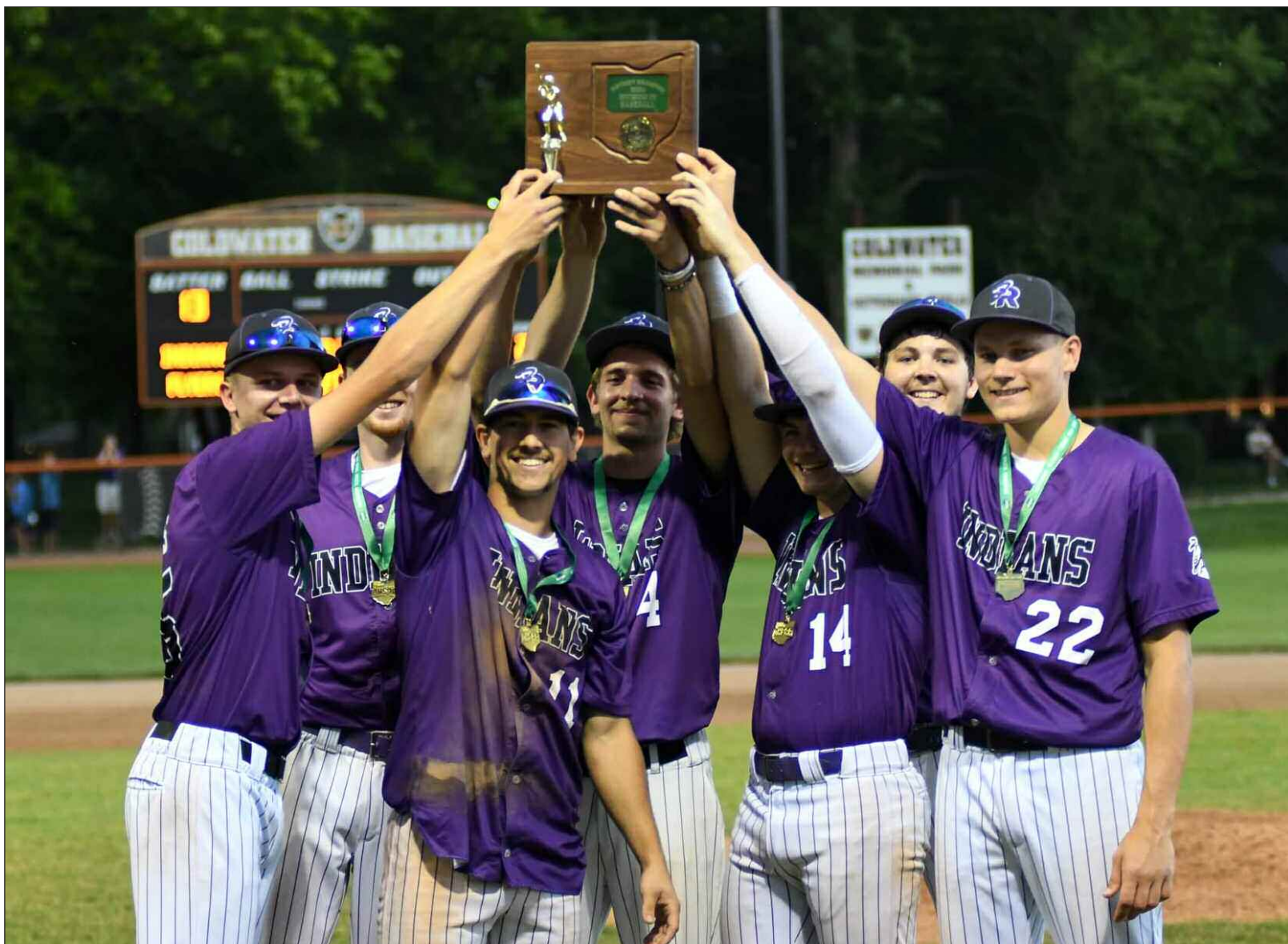
Eyink now leads the program, Will and Ben Homan are assistants and Troy Homan is one of the senior leaders. Yet they still hold the same goal as the '15 and '16 teams – make it through to state.

The Fort Recovery High School baseball team kicks off the OHSAA Division IV regional tournament hosted by Elida today against the Montpelier Locomotives as it looks to make it back to the state tournament for the first time since 2016.

“We feel confident,” Eyink said. “We’re playing well and things are going well for us. (Montpelier) is obviously a good team, but we have confidence going in and think we can give them a good game.”

The Indians (13-12) are riding a high after a pair of strong offensive performances against Midwest Athletic Conference teams in the district tournament. A 10-run sixth inning led FRHS to a 12-8 victory over Parkway in the opener, before a seven-run fifth inning pushed it to a 11-3 district title over Marion Local.

See **Tribe** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The seniors from the Fort Recovery High School baseball team hold up the district championship trophy after beating fourth-seeded Marion Local 11-3 on May 24. The Indians are set to face the Montpelier Locomotives today in the OHSAA Division IV regional opener hosted by Elida for the chance to play in tomorrow’s regional championship.

The Commercial Review presents
Jay County Civic Theatre's
 Production of
 Disney • PIXAR
FINDING NEMO JR.
 Book, Music and Lyrics by
Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez
 Book Adapted by
Lindsay Anderson
 Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by
Myrna Conn

Based on the 2003 Disney/Pixar film Finding Nemo written by Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson, David Reynolds and directory by Andrew Stanton

Disney's Finding Nemo JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY
 212-541-4684 mtishows.com

JC golf ends regular season with a victory

MUNCIE — Making it through the sectional and into the regional was a big goal the Patriots set at the start of the season.

They'll be entering Monday's sectional with a boost of momentum.

The Jay County High School boys golf team came out on top of Daleville and Wes-Del on Tuesday at Crestview Golf Course.

The Patriots (11-2) finished with 171 strokes in the match, dominating both of their opponents as Daleville shot a 212 and Wes-Del had a 221.

Caleb DeRome earned match medalist honors by shooting even par at 36.

Cody DeHoff put together the second best day with 42 strokes.

Gage Sims shot a 45 and Liam Garringer needed 48 strokes to round out Jay County's team score.

Luke Fugiett's 54 did not affect the team score.

The Patriots will travel to Hickory Hills Golf Club on Monday at 9 a.m. for the sectional meet hosted by Monroe Central.

Home runs help

A pair of home runs helped POET Bioprocessing to a 9-8 victory over Pak-A-Sak on Tuesday in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball.

Nolan Homan and Corbin Hutzler both crushed home runs for POET in the victory. Homan also had a double, a single and scored three runs, while Hutzler added a triple and two runs.

See **Roundup** page 7

Shows are 7 p.m. Jun 6, 7, 8 and 9 at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland

Advance tickets:
 \$10 for students/children and \$12 for adult
 (there is a \$1 charge per ticket for credit card purchases),
 available by visiting myartsplace.org, by calling (260) 726-4809,
 or at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.