

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Mayor questioned on Pickle policy

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Portland police officers have been instructed by Mayor Jeff Westlake that they can't eat at The Greazy Pickle during their shifts.

He faced push-back for that decision Monday.

Katrina (Myers) Ranly visited Portland City Council during its meeting Monday to question the mayor's order and ask why the restaurant/bar is being singled out.

Myers answered several questions from council member Ron May, who invited her to speak at the conclusion of the meeting.

### Westlake has told officers not to visit restaurant/bar during their shifts

She said The Greazy Pickle does about 80% of its sales in food compared to 20% in alcohol, donates more than \$10,000 annually to community causes and has separate family and bar sides.

She also noted that the business has been working with the

mayor on a fundraising event, at Westlake's request.

Myers indicated that it is her understanding that the ban on eating at The Greazy Pickle came after Westlake was involved in an argument with an officer.

"Is that how you want to be remembered, by your emotions

dictating how you're going to handle things?" she asked.

Westlake said his intention with not allowing officers to patronize The Greazy Pickle during work hours is to preserve an image. He said he'd prefer not to see police vehicles parked in front of the establishment.

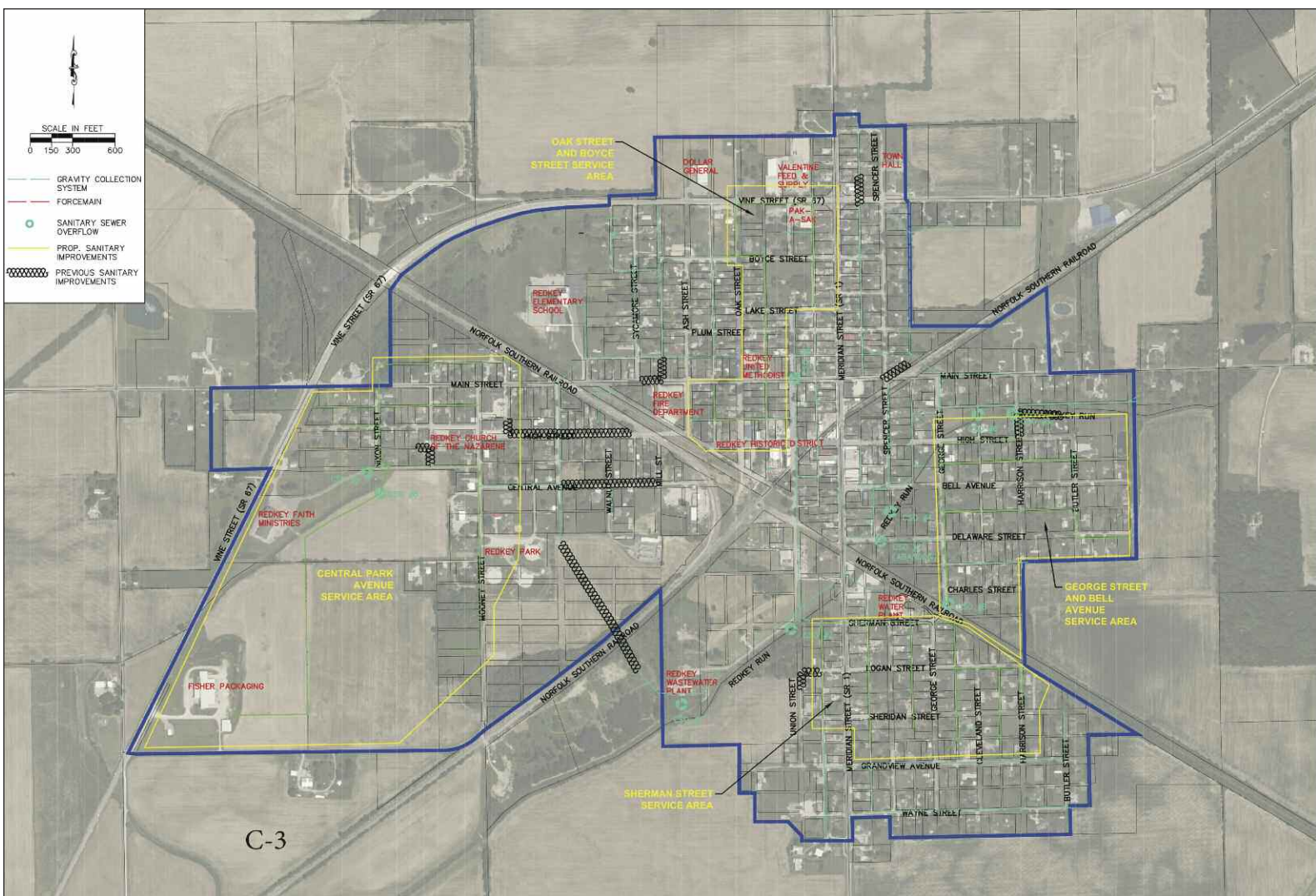
A Greazy Pickle waitress also questioned the "image" that is being upheld, saying she waits on teachers, doctors, lawyers and others on a daily basis.

Myers questioned the assertion as well, saying that if officers are trusted to make the decisions they face every day on the job they should be trusted to eat wherever they'd like and to behave appropriately when doing so.

"This is how I'm going to play it out," said Westlake. "Everybody can be upset with me, and I get that. But I just believe what I believe."

See Policy page 2

## Upgrades needed



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Redkey Town Council heard from Choice One Engineering about the town's master utility plan Monday. Pictured in the graphic above, the firm proposed a nearly \$8.4 million project for replacing four wastewater service areas in Redkey. It includes replacing systems along Oak Street and Boyce Street, George Street and Bell Avenue, Central Park Avenue and Sherman Street.

## Plan lays out millions in projects

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Redkey has a potential plan for how to address its Indiana Department of Environmental Management violations. It would involve major upgrades to the town's utilities.

Whether the town will be able to follow through will largely depend on if it can secure grants or other funding.

Redkey Town Council approved its master utility plan Monday.

It calls for the town to consider the following: an \$8.4 million project for replacing wastewater lines, a roughly \$2.8 million project to make water system improvements, a stormwater utility fee for residents and an approximately \$2.8 million project for

installing new stormwater systems.

In February 2023, council approved a \$90,000 contract with Choice One Engineering to conduct a master utility study for the town.

Choice One Engineering inspected Redkey's water, wastewater and stormwater utilities in the last year and put together a plan for how to com-

bat ongoing issues. Engineer Ryan Lefeld walked council members through the company's research and planning Monday.

Redkey's most pressing needs, explained Lefeld, rest within its wastewater utilities. One concern is the amount of water overloading the wastewater plant's system.

See Upgrades page 2

## Brenner pleads to dealing narcotics

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

A Dunkirk man accused of dealing fentanyl resulting in another man's death has pleaded to a lesser charge.

Cody A. Brenner, 33, 317 E. North St., pleaded guilty Tuesday morning to intentionally dealing in a narcotic drug, a Level 2 felony. Brenner had been charged with a Level 1 felony — it has a sentence range between 20 and 40 years — in connection with the death of 26-year-old Dunkirk resident Zachary Long on Sept. 11.

A sentencing hearing was scheduled for 11 a.m. Sept. 27.

A 14-year-old boy, identified as M.N. in court documents, discovered Long. An autopsy indicated Long died from fentanyl exposure. A toxicology report showed he had a blood alcohol level of 0.087%, as well as ethanol, fentanyl and norfentanyl in his body.

According to court documents, Brenner admitted during an interview with police Oct. 24 that he dealt heroin to M.N., and he admitted to purchasing \$60 worth of heroin Sept. 10, which he split and sold half to M.N.

Brenner initially denied knowing that the heroin he delivered would cause an overdose, the documents say. During an interview two days later, though, he admitted to selling M.N. a bag of heroin and fentanyl near Broad Street in Dunkirk. He told police "anymore it's all mixed together," court documents say, and he said he didn't know M.N. planned to share the drugs with Long.

M.N. told police Oct. 25 he purchased the fentanyl from Brenner on Sept. 10. He let Long "snort a line," and after the heroin, Long crushed and snorted a Xanax, according to court documents. M.N. left Long's house afterward. M.N. also overdosed that night, but emergency personnel revived him.

Per Indiana Code, dealing narcotics can range between a Level 2 felony and a Level 5 felony, depending on the circumstances. To be defined as a Level 2 felony, the offense must include: at least 10 grams of the drug involved or an enhancing circumstance applies and the drug must have been heroin or a fentanyl containing substance.

See Pleads page 2

## Jay Schools looking at joining trust

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Jay School Corporation is continuing to explore its insurance options.

Business manager Shannon Current and consultant Nick Napier of Brown and Brown provided additional information to the school board Monday regarding the possibility of joining an insurance trust.

The school corporation's insurance committee, which includes board

members, administrators and staff, met Aug. 9 to gather more information about insurance trusts. They discussed topics including the overall plan year, deductibles,

eye/dental insurance, clinics and other details.

The possibility of joining a trust has been brought up for several years and is now being pursued in earnest after

the board last month approved a new health insurance plan with PHP with a 9.3% increase in costs. In order to achieve those rates, the school corporation had to accept

increases in deductibles and other changes.

The school corporation faced an initial renewal proposal from IU Health, which had provided insurance for the last two years, at an increase of 49%. (The increases came because the school corporation has had high claims activity, specifically from five employees with chronic diseases and several more with cancer.)

See Trust page 5

### Committee plans to have recommendation next month

#### Deaths

Viola Hutzler, 82, Portland  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Monday. The low was 59.  
Lows will be in the upper 40s tonight. Expect sunny skies Thursday with a high in the mid 70s.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### Correction

There was an error in the story about Jay County Council in Friday's edition of The Commercial Review. Contrary to information reported, chief public defender Brandon Murphy said he plans to ask for \$85,000 salaries for two public defender positions in 2025.

#### Coming up

Thursday — Results from the JCHS boys soccer season opener.

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

Saturday — Results from the Jay County football opener against Blackford.



# Upgrades ...

Continued from page 1  
Redkey made significant upgrades to its wastewater treatment plant along with its mandated sewer separation project that started in 2017 and finished two years later. Combined wastewater and stormwater lines had been flooding town, leading to untreated sewage overflowing into Redkey Run. IDEM had sent multiple notices of noncompliance to the town, but it wasn't until the town secured a \$3.9 million grant and \$3.8 million loan from the United States Department of Agriculture in 2014 that it was able to begin planning the project. The wastewater treatment plant underwent extensive renovations at that time, getting new equipment, utility overhauls and a general facelift.

Redkey still owes just under about \$3.3 million on its 40-year loan for wastewater treatment plant upgrades and the sewer separation project. It also owes \$1.1 million for constructing the town's 20-year-old water tower.

Lefeld explained the wastewater treatment plant is designed to process about 300,000 gallons

per day. During dry weather, the facility services about 127,000 gallons on average daily. However, amid rainy conditions, the plant has seen up to 820,000 gallons.

The main cause of the problem has been stormwater runoff entering downspouts, sump drains, catch basins and other entry points into the wastewater system.

"That's one thing that we really, really, really want to get down — 2.3 times your normal flow is a bad sign," Lefeld said.

For that reason, Lefeld said, the town's existing combined sewer overflows (CSOs) are still operating.

The town has been in violation with Indiana Department of Environmental Management regulations for a CSO that starts near Union Street and another CSO that originates in a rural part of the county just north of town and lets out near Main and George streets. Redkey has until December to update its long-term control plan for addressing the CSOs.

Out of the nine wastewater system areas Choice One Engi-

neering tested, four of them were determined to be in poor condition. The testing measured water inflow in those areas to be seven to 23 times higher during rainy weather.

"That's a lot of clear water entering into your system," noted Lefeld.

Choice One Engineering proposed Redkey make improvements to four service areas, including collection systems on George Street and Bell Avenue, Central Park Avenue, Sherman Street and Oak and Boyce streets. Estimated at \$8.4 million, the project would replace about 60% of the town's existing system.

Lefeld also talked about needs for the town's water utilities.

Regarding the distribution system, he noted several water mains — about 8,000 feet (15% of the system) — were replaced with PVC pipes in 2003. The town has about 51,000 feet of water mains.

Lefeld pointed out the town's older parts of the system are starting to deteriorate.

"Your normal 6-inch main now might be a 4-inch main, so that's

where some of your distribution issues come from," he explained.

Likewise, the system also experiences an average of two breaks a year. He pointed out a water main along Spencer Street that has been repaired about 15 times.

The loss of water as a result of these issues leads to a loss in revenue. A water loss audit performed for the 2021 reporting year measured the town's water loss at about 26%. Lefeld noted typically communities aim to keep that percentage under 15%.

Investing in a four-step project — it involves replacing mains on Spencer Street from Meridian to Vine streets, on Vine Street from Meridian to Sycamore streets, on Bell Avenue from Harrison to Delaware streets and on Main Street from Harrison to Delaware streets — would cost the town upward of \$2 million.

Concerns have also been raised about dead-end mains in various parts of the town. Choice One Engineering also proposed looping the system, which would help improve flow

throughout the community. That project is expected to cost approximately \$814,725.

Also, Lefeld talked about stormwater collection and residents' concerns regarding flooding. Choice One Engineering suggested Redkey could implement a stormwater utility fee to pay for improvements to the system. Those improvements could include installing new systems along Spencer, High, George and Main streets and Bell Avenue for an estimated overall cost at more than \$2.8 million. (Most grant applications for such improvements require the municipality have a stormwater utility fee in place.)

Choice One Engineering will aid Redkey in its pursuit of additional grant funding to make improvements to the town's utilities. Hopes are to secure a grant or loan to make upgrades possible.

For now, the town will send its approved master utility plan to Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs to finish out the water infrastructure planning grant.

## CR almanac

Thursday 8/22	Friday 8/23	Saturday 8/24	Sunday 8/25	Monday 8/26
<b>77/52</b>	<b>82/60</b>	<b>86/65</b>	<b>90/67</b>	<b>89/67</b>
Sunny skies are in the forecast for Thursday, when the high will be around 77 degrees.	Another day of sun is in the forecast for Friday, when the high will be in the low 80s.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Saturday. The highs again will be in the 80s.	Sunday's forecast shows sunny skies and hot temperatures, with a high of 90.	More sun is on the horizon for Monday, when the high will be in the upper 80s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 1-2-15-23-28 Power Ball: 10 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Evening Daily Three: 1-1-4 Daily Four: 4-7-5-7 Cash 5: 1-14-37-42-43 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$498 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 9-9-5 Pick 4: 4-7-5-8 Pick 5: 2-6-9-9-1 Evening Pick 3: 0-6-8 Pick 4: 6-1-6-6 Pick 5: 3-9-0-5-9 Rolling Cash: 9-14-21-24-37 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 9-9-9 Daily Four: 8-2-4-9 Quick Draw: 5-13-16-17-21-25-34-35-37-39-44-49-54-55-56-61-65-66-77-78	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....3.51 Sept. corn .....3.60 Wheat .....4.56	Sept. beans .....9.32 Wheat ..... 4.82
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....3.55 Sept. corn .....3.68 Oct. corn .....3.63	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.47 Sept. corn .....3.47 Beans.....9.69 Sept. beans .....9.66 Wheat .....4.89
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....3.50 Sept. corn .....3.50 Beans.....9.42	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....3.45 Oct. corn .....3.53 Beans.....9.46 Oct. beans .....9.26 Wheat .....4.61

## Today in history

**In 1879,** Ransom Eli Olds founds Oldsmobile. The car brand was first manufactured in Lansing, Michigan, before General Motors purchased it in 1908.

**In 1911,** Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" was stolen from the Louvre. The painting was recovered two years later in Italy.

**In 1959,** Hawaii became the 50th state to join the United States of America. President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a proclamation admitting Hawaii.

**In 2020,** Redkey Town Council president Terri Taylor resigned from her seat on the board. She voiced concerns about council's decision-making, saying it "consequently could lead to a downfall of our town" and that she couldn't be a part of it. — The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Today</b> 2 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, municipal airport, 661 W. 100 North.	<b>Thursday</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 S. Morgan Drive, Redkey.
	<b>Friday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

# Obituaries

**Viola Hutzler**  
June 18, 1942-Aug. 18, 2024  
Viola Hutzler, 82 (she was age 40, because she said so), passed away on Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie surrounded by her family.  
Viola was born June 18, 1942, in Union City, Ohio, the daughter of John Lester and Ardith (Lamb) Hunley. She graduated in 1961 from Union High School in Modoc, Indiana. Viola married Paul Hutzler Jr. on June 22, 1962. She retired from CTS in Berne in 2005.  
Survivors include:  
Her husband of 62 years — Paul

Hutzler Jr., Portland, Indiana  
Her children — Bradley Hutzler, Portland, Indiana, and Michelle McShane, Ada, Ohio  
Her siblings — Carol Jarrett, Winchester, Indiana, Phyllis Lewis, Lynn, Indiana, Larry Hunley, Mesa, Arizona, and Darlene Hunley, Portland, Indiana  
Five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren  
She was preceded in death by a son, Paul Hutzler III.



Visitation will be held on Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Pastor Wayne Ward will officiate and burial will follow at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.  
Memorials may be directed towards Jay County Heart Association.  
Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.  
.....  
The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our area free of charge. There is a charge for obituaries.

# Capsule Reports

**Contract approved**  
Fort Recovery Village Council approved a three-year contract Monday with Maharg Trash Services of Celina, Ohio.  
Per the new agreement, which would be effective through Aug. 31, 2027, pending approval from the company, prices will increase for residents utilizing the service. Trash bag prices will now be \$1.60 each, with recycling bags at 75 cents, about a 5-cent increase from the current rate. Yard waste

— "natural waste" such as grass clippings, sticks or leaves — will also be increasing to a rate of \$1.15, up about 10 cents, and will only be collected between April through November. (Currently there is no designated time frame.)  
Also Monday, council learned the new traffic signal at the intersection of Butler (Ohio 119) and Elm streets (Ohio 49) will begin operating on a two-way cycle beginning Thursday morning.

Advertise in **The CR**  
**August Specials**  
1/2 page B&W ad to run once from Aug. 19 to 23  
**\$225** (regular price - \$819)  
Run a second time Aug. 27, 28, 29, 30 or 31 for **\$100**  
Contact Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141  
GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS Rates do not apply to special sections

# Policy ...

Continued from page 1  
An officer and Myers countered that they feel the rule is discriminatory against police officers.  
Council members Ashley Hilfiker and Matt Goldsworthy asked if the rule applies to all city employees or just police officers. (Currently, it applies to police officers only.)  
See Policy page 6

"As citizens, we trust our police officers, our firemen, our first responders to make split-second decisions that are wise," said council member Dave Golden. "It seems to me a capricious exercise of authority to do this. I believe they can choose a restaurant. I believe they can choose to behave responsibly."

# Pleads ...

Continued from page 1  
Answering questions from Jay County chief prosecutor Zechariah Landers and chief public defender Brandon Murphy, Brenner admitted Tuesday to intentionally dealing narcotic drugs between Aug. 1 and Oct. 20.

Brenner's plea agreement calls for his sentence not to exceed 22 years. In Indiana, a Level 2 felony has a sentence range between 10 to 30 years, with an advisory sentence of 17 years.

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**SERVICES**  
Thursday  
**Hutzler, Viola:** 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.  
Saturday  
**Brock, Kenny:** 1 p.m., Millard Brown American Legion Post 156, 112 W. Green St., Montpelier.  
Service listings provided by  
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Scan to register  
Or go to: <https://forms.gle/eXj8uNtiu1anCETL8>  
Email: [jmcfarland@jaycoems.org](mailto:jmcfarland@jaycoems.org) or Call Us 260-726-2311 x101



Photos provided

## New members

Portland Breakfast Optimists recently inducted new members. Pictured above are sponsor Abby Benter, new members Sophia Fugiett and Laci McGinnis and sponsor and president Rodney Miles. At left are new members Todd Skirvin and Mary Adair and Miles.

## Snooping leads to sad discovery

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single man, and have been for 15 years. A year ago, I met a guy, "Josh," and we fell in love. He lived 240 miles away. A month ago, he transferred his job to my city and moved in with me. (I supported this 100%.) I had sown my wild oats long before he moved in.

Dear Abby



Everything was going great until recently. Josh logged into my computer and saw all my emails and text messages, some of which were as recent as a week ago. I have been updating old flings that I'm no longer on the market, but in one particular text, I didn't give such information. Instead, I simply didn't respond.

Later that day, Josh confronted me and began to cry. He said I hurt him, and he doesn't know how to trust me again. Abby, I love Josh with all my heart, and I'm trying to weed out old "flings" as they come in, but as I mentioned, I've been single for 15 years and it will take time.

Since this happened, I have deleted a lot of text messages and updated my social media to "in a relationship," but I'm

still unsure how Josh feels. Was he right to go through my emails and text messages? I have since changed my password, but I need advice. What should I do or say to him to make him feel confident in our relationship? I don't want to lose him. — FORMER BACHELOR IN TEXAS

DEAR FORMER BACHELOR: The questions I have to ask you are: Why did Josh go into your computer, and why did he feel it was necessary to snoop through your texts and emails? How much do you know about his personal history, and did he have trust issues that started before you met? Tell Josh you would like the two of you to get couples counseling from a LGBTQ community center, if he will agree. If he does, it may save your relationship.

## Fifty five donated blood at recent drive

Fifty five donors gave blood Aug. 13 during American Red Cross' blood drive at Jay Community Center.

Donors included Michael Gast, Marlene Runyon, Doris Muhlenkamp, Jane Miller, Den-

nis Negele, Paula Barron, Michael Schmidt, John Hart, Bonnie Foreman, Jill Hemmelgarn, Denise Glentzer, Michael Foreman, Kent Muhlenkamp, Kay Westgerdes, Herbert Westgerdes, Carla Pogue, Jerry

Zicht, Jodi McKee, Gary Schmiesing, Freeda Osenbaugh, David Osenbaugh, Lorrissa Bousman, Douglas Shidler, Franklin Hogle, Joseph Boggs, Billy Sipe, Gordon Holcomb, Madonna Bruggeman, Darwin

Johnson, Tim Morris, Cindy Morris, Kevin Keller, Ruthann Brockman, Michael Timmerman and Larry Coby.

Also Lindzy Upp, Joseph Reinhard, Jani Siegrist, Larry Barnette, Sara Auken, Carl Stanford,

Tammy Krieg, Rhonda Alig, Dave Haines, William Link, Duane Monroe, Kyle Epler, Gary McMillan, Sharon Schoenlein, Jayne Pearson, Cara Cramer, Amy DeVoss, Ana Minnich, Molly Twigg and Denise Culy.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

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

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

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected

by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

### Thursday

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.

LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

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.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge

Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

### Friday

PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

### Saturday

LOCAL'S MARKET — Will be held from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in June through October in the parking lot at Jay Community Center in Portland. For more information, contact Bill Cook.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

### Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

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

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

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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)

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**GRAPHIC PRINTING**  
NEWSPAPERS

# Interstate sign always brings smile

*Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Aug. 19, 2004. Jack did his fair share of camping. He had stories from his childhood, backpacking through Europe, his days as a parent of young children and times with his grandchildren. This is just one of those gems.*

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

Plugging down Interstate 90, heading for home after two weeks of vacation, we passed the exit for Geneva on the Lake, east of Cleveland, and I found myself smiling.

The memories were much too strong.

It was 1979, I think, when we were taking the same route in a VW camper bus that we'd borrowed from my parents. They only owned the thing for a couple of years, and I think their children camped with it almost as much as they did.

We'd taken the Geneva on the

## Back in the Saddle



Lake exit in search of a campground there and had stopped at a supermarket to get some supplies before heading on.

It was a horribly hot day, a classic August oven, and everyone was getting a little grouchy. By everyone, I mean my wife and I and our twins, who were at that point just 2 years old.

Doing anything with 2-year-old twins requires planning, maneuvering and logistics, even if it's just a matter of going to the supermarket. So we unloaded a double-wide, collapsible stroller, plunked the girls into it and enjoyed the air-conditioning in

the supermarket for about 20 minutes.

Then we loaded up the groceries, including things which were starting to melt in the heat, put the twins back into their car seats, collapsed the stroller and got ready to take off.

But when I turned the key, the engine wouldn't start. There was plenty of juice, but the VW had an early version of fuel injection and the engine wasn't getting enough gas. Opening the engine cover did no good because I didn't have a clue what the heck I was looking for. The air-cooled VW engine looked as much like a sewing machine as it did a motor.

So there we were. It was about 6:30 p.m. It was hot and muggy. The 2-year-olds were getting fussy, and so were their parents.

We did the only thing we could think of. We took a walk. Actually, it was an attempt to keep the kids occupied while we talked about what to do next. Someone

had suggested that VW fuel injectors were balky in hot weather, so we figured that letting the engine cool off wasn't a bad idea either.

Still, when you're as all-thumbs mechanically as I am and you're a long drive from home and the ice cream's melting, you're not far from panicking.

Maybe that's what prompted me to flag someone down. We'd walked about a block from the store when I spotted a VW bus. It wasn't a camper, and it was a newer model. But VW owners are famous for doing their own service when they can. I figured the driver could help.

And boy did he help.

Before we knew it, the driver and his wife scooped us into their van, took us back to the parking lot and set to work.

They couldn't start the thing either, but they weren't willing to give up.

Next thing we knew, we were at their house and the driver was on the phone to a guy he knew who was a VW mechanic for a Cleveland dealership.

It was about half an hour later that we reassembled with the mechanic at the supermarket parking lot. The ice cream, as I recall, had already been consumed. And, sure enough, the fuel injection system had cooled off sufficiently so that the engine started.

There were thank yous all around as we headed down the road.

It was a long, long time ago. The twins are grown and living in Boston. The VW camper didn't stay with the family more than another year, and I have no idea whatever became of the folks who were so kind to us that hot August afternoon.

But it still brings a smile to my face as I pass Geneva on the Lake.

# Ukraine advances may be turning point

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

About two and a half years into Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the latter has turned the tables with an incursion into the Russian region of Kursk — once the site of a pivotal World War II battle — that by some estimates has left it with control of more than 1,000 square kilometers.

While both countries have now taken territory, there is no equivalence at all: Russia's attack on Ukraine was wholly unprovoked, whereas Ukraine's incursion is in direct response to Russia's attempted subjugation. Russia is in Ukraine's territory because it intends to annex it as part of some misguided imperial project, forcing full assimilation or else.

Ukraine has no intention of annexing Russia's territory, but instead under

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is seeking to temporarily hold it as leverage over the much larger aggressor, having realized that Russian President Vladimir Putin can keep throwing troops at the conflict and won't be easily dissuaded without more acute consequences. The Ukrainian troops have targeted Russian forces and caused some Russian civilians to flee, but are not engaged in a wide campaign of terror, morale-breaking and war crimes, as their Russian counterparts have been credibly accused of doing during their invasion.

Putin wanted war, he's getting war. He believed his "special military operation" would have his troops marching into Kyiv within the week and Zelenskyy would fold, and he was dead wrong. These are the consequences; the despot has no ground to stand on to cry foul. Let's hope that Zelenskyy and his military leadership has gamed out the impact on all the front lines, as this offensive, tactically sound as it might be in its objectives, should not come at the cost of losing ground to Russian advances elsewhere.

It's worth bearing in mind that an offensive of this type, against a far bigger adversary, is only possible because of support from the United States,

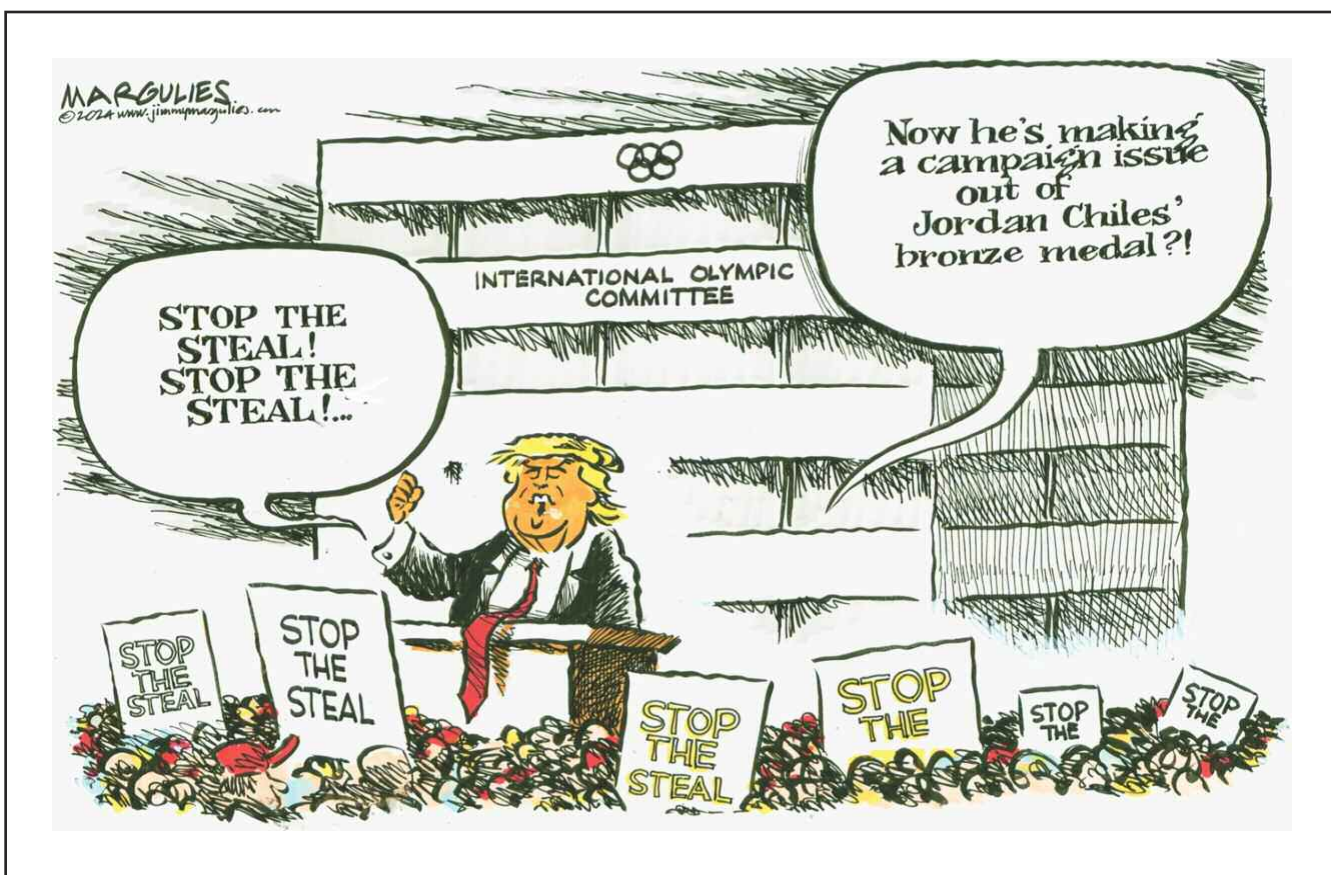
## Guest Editorial

*These are the consequences; the despot has no ground to stand on to cry foul.*

NATO and other allies. Everything from the Ukrainians' small arms to drones to artillery ammunition depends in large part on this aid, which is what sustains their ability to keep Russia at bay and strike back. Without these commitments, Ukraine would have certainly lost this war already, and we would all be worse off and less secure because of it.

Whatever historic claims to Ukraine Putin claims to have, it's obvious that this flimsy rationalization would not stop him from looking further afield. He's always hated the notion of a European mutual-defense pact, and attacked Ukraine in part to stick it to NATO. What's to stop him from continuing on this project if he were to succeed with Ukraine? If anything, he'd be far more emboldened, though would have a diminished military with which to actually pursue these ends; despite his projected attributes, though, the man is clearly not all too strategic.

The tides of the war have appeared to have shifted enough that no one can say with any measure of certainty how things are going to go. This Ukrainian taking of Russian territory certainly marks a shift, both in momentum and strategy. How significant, we'll have to see, but one thing is for sure: Ukraine needs us and its other allies, and is proving that it can effectively use the tools we give it. Let's not let domestic political squabbling derail that help.



# Fun is a winning game plan

By MARTHA MCKENNA  
The Baltimore Sun  
Tribune News Service

Two unlikely stars in recent weeks have delighted all ages with their joyful cheerleading for Team USA — NBC's Olympic-gold star Snoop Dogg and America's favorite new football coach, Tim Walz.

Like an NFL draft pre-show, political commentators handicapped the strengths and vulnerabilities of top recruit Minnesota Governor Tim Walz before Vice President Kamala Harris officially picked him as her running mate, as the Olympics were in full swing.

Former high school football coach Walz's rallies brought competitive spirit, huge crowds and contagious chants of "U-S-A" to cable news channels, providing a charming split screen with Snoop's pure encouraging energy supporting American athletes in their pursuit of gold.

These guys are loving their star turn — but they're not hogging the limelight for themselves. The genius of Snoop as a sports commentator is in his unabashed enthusiasm for the athletes. He's equal parts impressed hype man and encouraging big brother to the athletes, showing viewers the inside story of the newer or more complicated events.

Walz plays a similar role in the presidential race — hyping up Kamala Harris and fighting back against bullies who have gone unchallenged for far too long. It's like he's been waiting to take on Donald Trump for years, stockpiling replies and witty comebacks to use at just the right time. Well, it's the right time, and Tim Walz is having a blast. Walz and Snoop have shown us how much fun it is to cheer for the winning team and to be your teammate's biggest champion.

Ratings and social media love may prove NBC made the right choice with Snoop as a correspondent the

## Martha McKenna



Olympics, but a late-night chat with the Wall Street Journal's Jason Gay shows Snoop knew it all along: "This opportunity wasn't nothing but a chance for me to show the world what it's supposed to look like when you put the right person in the right environment," Snoop said. Judging by capacity crowd sizes, massive fundraising and surprising viral moments, all signs indicate that Harris knew the "right person" to help her beat Trump in November was a Midwestern football coach with an infectious spirit, laid-back competitiveness and gold-medal smile.

Snoop and Walz's sartorial choices are all part of the fun. Snoop's red-white-and-blue tracksuits and Olympic ring sunglasses alongside Coach Walz's weekend casual Carhartt and camo cap — it's all very patriotic, personal and relatable. On the campaign's merch store, the Harris-Walz camo hat caught fire — can't say Snoop's dressage wear will do the same, but his patriotic accessories sure have.

Walz takes pride in winning more than just elections and state championship football games — when pointing out the Republican Party's dangerous refusal to regulate firearms, he told a crowd of more than 15,000 people in Arizona this week that as a congressman he was the top gun in the congressional trap shoot for three years in a row. Reminiscent of Turkey's silver-medal-winning shooter, it's not hard to imagine Walz in old jeans and a worn T-shirt while other members of Congress rip

the tags off stiff new gear from Bass Pro Shops to playact the role.

While the rest of us have been dragging ourselves through the next day after staying up late watching Olympics recaps or 11 p.m. coverage of packed Harris-Walz rallies, adrenaline has kicked in for these guys. Right out of the gate at his first rally with Harris, Walz told the packed house in Philadelphia, "We'll sleep when we're dead." It's hard to stop when you're having this much fun squeezing the most out of the moment — Snoop says: "This ain't the time to sleep. It's the time to be on it like you want it." Well, whether it's gold in women's soccer or the election of the first woman president, we want it.

With the Olympics closing ceremony behind us, Snoop and his upbeat summer vibes have passed the baton to happy warrior Walz for the sprint through to November. In his late-night interview with the WSJ, Snoop's words about America's potential for gold when flag football comes to the 2028 games sounded an awful lot like a Walz warning about a Trump/Vance future: "We should have an advantage in America," Snoop said, chuckling. "Come on man. Don't send the wrong people out there."

Whether they're barnstorming Paris or battleground swing states, Snoop and Walz have helped us all cheer for America with new enthusiasm — bringing the whole family together to praise our athletes, embrace our strengths and cheer together for victory. It's been exhilarating, it's been inclusive and yes, it's been joyful. And you get the very real feeling, as Snoop says, that the fun really is just "me being me." Both men are having the time of their lives and we are all feeling it.

.....  
McKenna is a Baltimore-based Democratic media strategist.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Glass celebration

The Glass Days festival was held Saturday in Dunkirk. Pictured above, Lisa Pelo of Indy Fused Glass uses a torch to work on a piece. Below, Sylvia Shawver of Portland takes her chances at the American Legion nickel toss. The event, in its second year after a hiatus from 2020 through 2022, also featured a breakfast, 5K, glass factory tours, food, a push-up contest, a cornhole tournament, kids games and activities, a celebration of Cinderella Queen of Glass, a pet parade, a fish fry, a golf cart parade, a car show, an artisan glass auction and a concert with Cook & Belle.



## Trust ...

Continued from page 1

The benefit of joining an insurance trust — they are groups of schools who partner together on insurance — is that they spread the risk across a larger pool of employees, thus minimizing the chance for significant fluctuations like Jay Schools experienced this year.

Plans call for Current to survey school employees about the possibility of joining a trust. The insurance committee is then expected to have a recommendation at the board's Sept. 16 meeting.

If the school board decides to pursue joining a trust, the corporation would apply to both the East Central Trust and North Central Trust. If accepted, they would join one and employees would be enrolled by Thanksgiving in advance of a Jan. 1 start date in the new insurance.

Answering a question from board member Phil Ford, Napier said that once a school corporation joins a trust it can not be removed because of high claims activity.

Gulley noted that state data shows about 55% of school corporations in Indiana are involved in trusts for insurance purposes while just 9% are fully insured like Jay School Corporation.

Also Monday, the board held its public hearing on its 2025 budget. There were no comments from the public.

The 2025 budget is advertised at \$41,487,028, up from this year's \$40,606,910. (It is a 2.2% increase.)

The budget includes \$23.5 million in the education fund, \$11.6 million in the operation fund, \$5.6 million in the debt service fund, \$44,475 in the pension debt service fund and \$300,000 in the rainy day fund. (The pension debt will be paid off early in 2025.)

In other business, board members Ron Laux, Phil Ford, Donna Geesaman, Jason Phillips, Vickie

Reitz, Chip Phillips and Marcie Vormohr:

•Learned from Gulley that the new Jay County Early Learning Center operated by Westminster Preschool that is planned to open next month is interested in partnering with Jay School Corporation on food service. Chartwells, the school corporation's food service provider, would provide food for the early learning center as is allowed through the United States Department of Agriculture's School Lunch Program. He told the board to be prepared for a vote on the proposal at a future meeting.

•Approved the following: the hiring of junior high English teacher Kimberly Andrews, junior high computer science teacher Matt Goldsworthy and Latchkey instruction assistant (East Elementary) Hilary Cox; extracurricular assignments including Darian Jones as junior high honor society sponsor and Lauren Day as distributive ed club sponsor; a field trip in May for the high school band and guard; and a leave of absence for West Jay fifth grade teacher Ashlyn Lahey.

•Accepted a \$2,433.02 Digital Learning Coach Grant. Director of e-learning Katie Clark will use the funds to attend a national conference on artificial intelligence and blended learning in January.

•Heard Ford ask assistant superintendent Trent Paxson for an analysis of updated graduation requirements once they are finalized by the State Board of Education.

•Accepted the resignations of East Elementary Lifeskills teacher Lauren Hemmelgarn and bus driver Anthony Bright. Also accepted the resignation of Cody Linville as high school FFA advisor.

•Accepted a donation of 500 pairs of Crocs to East Jay Elementary School. Principal Erica Tomano had applied for the donation of the footwear.

## Study shows strong supply

By CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

As Indiana contemplates a massive and controversial water pipeline, a new study shows that the state's water supply is "plentiful," but not evenly distributed. Researchers said that caveat makes completion of a statewide water management plan — driven by local input — even more urgent.

The report, released Monday, was commissioned by the Indiana Chamber of Commerce. It follows a similar study on the state's water supply released by the chamber a decade ago.

Greg Ellis, vice president of energy and environmental policy for the Indiana chamber, said the goal is to help set the stage for an integrated water management plan for the state — a key infrastructure and energy priority in the chamber's Indiana Prosperity 2035 plan.

Like the first effort, the latest study was prepared by Texas-based environmental consulting firm INTERA Incorporated, which has a location in Bloomington.

"The Indiana chamber has prioritized the state having superior infrastructure and energy through its latest visioning plan for the state. ... The specific water goal is to invest in a framework and planning to address fresh and wastewater needs on a statewide and regional basis to meet current and future demand for economic development," Ellis said. "We believe this study offers the guidance to help us get there. It looks at the current water levels and what legislators and planners can do to ensure that the state is in the strongest future position possible."

cally focus on a much-debated plan to pipe water from an aquifer in Tippecanoe County to a mammoth industrial campus in Boone County, though researchers did note that the project "has brought the conversation about water resource planning and industrial development to the forefront."

The project supported by Indiana economic development officials — dubbed the Limitless Exploration/Advanced Pace (LEAP) Research and Innovation District — could bring construction of a pipeline that stretches 50 miles, carrying up to 100 million gallons of water daily.

Indianapolis-based pharmaceutical giant Eli Lilly & Co. has planned a \$3.7 billion facility at LEAP; the state is also competing to attract a water-guzzling semiconductor manufacturing facility worth \$50 billion and other large plants. But Boone County alone doesn't have enough water to support the campus.

State officials are continuing to study the feasibility of the pipeline and its potential impacts on regional water supplies. A separate, multi-phase INTERA study — funded by the Indiana Economic Development Corp. — showed "abundant" water availability, but the analysis was criticized for its independence.

At Gov. Eric Holcomb's behest, the Indiana Finance Authority assumed control of a more comprehensive water study in November. Initial study results released in June concluded that water withdrawals in the state's north-central region have dropped — not risen — over the last two decades.

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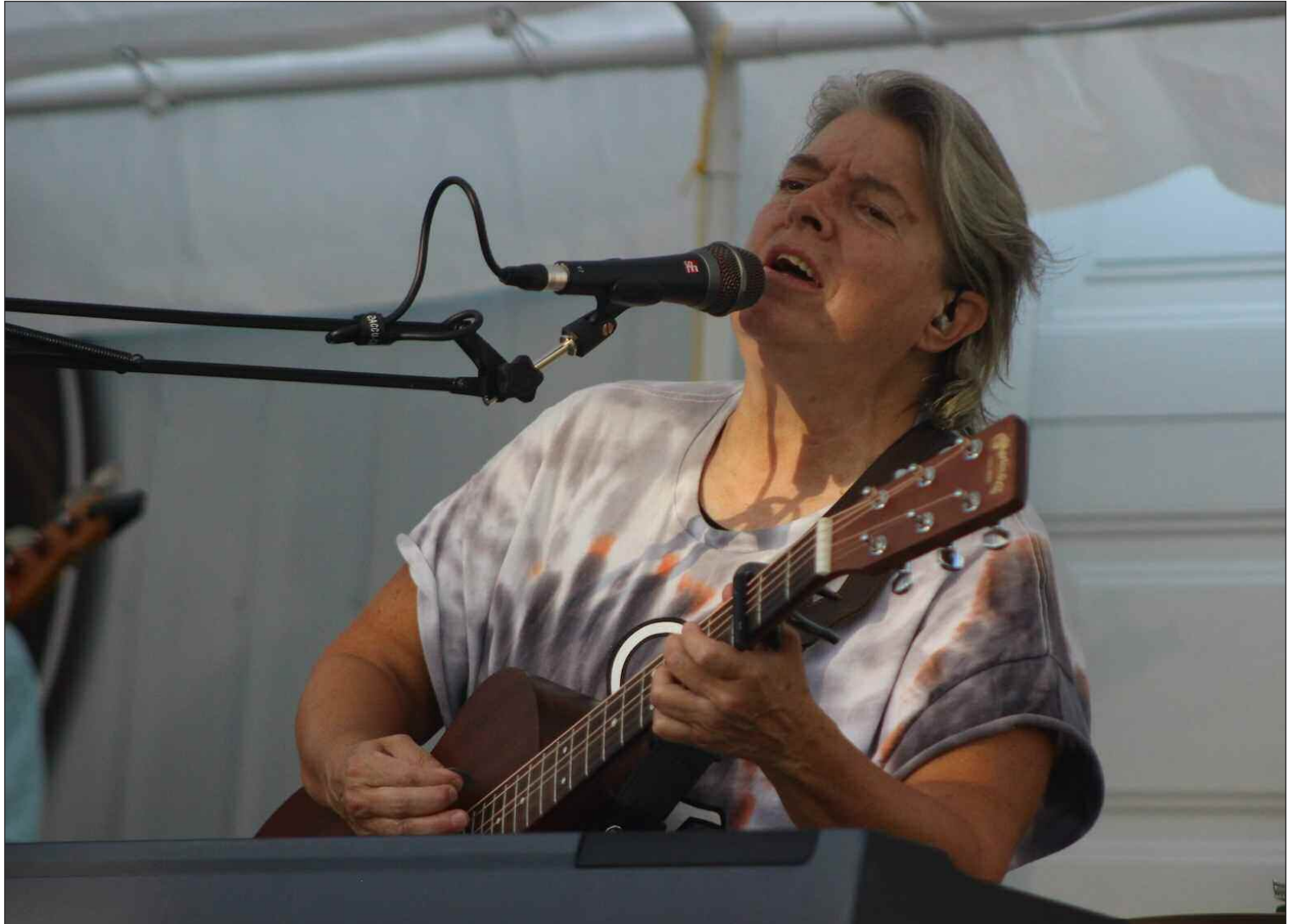
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## Fierce fight

Sally Fierce, lead singer, guitar and keyboard with The Fierce, performs Saturday during the No One Fights Alone benefit concert at The 615 in Portland. The benefit went to support Alysia Mann in her fight against cancer.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

# HEALTHCARE

## What to expect at your next eye exam

Regular eye examinations are important components of a personal health regimen. Visiting an eye doctor can alert a person to potential vision impairments, and certain symptoms that show up in the eyes could be indicative of notable health problems. The American Academy of Ophthalmology says everything from brain tumors to aneurysms to high cholesterol can be detected in the eyes.

For those who do not have any apparent vision problems, most doctors recommend following a chart based on age. The insurance experts at Aetna suggest the following age-based intervals:

- **Ages 20 to 39:** Every five years
- **Ages 40 to 54:** Every two to four years
- **Ages 55 to 64:** Every one to three years
- **Ages 65 and up:** Every one to two years

Individuals who wear glasses or contact lenses, have a family history of eye disease, or have a chronic condition that puts them at risk for eye disease, like diabetes, should get vision exams more frequently.

Despite the significance of eye exams, many people do not visit an eye doctor until something is amiss with their vision or eyes. Perhaps individuals would be inclined to visit the eye doctor more frequently if they knew what to expect during an

exam. Here's what people can expect the next time they step into a private eye doctor's office or a vision center, courtesy of The Cleveland Clinic and Warby Parker.

• **Visual acuity:** The eye doctor will ask you to read an eye chart while looking through a device called a phoropter. This device has several lenses that can be adjusted to help you see better and find the right corrective lens prescription.

• **Visual field:** The doctor will check peripheral vision by holding up a finger or an object and moving it gradually to the side of your face. Additional movements may include up and down. Some offices use a computer program to conduct this test.

• **Automatic refraction:** Visual acuity can be measured with this test, during which an autorefractor shines light into the eye and measures the eye's response. It's commonly used with children or adults who may struggle to communicate what they're seeing.

• **Pupil function:** The eye doctor will briefly shine a handheld light into each eye and then move the light away to watch how the pupils constrict and dilate.

• **Slit lamp exam:** This test involves a slit lamp, which is a type of microscope that enables the eye doctor to see the eyes in close detail.

• **Tonometry measurement:** Glaucoma occurs when intraocular pressure is high. Some eye doctors will conduct tests to determine the pressure. One way is with a non-contact tonometry test, which is a puff of air squirted at each eye. With applanation tonometry, the doctor first administers a mild numbing agent to the eye, and then uses a pressure-sensitive instrument to gently tap on the surface of the eye to get a pressure reading. A rebound tonometry test requires a handheld device that makes brief contact to the eye and doesn't require local anesthesia.

• **Pupil dilation:** The eye doctor will administer eye drops that dilate the pupils, which enables a better view of the retina, optic nerve, cornea, and surrounding blood vessels during an ophthalmoscopy.

• **Special photography:** The eye doctor may utilize specialized imaging equipment that will take digital images of the eyes to diagnose various retinal, optic nerve and corneal conditions.

These are some of the things people may experience during a comprehensive vision exam.

## Policy ...

Continued from page 2

At the conclusion of a nearly half-hour discussion on the issue, Myers asked the mayor that he reconsider his stance. Softening from his previous statements, he said he will think about it.

The mayor and May also clashed earlier in the meeting when discussing the proposed 2025 salary ordinance. Among other things, it includes an 8% raise for the mayor.

May expressed his opposition to the increase for the mayor.

"I'm not in favor of giving the mayor a raise," he said. "He knew what the salary was. I just don't think he's worthy of a pay raise at this point."

"So the next time you come in here smelling of alcohol, should I ask the officers to take you out," Westlake responded.

May said that was fine, with Westlake saying he would do so.

The salary ordinance was then passed on a 4-2 vote with Kent McClung, Michele Brewster, Goldsworthy and Golden in favor; May and Hilfiker dissenting and Mike Aker absent. (Hilfiker clarified later that she is in support of the ordinance, saying she thought other financial considerations were going to be discussed before the vote.)

As approved, the salary ordinance for 2025 includes 6% raises for all city employees, 8% raises for superintendents, the clerk-treasurer and the mayor, and \$100 per year longevity pay capped at 20 years. (Elected officials are excluded from longevity pay.)

Council also heard a presentation from Rundell, Ernstberger and Associates partner and landscape architect Cecil Penland regarding a plan for development of the 68 acres on the west side of Portland. It involves mixed-use properties — commercial on the first floor with apartments above — along Votaw Street (Indiana 67) and various types of housing extending to the north. (If fully completed, the project would create 76 single-family homes, eight duplexes and 154 multi-family units.)

Council members had various questions about the effort, including what is needed from the council at this time. Penland said if the project moves forward the main contributions from the city will be to allow hooking into its water and wastewater utilities. Consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes added that some rezoning may be required.

Asked by Westlake for a timeline, Penland said if funding is secured the first phase of the project could go to bid in fall 2025.

In other business, council:

• Heard funding requests from the city's department heads for their 2025 budgets. Each of the departments asked for increases, with the street department asking for funds for additional maintenance, the park board for capital improvements and repairs, the fire department to add a full-time firefighter and police for new vehicles and equipment.

• Agreed to consider funding for the Children's Advocacy Center following a presentation about the services it provides in Jay and Randolph counties. It responds to child sex abuse cases, working with child welfare and the law enforcement system in a united response. In operation since late 2020, the center has been involved in 525 cases. Council heard a request for \$8,000 to \$10,000 to support the center's mission. (About 80% of its work is federally funded.)

• Approved closing the half blocks of Munson Street and Hayes Street on the east and west sides Immaculate Conception Catholic Church and a connecting alley from noon to 11 p.m. Friday, Sept. 27, for its Oktoberfest.

• Heard McClung, Golden and the mayor welcome visitors to the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show, which officially began today. "I know it gums up out traffic a little bit, but by golly it's exciting that people want to come to Portland, Indiana, by the tens of thousands and spend their money," said McClung. "I really appreciate what Tri-State does."

• Approved, on first and second reading, an amendment to the 2024 payroll ordinance to add a line item for a part-time mayor's secretary. Clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips explained that the line item has existed for years but was inadvertently omitted from the 2024 ordinance. (The mayor's office is currently without a full-time secretary and has hired a part-time employee.)

• Learned from Westlake that the city is working on hiring a code enforcement officer.

• Heard Golden ask for updates on the Meridian Street paving and sidewalk project and the installation of livestreaming equipment in council chambers.

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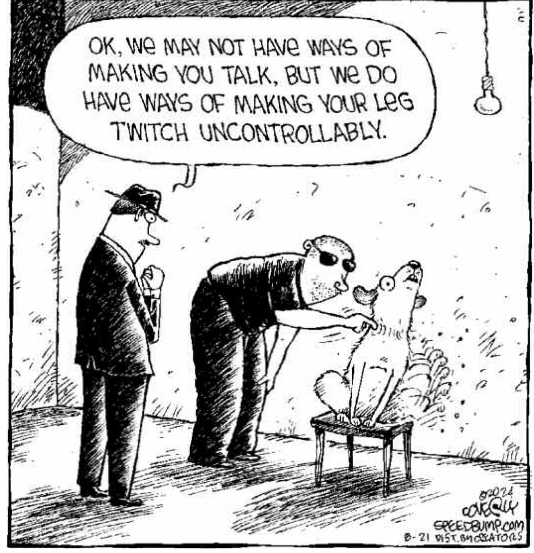
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East dealer.  
East-West vulnerable.  
NORTH  
♠ A 10 9 7 2  
♥ J 6  
♦ A 10  
♣ A K 8 3  
WEST  
♠ K 8 4  
♥ Q 8 3  
♦ Q J 9 5 2  
♣ 5 4  
EAST  
♠ J 6 3  
♥ 10 9 5 4 2  
♦ K 8 7 4  
♣ 6  
SOUTH  
♠ Q 5  
♥ A K 7  
♦ 6 3  
♣ Q J 10 9 7 2

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♣ Pass 2♠  
Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣  
Pass 4♥ Pass 6♣

Opening lead — diamond queen.  
A declarer should assume that the defenders are doing their best to try to defeat him, basing many of his plays on the method of defense chosen by his opponents. This reliance on their plays often helps him greatly when he is faced with a difficult situation.  
Consider this deal where West leads the queen of diamonds against six clubs. Superficially, it seems South must go down one, since he has a spade loser and a

diamond loser. However, South can make the slam if he plays correctly. He takes the diamond queen with the ace, draws trump, cashes the A-K of hearts and ruffs a heart. The ten of diamonds is then led, presenting East with the option of winning the trick with the king or letting his partner win with the jack. But regardless of which option East chooses, declarer makes the slam.  
First, let's say East lets his partner win the diamond with the jack. In that case, West must yield a ruff-and-discard or return a spade that allows South's queen to score the slam-going trick.  
Now let's say East wins the diamond with the king. He must then also yield a ruff-and-discard or return a spade. Obviously, East's best choice is a low spade return because that gives declarer a chance to go wrong in deciding whether to play the five or the queen.  
But South should have no trouble deciding which of the two cards to play. He should reason that if East had the king of spades, he would have allowed West to win the diamond trick. East's willingness to take the lead strongly suggests that he does not have the king, so South should play the five. If he does, he traps West's king and makes the slam.

Tomorrow: A drop in the bucket.  
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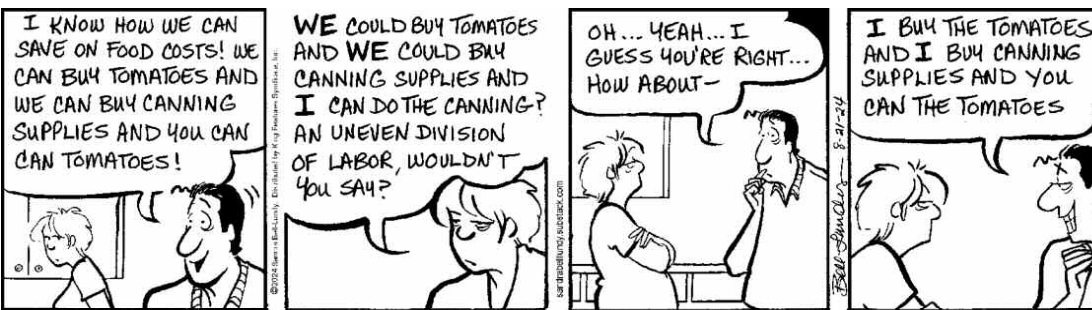
**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



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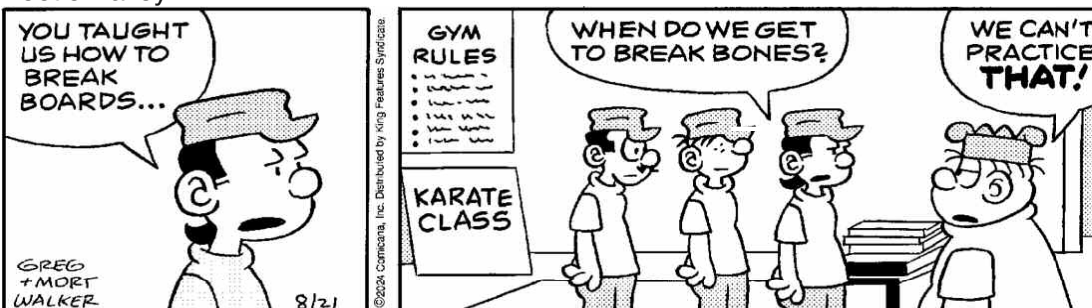
**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**8-21**

**CRYPTOQUIP**

YGX HFZRCYFZX IDWXZ WRXJ  
GX JNFBKR'Y QX DQBX YN  
HCRCLG CR YCIX, LN GX  
KXECKXX YN YDQBX CY.

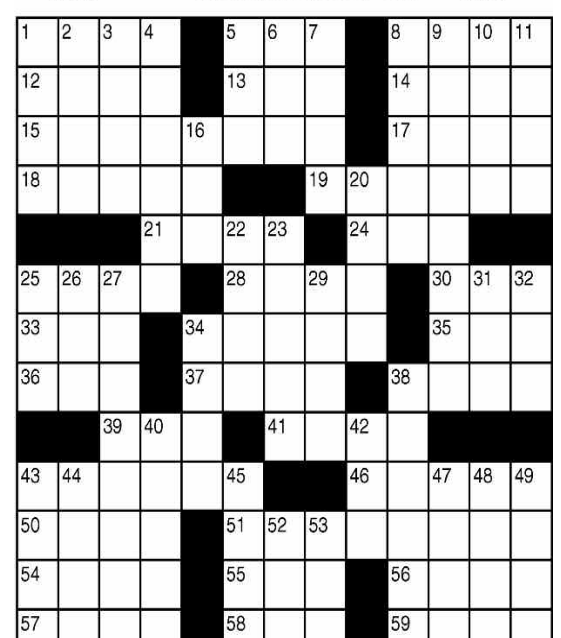
**Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHY DID THE TEACHING CYCLOPS END UP SHUTTING DOWN HIS SCHOOL? HE ONLY HAD ONE PUPIL.**  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals B

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

- |               |                 |                  |             |           |             |                     |                  |                 |               |                 |                   |                      |               |                 |              |                         |                |                      |                |                 |                        |                         |               |            |           |              |             |                   |                    |                  |             |              |                             |                  |               |              |                    |               |              |                |
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Yesterday's answer 8-21



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# Will Jason Bean make Colts' 53-man roster?

By GARY BEDORE

The Kansas City Star  
Tribune News Service

Former Kansas Jayhawks quarterback Jason Bean has not yet guaranteed himself a spot on the Indianapolis Colts' 53-man regular-season NFL roster or 17-player practice squad.

The 6-foot-2, 195-pound, 25-year-old undrafted free agent has played well enough in the Colts' first two exhibition games, however, to be mentioned as a strong possibility to be Indy's No. 3 QB behind Anthony Richardson, the No. 4 overall pick in the 2023 NFL Draft, and 39-year-old Joe Flacco.

He is battling it out in Indy for the No. 3 signal-caller slot and/or a coveted practice-squad spot. Also in the mix are former Texas

QB Sam Ehlinger, a sixth-round pick in 2021 who is familiar with coach Shane Steichen's system, and rookie Kedon Slovis out of BYU.

"The most interesting player at Colts camp is their No. 4 or 5 quarterback," Indy Star columnist Gregg Doyel wrote of Bean on social media site X. "There's something special here. You see it at practice and after practice. On and off the field."

In another X post, Doyel wrote: "The Colts expected to move ex-Kansas quarterback Jason Bean to wide receiver by now (because of his speed), but Bean keeps excelling at QB. Now the Colts wonder what they have in this unique package of arm, speed and leadership."

Doyel also tweeted: "The way people talk about Jason Bean is fascinating."

In his pro debut against Denver on Aug. 11, Bean completed 4 of 6 passes for 51 yards and one touchdown — a 16-yard pass to Laquon Treadwell. He also had four carries for 24 yards, with a long gain of 11 yards.

Against Arizona on Saturday, Bean completed 7 of 9 passes for 94 yards with one interception. He also was sacked once for a 12-yard loss and rushed four times for 14 yards and a 1-yard TD score.

Bean's performance Saturday impressed Colts coach Steichen.

"He made a ton of plays," Steichen told colts.com. "Two touchdown-scoring drives, had the big fourth-

and-one conversion, had a big third-down conversion. It was exciting. He did a lot of good things for us for sure."

If Bean does get cut — his immediate future will likely be decided sometime after the Colts' final preseason game (Thursday night at Cincinnati) — it could be because of the first drive he led against Arizona. One play after getting sacked, he threw an interception that led to an Arizona TD that gave the Cardinals a 7-3 lead.

However, if he makes the team or practice squad, the drive he led next might be a key reason. He bounced back immediately, leading Indy on a 10-play, 75-yard TD drive capped by a rushing TD from running back Zavier Scott.

"(His confidence) radiates, we all feel it," Scott told Colts.com, referring to Bean. "Everybody feels the energy, we feed off each other. That's the game, it's a team game, and that's kind of how it has to be. And it's good to see that, feel that, even without words being said."

Receiver D.J. Montgomery said: "I feel like every time, Bean gets better and better. Each snap, it's like he gets better and better, and more comfortable."

"I feel like Bean can do a lot of everything," Montgomery added. "He can run, he can pass. It's good to have a mobile quarterback."

Bean a year ago completed 124 of 199 passes (62.3%) for 2,130 yards and 18 TDs for the 9-4 Jay-

hawks. He threw seven interceptions. He also rushed 47 times for 280 yards and three TDs. He directed KU to a 49-36 win over UNLV in the Guaranteed Rate Bowl, earning MVP honors.

Reporter Amanda Foster of colts.com summed up Bean's current situation this way: "With a victory and his first NFL touchdown under his belt, Bean has one more chance during the Colts' joint practice and preseason game against the Cincinnati Bengals to prove what he's capable of. And he'll go into it with confidence."

NFL teams must trim their rosters to 53 players by Tuesday, Aug. 27. The third and final week of the 2024 preseason will conclude Sunday night.

# Clark gets T for being 'disrespectful to the game'

By STEVE HENSON

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

Getting snubbed by the U.S. Olympic women's basketball team turned out to be just what Caitlin Clark needed — a month off to refresh her game, refuel her temper and remind everyone she says stuff that grabs attention.

Sure, the Olympic team won a record eighth consecutive gold medal without her, but it didn't take long for Clark to regain the spotlight. On Sunday, the Indiana Fever point guard set a WNBA record, thanked a referee for assessing her with a technical foul and cried poor-mouth over her salary even though she makes millions in endorsements.

Best known as a scoring machine with almost limitless 3-point range, Clark set a WNBA mark for assists in a season by a rookie, notching nine to increase her total to 232. The 22-year-old is on pace to break the overall record of 316 set by Alyssa Thomas a year ago.

She also was assessed her fifth technical of the season after punching the base of the basket when she missed a shot in the third quarter. Two more technicals and she'll be suspended for a game.

The referee "told me it was disrespectful to the game of basketball," Clark said. "Had nothing to do with my team, had nothing to do with the reffing, had nothing to do with the other team. It's just because I'm a competitor, and I felt like I should have been making more shots.



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Chet White

Caitlin Clark (22) of the Indiana Fever celebrates in the second half of a game against the Seattle Storm at Gainbridge Fieldhouse on Aug. 18, 2024, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"But I think he fired me up to continue to play a lot harder. I thought we got a lot better after that. I want to thank him for that."

Now, if only Clark could scrounge up enough cash to buy season tickets for loved ones.

Fever teammate Lexie Hull was asked if she would buy her family season tickets after she

scored a career-high 22 points in the win over the Seattle Storm with her twin sister and grandma sitting courtside. Clark jumped in and answered, saying, "Those are pretty expensive. It's like our entire salary to get those. I'm not kidding. We need people to help."

It's true that Clark's base wage of \$76,535 as a WNBA rookie and

four-year contract worth \$338,056 are paltry compared to her male counterparts; in the NBA. Salaries are limited by the WNBA's collective bargaining agreement, which was negotiated in 2020 and doesn't expire until 2027.

Blame supply-and-demand economics, which at least are trending in the players' favor in

large part because of Clark's popularity. But don't expect a GoFundMe page any time soon. Ponying up for a \$1,600 Fever season ticket for every Clark from Indy to Iowa wouldn't dent her portfolio.

She was paid an estimated \$3 million in name, image and likeness money while at Iowa, and before playing a WNBA game signed eight-figure deals with Nike (for signature shoes) and Wilson (for signature basketballs). She also has partnerships with Gatorade, Panini, Xfinity, Gainbridge and State Farm.

Back-of-the-backboard calculations of her estimated career earnings exceed \$400 million.

Why? Keep in mind that her final college game drew 24 million TV viewers — more than three times larger than the audience for Serena Williams' final tennis match. More than 3 million ESPN viewers watched her simply get drafted.

So for Clark to bemoan WNBA salaries is best interpreted as her going to bat for teammates and league-mates such as Hull, a Stanford product who will be paid \$77,669 this season. Endorsements for most WNBA players are few.

Clark, in fact, was exuberant in her praise of Hull's performance, joking that her entire social media account "will be about Lexie. I'm going to change my bio to Lexie Hull Fan Page."

More likely is that Clark will continue to set records, rake in dollars and generate headlines. Remarkable what a month off can do to refresh a person.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Boys tennis at Norwell — 5 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. Heritage — 6 p.m.; Volleyball at Delta — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls golf at Minster — 4 p.m.; Boys golf vs. Minster — 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball vs. National Trail — 5:30 p.m.; Middle school football scrimmage vs. Versailles/Fort Loramie — 5 p.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Franklin Monroe — 5 p.m.

## TV sports

**Tuesday**  
7:07 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Toronto Blue Jays (Bally Indiana)  
9:30 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Las Vegas Aces (ESPN)

**Thursday**  
2:15 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)  
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Pittsburgh Pirates (Bally Indiana)  
7:08 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia

Phillies at Atlanta Braves (FOX)  
8 p.m. — High school football: Thompson (AL) at Grayson (GA) (ESPN2)

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

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.

**Classic set**  
The 11th Annual Adams Health Four-

ation 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@adamshealth-network.org or by calling (260) 724-2145 ext. 13062.

## Local notes

**Next up**  
The Adams Memorial/Kekionga Greenway Gallop 5K is the next race in the Adams County Challenge Series.  
The race will be held on Saturday, Aug. 24. It will begin at Riverside Center in Decatur at 4:30 p.m.

## 40 NOTICES

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

## 50 RUMMAGE SALES

**123 S. CHARLES ST. PORTLAND IN** Yard Sale! August 22-23 8-5. Furniture, bikes, Radio Flyer Wagon, sewing machine, serger, dress form, Precious Moments, Adult/Teen clothes, shoes, misc. household.

**ZANE'S ANNUAL BARN SALE**  
840 W 100 N, Portland. August 17th thru August 24th.

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Antiques, Furniture, Primitives, Quilts, Buggy Wheels, Shop and Hand Tools, Household, Guns, Knives, Ammunition, Longaberger, Boyds Bears, Precious Moments. We have something for everyone. Can preview early but there will be no early sales.

## 50 RUMMAGE SALES

**GARAGE SALE 2754 W. 200 S. Portland, IN 47371.** Lots of baby clothes, Girls newborn to size 7, Boys newborn to 6 months.

**YARD SALE 908 WEST WATER ST., Portland.** 9am-8pm Now until Aug. 24th. Lots of misc., clothes, furniture & more. Priced to sell.

**812 WEST SEVENTH, Monday-Saturday, 8:30a-?** Air filled hot tub, pool items, area rug, kerosene heater, Lots of other items.

**GARAGE SALE 932 E 400 N Tues-Sat 9am-5pm** Lots of misc.

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## FR boys golf stays undefeated in the MAC

CELINA, Ohio — Keegan Muhlenkamp has dealt with some early season struggles the past couple of weeks.

### FRHS roundup

Things finally broke through for him against the Cardinals.

Muhlenkamp broke 40 strokes for the first time this season, shooting a 37 to lead the Fort Recovery High School boys golf team to a 164-183 victory over the New Bremen Cardinals on Monday at Mercer County Elks.

Muhlenkamp's 37 earned him match medalist honors for the first time this season. New Bremen's top scorer, Brady Blickle, finished seven strokes behind for a 44.

The junior's highlight ended up being an eagle on the par-4 17th hole. He also made par five times, while never shooting worse than a bogey.

Eli Lennartz put up the

second best score of the match with a 40. He also never shot worse than a bogey and finished with five pars.

Reece LeFevre added a 43, powered by a birdie on the 13th hole and pars on holes No. 10 and 16.

Caleb Smith rounded out the Fort Recovery (5-1, 3-0 Midwest Athletic Conference) team score with a 44. He also birdied hole No. 13.

Competing but not scoring in the match were Mason Diller (46) and Drew Backs (56).

### Knapke leads Tribe

Olivia Knapke had a career-best 43 strokes to

lead Fort Recovery's girls golf team to a 203-223 victory over the New Bremen Cardinals at Portland Golf Club on Monday.

Knapke made par twice in the match on both of the par-3s (holes No. 2 and 8) and added six bogeys to lead her to the score that earned match medalist.

Alli Trego of New Bremen shot a 47 to lead the Cardinals.

Emma Will helped the Indians (5-2, 3-0 MAC) keep pace by shooting a 48. The senior made bogey five times, including three in a row to start the round.

Eva Kahlig and Mallory Evers both shot 46s to round out the Tribe's final. Both golfers had a pair of bogeys.

Evvie Briner finished with 61 strokes and Georgia Wenning and 65, neither of which affected the final tally.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School junior Caleb Smith chips onto the 18th green at Portland Golf Club during the Indians' golf match on Aug. 15. After struggling in that match, he returned to the scoring column on Monday with a 44 at Mercer County Elks. His score ended as the fourth-best for Fort Recovery as it beat New Bremen 164-183 to stay perfect in conference heading into a match against Minster.

## Jay girls soccer notches win in season opener

RICHMOND — The Patriots added the Red Devils to their schedule this season, and it paid off by allowing them to secure a win early in the season.

The Jay County High School girls soccer team captured its season opener with a 4-2 win over the Richmond Red Devils on Monday.

Aixa Lopez put JCHS (1-0) ahead early, scoring a goal after only 6 minutes, 21 seconds, of play. Later in the first half, Finley Hatzell found the back of the net with 10:53 remaining in the half to take a 2-0 lead.

The Red Devils (0-2) snuck a pair of goals in the second half, but they were negated by a Mor-

### Jay County roundup

gan DeHoff score with 13:18 left and another by Jenna Dues with 10:38 remaining.

Goalie Maleah Parsons had five saves in the game, and DeHoff added an assist to her statline.

The junior varsity also beat Richmond 1-0. London Lloyd scored the goal for Jay County, and Raylin Hummer notched three saves.

### Patriots fall

ANDERSON — The Jay County girls golf team fell to the Anderson Indians 226-237 on Monday at Grandview Golf Course.

Maddy Snow and Anderson's Addison Goen tied with 49 strokes to be co-match medalists. Snow made par on the 10th (par-4), 14th (par-5) and 16th (par-4 holes). She also had two late bogeys to support her round.

Bailey Towell picked things up to finish with a 52 to notch the second-best score of all golfers and a career best. Her previous two nine-hole scores were 59 and 64.

The freshman only made par on the 10th hole, but added four bogeys on holes No. 13, 15, 16 and 17.

Brooklynn Bright and Erin Aker both finished with 68s to round out the scoring for Jay County (1-2).

### Tennis swept

The Jay County boys tennis team fell to Madison-Grant 5-0 in its home opener Monday.

Freshmen Alex Miller and Kayden Carpenter won the most games out of the Patriots, but still fell to Leo Hood and Lucas Querry 6-1, 6-2 in the No. 1 doubles match.

Blake Kahlig and Carter Well-

man suffered a similar fate in the No. 2 doubles contest, losing 6-1, 6-1 to Keagan Brown and Lucas Richards.

Luke Nelson picked off Gabe Pinkerton 6-0, 6-2 in the No. 3 singles match, while JCHS No. 1 singles player Eli Dirksen lost 6-0, 6-1 to Luke Gilman.

Tucker Griffin got swept in his first match for Jay County (0-3) by Ben Pax.

Carson Westgerdes and Kason Sims both lost in their junior varsity singles matches by scores of 8-4 and 8-5, respectively.

Troy Lee and Clark Wellman picked up the only win for JCHS, as they won the JV doubles match 8-7.

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