# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

### **Variance** OK'd for **JCCT** building

**Structure** planned for 204 W. High in Portland

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

Jay County Civic Theatre is one step closer to constructing its own building.

Portland Board of Zoning Appeals approved a variance request Tuesday for Jay County Civic Theatre to build a new structure at 204 E. High St.

Plans are for the facility to be used mainly as a meeting and storage

Portland Board of Works approved Jay County Civic Theatre's bid for the property in 2023. The purchase was contingent on the organization being approved for a variance.

Jay County Civic Theatre president Ray Cooney — he is also president, editor and publisher of The Graphic Printing Company — explained the new building would be used for meetings and storage and as a place to build sets for shows. He noted the organization currently rents approximately four different locations for storage and utilizes its members' properties as

"For years, civic theatre has been kind of nomadic and is in need of a space to

call our home," he said.

Because the area is zoned as residential, Jay County Civic Theatre needed to have a variance request approved from the city in order to build the structure.

Preliminary show a 41-foot by 88-foot building with rooms for storage, an office, a board room, a restroom and utility room, and a workshop. About five parking spaces located just north of the building are also included in the plan. Plans for construction are still several years out.

See Variance page 2



### Concrete curb

Brooks Construction workers pour concrete into a base for a sidewalk curb Wednesday at the southwest corner of Main and Meridian streets in Portland. The work is part of an ongoing Indiana Department of Transportation project that includes installing bump-outs at some downtown intersections.

# JCDC discusses contract, lease

**By RAY COONEY** The Commercial Review

Jay County Development Corporation spent most of its meeting Tuesday discussing the two issues that have dominated its designs agenda recently.

Board members in attendance agreed to call a special meeting within the next few weeks to address contract stipulations from Jay County Commissioners and to take action on a lease agreement with the City of Portland. The board could not take any votes because it did not have a quorum.

JCDC's board again revisited the 13 negotiating points Jay

Board agrees to set meeting to take action in next few weeks

in May. The bulk of the discussion involved commissioners' request that JCDC reduce its voting membership to between nine and 11 members, including the mayors or council presidents of Portland and Dunkirk, one county commis-

County Commissioners presented sioner, one county council representative and representatives from Bryant, Redkey, Pennville and Salamonia, with the remaining voting members to be elected by the JCDC board and have term limits. (Additional non-voting members would be allowed.)

Board members opposed drastically reducing the board membership, though Chad Towell expressed a willingness to cut to 17 or 19 members.

Ron Laux also noted that the board was intentionally developed as a non-governmental group.

He, and others, expressed their feelings that it is important to have a wide variety of representation from utilities, schools, businesses, farming, industry and other sectors.

"The board is to reflect the community at large," said longtime member Joe Johnston.

See **JCDC** page 2



### On the offensive

Ukrainian servicemen operate a Sovietmade T-72 tank in the Sumy region, near the border with Russia, on Monday amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Ukraine launched a surprise offensive into the Russian border region of Kursk on Aug. 6, capturing over two dozen towns and villages in the most significant cross-border attack on Russian soil since World War II.

# Diploma plan is updated

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

The Indiana Department of Education made significant changes to a proposed high school diploma overhaul on Wednesday, including offering just one baseline diploma for all graduates.

The announcement follows waves of criticism from Hoosier teachers, parents and students over earlier diploma proposals that would broadly exclude certain course requirements, like those in history, foreign language and fine arts.

Officials at multiple Indiana colleges and universities additionally warned that the previously proposed high school diplomas would not meet uniadmission requireversity ments.

The new diploma model discussed by the State Board of Education during its monthly meeting on Wednesday — has reversed those concerns, earnBall State, Indiana, Indiana State and Purdue universities, as well as Ivy Tech Community

College. Under the updated draft, stu-

dents can earn "readiness seals" for enrollment, employment or enlistment that correspond with their future path of continued higher education, workforce or military service.

Each readiness category has two possible seals — honors and honors plus.

The baseline diploma differs slightly from the current Core 40 diploma, requiring 42 credits instead of 40. Students can choose classes above that to

ing support from leadership at meet the separate seal requirements.

Depending on the type of schedule a student is on, they can earn between 56 and 64 cred-

Coursework options, as well as approved work-based learning and apprenticeships, can translate to achieving seals.

If a student wants to go to a four-year college, they would generally need enrollment honors seal, according to IDOE officials. The requirements for that seal equate to the existing academic honors diploma, which 35% of students are currently earning.

See **Diploma** page 2

#### **Deaths**

Gerald Rinard, 82, Heartland, Texas Rita Affolder, 55, Berne Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 81 degrees Tuesday. The low was 59.

Rain is expected tonight with winds gusting to 20 miles per hour and a low in the upper 60s. There is a chance of thunderstorms. More rain is possible Friday with a high in the mid 80s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

The Glass Days festival is scheduled for Saturday in Dunkirk. It will include glass factory tours from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., a push-up contest and a cornhole tournament at 11 a.m., children's activities from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., a pet parade at 1 p.m., car show from 2 to 5 p.m. and a Cook & Belle concert at 5 p.m.

#### Coming up

Changes still need approval

from state board of education

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

**Saturday** — Photos from Friday's JCHS football scrimmage with Richmond.

**Tuesday** — Fort Recovery fall sports preview section looks at the 2024 season.



ald

Corner-

### Variance

Continued from page 1 Local resident Emily Goodrich - she said she represented neighboring property owner Bill Childers, who was not able to make

the meeting — said Childers was on board with Jay County Civic Theatre's plans.

Portland Board of Zoning Appeals member Virginia Burkey added that she has spoken with Asbury United Methodist Church's pastor Joe Boggs and that he has no issue with the plan.

"I think it's an asset myself," Burkey said.

John Hemmelgarn, director of Jay/Portland Building and Planning, said he sees no issues with civic theatre putting a new build-

ing on the lot. He noted he would

Saturday

like to see more parking available for the building but pointed to the nearby city parking lot as well as Asbury United Methodist Church's parking lot just northeast of the property.

Hemmelgarn noted that the building maximizes the property's space, meaning if Jay County Civic Theatre wanted to expand it would need to buy additional property or add more floors to the structure.

He asked what material the exterior would be, with Jay County Civic Theatre treasurer Greg Rittenhouse noting those details will be finalized later in the process.

"I just want to make sure it's going to look good," Hemmelgarn said, noting a pole barn would not be allowed in the area.

Others voiced concerns about the possibility of Jay County Civic Theatre using the space for outside storage or not maintaining the grounds. Rittenhouse noted it would reflect on Jay County Civic Theatre if its facility were not kept in order.

'That would be important for us too, just from the standpoint of our name and pride in the community,"

City attorney Wes Schemenaur explained the board may impose reasonable conditions with its variance approval as it deems necessary. He suggested the board approve the variance on three conditions: outside storage is not allowed on the property, landscaping and maintenance are kept up to city code and adherence to "neighborhood aesthetics" for the exterior of the building — specifically, the organization won't build a pole barn or similar structure that would look vastly different from the surrounding homes.

Portland Board of Zoning Appeals member Ron Laux made a motion to that effect.

Board members Larry Petro, Kyle Cook, Burkey and Laux approved the request. Aaron Loy abstained because his wife, Katie, is a member of the Jay County Civic Theatre board of directors.

In other business, Pati McLaughlin of Jay/Portland Building and Planning noted the Portland Board of Zoning Appeals' next meeting is Sept. 10.

Richards

attend the meeting to

gauge what the opportuni-

ty is about but only share

what information he is

comfortable with given

Heard a reminder from

Mary Adair of Jay County

Visitors and Tourism

Bureau regarding upcom-

ing events. She noted

Dunkirk's Glass Days fes-

tival that is scheduled for

Saturday on Commerce

Street, Webster Depot

Park and the American

Legion property and the

Tri-State Antique Engine

and Tractor Show next

week at Jay County Fair-

grounds. She also noted

that a new business is

planned for the location at

the southwest corner of

Walnut and Commerce

Streets in Portland that

was previously the site of

the circumstances.

In other business:

advised

### **Obituaries**

#### **Gerald Rinard**

May 24, 1942-June 6, 2024 Celebration of Life for Ger-Rinard will be held at 4 p.m. Satur-

day, Sept. 14, at Pennville

stone Church, 109 W. Main St., Pennville.

Food and fellowship are planned for after the serv-

Rita A. Affolder, Berne, a relative of Geneva residents, Dec. 26, 1967-Aug. 8, 2024. No services will be held. •••••

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 serv-

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary servic-

### **Felony** arrests

#### **Drug possession** A rural Bryant man

was arrested for drug possession and other charges Tuesday.

Dillion W. Stolz, 33, 5211 N. 350 East, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methampheta-mine, a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

He was released from Jay County Jail on a \$4,500 bond.

### **Capsule Reports**

#### Hit pole

A Berne woman drove off county road 400 North and struck a pole about 6:15 a.m. Sunday.

Mia R. Singleton, 21, was driving her 2017 Ford Escape east on the road iust west of county road 250 West when it went off the road, hitting the pole.

Her vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 \$5,000.

Continued from page 1 Board members also discussed a proposed rental agreement with the City Portland for JCDC's office space in Community Resource Center. JCDC executive director noted that a discrepancy regarding responsibility for furnace, air conditioning and other related repairs has been removed.

The contract still leaves JCDC with the responsibility for receiving bills for shared utilities and collecting payments from other tenants.

'Which is not really where we wanted to land but is where we're still

at," said Richards. While unable to take a formal vote, the board informally agreed to move forward with the contract at its next meeting.

Board member Mike Medler asked that JCDC

Diploma

Continued from page 1

honors seal would take additional world

languages, social studies, math and sci-

ence credits. Students will need to earn a

C or higher in all courses and certain

honors plus seal would require students

to earn an associate's degree or similar

credential, in addition to 100 hours of

If a student wants to move directly to

For that option, they would need a

the workforce, they would likely target

market-driven credential or three career

and technical education courses; 100

hours of work-based learning, skill

development and meeting an attendance

An employment honors plus seal

Seals are optional, but students who

earn one will automatically satisfy

would add additional credentials or

degrees and increase the work-based

work-based learning.

an employment honors seal.

To go one step further, the enrollment

marks on AP or other college exams.

Those working toward the enrollment

be provided more notice before the next lease agreement discussion.

The board also briefly discussed a request from commissioners to meet with Bill Walters of East Central Indiana Regional Planning District as part Walters working toward putting together a proposal for international

development. Board members discussed the situation, including how much information should be shared given that JCDC does not currently have a contract with the county. Some board members expressed concern that the commissioners will pursue entering a contract with the regional planning district for eco-

tion with JCDC. The board members

nomic development in the

county in direct competi-

the Graduation Pathways requirements which must be completed in order to

receive a high school diploma. State education officials said the diploma plan will be published in the state register, which will trigger a new 30-day comment period. During that window, the state education board is expected to hold several in-person hearings. Comments can also be submitted online.

Changes can still be made after the comment period and before final adoption by the board, however.

Under a law passed by Indiana legislators in 2023, the state must adopt new diploma requirements by December.

Schools could choose to opt in and start offering the new diplomas as early as the 2025-26 academic year. The new diplomas will take effect for all Hoosier students beginning with the Class of 2029, who are entering eighth grade this

Paramount to the new plan, according to state officials, is maximized "flexibility" for students to personalize learning pathways and experiences.

1/2 PAGE BAW AD

AUG. 19 THROUGH 23 IN

The Commercial Review.

### CR almanac

Sunday

Monday

8/16	8/17	8/18	8/19	8/20
				藻
84/65	78/61	79/60	80/59	80/5
There's an 80% chance of rain and thun- derstorms on Friday, when the high may be 84.	sunny on Satur- day, when the	shows a chance of	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Monday, when the high will be 80.	Sunny skies are the horiz for Tuesd when t high will 80.

#### **Lotteries**

**Powerball** 

Estimated jackpot: \$20 million

#### **Mega Millions** 34-55-59-65-70

Mega Ball: 12 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$464 million

#### Hoosier

Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 4-1-0 Daily Four: 2-9-6-7 Quick Draw: 5-8-11-14-19-23-40-45-50-53-54-57-58-61-62-64-66-67-77-78

31-34-39-40-45-49-53-58-61-62-66-68-70-75-78-79 Ohio

Daily Three: 3-3-4

Daily Four: 1-3-5-5

Quick Draw: 4-7-19-29-

Evening

\$214,000

Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 5-9-9 Pick 4: 2-3-3-1 Pick 5: 5-7-7-6 Evening Pick 3: 0-9-9 Pick 4: 4-0-9-4 Pick 5: 8-2-6-9-2 Rolling Cash: 16-22-26-

29-37 Estimated jackpot:

### **Markets**

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	
Corn	3.61
Sept. corn	3.69
Wheat	4.52

DOET D	6:
POET Bior	retining
Corn	2 6

#### Sept. corn ......3.63 Oct. corn ......3.65

#### The Andersons **Richland Township** Corn ......3.61 Sept. corn ......3.61

Beans......9.58

#### Wheat ..... 4.80 **ADM**

#### Sept. corn ......3.52 Beans ......9.88 Sept. beans ......9.63 Wheat ......4.87

Sept. beans ......9.23

#### Heartland St. Anthony

~	
Corn	3.56
Sept. corn	3.56
Beans	9.64
Sept. beans Wheat	4.60

### **Today in history**

In 1483, Pope Sixtus IV consecrated the Sistine Chapel.

musical "The Wizard of Oz" opened at the Grau-man's Chinese Theater and the first since in Hollywood.

In 1945, in a prerecorded radio address, Japan's Emperor Hirohito announced that his employees, some of country had accepted whom angrily walked terms of surrender for ending World War II.

Portland's Meridian of longevity pay in Street beautification addition to the 5% and renovation project increase. (One employwere finalized. The ee threw his shirt at work was to include council members after benches, bricks, trees, plus longevity pay was grates and trash con-rejected 4-3.) tainers.

In 2004, in Athens, the U.S. men's basketball team lost 92-73 to In 1939, the MGM Puerto Rico, only the third Olympic defeat

adding pros. In 2022, Portland City Council approved a 5% raise for city out of the meeting after the vote. They had been In 1995, details of hoping for the addition light fixtures, a vote for a 5% raise

—The CR

# **Judge hears**

learning hours to 650.

Attorneys trying to preserve attendant care services for two Hoosier families appeared before U.S. District Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt on Tuesday, urging her to order an injunction that would halt their transition to structured family care.

An injunction would

### arguments in care case Indiana Capital Chronicle

apply only to the families named in the suit, though it's possible the injunction could be expanded. The family members of E.R. and G.S. are the only families in the state still receiving attendant care payments as legally responsible individuals while roughly 1,600 others have left the program.

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Com-

Service listings provided by **PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS** 120 N. Meridian St. (260) 726-9201

The News-Gazette.

The News and Sun

The News Times and

Rate does not apply to special sections

CALL (260) 726-8141 OR EMAIL ADS@THECR.COM

### Citizen's calendar

#### **Today**

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 S. Morgan Drive, Redkey.

#### **Monday**

5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.

#### Wednesday

4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, municipal airport, 661 W. 100 North.

5:30 p.m. — Portland

6 p.m. — Redkey Town

Council, park cabin, 50 S.

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, vil-

lage hall, 201 S. Main St.

Morgan Drive, Redkey.

City Council, council

chambers, fire station,

1616 N. Franklin St.

#### **SERVICES** Thursday Morrical, Joyce: 2 p.m.,

merce St., Portland.

Portland, Indiana 47371 progressiveofficeproducts.com



### **Eagle Scout**

Hayden Richman received his Eagle Scout rank Aug. 8 with Troop 202 Scouting America of Portland. Richman, a Jay County High School student, plans to join the United States Navy after graduation.

# Minnetrista gets grant

Indiana Arts Commission recently awarded Minnetrista Museum & Gardens of Muncie for its upcoming "Imagine in Glass" exhibit.

The exhibit invites school-age children to submit their drawings until Sept. 1. Students at Ball State University will choose drawings to create in glass, with the children able to see the pieces being created.

"Art and creativity foster connection and cohesion, support the entrepreneurial spirit communities need to thrive, and help build the kinds of communities where people want to live, work, play, study, and stay," said Miah Michaelsen, executive director of the arts comexecutive mission, in a press release. "In every corner of the Hoosier state, public funding for arts and creativity continually proves to be a high-return investment that positively impacts the cultural, economic, and educational climate of Indiana. It is a privilege to support the organizations

#### **Taking** Note

building stronger Indiana communities through arts and creativity."

To submit a drawing or for more information, visit minnetrista.net.

#### MusicWorks classes

Music lessons will begin next month.

Registration is now open for Arts Place MusicWorks classes at the organization's Jay County and Blackford County facili-

MusicWorks classes, which are open to students of all ages, are available for a variety of instruments, including piano, harp, guitar, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone and drums. Voice lessons are also available. There are also group lessons and ensembles.

Scholarships and finan-

cial assistance are available.

To register, visit myartsplace.org. The deadline is Friday, Sept. 6.

For more information, call the Jay County Campus of Arts Place at (260) 726-4809 or Arts Place's Blackford County Arts Central at (765) 348-4154.

#### **Tickets available**

Tickets are on sale for the Emens Auditorium 2024-25 seasons.

The facility at Ball State University is hosting a range of events, including "The Princess Bride: An Inconceivable Evening with Cary Elwes" on Sept. 14, the musicals "The Book Mormon" "Hadestown" on Sept. 24 and Oct. 22, respectively, a concert with Luca Stricagnoli on Nov. 14 and performances by the University Singers on April 4 and 5.

Tickets are available via Ticketmaster, at the Emens Auditorium box office or by calling (765)

### Mother moved out of house, but her possessions remain

DEAR ABBY: I am involved with a man, "Gerald," who is an only child and has a difficult relationship with his mother. We bought his mother's home two years ago because she couldn't afford it on her own. She had separated from her husband, who is not Gerald's father.

Initially, his mother was going to stay with us, but she reunited with her husband instead. The issue is, she has not removed her personal items from our home. She's a bit of a hoarder. Our garage is full of her stuff, and every room in our home has her furniture and personal items in it.

and can no longer deal with the ate. I feel Gerald is at fault for

Dear Abby



ing and wondering when she plans to move them. Gerald's strained relationship with his mother doesn't help the situation. I made him text his stepfather asking when the items will be picked up.

According to Gerald, his mother has control issues, and this is all part of her game. I I have packed many of them need advice because I'm desper-

we first purchased the home. — we were not successful in distance for my own benefit? – BOXED UP IN TEXAS

want her things out of your home and set a date, after which you will arrange for a moving company to deliver them to her and her husband. Be sure to give her plenty of notice — a month so she can plan to have what items she doesn't need placed in storage (at her expense). no. But you will be free.

DEAR ABBY: My sister was recently in the hospital. Due to swelling in her hands, it became necessary to remove her wedding band. This ring was our

removing it, they were going to **DEAR BOXED UP: Call** have to cut it off. I asked if she **Gerald's mother. Tell her you** wanted me to take it home with me, and she nodded yes. I returned it to her when she came home.

I am now being accused by my family of stealing the ring! My sister wears only this ring, no others. But my family insists she was wearing two of our mother's rings. Nope. Mom was buried with her original wed-Will she like you for it? Heck, ding ring set and her anniversary ring. (Our parents had been married more than 50 years when Dad passed away. Mom followed five years later.)

I love my family, but right now I'd rather not speak to them for a while. Should I forget the accusaanxiety of the unknown wait- not setting an expectation when late father's wedding band. If tion made against me, or keep my Los Angeles, CA 90069.

ACCUSED IN MISSOURI

**DEAR ACCUSED: You didn't** mention who, exactly, is accusing you of stealing the ring. Is it your sister? She knows how many rings she was wearing when she went to the hospital and should be able to straighten these relatives out. If she cannot or will not do that, for the sake of your mental wellbeing, it might be better to avoid your accusers until this is resolved.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at Dear Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440,

### **Community Calendar**

Community Calendar as managing thoughts, feel- meet at 3 p.m. on the third space is available. To sub- ings and behavior, and liv- Thursday of each month mit an item, email ing a balanced life meets in the IU Health Blackford news@thecr.com.

#### **Today**

STITCH AND CHAT-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 gling with addiction that month. focuses on motivation,

at 11 a.m. each Thursday main conference room. in the IU Health Jay Out-Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — 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-

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the A group for those strug- third Thursday of each

ORGAN TRANSPLANT

3

7

8

1

5

Level: Intermediate

Sudoku

5

3

4

8

4

6

5

9

2

9

Notices will appear in coping with cravings, SUPPORT GROUP — Will

patient Behavioral Health 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 Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

#### **Friday**

DUNKIRK HISTORI-CAL 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, Friday, Aug. 16, at Harmony Café in Portland.

#### **Saturday**

Wednesday's Solution

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.

# 5 8 6

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 ANONY-MOUS — 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-



Our fall home improvement special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), The News Times (Hartford City) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

\$400

full-page color 1/2-page B&W 

 \$500
 \$320

 full-page B&W
 1/4-page color

 \$400
 \$350

 1/2-page color 1/4-page B&W \$280

Big business card (3x3.5) - **\$120** Business card (2x2) - **\$80** 

Contact Lindsey at

L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141

and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Deadline is Sept. 10



# Land use decisions are most critical

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Don't quibble.

Yes, of course, people are important. We don't discredit the sob stories about degraded humans all across this earth. But if we appreciated the land and its role in human affairs, we might have fewer sob stories.

And, no, this column has not been sponsored by the Indiana Farm Bureau. Primarily, this column is a tribute to the Kokomo by-pass and the recently completed Interstate 69 route from Indianapolis to Evans-

If you have traveled the Kokomo by-pass (U.S. 31), you know there are no commercial or new residential activities at its interchanges. No bland wareEye on the Pie



parade of traffic lights, which once served as a by-pass.

Likewise, there is little that is new along the "new" Interstate 69. It is basically an upgrading of four-lane Indiana 37, from Interstate 465 and Harding St. in Indianapolis, south through Martinsville, to a point southwest of Bloomington.

The tragedy of highway construction in the past has been houses line its path east of the the inordinate "development" Kokomo or degradation of adjacent land. centers have struggled to pants are subjected to height- cus@gmail.com.

of super-highways is not to make adjacent land owners rich, but to assist in the transport of goods and people between existing places.

We have to make choices about where we locate highways. The interstate system was intended to link cities, not destroy them.

Only Indianapolis among our major cities has two major interstates from the four cardinal directions feeding downtown.

This pattern is followed in other states as well. St. Louis and Chicago, Louisville and Cincinnati. Cleveland and Detroit, Nashville and Columbus, Ohio, are crossroads of interstates.

We too easily forget the purpose restore their downtowns to ened levels of pollutants and regional dominance. Circumferential highways (Interstate 465 around Indiana's capital city) have shifted commercial and residential activities away from the hub and spoke urban patterns of the past.

In smaller cities, like Fort Wayne, Terre Haute, Columbus, South Bend, Elkhart, Michigan City, Bloomington, Anderson and Richmond, the interstates avoided downtown and drew development like economic magnets. Today, we see the interstates

lined with offices, apartment houses, warehouses, hospitals and retail centers vying for the open spaces between inter-

The worst of these are resi-Each of these metropolitan dential properties where occu- Email him at mortonjmar-

noise. When local zoning boards permit these inappropriate developments, we witness greed merged with indifference.

Current users of Interstate 69 between Bloomington Evansville, as well as some travelers on the new Kokomo bypass, complain about the lack of gas stations at the interchanges. Most of these complaints come from those experiencing bladder discomfort, not a need to refill but to empty "the tank."

But the lack of extraneous, intrusive "development" should be applauded as evidence of progress matched with preservation.

Marcus is an economist.

## **Consumers** should be able to choose

**New York Daily News** Tribune News Service

of Even those who Google every day and that's the vast majority of us — can and should applaud this week's federal court ruling holding that the company is maintaining its dominance in internet search through an illegal monopoly.

Google search can simultaneously be a very, very useful product (indeed, the judge said it is "widely recognized as the best" general search engine "available in the United States") and one that might not stay in the digital catbird seat if it strong-arming weren't competitors.

D.C. Federal Judge Amit Mehta's ruling is rooted in the fact that Google spends billions of dollars to have its search engine installed as the default on new smartphones and other devices. In just one recent year alone, those agreements cost the company \$26 billion — far more than most competitors can possibly afford.

While users certainly have a choice to go into their settings and change the default search engine to Bing (7% market share moment in the U.S.) or DuckDuck-Go (2% market share). Google — with 90% market share overall and even higher than that on mobile devices — knows it's a big deal to be the automatic option for millions. If it weren't, they wouldn't pay anything near that sum.

When users reflexively rely on Google, every click follows further cements Google's dominance in advertising which in this case the judge said enabled monopolistic pricing — and a wide range of other realms. It's the key that unlocks the door to making money online.

judicial-ordered remedy is still to be determined; the legal process to arrive at that will begin next month. This could include penalties or structural changes that weaken the company's ability or outright prevent it from setting Google as the default.

Also to be determined is whether the ruling and remedies will stand once the logic of the decision is be made on the level, not subjected to the scrutiny of higher courts. There hands on the world wide will be appeals — Google web putting its fat thumb has a very well-funded on the scale.

### us Guest **Editorial**

When users reflexively rely on Google, every click that follows further cements Google's dominance in advertising ...

legal department, as does the U.S. Department of Justice and state attorneys general who brought the case. They're both hunkering down for the long haul.

This was already looklike an unsettled for internet search engines. A new generation of AI-enabled tools including Perplexity AI, OpenAI's SearchGPT and Bing are jockeying with Google's new AI-enabled search to do more than just deliver a list of hits to queries.

These programs take an increasingly massive and confusing internet and distill it so that users can increasingly get everything they need without leaving the page where they entered their query. That's going to wind up giving Google, or whatever relative upstart makes inroads against it, even more power and moneymaking ability than before.

We hope the ruling withstands the scrutiny of higher courts. Consumers should be utterly free to pick Google if they like it best, and we think many will probably make that choice, at least in the near term. After all, the word Google has become a category-define brand name akin to Xerox or Kleenex. But the decision ought to with one of the biggest



# Do the right kind of nothing

By BRUCE YANDLE

Tribune News Service It was a late afternoon conversation on the back patio. Dot, my wife, and I were talking about major events that have occurred in our almost 70 years of marriage, and that's a lot of ground to cover. "Do you recall a time like this when it seems the world is coming financial distress, the Ukraine war, the Middle East, and constant economic upheavals, and now a huge financial market sell-off"? Dot asked.

After thinking a bit, I admitted that I could not recall anything quite like the last 15 years.

Dot responded with a challenge: "If you were made economics czar in January and had full sway to change federal policies, what would you do to make things better? Taxes? Regulation? What?'

After a long silence, which gave me a chance to think a bit, I suggested two things that I would do as economics czar. The answers? First, the right kind of nothing — a year-long ban on any changes in taxes, spending, regulation, tariffs and monetary policy, and during that pause, a call for a long conversation with the American people about their hopes, dreams and future promise.

Now, some background.

There's no doubt about it, since the 2008 Great Recession, the U.S. economy has been roiled to look more like the Great American Scream Machine than the Great American Bread Machine. The Federal Reserve is still trying to reduce inflation from the high nines to a 2% goal while working to avoid another recession. Meanwhile, presidential candidates from both parties are calling for more tariffs, higher taxes for some and lower for others, and more or different kinds of regulation.

Put another way, the economics medicine men and women are on the **Yandle** 

**Bruce** 



like energy interruptions, wars and a pandemic, we have been on a bumpy policy path with more potholes prom-

Just to put some dimensions on the roller coaster turbulence experienced by the American people since 2007, consider this. The unemployment rate stood at 4.7% in October 2007. It rose to 10.0% in October 2009 during the recession, just two years later. The rate then plummeted as the economy became flush with stimulus money and hit 3.5% in February 2020. Then. with COVID shutdowns, the unemployment rate jumped to 14.8% in April 2020, the largest one-month increase since 1939. It then fell to 3.4% in April 2023, after the Fed continued to cut interest rates, but rose to 4.3% in July 2024 following a Fed policy reversal. We are almost back where we started in 2007. Whew!!! What a

The Fed's goosing and then braking actions delivered higher interest rates, which in turn took a bite out of economic activity. The effects are seen in the average interest rate paid nationwide for 30-year fixed-rate mortgages. The rate paid in third quarter 2007 stood at 6.55%. This was before the 2008 Great Recession, COVID and the later battle against inflation. Long after the recession, in the fourth quarter of 2012, when the economy was flooded with money, the rate fell to 3.36%. Then, when the Fed reversed engines and began to tighten, the mortgage rate rose to 4.78% in 2018's fourth quarter. In 2024's second hunt. With external shocks aplenty, quarter, it hit 7.0%. When the trip George Mason University.

started in 2007, the mortgage rate stood at 6.55%. We are almost back. What a ride!

To get a handle on government intervention during all this, the Brookings Institution's Hutchins Center produces a Fiscal Impact Measure that estimates how much local, state and federal spending adds to GDP quarterly growth. The measure's four-quarter moving average stood at minus 0.25 percentage points in 2007's third quarter. At the time, there was no meaningful government stimulus. After efforts to cushion the effects of the 2008 recession, the measure jumped to 2.62 percentage points in 2009's fourth quarter. In 2018's second quarter, the measure rose to 3.85 percentage points, and in 2021's first quarter, 5.23 percentage points. Brookings predicts that the İmpact Measure will register minus 0.08% in this year's fourth quarter. This is close to where the ride started in 2007. Finally, real GDP growth was hitting 2.41% in 2007's third quarter. The most recent estimate shows 3.1% for 2024's second quarter.

We are back! But as Jerry Lee Lewis might have put it, there was "a whole lotta shakin' goin on.'

So, with this background in mind and memories of the rough roller coaster ride still intact, let's have a year-long policy pause and give the economy a chance to find itself, to regain balance and move forward. Of course, we will have to respond to external shocks, should they occur, but let's not add any of our own mak-

And while catching our economic breath, let's have a national conversation with hearings in major cities speaking to the fundamental question: What are our hopes and dreams, and what is our future promise?

Yandle is a Distinguished Adjunct Fellow for the Mercatus Center at

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US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call

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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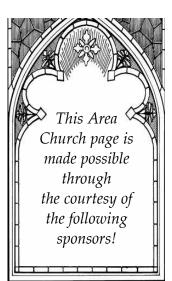
**VOLUME 151–NUMBER 86** THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2024

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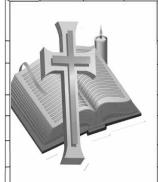
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday,

#### unless otherwise indicated. **Asbury United**

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

#### **Bellefountain United Methodist** 440 S. 600 East

Pamela Freeman Services: 9 a.m.

#### **Bluff Point Friends** 80 E. 650 South Services: 10 a.m.

Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. **Boundary St. Paul** 

Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East Ava Gannon

(260) 726-2373 Services: 9:30 a.m.

#### **Bryant Wesleyan** 209 S. Hendricks St. Paul VanCise

(260) 997-6231 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 bryantwesleyanchurch.com

### Calvary United Methodist

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

**Christ Chapel** 2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery

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,

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

#### **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

#### **Evangelical Methodist**

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

#### **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 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

#### **Immaculate Conception Catholic** 506 E. Walnut St., Port-

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 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt (419) 375-4153 Services: 4:30 p.m. Satur- The ROCK day, 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

Bruce Bryan

(765) 760-9085 Services: 10:45 a.m. Pleasant Hill 9945 N. 800 East, Union City

#### (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. Wed-

#### 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.

1605 N. Meridian St., Portland Matt Ransom

#### Salamonia **Church of Christ**

(260) 726-7474

Services: 10 a.m.

matt@therockjc.org

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

Recovery

Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-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

#### 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. Wed-

#### **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 Sun-

#### 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 Kruchkow (260) 849-0687

Services: 10:20 a.m., 6

### **Union Chapel Church**

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

#### **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., Port-

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@gm ail.com Services: 10:30 a.m.

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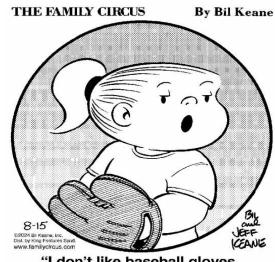
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#### **Peanuts**







WHAT?







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#### Between Friends















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Willie

36 First-rate

37 Ninnies

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### Contract By Steve Becker

### An insurance policy

He then leads a spade to the queen and cashes the king of West dealer. West dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

A K J 9 5 3

▼ 9 6 4 hearts, hoping the trumps are divided 2-2. But after West shows out, it does not matter whether South next leads another trump or tries to run the spades. In either WEST EAST case, East gains the lead with the queen of trump and returns a club, and South goes down one.

The objection to this line of play is that it leans too heavily on a favorable trump division. There is, however, another approach that offers a far better chance to make ♣J 10 9 6 3 SOUTH

♦Q42 ▼AK10853 ♦ J 6 ♣ K 7 the contract.

At trick two, declarer leads a The bidding: trump from dummy, but after East follows low (the normal play with East this holding), South finesses the eight! He doesn't expect the eight to Pass win — the odds are greatly against it — but he doesn't mind losing to 5 ♦ Pass Pass 5 ♥ Opening lead — king of diamonds. the queen or jack.

If West wins the trick, South can Unusual circumstances sometimes

compel declarer to make a play he ordinarily would not consider. For example, take this deal where norhandle any return. His king of clubs is immune to attack with West on lead. No matter what West returns, South draws the missing trumps at the first opportunity to assure the contract. mal play by declarer would lead to defeat of the contract, while a seemingly abnormal approach would get him home safely. In the actual case, the eight wins, South is in five hearts, and West

leads a diamond. Let's assume and this unexpected turn of events gives declarer all the tricks. The safety play yields not only the condeclarer ruffs in dummy, plays a trump to the ace and ruffs his remaining diamond. tract, but two extra tricks as well.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

#### 8-15 CRYPTOQUIP

NOLBY RWGR JGL JGXY G

NOKGFZY QDVRTLY

DVUGLOKOLU XYFTRGLRY FGZZN.

ON WY G BDROZZODL-GOVY? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THAT FELLOW

SNEEZED AFTER CONSUMING A DOZEN OR SO NUTS, WE COULD HEAR HIM GO "CA-SHEW!" Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals H

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### **Aaron Rodgers unlikely** to play before Jets' opener

**By ANTWAN STALEY** 

New York Daily News Tribune News Service

New York Jets head coach Robert Saleh told reporters during training camp that his "instinct" is not to play Aaron Rodgers during the preseason.

When asked about his preference for playing exhibition snaps in the preseason finale against the Giants on Aug. 24, the 20-year veteran didn't seem concerned about not playing.

"Preseason is not what it used to be," Rodgers said Tuesday. "It's to see if young guvs when the lights go on and the pads go on and the tackling happens, if they can show up or they don't.
"What's there to gain? Just going out

there, being back on the field in a situation where you can get hit. I'm not worried about it. Preseason, it's not real football.'

Last year, there weren't many highlights of Rodgers playing in a Jets uniform. But one of them was during the preseason finale against the Giants.

Not only did Rodgers complete a touchdown pass to wide receiver Garrett Wilson, but he and Giants linebacker Jihad Ward exchanged words after Ward bumped into him after completing a pass from then-Jets wide receiver Mecole Hardman.

Many people remember four plays into the Jets' season opener against the Bills last September, when Rodgers tore his Achilles after he was sacked by defensive end Leonard Floyd.

Rodgers did not play in the preseason opener against the Commanders last Saturday and will also be held out during Saturday's game against the Panthers. It's understandable why the Jets are being cautious with Rodgers, 40, after his injury.

Without Rodgers under center last year, the Jets stumbled to a 7-10 record for the second consecutive year. Having the fourtime NFL MVP under center is vital for the Jets to end a 13-year playoff drought and play in Super Bowl LIX

The Jets and Rodgers have had preliminary discussions about whether he will play in their final preseason game against the Giants.

When the time is right, we'll all sit down," Saleh said. "The decision's not I'm ready to go."

going to be made in a phone booth, it's going to be made with a global thought, and I've got a lot of thoughts.

"I don't want to get into all the details with what's going through my mind with regards to play him or not play him, but we'll definitely have a really lengthy discussion on whether it's the right thing to do for the organization"

Saleh held Rodgers out of last Thursday's joint practice against the Commanders because of the heavy rain. Rodgers is expected to participate in the joint practice against the Panthers in Charlotte on Thursday and the one against the Giants on Aug. 21.

"I mean nobody likes to play anymore, nobody likes to show anything either, Rodgers said. "Our offense that day Washington was ... you guys saw it, it is not our offense, we didn't run any of our stuff. You watch today's practice and you watched that practice and you're thinking which one is it, but it is this one.

"Even in the joint practice, you're not going to get a ton of stuff."

Rodgers and the Jets had their longest and best training camp performance on the offensive side of the ball on Tuesday. He completed 19-of-28 passes with two touchdowns and a two-point conversion to Malachi Corley.

Not only was Rodgers efficient in finding open receivers, but he used his mobility to scamper away from defenders and even ran outside the pocket several times. At the start of camp, Rodgers told reporters he was 95% back to his preinjury form and said the last 5% would come over the course of a full training

It appears Rodgers is close to 100%, with the season opener against the 49ers on Sept. 9 on the horizon.
"I feel like I have an extra gear that I

haven't shown yet," Rodgers said. "Not sure how much of an extra gear that is. In my mind, I feel like I got a little bit more that I can do.

"Being able to move around in the pocket and still make throws and extend the play is something I would love to be able to do. It could be a little extra bonus for the offense. Plays like that make me feel like

tion round.

found success in an exhibi-

Both players shot a 45.

Diller built his score with

four straight pars from the

14th to 17th hole, while

Backs' success came from

LeFevre's round ended varsity match, but Drew

Tri-Village didn't have a pair of pars and four



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS junior Olivia Knapke reacts to her ball rolling toward the fourth hole at Wabash Valley Golf Club on Tuesday. Her chip hit the pin and rolled over the hole without going in, setting up a tap in for par.

### **Shaving**

Continued from page 8 Will mentioned drives like the ones on that hole played a large role in her suc-

"I just kept everything straight," Will said. "That was a big thing. I just stayed out of the trees for the most part which definitely helps on this course.

Knapke finished just one stroke behind Will with a 58. The junior had two pars and three bogeys to fuel her round. South Adams' top golfer, Julia Arnold, finished one stroke behind Knapke with a 49.

The third score came from Mallory Evers, who had a strong stretch from hole No. 2 to 6, with a par and four bogeys en route to a 50.

The final score came from Georgia Wenning out of the No. 5 position with a 54. Wenning has now scored in all five of the Indians' matches this season out of the fifth spot.

"I feel like it's just easier because the girls are more laid back," Wenning said. "I think the higher you get the more it gets to my head.

"I've just gotten the hang of it more throughout the season.'

Wenning's highlight was a par on the second hole, preceded by a bogey on the 255-yard, par-4 first hole.

Eva Kahlig's round of 57 did not affect the team score.

Vaughn in particular is pleased with the balance of the lineup, and the ability for each girl to produce an important score on any given day.

"That's awesome, because that's, last year, what we were missing," Vaughn said. "I kept telling them, we need to have some consistency where we're not taking a 58. ... To have that consistency, that you can throw another girl's score out that you're thinking you're probably going to use is huge.'

#### **Junior varsity**

The Indians' JV team also took down

the Starfires 239-262.

Both Evvie Briner and Rylee Bubp both shot the low of 57 in the match. Briner shot a bogev on the first hole, while Bubp made a pair on the fourth and sixth holes.

Emily Boeckman earned a 61, while Liza Knapke shot a 64 to tie South Adams leading scorer, Sophia Orr.

### **Sports on tap**

#### Local schedule

11, 13 and 17.

**Iribe** 

Continued from page 8

Lennartz rounded out the

team score for Fort Recov-

ery (3-1), each shooting a 42.

Lennartz had two holes

that were worse than a

bogey, but made up for

them with a birdie on the

520-yard 14th hole and

made pars on holes No. 10,

Jay County — Girls golf at Woodlan – 5 p.m.; Volleyball scrimmage at Mississinewa – 6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Girls golf at Parkway – 4:30 p.m.; Boys golf vs. Parkway – 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball scrimmage at New Bremen - 5 p.m.

Friday Jay County — Football scrimmage vs. Rich-

mond - 7 p.m. Fort Recovery — Football scrimmage at Indian Lake - 7 p.m.

#### **TV** sports

Reece LeFevre and Eli up similar to Lennartz's Backs and Mason Diller

with two scores worse than

bogey, a birdie on the 498-

yard 12th hole and pars on

the 11th, 14th and 17th

Colson Post's 51 did not

impact the final score.

Riley Grieshop's 44 and

enough players for a junior bogeys.

holes.

Today

1 p.m. — Little League baseball: Guayama vs. Tokyo (ESPN) 1 p.m. — Tennis: Cincinnati Open (Bally Indi-

ana)

9 p.m. — WNBA: New York Liberty at Los Angeles Sparks (ESPN)

Friday

3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Fulham at Manchester United (USA) 6 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Michigan

6:40 p.m. — MLB: Kansas City Royals at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

8 p.m. — High school football: Creekside at Rome (ESPN2) 9 p.m. — MMA fighting: Professional Fight-

ers League (ESPN)

#### Local notes

Next up The Adams Memorial/Kekionga Greenway Gallop 5K is the next race in the Adams County

The race will be held on Saturday, Aug. 24. It will begin at Riverside Center in Decatur at 4:30 p.m.

The races cost \$25. Registration can be found at adamscounty5kchallenge.com For more information contact Linda Morris at (260) 724-2604.

#### Season tickets for sale

Jay County High School began selling season tickets Monday, July 22. Tickets can be purchased during office hours from 7:30 a.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

good for 12 games at \$50, boys basketball season passes for \$50 and football season pass-

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

iron dutch oven, skillets. and pans. Vintage NASCAR collectibles, NAPA toys, semi & trailer. GE upright freezer, Schumacker 200 amp battery charger, Grinder on pedestal, Electric power washer, Tools & utility cabinets. Several items not mentioned. OWNERS; ESTATE OF

**GARY W KELLY** Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-

**EERING AND REAL** FSTATE AC31800004 **AUCTIONEERS** Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

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**The Commercial Review** Page 8 www.thecr.com

# **Shaving strokes and heads**

Indians have pushed bet with Vaughn as they topple South Adams

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

GENEVA — The hair on coach Jeff Vaughn's head will live to see another day.

While the Indians didn't score low enough to force their coach to shave his head, they did play well enough to take down the Starfires.

Fort Recovery High School's girls golf team shot well enough to stay under 200 strokes for the second day in a row Tuesday as they beat the South Adams Starfires 199-212 at Wabash Valley Golf Club.

"Anytime we can get a W, we'll be happy," Vaughn said. "We shot under 200 again. Anytime we get under 200 I'm happy.'

The Indians' victory South Adams comes iust one day after they shot a 197 to beat Marion Local in the Midwest Athletic Conference opener. The sub-200 stroke scores are also less than 10 strokes away from a bet Vaughn made with his team saying that if they shoot in the 180s, they get to shave his head and bleach what's left.

"Two weeks ago, the girls said 'Well coach, if we shoot in the 180s can we shave your head and bleach it?" Vaughn recounted. "At that point I thought 'yeah sure.' Then we shoot a 197 and a

"Our first match we shot a 223 and I was dis-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Mallory Evers of the Fort Recovery High School girls golf team chips onto the fifth green at Wabash Valley Golf Course on Tuesday. The junior provided Fort Recovery's third score in the 199-212 victory over South Adams by shooting a 50.

improvement and conmid 40s, that under 190 is definitely possible." The two golfers that

provided a significant push for Fort Recovery (3-2) were Emma Will and Olivia Knapke.

Will started the 2023 practice at all before the and seventh as well.

appointed and ever since season a lot slower, then it seems like they resulting in the senior turned it up a notch. ... shooting a 55 when she If they keep getting made the trip to Geneva. She not only improved sistently (score) in the her score by nearly 10 strokes, but also claimed match medalist honors with her round of 47 Tuesday.

"Honestly I'm kind of shocked (by the hot

season started," Will admitted. "I think it's just a matter of not thinking too hard about it like I usually do."

Just like the season overall, Will got off to a hot start in the match, making par on the first hole – she started on No. 2 – and bogeys on the third and fourth before start). because I did not making par on the sixth

Her par on the 370yard, par-5 second hole started with a drive down the middle of the fairway, 175 yards from the green. Her second shot took her to the rough on the right side before a third landed her on the fringe 25 feet from the hole. One putt came up 10 inches short of a birdie before the second sealed par.

See **Shaving** page 7

# **Smith** leads **Tribe** golfers victory

This is Caleb Smith's first year as a full time varsity member.

Five matches in and he's found himself outsourcing three players who earned All-MAC honors to become the match medalist.

Smith contributed the low score of 38 strokes for the Fort Recovery High School boys golf team in Tuesday's 163-176 win against the Tri-Village Patriots at Portland Golf Club.

Smith never shot worse than a bogey in his round. He finished with birdies on the par-5 12th hole and the par-5 14th, pars on 15th and 18th and five bogeys.

Tri-Village senior Trey Homan had the Patriots' low score, as he ended with a 41.

Keegan Muhlenkamp bounced back from a few recent rough matches to tie Homan at 41. His round was propelled by four pars, including three in a row from the 14th to 16th hole. The 18th was the only hole he shot worse than a bogey, finishing with a double-

Šee **Tribe** page 7



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