

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Adding to opera



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Karen Meiring looks up as confetti falls around her Friday during a groundbreaking ceremony for Fort Recovery Morvilius Opera House. Renovation work on the 141-year-old building is scheduled to begin in the next couple of weeks.

### Groundbreaking celebrates upcoming construction; Morvilius work expected to begin within two weeks

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

It's been five years since efforts began to restore Fort Recovery Morvilius Opera House to its former glory.

Work to add on to the 141-year-old building is slated to begin in the next two weeks.

Fort Recovery Friends of the Opera House celebrated upcoming construction plans with a groundbreaking ceremony Friday.

"This building we are standing next to, which is now in the historic registry, represents a bygone day when live entertainment was hugely popular," said Kim Rammel, president of Fort Recovery Friends of the Opera House. "It was a time when the opera house upstairs would be packed with spectators to see

various types of live entertainment. It has seen years' worth of graduations and school plays. We've always thought, if these walls could talk, what would they really tell us?"

The opera house, a two-story building at 101 N. Wayne St., was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in February 2022.

Cy and Helen LeFevre and Jerry and Lorri Kaup of Fort Recovery purchased the building in 2019 and donated it to Fort Recovery Area Arts Council in hopes of restoring it.

Fort Recovery Friends of the Opera House committee has raised more than \$2 million toward opera house renovation efforts in the last four years. Also, the group secured \$500,000 at the end of June from the

Ohio capital budget bill for renovation work.

"I'm just here to let you know that everybody on our board is very interested in making sure that Fort Recovery's the best place to live," said Jerry Kaup.

Freytag & Associates of Sidney, Ohio, is the group's architectural consultant for its planned annex project. Construction, estimated at roughly \$1 million, includes an addition connecting to the west side of the building. It will have an elevator, restrooms, foyer space and a section for catering events.

Plans are to take the existing south room on the first floor and tear down the west wall, connecting it to the annex. The existing staircase will likely be demolished to make room for

the elevator, which will make the facility handicap-accessible.

A new doorway and windows will also be installed on the southeast portion of the building facing Wayne Street, with the plans to fill the room with local history memorabilia. The portion of the first floor currently serving as the main entrance will be renovated into a space for meetings and offices. The northernmost portion of the building — a section of the west part of it was irreparably damaged from a fire in the 1970s — will also see some work, with the fire-damaged portion being torn down and a new wall installed. (The portion damaged was not original to the building.)

See Adding page 2

## Scores stayed stagnant in 2024

Passage rate for ILEARN hovering around 41%

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

New state standardized test results show stagnant progress among Hoosier students in grades 3 through A8, signaling a continued struggle to reverse widespread learning loss following the COVID-19 pandemic.

New ILEARN scores show 41% of Indiana students who were tested earlier this spring were at or above proficiency standards in English and language arts (ELA), according to new data released Wednesday by the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). That's on par with the year prior, when 40.7% of students were proficient.

The percentage of students at or above proficiency standards in math, on the other hand, saw a slight decrease — from 40.9% in 2023 to 40.7% in the most recent school year.

Data released by IDOE reported 30.8% of Hoosier students passed both the math and English sections of ILEARN. That's slightly up from last year's spring test results, which showed that 30.6% earned dual passing scores.

Nearly 493,000 students sat for both exams this spring.

"While many grades have seen increases in both ELA and math proficiency over the past three years, we must continue to keep our foot on the gas pedal to ensure all students have a solid academic foundation in order to maximize their future opportunities," Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner said in a statement. "A number of key tactics have been put in place to support educators, parents, families and students. It is essential that our local schools and parents/families continue to work together and stay laser-focused on improving student learning in ELA, as well as math."

ILEARN scores continue to trail behind 2019 results, when 47.9% of Hoosiers in grades 3-8 earned passing scores on the English and 47.8% did so in math.

## Russia and Ukraine exchange prisoners

Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Russia and Ukraine exchanged a total of 190 prisoners in a swap mediated by the United Arab Emirates, the sixth such transfer this year.

The Defense Ministry in Moscow said it handed over 95 Ukrainian prisoners and received 95 of its own military personnel. The UAE provided "humanitarian mediation" for the exchange, the ministry said in a statement Wednesday on Telegram. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy confirmed the swap in a separate post on Telegram, and thanked the UAE for its role in the transfer.

The deal brings the total number of captives released with UAE help this year to almost 1,400. The Gulf state has mediated numerous exchanges, not only between Russia and Ukraine but also between Russia and the U.S. It provided logistical support and the location of the swap when Moscow freed WNBA basketball star Brittney Griner in return for convicted arms dealer Viktor Bout in December 2022.

In early June, President Vladimir Putin said Russia was holding 6,465 Ukrainian prisoners of war and alleged authorities in Kyiv were holding 1,348 Russians.

## Red all around

Cherith Butler of the Jay County High School Marching Patriots color guard performs Saturday during the Archway Classic. JCHS placed third in its season opener. The Marching Patriots will host the Jay County Lions band contested at 7 p.m. Friday at Jay County Fairgrounds. They are scheduled to take the track at 8:05 p.m.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Deaths

- Eugene Reinhart, 96, Bryant
  - Pauline Reinhart, 91, rural Portland
  - Richard Kinser, 92, Hartford City
  - Debra Bowers, 68, Portland
- Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 82 degrees Wednesday. The low was 70. Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the mid 50s. Expect sunny skies Friday with a high in the upper 70s. Highs will climb back into the 80s this weekend. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

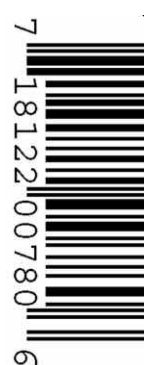
### In review

Jay County Democrats elected Gary Schmiesing as their new treasurer during a caucus Monday. The party still needs to fill its open vice chairman role. Randy Geesaman and Fred Bailey were elected chair and secretary, respectively, of the Jay County Democrats last month.

### Coming up

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

**Saturday** — Results from the Jay County Lions Band Contest.



# Adding ...

Continued from page 1  
Project director Rick Stahl — he's a St. Henry resident who has worked in construction for 40 years — said plans are to get the addition built and enclosed before winter. Work on the indoor portion will continue throughout the cold-weather months. Committee members

estimate the work will take between 10 months and a year to complete.  
Carol Jutte, a committee member, pointed out efforts to restore the building have resulted in reconnecting lost ties between Morvilius family members.  
"The Morvilius family had

no idea that this was here," she said. "And, since we've started this project and put the banners up, we have found Morvilius family members in Selma, Indiana, in Cleveland, Ohio, in Nebraska, in Montana, and in Florida, so, and they have all kind of found each other, so I think that's just a neat side

line that comes out of our project here."  
Brandy Jutte has been a part of the committee since it was formed. She recalled her slogan for the group at its beginning.  
"We're preserving the history of today for the future of tomorrow," she said. "That's

really what we're doing, and my kids, and their kids, and everybody is going to get the benefit once we're done."  
She pointed out it takes time to see progress happening at the building, but she noted their end goal is in sight.  
"It's a dream, but it's going to be a real dream," she said.

## CR almanac

Friday 7/19	Saturday 7/20	Sunday 7/21	Monday 7/22	Tuesday 7/23
<b>78/56</b>	<b>80/60</b>	<b>81/63</b>	<b>81/65</b>	<b>79/66</b>
Friday's forecast shows sunny skies with highs in the upper 70s.	Another day of sun is expected Saturday. Temperatures could reach as high as 80.	Mostly cloudy on Sunday. The temperature may hit the low 80s degrees.	There's a slight chance of thunderstorms on Monday.	Another chance of storms on Tuesday, when the high will be in the 70s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$75 million	Evening Daily Three: 8-3-5 Daily Four: 3-2-8-0 Quick Draw: 2-3-5-6-9-10-23-28-33-37-41-44-47-54-59-61-64-67-72-80
<b>Mega Millions</b> 5-35-42-58-66 Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$251 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 3-5-5 Pick 4: 8-1-0-9 Pick 5: 1-1-9-2-7 Evening Pick 3: 6-2-4 Pick 4: 7-0-1-6 Pick 5: 0-9-7-8-5 Rolling Cash: 7-10-16-33-36 Estimated jackpot: \$242,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 0-0-6 Daily Four: 3-2-9-2 Quick Draw: 4-9-14-24-31-33-37-39-44-45-47-48-56-58-60-61-70-77-78-79	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....3.84 Aug. corn .....3.88 Wheat .....4.64	Aug. beans.....9.93 Wheat ..... 4.89
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....3.94 Aug. corn .....3.94 Sept. corn .....3.81	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.75 Aug. corn .....3.74 Beans .....11.14 Aug. beans.....10.86 Wheat .....4.94
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....3.81 Aug. corn .....3.85 Beans .....11.11	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....3.80 Aug. corn .....3.80 Beans .....10.92 Aug. beans .....10.77 Wheat .....4.64

## Today in history

**In 1864**, United States president Abraham Lincoln asked for 500,000 men to volunteer to be in the military. The American Civil War lasted for another nine months after his plea.

**In 1921**, John Glenn was born in Cambridge, Ohio. Glenn became the first United States astronaut to orbit Earth. He orbited the planet three times in 1962.

**In 1925**, Adolf Hitler published the first volume of Mein Kampf, a political manifesto leading to the rise of Nazism in Germany's Third Reich. Two years later, the second volume was published.

**In 1927**, Ty Cobb, an American baseball player, scored his 4,000th hit in the Major League Baseball division.

**In 1968**, Intel was founded in Santa Clara, California. The corporation is known today as the world's largest semiconductor chip manufacturer.

**In 1976**, Nadia Comaneci of Romania was awarded a perfect score, 10, in the uneven parallel bars event in Montreal, becoming the first gymnast to do so at the Olympic Games. She scored perfectly seven times.

**In 1980**, Billy Joel's album, "Glass Houses," tops the United States charts. Its collection included "It's Still Rock 'n' Roll to Me," "You May Be Right" and "Don't Ask Me Why."

**In 2013**, Detroit's government declared bankruptcy at \$20 billion in debt.

**In 2016**, Jay School Board voted to give raises between 1.5% and 6.7% to Jay Schools administrators, as well as a variety of per-hour and percentage raises to support staff. It led to an annual increase of \$34,678.

— The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Today</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.	7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
<b>Monday</b> 3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.	<b>Wednesday</b> 1 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

# Obituaries

## Eugene Reinhart

*Dec. 16, 1927-July 16, 2024*  
Eugene P. Reinhart, 96, of Bryant, Indiana, passed away on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at his home.  
He was born on Dec. 16, 1927, in Jay County, Indiana, to the late Clem and Rose (Schindler) Reinhart.  
In addition to his parents, Eugene was preceded in death by his wife, Luella (Homan) Reinhart, whom he married on Aug. 1, 1953, and who passed away on Dec. 28, 2016; his siblings, Rita (Ott) Homan, Norma (Ivo) Huelskamp, Ernie Reinhart and Jim Reinhart; his in-laws, Marvin (Mary Lou) Homan, Harold (Luella) Homan, Esther (Leonard) Link, Levern (Joy) Homan, Robert (Jean) Homan, Mary Ann (Alvin) Luebke, Alvira (Harry) Massonne, Verena (Peck) Goettemoeller, Thelma Homan, Ivo (Betty) Homan and infant sister, Laura Homan.  
Eugene is survived by his children, Don (Deb) Reinhart of Celina, Ohio, Gary (Mary) Reinhart of Coldwater, Ohio, Jim (Karen) Reinhart of Fort Wayne, Ken Reinhart of Bryant, Bob (Dawn) Reinhart of Chesapeake, Virginia, Sharon (Paul) Link of Celina, Dave (Sue) Reinhart of Shelbyville, Indiana, and Connie Powers of Fishers, Indiana; his 19 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren; his siblings, Carl and Janet Reinhart of Bryant, and Judy and Jim Alig of Bryant; his sisters-in-law, Pat Reinhart of Dayton, Ohio, and Mary and Charles Meier of Celina; and his in-law, Jim Homan of St. Anthony, Ohio.  
Eugene was a life-long farmer and also worked for New Idea in Coldwater. He was an avid outdoorsman and



Reinhart

enjoyed hunting, fishing and trapping, especially for foxes. Eugene was known for his scroll saw work. He was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, St. Joseph Men's Sodality and the Fort Recovery VFW and American Legion.  
A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, July 20, 2024, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Bryant, Indiana. Burial, with full military honors, will follow in the church cemetery.  
Guests may visit with Eugene's family on Friday, July 19, 2024, from 3 to 8 p.m. and again on Saturday from 9 to 9:45 a.m. at Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home, Fort Recovery. An American Legion prayer service will be held at 7:45 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home.  
In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Holy Trinity Catholic Church.  
Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockman-boeckmanfh.com.

## Pauline Reinhart

*Sept. 14, 1932-July 16, 2024*  
Pauline R. Reinhart, age 91, of rural Portland passed away on Tuesday July 16, 2024, in Persimmon Ridge Healthcare in Portland.  
She was born in Mercer County, Ohio, on Sept. 14, 1932, the daughter of William and Mary (Kramer) Tebbe. She was married on April 7, 1951, to Victor Reinhart and he passed away on Sept. 24, 2011.  
Pauline was a homemaker and farm wife. She was a member of Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Rosary Sodality and Bryant Senior Citizens. She enjoyed hunting, fishing, quilting, painting and doing taxidermy.  
Surviving are three sons, Ronald Reinhart (wife: Peg) of Martinsville,

Indiana, Dave Reinhart (wife: Jane) of Portland and Richard Reinhart (wife: Janet) of Brownsburg, Indiana; five daughters, Carolyn Tuesca (husband: Hector) of Fort Wayne, Marilyn Laux (husband: Phil) of Portland, Deborah Wendel (husband: Kenneth) of Portland, Barbara Homan (husband: Kenneth) of Bryant and Victoria Wade (husband: Dan) of Huber Heights, Ohio; three brothers, Ray Tebbe of Tipp City, Don Tebbe of Arizona and Alvin Tebbe of Fort Recovery; one sister, Betty Meyring of North Carolina; 28 grandchildren; and 67 great-grandchildren.  
She was preceded in death by two brothers, Lawrence and Leo Tebbe; and a sister, Eunice Tobe.  
Mass of Christian burial will be Monday, July 22, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. in Holy Trinity Catholic Church with Fr. Marty Sandhage presiding. Burial will follow in the Holy Trinity Catholic Church Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. with a scripture service at 3:45 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home.  
In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Autism Society of Indiana or Masses.  
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.  
**Richard Thomas Kinser**, Hartford City, a former employee of Kerr Glass in Dunkirk, Oct. 1, 1960-Nov. 22, 1931. Services will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Kelpinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St., Hartford City.  
**Debra Bowers**, Portland, Nov. 23, 1955-July 16, 2024. Service will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.



Reinhart

## SERVICES

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

**Friday**  
**Schwartz**, Aaron: 9 a.m., Schwartz residence, 1665 E. 1000 South, Geneva.  
**James**, Donnie: 1 p.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.  
**Kinser**, Richard: 2 p.m., Kelpinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St., Hartford City.  
**Henkle**, Paul: 7 p.m., Trinity Arch Bridge Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland.

**Saturday**  
**Reinhart**, Eugene: 10:30 a.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 7321 Indiana 67, Bryant.  
**Hedges**, Benton: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Monday**  
**Reinhart**, Pauline: 10:30 a.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 7321 Indiana 67, Bryant.

**Wednesday**  
**Bowers**, Debra: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by  
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# Felony arrests

### Drug possession

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for drug possession.  
Damion M. Lewis, 45, 140 E. Baker St., is charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 5 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 felony for possession of a controlled substance and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana.  
He was released on a \$10,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

### Sexual misconduct

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for sexual misconduct and failing to register as a sex offender.  
Derrick A. Miller, 42, 701 S. Western Ave., is charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 5 felony for sexual misconduct with a minor and a Level 6 felony for failing to register as a sex offender.  
He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$10,000 bond.

*Mandy Cheurer*  
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# Prenatal care is important for health

Preparing for the birth of a child should be an exciting and fun time for expectant parents, however, it can also be a time of uncertainty and apprehension. Prenatal care is an important part of preparing for the birth of your child and can help ease uncertainties. These visits allow a healthcare provider to monitor the health of the mother, growth of the baby, and detect any potential health concerns early.

## Your Health Matters



information and advice from healthcare experts. Assistance can also be given on navigating necessary healthcare services.

### When should prenatal care begin?

It is ideal to contact a

healthcare provider as soon as you think you are pregnant. They can schedule a prenatal visit and begin caring for you and your baby to help ensure a positive pregnancy experience and outcome.

### What can be expected at a prenatal visit?

During the first and second trimester of a pregnancy, prenatal visits are typically scheduled every 4 weeks, and then more frequently during the last trimester. At a prenatal visit, the

provider will review and update your medical history including new medications or medical conditions. A physical examination will be performed which includes checking weight, blood pressure, and possibly a uterus and pelvic exam. You can also expect the following:

- Urine test – to check for infections or other conditions.
- Blood test – to check for anemia, blood type and other factors.
- Check fetal heartbeat – usually detected around

10-12 weeks of pregnancy.

- Abdominal measurement – to monitor baby's growth.
- Ultrasound – to check baby's development.
- Education – important information on nutrition, exercise, and managing pregnancy symptoms.
- Vaccinations – appropriate vaccinations may be given, if needed. It is also important during prenatal visits to ask any questions or discuss any concerns. Make sure to keep your health provider informed of any

changes that occur which will help ensure the health of the mother and baby.

### Who should I contact for prenatal care?

Locally, the Healthy Beginnings program can assist with prenatal and postnatal care. For more information, call (260) 726-1919.

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*Teeter is the director of clinical operations at IU Health Jay and Healthy Beginnings.*

# Husband's disinterest may signal divorce

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for 15 years and share a 14-year-old son. We no longer have a physical relationship. I'm trying to decide if it's worth getting a divorce. Our marital relations were what I would consider normal, at least once a week, before and during my pregnancy. However, once my son was born, it became less and less frequent. We have gone as long as two years without being intimate. This is because of my husband's lack of interest.

We have been to counseling and had countless conversations, with me begging him to explain what the problem could be.

He has spoken to his doctor and ruled out a medical issue. He refuses to admit he's no longer attracted to me but

## Dear Abby



claims he's simply "not interested." Is it fair to me that I have spent 14 years without the physical intimacy I long for? Must I give up the idea of ever having it? Is this enough to leave him over? — LONGING IN MICHIGAN

DEAR LONGING: Is being married to someone who refuses physical intimacy fair? No. From what you have written, I'm not sure your husband has been completely honest about his problem. This may be from

embarrassment. The problem may be psychological — that he's not attracted to any woman who has given birth. (He wouldn't be the first.)

It could also be that his hormones need supplementing — something that should be discussed with an endocrinologist. If he's having erectile difficulties, the specialist to consult would be a urologist.

Of course, none of these doctors can help if a man doesn't WANT to be helped, has a girlfriend on the side or is not completely straight. If that's the case, the person you should consult is a lawyer. Hopefully, the divorce will be amicable.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: I am a woman

over 50, and my job has become more demanding as I have worked my way up the corporate ladder. The problem is, I can no longer put in the long hours and extra days. I'm a salaried employee, and I'm not compensated for all the overtime. I take my job seriously. I love what I do and don't want to quit.

On top of this, my husband of 35 years puts pressure on me when I get home. He's retired and waits around for me to do things for him. He will cook, but he won't wash dishes, do laundry, sweep floors, etc. I'm at the end of my rope. I don't know where to turn. — CAN'T DO IT ANY-MORE

DEAR CAN'T: There is nothing I can do to help you regarding the money you are earning (or not) at your

job. That's why it may be time to remind your retired husband that you are over 50 now and can no longer work full-time at a demanding job AND do all the housework. Then suggest that because he has so much time on his hands, he find a part-time job so you both can hire someone to do the housework he finds so unappealing.

At this point, you're entitled to more help than he has been giving.

.....  
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeane Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips.*

Contact Dear Abby by visiting [DearAbby.com](http://DearAbby.com) or sending mail to P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

# Community Calendar

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

## Today

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

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

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

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

Friday  
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open

from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon, July 19, at Harmony Café in Portland.

## 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.

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

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

## Sunday

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

## Monday

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

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

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

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

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

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# Economic 'crisis' in need of context

By MORTON J. MARCUS

A recent comparison of the American economy under presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden consisted of nine indicators, each better under Trump than under Biden.

Unaccompanied by dates or sources, these data were impossible to verify. They were devoid of context and were the very essence of political propaganda.

From January 2017, when Trump took office, the U.S. unemployment rate declined rather regularly from 4.7% to 3.5% in February 2020. [Current Population Survey, Census Bureau] Over that period, the year-over-year rate of inflation hovered around 2%. [Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics] That's the magic level adopted and consecrated by the Federal Reserve as normal or desirable.

But then COVID hit in the

## Eye on the Pie



spring of 2020. The unemployment rate jumped from 3.5% in February to 4.4% in March, hitting an astounding 14.8% in April.

Pandemic. Millions sick. Confinement to home. Mask mandates. Tempers raw. People not shopping, working or dining out, a stalling economy. Inflation in January 2020 was at 2.5%. By March it was down to 1.5% and in May it hit 0.1%. Certainly, policy makers wanted to avoid deflation when falling prices discourage purchasing and producing goods.

Without any experience in such matters, what should be done?

The prudent expedient: Pump money out to consumers so they will not suffer from unemployment and to business owners so not all will have to close their doors. With remarkable speed, checks were delivered to tens of millions of households and businesses, whether they needed it or not.

And that was the catch. Billions of dollars went to people and businesses who did not need the money. The checks went to the wealthy as well as the poor. The funds flowed to firms where jobs were saved and to others where stocks were repurchased, enriching top executives and other shareholders.

It worked. The unemployment rate fell to 6.4% and the inflation rate climbed to 1.4% by the time

Biden was inaugurated. But would the trend hold after two such infusions of money?

The inflation rate seemed stuck at that 1.4% level and the decline in unemployment was showing signs of stalling. Maybe, one more stimulus check would do the job.

With all that money, many consumers paid down debt and even put cash aside. Lest ye forget, executives and shareholders, as well as well-heeled pensioners, are consumers too. They found new TVs and cellphones to buy, and vacations to be taken. In spite of high rents and interest rates, more affluent consumers demanded more housing.

Constricted by the pandemic, supply chains were overwhelmed. Inflation soared to a high of 9.1% in June of 2022 over the same month in 2021.

Then, as it will, reality replaced

glee. Credit card debt climbed rapidly, and savings were depleted. Consumers reacted to high prices with their usual epitaphs aimed at the White House although inflation fell to about 3% and unemployment closed in on 4%.

That's the context for any data comparing the Trump and Biden administrations. The "Biden" inflation was inherited in large part from the panic of the "Trump" response to COVID. The checks sent indiscriminately to consumers and business were not as beneficial as the later "Biden" moves to improve the nation's infrastructure.

Long-term thinking always trumps short, knee-jerk solutions, however well-intended.

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

# Political climate spawns violence

The Columbian  
(Vancouver, Washington)  
Tribune News Service

## Guest Editorial

Saturday's assassination attempt against Donald Trump is an appalling and horrific manifestation of our current political climate.

For nearly 250 years, one of the foundational beliefs of our nation has been that political differences are settled at the ballot box. Intermittent violence has belied that belief, but for the United States to continue as a beacon of democracy, all Americans must speak out against such acts.

Indignation about political violence, however, is giving way to a climate that feasts on enmity. In a survey last year by the nonpartisan Public Religion Research Institute, in conjunction with the Brookings Institution, 23 percent of Americans agreed with the statement, "because things have gotten so far off track, true American patriots may have to resort to violence in order to save our country."

That is a frightful, inexcusable position. There is nothing patriotic about resorting to violence in a nation that embraces free and fair elections. Those who invoke 1776 in defense of political violence ignore the past 248 years of our history, which have seen the establishment of a secure political system protected by checks and balances and a devotion to democracy.

As President Joe Biden said Saturday: "There is no place in America for this kind of violence. It's sick, it's sick. It's one of the reasons why we have to unite this country. We cannot allow for this to be happening." And as House Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., said: "This is a horrific act of political violence that ought to be roundly condemned. Obviously, we can't go on like this as a society."

Yet too many media outlets, elected officials and internet gadflies (and bots) tacitly condone political violence. It has become a badge of honor to insist that the "other side" is a threat to the United States and that violence is warranted in the defense of liberty. The result is stochastic terrorism, which is described

by Dictionary.com as "the public demonization of a person or group resulting in the incitement of a violent act, which is statistically probable but whose specifics cannot be predicted."

Whether the result is an attempted assassination or an attack on the U.S. Capitol, such assertions undermine our democracy. They must be condemned.

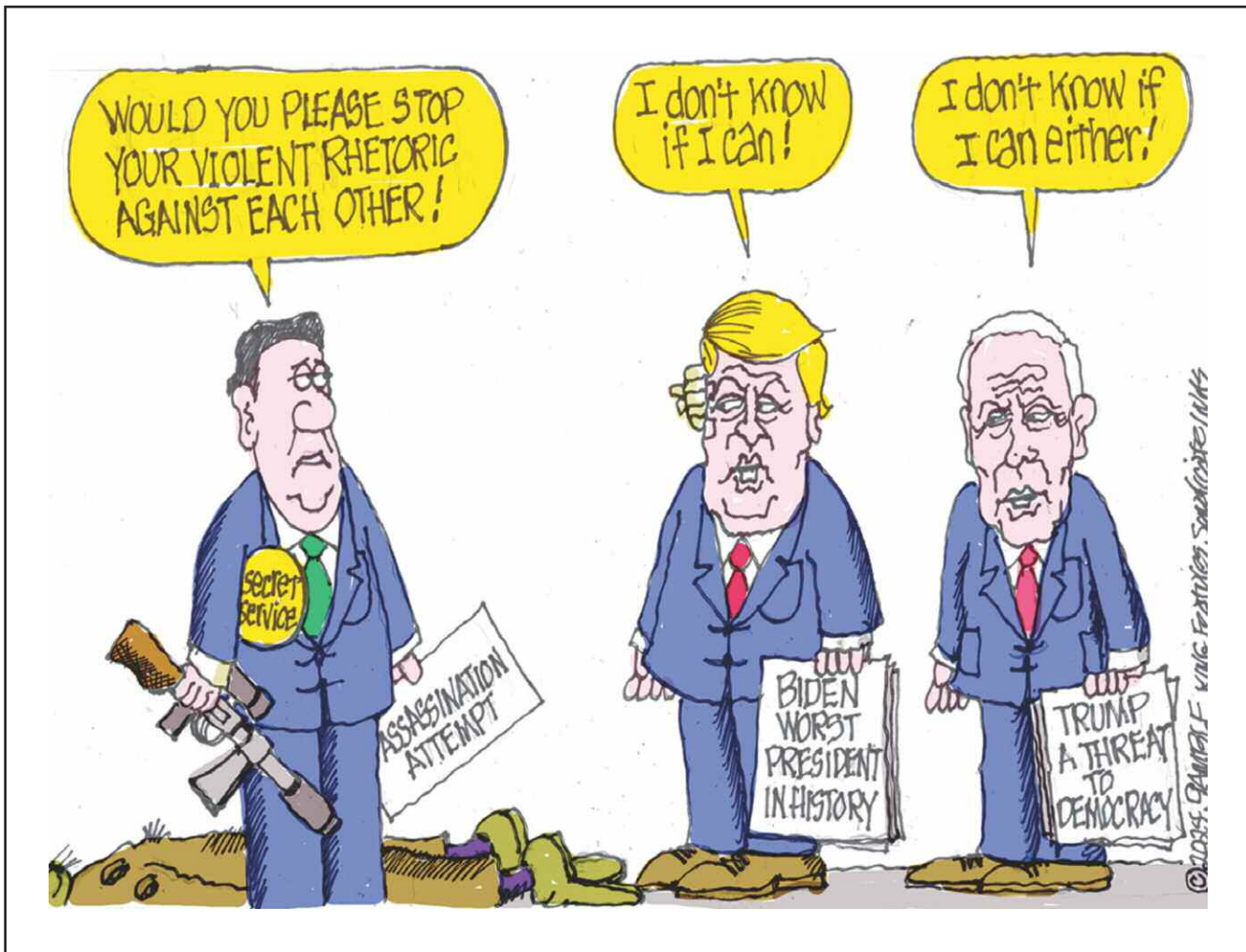
Instead, violent episodes often are used to further stoke underlying anger. After rioters stormed the U.S. Capitol in 2021 while trying to overthrow an election, the Republican National Committee called the event "legitimate political discourse." After Trump was wounded on the right ear Saturday, Rep. Mike Collins, R-Ga., claimed without evidence that "Joe Biden sent the orders." Biden earlier had recklessly said, "It's time to put Trump in the bull's-eye."

In a time of heightened tensions, leaders and the media members who report on them must understand that words matter. So do the institutions that protect and stabilize our democracy.

One of those is the Secret Service, which jumped into action when shots rang out at a Trump rally in Pennsylvania. Agents deserve credit for quickly protecting Trump and for shooting the gunman on the roof of a nearby building, but an investigation is warranted. For example, why was a building within rifle range of the podium considered to be outside the security perimeter?

Trump, fortunately, sustained only a minor wound. But a rally attendee was killed and two others reportedly are in critical condition as of Monday.

Indeed, many questions remain in the wake of Saturday's shooting. But the most important involve our nation's ability to survive our political disagreements.



# Vance is MAGA red meat

By PATRICIA LOPEZ  
Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

J.D. Vance once called Donald Trump "America's Hitler," likening him to "cultural heroin." On Monday, the Ohio senator was named the former president's running mate.

It's a shrewd and calculated pick — a nod to Trump's base. More than any of the other contenders, Vance's selection shows that Trump wants to lock down the MAGA faithful and ensure they turn out — even if that means losing more moderate and independent voters. Vance's rhetoric is at times harsher and hotter than Trump's and his positions more extreme.

At 39, Vance is decades younger than the 78-year-old Trump, making the acid-tongued senator a young and vigorous inheritor of the MAGA movement — whenever that time should come. His selection also sends a clear message to the country that Trump is building a movement that will reshape the nation, not just for one term, but for the future.

That's a chilling thought. Vance has boundless ambition. Political experience? Not so much. He's a junior senator in his first elective office. He is opportunistic enough that should he win, Trump will need to watch his back for the next four years.

There has been no time — and little inclination — for Vance to project a more thoughtful, senatorial image. On Saturday, after the assassination attempt on Trump's life, Vance was the only veep candidate on the former president's shortlist to rush to the harshest conclusion possible, accusing President Joe Biden's campaign of rhetoric that he claimed "led directly to President Trump's attempted assassination."

Patricia Lopez



put Vance to the test. At a 2022 rally, Trump taunted the young upstart. "J.D. is kissing my ass, he wants my support so bad," Trump said. Vance got the endorsement, Trump got the satisfaction of making Vance eat his words.

A new relationship was born. Vance has remained a devoted ally ever since. Like Trump he is pro-Israel and anti-Ukraine. He has embraced Trump's protectionist position on tariffs.

On cultural issues Vance has indicated his willingness to consider a federal 15-week abortion ban, but ever-conscious of Trump's shifting positions on the issue, has downplayed it. Well aware of how abortion rights have played to Democrats' advantage, Trump has sought to distance himself from promises of federal action and insisted on stripping the promise of a federal ban out of the party's platform — a bedrock position for decades.

Vance has shown he is nothing if not flexible, and doubtless will remain closely attuned to Trump's shifting whims as he searches for what's most politically expedient.

His appeal to MAGA loyalists is evident. Shortly after word of his selection was announced via Trump's Truth Social, Kevin Roberts of the Heritage Foundation — authors of the Project 2025 blueprint for a second Trump term — was delighted. "We were really rooting for him," Roberts said to fellow Bloomberg columnist Mary Ellen Klas. "We couldn't be happier."

Lopez is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering politics and policy. She is a former member of the editorial board at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, where she also worked as a senior political editor and reporter.

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— Thomas Jefferson

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Christ Chapel**  
2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery  
(419) 733-1469  
christchapelfr.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Kingsley Full Gospel**  
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk  
Stuart Phillips  
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Redkey United Methodist**  
122 W. Main St.  
Lori McIntosh  
(765) 369-2085  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church of the Nazarene**  
801 W. High St.  
Chuck Hollandbeck  
(765) 369-2676  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Temple Baptist**  
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk  
John Elam  
(765) 768-7708  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday  
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com  
templebaptistin.com

**The Church at Westchester**  
4487 E. 400 North  
(260) 726-6311  
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.  
Services: 10:35 a.m.  
churchatwestchester.org

**Trinity Lutheran**  
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery  
Robin Owen  
(419) 375-4498  
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)  
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity ArchBridge Church**  
323 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Dan Vore  
(260) 726-8391  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.  
Services: 10:15 a.m.  
portlandtrinity.com

**Union Chapel**  
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant  
Interim Pastor Chris Kruckow  
(260) 849-0687  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene**  
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)  
Fred Stevens  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Walnut Corner**  
County roads 200 North and 500 West  
Steve Rogers  
(260) 251-1113  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**West Walnut Church of Christ**  
204 W. Walnut St., Portland  
Gil Alicea  
(260) 726-4691  
Services: 10 a.m.  
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Robin Owen  
218 E. High St., Portland  
(260) 726-8832  
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

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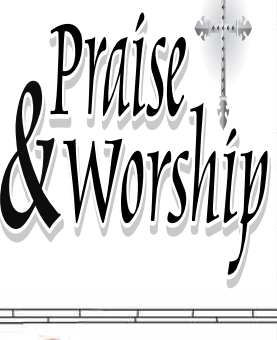
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Steppingstone to success

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: 8753, A984, K103, Q10. WEST: 10652, A986542, 53. EAST: K196, KJ73, 7, A987. SOUTH: AQ1042, Q, QJ, KJ642. The bidding: East 1♣, South 1♠, West Pass, North 2♣. Pass 4♣. Opening lead — five of clubs. A declarer can sometimes draw amazingly accurate conclusions about the composition of the defenders' hands, even though he cannot actually see their cards. Consider this case where South wound up in four spades after East had opened the bidding with one club. West then led a club, whereupon East took the ace and shifted to his singleton diamond. West won and returned a diamond, ruffed by East for the defenders' third trick. East exited with a club to dummy's queen, and when declarer next led a trump from dummy, East produced the nine. It's easy to see, looking at all four hands, that the winning play is to finesse the ten. Declarer then returns to dummy with a heart for a second trump finesse to wrap up the contract. However, the ten play in effect assumes an original 4-0 division of the trump suit — by no means an obvious assumption to make. Declarer might easily finesse the queen the first time around and finish down one. In the actual case, South deduced from the information he had picked up from the bidding and play to this point that East had indeed started with the K-J-9-6 of spades, so he finessed the ten and made four spades. The reasoning behind South's decision was irrefutable. During the play to the first four tricks, East had shown up with a singleton diamond and precisely four clubs. It followed that East had to have started with four cards in each major suit, since he surely would not have opened one club had he held five hearts and three spades, the only other possibility. East's original distribution thus became marked as 4-4-1-4, so the deep finesse in spades was the only logical play to make.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

HS'V QL FCLDS HB SRL GULDI ELCL DUSADTTJ BHTTLV EHSR GCDIFL YGVD, QAS SRDS'Y GITJ D BDISD YLD. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A CERTAIN YOUNG MALE INSECT FLOATS ON THE WATER'S SURFACE, IT MIGHT BE A BUOYANT BOY ANT. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals D

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 "Now, where — I?" 4 Millinery 8 Folder features 12 Newt 13 Diamond Head locale 14 Jacob's brother 15 "Enough!" 17 Milan money, once 18 Group of whales 19 The Emerald Isle 21 Vast multitude 24 Candle count 25 Khan title 26 Sailor 28 Sequence 32 Baseball game souvenirs 34 Baseball's Hodges 36 Crime lab fluids 37 Follow 39 Medico 41 New England cape. DOWN: 1 Director Craven. Solution time: 24 mins.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-61 and black squares.

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## Paris ...

Continued from page 8  
But recent turmoil underscores the complexity of welcoming thousands upon thousands of athletes and fans from around the world. French President Emmanuel Macron acknowledged to the AFP news agency that the Olympic Games, no matter where they take place, are bound to create “inconveniences.”

History shows that some cities successfully navigated the obstacles. The 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, for example, offered stirring competition and finished with hundreds of millions in surplus revenue. Other hosts have not been as fortunate.

Montreal and Athens accrued massive debt. Rio de Janeiro spent billions on new venues that went virtually unused afterward. The 1972 Munich Games were marred by Palestinian terrorists infiltrating the athletes village, an attack that left 11 Israeli team members dead.

More recently, Tokyo and Beijing struggled to generate revenue amid COVID-19 restrictions.

Paris believes its gamble will pay off. “It’s going to do our country some good,” Hidalgo

said when her city was named as host in 2017.

The main concern with any Olympics is funding and, in Paris’ case, a plan to cover a majority of expenses with privately raised money. As the budget has grown significantly to a reported \$10 billion, organizers have come under increased scrutiny, including an investigation into construction contracts they awarded and the decision to pay president Tony Estanguet an annual salary of \$290,000 plus incentives.

Last summer the French Court of Auditors cited “uncertainties” in the budget and suggested that, depending on how much revenue is generated, the Games might require an infusion of \$3.2 billion or more in government funds.

Petco Park in San Diego. But how baseball would be able to shut down for a couple of weeks during the Olympics and still get in a 162-game season and playoffs before Thanksgiving remains to be seen.

The NHL and NHL Players Association announced in February that players would be allowed to participate in the 2026 Winter Olympics in Milan, Italy, and in the 2030 Games, whose host city will be announced July 24. The last time the NHL interrupted its season for the Olympics was in 2014 in Sochi, Russia.

MLB players appear interested in the idea, which could upstage their own tournament, the World Baseball Classic.

“The main goal in Major League Baseball as a whole is to grow the

***‘It’s not simple to bring all this together because the organizing committee goes under the magnifying glass. The slightest issue gets exploded.’***

—Michael Payne

Amid complaints about ticket prices, a 2023 poll suggested that 44% of residents in and around Paris have come to think of hosting as a “bad thing.”

“For us, an event of Olympic proportions cannot be held without corruption,” said Saccage 2024, a French anti-Olympics coalition. “It’s the size of the event that makes it necessary, whatever the country.”

Unions representing public-sector employees such as police and air traffic controllers have demanded bonuses for working the 17 days of the Games, which coincide with France’s traditional summer holiday. Threatened strikes could cripple the city.

Activists have raised concerns about the displacement of homeless people, and national restric-

tions on customarily Islamic dress have sparked discussions about what visiting athletes and visitors will be allowed to wear.

If all of this weren’t enough, Macron recently called for a snap election that could have shifted power to the far-right National Rally party. Though the left-wing New Popular Front coalition prevailed, legislators must now forge new alliances to avoid parliamentary disarray.

Organizers “probably had every contingency scenario on their operation sheet,” said Michael Payne, a former International Olympic Committee executive. “They certainly didn’t have that one.”

Nor could they have foreseen the Russia-Ukraine and Israel-Hamas wars forcing them to deal with street protests and disagreements over which athletes should or should not be invited.

So the world is watching to see what happens next. Los Angeles officials, on deck to host in 2028, are particularly interested.

“If somebody has done it before me, I want to know what they learned,” Mayor Karen Bass said after a recent fact-finding mission to France. “Pros and cons.”

## Change ...

Continued from page 8  
“What exactly it would look like, what compromises we would have to make in terms of our season. I remain open-minded about that topic.”

“I do think maybe what I found most persuasive (from) what Casey is saying is to forget about what happens with baseball in the Olympics long term, because I think we all know when you’re in Paris, they’re probably not going to build a baseball stadium.

“But when you focus on L.A., there is an opportunity that we need to think about. Doing my players rounds, there is interest on this topic, so that’s important.”

There would be no problem finding venues with Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, Angels Stadium in Anaheim and

Philadelphia Phillies star Bryce Harper said Monday. “I don’t think there is a greater platform in the world than the Olympics. The biggest thing is: ‘Where can you grow the game the most?’ It’s on the international stage.”

Manfred also said Tuesday the automated ball-strike system (ABS), commonly referred to as “robot umpires,” could be tested in spring training next season with the possibility of implementing it in 2026.

The system currently is being used in Triple-A, which also has a challenge system in place, much like the replay challenge system in the majors, in which players can challenge a call by a human umpire.

“It’s ’24, so that leaves me ’25 as the year to do

your spring training test if we can get these issues resolved,” Manfred said. “Which would make ’26 a viable possibility (for implementation). Is that going to be the year? I’m not going to be flat-footed on that issue.”

In a separate meeting with the Baseball Writers’ Association of America, MLB Players Association head Tony Clark said that MLB is “continuing to make a push” toward ABS and that the challenge system is a “more likely landing spot.”

The Atlantic League was the first American pro league to allow a computer to call balls and strikes at its 2019 All-Star Game. The MLB Umpires Association agreed in December 2019 to cooperate with MLB in the development and testing of an ABS system as part

of a five-year labor contract.

Clark said the challenge system “likely” would have more support from players than a complete switch to robot umpires.

“The experiences have been interesting,” he said of talks with players. “There are those that have no interest in it at all. There are those who have concern even with the challenge system, as to how the strike zone itself is going to be considered, what that looks like, how consistent it is going to be.

“What happens in a world where Wi-Fi goes down in the ballpark or tech acts up on any given night? We’re seeing those issues, albeit in minor league ballparks. We do not want to end up in a world where in a major league there are more

Paris organizers can only hope their Olympics follow a familiar trend.

The Games often generate controversy in the weeks and months beforehand. As Payne said: “It’s not simple to bring all this together because the organizing committee goes under the magnifying glass. The slightest issue gets exploded.”

Then comes the opening ceremony.

On July 26, Paris will stage an innovative celebration with officials and athletes cruising down the Seine in boats. An organizing committee executive swam in the river over the weekend and Hidalgo was still promising to jump in, citing recent testing that showed what she called acceptable bacteria levels.

Once the competition begins, gold medals and world records commandeer the headlines as television sharpens the focus with careful, carefully framed camera shots. Public opinion tends to shift in a positive direction.

“The organizers and the IOC are praying for the sports to start,” Payne said. “Once they start, that becomes the story.”

For 17 days. After that, people can start complaining again.

questions than answers as to the integrity of that night’s game or the calls associated with it.”

Manfred also addressed one of the most one-sided fan debates regarding the All-Star Game: complaints about generic National and American League uniforms instead of players wearing their team jerseys.

Manfred sounded pessimistic about a change back to the old ways but said he’s well aware of fan sentiment regarding the issue.

“Obviously the conversions have to involve the players, first and foremost, and Nike and some of our partners,” Manfred said. “But I am aware of the sentiment and I do know why people kind of like that tradition. But there will be a conversation about that.”

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

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

**Friday**  
Portland Rockets at Carrington Red Tourney — TBD

### TV sports

**Today**  
4 a.m. — Golf: The Open Championship (USA)  
4:30 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Indiana Pacers vs. Denver Nuggets (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Washington Wizards vs. Sacramento Kings (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Los Angeles Lakers vs. Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN)  
11 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Min-

nesota Timberwolves at Houston Rockets (ESPN)

**Friday**  
4 a.m. — Golf: The Open Championship (USA)  
1 p.m. — NFL Flag Championships: Girls 18U Round of 16 (ESPN2)  
3:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: TSPort 200 (FS1)  
4 p.m. — NFL Flag Championships: Girls 18U Round of 16 (ESPN2)  
5:30 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Circle City 200 (FS1)  
6:45 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds vs. Washington Nationals (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: New York Knicks vs. Detroit Pistons (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — The Basketball Tournament: Assembly Ball vs. The Cru (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: TSPort 200 (FS1)  
9 p.m. — WNBA: 3-Point and Skills Challenge

(ESPN)  
11 p.m. — NBA 2K25 Summer League: Portland Trailblazers vs. Charlotte Hornets (ESPN2)

### 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](http://www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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To have an event listed in “Sports on tap,” email [details@sports@theocr.com](mailto:details@sports@theocr.com).

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# Sports

## All-American effort

### Katie Rowles finishes third at national freestyle tournament

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

FARGO, N. D. — When Katie Rowles enters the wrestling room at Jay County High School, she looks up at the wall and sees the names of all the boys and girls who have medaled at the state tournament.

While she still has yet to check that achievement off, she now has something tangible to hold onto.

Rowles became the first Jay County High School wrestler to earn All-American Honors after placing third in the 88-pound weight class of the 2024 U.S. Marine Corps 16-and-younger Nationals freestyle tournament hosted by North Dakota State University in the Fargodome over the weekend.

“It was a great experience and I’m glad that God gave me the opportunity to go and compete at that level,” Rowles said. “It was just unlike any of the other tournaments I’ve been to so far. There were 30 mats set up, which is really crazy. I’ve never been to one of that size.”

“I got to meet a lot of new people from Indiana and from other states and just see how they prepared for the tournament and what they do all season.”

Rowles (who was seeded third) opened the tournament in the quarterfinal by defeating Cadence Grulla of Georgia with a 6-2 decision.

With the defeat of Grulla, Rowles guaranteed herself a top-eight finish in the field of nine wrestlers. Being top-eight secured a spot for Rowles on the podium and All-American Honors.

The junior is the first Jay County wrestler to earn All-American Honors from the national tournament.

“That’s pretty cool,” Rowles said. “I didn’t realize until after the tournament that Jay County never had anyone that was an All-American before. It’s a great feeling because I’ve looked up on the wall of our state placers and everything and all those people have done such great things and I did something that they didn’t. It sounds kind of full of myself, but I just think it’s cool to have that opportunity.”

After the initial victory, it was



Photo provided

Katie Rowles stands on the podium for her third-place finish at the 2024 U.S. Marine Corps 16-and-younger Nationals freestyle tournament in Fargo, North Dakota. Rowles finished 3-1 in to become the first Jay County wrestler to earn All-American Honors.

the 88-pound semifinal match against Lily Enos of Illinois that took Rowles out of title contention. Enos was awarded the first point on a step out call and later took advantage of a shot Rowles took that opened her up for a takedown.

The Jay County junior had a shot near the end of the second period – the freestyle 16-and-younger tournament’s matches only lasted for two, two-minute rounds – but the clock ran out before she could get the tying takedown and fell 3-1.

Enos took also upset second-seeded Kayla Pastika (Minnesota) to reach the semifinal, and later took down No. 1 seed Brynn

Engle (Wisconsin) to win the national championship.

“Her effort is tireless,” said Indiana State Wrestling Association women’s director and coach Jason DeLois. “She’s hard on herself when she loses. I just talked to her a lot about defeats and how to really make them fuel for future victories.”

“After that, I think she really took it to heart and started to learn from that. ... I think her being able to process the loss on a national level has improved her ability to execute moves at a high level and is getting much better.”

DeLois’ stance shows in how Rowles finished out the tournament.

In the semifinal round of the consolation bracket, Rowles came out and dominated No. 5 seed Fern Jewett of Massachusetts in a 9-0 major decision.

“I was just ready to earn the next best thing,” Rowles said. “I couldn’t win the tournament anymore, which obviously was my number one goal there, but if I could come back and get third, I wasn’t going to settle for anything (less).”

To do that, Rowles picked off the N. 2 wrestler out of Minnesota, Kayla Pastika, for the 8-2 victory in the consolation championship.

The third place finish was the highest for Team Indiana,

which finished with 43 points to place 13th out of 33 competing states. Team Pennsylvania took the top spot with 157 points.

Even beyond the bragging rights of performing well in this tournament, Rowles thinks that her success at the state and national level can help her as she prepares for her third season of high school wrestling.

“I think it really helped me realize that I can wrestle with the best girls in the country,” Rowles said. “I may not be able to beat all of them right now, but I can definitely hang in there and fix a few small things and maybe next year I can.”

## Paris facing many messes as Olympics nears

By DAVID WHARTON

Los Angeles Times

Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — With all the tumult surrounding the 2024 Summer Olympics — problems both large and small — it isn’t entirely surprising that Parisians have threatened to stage a “poop

protest.”

Their anger focuses on a plan to have triathletes and marathon swimmers compete in the Seine River, which has been fouled by sewage and trash for centuries.

It didn’t help when Mayor Anne Hidalgo offered to take a dip in the iconic waterway. A web-

site with a poop emoji as its mascot sprang up to coordinate hundreds, if not thousands of people defecating along the banks on the day of her swim.

While it remains to be seen if the mayor—and her constituents—will make good on their respective pledges, the Paris 2024 organ-

izing committee has plenty more issues to address. With the opening ceremony less than two weeks away, the list includes budget increases and worrisome poll numbers, a government investigation and political upheaval both at home and abroad.

None of this means the Games

are doomed. Paris will offer a stunning backdrop with beach volleyball at the foot of the Eiffel Tower and equestrian events at Versailles. These will be the first post-pandemic Games, promising big crowds and a buzz in the streets.

See Paris page 7

## Change can come to baseball

By PAUL SULLIVAN

Chicago Tribune

Tribune News Service

ARLINGTON, Texas — Major League Baseball might follow the NHL and make its players available for the 2028 Summer Olympics, Commissioner Rob Manfred said Tuesday during a meeting with baseball writers.

Manfred said he has spoken with owners and Casey

Wasserman, president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee, about the possibility of bringing the sport back after it was dropped following the Tokyo Games in 2021.

“I sat with Casey last week, we’re talking about what can be done,” Manfred said.

See Change page 7

## Calling all sports fans

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Email letters of interest to [r.cooney@thecr.com](mailto:r.cooney@thecr.com)



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