

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

## INDOT OK'd for welcome center overhaul

*State agency to spend \$256 million on various rest areas*

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ**  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Your road trip may soon get swankier.

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) on Tuesday won budgetary approval to pour \$256 million into “welcome center” rest areas and truck parking at multiple highway locations around the state.

That’s even though lawmakers on the State Budget Committee expressed skepticism about the high price tag.

“We are trying to turn these into destinations,” Statewide Facilities Director Steve McAvoy told the body.

Indiana’s rest stops mostly date back to the mid-60s, he said — and they look it.

“The current Welcome Centers have not been positive first impressions for travelers and the new or reconstructed Centers will be gateways to Indiana with architectural elements that match the region in which they are located,” INDOT said in its request.

And, there’s not enough truck parking, per McAvoy, leaving commercial drivers to park their 18-wheelers along the side of the highway.

So INDOT has embarked on a 13-year revamp. It involves replacing 16 of the state’s existing 27 rest areas and adding nearly 1,000 parking spots.

The agency has already gotten started, but appeared before the committee to request approval for its next tranche of funding.

See **Welcome** page 2

## Ambassador on campus



Photo provided

McKenna Vore, pictured during the One Ball State Day fundraiser in April, will serve as Jay County’s representative through the Ball State University County Ambassador Program. The student-to-student engagement program seeks to empower students to share community pride and to encourage their friends and classmates to get to know their home county.

## Vore will represent Jay at Ball State

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

Ball State University in 2023 launched a new program for students to promote their home county on campus.

Jay County now has its first such ambassador.

McKenna Vore was recently approved to represent Jay County through the Ball State University County Ambassador Program.

“I love Jay County,”

said Vore, a Pennville resident. “I am involved a lot in the community. And I think it’s just a great way to say this is my home, this is where I’m from and here are all the things that you can do, and this is why Jay County’s so great.”

The 2022 JCHS graduate said her mom shared a Facebook post regarding the program with her last year and that she reached out again about

the possibility of being involved this year. After talking with officials at Ball State, she met with Jay County Visitors and Tourism director Mary Adair to make an initial connection in the community.

Vore found out recently that she was approved as the county’s ambassador through the Ball State program, with Adair making an announcement at last week’s Jay

County Development Corporation meeting.

County ambassadors, at their core, serve as a student representative for their home county. While there is a lot of freedom in how to promote the county, the ambassador’s job description involves representing their county by:

- Proudly identifying themselves as their county’s ambassador
- Developing a unique

“elevator pitch” for their county

- Sharing information with peers
  - Creating social media posts
  - Welcoming employers to campus that are from the ambassador’s home region
  - Attending training once a semester
  - Attending Ball State Day at the Indiana Statehouse
- See **Ambassador** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Teen tie dye

Jaidan Agler, 13, and Mary Garringer, 13, dye canvas tote bags Tuesday during Jay County Public Library’s Teen Tie-Dye Hour event. The library has various activities planned this summer, including an interactive “Toy Story” movie experience at 2 p.m. Friday.

## G-7 leaders to urge cease-fire

By **DONATO PAOLO MANCINI**  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Group of Seven leaders will call on Hamas to accept the cease-fire deal outlined by U.S. President Joe Biden, according to a draft statement seen by Bloomberg.

In the communique they issue at the end of their annual meeting, taking place this week, the allies will also urge Israel to de-escalate from a “full-scale military offensive” in Rafah — and may include language that urges those steps to be in line with provisional measures ordered by the International Court of Justice.

The wording by the G-7, specifically name-checking Biden, appears designed to corner Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu into formally accepting the cease-fire proposal on

## Allies to push for Israel to de-escalate

which he’s also been equivocating. The language used in the communique says Israel “is ready to move forward” — a way to add public pressure on the country’s leader.

Civilians have been sheltering in Rafah, where the United Nations has described conditions as catastrophic, and the U.S. and other Israeli allies have voiced their concern over the scale of ground operations there.

See **Urge** page 2

### Deaths

**James Burchnell III**, 72, Portland  
**Pauline Romer**, 91, Cincinnati  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

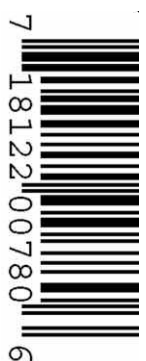
Jay County had a high temperature of 75 degrees Tuesday. The low was 44.  
Tonight’s forecast calls for a 50% chance of rain with a low in the mid 60s and winds gusting to 20 miles per hour. Skies will be partly cloudy Friday with a chance of rain and a high in the mid 80s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee gets underway today with Cooper Kiddie Day from 6 to 9 p.m., rides and games beginning at 6 p.m., a diaper derby at 7 p.m. and a DJ at 8 p.m. The annual festival continues through the weekend at Ambassador Park, with the Fireman’s Parade at 2 p.m. Sunday.

### Coming up

**Friday** — Coverage of this week’s Jay County Council meeting.  
**Saturday** — Results from the JCHS summer swim meet against South Adams.  
**Tuesday** — Photos from the Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee.



# Ambassador ...

Continued from page 1

Vore explained that she will attend training sessions during the 2024-25 school year. They will cover topics including the importance of promoting quality of place, how to tell a compelling story about the county and best practices and parameters for promotion on campus.

Events she said she hopes to promote include the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show and the Jay County Fair.

So, why does Vore love Jay County?

"I really love the people," she said.

She mentioned that her eyes were opened when she joined Jay County Civic Theatre in late 2017.

"Meeting a lot of people in the community opened me up to be like, 'Oh, OK, so this is what it's

like to be part of a community, part of a home within a home," Vore said. "So I started looking at things that I could do to volunteer in the community, to be out and about in the community, all the things going on."

One of the opportunities that led to was participating in the Jay County Fair Queen Pageant.

Vore is in the process of preparing to compete in the pageant for the third time this summer. She was on the queen's court in 2022 and was third runner-up and Miss Congeniality last year.

"It's fun to meet people," she said. "And the kids are so cute. It's just fun to be able to be someone in the community because sometimes it can be hard to get out there."

Vore has been involved with Jay County Civic Theatre since

first taking the stage as in "Miracle on 34th Street," including serving as a student director for this month's production of "Finding Nemo Jr." A theatre education major, she is teaching Arts in the Parks classes through Arts Place and has been involved with a kindergarten readiness program for three years.

At BSU, she has been on the Schmidt/Wilson Hall Council, the Residence Hall Association and Theatre Education Club and also volunteers as a tutor for Muncie's Northside Middle School. She is slated to co-direct a play with a fellow student at Burriss Laboratory School in the fall.

Vore has also been involved with the Philanthropy Education Council — it leads One Ball State Day — since arriving on campus

and will serve as its vice president for the coming school year. One Ball State Day, 24-hour online fundraising event for alumni, faculty, staff, brought in nearly \$1.13 million in April.

"We have to give back or things don't get better," said Vore on the importance of philanthropy and public involvement. "When people complain and say, 'Oh, well this needs to happen or this needs to happen ...' You need to make it happen."

She said she hopes to serve as the county's ambassador through her final two years at Ball State — ambassadors are appointed for an academic year but may be reappointed for additional years — and then seek to identify a successor to continue the work of representing Jay County.

# Obituaries

**James "Jim" Burchnell III**, Portland, April 23, 1952-June 2, 2024. Services will be held at a later date.

**Pauline Romer**, Cincinnati, died Saturday, March 9, at Hospice of Cincinnati. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Mary's Cemetery in Fort Recovery.

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*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 6/14	Saturday 6/15	Sunday 6/16	Monday 6/17	Tuesday 6/18
<b>84/58</b>	<b>83/61</b>	<b>92/70</b>	<b>95/73</b>	<b>94/72</b>
Friday looks to be mostly sunny with a high near 84 degrees. The low may hit the upper 50s.	Sunny skies are expected Saturday with the high in the mid 80s.	More hot temperatures are on the horizon for Sunday, when the high will be 92.	Sweltering heat is in the forecast Monday. The high may hit 95 degrees.	There's a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms Tuesday.

# Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Evening Daily Three: 0-6-6 Daily Four: 4-5-8-6 Quick Draw: 5-10-11-12-14-15-16-20-23-28-32-33-34-51-58-60-64-66-73-76
<b>Mega Millions</b> 1-5-7-22-24 Mega Ball: 8 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$47 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 3-2-2 Pick 4: 4-5-7-2 Pick 5: 2-1-0-7-1 Evening Pick 3: 1-3-4 Pick 4: 4-9-6-4 Pick 5: 2-9-6-8-9 Rolling Cash: 1-13-17-20-32 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 6-8-4 Daily Four: 3-3-5-3 Quick Draw: 2-4-6-11-13-17-20-21-22-24-32-36-43-45-46-48-50-55-57-62	

# Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.43 Oct. corn .....4.39 Wheat .....5.26	July beans .....11.62 Wheat ..... 5.76
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.45 July corn.....4.40 Aug. corn .....4.42	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.36 July corn.....4.29 Beans .....11.67 July beans .....11.61 Wheat .....5.76
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.30 July corn.....4.30 Beans .....11.66	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.41 July corn.....4.41 Beans .....11.39 July beans .....11.44 Wheat .....5.56

# Today in history

In 1942, the Office of War Information was created, serving as a United States government propaganda agency during World War II and documenting America's efforts in the war through films, texts, photographs, radio programs and posters. Its establishment came six months after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

In 2005, Michael Jackson was acquitted of child molestation charges following a 14-week trial that was covered extensively by media.

In 2018, Jay County Council discussed hiring a full-time school resource officer, a position now held by officer Cody Jessee, who also handles Jack, the school resource dog for Jay School Corporation. (They were nominated for the 2023 innovator of the year award at the Jay County Community Awards in May.)

— The CR

# Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:15 p.m. — Fort Recovery Records Commission, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
<b>Tuesday</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Council and Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	
<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	

# Appeals court hears handgun case

By MIA HILKOWITZ  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The Indiana Court of Appeals heard arguments Tuesday on whether prohibiting individuals under indictment from carrying a handgun violates the Second Amendment.

Arthur Moore believes the state violated his right to bear arms when it charged him with a misdemeanor for unlawful carrying of a handgun while he had other pending criminal charges.

However, an attorney for the state argued the statute used to convict Moore is consistent with the nation's historical tradition of regulating firearms and was necessary to protect public safety.

At the center of Tuesday's hearing was an Indiana statute that prohibits

a person under indictment from carrying a handgun in public. Moore's attorney, Joel Schumm, said the state restricted his client's Second Amendment right based on allegations that he committed a crime, rather than a conviction.

Moore was involved in a car accident Dec. 19, 2022. According to court filings, police found a handgun, magazine and a loose round of ammunition in Moore's car when they responded to the scene. At the time of the accident, Moore had already been charged with three separate Level 6 felonies for sexual battery, dealing marijuana and maintaining a common nuisance, but had not been convicted.

Prosecutors used the statute to charge and later convict Moore with a Class A misdemeanor carrying a one-year jail sentence.

Moore previously filed a motion to dismiss the handgun charge in May 2023, but a lower trial court denied this motion. He filed a notice of appeal in September 2023, and asked the appeals court to vacate his conviction.

Deputy Attorney General Ellen Meilaender said Indiana used judicially determined probable cause to charge Moore with having the handgun in this case. However, Court of Appeals Judge Paul Felix — who oversaw the hearing along with Judges Elizabeth Tavitas and Dana Kenworthy — pointed out the statute does not explicitly require judicial review and determination to restrict a person under indictment from carrying a handgun.

"We have a presumption of innocence until proven guilty," Tavitas said. "How do you reconcile that?"

# Felony arrests

**Failed to appear**  
A Berne man was arrested Tuesday for failing to appear in court.  
Robert E. Mann, 52, 305 Oberli Street, is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for cemetery mischief. He failed to appear for a pre-trial conference Tuesday.

Mann was being held without bond in Jay County Jail.

**Strangulation**  
A Dunkirk man was arrested for strangulation and domestic battery Tuesday.  
Austin L. Woodman, 27, 344 W. Short St., was pre-

liminarily charged with a Level 5 felony for allegedly strangling a pregnant woman and a Level 5 felony for domestic battery.  
He was being held on a \$15,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

**Trespassing**  
A Kokomo man was arrested for residential entry Tuesday.  
Christopher A. Hollingsworth, 35, 1727 Kensington On Berkley, was preliminarily charged with residential entry, a Level 6 felony.  
He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

# Welcome ...

Continued from page 1

The request, according to the committee's agenda, would go toward welcome centers at Black River, Centerville, Clear Creek, Kankakee, Lebanon and Pigeon Creek. It would also cover truck parking additions to all of those facilities, as well as to Taylorsville.

Sen. Chris Garten, R-Charlestown, balked at the price tag.

"Forty-two million dollars apiece, on average, is a heck of a welcome center," Garten said. "... So help me understand."

McAvoy said the buildings are expected to cost a fraction of the total: \$11 million to \$12 million each. A third of the \$42 million average will actually go to pavement, he estimated.

That's because, per McAvoy,

each truck parking spot at the recently opened Kankakee Welcome Center cost \$45,000. They're supported by 14 inches of concrete underfoot.

While Garten ended his questioning, other lawmakers were less convinced.

Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis, asked INDOT representatives for the return on investment.

# Urge ...

Continued from page 1

"We urge countries with influence over Hamas" to help ensure it accepts a cease fire, the leaders of the G-7 will say. Hamas is designated a terrorist organization by the U.S. and European Union.

Another item in the draft that has yet to receive unanimous agreement relates to the recognition of the Palestinian state as part of a two-state peace process. "We note that the recognition of a Palestinian state, at the appropriate time, would be a crucial component," reads the provisional language.

G-7 allies will condemn moves by Israel to order the evacuation of the East Jerusalem offices of the U.N. agency for Palestinian refugees, UNRWA.

**SERVICES**

**Thursday**  
McIntire, Pamela: 6 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Saturday**  
Weaver, Larry: 10:30 a.m., Akron Community Center, 815 Rural St., Akron, Indiana.  
Romer, Pauline: 11 a.m., St. Mary's Cemetery, Fort Recovery.

Service listings provided by  
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## Start adding more produce into your diet

By MELISSA KANNEY

Squeezing more healthy, fresh produce into your diet doesn't have to be difficult or expensive.

Whether you have your own garden or purchase produce from a local farmer's market or roadside stand, consuming more fresh food can have many benefits. Fresh produce adds more flavor to your dishes, you can control the food and ingredients in what you are eating, and you will get the healthy nutrients, vitamins and minerals from fresh fruit and vegetables.

Making healthy, flavor-

### Your Health Matters



ful dishes can be quick and easy.

#### What are some easy ways to prepare fresh produce?

There are numerous ways to prepare fresh produce.

Cleaning and cutting up fresh fruits and vegetables as soon as you bring them in from the

garden or home from the store makes it easy to throw recipes together at mealtime. It also allows for easy, healthy snacking.

When preparing meals, some of the easiest dishes include soups and salads, but you can also make more elaborate dishes such as stuffed peppers or vegetable lasagna. You can even use more vegetables in your meals by simply roasting them in the oven or throwing them in your air fryer.

A tomato caprese salad is easy to make by slicing tomatoes and fresh mozzarella, arranging on a plate and topping it with

basil leaves, then finishing it with a drizzle of olive oil and balsamic vinegar.

Grilled vegetable skewers can also be quickly assembled by cutting vegetables such as zucchini, peppers, onions, mushrooms and tomatoes into chunks and threading on skewers. Brush them with olive oil and garlic. Grill until tender.

Stuffed zucchini boats can be a healthy way to use up an overabundance of zucchini. Cut each zucchini in half lengthwise and scoop out flesh. Combine the zucchini flesh with cooked quinoa or rice, diced tomatoes,

onions and any other vegetables or herbs you like. Mix in some grated breadcrumbs and cheese, and spoon filling back into zucchini boats. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes.

#### How can I grow my own fresh produce?

There are numerous benefits to growing your own food, such as eating more fresh fruits and vegetables that are healthier for you, saving money on groceries and just the overall satisfaction of growing the food you eat.

Even if you don't have a large backyard for a garden, you can still grow

your own fresh produce. All you need is a small sunny spot in your yard, patio or balcony. You can grow many different items in containers, hanging baskets, raised flower beds or even 5-gallon buckets. Herbs and leafy greens can be grown in small containers while fruiting plants such as tomatoes, peppers and eggplants work better in larger, deeper containers.

You can visit your local library or search online for resources on successful gardening and cooking with fresh produce.

.....  
Kanney is a clinical dietitian at IU Health Jay.

## Woman afraid to share pregnancy with friends

DEAR ABBY: For a long time, I thought I was unable to have children. My doctors told me it would be a difficult process and my chances were low due to chronic illnesses I live with. I have accepted this fact, because having a family was the reason I divorced in my late 20s. My ex didn't want it, and I did, though I didn't yet know I was likely infertile. Learning this afterward was devastating, but I pivoted into recovery with grit and faith.

I'm in my 30s now, and my closest friends are women who have infertility issues as well, or who have chosen to be childless. I have built a happy life that includes travel, an MBA,

### Dear Abby



an exciting career and the bandwidth to be a support system for others. I've made my health a priority and I have learned to love my body.

Well, to our great surprise, my boyfriend and I learned we were pregnant six weeks ago. So far, all the signs point to this being a healthy, viable pregnancy, and we couldn't be more thrilled. We are both

ready for this next big adventure. But knowing how painful birth announcements can be for people with infertility, I'm reluctant to share my happy news.

As I near my second trimester and my life begins to change shape to welcome our miracle, I wonder how I can compassionately let my community know in a way that honors what we've been through together. I'm worried about bitterness during a time of so much sweetness. — ELATED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR ELATED: My warmest congratulations to you and your boyfriend. Because you realize that it

may upset some of your friends, forgo a big bash announcement and confide in a few of your closest friends. Knowing human nature, I'm sure the news will spread quickly.

Those who love you will be happy for you. Those who can't bring themselves to feel that way will fade into the background, but please do not feel guilty for your happiness, because you are entitled to it.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: How do you handle an annoying neighbor who refuses to use his own trash and recycle bins and sneaks his discards into mine

on pickup day? He lives alone, as do several women in the neighborhood, and he's not helpful to anyone but himself, in good weather or bad. The only time he speaks to me is when he has a complaint about overgrown shrubs or trees near his property. What should I say? — ANNOYED NEIGHBOR IN NEW MEXICO

DEAR NEIGHBOR: Say you do not want him to put anything in your garbage cans. If he continues to do it, you may have to buy cans you can lock. Of course, you will have to unlock them for pickup, but it may be worth the trouble to ensure your garbage is "pristine."

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

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.

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Meets at 5 p.m. Thursday, June 13, at Pizza Hut in Portland.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, June 13, at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland. All Auxil-

iary members are welcome.

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.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

### Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - 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. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

### Monday

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

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

JAY RETIRED TEACHERS — Will meet at noon Monday, June 17, at Richards Restaurant, 1615 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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

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

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

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204

E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

### Tuesday

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

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

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

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Contact Lindsey at  
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The Commercial Review

# Can noble causes find better way?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

First, to be clear, I have no hostility for the United States Postal Service.

I like the people who work there and value the work they do.

Unfortunately, technological change has taken a significant portion of their business. Nonetheless, I trust they will find ways to continue their important services.

Second, to avoid misunderstanding, I admire many of 1.5 million not-for-profit religious, charitable and similar organizations in the United States. It does give me some distress that number has increased by 36% in that past decade.

I am troubled, as you too might be, by the torrent of mail

## Eye on the Pie



seeking funding in my mail box each day. Most of these requests carry a sense of urgency.

Many very worthy natural features and inhabitants of our world are endangered. Research on most illnesses with debilitating and ultimately fatal consequences are underfunded. And, of course, there are untold numbers of persons and properties on the many

pathways of decline and decay leading to death or destruction.

But why, in 2023, did I receive seven, full-color 8.5x11, nature-themed calendars for 2024? In the rest of my life, I will not be able to use all the address stickers currently in my possession.

I am not mentioning the incredibly frequent and intrusive pleading on my public radio and TV stations for funding.

Often I'd happily support the local or state chapter of a worthwhile cause, but I can't do that. My donation has to go to some aggregation point (perhaps in Nebraska or South Dakota) without any indication of how much comes back to Indiana.

I understand economies of scale in handling mailed-in contributions, but appropriate

fundraising should indicate what portion of my contribution goes to the local affiliate. The percentage may vary from state to state depending on the incidence of the need. We don't expect any funding for saving Indiana polar bears.

National political organizations are also irritating. Indiana is mostly ignored because the national body is concerned only with winning today and not with building capability for tomorrow.

Now, back to the mail. Why can't all those underfunded illnesses get together and do one mailing? I admire the IU Foundation on this score. They offer a variety of university activities, like the Indiana Business Research Center (IBRC), that a

donor can choose to support. It's a beginning, although the choices are not as many as I would like to see.

The same is true for the multitude of nature/environmental preservation efforts. The United Way could be an aggregator and central processing agency that leaves the allocation of funds to the donor.

Once or twice a year, a mailing with pretty scenes, pathetic victims and a single calendar could be delivered to each household. But would we contribute more or less in total?

I hope the IU Lilly School of Philanthropy knows.

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

# Long-term care must be a priority

Kokomo Tribune  
Tribune News Service

Indiana is overhauling delivery of its senior Medicaid services this summer in a move that, hopefully, will make care more efficient and effective.

It's a step in addressing a major issue facing Indiana — long-term care for elderly Hoosiers.

A recent collaboration between CNHI News and The Associated Press brought home how dire the situation is across the nation. According to the reporting, the number of Americans over the age of 65 is rising, and more than half will require long-term health care. But just a small percentage have begun planning for it, much less figuring out how they'll pay for it.

This puts pressure not just on our aging citizens but also on their families. As covered in the special report, children and grandchildren are increasingly becoming the caregivers for their parents and grandparents. While it's commendable that family members step up when needed, expecting working-age Hoosiers to be the primary caregivers for seniors isn't a viable solution to the problem.

Our state lawmakers will continue to explore Medicaid during interim committee meetings over the summer and fall. This will allow for important discussion and consideration of the new Medicaid system, and also exploration of other ways state officials can assist aging Hoosiers and their families.

It's certainly not breaking news that assisted living and nursing home facilities are becoming harder to staff and maintain. Providing incentives for employees to work at such facilities is a potential way the state could help offset this problem.

The opening of more adult daycare facilities would also help. Lawmakers must ensure that the adult day programs in place don't fall victim to changes in Medicaid management. More efforts should also be made to provide in-home care for seniors.

Medicaid can't be the only options for seniors. Financial restrictions and other issues lead to gaps for those in need. We're in danger of having a society where only the affluent or impoverished have access to long-term care, and

## Hoosier Editorial

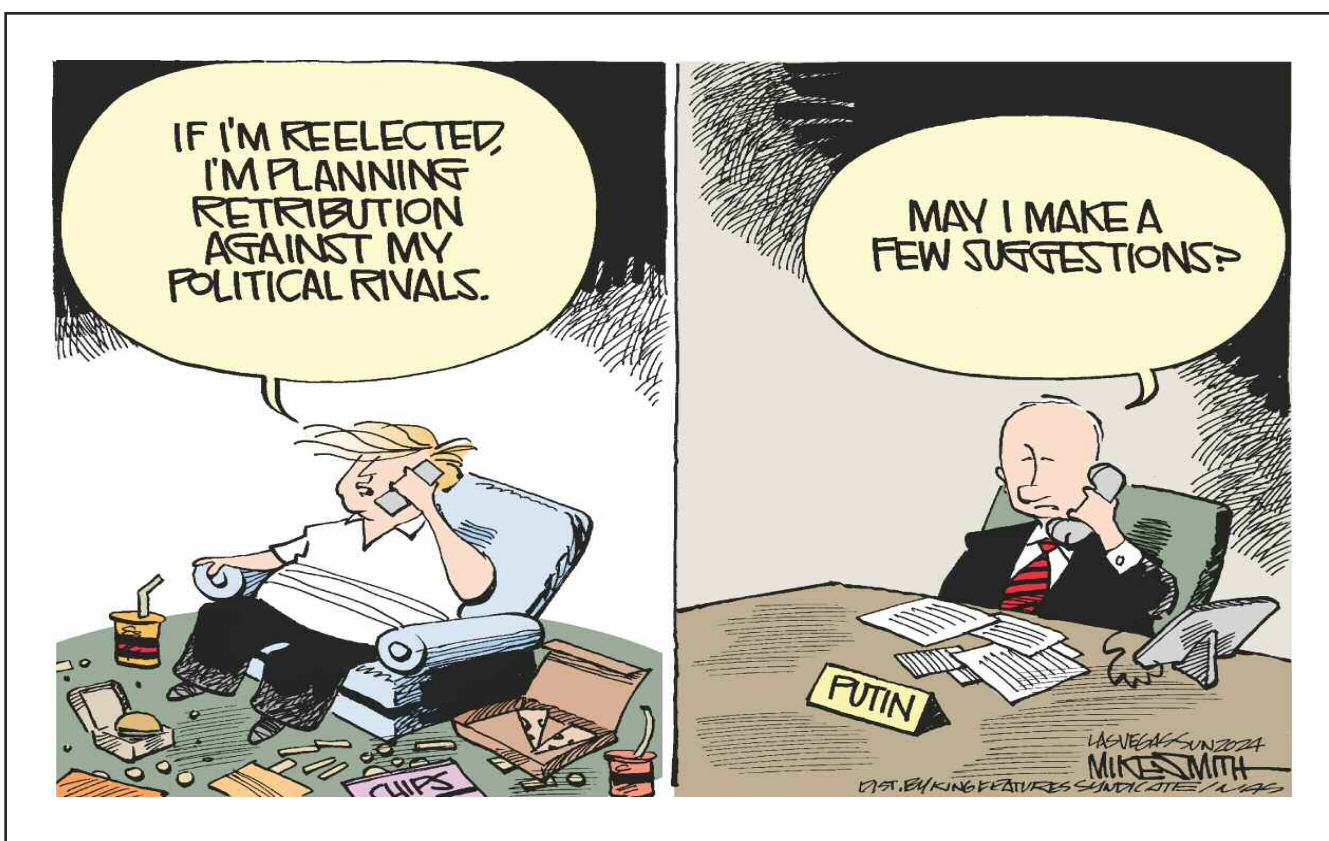
**Medicaid can't be the only options for seniors. Financial restrictions and other issues lead to gaps for those in need. We're in danger of having a society where only the affluent or impoverished have access to long-term care, and that's a disaster in the making.**

that's a disaster in the making.

Personal responsibility also factors into this crisis. We must have tough conversations with our parents and grandparents about their long-term care. It's never easy to talk about dementia or the last years of life, but delaying those conversations doesn't solve the problem. Not having a plan in place only furthers the chaos and pain when the time for long-term care for our loved ones arrives.

There's enough heartache in seeing those we care about struggle with health and mental issues as they age. Not having a care system in place that enables them to age gracefully and with the respect they deserve makes the situation much worse.

It's going to take a massive public and private effort to solve this problem. Let's keep long-term care at the top of the legislative agenda and at the top of our minds. Our parents and grandparents deserve it.



# Humanities needed more than ever

By SARA PANKENIER WELD  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

How can a man who is warm understand a man who is cold? This is a question posed by a prisoner in "One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich," written by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, who himself spent many years in Soviet labor camps. As a student in my humanities classroom once noted, by reading a book like this, a man who is warm can better understand a man who is cold.

This is the power of books in granting a reader such as this student entry into experience far from their own. We need the humanities because they help us better understand the experiences of one another, which enhances understanding across differences and divides and promotes peace at home and elsewhere.

Failures of empathy in the U.S. and around the world, as evidenced by incivility, conflict and war, demonstrate how we need the humanities today more than ever to remind us of our fundamental and shared humanity. Yet the number of humanities degrees conferred has steadily decreased since 2012, and humanities programs are under threat nationwide. For example, West Virginia University and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro closed programs, while the state of Indiana is proposing to reduce the amount of world languages, literatures and culture class requirements from its high school curriculum.

If Solzhenitsyn's account of a Soviet prison camp seems distant from today, one need only remember Alexei Navalny, who suffered under harsh conditions in an Arctic prison camp and whose death in February demonstrated Russian President Vladimir Putin's brutality toward Russia's most visible opposition leader. Currently waging an unjustified war on Ukraine, Russia has been cast as a key enemy, yet Russian literature, often written under repressive conditions and itself under attack, continues to offer wisdom on everything under the sun, as students discover in

Sara Pankenier Weld



my humanities classroom: the horror of war, the meaning of life, the problem of death, the power of art, failure to communicate, love and loss.

Still today, nothing else can so powerfully simulate an experience of being someone else in another time and place. For example, a book can offer the experience of being a young person who has a mistaken idea, murdering someone for it, and viscerally feeling the crime's consequences even before any punishment begins, and thus understanding why one should not kill. The humanities investigate and offer this kind of why, tackling the big questions, the ones most worth asking and the ones we forget at our peril.

To better understand people from other world regions on their own terms, there is no better way than to learn another language or study abroad. Thought itself may be reframed by learning another language, such as Russian, which divides nouns into things that have a soul and those that do not. Study abroad reveals that people everywhere, despite conflicts and wars that divide us, are all alike.

Not only do the humanities make good people and good citizens, but they also are good for future careers. Despite a widespread misperception that a humanities degree is not good for any job, humanities training actually is good for every job. Skills such as critical thinking, effective written and oral communication, and collaboration with others, including those from different backgrounds, are in demand from employers. The U.S. government needs foreign language expertise and supports the study of critical languages that are crucial for national security and in international relations. Global or multicultural understanding often figures in

university mission statements, while society needs universities to equip young people to tackle problems on a global scale and to cultivate skills and flexibility of mind to deal with the unexpected.

Yet, even as the world stands at the brink of catastrophe and conflict, meaning such skills are needed more than ever, language enrollments are declining. This foreign language deficit leaves society less prepared to face global challenges, despite a recent reorientation toward Russia and China due to national security concerns. Study abroad in China has declined dramatically, to the detriment of foreign relations in the future, while opportunities to study abroad in Russia have shut down completely. Yet hope is not lost, since programs to study Russian have sprung up in Armenia, Georgia, Baltic countries and Central Asia, giving double the bang for the buck in learning about multiple world regions at once.

The world situation today calls for more support for the humanities, the study of foreign languages and study-abroad opportunities, since there is no better way to cultivate understanding of other people across boundaries and to discover common humanity around the world.

Yet cuts to the humanities are rising, demonstrating the impact of a decade of investment in only science, technology, engineering and math fields and the denigration of non-STEM fields. Thankfully, the solution to the humanities crisis is surprisingly simple: "The programs that are thriving are the ones that the schools are investing in," Modern Language Association Executive Director Paula Krebs observed. "It's kind of a no-brainer."

So the humanities crisis is actually a funding crisis. Reversing it will benefit global understanding. It is time to rediscover the value of the humanities for all humanity.

Weld is a professor of Russian and comparative literature at the University of California at Santa Barbara and a public voices fellow of The OpEd Project.

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—Thomas Jefferson

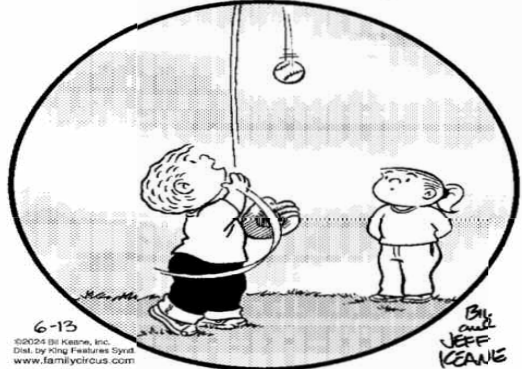
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♠ 10 6 2  
♥ A J 5  
♦ 9 8 6 3  
♣ A 7 4

**WEST**  
♠ J  
♥ 10 9 8 6 2  
♦ K J 4  
♣ 9 6 5 3

**EAST**  
♠ Q 9 7 5  
♥ K Q 7 3  
♦ Q 7 2  
♣ 8 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K 8 4 3  
♥ 4  
♦ A 10 5  
♣ K Q J 10

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
4 ♠

Opening lead — ten of hearts.  
Assume you're declarer in four spades, playing rubber bridge. If you make your contract, you score 820 points; if you go down one, you lose 100 points.

It is therefore clear that if you are presented with an opportunity to score an overtrick, you should not grasp that opportunity if it might jeopardize the contract. It would be

downright foolish to run the risk of suffering a 920-point loss for the sake of gaining an extra 30 points.

Now let's see how this principle applies to today's hand. You win West's heart lead with dummy's ace and play a low trump to the ace, on which West produces the jack.

If you now continue with the king of trump, hoping West started with the Q-J doubleton — in which case you'd finish with 11 tricks — you wind up down one, losing two trump tricks and two diamonds.

But that would be the wrong way to proceed. After West's jack appears, it is far better to play safe by leading a low spade toward dummy's ten at trick three. This provides you with 100% protection against the possibility of losing more than one trump trick. In the actual deal, East wins the ten with the queen, but his 9-7 of trump later succumb to your K-8-4 when you lead a trump from dummy.

It is true that the recommended play gives up all chance of scoring an overtrick (if West has the Q-J alone), but this is one of those luxuries you can easily afford to do without.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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6-13 CRYPTOQUIP

HTZA INXUJ RNX IZUU Z  
AHDQAR-BNCDATKQL LXR KE TD  
KB VXQQKQL VDZUUR EZBA?

Z JZBTKQL RNXQL CZQ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AS I PASSED BY THAT CHARMING HOUSE WITH NO GRASSY YARD, I PROCLAIMED "THERE OUGHTA BE A LAWN!"  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals C

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- 1 Profound
- 5 "So frustrating!"
- 8 Soccer legend
- 12 — avis
- 13 Genetic letters
- 14 Pro votes
- 15 Eager
- 16 Sundial numeral
- 17 Kick back
- 18 Tame
- 20 Farm fathers
- 22 Mealtime seats for tots
- 26 Twangy
- 29 Parisian "yes"
- 30 Phone trio
- 31 K thru 12
- 32 Busy insect
- 33 Pan handler?
- 34 Big fuss
- 35 Calculate a sum
- 36 Really annoy
- 37 Backyard furniture
- 40 Decrease

**DOWN**

- 4 Asian noodle dish with peanuts
- 5 Com-poser
- 6 Blackbird
- 7 Coiffure
- 8 Italian cheese city
- 9 Vision
- 10 Guitar master
- 11 "Guinness Book" suffix
- 19 Like Abner or Wayne
- 21 Sashimi fish
- 23 Accord maker
- 24 Actress Perlman
- 25 Winnow
- 26 Patricia of "Hud"
- 27 Emmy winner Alan
- 28 Act conspicuously
- 32 Stuck (to)
- 33 Tapioca source
- 35 Nightclub bit
- 36 Elizabethan, for one
- 38 Drew of fiction
- 39 Apple products
- 42 Eliot Ness, e.g.
- 43 Send forth
- 44 Finito
- 45 NYC airport
- 46 Wilder's "— Town"
- 48 Yale student

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

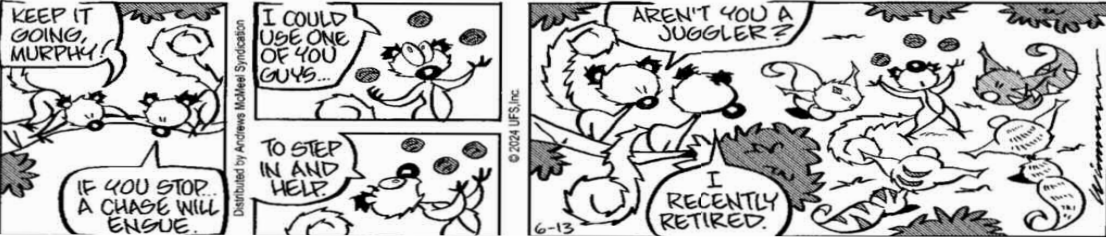
BOA	SAW													
ELAL	PIPES													
SWIRL	AGREEES													
PASSEST	HEBUCK													
ANS	GLOSS	RAE												
	BEAN	NAPA												
	ALIST	SAUTE												
GRAD	MART													
ETS	GUESS	BTS												
MISS	ESTHEBOAT													
EISNER	NANCY													
ENERO	ABUT													
SSS	LAS													

Yesterday's answer 6-13

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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# Sports

## Late life

### Rockets overcome slow start for 11-3 victory over Muncie Chiefs

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

The Rockets stumbled through the first inning.

The second went a lot smoother, but they still missed the spark needed to turn the game around.

With two outs in the third inning, they finally got the jump start they needed as a two-out blast tied the game.

The Portland Rockets got a two-run home run from Aidyn Coffey that swung the momentum in their favor, leading to a 11-3 victory over the Muncie Chiefs on Tuesday.

"When you pitch well and defend and get timely hitting, you have a good chance at a winning combination," said Rockets coach Randy Miller. "They got three cheap runs in the first inning, but then we shut them down."

Trailing 3-1 in the third inning, the first two Rockets' batters popped the ball up for consecutive outs. Dylan Brammer reached base with a single to the right side to extend the inning.

With two outs, Coffey came to the plate and watched a first-pitch strike. He took the second pitch for a ride over the wall in deep center field to tie the game up.

"I was sitting fastball middle," Coffey said. "The first pitch was inside and I didn't like it. I just told myself to sit back, relax the hands and be easy to the ball and good things happen."

The Rockets didn't get anymore runs in the third inning, but they scored one run in each of the following four innings before putting up four in the eighth.

Cameron Pratt reached on an error in the fourth inning and got



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Portland Rockets third baseman Aidyn Coffey fields a chopping ground ball early in the 11-3 win over the Muncie Chiefs on Tuesday. Coffey hit a two-run blast in the third inning to tie the game and give the offense a jump start.

driven in on a double by Cade Meade. Kade Muth started the fifth with his own double and Landen Rogers' single drove him in. A walk and a single put runners on first and second in the

sixth so that Blake Caldwell could plate one with a double to shallow left field. Three consecutive walks and a passed ball scored Muth in the seventh inning.

"Sometimes that's all it takes is

that little mojo to get things going," Coffey said. "Then it all builds from there."

Peyton Smith got the offense started in the eighth inning with a walk before Joel Kennedy's

double got him to third base. Pratt pushed Smith across the plate and reached first himself on an error by Gavin Lash at third base.

See Late page 7

## POET's offense edges Nursery

Offense was not in short order early in the week.

Yet, power hitting wasn't enough to claim the game.

Despite having eight extra-base hits to five, Cook's Nursery fell to POET Bioprocessing 13-11 in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball on Tuesday.

Nolan Homan of POET and Trey Hirschey of Cook's Nursery match each other for the strongest offensive performances. Both players smacked four base hits, including a triple and a double and scored three runs.

Corbin Hutzler and Harvey Hemmelgarn both had hits that netted multiple bases for POET. Hutzler earned a triple and a double while Harvey Hemmelgarn just had a double and a single. They each scored once.

Marshall Hemmelgarn, Wyatt Shawver and Sawyer Stephen all crossed home plate a pair of times for POET.

### Local roundup

Shawver notched three hits as well, while Marshall Hemmelgarn and Stephen both had two.

Kayden Alberson, James Bruggeman, Steven Robinson and Brantley Sager supported Hirschey's efforts in the loss.

Sager matched Hirschey with four hits. Sager had a double and three singles and also scored two runs.

Bruggeman also scored twice, while adding a triple and a double.

Rogers scored the most of the bunch, netting three runs for Cook's Nursery. He also smacked a double and two base hits.

Alberson slashed two triples and a single, but only made it to home plate once.

## Leaving Joey Chestnut out is hard to swallow

By LEBRON HILL

The Sacramento Bee  
Tribune News Service

LeBron Hill



With some breakups, you remember where you were when the news broke.

I was 7, at my grandma's house with all my cousins, huddled together watching MTV, when it was announced that NSYNC broke up.

At 15, I waited all day to hear LeBron James say he was leaving the Cleveland Cavaliers and taking "his talents to South Beach." It was like a bomb.

And now at 30, came the news on Tuesday that 16-time Nathan's Hot Eating Champion Joey Chestnut will not

compete on the Fourth of July in the competition he made famous.

"We are devastated to learn that Joey Chestnut has chosen to represent a rival brand that sells plant-based hot dogs rather than competing in the 2024 Nathan's Famous Fourth of July Hot Dog Eating Contest," the Major League Eating organization, which oversees the event, said in a statement.

See Swallow page 7

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