

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

2024 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fair finale

The Jay County Fair concluded Saturday with a full day of rides and amusements and A Touch of Mexico in the Farmer's Building. Pictured at left, Lane Zaugg and Ivie Gallegos go down a slide in the midway on Saturday afternoon during the final day of the Jay County Fair. Above, a boy from Grupo Floclorico Infantil Macehuani dances during A Touch of Mexico.

GOP starts amidst heavy security

Convention goes on after Saturday's assassination attempt

By GREG BLUESTEIN

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Tribune News Service
MILWAUKEE — The Republican National Convention is kicking off amid heavy security days after a would-be assassin opened fire at former President Donald Trump, bringing urgent calls for unity at a volatile time in the White House campaign.

President Joe Biden delivered a primetime address Sunday from the Oval Office pleading with Americans to "cool it down" during the last months of the race, while Trump urged voters to stay "united" as he arrived in Milwaukee for the four-day gala.

His aides say he's expected to appear at the convention Monday as he prepares to announce his running mate this week. His speech formally accepting the GOP nomination for the third consecutive time is slated for Thursday.

Trump's campaign said the first day of the convention will focus on the economy, with a slate of speeches set to promote GOP calls to hike tariffs on foreign goods to spur more domestic manufacturing, lower income taxes and initiate a mass deportation of people in the U.S. illegally.

Authorities say their security plans for the RNC will remain in place after the shooting at Trump's campaign rally in Butler, Penn. shocked the nation.

Authorities named 20-year-old Thomas Matthew Crooks as the suspect in the shootings, which left one rally attendee dead, two others seriously injured and Trump bloodied after he said a bullet nicked his ear.

Shortly after the attack, Biden's campaign temporarily suspended its political attacks against Trump, canceled a trip to Texas and worked to pull down TV ads.

See Starts page 2

Canadians joined fair derby

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review
Since World War II, it's typical that "The Star-Spangled Banner" is played before competitive events.

But on Saturday, it wasn't the only country's national anthem that got played at the Jay County Fair.

Prior to the demolition derby that closed out the grandstand events at the final day of the Jay County Fair on Saturday, the speaker system played the melody of "O Canada" in recognition of Chris Duchene and Luc Lajoie, natives of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, who made the four-hour drive to compete.

So, how did a pair of Canadians find their way

to Portland, Indiana, for a local county fair?

It all stemmed from a suggestion by Daniel Patterson of Bryant.

The fifth-year Jay County demolition derby veteran met Duchene and Lajoie at Bash for Cash, a large demolition derby in Chillicothe, Ohio, and a friendship started to bloom from there. Patterson threw out the idea in May of having them make the trip to Portland.

"It's pretty distant, them being from Canada, but we talk on Snapchat and stuff," Patterson said. "I invited them to come down, I got them a couple of cars ... Just looking to have a good time and hopefully they'll want to come back."

See Canadians page 2



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Chris Duchene's car gets rear ended by Luc Lajoie during the Jay County Fair's demolition derby on Saturday afternoon. The pair made the nearly four-hour trip from Windsor, Ontario, Canada to compete in the event.

State employment hits a record high

By MIA HILKOWITZ

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The number of state employees in Indiana has recovered from pandemic lows and superseded pre-pandemic records with over 32,000 Hoosiers employed by state government agencies.

There were 32,075 employees working for 80 state agencies and departments as of July 12, according to the Indiana Transparency Portal. This count

is the highest it's been since the Indiana State Personnel Department (INSPD) began recording employment in 2016.

Like many other institutions — both in the private and public sectors — state government employment dropped significantly from 2020 to 2022. The State Personnel Department reported that Indiana's state government lost more than 2,000 employees from May 2020 to May 2022.

See Employment page 2

Third in opener

Percussionist Keira Corwin performs Saturday evening for the Jay County High School Marching Patriots during the Archway Classic at Centerville. JCHS scored 53.35 points to finish third at the event behind Richmond (57.35) and the host Blue Regiment (54.85).



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Deaths

Diana DeHoff, 79, Pennville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 degrees Sunday and there was about 0.35 inches of rain. The low was 70.

Tonight's forecast calls for showers and thunderstorms with a low in the mid 60s. Expect a high around 80 Wednesday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Kasey the Fire Dog will visit Jay County Public Library from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Thursday, July 18. The program focuses on teaching fire safety skills for children from preschool through sixth grade.

Registration is required by visiting the library or calling (260) 726-7890.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of this week's Jay School Board meeting.

Thursday — Local wrestler places third in national tournament.

Friday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.



Obituaries

Diana DeHoff

June 10, 1945-July 11, 2024
Diana "Kay" DeHoff, age 79, a resident of Pennville, passed away Thursday, July 11, 2024, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.
Kay was born July 10, 1945, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the daughter of Carl and Treva (Myers) Stultz. She graduated from Pennville High School in 1963.
Kay retired from Helena in Pennville, Indiana, in 2010 after

26 years of service. She was a member of Cornerstone Church of Pennville and the Eastern Star.
Kay adored her family; she showed her love for them by sewing quilts and items for her kids and grandchildren.
Kay married Harvey DeHoff on May 2, 1964.



DeHoff

Survivors include:
Her husband — Harvey DeHoff, Pennville, Indiana
Three daughters — Brenda Wise (husband: Brian), Jonesboro, Indiana, Deborah Kaylor (husband: Joe), Huntington, Indiana, and Vicki Miller (husband: Craig), Pennville, Indiana
Two brothers — Allen Stultz (wife: Sharon), Apollo Beach, Florida, and Larry Stultz (wife: Annette), Portland, Indiana
A sister — Marcia Stockton (Ron), Portland, Indiana

Six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews
Visitation will be held Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. at Cornerstone Church of Pennville. Funeral will be held Thursday at 2 p.m. at Cornerstone Church of Pennville. Burial will follow at I.O.O.F Twin Hill Cemetery in Pennville.
Memorials may be directed to the Jay County Cancer Society or Pennville Fire Department.
Arrangements are trusted to

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at williamson-spencer.com.
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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

Wednesday 7/17	Thursday 7/18	Friday 7/19	Saturday 7/20	Sunday 7/21
80/57	76/55	77/56	81/59	82/61
There's a slight chance of rain on Wednesday. Otherwise, mostly cloudy.	Thursday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high in the mid to upper 70s.	Sunny skies are in the forecast for Friday, when the high will be around 77 degrees.	Another day of sunny skies is expected Saturday, with a high around 81.	Mostly sunny on Sunday. Otherwise, hot with temperatures in the low 80s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$64 million	56-57-59-66-67-78-80 Cash 5: 4-13-19-34-40 Estimated jackpot: \$125,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$226 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 0-2-5 Pick 4: 3-8-3-3 Pick 5: 6-0-5-7-8 Evening Pick 3: 4-3-8 Pick 4: 3-0-2-9 Pick 5: 4-2-5-4-9 Rolling Cash 5: 2-10-15-26-36 Estimated jackpot: \$162,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 3-4-8 Daily Four: 0-6-4-4 Evening Daily Three: 8-8-7 Daily Four: 9-2-3-3 Quick Draw: 6-8-16-19-21-22-23-31-39-43-45-48-55-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	Aug. beans.....9.99 Wheat 4.85
Corn.....3.82 Oct. corn3.84 Wheat4.60	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.73 Aug. corn3.72 Beans.....10.98 Aug. beans.....10.70 Wheat4.89
POET Biorefining Portland	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....3.78 Aug. corn3.78 Beans.....10.77 Aug. beans.....10.62 Wheat4.60
Corn.....3.92 Aug. corn3.92 Sept. corn.....3.79	
The Andersons Richland Township	
Corn3.74 Aug. corn3.82 Beans10.97	

Today in history

In 622, Muhammad began his flight from Mecca to Medina.
In 1790, the Residence Act called for the president to select a site on the Potomac River as the permanent capital of the United States. (The capital had previously been temporarily located in Philadelphia.) President George Washington later announced the site, which became the District of Columbia.
In 1872, explorer Roald Amundsen was born in Norway. He was the first man to reach the South Pole.
In 1940, Adolf Hitler ordered preparations for the German invasion of England.
In 1945, the United States tested the first atomic bomb near Alamogordo, New Mexico. Bombs would be dropped a month later on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan, leading to the end of World War II.
In 1972, the Dunkirk Watsons knocked off the Portland Rockets 10-5 in the Eastern Indiana Baseball League. Dunkirk scored five times in the fifth inning and two more in the sixth to take the win.
In 1995, Amazon.com sold its first book, "Fluid Concepts and Creative Analogies: Computer Models of the Fundamental Mechanisms of Thought" by Douglas Hofstadter.
In 2020, the Frye Family Band performed during the slimmed down Jay County Fair. The performance was originally planned to be part of Faith Night at the Fair along with a concert by Jordan Feliz at the grandstand, but most grandstand entertainment for the shortened four-day fair was postponed because of the coronavirus pandemic.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

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.
Thursday
6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.

Capsule Reports

Named to committees

Legislators who represent Jay County were recently named to summer study committees.

State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City), who represents the southern two-thirds of Jay County, will serve on the Corn Marketing Council and the Interim Study Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

State Rep. Matt Lehman (R-Berne), who represents the northern third of Jay County, will be chair of the Legislative Council's Audit and Financial Reporting Subcommittee, and the Oral History Project Advisory Commission. He will co-chair of the Legislative Continuity Committee and serve as a member of the Legislative Council, the Legislative State of Emergency Advisory Group, the Artificial Intelligence Task Force, the Indiana Semiquincentennial Commission and the Interim Study Committee on Commerce and Economic Development.

A complete list of committee assignments is available at iga.in.gov.

Patrols increased

Indiana law enforcement agencies are utilizing increased patrols through the end of the month to crack down on speeding.

Indiana Criminal Justice Institute through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration is funding additional patrols.

"Speeding is one of the leading causes of traffic fatalities in Indiana," James Bryan, the institute's safety director, said in a press release. "Obeying the posted speed limits will reduce the number of deaths and serious bodily injuries that occur on Indiana roads."

For more information, visit nhtsa.gov.

Intersection crash

A Portland woman crashed her car into a United States Postal Service vehicle at the intersection of Meridian and Fleming

streets in Portland about 3:38 p.m. Tuesday.

Megan Mata, 25, told police she was driving a 2014 Buick Encore north on Meridian Street when she reached behind her seat to hand her son a cup. She didn't see the 2023 Mercedes Benz Metris driven by 28-year-old Makyla Reynolds of Portland in front of her and crashed into it.

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. Mata's vehicle was towed.

Front end collision

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 after two vehicles collided near the intersection of Arch and Harrison streets in Portland about 6:25 p.m. Thursday.

Bobby Hensley, 52, Portland, was driving a 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix north on Harrison Street near its intersection with Arch Street. At the same time, Leandro Rodrioguez, 21, Portland, was driving a 2007 Mercury Montego

south on the street. Hensley told police Rodrioguez drove into his vehicle, and Rodrioguez told police Hensley crossed the centerline and crashed into him.

Rodrioguez was cited for driving without a license and driving with expired plates.

Hensley's vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Didn't see car

A Portland woman didn't see oncoming traffic while driving along Walnut Street near Western Avenue in Portland, causing an accident about 1:29 p.m. Friday.

Emily A. Jenkins, 24, was driving a 2015 Toyota Corolla west on Walnut Street. At the same time, Chelsie Waymire, 32, Modoc, was driving her 2013 Hyundai Sonata north on Western Avenue. Jenkins didn't see Waymire's vehicle and crashed into it.

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Starts ...

Continued from page 1
His campaign also postponed an event in Gwinnett County slated for Monday that was to feature several key supporters.

Republicans have pressed to project unity as Democrats wrestle with questions about Biden's health and mental fitness. Shortly

after the shooting, former Trump rival Nikki Haley accepted a last-minute invitation to urge her supporters to back his comeback bid.

The violence was an ominous prologue for a convention typically dominated by political speeches, policy statements, party galas and the presidential nominee's prime-

time address. Biden ordered an independent review of how the attack at Trump's event happened.

"There is no place in America for this kind of violence — for any violence. Ever. Period," said Biden. "No exception. We can't allow this violence to be normalized."

Employment ...

Continued from page 1
However, Cris Johnston, director of the Indiana Office of Management and Budget, said employment for the state executive branch is now back to pre-pandemic levels.

"When the pandemic hit some people decided to say 'well, you know what? I have to work remotely,'" Johnston said. "Some peo-

ple said 'I'm just going to retire, I'm not going to come back.'"

According to the U.S. Census Bureau survey, 4.6% of adults 62- to 65-years-old said they retired early due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many state agencies also saw many younger workers leave, with employee turnover peaking at 25% in 2021.

Canadians ...

Continued from page 1
While Duchene and Lajoie said they were excited by the idea of coming to Indiana, they said the work that Patterson did to secure cars for them was key as they got busy with responsibilities at home. One of the cars needed to be fixed up and decorated as late as Saturday morning.

Despite the time crunch, they found ways to make their vehicles stand out with Canadian flags attached to the roof and painted on flags and the word "eh."

Along with the patriotic theme, they said it was important to them that the fair played their national anthem.

"Oh, that's huge," Duchene said of the gesture.
"That's a big thing for me," Lajoie added. "I'm a patriot so at home and here I love to hear it."

A big thing that stood out to them was the size of the derby. While events like Bash for Cash are major multi-day affairs, they said they were impressed by the amount of participation at a county fair.

"You guys have got a lot more people as a country than we do," Lajoie said. "Where we're at is such a small square of southern Canada, so there's not that many people that want to do it. There's going to be more cars in our heat tonight than there will be

in some of the fairs back home."

Lajoie lasted about 15 minutes in the event before he had to call it quits. Duchene lasted eight more minutes to finish fifth out of the 26 vehicles.

"It was close to the ones in Canada, but a lot more cars so it was more interesting," Duchene said. "I didn't do much, just stayed out of trouble. It's 30% skill, 70% luck sometimes."

SERVICES

Tuesday

Snyder, Donna: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Thursday

DeHoff, Diana: 2 p.m., Cornerstone Church of Pennville, 190 W. Main St., Pennville.

Friday

Henkle, Paul: 7 p.m., Trinity Arch Bridge Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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Banners donation

Rex, Gabe and Cathy Pinkerton of Jay Patriot Band Boosters accept \$300 from Portland Evening Optimist president Linda Akers for senior banners.

Freeloader asks his son for more

DEAR ABBY: My father has depended on my mother (and me) for money for as long as I can remember. It wasn't because he was unable to work, but because he was lazy and had a drinking and gambling problem. My parents eventually divorced, and my father moved in with his sister (my aunt). She died in 2016, which would have made my father homeless, so my sister and I bought our aunt's home from our cousins so he could stay there.

Fast-forward: Our father plans to remarry. We do not love paying for him to live rent-free in our house, but in no way do we plan to pay for his future wife to live in the house. The money isn't that significant, but it is more the principle of the matter to me. I don't believe in supporting lazy people who take advantage of others. How do we kick our father out of the house without being total jerks? He is older and not in great health. We suspect the equally nonworking, slight-

Dear Abby



ly younger woman he plans to marry sees this as a chance to move into a house for free, knowing it is hard to kick out squatters. Please advise. — FRUSTRATED SON IN NEW YORK

DEAR SON: You and your family have ALLOWED your father to continue living his life dependent upon all of you. I hope your aunt's house is in your and your sister's names, or you will have no say about who your father invites in. It's time to put your foot down. Consult an attorney. You are not obligated to financially support any person to whom your father takes a liking and wants to live with, married or not.

Pets earn new nicknames

By JAMES FULKES

If you have pet dogs, it's a pretty safe bet, at one point or another, you'll conjure up little "pet" names in addition to their actual "government taxpaying job" name.

Eleven years ago in January, one of our grandsons was gifted a Corgi-Sheltie from a neighbor kid who he was quite close with. They both got "mutts" out of the litter.

I made the mistake of calling them mutts, due to their mixed breed bloodline lineage.

Boy, was I ever wrong. I was quickly informed that our dog was not a mutt, but a "boutique breed" that was indeed worth hundreds as pups.

Who knew? Certainly not me.

Over the years, Chip (our grandson named him Chip), really has endeared himself to us and all who know him.

He's picked up several "pet" names over the years — Chipster, Der Widdle Chipster, Buddy Boy, My Widdle Buddy, etc. You know the drill.

Unfortunately, last winter, right

Fulksy Mayhem



as the Chinese New Year came in — this year as The Year Of The Dragon — our Widdle Chipster developed a partial hip dysplasia/paralysis.

So, of course, after several diagnostics, he's picked up a new name — My Chinese Year Of The Draggin' Paw.

He's in perfect health otherwise, but has lost control of one rear paw almost completely, and the other rear paw, partially.

On occasion, he still likes to play the bully alpha male to the resident cats around here.

Now, recall there's the whole Year Of The Draggin' Paw thing going on.

He was out in the yard, Draggin' Paw, as usual. He fussed at one of our cats and a tiger gray stray that's

been hustling us for free grub and grog.

Well, the tiger gray had enough of his aggression and whacked him on the nose with full all-wheel drive claw mode engaged.

He took off running with a bloody nose. It was the funniest thing I think I've seen in a long time.

The one Draggin' Paw generally has about 10% use and the other maybe 30%. In full raw terror mode with a nose full of Tiger Cat Paw and Claw in all-wheel drive mode, the 30% Draggin' Paw was about 95%, and the 10% Draggin' Paw was transformed into an Olympic style "Boys In The Boat" rowing oar.

So he's darting across the yard at a breakneck pace with two front paws clawing at the ground, one rear Draggin' Paw and one Oar Leg rowing for his terror stricken life.

It was rolling-on-the-floor funny. He was certainly motivated by that stray, homeless, beggar cat.

In a future update, we will address trying to fit a stubborn Draggin' Paw with wheels.

Hint, it isn't going well.

Community Calendar

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

Today
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 Tues-

day 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 Hospital.

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

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday
WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, in the boardroom at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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Complaining is a destructive habit

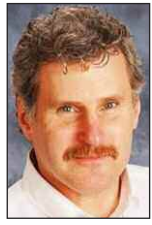
By **BRYAN GOLDEN**

Is complaining an effective strategy for solving problems? Will complaining improve your situation? Do others enjoy listening to you complain? The answer to all three questions is no. Then why do people complain?

There are a number of reasons a person complains. He or she may be looking for sympathy, assistance, support, or just letting off steam. There are also people who are habitual whiners who are never satisfied or content.

In the case of sympathy, there is an erroneous assumption that if enough other people feel sorry for them, it will somehow improve the complainer's situation. All that will be accomplished is that others will grow tired of their moaning and give them a wide berth. Everyone has their own problems and very few people want to spend their discretionary time listen-

Bryan Golden



ing to the tales of woe of others.

Sympathy seekers tend to dwell on their problems rather than seeking solutions. When potential solutions are presented, they invariably find fault with and summarily dismiss them. These complainers seek attention and monopolize conversations. They look for opportunities to show how their plight is worse than everyone else's.

Spending time with sympathy seekers can be draining. They are consumed with their own situation and show little or no interest in other people.

Regardless of how good you may feel, a gripe session with a sympathy seeker will depress your mood.

Some complainers are looking for assistance in solving a problem. In this case they are interested in advice that will lead to a solution. The danger here is that they will indiscriminately seek guidance from anyone. In their attempt to overcome an obstacle, they will try virtually any remedy offered without considering the qualifications of the source.

Following bad advice can exacerbate a problem. Advice seekers that jump from one bad suggestion to another will become frustrated as they fail to solve their problem. The result is the erroneous conclusion that their situation has no solution.

Complainers in search of advice must be very selective in whom they approach. Only those who have successfully

solved similar problems or who have appropriate expertise should be sought out. When the right person is identified, they should be asked for advice directly rather than complaining to them.

Perhaps a complainer is looking for support. They may be overwhelmed by unexpected events or overloaded with responsibilities. This type of complainer is likely looking for help rather than advice. If you are so inclined, offer to lend a hand.

Even when they are helped out, some complainers always wind up in another crisis situation. Helping them out again will only improve their situation temporarily. Without a change in strategy, they will soon become immersed in another crisis.

Complainers who are incessant whiners find fault with virtually everything. They complain about their lives,

other people's lives, the weather, politics, religion, society, etc. Everything they comment on is flawed. All of life is tainted. Their glass is always half empty and probably leaking. These people are not happy unless they are unhappy.

Whiners will never be satisfied. They don't want sympathy, solutions or help. They just want to complain. These people will never change, and their minds are closed to new ideas. Your only option is to limit exposure to their griping.

Complaining is unproductive and destructive. If you have problems, find solutions. If you need help, ask. Occasional complaining to seek understanding or let off steam is OK. But don't make it a way of life or a topic of every conversation.

Golden, the author of "Dare to Live Without Limits," can be reached by emailing Bryan@columnist.com.

Europe can't afford right's fiscal idiocy

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

The European Union faces a daunting challenge over the next five years: Get public finances in order while mustering the investment needed to confront a growing array of common challenges, not least the clean energy transition.

The task will require a level of discipline and cooperation that is anathema to the hard-right populists who, after a strong showing in the latest elections, will occupy a quarter of the European Parliament until 2029. All the more reason to get it done.

The combined blows of the global pandemic, the war in Ukraine and Russia's weaponization of energy supplies have taken a toll on government finances. Total euro-area sovereign debt is projected to exceed 90% of gross domestic product in 2025, up from about 84% before the pandemic and 66% before the 2008 financial crisis — a trajectory that threatens to undermine the common currency. France and Italy in particular — with among the region's highest debt-to-GDP ratios — must slash budget deficits or face sanctions under the EU's new fiscal rules.

Meanwhile, the EU desperately needs funds for projects that will benefit the entire region. The green transition alone will require more than €5 trillion in public and private investment over the next five years. Updating physical and communications infrastructure, bolstering defense capabilities, ramping up military production, and supporting Ukraine will cost hundreds of billions more.

How can member nations pursue these goals while restoring fiscal prudence?

One answer is in a deeper union. A united Europe has much greater financial firepower. It can support a budget large enough to satisfy common investment needs — ideally with dedicated revenue and the flexibility to respond to regionwide crises. By

Guest Editorial

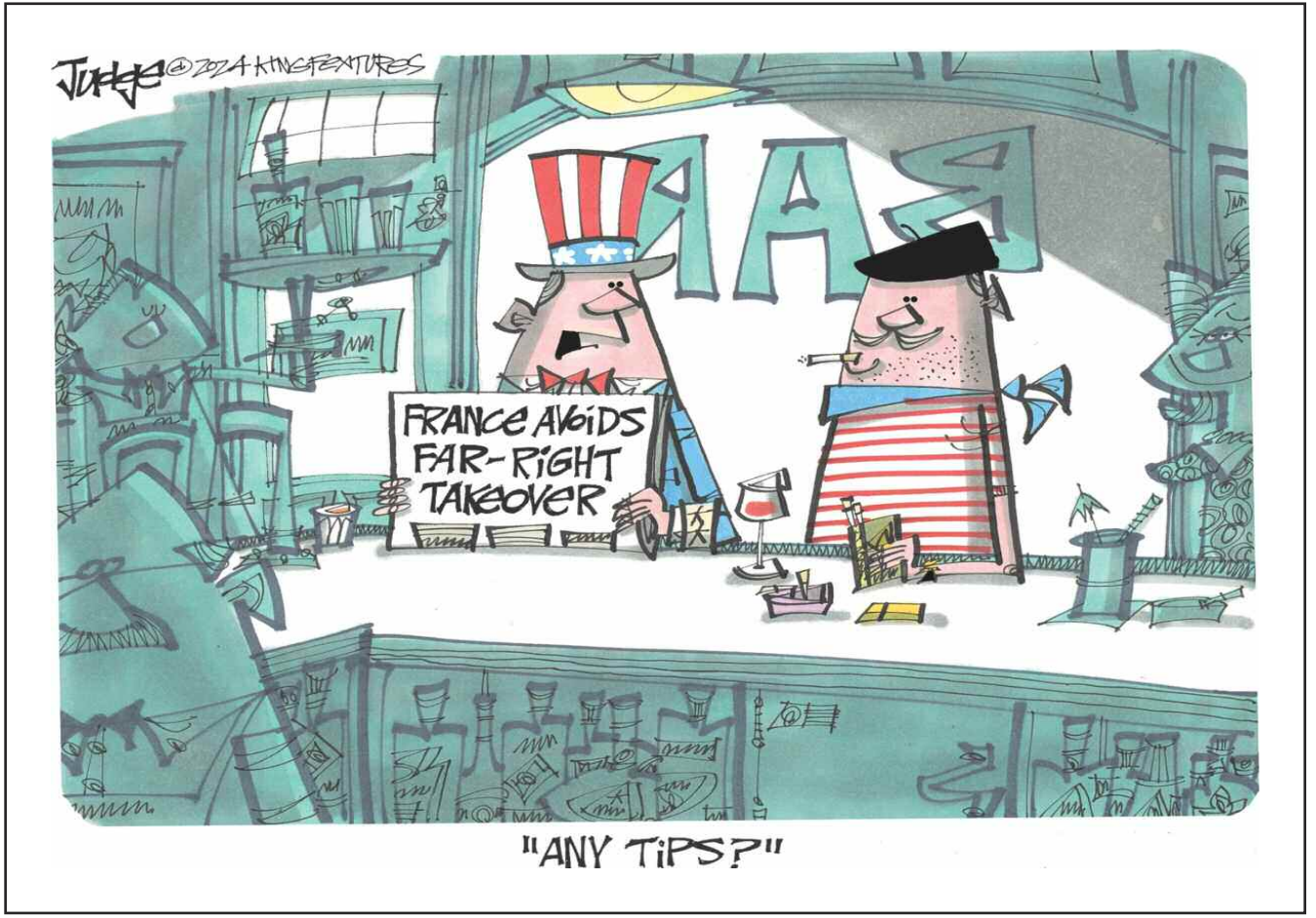
integrating its capital markets, it can unlock trillions of euros in added private investment.

Europe's leaders have taken some steps in the right direction. In 2020, they created a joint €750 billion fund to support the recovery of states hardest hit by the pandemic. Although some have criticized the program as wasteful, early evidence suggests that in Italy — by far the largest recipient of funds — it has actually boosted potential growth by reviving much-needed reforms of the judiciary, government procurement and public works.

Right-wing populists will make progress difficult. Most are fundamentally opposed to a stronger union, fiscal or otherwise (with the possible exception of funding for defense). Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni has already worsened the country's finances with a "superbonus" aimed at stimulating home renovation. France, too, might find itself in a budget standoff with EU officials, now that President Emmanuel Macron's snap election has empowered populists on the left and the right.

No doubt, the rise of the far right reflects popular dissatisfaction with bureaucrats in Brussels. Yet issues such as climate change and the economy remain among Europeans' top concerns, and centrists still have the majority in the European Parliament.

If they fail to meet these looming challenges, voters will hold them responsible. If they show the leadership required to further the European project, to achieve a resilient and prosperous union, they stand a much greater chance of keeping extremists at bay. They should seize this opportunity while it's within reach.



Teachers should lift students up

By **LEBRON HILL**
The Sacramento Bee
Tribune News Service

America's lingering racism can raise its ugly head at any time, even in the California high school classroom. But it's really a problem when the promoter of demeaning stereotypes is the one who should be dispelling them, the teacher.

For a final exam, Sacramento's Luther Burbank High School teacher Alex Nguyen wanted to include his students' names in some questions on the test.

But instead of just making a regular test, Nguyen wanted to go all Regina George (a character from the movie Mean Girls) on his students and make a test that looked like a "burn book."

Just take a look at this question.

"Here at the wonderful school of LBHS, we have certain students who love to sleep in class. I even see students fall asleep during exams! Can you believe that?! I don't like it when students sleep in class... it's rude! So, WAKE THE #\$\$K UP! Well, through much study, I have concluded that the gene for falling asleep is dominant. Not only that some students sleep, they snore in class. This too is a dominant trait. What are the possible offspring if you cross a homozygous sleeping, heterozygous snoring student (student name) with a homozygous attentive, non-snoring (student name) student?"

Really? The teacher goes as far as insinuating curse words on a final exam and uses the names of students without their permission.

LeBron Hill



But then, apparently Nguyen wanted to sprinkle a little bit of racism into this very odd test.

"For some reason, the African American culture has influenced most of the student body. How? In African Americans, they have a gene for the pimp walk, which is dominant. What is the result if you cross (student name) homozygous dominant Latina with a homozygous recessive Hmong like (student name)?"

Nguyen calls this a test but clearly he doesn't know a thing about genes. For one, and I can't believe that I have to say this, but Black people don't have a gene for a pimp walk. And second, genes are not passed down by race. There is no genetic basis for race. If anything, there's actually more gene diversity within races than between them.

Hasn't this so-called "teacher" taken an anthropology class?

Just a friendly reminder, spreading foolish stereotypes is something that an ill-informed and ignorant person does, not a molder of young minds.

Using a kid's full name in a test and then making fun of them is cruel punishment that is the equivalent of bullying.

Teachers are the moral compass for a classroom. They set the stan-

dard how an adult should act for these young impressionable students.

How does a teacher with years of experience with kids ignore the impact of hurtful words?

Not only are Nguyen's words hurtful, they're just plain ugly. These questions seem to be coming from someone who is done with teaching. Why else would a teacher use such disgusting and inappropriate language for a final exam.

In a story on the incident by the Bee's Jenna Pendleton, some of Nguyen's students said they did not want him fired. But this is certainly a serious enough offense to merit the most serious of consequences. No such blatantly disrespectful should be used by someone who holds a coveted position as teaching.

This is yet another litmus test of the leadership of the Sacramento City Unified School District. How could the district place on leave a journalism professor at C.K. McClatchy High School for printing accurate things that a student said, even if the words are uncomfortable, and go easy on a teacher making deliberate verbal attacks on students? A school spokesman told Pendleton that Nguyen was placed on leave as of the last day of the school year. Perhaps that is a start. Some broader district guidelines on teacher conduct and testing protocol seems to be in order.

Whatever made Nguyen come up with this racist exam, he flunked a fundamental test of what an educator is supposed to do.

Teachers are supposed to lift their students up, not break them down.

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

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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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POET awards \$8,500 in grants

Three organizations will be receiving assistance from a local business.

POET Bioprocessing of Portland recently announced that it has awarded \$8,500 through its 2024 Community Impact Grant Program.

Area 18 Career and Technical Education received the largest award of \$4,000 to establish a career exploration lab at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. Pennville Community Gardens was awarded \$2,500 to expand its garden to include asparagus and rhubarb and increase the amount of other crops, and the Jay Schools tennis program will get \$2,000 to purchase a ball machine.

“Making a positive impact in our communities is at the core of what we do at POET,” said Adam Homan, General Manager of POET Bioprocessing – Portland, in a press release. “We’re proud to partner with other local organizations that share our vision of creating a better, brighter future for everyone.”

For more on the grant program, visit poet.com/grants.

Program launching

Ball State University's College of Sciences and Humanities will offer a bachelor's degree in forensic science.

The new program will focus on the application of scientific knowledge and methods to investigate crimes, enforce government regulations and resolve civil disputes. Courses, including behavioral forensics, digital forensics, forensic biology

Business roundup

and forensic chemistry, will begin this fall.

“The College of Sciences and Humanities is excited to offer this robust program for our students. We are already seeing significant student interest in our Fall enrollments,” said Dr. Benjamin Gibbs, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology and director of the forensic science program.

Job fairs set

The United States Postal Service is hosting a series of job fairs this month.

The job fairs are designed to make postal service staff available to provide information and answer questions about open positions. Applications are submitted online at usps.com/careers.

Job fairs in the area are scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, July 25, at the following locations:

- 205 S. Main St., Bluffton
- 106 S. Ogden St., Ossian
- 130 N. Meridian St., Winchester

Ascend awards

Central Indiana Corporate Partnership's talent and workforce development initiative, Ascend Indiana, recently awarded \$175,000 to launch youth apprenticeship pilots in their communities.

Eastern Indiana Works of Muncie and East Central Education Service

Center of New Castle were among the organizations receiving grants. They are part of the Indiana Youth Apprenticeship Accelerator, which launched three years ago to expand work-based learning programs and to develop a coordinated education-to-career ecosystem.

“These four sites have identified industries and career pathways that are meaningful to their local communities, and I am eager to see their programs become available to local students and employers,” said Brad Rhorer, president and CEO of Ascend Indiana, in a press release. “Indiana is leading the nation in building a system to support the development and delivery of youth apprenticeship programs statewide and these sites are part of that statewide movement.”

Morphic purchased

Eli Lilly and Company last week announced that it has reached an agreement to acquire biopharmaceutical firm Morphic. The company is developing oral integrin therapies for treatment of serious chronic diseases. Its lead program is targeting treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.

“Oral therapies could open up new possibilities for earlier intervention in diseases like ulcerative colitis, and also provide the potential for combination therapy to help patients with more severe disease,” said Dr. Daniel Skovronsky, chief scientific officer of Lilly, in a press release. “We are eager to welcome Morphic colleagues to Lilly as this

strategic transaction reinforces our commitment to developing new therapies in the field of gastroenterology, where Lilly has made significant investments to deliver first-in-class molecules for the benefit of patients.”

Applications open

Indiana Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for the Indiana Best Places to Work in Manufacturing 2024 awards.

Manufacturers can register for the program at bestplacestoworkmanufacturingin.com. For more information, email answers@workforcerg.com or call (281) 602-5004. The deadline is July 26.

Named to lead

America's Newspapers Foundation's board of directors has selected Cameron Nutting Williams to join its board of directors.

Williams, regional publisher and chief revenue officer of Ogden Newspapers, is a former president of America's Newspapers.

“I am thrilled to continue to serve the news media industry through the America's Newspapers Foundation,” Williams said. “Just like our businesses, we need to ensure that the programs supporting our members are built sustainably for the long-term. The creation and funding of the America's Newspapers Foundation is critical to making that happen.”

Partnership extended

Dollar General on Thursday announced that it is extending its partner-

ship with Feeding America with an additional \$1 million grant.

The funding will support the organization's efforts to address food insecurity. The company also plans to donate an average of more than 1.9 million pounds of grocery items each month.

“As America's largest retailer by store count, we are proud of the positive impact our Feeding America partnership continues to make in combating food insecurity and increasing access to nutritious food,” shared Denine Torr, Dollar General's vice president of corporate social responsibility and philanthropy, in a press release. “During the last three years, our work with Feeding America and its local food bank network has provided nutritious essentials to neighbors in need. We look forward to continuing our efforts to address food insecurity and appreciate Feeding America's ongoing partnership.”

Grant awarded

CVS Health last week announced a \$1 million grant for Women's & Infants Hospital of Providence, Rhode Island.

The grant will go toward increasing access to maternal health services, including programming to expand its workforce and launch a new postpartum mobile unit. The grant will also allow the hiring of additional staff to support the hospital's Postpartum Hypertension Equity Program.

“Our commitment to women's health includes improving access to the services needed for a

healthy pregnancy, birth and postpartum care,” said CVS senior vice president of corporate social responsibility and chief sustainability officer Sheryl Burke in a press release. “By supporting the Women & Infants Hospital, we hope to strengthen their incredible work to ensure our neighbors receive consistent and high-quality care where and when they need it most.”

Adding to menu

Subway last week announced that it is adding new menu items and bringing former items back.

The offerings announced included Honey Mustard BBQ Chicken, Spicy Nacho Chicken and Cheesy Garlic Steak as sandwiches. It is also adding a new cheddar cheese sauce, bringing back its BBQ sauce after a three-year hiatus and introducing the Sub-Krunch sandwich topping.

“Subway's new menu update is all about great flavor at a great value and giving our guests new ways to take their footlong subs and snacks to the next level,” said Paul Fabre, Subway senior vice president of culinary innovation, in a press release. “These bold new bites offer even more compelling reasons to visit your local Subway restaurant this summer to discover your new favorite footlong.”

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Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@theocr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Consumers must shop smart for best deals

By NICOLE NORFLEET

Star Tribune
Tribune News Service

After more than a year of cost hikes, consumers who have recently checked their receipts may have noticed something odd — prices for some of their everyday essentials, from Clorox wipes to organic granola bars, have started to ring up a little cheaper.

In what at least one retailer has dubbed “a summer of savings,” mass retailers like Target, Walmart, Walgreens as well as grocery chains like Aldi have cut prices on thousands of common items as they try to woo customers on the hunt for value.

On top of those savings, the industry is in the midst of midyear seasonal sales that include Target Circle Week, which began last weekend, and

Amazon Prime Day, which starts next week.

For months, consumers have felt the choking squeeze of rapid price increases. During the pandemic, there was a dearth of deals when inventory levels were sporadic. For cost-conscious shoppers, this heavily promotional period feels like a breath of fresh air.

“Price is very important to me,” said stay-at-home mom Chantel Wiskuras as she shopped with her two young sons at the new Aldi store in Ramsey, Minnesota, on Thursday morning. Wiskuras immediately noticed Aldi had recently lowered the price of freeze dried apple slices and organic strawberries, a favorite snack of her 1-year-old son.

“I've definitely seen a decrease,” she said. “I used to

get a couple of (bags of fruit) and now I get a lot.”

It's an era of deals.

Major retailers are publicizing their price cuts as they openly acknowledge why — more promotions to stay competitive — and each price cut announcement seems to have a domino effect. In mid May, Walmart announced it was reducing prices on 7,000 items including food. Days later, Minneapolis-headquartered Target Corporation, which has had a year of sales declines, said it was cutting the price of 5,000 food, beverage and household essentials items.

Even though the growing amount of cheaper merchandise is a small percentage of their total inventory, corporations know they have to keep prices relatively low as shoppers focus on affordability.

“Our commitment to investing in price on behalf of our guests is to pass savings back along to them to accelerate traffic and unit growth over time,” said Christina Hennington, Target's new chief growth officer in a recent earnings call with analysts.

Leaders at Amazon's Amazon Fresh and Whole Foods grocery stores have said their prices have been reduced. Walgreens said it continues to lower prices on more than 1,300 items including mini pretzels and sanitary pads.

Discount grocery Aldi announced this summer it would lower the prices of hundreds of groceries including sirloin steak and frozen blueberries. A couple hundred customers lined up around the block to await the opening of its new Ramsey store, a testament to the lure of savings.

“A lot of people because of inflation had to work on smaller budgets. A lot of people because of inflation had to start to explore private label, dollar stores and so I think what you are seeing now is a reaction to that,” said Mark Bergen, a marketing professor at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management. “The world has changed and store brands, private labels, discount retailers, they are all a much bigger part of customers lives and so the price pressure on manufacturers and retailers I think is real and changing and long term.”

The barrage of price cut announcements likely was a marketing move to sound the sales siren, said Dhruv Grewal, a marketing professor at private Massachusetts business school



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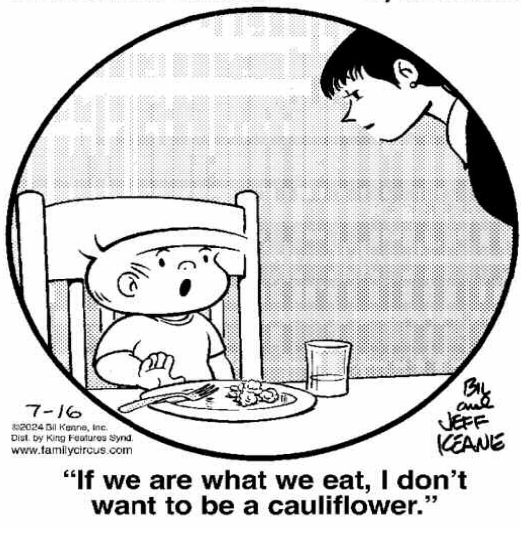
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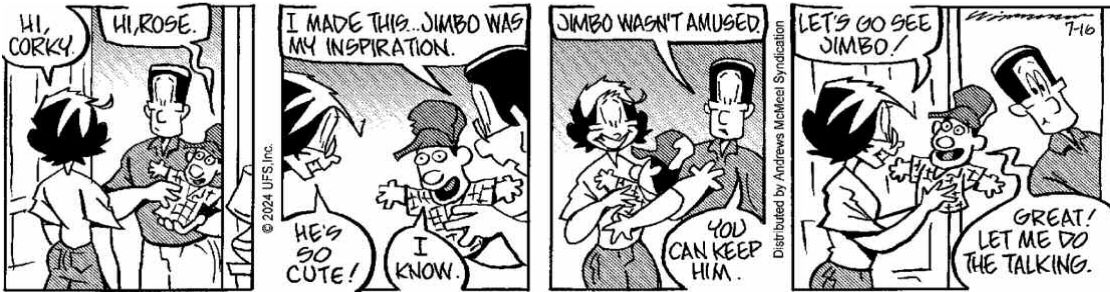
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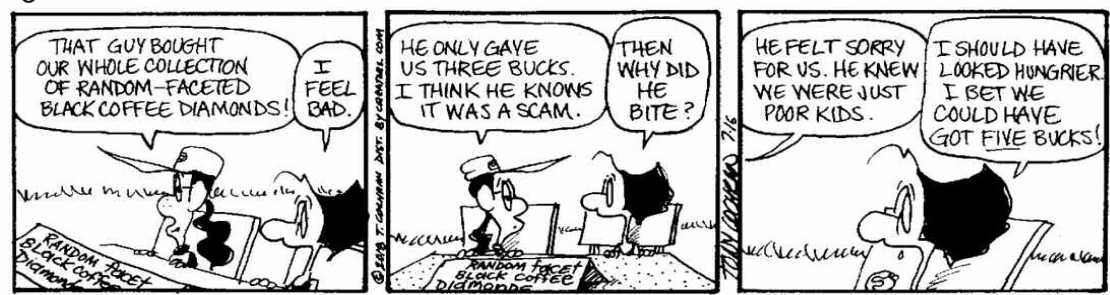
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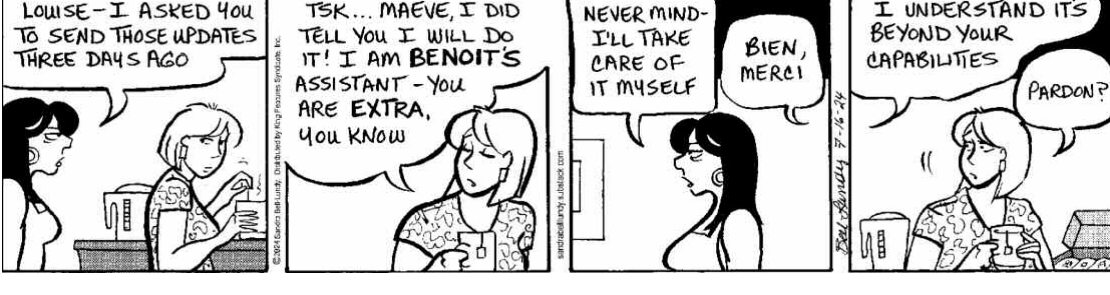
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Hi and Lois



Between Friends



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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Steeplechase

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: J 743, 10 94, A 10 8 5 2, Q 5 4 3, 6. EAST: K Q 8 5 3, J 6, 10 9 8 6, Q 10. SOUTH: A 7 6 2, K Q 9, A K 2, J 9 8.

The bidding: West 3 Pass, North 3 Pass, East 3 NT, South 3 NT. Opening lead — five of hearts. Everyone is familiar with the story of the Trojan horse, and the adage about what not to do with a gift horse.

7-16 CRYPTOQUIP

WTOLXR XSLIO IKVP WFSW FSU S PZD PSKK OHZWWZLD ZLXZDQ-IQKQTOX KZDFW POSHU: PKVO-TSR XZUIQ. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I SUPPOSE EGGS SHOULDN'T TRADE MANY HILARIOUS JOKES, OR THEY JUST MIGHT CRACK EACH OTHER UP.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 37 Caravan, 1 Military force, 5 Weeps, 9 Wager, 12 Corporate symbol, 13 Tea carrier, 14 "Feels so good!", 15 Backyard attractions, 17 Code-breaking gp., 18 Eternities, 19 Memento, 21 Cellist Casals, 24 Belgrade resident, 25 Historic times, 26 Cinema fan, 30 Scepter, 31 Jeans brand, 32 Keats creation, 33 Impartial, 35 Leave out, 36 X-ray doses. DOWN: 2 King, in Cannes, 3 Store boss (Abbr.), 4 Alpine songs, 5 Getz of jazz, 6 Scraps, 7 "Hum-bug!", 8 Methods, 9 Depositor's records, 10 Lighten, 11 Compared to, 16 Scary cry, 20 URL ending, 21 Andean land, 22 "East of Eden" son, 23 Misfortunes, 24 Lost traction (up), 26 Own (up), 27 "— had it!", 28 Actress Falco, 29 Workout count, 31 Colorful beetle, 34 Author Fleming, 35 Lustrous fabric, 37 Sphere, 38 Follow, 39 Sicilian peak, 40 Maintained, 41 "Topaz" author, 44 Conceit, 45 NYC airport, 46 Trail the pack, 47 Gridiron stats.

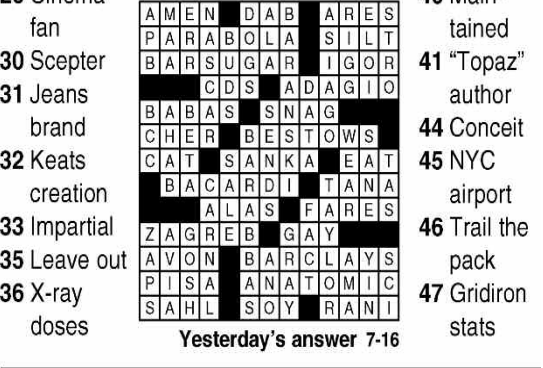


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Alcaraz eases past Djokovic for Wimbledon title

By ELEANOR CROOKS

PA Media/dpa

Tribune News Service

LONDON — Carlos Alcaraz stamped his authority on Wimbledon by beating Novak Djokovic for the second year in a row to retain his men's singles title on Sunday.

After a five-set classic 12 months ago that saw Djokovic dethroned as the king of Centre Court, here it was all over in just two hours and 27 minutes as Alcaraz overcame a late wobble to claim a 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (7-4) victory.

The 21-year-old Spaniard becomes just the second man in the open era after Roger Federer to win his first four Grand Slam finals, and has outdone the great Swiss, Djokovic and Rafael Nadal by reaching that landmark before his 22nd birthday.

With Jannik Sinner having won the Australian

Open and Alcaraz going back-to-back at the French Open and Wimbledon, it finally appears that men's tennis belongs to the new generation.

Alcaraz said: "Honestly it is a dream for me winning this trophy. I did an interview when I was 11 or 12 and said my dream is to win Wimbledon. I'm fulfilling my dream."

"For me this is the most beautiful tournament, the most beautiful court and the most beautiful trophy."

"Djokovic is an unbelievable fighter; I knew he was going to have his chances. It was difficult but I tried to stay calm going into the tie-break and tried to play my best tennis. I was glad at the end I could find the solutions."

Djokovic, meanwhile, is still agonizingly short of an all-time record 25th slam singles title, and

remains one behind Federer's tally of eight Wimbledon crowns.

Last year was a wobbling of the foundations but it took everything Alcaraz had to wrest the title from Djokovic and he promptly dominated the rest of the season.

But the 37-year-old has had a dreadful 2024 by his own standards, losing heavily to Jannik Sinner in the Australian Open quarter-finals and failing to reach a final at any level.

Then came the meniscus tear in his right knee at the French Open that forced him to withdraw, but which also seemed to give him back his fire, another challenge to overcome.

While he has appeared at times to be superhuman, there is no doubt it was a hugely impressive feat for Djokovic just to

make the start-line, and his movement had improved through the tournament.

But he had been lucky with the draw, not facing another top-10 player and seeing his scheduled quarter-final opponent forced out by injury.

The big question mark was therefore whether Djokovic was playing as well or in as good shape as he appeared, and the answer soon became clear.

The match began in dramatic fashion with a 13-minute first game where Djokovic saved four break points before sending a forehand wide on Alcaraz's fifth chance.

Alcaraz was simply playing at a different speed to his opponent, his forehand too hot to handle for the Serbian, who betrayed a lack of confidence in his ability to compete with his young opponent from the

back of the court by repeatedly rushing to the net.

He was winning only a third of the points there, though, dropping serve again on a double fault after Alcaraz had sent down a serve at 136 miles per hour, his fastest of the tournament.

And the Spaniard was not about to be distracted by a shout of 'Come on England' as he served for the opening set.

Alcaraz's dominance continued in the second set, the 21-year-old breaking Djokovic in the opening game then again at 4-2 when for the second time in the match he double-faulted on break point.

He needed something to spark him into life and it came in the third game of the third set when he saved four break points, yelling as he walked back to his chair.

Djokovic has been the

villain of the Wimbledon crowd again this tournament but here they were chanting his name, willing the classic match they had expected to break out.

He had a chance to move ahead at 3-2 but it was snatched away with an Alcaraz serve, and it seemed all but over when the second seed played a stunning game to break at 4-4.

Moments later Alcaraz was up 40-0 with three match points but he froze dramatically at the finish line, serving a double fault and making a succession of errors, one after an ill-timed scream from a woman in the crowd, to allow Djokovic to break back.

Alcaraz steadied himself, though, and completed the job in the tie-break to successfully defend a slam crown for the first time.

Breach ...

Continued from page 8

"A bunch of fans stormed one of the gates and went into the stadium while the stadium was still closed," said Detective Luis Sierra of the Miami-Dade Police Department.

As of 7 p.m. ET, Sierra said several people had been detained but did not have an exact number.

Soon after, the police department tweeted, "We have had several incidents prior to the gates opening at Hard Rock Stadium for the Copa America final game. These incidents have been the result of the unruly behavior of fans trying to access

the stadium. We are asking everyone to be patient," adding that there was a "ZERO TOLERANCE" policy for unruly conduct. "Unruly behavior will get you ejected and/or arrested," the department warned.

The incident comes amid heightened security at the Copa America tournament following a post-game brawl at Wednesday's semi-final between Colombia and Uruguay at Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Uruguayan players, claiming their family members were being attacked and bullied by Colombian fans, climbed into

the stands and a fight ensued.

Argentina coach Lionel Scaloni had urged fans to behave leading up to the final game.

"The final game should be a party centered around the joy of playing to win a title," Scaloni said. "Those images (from the brawl) were very ugly and sad. Anybody who was in that situation would have reacted the same way, seeing your family members, wives, kids, mothers, in danger. We ask our players to be good role models, but when they see their family in that situation, it is natural to react the way those young men did."

Scaloni said when he was a player for Argentina, they faced a similar situation at Maracana Stadium in Brazil and went into the stands to protect their loved ones.

"I hope nothing like that happens Sunday, from the bottom of my heart," Scaloni said. "May the fans of Colombia and Argentina enjoy this event. We will all have friends and family there and don't want to have to worry if something will happen to them. Those images were like something from 50 years ago and should not be happening."

The pregame security breach at Hard Rock Stadium Sunday night marred what had been a

festive atmosphere leading up to the match between defending champion Argentina, led by Inter Miami star Lionel Messi, and resurgent Colombia, led by James Rodriguez.

An estimated 7,000 Colombians showed up outside Le Meridien hotel in Dania Beach Saturday night to celebrate the team, which was staying there. They played music, danced, and set off fireworks at the banderazo (pep rally) as the players waved from the hotel entrance.

South Florida's Argentine neighborhoods and restaurants were awash in sky blue and white for days.

Blaney ...

Continued from page 8

Wrecks piled up on restarts during the final stage, which lasted 65 laps — the same length as Stage 2 following a shorter 30-lap opening stage. The biggest crash came when Corey LaJoie got into Kyle Busch, sending the No. 8 Richard Childress Racing Chevy spin-

ning up the grass and collecting seven cars.

The three-turned track known as the "Tricky Triangle" features a longer pit road than usual, and speeding penalties were being assessed in Section 7 throughout the day. Kyle Larson, Chase Elliott, Daniel Suarez and Gibbs

got penalized in that section of pit road late after being in contention for most of the race.

The final caution was prompted by an engine issue from the No. 54 Toyota of Gibbs, and Blaney led the field back to green. Bowman restarted on the front row and pushed from P2 late for

the second straight week.

Hamlin worked around Bowman, but Blaney built a lead and didn't look back. He opened a lead of roughly two seconds, and the race's final 23 laps stayed green.

Cole Custer won his first Xfinity race of the season on Saturday.

The 2023 Xfinity Series champion's return to Victory Lane marked the first Ford win in the series this year. Custer got to the lead after a late restart, holding off Justin Allgaier and Byron.

Byron, who won the pole in last year's Cup race at Pocono that was

won by Hamlin, led 17 of 90 laps in his third Xfinity start of the season. He was fast in the No. 17 Chevrolet for Hendrick Motorsports — after the Cup driver qualified on the front row on Sunday, finishing in the Top Five for the seventh time this year.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Thursday
Portland Rockets in Carrington Red Tourney vs. Fort Wayne Blues — 7 p.m.

Friday
Portland Rockets in Carrington Red Tourney — TBD

TV sports

Today
6 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Charlotte Hornets vs. Denver Nuggets (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Philadelphia 76ers vs. Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Los

Angeles Clippers vs. Milwaukee Bucks (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — MLB: All-Star Game (FOX)
8 p.m. — Wrestling: WWE Raw (USA)

Wednesday
12 p.m. — International friendly basketball: Serbia vs. USA (FS1)
5 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Toronto Raptors vs. Utah Jazz (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — WNBA: Indiana Fever at Dallas Wings (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. — MLS: Orlando City at Nashville SC (FS1)
9:30 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Los Angeles Lakers vs. Atlanta Hawks (ESPN)
10:45 p.m. — MLS: Real Salt Lake at Los Angeles FC (FS1)

Local notes

Season tickets for sale
Jay County High School will begin selling season tickets Monday, July 22. Tickets can be purchased Monday from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-7 p.m. Starting Tuesday, they will be available during office hours from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

The Patriot Pass and Senior Patriot Pass (for those 65-and-older) cover all high school and junior high events. The former costs \$105 while the latter is \$60.

For just high school events, High School Adult Super Tickets (\$80) and Senior Super Tickets for those 65-and-older (\$45) are available. Junior High Super Tickets are available for \$60.

Also available are a Pre-Paid Sports Pass, good for 12 games at \$50, boys basketball season passes for \$50 and football season passes for \$25.

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.

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 healthcare scholarships and community health. For more information,

contact Kim Trombley by emailing kim.trombley@adamshelthnetwork.org or by calling (260) 724-2145 ext. 13062.

Date set
The 42nd annual Cancer Association of Darke County/Annie Oakley Golf Tournament is set to take place on July 22 at Turtle Creek Golf Course in Greenville, Ohio.

Lunch will be served at 11:15 a.m., with a shotgun start to follow at 12:15 p.m.

All proceeds will go to the Cancer Association of Darke County.

For additional information or an entry form call (937) 548-9960 or email director@cadcinfo.org.

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

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Public Notice

MDK # 24-008997
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC
Plaintiff,
vs.
Joel R. Posner
Defendant.
NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Joel R. Posner.
BE IT KNOWN, that CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC, the above-named Plaintiff, by its attorney, Nicholas M. Smith, has filed in the office of the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court its Complaint against Defendant Joel R. Posner, and the said Plaintiff having also filed in said Clerk's office the affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of the Defendant, Joel R. Posner, upon diligent inquiry is unknown, and that said cause of action is for default on the promissory note and to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate in Jay County, State of Indiana, to wit:
A part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 24 North, Range 13 East, more accurately described as follows:
Beginning at a 5/8 inch rebar marking the Northeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 24 North, Range 13 East, thence South 02 degrees 33 minutes 14 seconds West (assumed bearing) on the East line of said quarter section 400.19 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar; thence North 89 degrees 12 minutes 32 seconds West parallel with the North line of said quarter section 435.12 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar; thence North 02 degrees 33 minutes 14 seconds East parallel to the East line of said quarter section 400.19 feet to a 5/8 inch rebar on the North line of said quarter section; thence south 89 degrees 12 minutes 52 seconds east 435.12 feet to the point of beginning, containing 4.00 acres, more or less.
commonly known as 4559 West 400 North, Portland, IN 47371.
NOW, THEREFORE, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint against them and that unless they appear and answer or otherwise defend thereto within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published, judgment by default may be entered against said Defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint.
Dated Clerk, Jay Circuit Court
Nicholas M. Smith (31800-15)
Stephanie A. Reinhart (25071-06)
J. Dustin Smith (29493-06)
Chris Wiley (26936-10)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC
P.O. Box 165028
Columbus OH 43216-5028
Telephone: 614-220-5611
Facsimile: 614-220-5613
Email: sef-nms@manleydeas.com
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Sports

Jay County claims second at conference

BERNE — Addisyn Champ put together a strong resume entering the final meet of the season.

She didn't disappoint, but it just wasn't enough to lift Jay County to the top spot.

The Jay County Summer Swim team wrapped up its season on Saturday with a second-place finish in the Wabash Valley Conference Championships on Saturday at Berne Public Pool.

Jay County tallied 2,396 points in the meet, only falling short to Wells Community which earned a score of 2,758. Host South Adams trailed behind with 1,381 points to finish third, while the combined team of Blackford and Marion could only manage 462.

Jay County claimed 27 of the 62 events and dominated the girls 9-10-year-old division. They swept the top three spots in the long and short freestyle events, took the top two spots in the breaststroke and had two of Jay County's three triple-contest winners in the age group.

Champ was one of the two claiming the top spot in the 9-10-year-old long freestyle, backstroke and short freestyle. The wins secured Champ her fourth perfect season in which she has won every individual event.

Carsyn Guggenbiller claimed the other three individual events in the age group, winning the butterfly, individual medley and the breaststroke.

Cooper Glentzer ended up as the only Jay County boy with three wins. His

victories came in the boys 13-14-year-old long freestyle and backstroke and the open 200-meter freestyle.

Five more swimmers finished with a pair of wins.

Out of the 8-and-younger divisions, Laynie Mann claimed the girls backstroke and short freestyle, while Graham Peterson picked up wins in the boys butterfly and backstroke.

Ethan Peterson had the best day for Jay County in the boys 9-10-year-old age group with first-place finishes in the long and short freestyle events.

Elly Byrum and Grady Warvel both secured a pair of wins from the 13-14-year-old divisions. Byrum won the girls butterfly and short freestyle, while Warvel topped the butterfly and individual medley.

Eight more swimmers earned conference championships:

- Adelynn Laurence in the girls 8-and-younger long freestyle

- Hayden Guggenbiller in the girls 8-and-younger butterfly

- Isabelle Byrum in the girls 11-12-year-old long freestyle

- Sophie Warvel in the girls 11-12-year-old breaststroke

- Sam Benirschke in the boys 11-12-year-old breaststroke

- Maria Laux in the girls 13-14-year-old backstroke

- Carson Westgerdes in the boys 13-14-year-old backstroke

- Brooklyn Byrum in the girls 15-and-older butterfly



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

The Jay County Summer Swim team took second place in the Wabash Valley Conference Championships on Saturday at Berne Public Pool. Pictured above, Carson Westgerdes swims the breaststroke leg of Jay County's boys 13-14-year-old 200-meter medley relay team that took first place. Below, Ellie Wiggins swims the girls 9-10-year-old 50 freestyle, finishing second to Addisyn Champ.



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Fans breach security gates at Hard Rock Stadium

By MICHELLE KAUFMAN

Miami Herald
Tribune News Service

MIAMI — The Argentine and Colombian fans' passion for their national soccer teams was palpable long before kickoff of the Copa America final at Hard Rock Stadium on Sunday night, but some fans were so desperate to get in that they stormed a gate and breached security, forcing police to lock down the entrance temporarily.

Kickoff was delayed from 8 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. as a result, as thousands of fans were stranded outside the gates, waiting to get in.

"In anticipation of tonight's Copa America final, thousands of fans without tickets attempted to forcibly enter the stadium, putting other fans, security and law enforce-

Copa America final delayed by half an hour

ment officers at (risk)," read a statement from a Hard Rock Stadium spokesperson. "Security has shut the gates in order to control the entry process at a much slower rate and ensure everyone is kept safe."

"As a result, the match start time has been delayed until further notice to accommodate for ticketed fans to be able to enter safely. All fans without tickets MUST leave the Hard Rock Stadium premises. It is paramount to a successful and safe match."

Both sets of fans, among the most fun-loving in Latin America, partied side by side without incident in the parking lots for hours all afternoon, singing, dancing and posing for photos together. But once it was time to wait in line in the sweltering heat to go through security lines and enter the stadium gates, video on social media showed dozens of fans breaking through and then being grabbed and apprehended by police and security guards.

See Breach page 7

Blaney takes Pocono! for second victory of season

By SHANE CONNUCK

The Charlotte Observer
Tribune News Service

Ryan Blaney is a two-time NASCAR winner this season.

The Cup Series' defending champion held off the field late in a competitive race at Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pennsylvania, to secure his second victory of the season. It marks the 12th career win in 327 Cup starts for the driver of the No. 12 Ford.

Less than a month after more than 80 of his mother's family members were on-site for his victory at Iowa, the Team Penske driver noted that extended family of his fiancé, Gianna Tulio, were at Pocono to see his win on Sunday.

Blaney returned to Victory Lane at the track where he won his first race — seven years after the Ohio native piloted the No. 21 Wood Brothers Ford and scored his first career Cup Series win back in 2017.

"It's just a special win here today,"

Blaney said. "You love tracks that have special meaning to you. Where you get your first win, things like that. This place means so much to me. And my fiancé — a ton of her family is here, I can't wait to see Gianna's family."

Denny Hamlin finished second, Alex Bowman came in third, William Byron fourth and Joey Logano fifth.

How Blaney earned his second win of the NASCAR season

Martin Truex Jr., the recent Cup Series champion who is retiring after this season, won Stage 1 in his final race at Pocono.

The two Charlotteans started the race on the front row, with Ty Gibbs on the pole for the second time in his career alongside Byron's No. 24 Chevy. There was only one caution during each of the stages, respectively, and Hamlin recorded the win following Stage 2.

See Blaney page 7