

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## 2024 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

### Scooter smile

Jorge Valdez, 13, laughs as he crashes into friends Wednesday on Scooter, the bumper car ride on the midway at the Jay County Fair. The 4-H portion of the fair concludes today with the awards ceremony and auction at 10 a.m. in the Show Arena and the Back a 4-Her event in the Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall at 3 p.m. Rides at the fair will be open beginning at 5 p.m. tonight and noon Saturday. Tonight's grandstand event at the fair is the Flo Rida concert at 8 p.m., with a demolition derby to follow at 5 p.m. Saturday to finish off the week. For more photos, see page 5.

## Honorees highlight community, family

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

Family and community. Those were the common themes Wednesday afternoon as the Cincinnatus League of Jay County honored inductees during its Hall of Fame ceremony at the Jay County Fair.

This year's group of new Hall of Famers, honored for their lifetime of service, featured Florine Golden, Anita Hall, Butch Micheau, Rose Snow, Bob Lyons and Connie Retter.

"These six individuals we are honoring today have strongly contributed to the social capital of Jay County," said Cincinnatus League of Jay County acting president Drew Houck. "But each of them will tell you they didn't set out to promote social capital. In fact, the term had not even been coined when they began volunteering. They didn't set out to win awards. And they also certainly didn't think they were doing anything spe-

### Six inducted into Jay County Hall of Fame for Lifetime of Service

cial. ... They saw a place where they could help and they stepped up. ...

"We want to say thank you for all you've done for the people in this community and we would like to use you as an example of the wonderful things that can be accomplished by everyday individuals who get involved."

The Cincinnatus Hall of Fame honors those 65 or older who have made a significant impact volunteering in the Jay County Community.

A lifelong Jay County resident, Hall grew up working in

her father's grocery store, assisted under three Portland mayors and worked at Maitlen Motors. She was a longtime member of the Jay County Hospital Auxiliary and has been involved with Psi Iota Xi sorority since 1950. At 92, she still volunteers for the Asbury Food Giveaway.

Golden, a retired teacher for Jay School Corporation, was honored for her years of volunteering that started when she taught Sunday School and was involved in other activities at the age of 14.

See **Honorees** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Inductee Rose Snow (right) laughs with Madelyn Strausburg during Wednesday's Cincinnatus League of Jay County Hall of Fame for a Lifetime of Service induction ceremony in the Farmer's Building during the Jay County Fair.

## State ag leaders focus on farm bill impact

By **MIA HILKOWITZ**  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana agriculture and conservation leaders are urging U.S. Congress members to pass a new federal farm bill by the end of the year.

For Indiana — the seventh-largest agricultural exporter and ninth-largest farming state in the U.S. — the legislation could have wide ranging impacts. While many of the policies will impact the state's 94,000 farmers, the farm bill can also influence food supply, con-

### Partisan division has legislation nearly a year behind schedule

servation efforts and food-assistance benefits for Hoosiers.

Congress usually reauthorizes a federal farm bill every five years. The current farm bill, which former President

Donald Trump signed in December 2018, was supposed to expire in 2023, but was extended through Sept. 30, 2024. The legislation funds programs in 12 different areas including

crop insurance, nutrition and rural development.

However partisan division has delayed the bill process, which is nearly a year behind schedule.

Brantley Seifers, national affairs director for the Indiana Farm Bureau (INFB), said his organization's main concern with the bill is making sure it gets approved this year.

"We've put a lot of work into this farm bill. Our members have been advocating for this farm bill for the better part of two years now," Seifers told the Indiana Capital Chronicle.

"Making sure it gets done in this Congress and we don't settle with a further extension is going to be very important."

If Congress does not pass the federal farm bill by September, operations for some programs will stop completely or receive significantly less funding. However, some programs supported by the bill — including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and federal crop insurance — can still be funded by government appropriations.

See **Farm** page 2

### Deaths

**Evelyn Cronkhite**, 92, Albany  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 77 degrees Wednesday. The low was 64.

Tonight's forecast calls for a 40% chance of rain with storms possible and a low in the mid 60s. Skies will be mostly sunny Saturday with a high in the mid 80s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### At the fair

#### Today

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

#### Saturday

1 p.m. — Jay County Civic Theatre concert in the Farmer's Building  
5 p.m. — A Touch of Mexico in the Farmer's Building  
5 p.m. — Demolition derby at the grandstand



# Former Rep. gets one year

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

Former State Rep. Sean Eberhart (R-Shelbyville) on Wednesday was sentenced to one year and one day in federal prison for his role in a five-year-old gambling corruption case.

"I have to think it was simply a matter of greed," U.S. District Judge Matthew Brookman told Eberhart from a sun-drenched, white-walled

room in the federal courthouse located in Indianapolis. Eberhart, now 53, had "plenty of" assets, the judge said, adding: "But you wanted more."

Eberhart pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit honest services fraud stemming from the 2019 legislative session.

He accepted a lucrative job opportunity — worth at least \$350,000, plus an equity stake — with gambling company Spectacle Entertainment in exchange

for his support of a bill allowing the transfer of casino licenses to areas beneficial to Spectacle. A yet-unidentified owner at Spectacle made the offer.

Eberhart advocated to allow the license transfers from lake-side areas to inland locations, and pushed to lower the transfer fee from \$100 million to \$20 million. The approved legislation also included beneficial tax incentives for Spectacle.

"I am truly, deeply sorry for

what I did," he said. "... I apologize to anyone that's been harmed or disappointed (by) my actions."

Eberhart wasn't taken into custody Wednesday. The judge told him to keep in touch with counsel for his surrender date and location.

The government, represented by Bradley Paul Shepard of the U.S. Attorney's Office, asked for a sentence of 12 months in prison. Shepard said "even" 10 months would suffice.

## Obituaries

**Evelyn M. Cronkhite**, Albany, Sept. 9, 1931-July 10, 2024. Private funeral services are scheduled for Saturday.

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*The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.*

*There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

## CR almanac

Saturday 7/13	Sunday 7/14	Monday 7/15	Tuesday 7/16	Wednesday 7/17
<b>86/69</b>	<b>87/73</b>	<b>90/74</b>	<b>90/69</b>	<b>83/61</b>
Skies will be sunny with a high in the mid 80s. Slight chance of rain.	Expect a high of 87 degrees under mostly sunny skies. There is a 20% chance of rain and storms.	The high will climb into the 90s under sunny skies. There is a slight chance of rain.	The forecast calls for a chance of showers and storms with a high of 90.	Wednesday looks to be mostly cloudy, with a chance of rain throughout the day.

## Farm ...

Continued from page 1

Dan Boritt, executive director for the Indiana Wildlife Federation, also emphasized the importance of passing the legislation in 2024.

"If we aren't able to come to an agreement on a farm bill, it would be catastrophic for conservation in the state of Indiana, and the entire country, frankly," he said. "Agriculture is a really, really, really difficult industry to be financially successful in and these dollars allow (farmers) to take those risks, to do good things on the land that benefit all of us."

said Indiana farmers can recover from flooding and other disasters with this funding.

"If you go to a bank for a loan on the farm, their first question is going to be 'what's your crop insurance,'" Seifers said. "Having that in place and having that be strong for our members, and flexible, is going to allow them to keep working."

Steve Howell, senior director of industry affairs for the Indiana Soybean Alliance and Indiana Corn Growers Association, supports these insurance programs. He said that many Indiana soybean and corn farmers are projecting lower prices for their crops, so the extra support is important.

"Not that it's all gloom and doom, but that is a reality that we're facing, and that's one reason we've been advocating to get a farm bill passed with additional safety net provisions or enhanced safety net provisions for our farmers," Howell told the Indiana Capital Chronicle.

As part of the bill's Price Loss Coverage and Agriculture Risk Coverage programs, farmers can receive financial support during periods of low market prices. Essentially, farmers can receive payments to augment lost revenue if the market prices of their commodities drop below reference prices set by the farm bill. The House's farm bill increases the statutory reference price for corn from \$3.70 per bushel to \$4.10, and for soybeans from \$8.40 to \$10.

"The combination of declining prices with increasing costs has created a profitability environment

where farmers are experiencing very tight, or negative, returns over production costs," Davis said. "Farmers protect revenue risk by purchasing crop insurance."

**Conservation funding**

The House version of the bill would also remove "climate sideboards" for conservation projects funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) dollars. Under the new bill, agencies could use these dollars to support conservation efforts that aren't grounded in combating climate change. It would also reallocate all unobligated IRA funding to established, locally-led conservation programs, and invests IRA dollars to create several new conservation programs.

Boritt said the lack of these climate-oriented requirements should not stop the bill from passing. He said the Indiana Wildlife Federation's top priority for the farm bill was to get permanent baseline funding for conservation efforts. While the House bill removed the climate requirements, it does permanently move IRA funding to these conservation efforts.

"I fully acknowledge that there are concerns about the lack of climate sideboards, but the billions of dollars that have been brought into the baseline of the Farm Bill, I think are a huge, huge win for Indiana," Boritt said.

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

## Lotteries

**Powerball**  
7-11-12-27-46  
Power Ball: 26  
Power Play: 3  
Estimated jackpot: \$54 million

**Mega Millions**  
Estimated jackpot: \$203 million

**Hoosier**  
Wednesday  
Midday  
Daily Three: 4-3-1  
Daily Four: 5-7-4-4  
Quick Draw: 3-11-17-20-21-26-28-38-39-40-42-44-49-50-51-57-66-71-74-78  
Evening  
Daily Three: 8-1-4

Daily Four: 6-8-0-1  
Quick Draw: 2-10-13-22-25-32-36-39-40-41-43-44-49-53-54-71-72-76-77-80  
Cash 5: 5-7-18-20-35  
Estimated jackpot: \$105,000

**Ohio**  
Wednesday  
Midday  
Pick 3: 3-9-9  
Pick 4: 6-0-2-3  
Pick 5: 9-9-9-9-5  
Evening  
Pick 3: 4-5-2  
Pick 4: 9-7-8-5  
Pick 5: 3-3-1-1-1  
Rolling Cash: 4-10-13-24-29  
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000

## Markets

**Cooper Farms Fort Recovery**  
Corn.....3.86  
Aug. corn .....3.88  
Wheat .....5.02

**POET Biorefining Portland**  
Corn.....3.97  
Aug. corn .....3.97  
Sept. corn .....3.84

**The Andersons Richland Township**  
Corn .....3.79  
July corn .....3.85  
Beans .....11.25

July beans .....10.19  
Wheat .....5.27

**ADM Montpelier**  
Corn.....3.74  
July corn .....3.75  
Beans .....11.27  
July beans .....10.92  
Wheat .....5.27

**Heartland St. Anthony**  
Corn.....3.82  
Aug. corn .....3.82  
Beans .....11.04  
July beans .....10.89  
Wheat .....5.02

## Today in history

In 1543, King Henry VIII of England married Catherine Parr, who was his sixth and final wife. He had two of his previous wives beheaded and divorced two while the other died in childbirth.

In 1817, writer, naturalist and philosopher Henry David Thoreau was born in Concord, Massachusetts. He graduated from Harvard University and lived in a cabin on Walden Pond with limited possessions and outside contact, chronicling his experiences in "Walden."

In 2017, the Cincinnati League honored Paul and Helen Martin, Lee Newman, Judy Zearbaugh and Bob Vance with Lifetime of Service awards during a ceremony at the Jay County Fair.

In 2021, Jay County Commissioners approved road use and decommissioning agreements with Leeward Renewable Energy for its proposed Rose Gold Solar facility north of Dunkirk. The \$150 million, 150-megawatt facility was planned to be operational sometime in 2024.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Monday**  
5 p.m. — Jay School Corporation, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.  
5 p.m. — Portland Economic Development Income Tax Advisory Committee, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.  
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

**Tuesday**  
10 a.m. — Dunkirk Police Pension Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

**Wednesday**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.  
6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

### Safety nets for farmers

The proposed House bill increases funding for specialty crops research, expands eligibility for disaster assistance, broadens safety net programs for farmers and encourages farmers to sell their products abroad, among other programs.

Seifers said he views the 2018 Farm Bill as a strong piece of legislation, which just needs tweaking. He said many of the INFB's priorities were included in the House's version of the bill.

"We're not looking for huge changes in that farm bill, but we are looking for updates to that farm bill," Seifers said. "You look at some portions of the bill that haven't been updated in a number of years, like the market access program and foreign market development program, both of those are still stagnant at 20 year levels."

Part of the \$1.5 trillion bill would support safety net programs and crop insurance for farmers. Seifers

## Ukraine seeks to hold summit

**By ALBERTO NARDELLIA, JENNIFER JACOBS and DARYNA KRASNOLUTSKA**  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Kyiv wants to convene a second meeting to achieve a fair peace settlement in Ukraine before the U.S. elections in November, this time with Russia attending, according to people familiar with the matter.

The plan follows the first summit that took place in Switzerland last month and included representatives from more than 90 countries. Russia was not invited, several states sent lower-level delegations and

Ukraine's bid to win over key nations from the Global South faltered as some declined to sign on to a final statement.

Many of those countries — as well as China which didn't join the Swiss meeting — have long argued that Moscow should be part of the talks. Beijing has put forward its own proposals with Brazil to bring about an end to Russia's war on Ukraine.

The push for the meeting before the U.S. elections points to a sense of urgency on the part of Ukraine as it faces the prospect of Donald Trump returning to the White House.

2024 Candidate for Jay County Commissioner Blake Watson would like to take this time to wish Jay County fairgoers a fun and memorable experience while attending the 152nd Annual Jay County Fair, happening now until Saturday, July 13th! As a former Jay County 4-H member himself, Blake extends his congratulations to all Jay County 4-H members on your outstanding entries.

*For those who are eligible to vote in the upcoming General Election in Jay County -- Blake encourages you to take a few moments to check your voter registration status by simply logging on to indianavoters.com*

Ad Paid for by Friends to Elect Blake Watson

**Make sure to keep up-to-date with Blake's campaign to become Jay County's next County Commissioner by visiting: <https://www.facebook.com/Watson4Commissioner>**

## Capsule Reports

**Lost control**  
Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Muncie man crashed his truck into the back of an Orestes man's truck along Indiana 67 about 5:20 p.m. Wednesday.

Gerald D. Neff, 71, was driving his 2008 Ford F-150 northeast on the highway near county road 800 South when he slowed down, according to a report from Jay County Sheriff's Office. The 2012 Dodge Ram behind him, driven by 38-year-old Darryal E. Hawkins, crashed into him.

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Photos provided

## Summer reading

Fort Recovery Public Library's summer reading program, "Adventure Begins At Your Library," included a writing workshop recently led by former Fort Recovery teacher Lucy Staugler.

Pictured at top left, front row, are River Overman, Addie Jutte, Leo Stachler and Staugler, and back row, Madison Rammel, Ally Roessner, Tripp Krieg and Cheryl Abels-Pease.

At bottom left, front row, are Audrey Adams, Rachel Fortkamp, Danielle Schulze, Lauren Hart, and Ella Will. In the back row are Staugler, Cheryl Abels-Pease, Joe Bruns, Catherine Bruns, Brynn Lehman, Olivia Huelsman and Madison Rammel.

# Overeaters Anonymous saved man's life

DEAR ABBY: I recently watched a video of the founder of Overeaters Anonymous, Rozanne S., telling the story of founding the program and her own struggles with food. In it, she mentioned that your mother had been instrumental in getting OA information out to the public and was responsible for its growth.

Abby, OA saved my life, and I'm grateful to Rozanne and to your mother. After 39 years in the program, I have released 120 pounds from my top weight. I'm now at a healthy weight and have been for most of 39 years. Beyond the weight loss, I have sanity, freedom and healthy relationships in my life. I came in only to lose weight, but the clarity I derived from working the 12 steps is the most impor-

*Dear Abby*



tant thing I have ever done in my life.

I'm glad I didn't have to rely on a drug to help me lose weight, and I found that working on what's inside helped to make the outside a normal weight. My only regret is that more people aren't aware of the program and still believe the solution is to "just lose the weight."

In the introduction to my first OA book, it said, "Thin will not make you well, but well

will make you thin." Today, I love myself as I am — something I never thought would be possible. — JOE A. IN HOUSTON, TX

DEAR JOE: Thank you for your sweet letter. I remember my mother's interest in Overeaters Anonymous and her respect for its founder. I once had the pleasure of meeting Rozanne, a lovely woman, as well. As I'm sure most of us know, people have been known to eat for reasons that have nothing to do with physical hunger.

The introduction of weight loss drugs has hit like a tidal wave and, for some, it has been like a miracle (so far). However, for those wanting a more conservative approach, or who cannot tolerate the

side effects of these drugs or afford the cost, Overeaters Anonymous may provide a successful path to weight loss.

There are more than 6,500 OA meetings worldwide, in 77 countries. This includes 2,500 virtual meetings taking place almost any time of the day from other locations around the world. Readers, if you're interested, you will find more information about Overeaters Anonymous at OA.org. Like any 12-step program, there's no membership fee, but donations are welcome.

DEAR ABBY: My parents are in their 70s. They live in a retirement community. As they have gotten older, they have become

more private. They no longer want their children or grandkids around. Recently, I received a call telling me that they would not be answering phone calls anymore. I have stopped by their house, but they do not answer the door. What little relationship I had with them no longer exists. Advice? — WANTING TO CONNECT

DEAR WANTING: You cannot force your parents into unwelcome contact. If you are concerned about their welfare, contact the police and ask them to do a wellness check because their behavior has changed. However, if everything checks out, you will have to accept that this is what your parents want and abide by their choice, as difficult as that may be.

## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email 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 — 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. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnan-

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

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

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

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

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

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospi-

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

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

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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# Value menus are nice, occasionally

Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

We make no health claims for the new \$5 deal at McDonald's: A McDouble cheeseburger or a McChicken sandwich, four chicken nuggets, french fries and a small soda. We'd say that if you are having a cheeseburger and fries, the addition of fried McNuggets are, well, a tad extra, as the kids say. Which is not to say we have not partaken of the opportunity. We certainly have, nuggets and all.

But we will say this: It is a very good deal for cash-strapped families in a world where fast-food prices have shot up over the last couple of years,

## Guest Editorial

not just because the cost of ingredients and labor were rising precipitously, but because restaurants and other businesses could do so as prices for other goods were going up and they felt like they had cover. Families found themselves shelling out well upwards of \$50 to feed four at fast-food joints that used to be cheap.

But, hosanna, the market reasserted itself without any government mandates or interventions. Customers stopped buying expensive menu items, and McDonald's reacted. They're not the only chains to do so. There are comparable deals at competing restaurant chains like Taco Bell, Burger King and even Starbucks, which now is offering a tall iced or hot coffee paired with a fair-to-middling butter croissant for that same 5 greenbacks. Enough to pay, we'd argue, but Starbucks customers have been paying a whole lot more of late for their caffeine and pastries. One of the peculiarities of

today's wild, income-discriminating pricing mechanisms is that shopping around doesn't so much mean going across the street as picking a different section of the same drive-through menu: rich folks this side, please, where there is lots of profit, and the shamelessly cost-conscious please look over here without the pretty pictures. There to the side, perhaps a little less of pretty much the same food comes at a far, far better price.

Morningstar mused recently that the profit margin for most McDonald's franchisees on that \$5 deal probably was only about a quarter, although if

you sell enough of them, a 5% margin is not nothing. And it shows you how much money is being made on those combos that reach \$15 or even more: Sandwiches have high food costs, but fries and drinks don't cost but a tiny fraction of the purchase price.

We already knew where to look on the menu: McDonald's already had a buy one, get one for \$1 deal going in Chicagoland. But the new \$5 deal, which is spreading all over the land of freeway exits and state route whatevers, is yet better.

It's a really nice break for families: occasionally.

# First Lady taking unnecessary abuse

By LEONARD GREENE  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

Her loving students might call her Dr. B., but one cynical columnist has gone so far as to deride her as "America's most famous community college teacher."

Jill Biden can't win. If she talks her husband into staying the course after his widely panned debate performance, she's a power-hungry puppet master who's guilty of elder abuse.

But if she convinces President Joe Biden to abandon his reelection campaign, she's admitting that she has been part of a cruel "Weekend at Bernie's" charade that has propped him up for months, maybe even years.

I didn't vote for Jill Biden any more than I voted for Michelle Obama or Nancy Reagan.

But I knew she came with the package. So it doesn't bother me that she advises her husband, the president, even in moments of crisis.

What does bother me is this wicked attack on her character and, even worse, on her credentials.

To America, the first lady is known as Dr. Jill Biden. No, she isn't a medical doctor. And, no, she doesn't have a Ph. D.

But she is not a quack, as some of her worst critics have said. Columnist Maureen Callahan dissed Jill Biden's community college credentials in the Daily Mail this past week.

Jill Biden is a devoted teacher and college professor who earned her honorific by completing the coursework required to receive a doctorate degree in education. That was after earning two master's degrees in the same field.

Proud and noble accomplishments.

Two days a week, she takes off her FLOTUS hat and stands in front of students at Northern Virginia Community College, where she is a professor in the English department.

But some of her political enemies have for years insisted on treating her like she's some fake TV court judge whose legal resume wouldn't fit on the back of a business card.

"Madame First Lady — Mrs. Biden — Jill — kiddo," author Joseph Epstein wrote in a 2020 op-ed piece for the Wall Street Journal. "Any chance you might drop the 'Dr.' before your name? 'Dr. Jill Biden' sounds and feels fraudu-

Leonard Greene



lent, not to say a touch comic."

As if to say that education isn't as important as some other academic disciplines.

Biden's debate debacle has given rise to some wild replacement conspiracy theories, none wilder than the suggestion that Biden should dump Vice President Kamala Harris and put former President Barack Obama on the ticket.

Don't bet on it. The authors of the Constitution's 12th Amendment already nixed that idea.

The second-wildest theory is that Jill Biden herself is actually angling for the job, as evidenced by her appearance on the cover of Vogue magazine.

Opinion writer Ingrid Jacques even said in USA Today that the cream-colored tuxedo dress she wore in her cover shoot made her look "very presidential."

It should be noted that some of the most cutting comments about the first lady have come from white women, members of the same demographic that helped put Donald Trump in the White House in 2016.

When Trump was elected president, exit polls showed that he had the support of 42% of American women.

Even more shocking was that he received the votes of 53% of white women — even though a white woman was running against him.

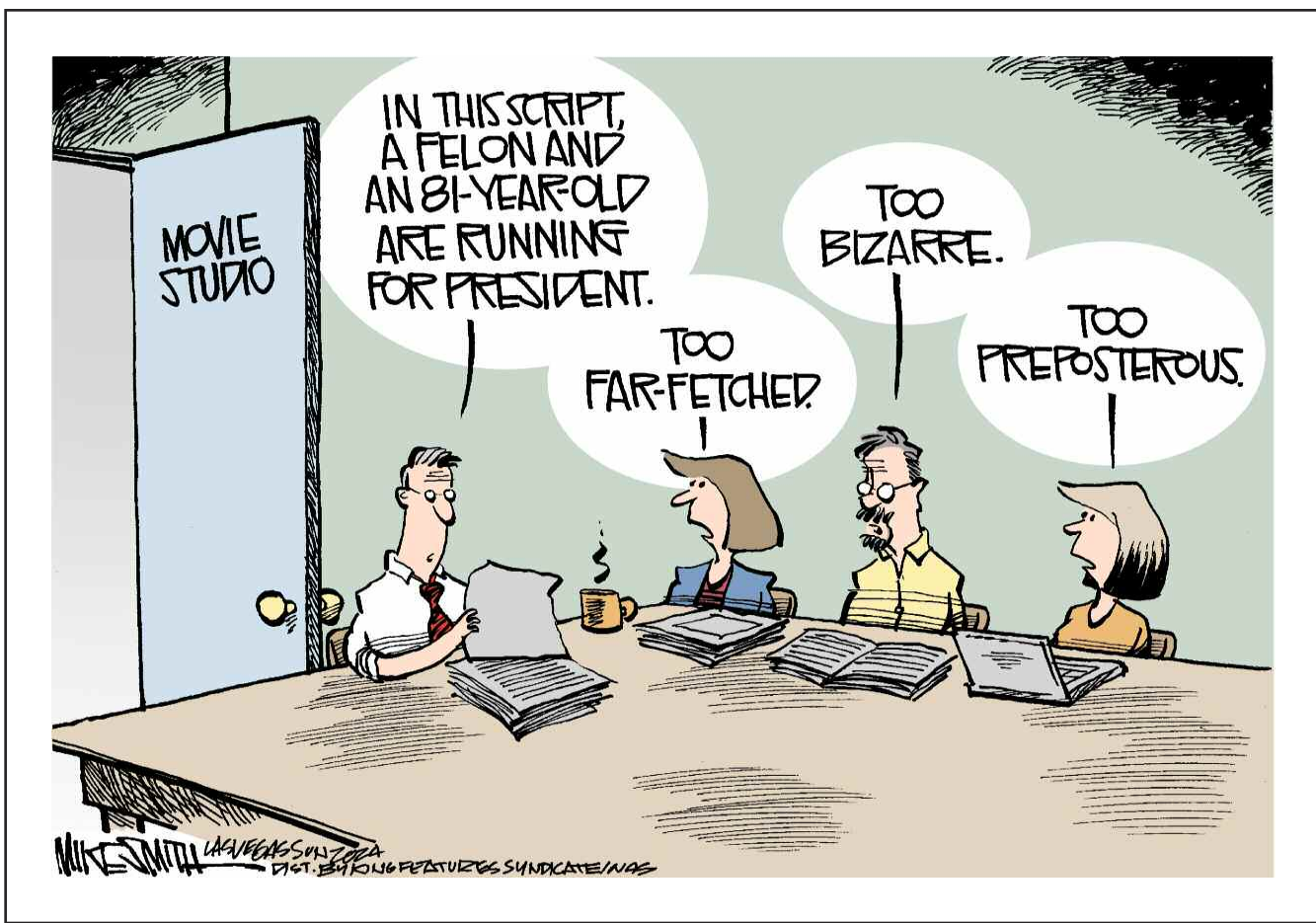
From there, Trump was able to nominate three conservatives to the U.S. Supreme Court and overturn the right to abortion.

"We are the first generation in half a century to give our daughters a country with fewer rights than we had," the first lady told a campaign crowd earlier this year.

"Book bans. Voting laws gutted. Court decisions that strip away our most basic freedoms. But circumstance is not destiny," she said.

A day after the debate, Jill Biden took to the stage in a statement dress decorated with a simple word: Vote.

It was an important message. It was just what the doctor ordered.



# Stand up to adult bullies

By NEDRA RHONE  
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
Tribune News Service

My bully radar developed fairly early in life.

In junior high, I got caught in the crosshairs of Roderick. He would routinely tease me, then he took it a step further. I distinctly remember the day, during a class trip to the opera, when he stood next to me, positioned one arm in front of me and one behind me, then smacked me in the chest and the back so hard that it made feathers fly out of my down jacket.

I tried moving away from him, but he followed. Then I tried rolling my eyes, as if I didn't care. But, after the third or fourth assault, I started to tear up. An observant classmate watched the entire episode and went to find his father, who was a parent chaperone on the trip. Mr. Esclamado came to my rescue, positioning himself between me and Roderick for the rest of the afternoon.

Roderick was always getting into trouble. He did not return to school the following year, and I've always wondered what happened to him. He taught me to stay on the lookout for bullies and sparked my instinct to support those who become their targets.

Most children outgrow their bullying behavior, learning throughout childhood and adolescence how to manage aggressive behaviors and successfully engage with peers. But when those lessons aren't learned, it's generally because those people have what Bill Eddy calls "high-conflict personalities."

Meet the adult bully. These are the people who blame others for everything and never look within. They think in all or nothing terms, such as win or lose, friend or foe, hero or villain. They regularly have extreme emotional reactions that can range from aggressive talk to physically hurting their targets.

I am bringing this up now because these are bullish times for adult bullies.

Weaker social relationships, dis-



Nedra Rhone

connected families and heavy reliance on technology have all given bullies an advantage in recent decades.

I only need to scroll through social media to see how our ability to relate to one another has declined. It's hard to read some of the things people are bold enough to write online. They seem to invest a lot of time in crafting harsh responses rather than thoughtful feedback.

We are living in a moment when everything, from who should sing country music to whether more of us should consider electric cars, is a polarizing topic. As the next presidential election draws nearer, I can imagine this will only get worse.

You've likely run into someone who fits the description of an adult bully. These are people we encounter at work, in our communities or in our families.

Eddy, a San Diego based therapist, co-founder of the High Conflict Institute and author of "Our New World of Adult Bullies," estimates adult bullies make up 5 to 10% of the population.

He was surprised that so many of them have found support groups on social media. "In the past they would have felt isolated by their families and their communities," Eddy said, "now they find each other and reinforce their negative thinking and bad behavior and try to impress each other."

This spring, we watched a round robin of bullying on Capitol Hill as Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene and Texas Rep. Jasmine Crockett traded barbs about each other's appearance.

Those are the bullies under the spotlight, the ones we read about in

headlines but that behavior is contagious.

"Seeing so many images of bullying in the news, in movies, and on social media, may be entertaining at one level, but its training at another level and increases the likelihood that people with bullying tendencies will copy this behavior. Especially for young people, it starts seeming like the new normal. For people who are potential bullies, it gives them permission to go ahead," Eddy said.

They may look different but bullies have the same personality traits and the same predictable patterns of behaviors. They don't or won't stop themselves from trying to intimidate people, so it is up to others to take them down.

"Bullies catch us by surprise because most people can be rational most of the time and we think they made a mistake," said Eddy. "It also takes a lot of energy to challenge a difficult person, so there is a fair amount of wishful thinking that the person will stop and be rational so we don't have to deal with them."

Bullies trigger our primitive responses leaving us unclear on why we may react to them the way we do.

They rally supporters to spread lies until the false information they are sharing seems true and they seek out advocates to defend and dismiss their bad behavior.

Bullies always play the victim and are quick to project their own hurtful behaviors onto other people. They desperately want to be leaders.

It's useless to tell a bully that they are a bully.

Eddy says we need to stop them by not tolerating their behavior. We should avoid them entirely or at least set appropriate boundaries if we can't remove them from our lives.

The worst thing a bully can feel is a loss of power.

So if we can't rid the world of bullies, we can at least expose them.

Eddy suggests we might even practice having empathy for them.

I'm not there just yet, but unlike bullies, I am open to changing.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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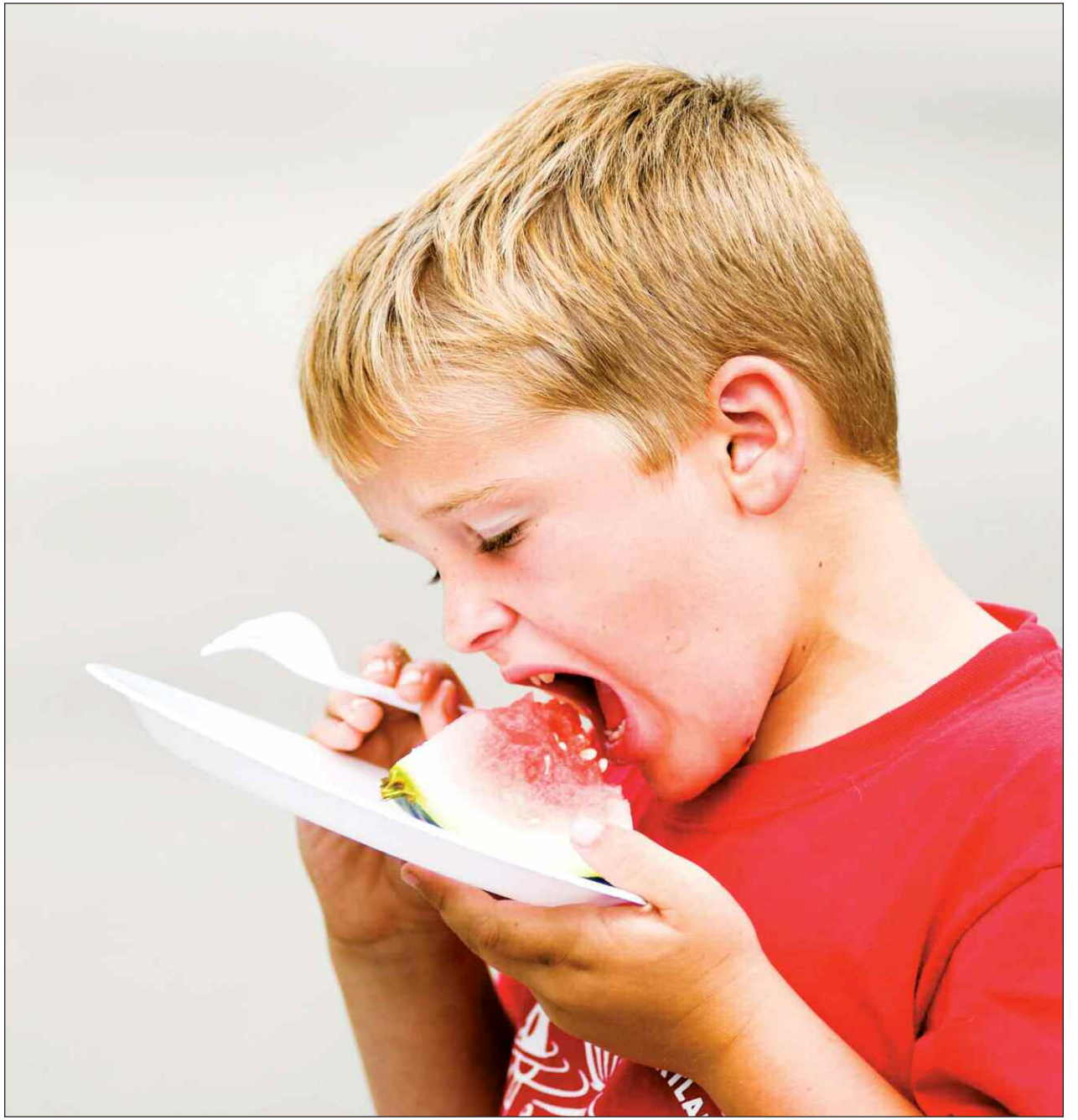
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## 2024 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Wednesday at the Jay County Fair featured free watermelon, the 4-H sheep show and tractor pulls in front of the grandstand. The 4-H horse and pony show started Thursday morning. Pictured, clockwise from above:

Seven-year-old Brett Huntsman goes in for a big bite of free watermelon Wednesday evening from the Republican tent near the food court.

Braelyn Bell, 5, holds a kitten Thursday morning in the horse barn.

Colton Hay leads his horse during the 4-H horse and pony show Thursday morning.

Trevin Dunnington holds his sheep while competing in the 4-H sheep show Wednesday afternoon in the Show Arena.

Smoke pours from a tractor as it pulls Wednesday in front of the grandstand.

## Honorees ...

Continued from page 1  
She has also been involved with A Better Life - Brianna's Hope, Portland Lions Club, Jay County Solid Waste Management District, Trinity Food Pantry and Bryant Alumni Association.

"Dad died at an early age and left Mom with six of us kids," said Golden when asked about her mentor. "And she managed those six. ... All of us are harding-working. All of us are dedicated to our county, our communities. ...

"When the going got rough, my mom never got down. My mom would pick herself back up."

Another retired teacher, Lyons, who spent most of his time at the microphone Wednesday talking about the accomplishments of his grandchildren, served 51 years on the Jay County Fair Board as well as decades as the Jay County FFA advisor. He was instru-

mental in the addition of the FFA greenhouse to the Jay County Junior-Senior High School facility. He also served as a board member for Jay County Development Corporation.

Snow, who for nine years led the annual induction ceremony for the Cincinnatus League, spent 20 years as a member of the Jay County Hospital Auxiliary. She has been a tutor of Kid's Hope USA, a Cubs Scout leader, an officer in the Plant, Hoe and Hope Garden Club and a volunteer for local blood drives while also being active in various church activities.

"I read somewhere that you get involved because of something you carry in your arms, and it's our kids, our babies when they're born," said Snow. "And that is true, because usually when you get involved it's because they're doing something

... and someone asked you to volunteer ... so you help with that."

A transplant from Kalamazoo, Michigan, who has lived in Jay County for 55 years, Micheau has been deeply involved with the Gold Wing Motorcycle Club for almost 40 years. He joined American Legion Post 211 in 2016 and has served as commander and as a member of its honor guard.

Retter has lived in Jay County most of her life and is active in the Dunkirk community, including as a current member of the Dunkirk Library Board. She served nine years on city council and has been a board member for Dunkirk Beautification Committee. She has been a member of Sigma Phi Gamma sorority for 43 years and assisted with the creation of the Dunkirk Historical Museum.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Cincinnatus League Jay County Hall of Fame for a Lifetime of Services inductees were honored Wednesday afternoon at the Jay County Fair. Pictured, front row from left, are Butch Micheau, Anita Hall and Florine Golden. Back row are Rose Snow, Bob Lyons and Connie Retter.

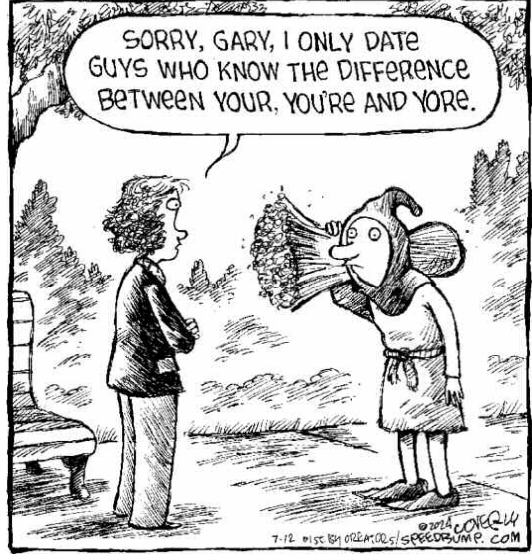
She encouraged everyone in attendance to get involved in their community.

"I think everyone

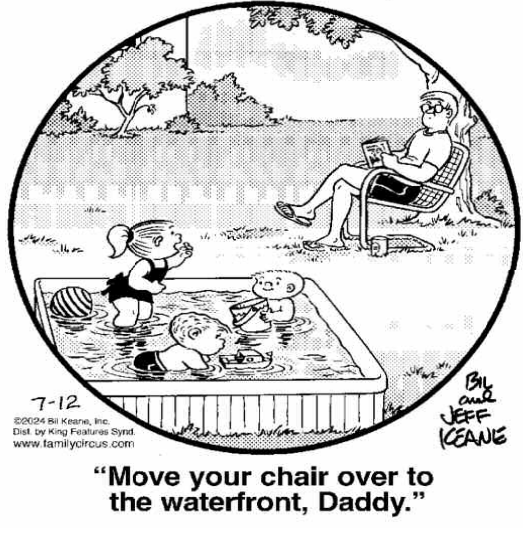
needs to do a little volunteering," Retter said. "Be involved in something in your community. I think it makes you

feel like you're more of a member of that community if you get involved in different things."

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



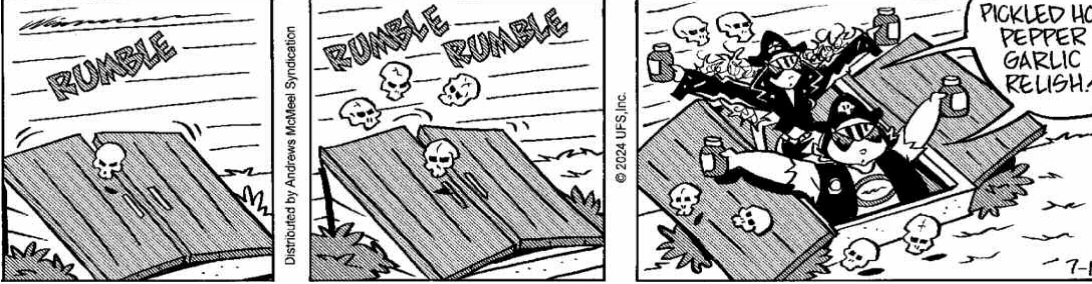
Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play
1. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts, and North leads the king of spades. How would you play the hand?
West: 10 5, AK J9 8 5 2, AK 7, 9
East: A 9 2, 6 4 3, 8 5 4, K Q 7 2

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



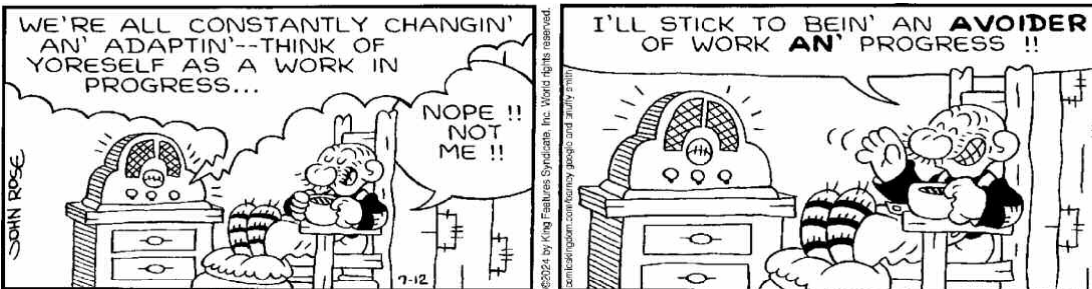
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP
K N T K Y Q Z P P V Y N M T M F
H T J P T I U U J D G D I Q V H D Y K U
Q D T G D V K Y L U K N D I . F U Z L V P N K
B T Q Q V K T C U Z B N C U K T K U .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DID THE ORCHESTRA CONDUCTOR SAY WHEN HE CHANCED UPON SOME RARE SYMPHONY MUSIC? "SCORE!"
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals B

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer
ACROSS 32 Stomach remedies
1 Tank filler
4 A/C measures
8 Bicycle part
12 Year in Mexico
13 Grecian vessels
14 Hawaiian city
15 Giza attractions
17 Asia's Sea
18 Big fair, for short
19 Revise
20 Firetruck necessities
22 Bean variety
24 Strike callers
25 Certain primates
29 Zodiac cat
30 Tennis great
31 Salonga of "Miss Saigon"

DOWN 20 Luau dance
21 Portent
22 Creates origami
23 Iowa city
25 Estate recipient
26 Mirage
27 Campus VIP
28 Tools with teeth
30 Con job
33 You can count on one
34 Bottle stopper
36 Himalayan land
37 Actor
38 Crazy Kinnear
39 To be, in Tours
40 Olympian queen
42 "Casa-blanca" pianist
43 Calendar abbr.
44 Wee dollop
45 Mexican Mrs.

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# Sports

## Deep into the bullpen

### Iowa politician pitches gem for minor-league baseball team

By ZACH MENTZ

cleveland.com  
Tribune News Service

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — In baseball, managers make a call to the bullpen when the team is in need of a fresh pitching arm to enter the game.

Sioux City Explorers manager Steve Montgomery, however, instead opted to call Iowa State Representative J.D. Scholten. The Explorers were without a starting pitcher for Saturday's game against the Milwaukee Milkmen, so Montgomery asked Scholten — a 44-year-old politician

and paralegal who last played for the Explorers in 2007, if he was available to pitch after the team exhausted 10 pitchers in its last two games.

"Part of me thought, maybe it was a joke," Scholten said, according to KCAU-TV in Sioux City. "But it ended up being absolutely magical."

Scholten was volunteering at Sioux City's annual Saturday in the Park event at Grandview Park when he received the call from Montgomery.

"I called him and I said 'I need you,'" Mont-

*'This one belongs to all the middle-aged men who still think they can do it.'*  
—Iowa State Rep. J.D. Scholten

gomery said. "He's like, 'I don't know if I can,' and I said 'look, I don't care what you give me. I just need someone to go in there and throw strikes.' He said 'I think I can do that, but I've got to have someone pick up my shift.' He called me back ten minutes later and said he's in."

Scholten did more than just throw strikes — he dazzled. A former pitcher for the University of Nebraska, Scholten allowed two runs while scattering seven hits and recording two strikeouts across 6.2 innings pitched, leading the Explorers to an 11-2 win over the Milkmen.

Scholten received not only a quality start in the box score and statistics, but also a standing ovation from the Explorers' home fans at Dr. Mercy Field at Lewis & Clark Park

"Just watching that ovation and what it meant to him in the clubhouse afterward and talking to him, words can't even describe it to be honest," Montgomery said.

But Scholten's return from retirement isn't a one-and-done story. He is scheduled to start for the Explorers on Thursday when they play the Fargo-

Moorhead RedHawks at Newman Outdoor Field in Fargo, North Dakota.

"This one belongs to all the middle-aged men who still think they can do it," Scholten said after the game, according to the Explorers' recap. "Never would have ever thought that when I was playing with the X's, my last year was 2007, that I would ever get a chance to put on the uniform again."

The Explorers is a professional minor league baseball team and inaugural members of the American Association of Professional Baseball.

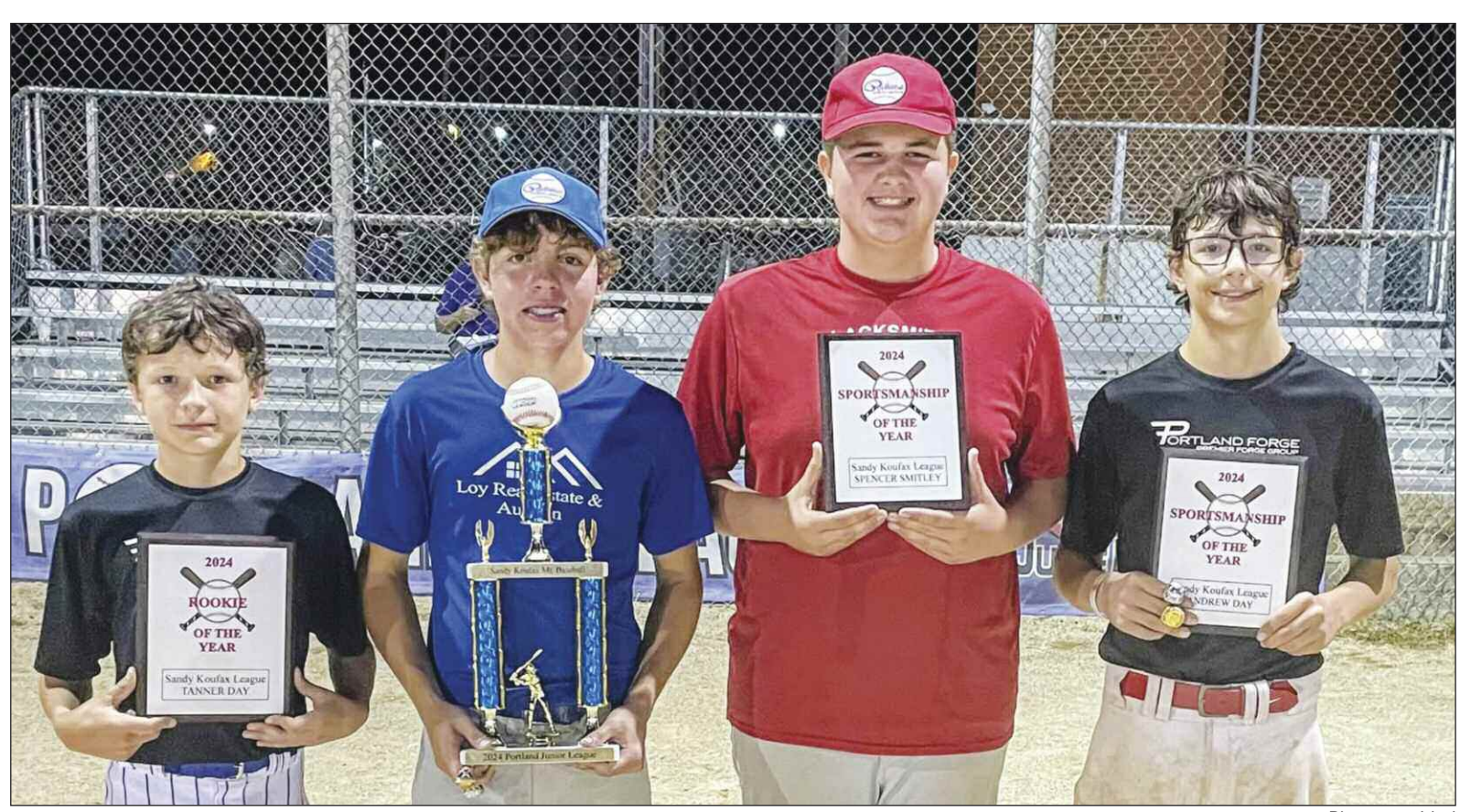


Photo provided

### Sandy Kofax awards

Individual awards for the Portland Junior League Sandy Koufax baseball division were announced following the league championship. Pictured from left are Rookie of the Year Tanner Day, Mr. Baseball Sam Wiggins and Co-Sportsmanship award winners Spencer Smitley and Andrew Day. Not pictured is Sportsmanship award winner Alex Miller.

### McIlroy breaks silence on U.S. Open collapse

By PETER SBLENDORIO  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — The day after Rory McIlroy's crushing collapse in the U.S. Open, the world's second-ranked golfer went to New York City.

McIlroy had already planned the trip in advance of that weekend's Travelers Championship in Cromwell, Conn., which he ended up skipping, and used the Big Apple to help clear his head.

"I went to Manhattan, which was nice," McIlroy said Wednesday of his three-day visit from June 17-19.

"It was nice to sort of blend into the city a little bit."

See Collapse page 7

## U.S. Soccer fires coach Gregg Berhalter

By KEVIN BAXTER

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — With the 2026 World Cup less than two years away, U.S. Soccer is starting over after firing coach Gregg Berhalter on Wednesday.

"I want to thank Gregg for his hard work and dedication to U.S. Soccer and our Men's National Team," U.S. Soccer president

Cindy Parlow Cone said in a statement announcing the move. "We are now focused on working with our Sporting Director Matt Crocker and leveraging his experience at the highest levels of the sport to ensure we find the right person to lead the USMNT into a new era of on-field success."

Berhalter was hired in Dec. 2018, 14 months after the U.S.

failed to qualify for the World Cup, and led the team to a Gold Cup championship, two CONCACAF Nations League titles and to the round of 16 in the 2022 World Cup in Qatar. With a record of 44-15-13, he leaves with the best winning percentage of any coach who worked more than seven matches with the national team.

But he was undone by a poor

performance in this summer's Copa América, which the U.S. exited in the group stage after losing to Panama and Uruguay. That marked the first time in 20 global or continental tournaments the U.S. has hosted that the national team has gone out in the group stage. It was also the first time a Copa América host failed to advance.

Only Bruce Arena (81) and

Jurgen Klinsmann (55) won more games with the U.S. than Berhalter, but the team has struggled lately, winning three of its last nine games dating to last November. So after the 1-0 loss to Uruguay last week, Crocker issued a statement promising a thorough examination of the national team program.

See Fires page 7



# July

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