

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Board OKs runway lights

Bluffton got the lights working again, Tavzel said the firm also recommended replacing the units that are about 25 years old.

The lights — strokes that guide pilots to the runway in inclement weather — have had recurring problems.

Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman & Seufert estimated that the new lights could cost up to \$15,000.

Board members Faron Parr, Clyde Bray, Caleb Lutes and John Ferguson discussed options, ultimately asking Clearwaters to assist in getting quotes. Rather than waiting until their next meeting, they approved allowing Clearwaters and Tavzel to move forward with the lowest quote (not to exceed \$15,000) in an effort to get the lights replaced as soon as possible.

Clearwaters suggested that a lighting project for the original 4,000 feet of the 5,500-foot runway should be considered for addition to the facility's capital improvement plan.

See **Airport** page 2

Airport will replace devices at east end of facility

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

New runway end lights will be ordered as soon as possible.

Other projects are moving forward as well.

Portland Board of Aviation on Wednesday approved the purchase and installation of new runway end lights while also addressing apron expansion and runway paving projects.

Airport manager Hal Tavzel explained to the board that there was a failure with the runway end lights at the east side of Portland Municipal Airport last week. While Brown Electric of

Budget would cut 5% across agencies

instead saying that curbing health care costs and the implementation of new technology could help.

"There's going to be some low-hanging fruit in there, but there's nothing that's not going to be looked at," Braun said. "We're just at the beginning of it."

Braun also had tough words for schools that might see a fiscal hit from property tax cuts.

Senators have made Braun's property tax reform their first priority this year following double-digit assessment growth in recent years — which hurt thousands of Hoosiers but hit those with low or fixed incomes.

Critics earlier panned Braun's property tax proposal for the hit to local units of government without a replacement from state funds. Braun said that a third of counties had been "responsible" while other jurisdictions "are going to scramble."

See **Budget** page 2

Braun lays out proposal for spending reductions

By **WHITNEY DOWNARD**

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Gov. Mike Braun detailed his first budget proposal Thursday, challenging his eight cabinet secretaries to identify 5% savings — "on average" — across the agencies they oversee in order to pay for priorities like education spending, universal vouchers and tax reform.

However, Braun didn't have specific examples of savings,



Snow streaked

Snow blows across county road 300 West, just north of county road 50 north, about noon Thursday. Jay County Sheriff's Office sent out a text reminder Thursday morning reminding drivers that the county remains under a travel advisory because of blowing and drifting snow. During an advisory, travel may be restricted and drivers should exercise caution. Blackford, Adams, Randolph and Wells counties were also under travel advisories as of noon Thursday.

The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Amir Levy

People take part in a rally in Tel Aviv, Israel, calling for the return of hostages held in the Gaza Strip amid reports of a possible Gaza cease fire and hostage release deal being reached. A ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas was announced that would entail the release of Israeli hostages held in Gaza, according to officials from Hamas, the United States, and other parties.

Israel, Hamas reach deal

By **TRACY WILKINSON, LAURA KING and NABIH BULOS**

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — More than 15 months into Israel's devastating war with Hamas in the Gaza Strip, the two sides have agreed to a ceasefire deal that would pause fighting and free some Israeli hostages in exchange for the release of Palestinian prisoners, U.S. and Qatari officials said Wednesday.

"At long last, I can announce a ceasefire, and a hostage deal, has been reached between Israel and Hamas," President Joe Biden said from the White House.

The guidelines of the hard-fought agreement were first presented by Biden last spring, but months of negotiations repeatedly failed to bring the two enemies together.

The ceasefire, which begins Sunday, starts with a six-week period during which fighting stops and hostages are released. During that period negotiations for a permanent end to the

Agreement calls for a pause in fighting and an exchange of hostages

war will commence, Biden said.

"After 15 months of terror ... hostages will go home," the president said. "And the Palestinian people have gone through hell. Too many people have died."

Qatar's prime minister, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman al Thani, first announced the deal at a news conference in the Qatari capital, Doha. "We hope this will be the last page in these times of war," he said. "We tell our brothers in Gaza, we will always support the Palestinian people."

U.S., Qatari and Egyptian negotiators spent months holding extensive rounds of talks with Israeli and Hamas leaders to broker what the parties hope will

bring at least a partial end to a conflict that has left more than 46,000 Palestinians dead, at least half of them women and children, Palestinian officials estimate.

Unusually, teams representing the Biden administration and President-elect Donald Trump worked together to secure the deal and joined the other mediators. "We've been speaking as one team," Biden said.

The war — which destabilized the Middle East and unleashed protests across the U.S. — began Oct. 7, 2023, when Hamas, the militant group that rules Gaza, invaded southern Israel, killed more than 1,200 Israelis and kidnapped some 250 others. Most of the victims were civilians.

Weather

Jay County's low temperature hit 3 degrees early Wednesday before climbing to a high of 21.

Tonight's forecast calls for steady temperatures in the mid 30s with snow expected after

midnight and winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. Skies will be cloudy Saturday with continued windy conditions and a high in the mid 30s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from today's IHSAA Girls Wrestling State Finals.

Tuesday — Details from the FRHS girls basketball game against Bradford.

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



Airport ...

Continued from page 1
He also noted that a grant application for the airport's \$137,000 in funding for this year from the 2021 federal infrastructure bill was turned in last week. That money will go toward the airport's apron expansion project, which is expected to get underway late this summer. Clearwaters said a pre-construction meeting for the project will likely be held in late spring.

Also, a grant application for traditional Federal Aviation Administration funding is due April 28. The airport plans to seek funding for design of its pavement improvements for the runway. The board also approved the purchase of a new mower from Hull Brothers of Fort Recovery at a cost of \$17,000 after trade in. In other business, the board: •Following a question from

Ferguson, heard that Parr received a phone call from Celina, Ohio, resident Tim Homan regarding his interest in building a hangar at the airport. Parr said he recommended a site to the east of the terminal near other hangars. He said he's hopeful a site to the west of the airport parking lot will be able to attract a larger project once the apron expansion project is complete this year.

•Heard the following from Tavzel:
—The airport sold 4,281 gallons of fuel in December for \$17,348.90. That's down from 6,002 gallons in December 2023.
—The new electric vault for the airport is expected to be delivered at the end of the month and installed soon after. (A problem with the existing box led to the airport's runway being shut down for several nights in

September, which prompted the board to consider replacing the equipment.)
•Learned from Clearwaters that replacing the airport's 20-plus-year-old automated weather observation system would cost between \$180,000 and \$225,000, based on recent projects he had bid for other facilities.
•Approved payment of claims totaling \$2,714.68.

CR almanac

Saturday 1/18	Sunday 1/19	Monday 1/20	Tuesday 1/21	Wednesday 1/22
37/17	19/-3	7/-6	5/-2	17/13
There's a 50% chance of snow on Saturday when temperatures will hit the 30s during the day.	Sunday looks to be mostly cloudy and cooler, with temperatures in the mid teens to low 20s.	Martin Luther King Jr. Day's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a wind chill as low as -20.	Another day of mostly sunny skies on Tuesday when wind chills may again hit 20 below.	Mostly sunny. Wind chill values could near as low as -15 in the morning.

Lotteries

Powerball 8-41-52-53-58 Power Ball: 7 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$331 million	Daily Four: 2-9-3-0 Quick Draw: 3-4-5-6-7-15-18-19-21-24-27-36-38-42-43-51-57-59-78-79 Cash 5: 6-19-22-29-44 Estimated jackpot: \$105,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$113 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 6-7-9 Pick 4: 7-1-8-7 Pick 5: 9-8-8-8-4 Evening Pick 3: 2-0-3 Pick 4: 3-7-3-7 Pick 5: 7-8-7-9-6 Rolling Cash: 9-26-28-34-38 Estimated jackpot: \$217,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 6-8-5 Daily Four: 1-7-0-8 Quick Draw: 4-5-19-27-28-35-36-41-49-52-54-56-59-61-65-70-73-75-77-79 Evening Daily Three: 6-8-6	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.77 Feb. corn.....4.78 March corn.....4.80	Feb. beans10.25 Wheat 4.89
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.77 Feb. corn.....4.79 March corn.....4.81	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.70 Feb. corn.....4.70 Beans10.20 Feb. beans10.23 Wheat4.99
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.73 Feb. corn4.73 Beans10.22	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.74 Feb. corn.....4.74 Beans9.97 March beans10.02 Wheat4.80

Today in history

In 1893, the Hawaiian monarchy ended after Queen Liliuokalani was removed from power by a group led by Sanford Ballard Dole. Dole installed a provisional government and took over as president.
In 1922, actress Betty White was born in Oak Park, Illinois. With a career spanning nearly seven decades, White is best known for her comedic roles on television, which include "Rose Nylund" on "The Golden Girls" and "Sue Ann Nivens" on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show."
In 1929, cartoon character "Popeye" debuted in the newspaper comic strip "Thimble Theatre." The spinach-loving sailor appeared on the silver screen a little more than four years later in a "Betty Boop" cartoon distributed by Paramount Pictures.
In 1942, professional boxer Muhammad Ali was born in Louisville, Kentucky. He secured an Olympic gold medal in 1960 and four years later became the world heavyweight boxing champion. He reclaimed the champion title twice in the 1970s.
In 1995, about 6,400 people died from an earthquake hitting the Osaka-Kobe metropolitan area in Japan.
In 2014, Jay County boys basketball team fell 38-37 against host Connersville after Spartans junior Ty Miller hit a 3-pointer with 51.2 seconds left on the clock. JCHS senior Trey Teagle attempted a shot with three seconds left and just missed the mark.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 6:00 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council public hearing, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.	Thursday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland 4:15 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland

Felony court news

Methamphetamine

Several people were sentenced in Jay courts to serve time for possession of methamphetamine.
James B. Young, 47, 307 E. High St., Redkey, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 90 days suspended and given four days credit for time served. Young was placed on probation for 451 days, fined \$25 and assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. He was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days for substance abuse counseling. Young was placed on home detention. As part of his plea agreement, Level 6 felonies for possession of a narcotic drug, unlawful possession of a syringe and maintaining a common nuisance were dismissed.

Harleigh C. Zigler, 28, 3606 S. 1000 West, Dunkirk, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with 355 days suspended and given 10 days credit for time served. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for neglect of a dependent and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Payton C. Folkerth, 26, 317 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to two years in Indiana Department of Corrections. Folkerth was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, two Level 6 felonies for unlawful possession of a syringe and maintaining a common nuisance were dismissed. A habitual offender enhancement was also dismissed. In a separate case, Folkerth pleaded guilty to a separate charge for possession of methamphetamine, another Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to two years in Indiana Department of

Correction — his sentence will be served consecutive to the aforementioned sentence — and given credit for time served. Folkerth was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: two level 6 felonies for maintaining a common nuisance and unlawful possession of a syringe and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. Folkerth was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completing a substance abuse treatment program the court would consider modifying his sentences.

Rayna Garringer, 34, 313 West Oak St., Union City, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 3 felony. She was sentenced to nine years in Indiana Department of Correction with five years suspended and given credit for time served. Garringer was placed on probation, fined \$1, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. She was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completing a substance abuse treatment program the court would consider modifying his sentence.

Joshua M. Best, 41, pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 5 felony. He was sentenced to four years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served. Best was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.

Paul M. Hiser, 49, 202 Gwendolyn St., Fort Recovery, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 154 days credit for time served. Hiser was fined \$25, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dis-

missed: a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Tanna M. Clark, 45, 213 North Meridian St., Dunkirk, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 540 days in Jay County Jail with all but 90 days suspended and given 90 days credit for time served. Clark was placed on probation for 450 days, fined \$25, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia was dismissed.

Justin E. Bragg, 33, 3606 S. 1000 West, Dunkirk, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 60 days suspended and given two days credit for time served. Bragg was placed on probation for 305 days, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for neglect of a dependent and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Narcotics

A man was sentenced to jail for possession of narcotics.
Nicholas A. Noggler, 30, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 5 felony. He was sentenced to three years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served.
Noggler was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. He was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completing a substance abuse treatment program the court would consider modifying his sentence.

Ban bill advances

Indiana Capital Chronicle
Despite their reservations, committee members largely united Wednesday to advance legislation banning social media use by Hoosiers who haven't yet turned 16, unless they get parental permission.

Senate Bill 11 would require a social media operator to restrict a minor from accessing the site if they did not receive

"verifiable parental consent" from the minor's parent or guardian. Democrat, Chesterton Sen. Rodney Pol, voted against the bill.
"We're not here to moderate content. Just think of this as letting your kid go into a building that's called 'social media,' and these different apps are in there," said author Sen. Mike Bohacek, R-Michiana Shores.

Budget ...

Continued from page 1
"Once we figure out what that reset is going to be, I would hope we minimally end up with a lid on what's going to happen going forward so we never have that (growth) occur again," Braun said.
School spending, roughly half of the state's \$44 billion two-year budget, would get a 2% increase each year under Braun's budget but will likely see income from property taxes shrink. When asked how those schools would cope, Braun said the school districts should save some of the incoming dollars in rainy day funds. "The ones that poorly

managed how they spent and overtaxed in the process are who we're going to get back down to Mother Earth," Braun said.

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SERVICES

Today

Nuckols, Larry: 10 a.m., Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland.

Service listings provided by

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120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

JOB OPENING

FULL TIME HEALTH DEPARTMENT SCHOOL HEALTH LIAISON
JAY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SALARY: \$50,013.60 per year

DUTIES

- Collaborate with schools and community partners to promote whole child health, and wellbeing
- Work closely with schools and youth serving organizations to identify, develop, and deliver educational programs geared toward student health in Pre-K through Grade 12
- Collaborate and enhance current vaccination efforts to ensure childhood vaccine requirements and seasonal vaccine needs are addressed
- Coordinate and assist schools with vision, hearing, oral, as well as other health screenings
- Develop operational plans and policies to achieve department objectives and services
- Represent the Health Department on coalitions, taskforces, and committees
- Support immunization clinic operations

REQUIREMENTS

- Associate Degree in Nursing or completion of Nursing Diploma required and current licensing as a Licensed Practical Nurse in the State of Indiana
- Possession of or ability to obtain certifications in TB skin testing, CPR/AED certifications, Bloodborne Pathogens, First Aid, Stop the Bleed, National Incident Management (NIMS) and/or other areas as required for public health programs/operations
- Ability to effectively examine individuals, assess needs, and provide information, treatment, assistance, or referrals
- Ability to serve the public with diplomacy and respect, including occasional encounters with difficult persons
- Ability to travel off-site (active driver's license)

HOURS

- 35 hours weekly (Monday through Friday from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm)
- Occasional evenings and weekend hours as needed for department operations and out of town meetings
- Follows the Jay County government office holiday schedule

All interested applicants can submit their resume to the Jay County Health Department at:
504 W. Arch St., Portland, IN 47371
Ph. 260-726-8080 Fax 260-726-2220 environmentalist@co.jay.in.us
Applications will be accepted until February 16, 2025

Blood drive scheduled for Jan. 23

The American Red Cross has scheduled blood drives for January.

Those who donate this month will be entered into a drawing to win a Super Bowl prize that includes access to pre-game activities, tickets to the Super Bowl Experience, plane tickets, a three-night hotel stay and

Taking Note

a \$1,000 gift card. A drive is scheduled for 1 to 6 p.m. Jan. 23 at Lehman Park

Pavilion, 212 Park Ave., Berne.

Programs scheduled

Charles W. Brown Planetarium at Ball State University will host a series of programs this month.

The events in January include the final showings of Dawn of the Space Age, which is

about the first attempts of humans to leave the planet earth and explore space. They are scheduled for 5 p.m. Fridays Jan. 17 and 24 and Saturdays Jan. 18 and 25.

Other shows this month are:

Sky Skills Live — A guided tour of the night sky at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays

Jan. 17 and 24 and Saturdays Jan. 18 and 25.

Accidental Astronauts — A new program that follows the adventures of Sy, Annie and their dog Armstrong on their journey into space at 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays Jan. 18 and 25.

Art by Abby

It's not too late to see

Abby Wagner's artworks at Arts Place.

Jay County Campus of Arts Place has Wagner's art on display now through Jan. 31 in the Weaver Community Gallery, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. The exhibit, open during Arts Place regular hours, is free and open to the public.

Dental office continues to contact wrong parent

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have four kids, so there are many, many appointments to make and keep. We both have full-time jobs, so we split up the responsibilities by category; I get the pediatrician visits, and he does orthodontist and dentist. This works fine for me, but for some reason, these offices are stubbornly unwilling to communicate with him as a parent.

No matter who is listed as the contact person, they always call me — the mother. The dentist is particularly bad. They have my husband listed as the main contact. He's the one who makes all the appointments and takes the kids. My name is listed only as an emergency contact, but they

Dear Abby



still call me with all the reminders and schedule changes. If I don't respond, they text me repeatedly.

One time, my husband was late getting to their office, and they called and yelled at me about his lateness. I said I wasn't sure what they expected me to do about his being late. (I was on a business trip and out of state that day.)

We have explained multiple times that he is the person they need to talk to, and that I am not involved in these appointments. We've even had them put notes in the kids' records, but they still call me first. Do you have suggestions about how to overcome this bias (that doesn't include me taking over the whole family calendar)? — **IGNORED IN DELAWARE**

DEAR IGNORED: I certainly do. It appears someone in this dental practice is tone deaf. Rather than discuss this (again) with the office staff, you or your husband should complain directly to the dentist. Tell them this is a mistake that happens repeatedly and that

if it happens one more time, you will take your business elsewhere. Then follow through.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 58 years is an alcoholic, but not a mean one. He used to be the life of the party, but now his days consist of playing games on the computer and going to his friend's house to drink. He has lost so much weight. He used to like to go places, but no longer. The kids have noticed the changes and so have the grandchildren. I am at my wits' end because I don't know what the matter is. His doctors say he's fine, but he's not. What can I do now? — **OUT OF IDEAS IN TEXAS**

DEAR OUT: Your husband may need a second opinion about his health. While there may be nothing physically wrong with him (yet), it appears there may be plenty wrong with him emotionally. He may suffer from depression. He may need to be evaluated neurologically or psychologically.

Something has driven his change in behavior, but no one can solve what's wrong until you get to the bottom of it. You may be able to gain insight by attending some Al-Anon meetings and discussing this with others who are in the same boat. You can find them at al-anon.org/info.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon Friday, Jan. 17, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday

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

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

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third

Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'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. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

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

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

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1

to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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

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

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SUICIDE GRIEF — Meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month. The support group serves to help individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. To register, contact Stephanie Patterson at (260) 251-3259.

Tuesday

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

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

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-

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

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

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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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9/11 details must be made public

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

The heroes and victims of 9/11 who are suffering terrible and sometimes lethal medical problems from exposure to the toxic cloud that arose when Al Qaeda terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center have a right to know what City Hall knew decades ago about the environmental risks from Ground Zero. Any records being held by New York City and its agencies must be disgorged.

That seems like just a simple statement, however for nearly a quarter century, across four different mayoral administrations (Rudy Giuliani, Mike Bloomberg, Bill de Blasio and now Eric Adams) the records have remained hidden. It has to stop.

The fastest way might be to have the City Council pass a res-

Guest Editorial

olution requiring the Department of Investigation to conduct an investigation to ascertain the knowledge possessed by mayoral administrations on environmental toxins produced by the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and to submit a report to the Council thereon." That's the purpose of a resolution authored by Committee on Oversight and Investigations Chairwoman Gale Brewer with more than a dozen cosponsors. There is a hearing on the reso-

lution Jan. 29. Go for it and let DOI get the truth.

Meanwhile, the city Law Department, under just-confirmed Corporation Counsel Muriel Goode-Trufant, has asked for the dismissal of a legally binding state Freedom of Information Law request presented to the city's Department of Environmental Protection for any WTC health documents, claiming that DEP doesn't have any.

Well if DEP doesn't, someone does, as the same request was also submitted to the Department of Design and Construction, the Health Department, the Law Department, the Office of Emergency Management Department and the mayor's office. The Law Dept. and OEM said to ask the mayor's office, which hasn't given a final answer, nor has DDC or Health.

Only the DEP FOIL matter has advanced to a court proceeding. The other FOIL requests are still pending.

At a minimum there is the Harding memo, written shortly after 9/11 and addressed to Deputy Mayor Bob Harding from an aide, warning that there could be thousands of liability claims, "including toxic tort cases that might arise in the next few decades." The New York Times reported on the memo in 2007. So unless the memo is a fake or the Times made it up (both improbable), the memo exists. And that means it's supposed to be sitting somewhere in the files. And what else is there?

There is no danger of bankrupting the city with liability claims as the Harding memo speculates for two reasons: 1) anyone who joined the federal

Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund (either the original fund or the second fund) is barred from suing and 2) Congress capped NYC's total liability at \$350 million.

The information will come out. Maybe not this year. Maybe not under this mayor. But it will come out.

Last month, the WTC responders and survivors were disappointed once again after Congress agreed to permanently fund the WTC Health Program and failed to do so. It was supposed to be a small part of the year's end big agreement to keep the government running, but Elon Musk wrecked the deal.

That struggle continues, as does the struggle to expose the full extent of the known risks from all those years ago at Ground Zero.

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Holcomb provided thoughtful leadership

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

At this point, it is a little early to examine Gov. Eric Holcomb's legacy as he leaves office, but his greatest triumphs and biggest mistakes appear pretty clear. So, I offer a critical assessment.

From 2017 to 2019, Indiana's economy first began earnest growth in the post-Great Recession period. His early years seemed full of economic promise. That was short-lived.

In March 2018, the Trump administration levied large tariffs that clobbered domestic manufacturing — particularly in auto and transportation equipment. This caused Indiana to stumble near a recession by the middle of 2019.

Retaliation by our trading partners was focused on U.S. agriculture — particularly commodities like corn, soybeans and pork. A large federal bailout staved off a deep farm recession, but Hoosier farmers have yet to recover from ill-conceived trade policies of the first Trump term.

Then COVID-19 hit. Our economic recovery from COVID has been mixed. It was initially strong, as demand for manufactured goods spiked. It has since slumped, and Indiana has fewer factory jobs today than we did before the Trump tariffs.

Indiana has enjoyed tight labor markets and good, but not great, GDP growth since the end of COVID. Our problem is that our growth is so much slower than the rest of the nation. Thus, we fall further and further behind. A main criticism of the Holcomb administration is that the poli-

Michael J. Hicks



cies he pursued did not focus on remedying this problem.

Holcomb entered office after five years of declining education spending. The situation worsened under his leadership. In 2017, when he entered office, Indiana spent 2.31 percent of its economy on state spending for K-12 and 0.55 percent on higher education. As of last year, those spending figures declined to 1.99 percent and 0.49 percent, respectively.

On a per-student basis, these reflect a stark reduction in commitment to education that now bears bitter fruit. Since 2017, the educational gap between Indiana and the rest of the nation has risen from 7.4 percent to 8.1 percent. Over the entirety of the Holcomb administration, the college going rate of Hoosiers plummeted from 63 percent to less than 53 percent of high school graduates. This is the worst period in state history.

The earnings gap in Indiana was even worse. In January 2017, Hoosier workers earned 6.2 percent less per hour than the average American. As of last month, the gap had risen to 13.4 percent. Today, the U.S. economy is growing robustly, and, yes, Indiana's economy is better than it was

when Holcomb took office. However, the past eight years have seen the worst relative performance of Indiana's economy to the nation as a whole in state history.

The prognosis is worse. There were some efforts to revitalize the state's economy and boost educational attainment. The READI grants boosted recreational and downtown offerings across the state. Also, Holcomb has been a wonderful ambassador for Indiana on what are typically joyless and exhausting foreign visits.

These are overshadowed by some miscues. Indiana has become a tax incentive-heavy state, a deep contrast from the Daniels and Pence agendas. From 2017 to 2019, tax incentive use grew by more than 75 percent in Indiana — no doubt inspired by slow growth. Incentive use has continued to grow since, reflecting the grim fact that we must pay companies more to come to Indiana. That itself is as strong a signal of policy miscues as any economic data.

By far the worst mistake in this area is the ill-considered effort to turn the Indiana Economic Development Corp. into a land development agency. At its very best, the LEAP District will end up being a stunningly expensive business park that will never recoup the tax dollars spent on it. At its worst, it will rival Wisconsin's Foxconn deal in its lack of fiscal prudence, disregard for local residents and overall naivete regarding the actual causes of economic growth.

Holcomb did little to confront

the hospital monopoly crisis that worsened throughout his terms. Though he managed to ensure senior leaders in state government received large pay increases — a needed step to maintain talented leaders — pay for civil servants, teachers and faculty and staff across Indiana are well below where they were in 2017.

Holcomb cut state government employment, which is now down by 6.7 percent since he took office, despite much higher demands on Medicaid and FSSA services. Anecdotal, state government operates efficiently, from the famously well-run Bureau of Motor Vehicles to the Department of Transportation.

This is not an especially stellar record, but it is not what historians will remember about the Holcomb administration. Holcomb will be remembered for his reaction to the state's worst crisis since the Civil War — the COVID-19 pandemic.

Holcomb took a reasoned and pragmatic approach to the pandemic. His first stay-at-home orders came a full week after a statewide collapse in consumer spending. Holcomb didn't close down the Indiana economy; it closed down from fear of COVID. Indeed, COVID deaths in Indiana started a week before his emergency declaration and saw their 2020 peak within two weeks of his emergency order.

Under Holcomb, the immediate response to COVID helped arrest the disease, saved lives and did as little damage to the economy as possible. Few, if any, governors offered sober and deliberately

thoughtful leadership in the early days of COVID. Holcomb's instincts were impeccable. His response was a masterclass in conservative, pragmatic leadership in a time of crisis.

In the end, Indiana did poorly with COVID. Anti-mask and anti-vaccine pressures led to a spike in cases, with the death rate rising only after vaccines were made widely available. If Hoosiers respected the health of their fellow citizens as strongly as Holcomb did, quite a few more of the 26,000 who died would be with us today.

Holcomb's term in office is likely not his final moment of public service. Perhaps he will find himself a university president in the coming year. Whatever his next steps, his governorship will be remembered for his rapid, thoughtful and ultimately humanitarian-focused leadership in the second-worst crisis in state history.

We don't seem to do statues of governors any longer. If we did, his would stand on the grounds of the Capitol, near that of Oliver Morton's, flanked by physicians and nurses rather than Civil War soldiers.

.....
Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Project focuses on best practices

By **MARIANNE STEIN**

University of Illinois

Agricultural field trials can provide crucial information that helps scientists and farmers optimize production and reduce environmental impacts. The Data-Intensive Farm Management Project, housed at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, works with farmers to conduct large-scale scientific experiments using precision agriculture. The goal is to generate real-world data that can help farmers make efficient management decisions and increase profits.

“Almost all agronomic science is conducted on very small university plots, so it's hard to transfer the implications to large fields. Our team has created easy-to-use software and other resources so farmers and crop consultants can run big trials on entire fields. This means they can make decisions based on data that come from their own fields,” said David Bullock, director of DIFM and professor in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, part of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at U. of I.

Farmers can sign up online to participate in the project. DIFM staff will then work with the farmers and their consultants on developing experimental designs to test management practices such as application input rates. DIFM provides specialized software that uses GPS technology to automatically calculate variable rates and disperse fertilizer as the farmer drives through the field. The research team will analyze the data and discuss the results and management implications.

Neal Nelson has participated in DIFM since 2017. He runs Nelson Family Farms in western Illinois along with his father, Doug, raising no-till soybeans and non-GMO corn.

“With varying soil types throughout the Edwards River



University of Illinois

The Data-Intensive Farm Management Project runs field experiments around the world, including a soybean seeding rate trial in the North West Province of South Africa.

valley, we utilize precision farming for variable rate planting, split applications of nitrogen, cover crops, and data collection in several trials each year,” he said.

Nelson works with Bullock, DIFM Project Coordinator Carl Jones, and Field Trial Supervisor Bob Dunker on his field trials. Precision agronomy advisor Megan Dwyer of Ag Authority, Inc. serves as a liaison between the U. of I. team and Nelson for trial implementation and data transfer.

“Currently, we begin to put a trial in place in early spring by outlining various seed populations and nitrogen rates based on what we learned the previous crop year. We have also been in talks with DIFM per-

sonnel about other potential studies including cover crops and nitrogen use,” Nelson said.

DIFM staff develops a seeding prescription and nitrogen rate trial and provides the information for the farming equipment. The Nelsons plant and fertilize the corn fields according to the DIFM rates and harvest all acres with a calibrated yield monitor that is verified by their grain cart scale for every bushel. The information is then given to the DIFM team for data analysis.

Nelson said the cooperation with DIFM has yielded multiple benefits.

“Right away we learned that often the best economical return was lower seeding and nitrogen rates. While that

doesn't always hold true, it has been a general trend that has helped us feel more comfortable in lowering populations in both corn and soybean fields for our operation as well as hold steady with the nitrogen programs we had in place. This has been confirmed with our precision ag analysis on our non-trial corn and soybean fields during the same time period,” he stated.

“My hope for the DIFM study is that it can help develop updated nitrogen use guidelines for farmers across the country. In collaboration with other universities in the U.S. and abroad, the DIFM team is gathering information that can help farmers be successful stewards of the land while increasing their bottom line.”

DIFM has been working since 2016 with funding from the USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service's Innovation Grants (CIG) On-Farm Trials program. The DIFM project has conducted on-farm field trials in states across the U.S. and in Argentina, Brazil, Canada, and South Africa.

“The DIFM is having both economic and environmental effects in U.S. agriculture and abroad. We're learning from data from farmers' own fields, and we're able to give them advice on how to manage those fields, sometimes with environmental benefits, such as reducing nitrogen runoff,” Bullock said.

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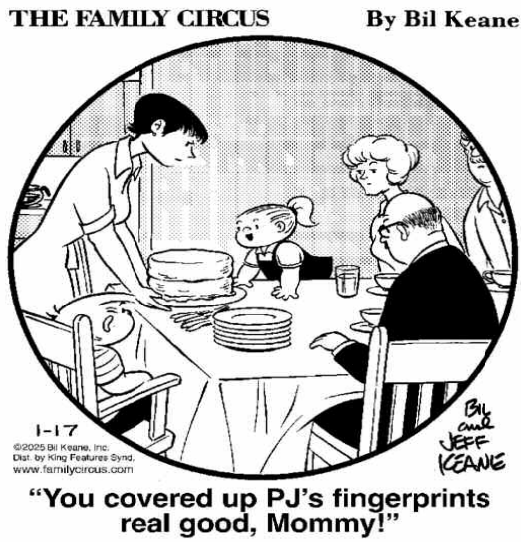
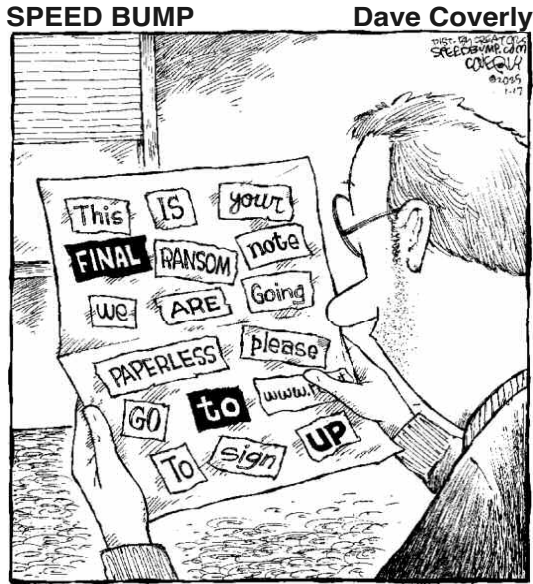
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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

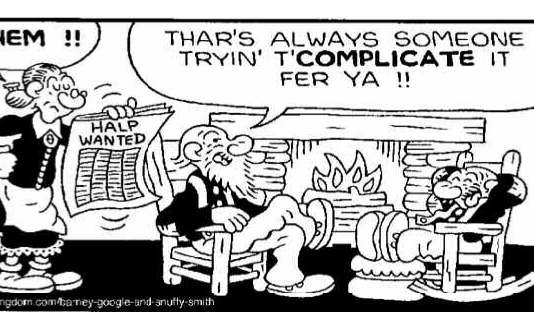
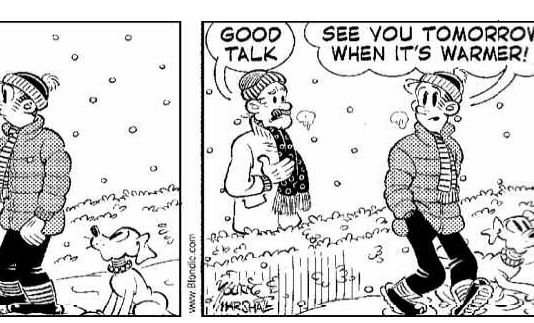
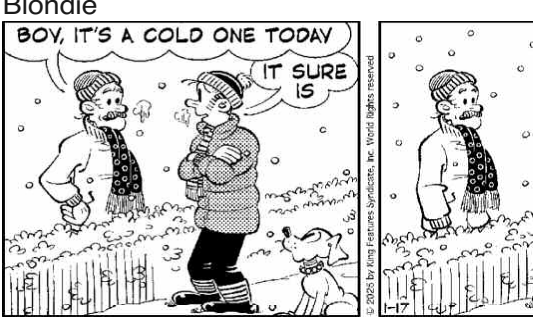
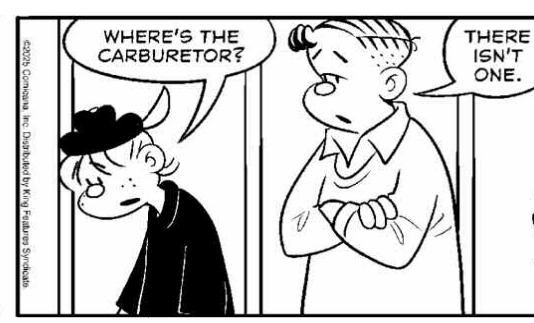
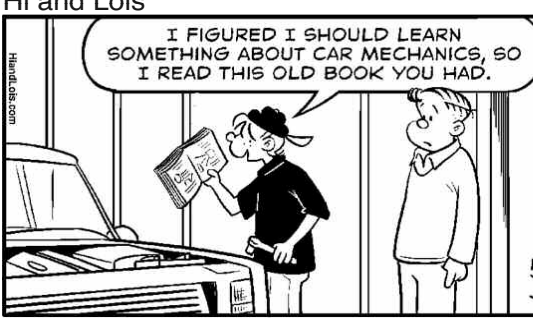
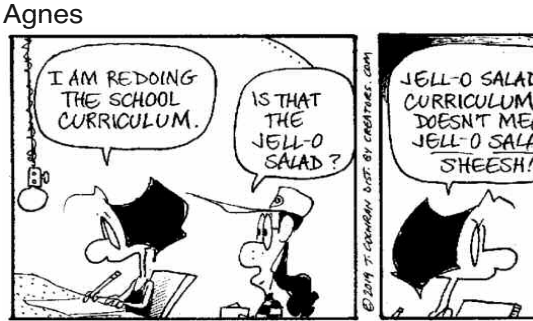
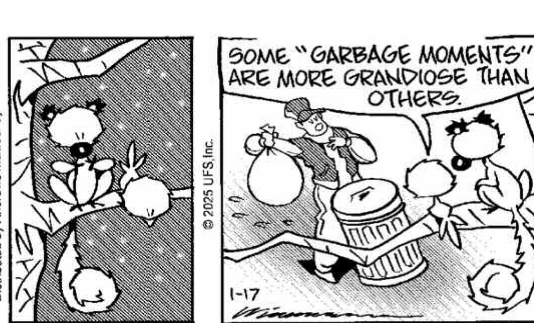
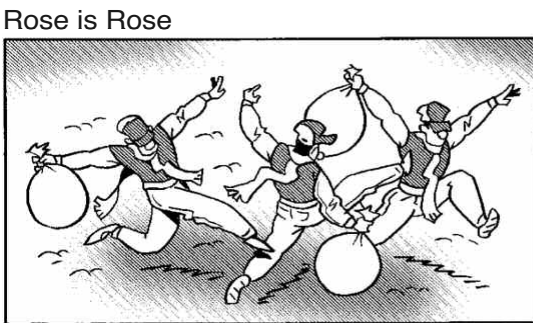
Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Hearts. North leads the king of spades, taken by dummy's ace. When you cash the A-K of trump, South turns up with the J-10-9-8. How would you continue?

West East
 ♠ J ♠ A
 ♥ A K Q 7 6 5 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ K Q 3 ♦ A 8 7 6 4
 ♣ A 8 2 ♣ Q J 10 9 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Spades. North leads the jack of clubs and continues with the ten, which you ruff. When you next play the A-K of spades, South shows out on the second round. How would you continue?

West East
 ♠ A K Q J 2 ♠ 7 5 3
 ♥ J 6 ♥ Q 8 7
 ♦ J 8 6 3 2 ♦ A K Q
 ♣ 4 ♣ Q 7 3 2



1. Your first reaction might be to continue with the queen and another trump, planning to run the diamonds next and in that way avoid the risk of a club finesse if the diamonds are favorably divided. However, there's a flaw in this plan. Upon winning the jack of trump at trick five, South might put you on the spot by returning a club. You would then be faced with the critical decision of whether to attempt the club finesse, or whether

to go up with the ace and rely entirely on a 3-2 diamond division. You might make the wrong choice and find yourself going down one. To avoid this potential dilemma, you should cash the queen of trump at trick four and then play the K-Q of diamonds. If both opponents follow suit, you can assure the slam by giving South his trump trick and later discard two clubs on dummy's diamonds. If the diamonds turn out to be divided 4-1 and South has not trumped, you can next concede your trump loser and hope the club finesse works.

2. You can't afford to play the Q-J of trump at this point, since you would then have no way to get back to the J-8 of diamonds in your hand after cashing dummy's A-K-Q. To give yourself the best chance, play dummy's A-K of diamonds first, hoping North did not start with a singleton or void. If both opponents follow suit, discontinue diamonds and cash the Q-J of trump, discarding the queen of diamonds from dummy on your last trump. This will allow you to score five diamond tricks. If it were to turn out that South had only one diamond originally, you would of course also cash the queen of diamonds before drawing the missing trumps.

Tomorrow: Try the impossible.
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 1 Cry co. 3 Hive 25 Bylaws, briefly
 4 Vault 40 Documentary 26 Sudden wind
 8 Daly and Allen Burns 4 Hang around 27 Disc-shaped cookie
 12 Common title start 41 Obligations 5 Painter Max
 13 Killer whale 45 Beige 6 Expert 28 Sharp tooth
 14 Web addresses whole 7 Series opener 29 Commotion
 15 Pithy joke 50 Ache brass 32 Penny
 17 Legume 51 Aswan's river 9 Rage 33 Like seawater
 18 Suggests 52 Victory 10 Org. with a style 35 Boxing legend
 19 TV guide abbr. 53 Abbr. on a manual 36 Turned bad
 21 Wager 54 Ticked (off) 16 Slander in print 38 Hog's "hello"
 22 Expulsion schedule 11 Nine-digit ID 39 "Hello" singer
 26 Errand runner 54 Ticked (off) 16 Slander in print 38 Hog's "hello"
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 35 Year in Madrid 47 Tear
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 37 On/off switch

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I	T	O	N	U	S	S	R	E	L	D
L	E	M	O	N	T	R	E	E	M	A
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A	L	T	L	E	M	O	N	C	U	R
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L	E	A	R	O	S	A	T	E	E	N

Yesterday's answer 1-17

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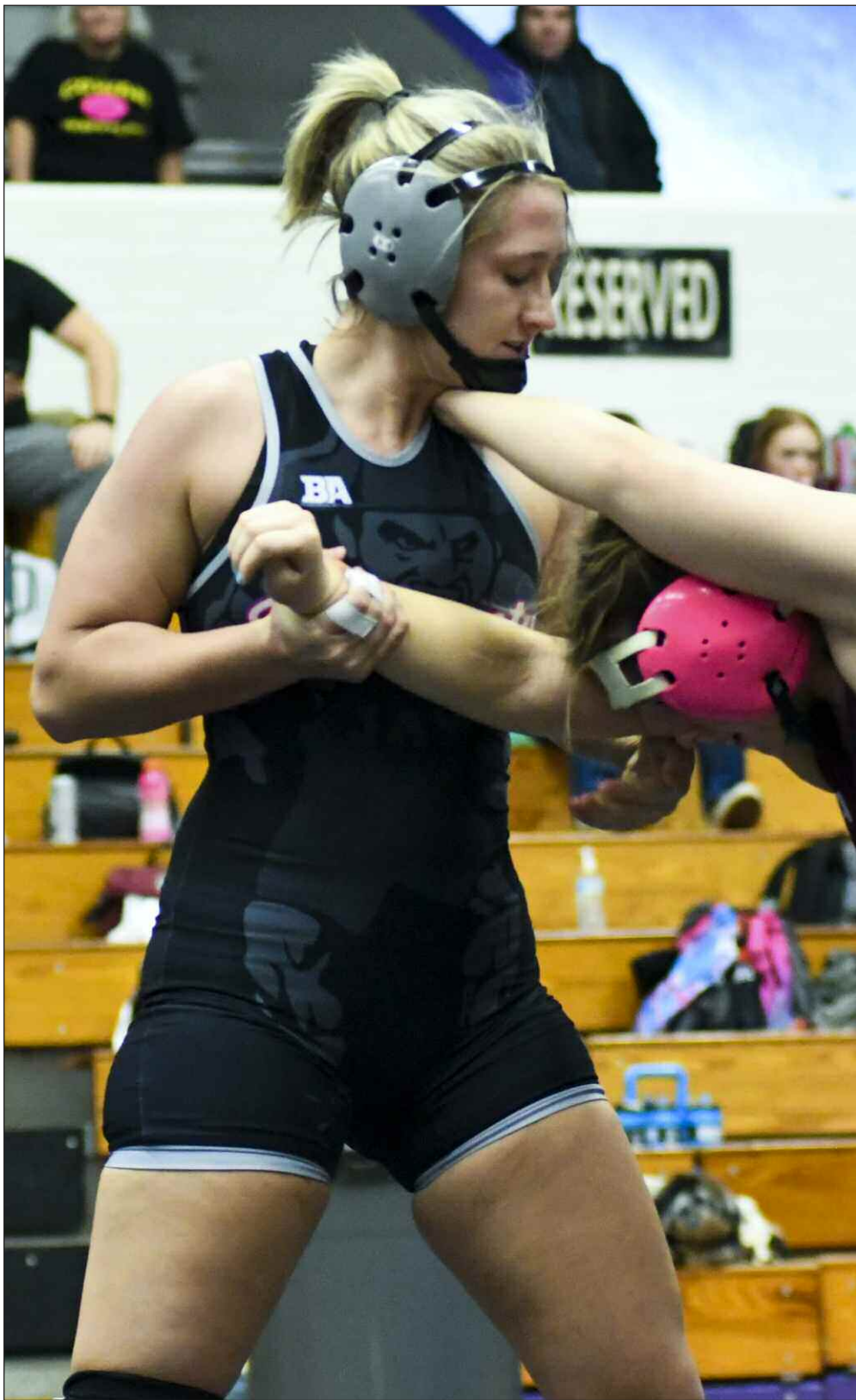
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Graphic Printing Company Athlete of the Year Mallory Winner Jay County High School senior

Mallory Winner was selected as the inaugural Graphic Printing Company Athlete of the Year for girls wrestling.

"It's really cool to me that I get to give back to my community," she said. "I've always wanted to be a four-time state champion and give my community a reason to be recognized. That means a lot to me."

Winner moved up to the 170-pound weight class after claiming three consecutive state championships in the 155 weight class or lighter.

The change didn't affect the top-ranked wrestler, who has gone 32-0 on the season while earning a state berth.

The senior also has 99 career wins

with a chance to break the 100 milestone in the opening round of Friday's state finals. She also has the opportunity to win one of the first IHSAA sanctioned girls wrestling championships.

"Mallory Winner to our team and to our program is kind of like a pioneer," coach Eric Myers said. "We can speak about those girls that came out first in the same realm, but Mallory has taken it a step further. She is setting the bar extremely high as far as success and she can always be that girl that our younger girls look at and say, 'Hey, we've had a state champion. We've had a multiple-time state champion. That's what I want to do or aspire to be.'"

All-Graphic Printing Company first team

Katie Rowles
Jay County junior

After missing state in 2024, the fifth-ranked wrestler from the 100-pound weight class earned her second berth while putting together a 31-5 record through the regional.

Tatianna Willis
Jay County senior

The Patriots' 110-pounder put together the best season of her career. She earned a state berth, cracked the individual rankings and put together a 28-7 record.

Lina Lingo
Jay County senior

The sixth-ranked 135-pound wrestler made it back to the state tournament for a third consecutive season while winning 30 matches along the way and only dropping seven.

Addison Flores
Blackford junior

Flores ended the year as the only ranked Bruin finishing 13th in the 145-pound weight class. After falling in the ticket round of the regional, she boasted a 24-8 record.

Chelsea Erwin
Monroe Central soph.

Erwin had a breakout year for the Golden Bears as she finished 21-7. She made the 155-pound sectional championship to earn a regional berth before falling short of a state berth.

Editor's note: Due to the small amount of participation in girls wrestling among Graphic Printing Company schools, the first team has been limited to six athletes to keep the recognition competitive.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN January 18th, 2025 9:30 A. M.

MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS

Sealy Ease king size adjustable bed with dual controls; Whirlpool side by side refrigerator, nice; cedar lines wardrobe; kirby sweeper; (2) Lazy Boy leather recliners; Tempus Fuguit grandfather clock; gas fireplace logs with mantle; Kenmore refrigerator, GE Turbo freezer; Smith Bros. 3 cushion sofa; pedal sewing machine; IU collectibles; Thomas Kincaid pictures; brass fire extinguisher; and many other items not listed.

CAR-MOWERS-TOOLS
2000 Buick Century Custom 4 door sedan car w/92,090miles; Murray riding lawn mower; Sanborne 200V upright air compressor; Craftsman 10" belt drive table saw; fishing poles; MB Century tool box; ladies bicycle; Trek men's bicycle; and many other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE:
Doors will open at 8 a.m. day of auction for preview. Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day.
JACOBS FAMILY AND PATRICIA GIBSON
Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kayden Khayyata AU12400069

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

LOOKING FOR House Cleaning or Babysitting jobs. 3088 E. 800 N. Bryant, IN 47326

110 HELP WANTED

DUNKIRK FIRE DEPARTMENT IS currently seeking a full-time firefighter. Current hours are two 24-hour shifts a week with the possibility of overtime when required. Minimum requirements: Firefighter I & II certified, Emergency Responder, current CPR, HazMat Awareness, and a valid Driver's License. Applications are available at the Dunkirk Municipal Office.

DUNN FAMILY Dental Care is looking for a professional, friendly, detail oriented full time Dental Assistant. Radiology license helpful but not required. Benefits include paid time off, 4 day work week, retirement benefits and more. Drop off resume at 110 West North Street, Portland or email us at drdunn@dunnfamilydentaltcare.co

DUNN FAMILY Dental Care is looking to add a detail oriented, organized, professional full time Sterilization Technician. No previous dental experience is needed, willing to provide training and additional areas for growth. Benefits include paid time off, 4 day work week, retirement benefits and more. Drop off resume at 110 West North Street, Portland or email us at drdunn@dunnfamilydentaltcare.co

190 FARMERS COLUMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309.
LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocumis Salvage

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that the City of Dunkirk, Indiana has filed a petition asking the City of Dunkirk to vacate and abandon part of a certain alley located in the between Hoover Avenue and 407 N Indiana Avenue in the City of Dunkirk, Indiana. This matter has been scheduled for hearing before the Dunkirk City Council on the 27th day of January, 2025 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the City Council Chambers located at 131 S Main Street, Dunkirk, Indiana. Any person may appear at the hearing and object to the proposed vacation and abandonment as provided by law.

Kara Lowe
Dunkirk City Clerk-Treasurer
CR 1-17-2025-HSPAXLP

Public Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING
Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Jay County, Indiana will hold a public hearing pursuant to IC 6-1.1-24-6.7(d) to consider the transfer of the following property to a non-profit entity:

Property ID: 38-09-08-103-108.000-014
Property Address: 303 S Main Street Dunkirk, IN 47336
Parcel: N PT LOT 8, BLOCK 10, in the original plat of the town, now city of Dunkirk, Indiana

Interested non-profit entities must submit an application for the transfer of the property on or before January 24, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. to the Jay County Auditor's Office, 2nd Floor, Jay County Courthouse, Portland, IN 47371. Applications must state the intended use of the property and the anticipated timeframe for implementation of the use. Each application must be accompanied by documentation verifying the non-profit status and must be signed by an officer of the non-profit entity. Applications will be considered on January 27, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. during the Commissioner's Meeting held at the Jay County Courthouse Auditorium, Portland, Indiana.

Emily Franks, Jay County Auditor
CR 1-17-2025-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ESTABLISHING RATES CHARGES FOR SERVICES RENDERED BY THE WATER UTILITY OF THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, INDIANA

Please be advised that the Common Council of the City of Dunkirk, Indiana, will hold a public hearing related to the water rates and charges assessed by the Dunkirk Water Utility on Monday, January 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall located at 131 South Main Street, Dunkirk, Indiana. The rates and charges to be considered by the City of Dunkirk are as follows:

Chapter 52.26, Failure to Meet a Scheduled Appointment, is hereby added:

In the event that an owner or user of the waterworks, or a representative of an owner or user, schedules an appointment with the water department for service to be performed at the owner or user's service location and the owner or user or owner or user's representative fails to appear for said appointment, the owner or user shall be charged a fee of \$20.00 which shall be placed on the monthly utility bill of the owner or user and collected as are all utility charges of the City.

Chapter 52.38, Meter Antenna Replacement Fee, is hereby added:

The owner or user shall be charged the sum of \$80.00 when and if the antenna for the automated water meter serving the owner or user's residence or business is lost, damaged, or destroyed. The charge for the antenna shall be placed on the monthly utility bill of the owner or user and collected as are all utility charges of the City.

Chapter 52.24, After Hours Service, is hereby amended: After hours service calls during non-working hours or weekends shall be charged \$50.00 per call. The After Hours Service fee shall be placed on the monthly utility bill of the owner or user and collected as are all utility charges of the City.

Chapter 52.37, Tampering Fees, is hereby amended: Any owner or user tampering with a water meter or accessing a water meter, other than by an authorized city utility employee or authorized third-party, shall be subject to a penalty of \$100.00 in addition to the cost of repairs to damage to the water meter or meter pit. In addition, the owner or customer shall incur water and wastewater charges at a three-month average for the period of any unauthorized use. These charges shall be placed on the monthly utility bill of the owner or user and collected as are all utility charges of the City.

Chapter 52.60, Fire Hydrant Tampering, is hereby added: Any person who accesses or turns on a fire hydrant without the authorization of a City utility employee or City fire department employee shall be fined the sum of \$1500.00. In addition to any penalty imposed, a person found in violation of this section, shall be responsible for any damage to the fire hydrant and for the cost of all water used as a result of such tampering.

Chapter 52.61, Fire Hydrant Use Agreement, is hereby added: Any person desiring to access a fire hydrant for the purpose of purchasing water from the City shall be required to sign a "Fire Hydrant Use Agreement". Said Agreement shall, at minimum, require any such purchaser of water accessing a fire hydrant to:

Pay the actual cost of water used;

Pay for any and all damages to the fire hydrant caused by the purchaser's access to the fire hydrant; and,

Use an approved air gap backflow device in accessing the fire hydrant.

Chapter 52.62, No Air Gap Fee, is hereby added: Any person who has been authorized to purchase water from the City by accessing a city fire hydrant shall use an approved air gap backflow device in accessing the fire hydrant. Failure to utilize an appropriate air gap backflow device shall result in a fee of \$1000.00 being assessed in addition to the cost of any water used.

Chapter 52.19, Temporary Users, is hereby amended as follows: (c) In addition to the charges set forth in subsection (a), above, a temporary user shall also be charged a temporary user fee of \$50.00.

Chapter 52.23, Disconnection for Late Payment, is hereby amended:

(C) Notwithstanding any other penalty provided for herein, when it becomes necessary for the City to discontinue utility service for nonpayment of bills, the owner or user shall be charged a Disconnection Fee of \$50.00. The Disconnection Fee shall be placed on the monthly utility bill of the owner or user and collected as are all utility charges of the City.

Chapter 52.18, Turn On Fee, is hereby deleted.
Kara Lowe, Clerk-Treasurer
City of Dunkirk
CR 1-17-2025-HSPAXLP

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located in the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Thursday Afternoon

JANUARY 23, 2025

4:30 P.M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD ITEMS

Queen size bed; kitchen table with 4 chairs and extra board; (2) flat screen TV's; sound mixing board; dresser with mirror; 6 drawer dresser; over size recliner; lamp stand; lamps; 3 drawer dresser; roll top desk with chair; electric stove heater; dishwasher; electric stove; portable washer; portable air conditioner; microwave; books; yearbooks; sweeper; occasional chair; remote airplane; (2) remote controlled RV trucks; water cooler; remote airplane; gun rack; Ninja air fryer; coffee maker; dehydrator; storage cabinet; flatware; kids table with 4 chairs; electric roasters; step stool; pictures; cookbooks; roller skates; dishes; printer; toys; baskets; scales; sled; Tonka trucks; corn sheller; bookshelf; bird cage; deer head; metal and wood stools; dog bed; and many other items not listed.

MOWERS - TOOLS

John Deere STX 38 riding lawn mower with bagger; Simplicity riding lawn mower; 12' small manure spreader; Am Pro PA2000 air compressor; Ryobi weed eater; circular saw; jig saw; battery charger; aluminum step ladder; fuel tanks with stand; extension ladder; hand saws; shovels; rakes; wheel barrow; angle grinder; indexers; yard roller; tarps; spreader; nails; screws; Reddy Heater; weed eaters; snow fence; edger; cythes; single trees; John Deere metal gas cans; hay claws; wood gates; horse feeder; welder; grinder; wrenches; ratchets; screwdrivers; chicken feeder; food feeders; shop vac; drop cords; wet saw; chicken boxes; and many other items not listed.

MARY THORNTON

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AUCTIONEERS

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Sports

Finals fashion

Rowles designed state singlets with inspiration from Wonder Woman and her first pair of wrestling shoes

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

Many know Katie Rowles for her killer instinct on the mat.

There's also a creative side to the Jay County High School junior.

On the state's biggest stage for her sport, she'll show off her combination of athleticism and artistry.

Rowles designed new singlets that the Jay County High School girls wrestling team will debut today at the first IHSAA-sanctioned state finals at Corteva Coliseum at Indiana State Fairgrounds.

"I've always loved drawing. When I did cheer, I designed a lot of those uniforms but didn't do anything with them," Rowles said. "So I thought, 'I can design a singlet.' And this is where it got me. I showed (coach Eric) Myers my design and asked him if he could make it happen. He's a pretty great guy and a caring coach, so he did."

The process of designing the singlet wasn't a one-time mock up that she proposed to Myers, but rather, she had been drawing different singlets throughout the year and showing them to him. At that point, Rowles hadn't gotten a solid answer from him, but continued to design the theoretical singlet anyway.

After punching her ticket to the state finals on Jan. 10, Rowles made one more design on card stock and gave it to her coach. That final touch was what sealed the deal, and Myers had the singlets made for the five wrestlers who will be competing in Indianapolis today. (Joining Rowles are Tatianna Willis, Brenna Ruble, Lina Lingo and Mallory Winner.)

"Two traits that I would say Katie is well known for are her enthusiasm and her persistence," Myers said. "Those are the two things that got through to me. She will keep asking and asking with a smile. So I thought, 'Well, if she's got a design and we like it, let's go for it.'"

"I haven't always done that. We have a state singlet that we use but I thought it would be good to try something different for the girls."

Rowles modeled the uniform after D.C. Comics' Wonder



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

The five Jay County High School girls wrestlers pose with their new singlets designed by Katie Rowles (middle) inspired by both Wonder Woman and her first pair of wrestling shoes, which she is wearing in the photo. From left are Lina Lingo, Tatianna Willis, Rowles, Brenna Ruble and Mallory Winner. The Patriots will debut the singlets today at the inaugural IHSAA State Finals at Corteva Coliseum at Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Woman. She was initially drawn to the super heroine because of her first pair of wrestling shoes that she received from her older brother Cody Rowles.

A teammate pointed out that the shoes — they feature a red base with blue and white accents and golden laces — resembled Wonder Woman's outfit. Since that comment,

Rowles has fallen in love with the shoes and wanted a singlet to match.

The design of the singlets features a red top with a golden JC logo that resembles the double W on the animated version of Wonder Woman.

Rowles then took inspiration from Wonder Woman's headband and made that to be the "belt" of the singlet, with a

pointed top and a red star in the middle. It's her favorite part of the design.

The bottom half of the singlet is royal blue with some light blue stars (a touch that Myers added) and "Patriots" written across the bottom right leg.

The girls got their first look at the singlets on Tuesday during practice and will get to wear them today when they look to

advance and medal in the state series.

"I am so excited," Rowles said. "I have been looking forward to this for so long. I think it's going to be a lot of fun. A lot of girls are excited about these singlets. It's just going to add a little bit more of an excitement and fun factor to a tournament we've already been anticipating."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls wrestling state finals at Corteva Fieldhouse — 10 a.m.; Girls basketball ACAC tournament semifinal at Bluffton — 6 p.m.; Boys basketball ACAC tournament semifinal vs. Woodlan at Bluffton — 7:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Ansonia — 4:30 p.m.; Girls bowling vs. Ansonia — 4:30 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Minster — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Boys wrestling at Celi-na — 9 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Swim in Southwest Classic Invite at Trotwood — 9 a.m.; Boys bowling vs. Coldwater at Versailles — 9:15 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. Coldwater at Versailles — 1:15 p.m.; Girls basketball vs. Bradford — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. Crestview — 3 p.m.

Sunday
Fort Recovery — Swim in Southwest Classic Invite at Trotwood — 9 a.m.

TV sports

Today
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)
1 p.m. — USGA golf: Latin America Amateur Championship (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — NBA: Orlando Magic at Boston College (ESPN)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Providence at Villanova (FS1)
7 p.m. — College wrestling: Iowa at Illinois (BTN)
7 p.m. — Unrivaled soccer: Lunar Owls BC at Mist BC (TNT)
7:30 p.m. — College gymnastics: Florida at LSU (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Indiana at Ohio State (FOX)
8:15 p.m. — Unrivaled soccer: Vinyl

BC at Rose BC (TNT)
9 p.m. — College basketball: Iowa at UCLA (FS1)
9 p.m. — College wrestling: Nebraska at Penn State (BTN)
9 p.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)
9:30 p.m. — NBA: Memphis Grizzlies at San Antonio Spurs (ESPN)
11 p.m. — College basketball: Boise State at New Mexico (FS1)

Saturday
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: AFC Bournemouth at Newcastle United (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Fulham at Leicester City (USA)
12 p.m. — College basketball: Virginia at Louisville (ESPN2); Creighton at UConn (FOX); Alabama at Kentucky (ESPN)

12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Rutgers at Michigan (BTN)
12:30 p.m. — College basketball: George Washington at George Mason (USA)

12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Aston Villa at Arsenal (NBC)
1 p.m. — College basketball: Kansas State at Kansas (CBS)
2 p.m. — College basketball: Arizona at Texas Tech (ESPN2); Xavier at Marquette (FOX)
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Saint Louis at Richmond (USA)
3 p.m. — College basketball: Purdue at Oregon (NBC); Wisconsin at USC (BTN)
4:30 p.m. — NFL playoffs: Houston Texans at Kansas City Chiefs (ABC)
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Purdue at Washington (BTN)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Ole Miss at Mississippi State (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)
8 p.m. — NFL playoffs: Washington Commanders at Detroit Lions (FOX)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Duke at Boston College (ESPN); St. John's at Seton Hall (FS1)
8 p.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — Liga MX soccer: Cruz Azul at Juarez (FS1)

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

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\$225

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The Commercial Review

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