

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## County shares info on radios

*Upgrade is expected to cost about \$3 million*

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review  
Jay County officials are considering switching local first responders to the statewide radio system.

They informed representatives from local public safety agencies about the situation Wednesday and asked for their input by the end of next month.

Ritter Strategic Services recently conducted a study for the county regarding emergency responders' radios in Jay County. (Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council approved a \$76,400 contract with the company in December for the service.) Officials heard about the company's findings during a joint meeting June 18 and agreed to meet with local municipalities and townships to discuss how to move forward.

Representatives across multiple departments, including Jay Emergency Medical Service director Gary Barnett, Portland Fire Chief Mike Weitzel, Redkey Fire Chief Randy Young and Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton, gathered at Jay County Courthouse on Wednesday with commissioner Rex Journey and a few council members to rehash the information.

Dylan Griffith of Ritter Strategic Services briefly noted the three different systems his company evaluated: the ultra high frequency (UHF) 900 megahertz system used by Jay County Sheriff's Office, the standalone very high frequency (VHF) system used by Portland Police Department and the UHF system used by Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Emergency Management Agency and fire departments throughout Jay County.

See **Radios** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Along for the ride

Visitors to the Vintage Motor Bike Show head east through Jay County Fairgrounds on Thursday morning. The event concludes today with a banquet at noon, a raffle beginning about 2 p.m. and a parade around the fairgrounds at 8 p.m.

## State seeks to resume executions

By WHITNEY DOWNARD and NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

After 15 years with no executions of the eight men on Indiana's death row, Indiana's top elected officials filed with the Indiana Supreme Court on Wednesday to schedule an execution date for Fort Wayne's Joseph Corcoran. He was convicted of murdering four people in 1997.

Gov. Eric Holcomb and Attorney General Todd Rokita, in a news release, said the Indiana Department of Correction (DOC) has obtained the drug necessary to carry out the death penalty.

"After years of effort, the Indiana Department of Correction

has acquired a drug — pentobarbital — which can be used to carry out executions. Accordingly, I am fulfilling my duties as governor to follow the law and move forward appropriately in this matter," Holcomb said.

### Indiana has obtained drug necessary to carry out death penalty

Corcoran's death would be Indiana's first execution since 2009.

Four of the men on Indiana's death row have exhausted all their appeals — Corcoran exhausted his appeals in 2016 — and have no other recourse,

according to the Indiana Public Defender Council's website. All eight reside in the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City.

Indiana's officials signaled that more executions could be imminent, depending on the availability of lethal injection drugs.

"In Indiana, state law authorizes the death penalty as a means of providing justice for victims of society's most heinous crimes and holding perpetrators accountable," Rokita said in the release. "Further, it serves as an effective deterrent for certain potential offenders who might otherwise commit similar extreme crimes of violence."

See **Executions** page 2

## Court rejects settlement

By DAVID G. SAVAGE

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

The Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a mass settlement related to the nation's opioid crisis that would have paid an estimated \$10 billion to victims, hospitals, states and others, and shielded the Sackler family from further liability.

By a 5-4 vote, the justices ruled that a bankruptcy judge does not have broad power to arrange a mass settlement of thousands of claims that includes protections for people who are not bankrupt.

The justices were split in an unusual way. Justice Neil M. Gorsuch spoke for the majority, while Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. and Justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Brett M. Kavanaugh dissented.

"Our only proper task is to interpret and apply the law as we find it; and nothing in present law authorizes the Sackler discharge," Gorsuch said.

"We hold only that the bankruptcy code does not authorize a release and injunction that, as part of a plan of reorganization under Chapter 11, effectively seeks to discharge claims against a nondebtor without the consent of affected claimants," Gorsuch continued.

### Justices split 5-4 on decisions regarding opioids

Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel A. Alito Jr., Amy Coney Barrett and Ketanji Brown Jackson agreed.

"Today's decision is wrong on the law and devastating for more than 100,000 opioid victims and their families," Kavanaugh said in dissent. "The court's decision rewrites the text of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code and restricts the long-established authority of bankruptcy courts to fashion fair and equitable relief for mass-tort victims. As a result, opioid victims are now deprived of the substantial monetary recovery that they long fought for and finally secured after years of litigation."

See **Rejects** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Pageant performance

Ralyn Chaffins points during a performance by the Miss Jay County Fair Queen contestants Sunday during the pageant at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 74 degrees Wednesday. The low was 64.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the lower 70s with a 40%

chance of rain. Shows and thunderstorms are likely Saturday with the high climbing into the mid 80s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

### Coming up

**Saturday** — Results from the Jay County summer swim meet against Catalina.

**Tuesday** — Photos from Dunkirk's Independence Day festivities.

**Wednesday** — Coverage of next week's Portland City Council meeting.





# Radios ...

Continued from page 1  
For all three systems, the majority of their coverage is available only if users take their radios outdoors to use them. The VHF system used by JEMS, Jay County EMA and local fire departments isn't reachable via portable radio in portions of the southern and northeastern areas of the county. The UHF 900 megahertz system used by Jay County Sheriff's Office stops short of the county lines, leaving a ring of uncovered areas around most of the perimeter of the county.

County officials have been looking into getting new radio equipment since 2021. According to Newton, his department's Motorola radios are about 16 years old and replacement parts for the outdated,

broken equipment aren't available.

Griffith explained the most cost effective measure for upgrades moving forward would be to join Integrated Public Safety Commission's 800 megahertz statewide system, which is free to use for Indiana communities. It does, however, require specific equipment to utilize, and the switch would require replacing all three of the radio systems mentioned Wednesday.

Other potential paths the county could take — they were not discussed Wednesday but they were offered as other possibilities June 19 — include reassessing the systems' configurations, adding towers to the VHF systems to improve coverage or invest in a simulcast upgrade, which involves

taking existing systems and replacing them within the same frequency band.

Migrating to Integrated Public Safety Commission's system would make use of the radio tower in Redkey that was used when the current town hall was an Indiana State Police post. It could also involve bringing towers in Salamonina and Bryant onto the statewide system to fill out the coverage area across the county. Doing so would reduce the amount of towers Jay County would need to maintain. (Currently, emergency responders utilize towers in Bryant, Salamonina, Pennville, Dunkirk and Portland.)

Answering a question from Portland Mayor Jeff Westlake, Griffith pointed out there's also a tower connected to the

Indiana Public Safety Commission in Union City that should help with coverage as well. Moving to the statewide system would allow the county to utilize towers in surrounding Indiana communities if they extend into the county and are connected to the system.

The overall cost to upgrade on the county's end is estimated at roughly \$3 million. Commissioner Rex Journey noted the switch would require new equipment for each department, with new portable radios expected to cost between \$5,000 and \$10,000 each.

He asked if representatives could communicate the information to their respective municipal councils and boards to see if they are comfortable with switching systems and if they are able to purchase the

new radios themselves. He also pointed out if the county were to use American Rescue Plan Act dollars for the switch, it has six months to either spend the funds or sign a contract for necessary upgrades and equipment. Per federal guidelines, the funds must be allocated by the end of the year and work on related projects must be completed by the end of 2026.

The county still has approximately \$2,375,000 in unallocated American Rescue Plan Act dollars. County officials have been considering other options for the funding, including a countywide broadband project.

Journey asked representatives to answer back to county officials by the end of July.

"We need to move on this as quickly as possible," he said.

## CR almanac

Saturday 6/29	Sunday 6/30	Monday 7/1	Tuesday 7/2	Wednesday 7/3
<b>87/66</b>	<b>78/53</b>	<b>78/58</b>	<b>87/71</b>	<b>90/69</b>
Saturday has a 70% chance of showers and thunderstorms with wind gusts reaching nearly 20 mph.	Sunday looks to be clear and sunny, when the high will be around 78 degrees.	Monday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high in the mid to upper 70s.	Mostly cloudy skies are expected Tuesday with a high of 87 degrees.	Another scorcher is in the forecast for Wednesday, when the high may reach to 90 again.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> 4-27-44-50-64 Power Ball: 7 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$72 million	Daily Four: 6-5-5-0 Quick Draw: 1-5-7-10-13-14-16-23-30-33-38-39-45-54-63-64-70-72-73-78 Cash 5: 10-16-20-37-45 Estimated jackpot: \$306,500
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$80 million	<b>Ohio</b> Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 1-1-4 Pick 4: 7-9-2-4 Pick 5: 9-6-0-4-8 Evening Pick 3: 4-8-2 Pick 4: 5-8-9-2 Pick 5: 0-5-1-9-9 Rolling Cash: 2-13-26-32-36 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 4-4-2 Daily Four: 8-0-1-2 Quick Draw: 2-8-12-22-25-30-36-38-42-46-53-54-55-57-58-61-64-66-74-77 Evening Daily Three: 9-2-9	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.08 Oct. corn .....4.10 Wheat .....5.11	July beans .....11.54 Wheat ..... 5.24
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.12 July corn .....4.12 Aug. corn .....4.14	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.98 July corn.....3.96 Beans .....11.49 July beans .....11.44 Wheat .....5.26
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.04 July corn .....4.04 Beans .....11.54	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.08 Aug. corn .....4.08 Beans .....11.29 July beans .....11.14 Wheat .....5.04

## Today in history

In 1914, Archduke Francis Ferdinand of Austria and his wife Sofia were assassinated by Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo. It set off a chain of events that led to World War I.

In 1972, retired businessman Omer E. Cromer died at Jay County Hospital at the age of 86. He had owned and operated Cromer Brothers Inc. Wholesale Tobacco Store for more than 40 years and had served 12 years on Jay County Hospital Board and one term on Portland City Council.

In 2021, Jay County Council approved a \$93,500 contribution in wind farm economic development funds toward the Pennville library expansion and renovation project.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 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.	Meridian St. 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., Pennville. 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.
<b>Tuesday</b> 4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, community resource center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N.	<b>Wednesday</b> 7 a.m. — Jay County Board of Health, health department, 504 W. Arch St., Portland.

# Executions ...

Continued from page 1  
Now that the Indiana Department of Correction is prepared to carry out the lawfully imposed sentence, it's incumbent on our justice system to immediately enable executions in our prisons to resume. Today, I am filing a motion asking the Indiana Supreme Court to set a date for the execution of Joseph Corcoran."

In August 2022, a DOC spokesperson confirmed to the Indiana Capital Chronicle that the agency hadn't proceeded with any executions because of a lack of drugs: methohexital, pancuronium bromide and potassium chloride. Combined, the three drugs are used in lethal injections.

Indiana and other governments have struggled to acquire the drugs from pharmaceutical manufacturers who don't want their products to be used in executions.

It is unclear how the state obtained the pentobarbital. The governor's office on Wednesday declined to say where the drug was acquired, per state law.

Lawmakers made information about the source of

the drugs confidential on the last day of the 2017 legislative session.

Washington, D.C. lawyer Katherine Toomey asked for information related to lethal injections in 2014 under Indiana's Access to Public Records Act. She won the resulting lawsuit but, behind the scenes, the DOC was working with the governor's office to devise a legislative blockade.

Lawmakers inserted a provision exempting information related to lethal injections from the state's public records law into a lengthy budget bill. A judge then ruled for the agency. When the Indiana Supreme Court took it up, its four members — one recused himself — split, affirming the decision in 2021.

The ICC is still seeking the cost of the drug, however.

It appears the state will follow in the steps of Texas, which uses a single-drug protocol of Pentobarbital for an execution — the drug Holcomb named in his statement. Other states have looked elsewhere; earlier this year, Alabama carried out the

nation's first execution by nitrogen hypoxia.

Executions are prohibitively expensive and burdensome for prosecutors and their counties as defendants exhaust their appeals. The state can request the death penalty in cases with at least one aggravating circumstance, such as the age of the victim, multiple victims or the killing of a law enforcement officer.

No one has been added to the state's death row since 2014.

Joseph Corcoran — then 22 — killed his brother, James Corcoran, 30; Robert Scott Turner, 32; Douglas A. Stillwell, 30; and Timothy G. Bricker, 30, on July 26, 1997. He committed the murders at the home he shared with his brother and a sister.

Joseph Corcoran told police at the time that the four men had been talking about him. He first placed his 7-year-old niece in an upstairs bedroom to protect her from the gunfire before killing the four men.

He then laid down the rifle, went to a neighbor's house, and asked them to call the police. A search of

his room and attic, to which only he had access, uncovered over 30 firearms, several munitions, explosives, guerrilla tactic military issue books, and a copy of The Turner Diaries.

Allen Superior Court Judge Fran Gull presided over the case. She is currently embroiled in controversy as a special judge in the Delphi case involving the deaths of two young girls.

Corcoran asserted an insanity defense based upon his diagnosis as having either a paranoid or schizotypal personality disorder, according to the Clark County Prosecutor's Death Row website.

Corcoran's mental health has been an issue over the life of the case. His conviction was overturned at least once but was later reinstated.

During the sentencing phase of the case, the jury sent a note out asking why Corcoran's parents didn't testify in his defense. The answer — purposely omitted from the trial — is that his parents were dead, and that Corcoran was acquitted in 1992 of their shotgun slayings.

# Rejects ...

Continued from page 1  
Gorsuch and Kavanaugh are both conservatives, but they often disagree. Gorsuch often seems determined to follow the law as he sees it regardless of the consequences, while Kavanaugh is more likely to focus on the practical impact of the court's ruling.

The Sacklers, owners of the Purdue Pharma company, had denied wrongdoing but agreed to contribute \$6 billion to the settlement fund if they would be protected from future lawsuits.

The case has been closely followed not just because of the opioid settlement but also because of the use of bankruptcy laws to settle other mass lawsuits involving the Boy Scouts of America and some Catholic dioceses.

Purdue Pharma filed for bankruptcy in 2019 facing thousands of lawsuits alleging its marketing of OxyContin as a nonaddictive pain relief pill had

triggered an opioid epidemic that led to more than a half-million deaths since the mid-1990s. In the decade prior to the bankruptcy, the company had distributed about \$11 billion to members of the Sackler family and their offshore accounts.

**SERVICES**

Today

**Doss, Jennifer:** 10 a.m., Wilson-Shook Funeral Home, 2048 N. 1000 West, Parker City.

**Burchnell, James:** 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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## FR honor roll announced

Fort Recovery High School announced its second semester honor roll students.

Making the list with all A's were sophomores Evvie Briner, Elisa Evers, Alivia Grube, Brody Hart, Aubrie Heitkamp, Jameson Heitkamp, Madison Heitkamp, Maleiah Kaffenberger, Olivia Knapke, Brylee Kremer, Cora Kremer, Autumn Leuthold, Lily Schwieterman, Megan Weitzel, Reece Wendel, Georgia Wenning, and Leah Wuebker.

On the list with A's and B's were sophomores Gabe Acheson, Aiden Brunswick, Rylee

Bubp, Emma Coleman, Kyla Dues, Zoe Dues, Nevaeh Elsass, Luke Fortkamp, Carson Fullenkamp, Eli Hawk, Cayson Kaikala, Reece LeFevre, Luke Lochtefeld, Anthony Roessner, Dani Schmitt and Jesse Springer.

Also making honor roll with all A's were freshmen Kenna Dues, Tyler Dues, Carter Fortkamp, Alexis Grisez, Sophia Guggenbiller, Maddie Heitkamp, Meredith Jones, Breaker Jutte, Grace Lochtefeld, Ian McCain, Cameron Muhlenkamp, Isaac Roessner, Kiera Stump, Jennifer Wendel, James Westgerdes and Brynn Willmann.

Also on the list with A's and B's were freshmen Brody Barga, Ayden Bozarth, Deanna Brown, Carley Buckland, Kendall Buckland, Reese Diller, Cadence Eber, Brady Evers, Grant Fortkamp, Ava Fullenkamp, Russell Hart, Aubree Heitkamp, Theresa Hipple, Makenna Huelkamp, Hudson McAbee, Jake Meyer, Trinity Rammel, Emma Schmitz, Madelyn Schoenlein, Angel Serio, Cara Shoemaker, Riley Stammen, Amber Timmerman, Ivy Tobe, Kaylor Wendel, Reed Westgerdes, Will Westgerdes and Jase Wuebker.

## Daughter cuts off her family

DEAR ABBY: My older daughter, "Brianna," age 42, does not want anything to do with me or her brother and sister-in-law. She keeps me from my granddaughter, who is 17. I have been divorced since the '90s and remarried for 25 years. My first husband was a cheater. I tried very hard to save my first marriage. We got back together six months later, but he walked out again.

When I remarried, Brianna wasn't happy. I have another daughter, age 24, with my current husband. Brianna wants nothing to do with any of us. I wrote her and said I was sorry for the divorce. She has never mentioned anything about my letter. I have to leave gifts to my granddaughter at the front door. This hurts so bad. Everyone says let them go. I love them so much. What do you think? — **ESTRANGED MOM IN NEW JERSEY**

**DEAR MOM: I think your granddaughter will be 18 very soon, and an adult. IF her mother hasn't diverted those gifts you have been leaving, she knows she has a grandmother who loves her. The ball will be in her court as to whether to make contact with you. (I hope she will.) If, however, she doesn't do that, you are going to have to turn your eyes forward and let her and your daughter live their lives, while you concentrate on what is healthy for YOU.**

**If you need interaction with younger people, volunteer some time where it will make a difference. If your interests lie elsewhere, devote some of your extra time and effort in that direction. Your pain may lessen if you give yourself less time to dwell on it.**

DEAR ABBY: Several years ago, I began a friendship with a woman at my church. She had children a few years older than

Dear Abby



my daughter. The friendship seemed mutually satisfying for a long time, although I noticed on many occasions that my friend seemed entitled and demanding where her children were concerned. I overlooked it until it affected me.

I realized over time that she had manipulated and lied to keep my daughter away from hers at teen social events because my daughter had been labeled "annoying." There was also other deceptive behavior. These betrayals, combined with realizing that we don't agree on many subjects, has made me lose interest in the friendship. However, she doesn't seem to share my feelings. She still frequently invites me to lunch (which I refuse) and initiates "friendly" conversations.

Confronting her about her behavior would result in denials and a big blowup. How can I bring an end to this fake friendship? — **NOT INTERESTED IN THE MIDWEST**

**DEAR NOT INTERESTED: Since you no longer wish to continue to have a relationship with this woman, the quickest way to end it would be to tell her exactly what you have learned about how your daughter was treated and that you feel appalled and betrayed. Whether she "blows up" and denies it is irrelevant. If you can't bring yourself to confront her, then drag it out by continuing to be "too busy" to see her or to have those "friendly" conversations.**

## New members elected to JCCT board

Two board members were elected to lead a local theatre group.

Another board member was selected for her first term.

Jay County Civic Theatre re-elected Casi Avery for her third three-year term and Sarah Lingo for her second third-year term during the organization's annual meeting Saturday. Rachel Tebbe was also elected to her first term.

Other board members are Ray Cooney, Lee Osteen, Reid Knuth and Greg Rittenhouse.

Jay County Civic Theatre junior ambassadors for 2024-25 are Inara Sanderson, Alison McGraw, Ella Littler, Aubrey Millsbaugh, Leah Wubker, Lucy Fennig, Kaylynn Clark and Ava May.

Olivia Smith, Jackson Sonner and Joscie LeFevre were elevated to junior ambassador advisors.

Also at the meeting, the board announced its scholarship winners for 2024. Olivia Smith received the Heather McLaughlin Memorial Scholarship. Joscie LeFevre, Jackson Sonner and Reid Knuth each received a Jay

## Taking Note

County Civic Theatre Merit Scholarship. All scholarships are for \$250.

### FR free show

A local country band is performing this weekend in Fort Recovery.

127 North will play at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Hein Amphitheatre in Van Trees Park. Established in 2020 by Christopher Humbert, the group has played in various venues, including in Nashville. Its name comes from U.S. Route 127, which travels through Celina, Ohio.

The show is a part of the Fort Recovery Friends of the Arts summer concert series.

### Seeking samples

Purdue University is looking

for farms from which it can take soil samples for the Diverse Corn Belt project.

The project is a five-year effort that will explore impacts of diversified farming systems beyond corn and soybeans in Indiana, Illinois and Iowa. It is seeking "concrete options for diversification and understanding the agronomic, economic, social, infrastructure and policy changes that could make them viable."

Conventionally farmed, no-till and pasture fields are being sought for the research.

For more information, email [asangota@purdue.edu](mailto:asangota@purdue.edu).

### HSE diploma

John Jay Center for Learning is looking for more students to join its Fast Track High School Equivalency program.

Classes are available for those looking to earn their HSE diploma, also known as a General Education Diploma, and can be completed in three months or less. Students may be eligible for scholarships. To learn more, call (260) 729-5525.

## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

### Today

**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

**LOCAL'S MARKET** — Will be held from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in June through October in the parking lot at Jay Community Center in Portland. For more information, contact Bill Cook.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 10

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

### Sunday

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

### 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. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

**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 ANONY-**

**MOUS** — 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.

**BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE** — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

**A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

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

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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# Commandments law is just a ploy

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

It took almost no time at all for the ACLU and other civil liberties groups to file federal suit against the state of Louisiana after GOP Gov. Jeff Landry signed a bill that would require state-funded schools at all levels — from kindergarten on up — display a poster of the Ten Commandments, along with a so-called “context statement.”

Once again, it's time for this song and dance, where public officials waste everyone's time and judicial resources by attempting to trample the separation of church and state for none other than some political rabble-rousing.

Lawyers for Louisiana will likely try to roll out a variety of highly technical arguments

## Guest Editorial

around why this directive is not a violation of the Constitution's Establishment Clause, probably centering around the idea that the document is being used in some permissible educational capacity. They will present this argument in court in bad faith, knowing full well it is a pretext, and we hope federal judges won't let them get away with it.

There's no need to so thoughtfully consider evasive legal maneuvers when state officials including Landry himself have

been crystal clear about the religious motivation of the law, having said that respecting the rule of law requires starting “from the original lawgiver, which was Moses.”

Well, Moses wrote in Hebrew, not English and this is not an educational effort but an ideological one, and one that clearly puts the conception of the Ten Commandments above the foundational rules of other religions, which is in exact contravention of the Constitution's requirement that the government not prioritize one religion over another.

If this all seems a little bit familiar to you, it might be because the Ten Commandments in particular has become a go-to symbol for Christian conservatives to try to push the envelope.

Over and over, they have tried to put up Ten Commandments displays and crosses in schools, courthouses and other public buildings, and been almost unanimously slapped down by the courts.

Even with the sharp rightward turn of the U.S. Supreme Court over the past few years, this is not really an edge case. Landry and his cadre have overstepped, and are very unlikely to succeed. Even Justice Sam Alito, recently recorded agreeing that the country needed to return to “a place of godliness,” is unlikely to play ball here. It's a case that seems designed to be lost, and maybe that's not an accident.

After signing the statute, Landry said “I can't wait to be sued,” appearing to understand not only he definitely would be

but that this would be excellent political fodder, not even if he wins, but especially if he loses. That will give him the ability to rail against the godless heathens and Commies who have taken over the courts and spurned this nation's supposedly integral Christian character, which is of course what this is really all about.

Landry doesn't care that much if the poster really ends up in schools or not; on the off chance it does, he can claim a victory for his movement, but in the much likelier scenario that it doesn't he can turn that loss into donations, Fox News hits and the energizing of an evangelical base. There's little downside for him, unless voters show him in the only poll that matters that they don't appreciate his antics.

## Honesty about racism is powerful

By LEONARD GREENE

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

Reggie Jackson is still hitting them out of the park.

Not since the former Yankee slugger clouted three home runs in a World Series game against the Dodgers in 1977 has Jackson done more with a pitch in the strike zone.

This time, it was Alex Rodriguez, of all people, serving up the fast ball.

The occasion was a nationally-televised major league game last week honoring Willie Mays and the Birmingham, Alabama, ball field where the baseball legend began his professional career in the Negro Leagues.

Mays, one of the few players to hit more home runs than Jackson, had just died a couple of days before at the age of 93, which only added to the poignancy of a very emotional day.

Rodriguez, another former Yankees slugger, asked Jackson during the Fox Sports broadcast how he felt about returning to Birmingham's

historic Rickwood Field, where he played in the minor leagues.

What followed was more than three minutes of brutal, painful honesty, and a clip to rival any of Jackson's home run highlight reels.

Jackson, who played in Birmingham, spoke of the racism he endured with the Athletics' Double-A team in 1967 before he was called up to the big leagues later that year.

“Coming back here is not easy,” Jackson said. “The racism when I played here, the difficulty of going through different places where we traveled. Fortunately, I had a manager and I had players on the team that helped me get through it. But I wouldn't wish it on anybody.”

Jackson didn't leave out any details.

“I walked into restaurants, and they would point at me and say, ‘The n—r can't eat here,’” Jackson said. “I would go to a hotel, and they would say, ‘The n—r can't stay here.’”

Jackson said they went to team owner Charlie Finley's country club for a welcome home dinner.

“They pointed me out with the N-word: ‘He can't come in here,’” Jackson

Leonard Greene



recalled. “Finley marched the whole team out. He said, ‘We're going to go to the diner and eat hamburgers. We'll go where we're wanted.’”

In his 21 big league seasons, Jackson was hit by a pitch 96 times. None of them stung more than what he endured during the 114 games he played for the Birmingham A's.

“Fortunately, I had a manager in Johnny McNamara that, if I couldn't eat in the place, nobody would eat,” Jackson said.

“We'd get food to travel. If I couldn't stay in a hotel, they'd drive to the next hotel and find a place where I could stay. Had it not been for Rollie Fingers, Johnny McNamara, Dave Duncan, Joe and Sharon Rudi, I slept on their couch three, four nights a week for about a month and a half. Finally, they were threatened that they would burn our apartment complex down unless I got out. I wouldn't wish it on anyone.”

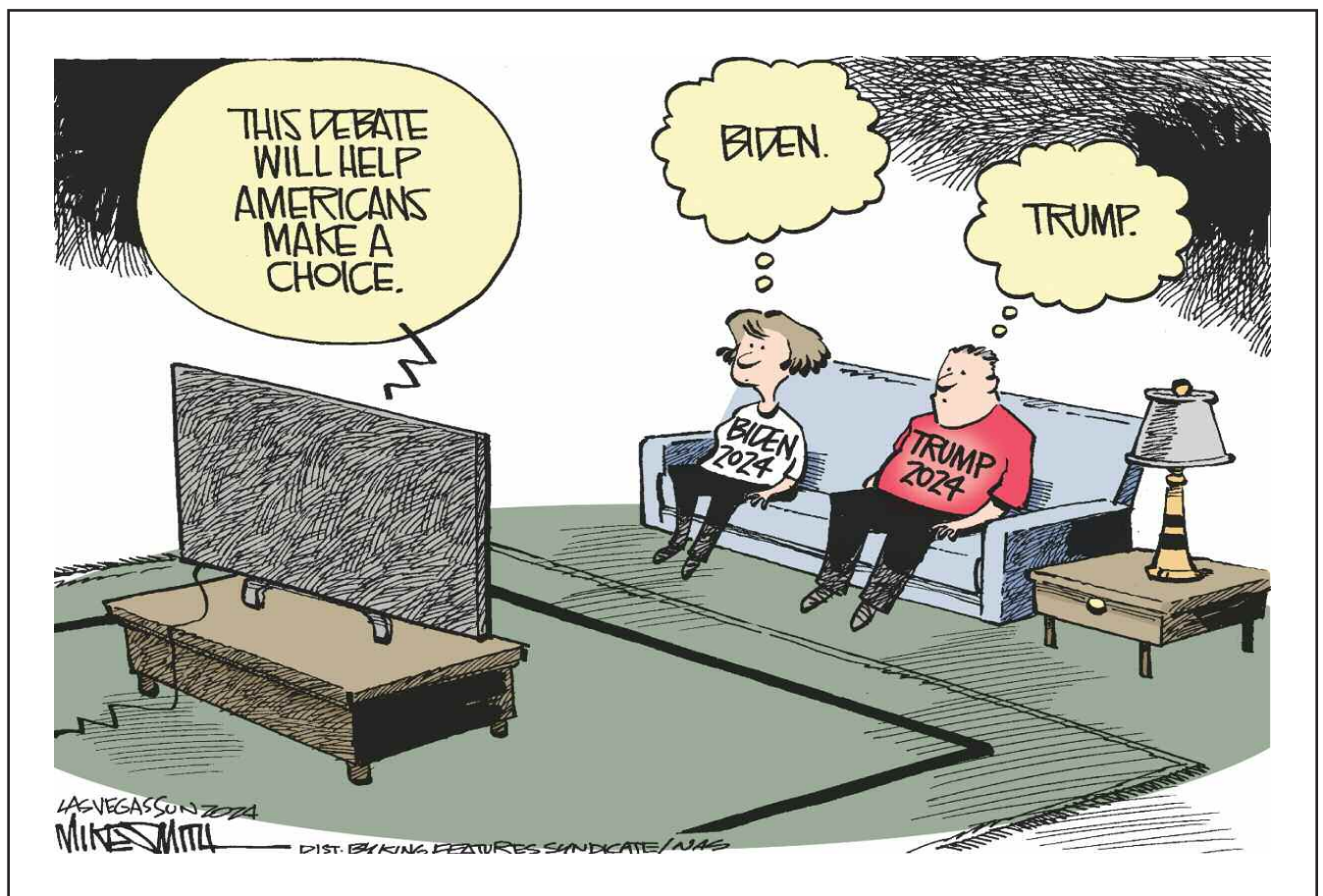
Fans who like their history in neat little boxes like to think that it was only Jackie Robinson who had to endure the racist taunts. Many understand that players like Mays and Henry Aaron, former Negro leaguers, also paid a price to pave the way for others.

But few would associate Reggie Jackson — who famously fought with Billy Martin, and clashed with Thurman Munson — with pioneers who suffered so future Black players could thrive in the game.

Much has been said about greatness in the days since Mays died. There have been endless highlight reels and a trove of warm tributes.

But no one, no one, did a better job of honoring Willie and Hank and Jackie, and Birmingham than the man known as Mr. October.

“People said to me today, ‘Do you think you're a better person?’” Jackson said. “‘Do you think you won when you played here and conquered?’ I said, ‘You know, I would never want to do it again.’”



## We must prepare for AI problems

By KEVIN FRAZIER

The Fulcrum  
Tribune News Service

Artificial intelligence is advancing at a speed and in ways that were unanticipated even by the foremost AI experts.

Just a few decades ago, AI was largely theoretical, existing primarily in the realms of science fiction and academic research.

Today, AI permeates nearly every aspect of our lives, from the algorithms that curate social media feeds to the autonomous systems that drive cars. This rapid advancement, while promising in many respects, also heralds a new era of uncertainty and potential peril.

The pace at which AI technology is evolving outstrips our ability to predict its trajectory.

Breakthroughs occur at a staggering rate, often in areas previously deemed infeasible or far-off. For instance, the development of GPT-3, an AI language model capable of producing human-like text, astonished even seasoned AI researchers with its capabilities and the speed at which it surpassed its predecessors.

Such rapid advancements suggest that the future of AI holds both immense potential and significant risks.

One of the most pressing concerns is the increased likelihood of emergencies exacerbated by AI. More sophisticated AI could enable more complex and devastating cyberattacks, as malicious actors leverage AI to breach security systems that were previously impenetrable.

Similarly, advances in AI-driven biotechnology could lead to the creation of more deadly bioweapons, posing new and unprecedented threats to global security.

Moreover, the rapid automation of jobs could lead to widespread unemployment, causing significant social disruption. The displacement of workers by AI could further entrench economic inequality and

trigger unrest, as societies struggle to adapt to these changes.

The likelihood of an AI emergency paired with our poor track record of responding to similar emergencies is cause for concern. The COVID-19 pandemic starkly highlighted the inadequacies of our constitutional order in emergency responses.

The pandemic exposed deep flaws in our preparedness and response mechanisms, demonstrating how ill-equipped we are to handle sudden, large-scale crises.

Our fragmented political system, with its layers of bureaucracy and competing jurisdictions, proved unable to respond swiftly and effectively. This deficiency raises serious concerns about our ability to manage future emergencies, particularly those that could be precipitated by AI.

Given the profound uncertainty surrounding when and how an AI accident might occur and the potential damage it could cause, it is imperative that AI companies bear a significant responsibility for helping us prepare for such eventualities.

The private sector, which stands to benefit enormously from AI advancements, must also contribute to safeguarding society against the risks these technologies pose. One concrete step that AI companies should take is to establish an emergency fund specifically intended for responding to AI-related accidents.

Such a fund would serve as a financial safety net, providing resources to mitigate the effects of AI emergencies. It could be used to support rapid response efforts, fund research into preventative measures, and assist

individuals and communities affected by AI-driven disruptions.

By contributing to this fund, AI companies would acknowledge their role in creating technologies that, while beneficial, also carry inherent risks. This approach would not only demonstrate corporate responsibility but also help ensure that society is better prepared to respond to AI-related crises.

The establishment of an emergency fund for AI disasters would require a collaborative effort between the private sector and government. Congress could mandate contributions from AI companies based on their revenue or the scale of their AI operations.

This would ensure that the financial burden of preparing for AI emergencies is shared equitably and that sufficient resources are available when needed. To safeguard the proper use of the funds, Congress should establish an independent entity tasked with securing contributions and responding to claims for reimbursement.

In conclusion, the rapid advancement of AI presents both incredible opportunities and significant risks. While we cannot predict exactly how AI will evolve or what specific emergencies it may precipitate, we can take proactive steps to prepare for these eventualities.

AI companies, as key stakeholders in the development and deployment of these technologies, must play a central role in this effort. By contributing to an emergency fund for AI disasters, they can help ensure that we are equipped to respond to crises in a legitimate and effective fashion.

AI models are being built. Accidents will come. The question is whether we will be prepared to respond in a legitimate and effective fashion.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Frazier is an assistant professor at the Crump College of Law at St. Thomas University. Starting this summer, he will serve as a Tarbell fellow.*



Kevin Frazier

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—Thomas Jefferson

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## Therapists learn how to help farmers cope with their stress before it's too late

By **TONY LEYS**  
KFF Health News  
Tribune News Service

GRINNELL, Iowa — The farmers' co-op here is a center of hope every spring. It's where farmers buy seed and fertilizer for the summer's crops, and where they seek tips to maximize their harvest of corn and soybeans.

But on a recent morning, a dozen mental health professionals gathered at the Key Cooperative Agronomy Center to discuss why so many farmers quietly struggle with untreated anxiety and depression.

Studies have concluded that suicide is unusually common among farmers. Researchers believe it's not just because many farmers have other risk factors, such as rural addresses and access to guns.

The tragic trend has caught the attention of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which sponsors training sessions like the one in Grinnell to help health care professionals learn how to talk to farmers about the pressures they face in wringing a living out of the land.

"A lot of them are born to it. They don't have any choice," family therapist David Brown explained to the session's participants. He noted many farms have been passed down for generations. Current owners feel that if they fail, they would be letting down their grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren.

Brown, who works for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, led the training in Grinnell. He said farmers' fate hinges on factors out of their control. Will the weather be favorable? Will world events cause prices to soar or crash? Will political conflicts spark changes in federal agricultural support programs? Will a farmer suffer an injury or illness that makes them unable to perform critical chores?

Brown said surveys show many farmers are reluctant to seek mental health care, partly because they think therapists or doctors couldn't understand their lives.

Tina Recker, a mental health therapist in north-eastern Iowa, attended the training session. She has lived on farms, and she has seen how the profession can become a person's entire identity. "It's just farm, farm, farm, farm," she told the group. "If something goes wrong with it, that's your whole world."

It's difficult to estimate how much of farmers' increased risk of suicide is due to their profession.

Part of the reason for the elevated rate could be that



Tribune News Service/KFF Health News/Tony Leys

Jason Haglund, who is trained as an addiction treatment counselor and is a mental health advocate, loads corn seeds into a planter May 17 on his family's farm near Boone, Iowa. His family has farmed in the area for about 140 years, and he represents the fifth generation doing the work.

many farmers are middle-aged or older men, who tend to be more at risk in general. "But it's broader than that for sure," said Edwin Lewis, a USDA administrator who helps oversee efforts to address the situation.

The Grinnell training session was part of a federal program called the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network. Lewis said the program, which also funds counseling hotlines and support groups, spends \$10 million a year.

Jason Haglund sees the issue from multiple angles. He's a mental health advocate who farms part-time near the central Iowa town of Boone. He and his brother-in-law raise corn and soybeans on the 500-acre farm where Haglund grew up. His family has farmed in the area since the 1880s. His parents hung on despite going into bankruptcy during the 1980s farm crisis, and he embraces his role as caretaker of their legacy.

Haglund is trained as an alcohol and drug addiction counselor, and he co-hosts an Iowa podcast about the need to improve mental health care.

He said it can be stressful to run any kind of family business. But farmers have a particularly strong emotional tie to their heritage,

which keeps many in the profession.

"Let's be honest: Farming at all these days isn't necessarily a good financial decision," he said.

Farmers traditionally have valued self-sufficiency, he said. They try to solve their own problems, whether it's a busted tractor or a debilitating bout of anxiety.

"With the older generation, it's still, 'Suck it up and get over it,'" Haglund said. Many younger people seem more willing to talk about mental health, he said. But in rural areas, many lack access to mental health care.

Farmers' suicide risk is also heightened by many of them owning guns, which provide an immediate means to act on deadly impulses, Haglund said.

Guns are an accepted part of rural life, in which they are seen as a useful tool to control pests, he said. "You can't go into a rural community and say, 'We're going to take your guns away,'" he said. But a trusted therapist or friend might suggest that a depressed person temporarily hand over their guns to someone else who can safely store them.

Haglund said health care professionals shouldn't be the only ones learning how to address mental stresses.

He encourages the public to look into "mental health first aid," a national effort to spread knowledge about symptoms of struggle and how they can be countered.

A 2023 review of studies on farmer suicides in multiple countries, including the U.S., cited cultural and economic stresses.

"Farmers who died by suicide, particularly men, were described as hardworking, strong, private people who took great pride in being the stoic breadwinners of their families. They were often remembered as members of a unique and fading culture who were poorly understood by outsiders," wrote the authors, from the University of Alberta in Canada.

Rebecca Purc-Stephenson, a psychology professor who helped write the paper, said health professionals face two challenges: persuading farmers to seek help for mental stress, then encouraging them to keep coming back for therapy.

Back at the training in Iowa, instructors urged mental health professionals to have flexible schedules, and to be understanding when farmers postpone appointments at the last minute.

Maybe one of their animals is sick and needs attention. Maybe a machine broke and needs

***If you or someone you know may be experiencing a mental health crisis, contact the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline by dialing 988, or the Crisis Text Line by texting HOME to 741741.***

to be fixed immediately. Maybe the weather is perfect for planting or harvesting.

"Time is money," said Brown, the therapist leading the training.

The session's lessons included what to ask and not ask when meeting farmers. A big no-no is inquiring right away about how much land they are working. "If you ask them how many acres they're farming, that's like asking to see their bank account," warned Rich Gassman, director of Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health, who assisted with the lesson.

It would be better to start by asking what they enjoy about farming, the instructors said.

Many farmers also need to talk through emotional issues surrounding when, how, or even if the next generation will take over the family operation.

Tim Christensen, a farm management specialist for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, said some standard advice on how to deal with stress could backfire with farmers.

For example, he said, a health care professional should never advise a farmer to relax by taking a couple of weeks off. Most of them can't get away from their responsibilities for that long, he said.

"There's a common saying on the farm: No good vacation goes unpunished."

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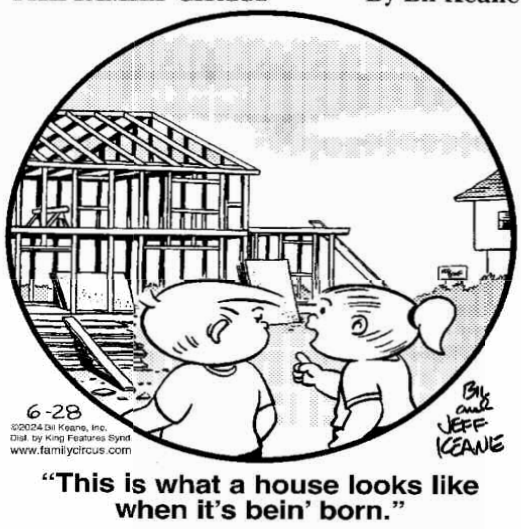
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Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

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Tomorrow: So near and yet so far. ©2024 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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# Denver Nuggets trade up to select DaRon Holmes II

By BENNETT DURANDO  
The Denver Post  
Tribune News Service

DENVER — The Nuggets' ongoing pursuit of a backup center for Nikola Jokic inspired general manager Calvin Booth to leap six spots in the first round of the 2024 NBA draft.

Denver traded up to acquire the 22nd overall pick from Phoenix on Wednesday night, selecting Dayton big man DaRon Holmes, a league source confirmed to The Denver Post. The Nuggets dealt both of their 2024 draft picks (Nos. 28 and 56) plus two future second-rounders to make the move, according to a report from ESPN's Adrian Wojnarowski.

Holmes, who turns 22 in August, was associated with Denver from the beginning of the pre-draft process and even canceled multiple pre-draft workouts with other teams. The 6-foot-9, 236-pound center averaged 20.4 points, 8.5 rebounds and 2.6 assists in his third and final season of college basketball. He led the country in scoring as a roll man and improved his 3-point shooting (38.6%).

The Nuggets have been high on Holmes throughout the pre-draft process, seeing him as a versatile big who can protect the rim — a different profile from the three-time MVP Jokic.

## Denver sent both 2024 draft picks and two future second rounders to Phoenix for Dayton big man

But it was believed that multiple teams were eyeing Holmes in front of Denver's 28th pick, leading to the trade up.

In this first year of a two-day draft format, there was only one selection to evaluate at curtains, unlike last year when the Nuggets snagged three players in a stretch of nine picks the same night: Julian Strawther, Jalen Pickett and Hunter Tyson.

They no longer possess a draft pick Thursday (2 p.m. MT, ESPN) in the second round.

This was Booth's third draft and seventh pick since former executive Tim Connelly left Denver for Minnesota in 2022. Five of the previous six are still on the roster, including 2022 selections Christian Braun and Peyton Watson.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Crabtree swings

Raelynn Crabtree hits a ball over during an agility drill at the Jay County High School volleyball camp on Wednesday in the high school's auxiliary gym.

# Badger ...

Continued from page 8  
On Monday, he pitched 1 2/3 innings of relief. He locked down the Texas A&M Aggies in the sixth and seventh innings and only gave up one earned run in the eighth — a runner he bequeathed to Dylan Loy, who threw two wild pitches before surrendering a single up the middle. Tennessee went on to win the game 6-5 to take the NCAA title back to Knoxville for the first time.

Nate played a pivotal role to get the Volunteers to the World Series and delivered a pair of strong performances to help seal the deal.

Beyond getting to watch someone I know play at such a high level, I witnessed the development of a family member Monday's celebration came only as a result of the hard work he's put in over his 20 years of life.

While I'm not his mom or dad, who have spent

countless hours driving him to tournaments and plenty of dollars on lessons, travel ball, equipment and the lifestyle of a high-level athlete, I am someone who got to witness him grow into the player he is today.

What's even better than getting to watch him be on top of the world and achieve heights I can only imagine is thinking of where his hard work and talent can take him next.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Saturday**  
Portland Rockets vs. Battle Creek Merchants at Bethel University — 1 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Portland Rockets vs. South Bend Royals at Bethel University — 1 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**  
6:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Austria Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
10:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Austria Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Costa Rica vs. Colombia (FS1)  
8 p.m. — Olympic track and field trials (USA)

8 p.m. — Olympic women's gymnastics trials (NBC)  
8:15 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)  
9 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Brazil vs. Paraguay (FS1)  
10 p.m. — Olympic track and field trials (NBC)  
10 p.m. — Professional Fighters League (ESPN)

**Saturday**  
12 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Tennessee Lottery 250 (USA)  
12 p.m. — UEFA Euro 2024: Italy vs. Switzerland (FS1)  
12 p.m. — PGA Tour Champions: U.S. Senior Open (NBC)  
1 p.m. — BIG3 basketball (CBS)  
2:15 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)

2:50 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Ally 400 (USA)  
3 p.m. — Olympic gymnastics trials (NBC)  
3 p.m. — UEFA Euro 2024: Denmark vs. Germany (FOX)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: Rocket Mortgage Classic (CBS)  
4 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Bay at Racing Louisville (ESPN)  
4:10 p.m. — MLB: Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee Brewers (FS1)  
5 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Tennessee Lottery 250 (USA)  
6 p.m. — Copa America soccer: Peru vs. Argentina (FS1)  
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Texas Rangers at Baltimore Orioles (FOX)  
8 p.m. — Olympic track and field trials (NBC)  
8 p.m. — UFC fighting (ESPN)

## Local notes

**Soccer camp announced**  
The Jay County High School boys and girls soccer teams will hold a youth soccer camp July 29-31. The camp is for kids going into first grade up to eighth grade. It will be held from 5-6:30 p.m. at the old soccer field behind the baseball diamond. Admission is \$30 per child and each additional child from the same household will cost only \$20. To sign up visit <https://qrco.de/bf9AoD>. For more information, email [klmuhlenkamp@jayschools.k12.in.us](mailto:klmuhlenkamp@jayschools.k12.in.us) or [reynolds@jayschools.k12.in.us](mailto:reynolds@jayschools.k12.in.us). Payment can be sent to the high school front office by July 12th.

**Meet booked**  
The Jay County Chamber Classic golf outing is set for Friday, July 19, at Portland Golf Club.

The deadline to register is July 10, and it's limited to 20 teams. Awards of \$400, \$200 and \$100 will be given out to first, second and third place, respectively. Golf will begin with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. To register, email [tabby@jaycountychamber.com](mailto:tabby@jaycountychamber.com). For more information call (260) 726-4481.

**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@cadcinfo.org](mailto:director@cadcinfo.org).

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### 110 HELP WANTED

**REDKEY POLICE DEPARTMENT** is accepting applications for Full time Deputy Marshal. Must have High School diploma or GED. Applications may be picked up at Redkey Town Hall. Applications must be turned in before July 15th, 2024.

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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE JAY SUPERIOR COURT  
COUNTY OF JAY, SS: 2024 TERM  
38D01-2406-MF-000011  
Fredric L. Bailey, Elizabeth J. Bailey  
Plaintiff  
vs  
Christopher Ames (deceased)  
All unknown heirs or assignees of Christopher Ames  
Defendants

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**  
To Christopher Ames named as Defendant, who is believed to be deceased and if he is deceased, to his unknown heirs and any other person who may have an interest in this matter. You are notified that you have been sued in the court named above by the Plaintiffs. The nature of the suit is a Complaint to Foreclose Contract for Conditional Sale of Real Estate for the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana: Lot numbered four (4) in F. M. McLaughlin's Addition to the City of Portland, Indiana. For informational purposes this real estate is located at 952 S. Shank Street in Portland, Indiana. Plaintiffs request that judgment be entered against the Defendants for the relief stated in the complaint and the Contract for Conditional Sale of Real Estate be terminated and found to be null and void and the real estate remain the property of the Plaintiffs free and clear of any interest or claim of the Defendants. This summons by publication is specifically directed to all of the Defendants whose names, address and whereabouts are unknown, and specifically to any unknown heirs and assignees of the Defendant Christopher Ames. If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiffs from the Complaint to Foreclose Contract for Conditional Sale of Real Estate you must assert it in your written answer. You must answer the complaint in writing by you or your attorney on or before 30 days from the date of last publication of this summons in The Commercial Review and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered against you for what the Plaintiffs have demanded.

Attest: Jon Eads,  
Clerk of the Jay Superior Court  
HINKLE, RACSTER, & SCHEMENAUR  
Attorneys for Plaintiffs  
121 West High Street  
Portland, IN 47371  
Telephone: 260-726-8104  
CR 6-28-7-5,12-2024 HSPAXLP-HSPAXLP

### 260 PUBLIC AUCTION

## PUBLIC AUCTION

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**JULY 5, 2024**

5:30 P.M.

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Gibbs gets up

Fifth-grader Elsie Gibbs jumps at the net to simulate a block attempt during a drill Wednesday at the Jay County High School volleyball camp. Students from third to eighth grade met in the auxiliary gym for the three-day camp to learn fundamentals from varsity coach Amy Dillon and high schoolers.

Let Me Badger You



## Cousin is a World Series Champ

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

I'm not particularly old. In fact, I'm closer in age to the students I cover than I am to the parents.

Yet, these past couple of months have been a unique experience for me, getting the opportunity for me to feel immense pride in one of my younger family members.

Last weekend, my second cousin, Nate Snead, got the opportunity to pitch in Omaha for the College World Series and tossed 2 2/3 solid innings over the three-game series to help the Tennessee Volunteers become NCAA champions.

Being about five years older than Nate, I'm not as close to him as my younger brother is. I wouldn't have ever played against him growing up.

One of the earlier memories I have about his baseball career was when talking to his father Jim. Being from the adjacent city, I didn't see a ton of what Nate was able to do, but Jim talked Nate and his game up a lot.

During the conversation, I initially assumed some of that talk was just a dad overestimating the ability of his kid. A lot of parents often aren't super realistic about their kid's athletic abilities, but whether Jim's assessment of Nate was accurate at the time or not, he couldn't have been more on the money.

Once I hit college, I didn't get to see much of Nate outside of Christmas, but following along from a distance it was clear he started to take off.

He earned a number of accolades in two seasons pitching for the South Milwaukee High School Rockets. His biggest achievement during high school came when he threw the first perfect game in school history by striking out 14 of 15 batters.

He originally committed to Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa, before flipping his commitment to Wichita State.

From there, he became a key asset to the Shockers out of the bullpen by striking out 53 batters in 42.2 innings, recording a 3.16 ERA and making three saves.

The freshman-year success and the state of the NCAA transfer portal allowed him to move onto a Power 5 school.

Despite pitching in a more difficult league, he improved his game as a Volunteer. He boasted the best ERA on Tennessee of the pitchers with enough innings to qualify at 3.11. Nate also was near the top with 10 wins, six saves and 75.1 innings pitched as well.

All of that culminated in him making two appearances in the College World Series.

On Sunday, Nate inherited two runners in the bottom of the ninth inning with a 4-1 lead. A ground out and two fly outs got Tennessee out of the inning unscathed and won the game while giving Nate the save.

See **Badger** page 7

## Optimist moves past Joyce Dayton

The regular season champs were on the ropes.

They gave up the lead early in extra innings, so they needed to make a comeback if they wanted their season to continue.

They just wouldn't let the year end there.

Top-seeded Optimist beat No. 4 seed Joyce Dayton 13-12 with a

walk off in the sixth inning of the Portland Junior League Rookie softball semifinal game on Wednesday.

Optimist trailed 12-11 with three outs remaining, but only needed two batters to walk off Joyce Dayton.

Renlee Hummer and Adalyn Overla led the way for Joyce Day-

ton with four hits apiece. Hummer hit a triple and scored twice, while Overla had a pair of doubles and crossed home plate three times.

Annabelle Wiggins matched Overla with a team-high in runs scored at three. Wiggins added three singles as well.

Ivy Trinidad and Kaelyana Castillo both smacked doubles for

Joyce Dayton. Trinidad also hit a single while scoring two runs.

Four more batters smacked two singles for Joyce Dayton in the loss.

Optimist's win earned them a spot in the championship game against the winner of second-seeded REMC and third-seeded Wings and Rings.

## Indiana's Ware picked by Miami

By IRA WINDERMAN  
South Florida Sun-Sentinel  
Tribune News Service

MIAMI — The Miami Heat's first personnel move of the offseason was the selection of Indiana center Kel'el Ware with the No. 15 selection at Wednesday night's NBA draft at Brooklyn's Barclays Center.

Having struggled to find complementary height alongside Bam Adebayo in the power rotation, the Heat went for a shot-blocking presence and rim-running dunk threat who has shown signs of an upgraded outside touch, as well.

As part of the rookie scale, Ware will earn \$4.2 million next season.

It marked the third consecutive year the Heat exercised a first-round pick, having selected Serbian forward Nikola Jovic at No. 27 in the 2022 first round and UCLA wing Jaime Jaquez Jr. at No. 18 last season.

By rule, the Heat had to exercise a selection, with their 2025 first-round pick potentially going to the Oklahoma City Thunder as a lottery-protected selection. By NBA rule, teams cannot go successive years without exercising a first-round pick.

The Heat's selection came amid the uncertainty with impending free-agent forwards Caleb Martin and Haywood Highsmith, with NBA free agency opening 6 p.m. Sunday.

The Heat also are awaiting player-option decisions by Kevin Love, Josh Richardson and Thomas Bryant that are due by Saturday.

For now, the Heat are moving forward with a core of Jimmy Butler, Bam Adebayo, Tyler Herro, Terry Rozier, Duncan Robinson, Jaquez and Jovic.

The Heat are coming off

a 46-36 season that left them playing out of the play-in round for the second consecutive year. They then advanced before falling 4-1 in the first round to the eventual NBA champion Boston Celtics.

Going ahead of the Heat's selection, in order, were French wing Zacharie Risacher to the Atlanta Hawks, French forward Alexandre Sarr to the Washington Wizards, Kentucky guard Reed Sheppard to the Houston Rockets, Connecticut guard Stephon Castle to the San Antonio Spurs, G League guard Ron Holland to the Detroit Pistons, French forward Tidjane Salaun to the Charlotte Hornets, Connecticut center Donovan Clingan to the Portland Trail Blazers, Kentucky guard Rob Dillingham to the Minnesota Timberwolves in a trade, Purdue center Zach Edey to the Memphis Grizzlies, Colorado wing Cody Williams to the Utah Jazz, G League forward Matas Buzelis to the Chicago Bulls, Serbian guard Nikola Topić to the Oklahoma City Thunder, Providence guard Devin Carter to the Sacramento Kings and Pittsburgh guard Bub Carrington to the Wizards.

Still left on the board when the Heat selected were University of Miami wing Kyshawn George, Tennessee guard Dalton Knecht, Duke guard Jared McCain, Duke center Kyle Filipowski, Colorado forward Tristan da Silva, Southern Cal guard Isaiah Collier, Baylor center Yves Missi, Marquette guard Tyler Kolek, Creighton guard Baylor Scheierman, Baylor guard Ja'Kobe Walter, Dayton center DaRon Holmes, G League forward Tyler Smith, Kansas forward Johnny Furphy, California guard Jaylon Tyson and Virginia guard Ryan Dunn, among others.

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