

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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## County reviews EDIT \$ requests

### Commissioners question fair and chamber funding

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review  
Commissioners discussed plans to fund different organizations in 2025 during a meeting following their regular session Monday.

The discussion, which was recorded along with the regular session via livestream on the county's website, included applications for county funding next year.

Commissioners had advertised for a special session to discuss economic development income tax (EDIT) funding to start at 10:30 a.m. Monday. Their regular meeting continued past 10:30 a.m. amid talk with Jay County Development Corporation, lasting until almost 11:30 a.m. At that time, Aker announced commissioners would be holding an administrative meeting to talk about EDIT funding and informed the crowd the meeting was open to the public.

Entities applying for county funding from commissioners in 2025 were:

- Jay County Development Corporation, \$261,975
- John Jay Center for Learning, \$70,000
- Jay County Fair Association, \$26,050
- Jay County Chamber of Commerce, \$25,000
- Jay County 4-H Clubs, \$17,936
- Arts Place's Arts in the Parks, \$15,000
- Jay County Development Corporation's Launch Jay! business pitch competition, \$15,000
- Jay County 4th of July Committee, \$5,000
- East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center, \$3,000
- Redkey Fireworks Committee, \$2,500
- Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department, \$2,500.

While no votes were formally taken at the meeting, commissioners voiced support for giving requested amounts from EDIT funding to Arts Place, East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center, Jay County 4th of July Committee, Redkey Fireworks Committee and Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department.

They talked about allocating \$10,000 in EDIT dollars toward Launch Jay!. They also talked about allocating \$8,000 out of the county general fund to Jay County 4-H Clubs and \$1,500 to Jay County Fair Association, as well as allocations for contracts paid out of the county general fund, such as Jay County Humane Society. (Jay County 4-H Clubs asked for additional funding to cover insurance, locks, book-keeping software, a laptop and sound deafening panels, and Jay County Fair Association asked for funding to cover insurance. The \$8,000 and \$1,500 were allocated in years past.)

See **Reviews** page 2

## 2024 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

### Rodeo wrestling

Former Indianapolis Colts and University of Notre Dame running back Robert Hughes wrestles a steer Tuesday evening during the 3 Bar J Rodeo show in front of the grandstand at Jay County Fairgrounds. The rodeo included bronco riding, tie-down roping and team roping, along with the antics of the rodeo clown. Before turning to a career in the rodeo, Hughes played for the Indianapolis Colts in 2012 and 2013 before heading for a stint with the Arizona Cardinals. Primarily a fullback, he had eight professional carries for 11 yards while catching 10 passes for 149 yards. He gained 1,392 rushing yards, caught 43 passes and scored 15 touchdowns during his career with the Fighting Irish. For more photos, see page 5.

## Another Paxson wins trophy

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review  
Another Paxson will be added to the trophy.

Ty Paxson relied on experience Tuesday afternoon en route to winning the 4-H small animal supreme showmanship competition at the Jay County Fair.

"It's a great way to end off my year," said Paxson, a 10-year 4-H member.

He follows his sister Gabi, who won the small animal trophy in 2019.

Paxson has been deeply involved through his decade of 4-H, including advancing to the small animal supreme showmanship competition in 2021.

See **Trophy** page 6



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Ty Paxson shows a rabbit during Tuesday afternoon's 4-H small animal supreme showmanship competition in the Show Arena during the Jay County Fair. Paxson, a 10-year member who represented the poultry barn in the competition, went on to win the title, following in the footsteps of his sister Gabi. She won the small animal trophy in 2019.

## Victories honor great-grandfather

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review  
Participation in 4-H is often a family affair.

That's how Levi Garringer and Braxton Bell got involved in the organization. On Tuesday, they netted some big wins that left their family emotional.

A little less than a year after the death of Levi's and Braxton's great-grandfather Larry Phillips, they claimed three victories and a runner-up in the 4-H pygmy and meat goat show Tuesday at the Jay County Fair. "We do it just to have fun," said Levi, who took home the

market doe grand champion and repeated with the wether grand champion. "I also do it to keep my family tradition going. I think that's very important."

That family tradition started with their great-grandmother Nellie Phillips, who was involved for about 30 years. She competed in 4-H for nine years before getting married — back then marriage made you ineligible to compete — before serving as an adult on the council as a secretary, the horse and pony leader and being in charge of the 4-H kitchen.

See **Honor** page 6

Levi Garringer holds the head of his goat steady as the judge walks around to decide which market doe would be selected as grand champion. Garringer's received the honors and he later showed the grand champion wether on Tuesday.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

### Coming up

**Friday** — Coverage of the Cincinnati League Hall of Fame ceremony.

**Saturday** — Photos from the Flo Rida concert at the Jay County Fair.

**Tuesday** — Results from the Jay County summer swimmers at the conference meet.

### Weather

The temperature stayed in the 70s through Tuesday in Jay County with a high of 79 and a low of 72. There was about a quarter inch of rain.

The forecast calls for a slight chance of showers tonight with a low in the lower 60s. Expect a high in the mid 80s Friday. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### At the fair

**Today**  
9 a.m. — Horse and Pony Show in the Horse and Pony Arena

5 p.m. — Large animal supreme showmanship contest in the Show Arena

5 p.m. — Hunter Riggins concert in the Farmer's Building

7 p.m. — Cochren & Co. concert at the grandstand

**Friday**  
10 a.m. — 4-H awards ceremony and auction in the Show Arena

3 p.m. — Back a 4-Her networking driver in the Schmit Exhibition Hall

5 p.m. — George Jones tribute in the Farmer's Building

8 p.m. — Flo Rida concert at the grandstand





# Reviews ...

Continued from page 1  
Commissioner Rex Journay noted the request from 4-H came in at 100% of the cost for the project. He noted efforts in the past to fundraise a portion of the price.

Commissioner Brian McGalliard said the fair association's request is for an infrastructure project. "They use the fairgrounds, they're in charge of all maintenance and so forth for the fairgrounds because we give it to them for free," he said, noting the county allocated funding in past years for the fairgrounds Christmas lighting project.

Questions ensued on how much of that funding was spent on the lighting.

Commissioners president Chad Aker questioned why the fair association didn't go to The Portland Foundation for funding. McGalliard also questioned how the group could afford hosting high-ticket performances.

"I see all these new shows

coming in, and renovations ... as a business owner, you wait on that kind of stuff until you have a pot of money, or you go out," McGalliard said.

Aker also accused the fair association of favoritism in regard to how it leases out its buildings. He shared a conversation he had with a former board member, who he said told him a local family that is heavily involved at Jay County Fairgrounds — "we all know who it is," he said — takes precedence with rentals.

"The Bubb building, for example," he said. "They put their name down on the list all year, and then if something comes up, they can control who gets to use that building."

Commissioners verbally agreed not to commit EDIT funding toward Jay County Chamber of Commerce, with Aker questioning why the organization asked for a larger amount of funding than in previous years. He talked about the

director's pay and shared a conversation he had with a board member about the director's work performance.

"(They said, 'Tabby is really good at about 30% of her job' ... That person inquired, 'Well, is there something commissioners can do about making changes?' I said, 'You're dictated by a board. We're just funding. To me, your board needs to, I'm sorry, but it needs to grow some balls and they need to address the issue,'" said Aker.

Commissioners did not decide on JCDC's full funding request, with Aker noting he would like to see a contract with the group before moving forward with funding for 2025. (The same had been discussed during the commissioners' regular meeting earlier in the day.)

They discussed giving a smaller amount (\$25,000) to John Jay Center for Learning but also expressed a desire to speak with the organization about the funding request,

which was submitted to help pay for High School Equivalency classes.

Answering a question from Aker, county attorney Wes Schemenaur advocated for not contacting groups about funding plans.

"I don't think it's a good idea for you to give them a heads-up for what you're going to do, because then you're going to find yourself in the same situation, PR-wise, that you did with JCDC," he said. "I think you just present your budget, and you move on. I don't think you're required to offer them any kind of explanation."

Aker also explained that in 2023 the county received \$636,967 in EDIT dollars and spent \$444,900 of that amount. He suggested investing in projects with the leftover funding, such as doing road conversions, getting a new public safety building, creating infrastructure on the county owned 68 acres on the west edge of Port-

land, buying new emergency responder radios or setting up broadband across the county.

"We're giving away all this money, but we can't do our projects," he said.

He noted that the county has allocated \$368,500 in EDIT dollars so far in 2024. The county is projected to receive a total of \$741,818 by the end of the year.

"Roughly, there's another \$400,000 we can put in our coffers," he said. "So we can put it toward some of these projects we want to do."

County departments are putting together their 2025 budgets, which must be approved by Jay County Council. The budgeting process includes a public hearing, along with first and second readings of the budget.

Recordings of commissioners' meetings are available to watch by visiting jaycountynet.

Starting in July 2025, Indiana government entities are required to record their public meetings.

## CR almanac

Friday 7/12	Saturday 7/13	Sunday 7/14	Monday 7/15	Tuesday 7/16
<b>84/65</b>	<b>86/69</b>	<b>88/73</b>	<b>92/73</b>	<b>90/73</b>
There is a slight chance of showers and storms early following by sunny skies with a high of 84 degrees.	Skies will be sunny with a high in the mid 80s.	Expect a high of 88 degrees under mostly sunny skies. There is a 20% chance of rain and storms.	The high will climb into the 90s under mostly sunny skies. There is a slight chance of rain.	The forecast calls for a chance of showers and storms with a high of 90.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$41 million	Evening Daily Three: 5-8-0 Daily Four: 4-7-2-2 Quick Draw: 6-8-17-23-24-26-31-35-36-40-42-50-56-57-63-68-69-70-72-74
<b>Mega Millions</b> 21-26-54-60-64 Mega Ball: 3 Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$203 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 5-2-1 Pick 4: 7-0-9-8 Pick 5: 4-4-0-4-0 Evening Pick 3: 1-2-9 Pick 4: 6-0-6-1 Pick 5: 0-8-9-6-9 Rolling Cash: 3-10-19-20-31 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 4-3-1 Daily Four: 5-7-4-4 Quick Draw: 3-4-5-6-7-15-19-21-22-27-32-33-40-42-48-59-66-68-76-77	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....3.84 Aug. corn .....3.86 Wheat .....4.90	Aug. beans.....10.24 Wheat ..... 5.14
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....3.94 Aug. corn .....3.94 Sept. corn .....3.81	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.71 Aug. corn .....3.72 Beans .....11.25 Aug. beans .....10.95 Wheat .....5.14
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....3.76 Aug. corn .....3.82 Beans .....11.30	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....3.80 Aug. corn .....3.80 Beans .....11.10 Aug. beans .....10.95 Wheat .....4.90

## Today in history

In 1274, Robert the Bruce was born Robert VIII de Bruce in Cardross, Dumbartonshire, Scotland. He was king of Scotland from 1306 to 1329 and was the leader who freed his country from English rule.

In 1960, "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was published.

In 2013, Portland Board of Works approved \$53,700 to upgrade computers at the city's wastewater treatment plant.

In 2022, Jay County Emergency Management Agency director John Hankins submitted a two-week notice of resignation to Jay County Commissioners. He had served in the role for less than two months.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Thursday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.	1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Corporation, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.	7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station,	<b>Tuesday</b> 10 a.m. — Dunkirk Police Pension Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

## Capsule Reports

### Failed to see

Several people were injured after a Portland man failed to see the car stopped in front of him on Indiana 67, causing a vehicle collision about 12:28 p.m. Saturday.

Colbi T. Byrd, 29, was driving a 1994 Honda Civic north on the highway. At the same time, Michael E. Eicher, 20, Redkey, was stopped in a 2012 Dodge Caliber waiting for southbound traf-

fic to pass in order to turn into a driveway. Byrd told police he didn't see Eicher's vehicle because of the headlights from the oncoming southbound vehicle, causing him to crash into the back of Eicher's car.

Eicher complained of pain all over his body. His passenger, Jack Eicher, 10, complained of head pain, and his other passenger, Hayden Eicher, 13, complained of pain all over his body.

The Eichers were transported to IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Byrd was transported to IU Health Jay and given an alcohol and drug blood test with results pending. He complained of foot pain and was cited with an infraction for driving without a license.

Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

## Rush to seek court retention

By NIKI KELLY  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana Supreme Court Chief Justice Loretta Rush said Tuesday she will seek retention to the bench this fall, and also reappointment as chief justice.

She has been on state's highest court since 2012 after being appointed by then-Gov. Mitch Daniels. She was last retained by voters in 2014.

"This is an interesting time ... institutional stability is important," Rush told the Capital Chronicle on Tuesday. "Public trust and confidence is our main currency. I just really looked at it and thought, 'you know, I can do it.' I'll give it my best."

The Judicial Nominating Commission named Rush Indiana's first female chief justice in August 2014, and she was reappointed in 2019. As chief justice, she is responsible for supervising Indiana's judicial branch. This supervision includes working with the state legislature to secure funding and allocate

resources, as well as overseeing a multi-agency central administrative office that handles everything from caseload measures and technology updates to the admission and discipline of lawyers.

The commission of Hoosiers will ultimately decide Aug. 21 whether Rush remains chief justice. A news release said the four other members of the court support her nomination.

Rush sent a note to court staff Tuesday morning saying "we've worked together to launch pretrial and problem-solving court initiatives, implement and finalize our statewide electronic filing and unified case management systems, sustain our court system through a global pandemic, overhaul our administrative agency structure, advance causes to improve access to justice for all, reshape the approach to addressing behavioral health and substance use disorders for court participants, and so much more."

## Felony arrests

### Burglary

Two people were arrested Monday for burglary.

William Alexander, 29, was preliminarily charged with a Level 4 felony and a Level 5 felony for two counts of burglary, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He was being held on a \$22,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Betty J.M. Leone, 30, 1521 Forest Drive, Rogers Benton, Arizona, was preliminarily charged with a Level 4 felony for burglary, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 felony for assisting a criminal and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. She was being held on a \$22,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Probation violation

Two Indiana residents were arrested recently for probation violations.

Susan D. Gomes, 56, 709 N. Jefferson St., Hartford City, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with

245 days suspended and given 120 days credit for time served. A petition alleging she violated the conditions of her probation was filed in court June 25.

Curtis W. Mock, 42, 8179 W. 550 North, Pennville, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to nonsupport of a dependent child, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 730 days in Jay County Jail with all of his sentence suspended. A petition alleging he violated the conditions of his probation was filed in court in October.

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Photo provided

## Bryant Class of 1959

Bryant High School's Class of 1959 recently celebrated its 65th reunion. Pictured above, first row, are Karen (Orr) Fear, Roberta (Nelson) Rhodes, Margie (Muhlenkamp) Ronnebaum and Nora (Landers) Pyle. In the back row are Wayne Stolz, Kenneth Hartngle and Rex Kraner.

## Missing undies embarrass lady

DEAR ABBY: We invited a couple for a short visit to our remote country cabin. Afterward, I discovered a pair of pink panties lying on the road in front of our mailbox. When I picked them up with a stick to carry to the trash, I realized they were a pair of clean pink panties I had misplaced. They must have stuck to the sheets I had placed on the bed immediately before our guests arrived.

Now I can't stop wondering what this couple must have been thinking when they tossed the panties. This may not seem like a serious issue, but it has become a source of embarrassment for me every time I meet these folks. Should I explain the panty situation or let it go? — RED-FACED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

DEAR RED-FACED: Don't get your panties in a twist. The next time you encounter the couple, ask if they have encountered a pair of pink panties that you misplaced around the time they came to visit.

DEAR ABBY: I was watching a police video on the internet, and I spotted the woman who lives in the apartment next door. I know it's her because of the prominent tattoo on her chest. She was being arrested for drunk and disorderly conduct.

She went ballistic on the cops. First, she screamed and fought back. Next, she sagged and started sobbing at the top of her lungs. Then she started laughing maniacally. I'm afraid to live next to her now. Should I show the video to the apartment manager and ask that she be removed? — SCARED IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR SCARED: Although the police video was understandably upsetting, I am not

Dear Abby



sure that showing it to the building manager would be enough to have the woman evicted. It might, however, be a valid reason for you to move out of the building. If you are truly fearful, consult an attorney who specializes in real estate law who can advise you on possibly breaking your lease.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are considering a move to another state to be close to our son and his family. Here's our dilemma: We have four lifelong friends who are respected and successful local real estate agents, each of whom would expect to be selected as the listing agent of our home. Choosing one would, undoubtedly, leave the other three hurt and offended. (They all know each other.) We feel our only option is to choose an outside agent to sell our home and to explain our rationale to our friends before the property hits the market. What say you, please? — HARD CHOICE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR HARD CHOICE: There is more than one way to handle this. The first would be to use the outside agent and possibly alienate all of your lifelong friends. Another would be to tell all of them you plan to move to another state to be closer to your children and see which one of the four offers you the best deal to represent you in the sale.

## Drones deliver medication

By SEAN BAKER  
Star Tribune  
Tribune News Service

ROCHESTER, Minn. — Mayo Clinic is looking to take its at-home care model to new heights with the assistance of autonomous drones capable of making same-day prescription deliveries.

The Rochester-based hospital system recently signed an agreement with Zipline, the world's largest commercial drone delivery company, with the goal that medications could be delivered directly to patients' doorsteps beginning in 2025.

"Anyone who has driven to a pharmacy while sick and contagious has wished for a better way to do things," said Jeff Williams, head of U.S. operations for Zipline. "It's a far more convenient experience, and it makes care more accessible for everyone: from people without reliable transportation to folks who are just

too busy to take on another errand."

Mayo is among a growing number of healthcare providers, pharmacies, and retailers that have signed similar agreements with Zipline, which has been handling medical deliveries in Rwanda and other African countries since 2016. Among them is Mayo health care rival Cleveland Clinic, which announced a deal in the fall and also plans to begin using drones to deliver medications by 2025.

The deals follow the rollout of Zipline's latest aircraft, the Platform 2 (P2) delivery drone, which is capable of reaching speeds up to 60 mph while carrying 6 to 8 pounds of weight. For a patient living within a 10-mile radius of the provider, that could mean a delivery landing on their doorstep in 10 minutes or less.

"Drone delivery is one example of our Bold. Forward. strategy at work," Jim Francis, chair of Supply Chain Management at Mayo Clinic,

said in a statement, referring to Mayo's planned multibillion-dollar buildout of its Rochester campus. "It helps 'complete the sentence' in a telehealth or virtual care setting, creating a seamless and convenient means to deliver products directly to a patient without requiring the patient to leave their home."

While there are a number of details left up in the air — Mayo declined to make a representative available for an interview — the hospital system plans to use Jacksonville, Fla., as the initial testing grounds, before integrating the drones into its operations in Rochester. In addition to the delivery of prescriptions, Francis said the drones will likely be used for the transportation of samples and tests across its campuses.

Zipline began medical deliveries in the U.S. in 2020 amid the pandemic and purports to have now made more than 1 million commercial deliveries worldwide.

## 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

**SMART RECOVERY** — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Sec-

ond 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.

**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

**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 - 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.

**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.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

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

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

# SUUUUPER

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# Indiana stats lag behind the nation

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Cousin Maribelle was in town and she takes no prisoners. “Tell me about Indiana,” she demanded.

“Oh,” I responded, “we’re a collection of small businesses in small and mid-sized cities, living in harmony with nature.”

“You’re a foul, polluted cistern in the industrial heartland. And you’ve less small business than that of the nation,” she sneered.

I objected. “Fully, 63% of establishments where Hoosiers work have fewer than 20 employees.”

Maribelle made a gargoyle face. “That figure is over 70% nationally. Worse, Indiana firms have 183 workers for every 100

## Eye on the Pie



establishments. Nationally the figure is 158. That smells like an excess of labor to me.”

“Well,” I paused, like President Reagan, trying to think my way through this. “Must be we have tougher jobs that require more workers. You’ve seen the saying on the wall of the State Office Building, ‘A state that works.’”

Now Maribelle did something very strange. She laughed. “Yes,

and a rational person would ask, ‘Works for whom?’”

Now my blood began to boil. “Anyway that sign is gone now. It’s been replaced by ‘Indiana for the Bold.’”

This broke her up. When she caught her breath, she said, “Yes, for the bold and the old. Bold enough to stay and earn 82% of what the typical private sector American earns. Even the highly paid workers in Indiana establishments with more 5,000 employees, average \$59,184, again just 82% of the average (\$72,386) for similarly placed workers in the U.S.”

“And don’t forget,” she added, “in 60 of your 92 counties, the median age is over 40 years. It peaks in good old Brown County where more than half the popu-

lation is over 50, just a rockin’ n’ awaitin’ for da Great Come-and-Get-It Day.”

“That’s mean-spirited,” I cried out.

“Be that as it may,” Maribelle replied. “Hoosiers see ghosts when they talk about your economy. They’ll argue about how important agriculture is to the state, largely because farming is so visible and of great consequence in antiquity.”

“You are on dangerous ground there, Cousin,” I warned her.

“Right,” she said. “I’ve heard that if you eat, you’re part of agriculture. But then, if you have to relieve yourself, you’re part of plumbing.”

Now she was rolling and unstoppable. “What else do I hear? They talk about manufac-

turing, as another ghost, dead or in decline.”

“Get to the point,” I demanded. “It’s so simple, it’s embarrassing,” she said. “Manufacturing in Indiana is 22% of business payrolls with 18% of the jobs. Nationally, it’s 9.5% of payrolls and 9.1% of jobs.”

“So? I said.

“So, more Hoosiers need to think about the housing and health care needs of our times. Those will be satisfied more and more by materials for building and for monitoring health conditions. That’s where Indiana is going.”

And with that she was gone.

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

## A small margin can start landslide

Chicago Tribune

Tribune News Service  
The Labour Party’s demolition of the chaotic Conservative Party in Britain’s July 4 general election is another marker of the reassertion of sensible, fiscally sound centrism and, above all, the rejection of leaders who bring either revolt or chaos.

The new customer service-oriented prime minister, Keir Starmer, a fiscally shrewd moderate already known as “No Drama Starmer,” arguably is as far removed from his chilly socialist predecessor atop Labour, Jeremy Corbyn, as he is from Rishi Sunak, the technocratic British leader he defeated Wednesday and who had been forced to deal with the mess his predecessors Boris Johnson, a reckless maverick, and Liz Truss, a reckless libertarian, progressively wrought. Voters were exhausted by all the Tory dysfunction; they correctly intuited their government was not delivering the services the British people needed.

Sunak, both a wealthy and a decent man, took to the podium Friday morning outside 10 Downing Street prior to tendering his resignation, opened his mouth and said, “to the country, I would like to say first and foremost, I am sorry.”

That’s a far cry from an embittered and defeated Donald Trump ginning up supporters to go march on the U.S. Capitol. Many of them went to jail and saw their lives ruined; Trump may well get a second term in office.

So there’s the first lesson for the United States. Normal democratic transitions have not gone the way of the dinosaurs. They are alive and well across the Atlantic. Minus Trump, they’d likely be living here too.

But there’s another, more worrying illustration for Democrats in the U.K. results. Demolitions can be sparked from small swings. Labour, Starmer would do well to remember as he holds off the left wing of his party, won only 1 percentage point more votes than when it lost under Corbyn in 2019. But that was enough for 200 more seats in Parliament and “Tory Wipe-out.”

Labour actually won

## Guest Editorial

**Demolitions can be sparked from small swings. Labour ... won only 1 percentage point more votes than when it lost under Corbyn in 2019. But that was enough for 200 more seats in Parliament ...**

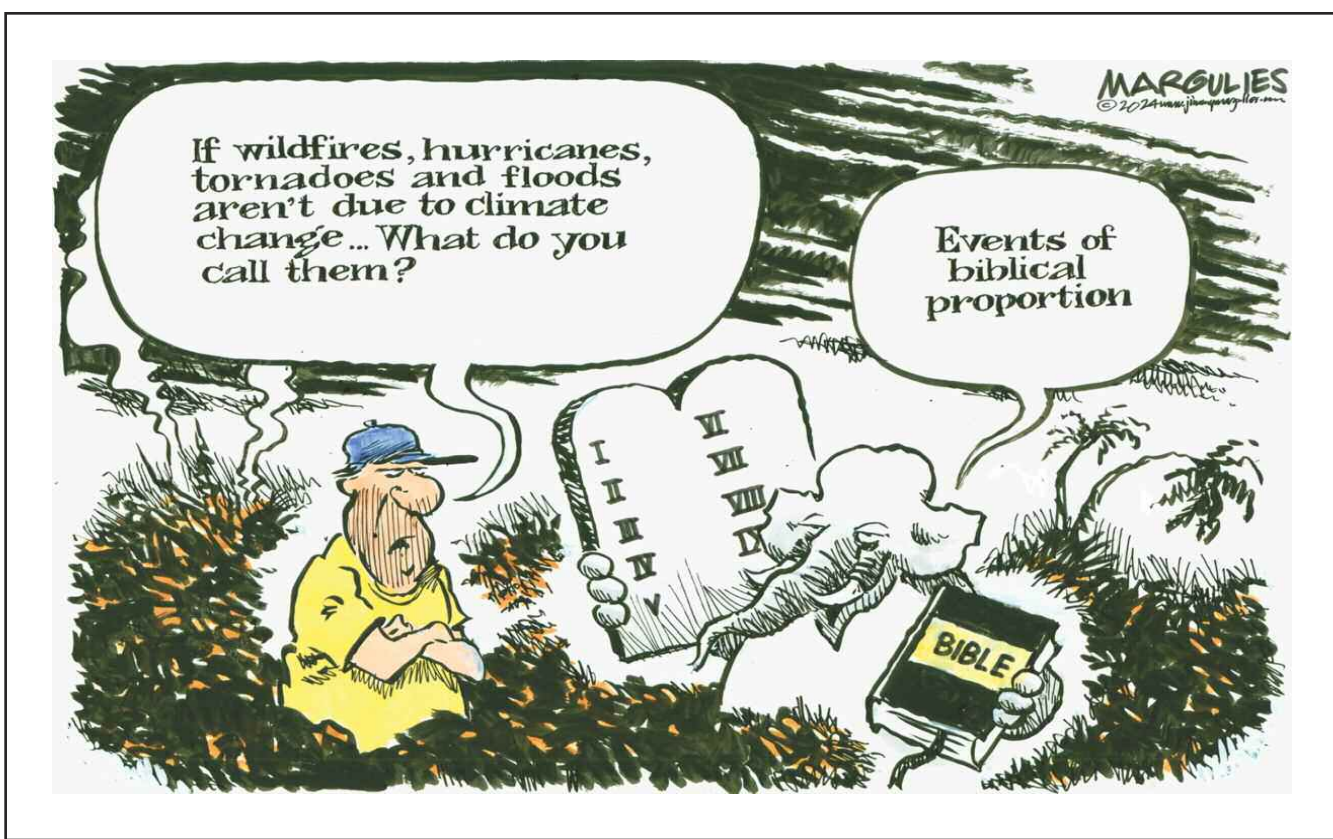
only a third of the popular vote.

Granted, Britain has somewhat stronger third parties, such as the Green Party and Reform UK, and there are many other systemic differences. But it still is striking that just 700,000 more votes going to Labour in a country with a population of 67 million was so transformative. That’s what happens in a so-called “winner takes all” system. Those swings in the polls may appear to be slight, but they can beget transformations, nonetheless.

Public reaction as reflected in polls still is emerging in the U.S. following the Joe Biden debate debacle, but any Democrat who believes what appears to be a small current overall swing toward the Republicans couldn’t have a massive impact on races for the U.S. Congress is simply not paying attention.

That’s surely why Democratic Rep. Lloyd Doggett of Texas spoke out and said, speaking for embattled colleagues who don’t want to be collateral damage, that Biden should leave the race.

One look across the Atlantic should tell Democrats that the status quo carries more risks than many in their party seem to realize.



## Inequality is a threat to speech

By PETER CERTO

OtherWords

I was a student in the late 2000s when I had my first brush with “cancel culture.” A campus group had invited Nick Griffin — a racist Holocaust denier and leader of a fascist British political party, among other charming things — to speak.

Many shocked students, including me, called Griffin’s views vile and warned that violent extremists might come to support him. Eventually, the group rethought the invitation and canceled the event. Thank heavens.

No one’s speech had been denied. Others had simply exercised their own.

Yet a few short years later, campus protests like these became a bete noire for right-wing politicians, who produced countless diatribes against “woke mobs” and the “free speech crisis” on campus. Then, with ample backing from well heeled donors, they launched an actual war on speech, on campus and beyond.

Protest has never been a threat to speech — it is free speech. What we’ve learned is that the real threat is inequality.

Consider this spring’s campus protests against Israel’s war on Gaza and U.S. support for it.

Conservative politicians who’d thrown fits over free speech on campus cheered as police officers roughed up and arrested student protesters. Some even called to deploy the National Guard, which infamously murdered four Kent State students during the Vietnam era.

Meanwhile billionaire CEOs like Bill Ackman led campaigns to out students who’d participated in the protests and blacklist them from employment.

Cynically casting these often Jewish-led protests as antisemitic, Rep. Elise Stefanik (R-New York) — who has a history of embracing truly anti-semitic conspiracy theories — hauled several

Peter Certo



university presidents before Congress to answer for why the protests hadn’t been shut down more brutally.

When University of Pennsylvania president Liz Magill feebly defended the First Amendment, a \$100 million donor complained and Magill was compelled to resign. Under similar donor pressure, Harvard President Claudine Gay followed suit. And Stefanik? She raked in campaign cash.

Of course, high-end donors are shaping what can and can’t be said inside the classroom as well.

Corporate and billionaire-backed groups like the American Legislative Exchange Council and Of The People have poured enormous sums into backing laws that ban books, restrict what history can and can’t be taught, and severely curtail classroom instruction on race, gender, or sexuality.

Many public libraries and universities face defunding for carrying materials these billionaire-backed politicians don’t like. And in some red states, teachers and school librarians may now face felony charges for running afoul of state censors.

In other cases the public square itself is falling under sustained assault from extreme wealth. For example, after spending a fortune to buy Twitter, billionaire Elon Musk proclaimed himself a “free speech absolutist” and promptly eliminated nearly all content moderation.

But perhaps “absolutist” was a relative term.

As threats and hate speech predictably flooded the platform,

Musk threatened a “thermonuclear lawsuit” against a watchdog group that cataloged the growing trend. He also appeared to suspend journalists that covered him critically and otherwise censored users who espoused causes he didn’t care for, like LGBTQ rights or racial justice.

A parallel problem has played out more quietly in local news, with beleaguered American newspapers now outnumbered by dark money “pink slime” news sites, which peddle misinformation while posing as local news outlets.

Lying, of course, is usually protected speech. But when it’s backed by big money and linked to a sustained, state-backed assault on speech to the contrary, then we’ve badly warped the field on which free speech is supposed to play out.

Similarly, when the Supreme Court rules that cash payments — even bribes — are “free speech,” then those of us with less cash get a lot less free speech.

Extreme inequality threatens our First Amendment right not only to speak freely, but to assemble together and petition our representatives.

Alongside real campaign finance reform and anti-corruption laws, higher taxes on billionaires and corporations would leave them with less money to spend warping our politics, classrooms, and public squares. So would stronger unions who can win pay raises and social movements that can protect their communities from retribution.

If we want an equal right to speech, we need a more equal country.

Certo is the communications director of the Institute for Policy Studies and editor of its OtherWords.org op-ed service.

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# The Commercial Review



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

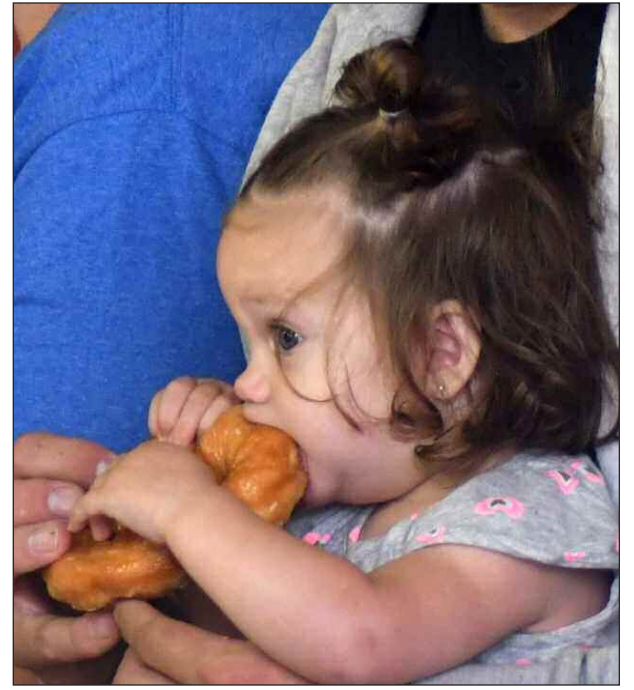
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## 2024 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko



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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County Fair activities Tuesday included the 3 Bar J Rodeo at the grandstand, the opening of rides and other carnival attractions and the dairy and meat goat shows. Pictured, clockwise from right:

Elena Muhlenkamp, 5, beams after petting an armadillo during the Silly Safaris in the Farmer's Building. The show featured a variety of animals including a ball python, an opossum and a tarantula.

Gage Sims reaches to pull his bird out of the cage during the poultry portion of the 4-H small animal supreme showmanship competition.

Jenna Bricker leads her junior doe during the 4-H pygmy and meet goat show in the Show Arena.

Cade Barnett, 5, Scottsburg, holds his hat to his heart while sitting on his horse during the national anthem at the beginning of the 3 Bar J Rodeo show in front of the grandstand.

Brayden Haley, 5, and his sister Briella, 7, of Portland ride the Kite Flyer along the midway. Rides will be open through Saturday.

Audrey Muhlenkamp, 1, takes a bite out of a donut for breakfast at the fair on Wednesday morning.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



# 2024 Jay County Fair

## Trophy ...

Continued from page 1  
He represented the poultry barn during Tuesday's competition and also has shown dairy goats and sheep.

The supreme showmanship competition pits the advanced showmanship winners from each of the species against each other. They must show each of the species with the exception of the one from which they advanced. The animals to be shown are distributed via blind draw.

Experience — both in having competed in supreme showmanship previously and in showing various species — was key to Paxson's victory.

"Showing dairy goats helped extremely because it's the same thing other than how you hold the leash," he said. "You hold it with two or three fingers (for pygmy goats). With dairy goats, you hold it with your whole hand."

Joining Paxson in the small animal competition Tuesday — large animal is slated for 5 p.m. Thursday — Alivia Toney (cat), Neveah Brower (rabbit), Alexis Tipton (dog) and Gage Sims (pygmy goat).

He said returning to the supreme competition came with a calmer demeanor. Rather than pushing for victory, he took a "whatever happens, happens" approach.

"It felt smooth," he said. "The first time I did this, I was very shaky with everything."

While comfortable showing a pygmy goat — it was the first species of Tuesday's competition — another aspect of the competition proved to be more of a challenge.

"Rabbit was the most difficult because there's so much to do with it," said Paxson. "And it's not just holding it and showing it off like the chickens and just answering questions. You have to show body types, explain the reasons why you're checking the body. It's a lot more than the other species."

In addition to showing livestock, Paxson has participated in crafts, shooting sports, LEGO, construction and architectural replica, electric, fine arts, any other crafts and achievement 4-H projects.

He has been part of the poultry



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Ty Paxson receives the Jay County 4-H small animal supreme showmanship trophy Tuesday from 2023 champion Katie Haffner. Through his 4-H career, Paxson has shown poultry, sheep and goats and has also participated in a variety of exhibit projects.

judging team for Jay County FFA and is a former member of the robotics club at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Paxson will attend St. Mary's College of Maryland — it is located along the east bank of the St. Mary's River near its point of convergence with the Potomac River and then Chesapeake Bay — to

study marine science with a minor in environmental studies. He hopes for a career in working around reefs or inland bogs/swamps.

He explained that the time it took to apply to and communicate with colleges caused him to spend a little less time with his 4-H projects this year.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Braxton Bell leads a heavy weight wether during the beginner showmanship portion of the 4-H pygmy and meat goat show on Tuesday. Bell won the contest by showing his goat that was named the wether reserve grand champion.

## Honor ...

Continued from page 1  
That history then got passed down through the next two generations before getting to Levi and Braxton.

Larry didn't get the opportunity to participate in the organization growing up due to being in a family with 11 kids, but helped Nellie and supported the following generations who got the opportunities he wasn't able to have.

"He would have been so proud of the kids," Nellie said. "He really wanted the kids to succeed so much."

"Growing up, he didn't get to do that. There were 11 kids in his family so he didn't get to do all that stuff, so he totally wanted the kids, the grandkids

and the great-grandkids to succeed and he was proud of them."

Nellie and grandmother Angela Moeller were flooded with emotions sitting in the bleachers of the Show Arena after Braxton won the beginner showmanship competition. He also had the reserve grand champion wether, following only his cousin Levi.

Braxton said it was difficult losing his great-grandfather, who he lived with, but that it felt good winning Tuesday's contest.

"I'm trying to respect him and do what he taught me to be kind, respectful and just try my best," Levi said. "It feels great because I'm just trying to make my family proud."

# FAIR WEEK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Christ Chapel**  
2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery  
(419) 733-1469  
[christchapel.fr.com](http://christchapel.fr.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Fort Recovery United Methodist**  
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Rev. Carol McKay  
(304) 617-0101  
Services: 9 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Temple Baptist**  
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk  
John Elam  
(765) 768-7708  
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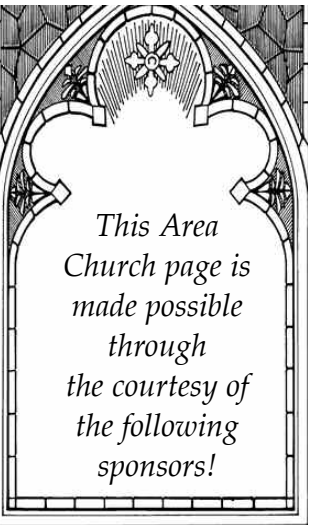
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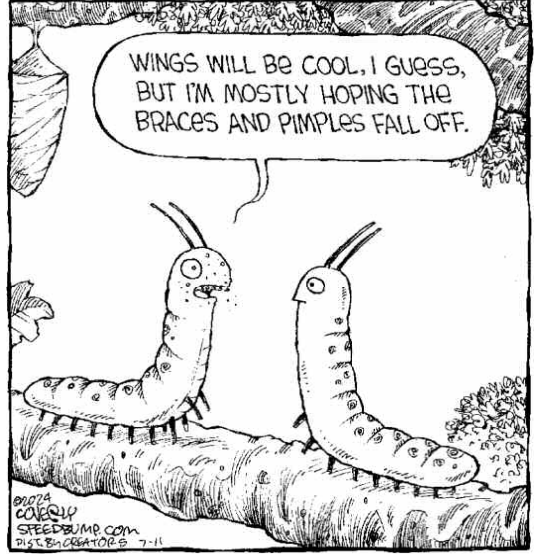
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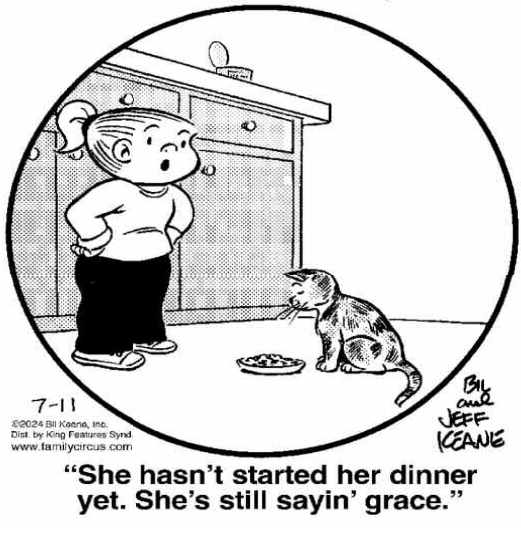
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



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The art of good defense

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH ♠ J 9 5 3 ♥ K J 2 ♦ K 10 ♣ Q J 7 4 WEST ♠ 7 ♥ 9 7 6 ♦ J 8 7 5 2 ♣ 9 6 3 2 EAST ♠ 8 4 ♥ Q 10 4 3 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ A K 8 5 SOUTH ♠ A K Q 10 6 2 ♥ A 8 5 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ 10

The bidding: South West North East 1♠ Pass 3♠ Pass 6♠ Opening lead — two of clubs. There is a lot of room for deception in bridge, as anyone who has been victimized by a cunning play can readily testify. For example, consider East's performance in this deal where he was defending against six spades. West led a club, won by East with the ace after declarer played low from dummy. East thereupon returned the five of clubs! Had South known that East had the king also, he could have made the slam then and there by discard-

ing a heart on the return. But, lacking X-ray vision, South ruffed the club and staked his hopes on a heart finesse. He naturally assumed from East's plays to the first two tricks that West had the king of clubs, in which case a heart finesse offered by far the best chance for the contract. When South attempted the finesse later on, dummy's jack lost to the queen, and he went down one. East's more normal play on the opening lead would have been to win the trick with the king. But this would have given the show away because, for practical purposes, it would have marked him with the ace. Declarer would sooner or later have been able to trap the ace by leading dummy's queen through East to establish a parking place for his heart loser. Even though South might have allowed for the possibility that East had the king of clubs and was false-carding when he took the ace, East's daring low-club return at trick two was the clincher. After this, there was almost no way South could go right. East was on relatively safe ground when he returned a low club at trick two, because he knew from the deuce-of-clubs lead that West either had four clubs or one.

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

7-11 CRYPTOQUIP

MGPQ ZBZ QGR FOTGRAQOP TFDZLTQFO APN MGRD GR TGPDTRZ LHFD AFYR OPOR ANYHGFND YLABT? "ATFOR!" Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINGER WHO ABSOLUTELY LOVED USING A POPULAR GARNISHING HERB WITH HIS DISHES: ELVIS PARSLEY. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Gents 55 Spruced 21 Personal 1 Lab sci. 36 Wise up 23 "Laughing" critter 5 Resis- tance unit 37 Wearable 24 Rock's Mötley — 8 Shetland, for one 40 "The Umbrella Academy" actor 25 Fairy tale figures 12 Verdi opera 2 Bee's home 3 Paradise 26 River 13 Caviar 4 Spots for yachts 27 Utah city 14 During 41 Gap 28 Paint 15 Winne- bago owner, briefly 45 Raised 47 Recline 29 Take it easy 6 Sweetie 7 Explosive measure 8 City near Venice 8 Skipping over 10 French diarist 11 NFL Anais 38 Ham's device 39 The ones here 42 Prefix with conference 43 Sch. at West Point 18 Harmless visitors 52 Mater lead-in 53 Mediocre 54 "The Pioneer Woman" Drum- mond patrons 19 USO patrons 44 RBI, for one 45 "Dyna- mite" band 46 — Speed- wagon 47 Mineral suffix 26 South Indian crepes 29 Thither 30 Nest egg letters 31 Story lines 32 Actress Aniston, to friends 33 Tight- fitting 34 Sea, to Henri

Solution time: 24 mins. K I L O L U R I D L E N D L I B E R I A ANG E L A B A S S E T T G O O E A R N S T O E N C A A G E N T L S A T S T R A D E B A H S I O U S M M E B A N F F R O O W A R R E N B U F F E T T S P E E D O L O T T O A N N E X E U R O D E S D R Y

Yesterday's answer 7-11. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

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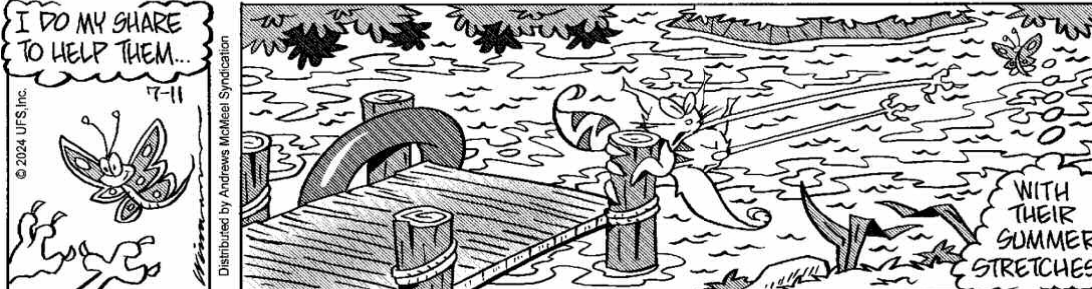
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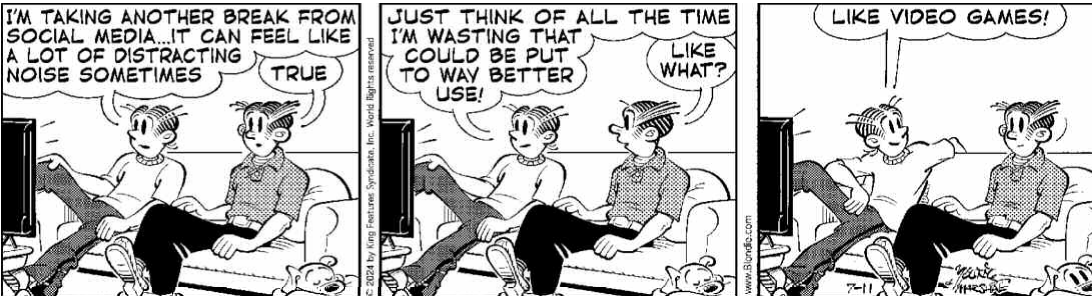
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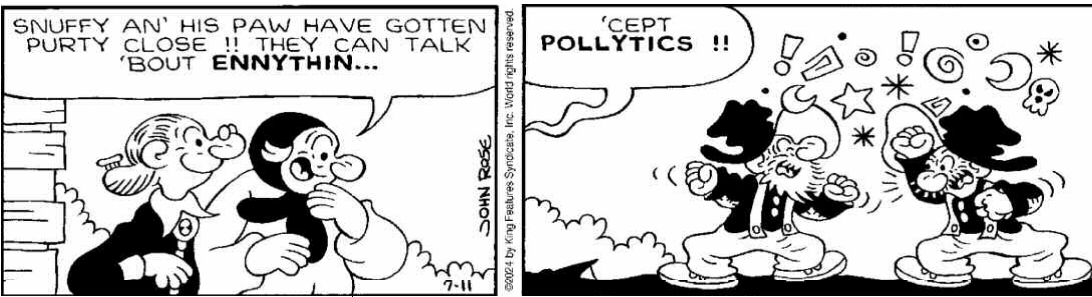
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# Johnny Furphy signs with Indiana Pacers

By GARY BEDORE

The Kansas City Star  
Tribune News Service

Former Kansas basketball wing Johnny Furphy, a second-round pick of the Indiana Pacers in the 2024 NBA Draft, has signed his first NBA contract with the Eastern Conference team.

The Pacers on Saturday officially announced completion of a draft-night deal in which they acquired Furphy, the 35th overall selection, from San Antonio in exchange for Juan Nunez, the 36th overall pick in the draft and cash considerations. The Pacers' general manager, Chad Buchanan, also announced the signing of Furphy.

## Former Kansas Jayhawk was selected with 35th overall pick received from San Antonio

It was also reported by Tony East of SI.com that Furphy, a 6-foot-8, 190-pound native of Melbourne, Australia, agreed to a standard four-year contract with the team. The rookie contract will pay Furphy \$1.85 million in the first year and has a team option in the fourth year, East wrote on social media site X.

"Johnny Furphy's off-ball movement and instincts have impressed the Pacers so far. He's motivated to show those skills and more after falling to the second round," SI.com's East wrote after Saturday's Pacers summer league workout.

Pacers summer league coach

Jannero Pargo was impressed with Furphy's first practice as a Pacer.

"He shot the ball well, he played hard," Pargo told the Indy Star. "That's our main focus. He looked good today. He's young. We have an opportunity to get our hands on him and help him grow in our organization and teach him things that we value and things we want out of our players. He shoots it pretty well already. He has great size and great instincts and we're just looking forward to learning with him."

Of Furphy, Pacers forward Jarace Walker told the Indy Star: "He could shoot it and he's taller than I thought, too.

A tall guy who can shoot is always valuable, so he brings a really good skill-set."

Furphy said his goal for the upcoming Las Vegas summer league is "just establishing myself. Getting to know everyone, getting everyone to trust who I am as a player, but just enjoy it. It's super special just being here."

Indy Star reporter Dustin Dopirak wrote: "As young as he is, Furphy doesn't have to be in a rush to make an impression. He knows this first Summer League is important, but he's trying not to put too much pressure on it and just believing that his game will be a good fit."

## Sits ...

Continued from page 10  
Back to the bullpen  
Josh Winckowski is "most likely" moving to the bullpen on Wednesday, Cora announced.

The right-hander, 26, has appeared in three games — starting the last two — since being recalled from Triple-A in late June. He pitched five shutout innings against the Padres on June 30, but struggled against the Yankees on Saturday, allowing three earned runs on five hits, two walks, and striking out four over 3 2/3 innings.

As such, Friday's starter is TBD.

"We don't know yet, but we just want our best arms available the whole week, that's the most important thing," the Sox skipper explained."

## Reds ...

Continued from page 10  
Tyler Stephenson got the Reds' big second inning going with a leadoff homer, then Quantrill followed with a walk and a hit by pitch as the right-hander was clearly struggling to grip the baseball. Santiago Espinal made it 2-0 with an RBI single. The next pitch, Will Benson blasted Quantrill's hanging splitter 383 feet to right-center, extending the lead to 5-0.

"After the walk, it sort of unraveled from there," Black said. "... The three-run homer got Cal today. Again, it was pitches up in the zone and the bottom of their order got him."

While Quantrill struggled and his normally reliable splitter didn't cooperate in his short two innings of work,

Cincinnati southpaw Nick Lodolo retired the first 11 Rockies he faced. But a 45-minute rain delay in the third inning was the break the Colorado offense needed.

The first hitter out of that delay, Hunter Goodman, roped a double to left. Colorado couldn't take advantage of that, but the club did the next inning en route to plating four runs off Lodolo as well as reliever Nick Martinez.

The red-hot Doyle started the rally with a solo homer to right-center, his 12th of the season, to put the Rockies on the board. Jacob Stallings followed with a double and then Michael Toglia homered, also to right-center, to make it 5-3. When Goodman's double off Martinez scored Nolan Jones a

couple batters later, Colorado was right back in the game.

The Reds got a pair of those runs back in the fifth off longman Peter Lambert via Stephenson's RBI double and Hinds' RBI triple. Hinds picked up right where he left off on Monday, when he had a double and a homer.

Tovar broke his streak of 30 straight at-bats without a hit with a single in the seventh. That snapped the second-longest drought by a Rockies position player in franchise history, three short of Desi Relaford's 33 at-bat streak without a hit in 2005.

In the bottom of the seventh, Hinds kept raking with a 458-foot moon shot to left on Justin Lawrence's hanging sweeper. The longest Reds homer this

year extended the home team's lead to 8-4.

Cincinnati proceeded to break the game open in the seventh following Hinds' blast. The Reds scored three more times off Lawrence, punctuated by a two-run homer by Spencer Steer, to take an 11-4 lead.

Doyle responded in the eighth by staying hot against right-hander Buck Farmer. Doyle homered to center for the third multi-homer game of his career. With the swing, the reigning National League player of the week became the lone Rockie all-time to hit five-plus homers, five-plus doubles and draw five-plus walks in an eight-game span.

"(Doyle) is swinging great," Black said. "He's in a great

spot. ... He's hitting the ball (to all fields), he's on time, he's hitting all pitches. He's doing his part, and we need other guys to do their part offensively. And we need to pitch (better)."

Tovar added a sacrifice fly later in the inning to cut the deficit to 11-6, but it was too little, too late for a Colorado comeback — especially after Nick Mears gave up another run in the eighth.

"That was a good sign that (Tovar) got a base hit and a sac fly," Black said. "... But we need five, six guys swinging the bat well, and only a couple guys being off. It's the reverse of that (right now)."

Want more Rockies news? Sign up for the Rockies Insider to get all our MLB analysis.



Photo provided

## Minor awards

Yearly

awards were announced for the Portland Junior League Minor softball league after its league championships. From left to right is Rookie of the Year winner Emme Theurer, Miss Softball winner Eliana Wiggins and Sportsmanship award winner Devynn Thobe.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Portland Rockets vs. Muncie Chiefs - 7 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County summer swim team at Conference meet at South Adams - 9:15 a.m.  
Portland Rockets vs. Fort Wayne Jackers - 1 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
8:30 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)

1 p.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)  
1:10 p.m. — MLB: Colorado Rockies at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — WNBA: Chicago Sky at New York Liberty (FOX)

**Friday**  
8:30 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)

5 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: New Orleans Pelicans vs. Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN2)

5:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: CRC Brakleen 150 (FS1)  
7:10 p.m. — MLB: Miami Marlins at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer

League: Houston Rockets vs. Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)

9:30 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Atlanta Hawks vs. Washington Wizards (ESPN)

### Local notes

**Swiss Days Race next**  
The next race scheduled for the Adams County Challenge Series will be the Swiss Days Race. The race that takes place in Berne is being held on Saturday, July 27 at 8:15 a.m.

The race is a 5K, or kids can participate in a one-mile course. To sign up, visit [www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com).

### Classic set

The 11th Annual Adams Health Foundation Golf Classic is set to be held on Sept. 13 at Wabash Valley Golf Club.

Teams of four can participate for \$400, with tee times at either 7:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.

Included are an 18-hole round of golf, a best, non-alcoholic beverages, a cooler bag and lunch.

All proceeds go to school health-care scholarships and community health. For more information, contact Kim Trombley by emailing [kim.trombley@adamshealthnetwork.org](mailto:kim.trombley@adamshealthnetwork.org) or by calling (260) 724-2145 ext. 13062.

### Soccer camp announced

The Jay County High School boys and girls soccer teams will hold a youth soccer camp July 29 through 31.

The camp is for kids going into first grade up to eighth grade. It will be held from 5 to 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 [kimuhlenkamp@jayschools.k12.in.us](mailto:kimuhlenkamp@jayschools.k12.in.us) or [rreynolds@jayschools.k12.in.us](mailto:rreynolds@jayschools.k12.in.us).

Payment can be sent to the high school front office by July 12th.

### 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@cadinfo.org](mailto:director@cadinfo.org).

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## Sweeping winners

Pictured is the Portland Junior League Minor softball regular-season and tournament winner The Rock Church. Along with topping the standings and winning the tournament, the team claimed two of the three individual awards as Eliana Wiggins (third from left of top row) was named Miss Softball and Emme Theurer (middle of middle row) took home the Rookie of the Year award.

## Rafael Devers will sit out of All-Star Game

By **GABRIELLE STARR**  
Boston Herald  
Tribune News Service

BOSTON — Rafael Devers is an All-Star for the third time in four years, but he won't participate in this year's midsummer classic.

Red Sox manager Alex Cora made the announcement to open Tuesday's pregame media availability.

"Obviously, you know, he's been grinding through a few things, especially his left shoulder," Cora explained. "As a group, we believe that this is a good time for him to get some rest and take care of it."

With the way Devers has been hitting, it's easy to forget that he's a mere mortal, let alone "grinding." He's coming off a three-homer weekend at Yankee Stadium, during which he also collected his 1,000th career hit, making him the sixth player in franchise history to reach the quadruple-digit milestone before turning 28 years old.

Devers enters Tuesday's series opener with the Oakland A's hitting .293 with a .971 OPS. His 85 hits include 16 doubles, four triples (tying his career high), and 21 home runs. Due to the shoulder and a bone bruise in his knee, he's played in 77 of the team's first 89 games.

"I think Raffy has learned how to be efficient with his work, and staying healthy," Cora said. "He does an outstanding job, in the weight room, in the training room, not

hitting outside, not taking grounders when he doesn't need 'em, so he's a very mature player that understands his craft, and that's the reason he's been able to post."

"There's a few days that he's not gonna be able to do certain things, but at the end of the day, he's Raffy Devers," Cora said with a chuckle. "He'll find a way. He finds a way."

Orioles third baseman Jordan Westburg will replace Devers; he and the Red Sox, who

entered Tuesday holding the third American League wild card (and only 4.5 games out of the first one), have their eye on a much bigger prize.

"We all believe there's more here," Cora said. "We're shooting for something bigger than the All-Star Game, and for him to be healthy is the most important thing. ... These guys have put themselves in a situation that, the season ends today, we're playing tomorrow."

See Sit page 9



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## Seymour joins Brady in bid for stake in Raiders

By **VINCENT BONISGNORE**

Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Tribune News Service

LAS VEGAS — Tom Brady's bid to purchase a minority stake in the Raiders could be getting a big push from a former teammate.

Hall of Fame defensive tackle Richard Seymour reportedly is teaming with Brady to purchase a 10.4% stake in the club. Brady and Seymour are expected to bring their own partners with them to complete the deal, according to Pro Football Talk's Mike Florio.

The Raiders and the NFL declined comment Tuesday.

Brady and Knighthead Capital co-founder Tom Wagner have been in talks with Raiders owner Mark Davis about purchasing a stake in the team for more than a year. The deal has stalled at the NFL finance

committee level for various reasons. Among them are the proposed discounted price Brady is buying at and his involvement as an NFL broadcast analyst for Fox.

Seymour's involvement could help alleviate those concerns. If so, his and Brady's purchase bid could be approved at the NFL's fall owners meetings in October. Approval is predicated on 24 votes by owners.

Seymour played eight seasons with the Patriots and four with the Raiders. His role as a limited partner owner would continue the Raiders' long-standing commitment to diversity and equality. The Raiders made Art Shell the first African American NFL head coach, and former coach Tom Flores was the first minority head coach to win a Super Bowl championship.

## Reds hammer Rockies

By **KYLE NEWMAN**

The Denver Post  
Tribune News Service

On Tuesday in Cincinnati, the Rockies' best pitcher got lit up while a Reds rookie continued his historically hot start.

The result was a 12-6 defeat in the second game of the series at Great American Ball Park that negated an early-game rally as well as Brenton Doyle's continued offensive tear. That sent the Rockies to their third straight loss as they continue pacing toward the worst season in club history.

Cal Quantrill got hammered in one of his worst outings of his otherwise strong season, with all the

damage coming in a disastrous second inning in which the Reds hit around.

For the Reds, rookie outfielder Rece Hinds continued his Cinderella start after debuting on Monday. Hinds was 3 for 5 with a double, triple and homer while becoming the only player since 1901 with five extra-base hits in his first two career MLB games.

"Hinds is a young kid with some momentum," Rockies manager Bud Black told reporters. "It's great for the game to see that type of performance. ... It's special stuff. But we're not making good pitches to him."

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