The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Tavzel, Lutheran contracts OK'd

By RAY COONEY

The airport will stay under the same leadership for another couple of years at least and the medical helicopter based there will remain as well.

Portland Board of Aviation approved contracts Monday with airport manager Hal Tavzel and Lutheran Air, extending their relationships with Portland Municipal Airport.

Tavzel's salary was raised to \$35,000 in his new two-year con-

Contracts with Lutheran Air house.

Two-year extension approved for manager; three-year deal in place for medical helicopter

for its hangar space and rental of a house just west of the airport are each for three years with two \$40,000 per year from the current optional one-year extensions. Monthly rent is \$1,850 for the hangar space and \$700 for the

manager for 15 years. He also owns and operates Sonrise Aviation, which is based at Portland Municipal Airport.

Lutheran Air has had one of its medical helicopters based in

Tayzel has served as airport Portland since 2015. At that time, the other was based at Wabash Municipal Airport. Lutheran has since added a third helicopter that flies out of Starke County Airport.

Aviation board members

Faron Parr, Clyde Bray, John Ferguson and Caleb Lutes approved all three contracts unanimously.

Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman and Seufert reported that the airport is still waiting on the release of funds from the 2021 infrastructure bill that are planned to be used for the apron expansion project late this summer. He said no new Federal Aviation Administration grants have been released yet under the administration of President Donald Trump.

See Contracts page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Focused on flight

East Jay Elementary School students watch a drone fly from windows in the Jay County Junior-Senior High School auxiliary gym Thursday morning. The demonstration was part of a presentation by Kent Siegrist of Siegrist Farms during "A Look At Jay County Agriculture," a series of educational opportunities sponsored by Jay County Farm Bureau and the Jay County Ag Week Committee. Students also learned about ATV safety, pork, ethanol, soil erosion, technology, bees and farm safety.

Committee moves measure, reluctantly

Russia, Ukraine continue drone attacks amid energy truce

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

Nearly every lawmaker on the Senate Health and Provider Services Committee voted in favor of a house priority bill on Wednesday, but few seemed happy about it.

'This is probably the worst bill — collectively, as a total that I have seen in many years," said Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg. "I have to support this bill because of the (hospital assessment fee) language ... assuming (it) might help the HAF continue through the legislative

House Bill 1004 would imple-

ture a provider tax to increase federal reimbursements for health care entities. While the latter was universally praised, eight of the ten senators who voted to advance the bill flagged

the attempt to control pricing. Leising went on to express her dismay after repeatedly hearing about the need for an amendment but seeing no such language introduced before the committee. Due to its financial impact, the bill must also move through the Senate Appropriations Committee.

"The other part of this bill, I think, is really not workable at all. And it's just very disappointing to me," Leising continued. "But I hope that the people in appropriations take this seri-

Like other legislators, Leising had concerns about whether adding price caps tied to Medicare would hurt hospitals, especially rural or critical access facilities like those in her southeastern Indiana district.

Others questioned why insurers weren't getting the same scrutiny while acknowledging ment "price caps" on nonprofit that the majority of the state's hospital charges and restruc- residents are covered by an the state and save taxpayers



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

Rep. Martin Carbaugh, R-Fort Wayne, introduces House Bill 1004 in a Senate committee on Wednesday. The bill was approved in committee, but many who voted in favor of the bill expressed reservations and the need for revisions.

insurance type that can't be regulated by the state.

Rep. Martin Carbaugh, R-Fort Wayne, understands the struggles to regulate insurers as the chair of the House insurance committee.

"For the past several years, we've been looking for ways to lower the cost of health care in

money in the process," said Carbaugh. "(But)I don't believe that this bill is exactly in a form that's going to pass into law.'

Michael Schroyer, the president of Baptist Health Floyd in New Albany, committed to working with legislators on the bill, even offering to review the hospital's finances one-on-one.

See Moves page 2

Attacks continue despite truce

By ALIAKSANDR KUDRYTSKI

Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

Russia and Ukraine exchange d mass drone attacks overnight, even as the two countries declared they're ready to observe a moratorium on strikes against energy infrastructure sought by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Russia sent 171 explosiveladen Shahed drones toward Ukraine, up from 145 and 137 in the previous two days, the Ukrainian Air Force command reported Thursday.

'Russian strikes on Ukraine do not stop, despite their propaganda claims," President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in a statement on social media platform X. "With each such launch, the Russians expose to the world their true attitude towards peace.'

See Attacks page 2

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 66 degrees Wednesday. The low was 55.

Tonight's forecast calls for continued windy conditions with gusts up to 30 mph and a 20% chance of showers. The low will be in the upper 30s.

Expect partly cloudy skies with a chance of showers Saturday morning followed by mostly sunny skies in the afternoon. The high will be in the upper 40s with winds gusting to 25 mph.

See page 2 for an extended

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available today. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — Details from Friday's Portland Redevelopment Commission meeting.

Tuesday — Results from the Fort Recovery softball season opener.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.



Local/World

Moves

Continued from page 1 He reported losing \$4 million bring down costs.' alone in February, despite high patient volume, as costs for pharmaceuticals, supplies and salaries were up a collective

"We want health care costs to come down as well ... we're at the mercy of so many others because we can't control what we're charged for the things we need to care for patients," Schroyer told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. "(Insurance companies) have a big part in this that affects our costs because we spend millions of dollars a year negotiating, doing pre-authorization (and) dealing with denials.

The sole dissenting vote came from Fort Wayne Republican Sen. Liz Brown, who detailed the years of effort and millions of dollars spent to try to reduce health care costs.

"There is a lot of work to do; this bill didn't do it," Brown said. "I'm hearing car prices are going up and everything in edly criticized in committee for between, but somehow it's only not truly mirroring the money

Hospital insights

Senators balked at the notion of establishing price caps, which would be based on Medicare rates. A nonprofit hospital charging a private insurer more than 265% of that rate, which is established on the federal level but varies from facility to facility, would be penalized with an excise tax.

Those entities would also lose their nonprofit status, meaning they'd have to pay state taxes.

In his introduction, Carbaugh pointed to a Rand Corp. study that identified Indiana hospitals are the eighth-highest cost nationwide, regardless of nonprofit status. That analysis found that, nationwide, commercial payers were charged 2.5 times what hospitals charged Medicare for the same service. In Indiana, the rate was even higher at 3.4 times the cost of Medicare.

But Rand's report was repeat-

the hospitals' responsibility to received by hospitals since the losing \$35-50 million a year. And hospitals and its impact on rising analysis is based on what employers pay, which adds in insurer charges and overhead.

"If you set a cap on how we get paid, that money saves the insurance company. It's up to them whether they pass it on or not, said Randy Christophel, the CEO and president of Goshen Health. "We have been reducing our costs significantly over the last four or five years and we have not seen those dollars passed along to our regional employers.'

Schroyer said his hospital charged 207% of Medicare, according to RAND, but specialities like open heart procedures or neurosurgeries cost more. With even one charge above the 265% threshold, Schroyer would lose his nonprofit status under House Bill 1004.

But Schroyer and other hospiof changes to the hospital assessment fee, which would leverage additional dollars in federal reimbursements to hospitals.

"If we didn't pass the HAF changes, my hospitals would be

that's unsustainable," Schroyer.

In the committee room

Sen. Tyler Johnson, an emergency care physician, expressed a "increased about concern bureaucracy that will require increased administrative costs," something he said would "probably (go) back to the patients at a time when we're trying to figure out how to lower costs.

The bill, he worried, wouldn't lower costs or improve accessibility, but would rather "make it worse for our rural communities.

He, and other lawmakers, asked those testifying in support of the bill if they would support price caps in other industries. Such supporters included Gov. Mike Braun's administration, employer-focused mainstay tal systems praised the inclusion organizations and Families USA, a national organization representing consumers.

"This bill is a major step forward for the state to curb the growth of unchecked health care consolidation, particularly on

and unaffordable health care across the state," said Sophia Tripoli, the group's strategic and innovative health policy thought leader. "Local institutions ... have now become large corporate entities focused on maximizing revenue rather than improving health.'

Despite the hours of testimony, senators seemed unconvinced by the arguments of those supporting price caps. It was a stark contrast to the House, where the bill advanced easily and with the support of nearly every Republican lawmaker.

'My concern ... is we're arbitrarily taking this cookie-cutter approach to how we're going to do health care in Indiana with a hope and a prayer that it's going to reduce costs and increase access," said Sen. Shelli Yoder, D-Bloomington. "I have not heard one argument that that is going to be the case."

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

CR almanac

Saturday 3/22	Sunday 3/23	Monday 3/24	Tuesday 3/25	Wednesday 3/26
	40			40
46/29	53/38	49/33	51/29	50/30
Mostly sunny on Sat- urday when	011011010	Mostly sunny on Monday when	Tuesday looks to be mostly sunny	There's a 40% chance of rain

chance

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chance

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with tempera-

tures dipping to 30 late.

Lotteries

highs in the

lower 50s.

Powerball

may reach up

to 25 mph.

8-11-21-49-59 Power Ball: 15 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$444 million

Mega Millions

jackpot: Estimated \$324 million

Hoosier

Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 0-2-8 Daily Four: 1-1-8-2 Quick Draw: 1-8-10-14-42-45-46-53-70-77-80 Evening

Daily Three: 5-4-1

\$157,500

46-47-51-56-73-78-80

Cash 5: 8-9-16-28-31 Estimated jackpot: Ohio Wednesday

Daily Four: 3-2-7-8

22-26-27-30-33-37-38-39-42-

Quick Draw: 7-8-11-12-

Midday Pick 3: 8-1-7 Pick 4: 3-6-8-2

Pick 5: 5-3-5-7-2 Evening Pick 3: 1-1-6 Pick 4: 5-0-8-3 Pick 5: 0-0-6-7-4 Rolling Cash: 7-22-24-27-39

jackpot: Estimated

\$140,000

Markets

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April corn	
May corn	

POET Biorefining Portland

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			4.84
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The Andersons **Richland Township** Corn4.76 April corn4.76

Beans10.09

April beans	10.12
Wheat	5.22
ADM	

Montpelier

Corn	4.66
April corn	4.68
Beans	10.06
April beans	10.09
Wheat	5.27

Heartland St Anthony

Ju Androny	
Corn	4.54
April corn	4.59
Beans	
April beans	9.84
Wheat	5.23

Today in history

County Athletic Confer- ed a city council meeting ence voted to invite Jay to express concern about County High School to a proposed Indiana become its ninth mem- Department of Transber. JCHS had been indeof the 2009-10 school year. including Conference.

pendent since the downtown Olympic Athletic Confer- INDOT had proposed a ence folded at the close variety of changes, The school had been lanes. Most of those invited a month earlier changes were later to join the North Central removed from the proj-

In 2022, a group of

In 2013, the Allen Portland residents visitportation project in Portland. reducing ect.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today

7 a.m. — Fort Recovcial session, board room, high school, 400 Butler St.

8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Park Board, city build-Meridian St., Portland.

Tuesday

6 p.m. — Redkey ery School Board spe- Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St., Redkey.

Wednesday

6 p.m. — Dunkirk ing, 131 S. Main St.

Capsule Reports

Failed to yield

Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500 after a Portland man turned his vehicle into anoth- driving his 2008 Dodge Grand Caraer Portland man's car while leav- van and attempting to leave the year-old Hunter R. Shaneyfelt.

ing Motel 6 on the north side of Portland.

Jason D. Harding Jr., 25, was

parking lot at 1147 U.S. 27 when he turned south onto the highway, causing him to strike a northbound 2007 Subaru Impreza driven by 21-

Contracts

Continued from page 1 "I think it's still comsaid Clearwaters. "It's just on hold. So we'll continue to monitor that."

He said that while there have been changes with FAA personnel, he has not heard of any changes to funding from the federal Clearwaters also noted

that the FAA has asked the airport to complete a runway safety area inventory within the next few weeks. His firm will handle the

inventory, which calls for making sure there are no holes, drainage issues, vegetation, equipment or other hazards within a radius around the airport runway.

He added that he is continuing to work on the draft agreement for the runway pavement rehabilitation project. He said he will send it out by email in advance of a planned vote at the April 16 meeting.

In other business, the

that all of the airport's hangars are rented and there is a waiting list. •Heard the fuel report,

which indicated that the airport sold 3,681 gallons of fuel in February for \$14,999.73. That's down from 4,471 gallons in February 2024. •Approved the payment

claims totaling \$25,730.87. Clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips noted that the claims amount was higher than usual because

·Learned from Tavzel of the purchases of new electrical equipment and lawnmowers. The new constant current regulator for the airport's electrical system has been installed, Tavzel said. The previous equipment, which had problems that led to the airport being shut down for a few nights in Septem-

•Learned Tavzel will share information about the airport at the April 19 Portland Rotary Club meeting.

Attacks

Continued from page 1 While air defenses intercepted

most of the drones, 10 people were hurt and several buildings were damaged in the central city of Kropyvnytskyi, Ukraine's State 54 that targeted the Saratov region

Emergency Service said on Telegram.

Russia downed 132 Ukrainian drones, the Defense Ministry in Moscow said on Telegram, including

The mutual drone assaults continued after the leaders of Ukraine and Russia said they're willing to abide by a 30-day truce preventing strikes on each other's power infrastruc-

Open M-F 9:00a-5:30p;

Saturdays 10:00a-3:00p

www.holderbedding.net

Felony courts

Drug possession

An Ohio woman was sentenced to prison for a year and a half after pleading guilty to possession of methamphetamine.

Tonya N. Malinovsky, 52, 211 South Main St. Box 87, West Manchester, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 545 days in Indiana Department of Correction and given 20 days credit for time served. Malinovsky was fined \$1, 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 Level 6 felony for possession of a narcotic drug was dismissed.

Felony arrests

Methamphetamine Two Portland residents

were arrested Wednesday for possession of methamphetamine and related charges.

Abbie S. Affolder, 39, and Mark A. Reinhart, 61, both of 1152 W. Collett Drive, were each preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of parapherna-

Affolder was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail. Reinhart was released from Jay County Jail on a \$4,500 bond.

SERVICES

Saturday

Elzey, Jerry: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Louck, Joyce: I p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Haynes, Vicki: 3 p.m., W.H.

Dick & Sons - Hellwarth Funeral Home, 218 W. Market St., Celina, Ohio.

Service listings provided by

PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com





Contact Lindsey at: L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141



Photo provided

Liberty Belles

The Mississinewa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution recently donated sets of "Liberty Belles" books to all Jay County elementary schools, Jay County Christian Academy and Jay County Public Library. Pictured, Mississinewa Chapter registrar and chaplain Maria Hiatt (left) and treasurer Judy Crull present the books they were donated through a grant to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026 — to Jay School Corporation assistant superintendent Trent Paxson.

Kindergarten enrollment to start

Kindergarten enrollment is about to begin.

Jay School Corporation will **Taking** host its Kindergarten Round-Up events April 3 at elementary schools. The schedule is as follows: 8:30 a.m. at Bloomfield Elementary, 4 p.m. at East Elementary, 5:30 p.m. at West Jay Elementary and 6 p.m. at Redkey Elementary.

Parents may fill out pre-registration forms by visiting jayschoolcorp.org or stopping Jay School Corporation

Note

administration office, 414 Floral Ave., or by visiting one of the schools.

Sip and stretch

Sip, stretch and unwind at website.

the fairgrounds in Portland this weekend.

Jay County Fairgrounds is hosting a wine and yoga event at 11 a.m. Saturday in the women's building. Participants will be offered mimosas before and after moving through poses with Zokawa Yoga of Muncie. Yoga mats are available for participants if needed.

Tickets are \$10. They're available at bit.ly/sipandstretch2025 or by visiting Jay County Fair's

Husband leaves wife at lone table

DEAR ABBY: My husband puts everyone first before me. An example: We were invited

to his aunt Diana's 50th wedding anniversary. His father was their best man but couldn't make it due to illness. So, at the last minute, my husband was asked to sit at the head table with his aunt and her husband. I was not invited to do that, and my husband didn't ask if I could sit with them. The room was full and there were no other seats for me, so the event coordinator set up a table for me in the hall, by myself, next to the washrooms. The only time I saw anyone was when they used the facilities. My husband came to use the washroom and asked me if I wanted anything. I told him I'd like a drink, but he didn't come back until he needed to use the washroom again. I told him to take me home and he could return to the event. It was a 15-minute drive. When I talked to him the next day and explained how hurt and embarrassed I was, he thought it was selfish on MY part since it was such a special event for his aunt Diana. I was supportive of him taking part, but if it had been the reverse, I would have ensured he was seated at the main table, or at least close by. What are your thoughts? - CAST OUT IN **FLORIDA**

DEAR CAST OUT: What happened at your husband's aunt's anniversary celebration was an embarrassment for everybody. If you and your husband were invited as a couple, there should have been an assigned seat for you at one of the tables. You should not have been seated alone next to a bathroom. The event coordinator has plenty to apologize for, and so does your thought- so generously would have

Dear Abby



Under the circumstances, vour hurt feelings are understandable. You owe no one an apology for feeling rightfully offended.

DEAR ABBY: Am I a crank, or is it OK these days for waiters to become involved in diners' conversations and actually take over the conversation? At dinner last night, our waiter interrupted us three times and stayed at our table for more than five minutes taking over our conversation. It had nothing to do with the restaurant or our food — it was about his travels and all the countries he's been to and worked in. The last time he interrupted, we had finished eating and were talking. He talked for about 10 minutes. When he finally stopped to take a breath, I quickly said, "Well, let's get going!" It wasn't late and the restaurant was more than half empty. I had given him a 50% tip because it was a holiday, but after I thought about the intrusive service, I was sorry I did it. Any suggestions? — BACK OFF OR YOUR TIP WILL SUFFER

DEAR BACK OFF: Many people would have enjoyed that server's sharing. However, because you didn't, when his patter became intrusive, you should have politely said, "Excuse me, we are trying to have a private conversation. Could you please take our order?" (That you tipped less, self-centered husband. softened the blow.)

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

RECOVERY PAST 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-

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon Fri-rant. day, March 21, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

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.

Saturday

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

A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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

Sudoku

PORTLAND BREAK-FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restau-

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon

4

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 Tuesday 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 COM-MUNITY 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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each rant.

imum purchase required. Please call for details.

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.

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOV-ERY 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.

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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

LET THE PROS Leaf Filter Seniors + Military Your Entire Purchase ++ We offer financing that fits your budget!1 Promo: 285 CALL TODAY FOR A FREE INSPECTION! 1-877-361-4260

3 month at Richards Restau-NARCOTICS ANONY-3 8 MOUS — Will meet at 6:30 9 8 CCULEVEL 6 2 8 4 YOUR LOCAL FOUNDATION REPAIR 9 5 **AND WATERPROOFING** EXPERT. 5 9 4 For a basement, crawl space, or slab foundation, we guide you on the right path to a healthy home 9 6 4 Family owned and operated since 1996, we treat your home Level: Advanced like our own. Thursday's Solution

5 8

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Pre-authorization: Keep it, with reforms

To the editor:

If you or someone you know has ever experienced the frustration of a delayed medical procedure or a denied prescription due to prior authorization, you're not alone.

That's why Indiana lawmakers are considering changes. House Bill 1003 offers targeted, commonsense reforms that streamline prior authorization and improve transparency, while Senate Bill 480 would significantly limit its effectiveness — and increase healthcare costs.

Prior authorization is one of the few tools to keep healthcare costs in check, ensuring that treatments are medically necessary and cost-effective. It can direct patients toward clinically proven, lower-cost medications, reducing prescription costs by as much as 80%. It also ensures that MRIs and CT scans are obtained at facilities offering the best patient value.

The financial implications of limiting prior authorization are consider-

Letters to the Editor

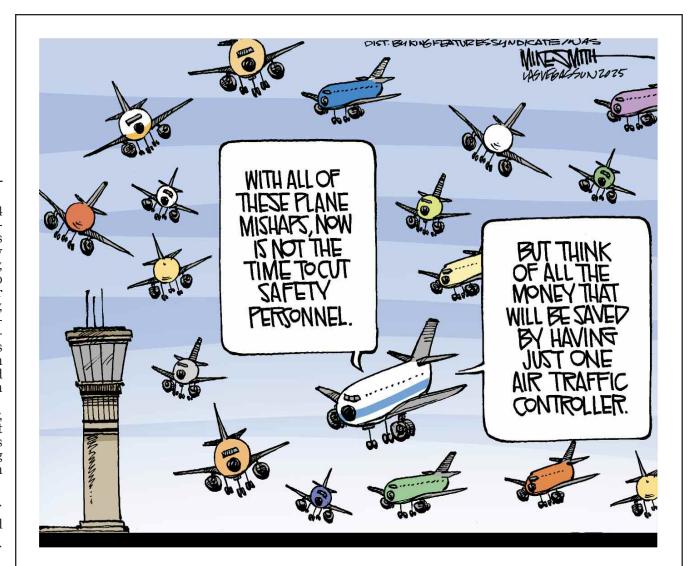
able. According to a 2024 report, Indiana's employersponsored health plans could see costs increase by up to \$241 million annually, potentially leading premiums raised reduced benefits. Similarly, Indiana's Medicaid program could face an additional \$395 million in costs each year, putting a strain on the state budget and diverting resources from other essential services.

Patients deserve faster, fairer, more transparent medical care. Lawmakers can achieve that by fixing prior authorization with HB 1003.

David Ober

Senior vice president of business operations and finance

Indiana Chamber of Commerce



Go after the criminals

By PATRICIA LOPEZ

Bloomberg Opinion Tribune News Service

Border Czar Tom Homan was hand-picked by President Donald Trump to carry out the mass deportations that were central to Trump's winning campaign. Since his appointment, Homan has sown fear among immigrant communities, blustered on television about prosecuting mayors of blue cities who don't comply, and staged photo ops of shackled migrants being flown out of the U.S.

But large-scale removals have yet to materialize. Increasingly, it seems Trump's promise of "mass deportations" is simply a reprise of his first-term pledge to "build the wall" — an unattainable objective that serves resources. Aiming squarely at only to grab attention and drive outrage.

Consider Trump's goal of ejecting 11 million undocument- immigrants don't commit ed immigrants, some of whom crimes — but is one that have lived here for decades. most U.S. residents would sup-Achieving that number would port. To show how necessary require a mind-boggling 229,000 that measure was, ICE in 2024 removals per month over the identified 626,000 undocumentcourse of his term. The full ed immigrants with criminal court press Homan and ICE histories who were on the "nonhave been waging has netted detained docket," meaning they only a fraction of that. With were awaiting deportation but lacks the resources to tackle the some ICE agents reportedly working six days a week, Homan has managed to push another 226,000 faced pending arrests to about 20,000 for all of February.

Many of these have been rounded up in relatively small raids. A week-long operation in Houston detained 646 undocumented immigrants, including what ICE said were over 500 criminal migrants and gang members. More typical has been a recent incident in Duluth, Minnesota, where ICE agents swarmed a location where workers were installing a new roof, nabbing five. ICE picked up another seven at a manufacturing facility in St. Louis Park, a families. suburb of Minneapolis.

energy on immigration has resulted in some clear progress on this part of his agenda. Border crossings have fallen to hisprocess that had refugees camping out at the southern border.

dent Joe Biden's well-inten- migrants. tioned belief that

Patricia Lopez



refugees. Shuttering it without warning was an unnecessarily brutal measure that surely endangered some refugees lives. At the same time. Americans' tolerance for mushrooming clusters of refugees was wearing thin as newcomers strained resources.

And the new administration's focus on "worst first," as Homan calls it, is a smart use of removing criminal migrants may not result in large numbers since most undocumented not in custody. Of those, 435,000 had criminal convictions, while

charges. Still, even if ICE deports all those people, that will be just 5.7% of Trump's 11 million goal. So the pressure from Trump, who reportedly checks in weekly with Homan on the need to inclined to demand, not to ask. produce bigger numbers, continues to build.

The administration would do better to abandon the 11 million goal. If Homan does further ramp up his efforts, it will ripple out to nearly all facets of American life, including businesses, local governments and

Larry Fink, CEO of Black-To be sure, Trump's obsessive Rock Inc., the world's largest migrants and revamping the asset manager, warned that Trump's plan for large-scale deportations could have severe impacts on agriculture and contoric lows, in part because struction, triggering a labor Trump shut down the asylum shortage and higher prices, which in turn could further fuel inflation. Fink said leaders in The refugee program had got- the agriculture sector have said ten out of control due to Presi- up to 70% of their workers are and self-defeating.

It's no secret where the undocthe U.S. should have more gen- umented immigrants are. Go to columnist covering politics and erous policies for admitting any meatpacking plant, farm, policy.

Aiming squarely at removing criminal migrants may not result in large numbers since most undocumented immigrants don't commit crimes but is one that most U.S. residents would support.

restaurant or large-scale construction site and agents would find hundreds of potential arrestees. Heck, go to any Home Depot parking lot, where immigrants congregate waiting to be hired as day labor.

Homan knows this. But he size of the operation Trump wants. That's why Homan is going after mayors. He needs their resources and cooperation. Their jails can add detention space and their police officers can provide tip-offs and

But, like his boss, Homan is Informed that the Boston police commissioner would not be cooperating with federal agents (a right protected by the 10th amendment) Homan responded by saying, "I'm coming to Boston. I'm bringing hell with me."

Homan would be better advised to pursue the achievable goals of deporting criminal refugee process in a way that maintains border security. And to try collaborating with cities instead of making them adversaries. It's worked in the past.

Chasing down millions of undocumented immigrants who mostly work, pay taxes and keep to themselves is both foolish

Lopez is a Bloomberg Opinion

Government is there to protect

By MORTON J. MARCUS

The courts have said no to Kroger's \$25 billion offer to buy/merge with Albertsons grocery stores.

It doesn't matter that Kroger is not available in many Indiana towns and Albertsons is non-existent in Indiana. This has national implications according to the courts and experts on monopoly practices.

To the courts and the experts, Kroger and Albertsons, if I might use fewer keyboard strikes, are traditional grocery stores.

The judgements were made on that basis.

It's a good basis if you look at the published data. The latest numbers I found showed the top 20 grocery chains had twothirds (66.6%) of U.S. grocery sales in 2016, up from two-fifths (39.2%) in 1992.

That brings us to the question: "What is a grocery store?"

I've bought bookcases and tables from Aldi's. I got mushrooms, meat and ice cream from Walmart and a camping stool from Albertson's many years Costco is an adventure

in shopping with patio furniture, pants, fresh fish, bagels and booze. Costco is the store where finding what you want is made exciting by a staff that moves products around frequently, forcing you to pass inviting items not on your shopping list. Alternatively, without explanation, a staple in your fridge is no

longer available. Once upon a time, you carried a list of desired products to the grocer's where a clerk gathered your items and asked about your attractive daughter. Today, you visit Whole Foods, Fresh Market or Fresh Thyme, places where choices are 'curated" for the discerning, well-heeled shopper. No one knows you or your indecisive daughter/son.

Eye on the **Pie**



Kroger and Albertsons is not to be until a new set of judges, legislators and administrators in Washington reconsider the anti-trust laws.

That could be tomor-

The world has changed and will continue to do so. It does not mean the concept of monopoly is wrong. It does mean its definition and contemporary examples must be restated.

Or we can just leave it all alone and let the businesses take care of themselves. Kroger sells alcoholic products in Indiana, but not in all states in which it operates. In some places, CVS, the drug chain, also offers beer, wine and hard liquor for those "medicinal needs" ordinary pharmaceuticals may not ameliorate.

Kroger is the go-to place for flowers when the anniversary remembered on the day of occurrence. Amazon and Kroger both offer delivery to your home just as did the bicycle-riding youth from that 19thcentury grocer.

Successful businesses grow, often too big for their managerial britches. They try to adapt to consumer changes and the changes of their competitors, but those adaptations can fail.

Government is there to protect consumers and workers.

We'll see if this current administration believes a Kroger and Albertsons merger is consistent with the public interest.

•••••

Marcus is an economist formerly with Indiana University's Kelley School of Business. Email him at mortonjmarcus@gmail.com.

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Corn producer Laura Flores harvests corn on a communal land in San Miguel Xicalco neighborhood, in Mexico City, on Oct. 4, 2022. Last week, Mexico declared native corn "an element of national identity" and banned the planting of genetically modified seeds.

Mexico bans GMO corn

By KATE LINTHICUM Los Angeles Times

Tribune News Service

MEXICO CITY — There's a popular saying in Mexico, where corn is as central to national mythology as it is gastronomy.

Sin maiz, no hay pais. Without corn, there is no country.

Last week, Mexico's leaders voted to enshrine that concept in the Constitution, declaring native corn "an element of national identity" and banning the planting of genetically modified seeds.

The measure, which aims to protect Mexico's thousands of varieties of heirloom corn from engineered versions sold by companies, become a nationalist rallying cry. Support for the reform has only grown in recent months as Mexico has fended off insults, threats of tariffs and even the specter of U.S. military intervention from President Donald Trump.

"Corn is Mexico," President Claudia Sheinbaum said recently, describing the reform as a way to secure Mexico's sovereignty. "We have to protect it for biodiversity but also culturally, because corn is what intrinsically links us to our origins, to the resistance of Indigenous peoples."

The amendment to the Consti December of a related effort that sought to phase out all imports of genetically modified corn. Former President Andrés Manuel López Obrador issued a presidential decree in 2023 banning the use of genetically engineered corn in dough and tortillas and for animal feed and industrial use, but a trade dispute panel ruled that it violated the U.S. Mexico-Canada Agreement.

Mexico agreed to abide by the panel's ruling and this week's action targets seeds, not all prod-

The amendment received the last approval needed from Congress on Wednesday and it has

Support for reform has grown in recent months

signature. It was also approved by a majority of state legislatures.

Every year the U.S. sells Mexico about \$5 billion of genetically modified corn, which has been designed to resist pests and tolerate herbicides. Most of that corn is used to feed livestock.

Even before the constitutional reform, it was mostly illegal to plant modified corn in Mexico thanks to a 2013 lawsuit brought by farmer activists. But experts say it still happens. And they say the presence of engineered seeds and corn in Mexico threatens the vast diversity of maize crops here, which span from burnt orange to purple and pink and which have been adapted over centuries to be grown at different altitudes and climates.

"There's a disturbing level of contamination of native maize with genetically modified traits," said Timothy Wise, a researcher tution comes after the defeat in at the Global Development and Environment Institute at Tufts University. Some ancestral varieties of Mexican corn have already gone extinct, he said, "the product of illegal plantings and uncontrolled and undetected cross-pollination.

> That alarms many in Mexico, where corn has become not just a staple of the diet but a symbol of Mexico itself.

Corn was born here about 9.000 years ago, when Mesoamerican farmers first started to domesticate the wild grass known as teosinte.

It has been revered here ever since, with sculptors carving images of Centeot, the Aztec been sent to Sheinbaum for her deity of corn, into pre-Hispanic fied corn.

temples and artists such as Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo prominently featuring corn husks, corn fields and corn dishes in their paintings.

The poet Octavio Paz was just one of many to extol the plant's virtues, saying, "the invention of corn by Mexicans is only comparable to man's invention of fire.'

Probably no people in the world get a larger share of their calories from corn than Mexicans, with researchers estimating that the average person here eats one to two pounds per day.

It is mashed into masa and cooked into tortillas, tamales and tlacoyos. Its kernels are soaked in fragrant pozole and brewed into a hearty breakfast drink known as atole.

"It's at the root of our culture, giving us strength and identity." said María Elena Álvarez-Buylla, a researcher in molecular genetics at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. "It's our staple. Losing sovereignty over a fundamental aspect of our life and health is very risky.

Álvarez-Buylla led Mexico's National Council of Humanities, Science and Technology until last year, and has published studies claiming risks to health and the environment from genetically modified corn and the herbicides that are associated with it.

She says U.S. corn is less nutritious than the Mexican version and is linked to liver disease and other problems. Her research found that nine in 10 tortilla samples from several cities in Mexico had traces of genetically modi-

The U.S., its farmers and the companies that sell engineered corn seeds refute Mexico's claim that their products come with

They celebrated the December trade dispute ruling, which came after a concerted lobbying effort by corn producers in states such as Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska. "This win illustrates the power of corn advocacy," said Kenneth Hartman Jr. of the National Corn Growers Assn.

Mexico was an exporter of corn until as recently as the 1980s. The passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, which laid the groundwork for the current trade pact, changed that.

Many small family farms in Mexico could not compete with big U.S. farmers who enjoy hefty federal subsidies. In the three decades since NAFTA took effect, annual corn imports to Mexico grew from roughly 3.1 million metric tons to nearly 23.4 million metric tons, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Grains Council.

The change forced many Mexican farmers to shift to subsistence farming or to take up seasonal work far from their homes. Many others left to find work in the United States.

Wise said it was ironic that the U.S. had used the free trade agreement to oppose Mexico's efforts to ban corn imports at the same time that Trump imposed — and then reversed — tariffs on U.S. imports.

U.S. trade policy, he said, appears to be: "We'll ignore the agreement when it's convenient for us. We'll enforce it when it has an impact on some biotech companies.

He said Mexicans had long ago decided that they don't want genetically modified corn, and that it largely came down to one thing: taste.

"Nobody wants to eat it," he

Purdue, Kearney announce partnership

Goal is more collaboration between academia and agriculture

By MEIR KAHTAN and ERIN ROBINSON

Purdue Ag News

Kearney's agriculture and food team and Purdue University's Center for Food and Agricultural Business have established a partnership to bridge the gap and enhance collaboration between academia and industry.

The goal of the partnership is to enhance agricultural research, strengthen industry engagement, and build connections with corporate clients and industry partners across the agriculture and food value chain. Key objectives include developing industry-relevant research, providing thought leadership and preparing students to become future industry leaders through experiential learning opportunities.

Initial discussions have focused on corporate partnerships, grower engagement, and expanding career pathways for undergraduate and graduate students through awareness initiatives and internships.

"This partnership between Purdue and Kearney represents an exciting opportunity to bring industry and academia together to tackle the real challenges agribusiness pro-fessionals face today," said Scott Downey, professor of agricultural economics and director of the Center for Food and Agricultural Business. 'Kearney's deep industry knowledge, combined with Purdue's research expertise and global reputation, allows us to develop practical insights that help agribusiness leaders make better decisions and meaningful learning experiences that help prepare the next generation of industry leaders."

"We are so excited to realize the potential of this partnership," said Rob Dongoski, partner and food and agribusiness leader at Kearney. "Purdue's history of leadership in agricultural education dates back to 1869, and Kearney will turn 100 years old next year," Dongoski said. "While a robust legacy demonstrates a tenured track record, this partnership is about creating lasting change and codesigning the future of agriculture and food. Both Purdue and Kearney have anchored their success in developing pragmatic tools and insights to affect real change. Purdue's deep research coupled with Kearney's focus on impactful change for our clients creates a combination that will benefit corporate clients and introduce outstanding young people to the world of agriculture and food consulting."



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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane 3-21

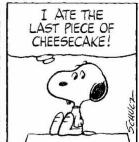
"Don't yell at him, Mommy. He's a friend of Barfy's just visitin'.

Peanuts





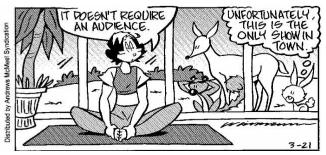




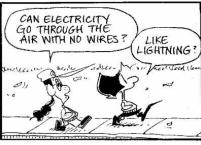
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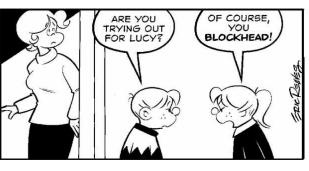
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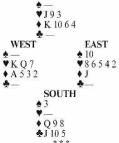
Contract By Steve Becker

Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the seven of hearts, on which South plays the ten. How would you play the hand?
WEST EAST

Q 8 2 **∀** K J 8 **Q** J 10 ♦ A K 3 ♥ 62 ♣KJ974 A 1063

2. This is a double-dummy prob-lem. South is declarer, clubs are trump, and West leads the king of hearts. How can declarer win six of the seven remaining tricks, assum-ing best defense by East-West? NORTH



1. There is no way to be certain of the location of the missing queen

3-21

contract by exercising reasonable care. All you have to do is to win the first trick with the heart jack and lead a low club to dummy's king, planning to take a club finesse through South next. If the finesse wins, you are certain of 10 tricks. If it loses, you are still sure of nine tricks, whatever North returns.

South is the defender you can't afford to have on lead, since he might be able to do you in with a heart return through your K-8. You therefore play the clubs so that if you do lose a trick to the queen, North, who cannot hurt you, will wind up on lead

2. South ruffs the heart lead and returns the queen of diamonds.
West cannot afford to take the ace, which would greatly simplify declarer's task, so he plays low. South overtakes the queen with the king, ruffs the nine of hearts in his hand and leads the nine of diamonds.

Again, West must play low, where-upon South overtakes the nine with the ten and ruff's dummy's last heart. Now South leads the eight of diamonds. West has the A-5 of diamonds at this point, while dummy has the 6-4. Whatever West does, declarer wins one more diamond trick to attain his goal

of clubs, but it is easy to assure the Tomorrow: A 90% solution.

CRYPTOQUIP

YBPL XBP TSNCLE YEDWPD'N YSNFPXXCLF SJJ YPX, BP TDCPH, "C TSL'X

HPSJ YCXB XBCN!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DECORATIVE STRUCTURE HANGING ABOVE A NEWBORN'S CRIB THAT DEPICTS A WORLD MAP: A GLOBAL MOBILE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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vania

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spoiler Arthur dict 24 Spanish Solution time: 25 mins. cheers

25 Pea soup 29 Blemish ULLIT **30** — Rica 31 Resistance unit 32 Twicebaked Italian cookies 34 Party BEAD cheese

40 Tight-BATHE RIT GEO 42 "Cheers" NYCSTYLE 43 Actress 44 Sizzling 45 Ram's Yesterday's answer 3-21

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Vikings moving on from Rodgers

By GERRY DULAC Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Tribune News Service

PITTSBURGH The Steelers have not been told they are out of the running for quarterback Aaron Rodgers and continue to wait on the four-time league MVP with no specific time set Post-Gazette.

ing Rodgers, 41, a one- agreement

Minnesota plans to take next step with McCarthy

for a decision, sources year deal to be their reached with the former have told the Pittsburgh starter, but they are preparing to go in a dif-The Steelers are offer- ferent direction if an

Green Bay Packers and New York Jets quarterback.

According to NFL Net-

work's Tom Pelissero, days this week in which by the Jets after two seathe Minnesota Vikings have decided not to pursue Rodgers and will go forward with J.J. McCarthy, last year's top draft pick. That would appear to leave the Steelers and New York Giants the only teams involved in discussions

Meantime, coach Mike Tomlin and general manager Omar Khan are attending multiple pro

with Rodgers.

they will be meeting with several of the top quarterback prospects in the draft.

Rumors and reports have run rampant in the past week that Rodgers has been waiting to see if Minnesota was a possible destination while the Steelers and Giants had offers in to make him their starting quarterback for 2025.

sons. He tore his Achilles in Week 1 of his first year, then only won five games this past season. He did, however, throw for 3,897 yards, 28 touchdowns and 11 interceptions.

The Steelers currently have two quarterbacks on the roster Mason Rudolph and Skylar Thompson — and have been waiting for Rodgers decision to decide what Rodgers was released the final 2025 plan will be.

Proposed

Continued from page 8 The proposal suggests all playoff seeds are determined by record, allowing wild-card teams to be slotted higher than division winners. Currently, seeds 1-4 are held by division winners (sorted by record), with seeds 5-7 going to the wild-card teams. This forced the Vikings, after a 14-3 season, to begin their postseason on the road against the 10-7 Los Angeles Rams.

Under the Lions' proposal, the No. 1 seed in each conference will still be entitled to a first-round bye, and the four division winners in each conference will still clinch a playoff berth. However, the division winners will no longer clinch an automatic home playoff game.

The perceived strength of the NFC North makes this an interesting proposal going forward; last season, the Vikings became the first team in NFL history to win 14 games and play in the wild-card round. The Packers, at 11-6, fell one win shy of tying the record for most wins by a team to finish third in its own division.

Lions are also pushing for updates for 90-man roster and penalties for defensive holding and illegal contact

Detroit's listed reason for submitting the change was "competitive equity. Provides excitement and competition in late-season games. Rewards the best-performing teams from the regular season," the proposal states.

The Lions' second bylaw proposal would exclude from the 90-man preseason/training camp roster a player who is placed on injured reserve before the roster is cut down to 53 players. This would allow players who suffer preseason/training camp injuries to immediately go on injured reserve and not count against the 90-man roster limit.

The language on the amendment is a bit confusing, but here's an example of how the proposed rule would work:

Defensive end Nate Lynn

was having a great training of an unusually high number in the backfield to immediately camp as an undrafted free agent in 2024 before suffering a season-ending shoulder injury. Because he showed promise, the Lions wanted to keep him around, so they placed him on injured reserve on Aug. 11 instead of waiving him altogether, which would allow all 31 other teams to put a claim in on the player. The move helped keep Lynn in Detroit, but cost them a roster spot over the final two weeks of preseason. The proposed change would have allowed the Lions to put Lynn on injured reserve while also backfilling his spot on the 90-man roster.

As stated by the Lions in their proposal, the amendment would allow "clubs to better manage their 90-man roster late in the season in the event

of players being placed on the reserve/injured list."

Lastly, the Lions proposed a change in the playing rules that would eliminate automatic first downs from penalties for defensive holding and illegal contact. Both penalties are currently worth a loss of 5 vards and an automatic first down; under Detroit's proposal, the penalties would function similarly to offsides penalties, where a loss of 5 yards will still occur but the offense would not be granted an automatic first down.

Two other playing rule changes were proposed, both by NFC teams.

The Packers motioned to ban "tush push," the play famously run by the Philadelphia Eagles that allows players aid the quarterback's momentum by pushing on their backside. The official proposal, which cites player safety and pace of play as its reasoning, 'prohibits an offensive player from pushing a teammate who was lined up directly behind the snapper and receives the snap, immediately at the snap.

The Eagles proposed a rule change that would alter the NFL's regular-season overtime rules, making them uniform with their playoff overtime rules, which grants both teams at least one offensive possession. Unlike the postseason, where a winner must be provided, teams can still play to a tie. The proposal also would expand overtime from 10 minutes to 15.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Saturday
Jay County — Track at Midwest High Performance HSR Qualifier – 12 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Softball doubleheader at Franklin Monroe – 9 a.m.; Baseball scrimmage at Indian Lake – 12 p.m.

TV sports

Today
3:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Chinese
Grand Prix (ESPN2)

11:30 p.m. — Women's college bas-ketball First Round: Michigan vs. TBD

- Women's college basket-12 p.m. ball First Round: Kentucky vs. Liberty

12:15 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Mississippi State vs. Baylor (CBS)

12:40 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Alabama vs. High Point (TRUTV)

1:30 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Iowa State vs. Lipscomb (TNT) 2 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Memphis vs. Colorado State

2 p.m. — Women's college basketball First Round: Notre Dame vs. Stephen F.

Austin (ESPN) — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Duke vs. TBD (CBS)

3:15 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Saint Mary's vs. Vanderbilt

3:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball First Round: TCU at Fairleigh Dickinson (ESPN2)

4 p.m. — Women's college basketball First Round: South Carolina vs. Tennessee Tech (ESPN)

4:05 p.m. NCAA Tournament men's basketball: North Carolina vs. Ole Miss (TNT)

4:35 p.m. - NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Maryland vs. Grand Canyon (TBS) 5:30 p.m. — Women's college bas-

ketball First Round: Ohio State vs. Montana State (ESPN2)

6 p.m. - Women's college basketball First Round: Louisville at Nebraska 6 p.m. — College gymnastics: Big

Ten Championships (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — IndyCar: The Thermal
Club INDYCAR Grand Prix (FS1)
6:50 p.m. — NCAA Tournament
men's basketball: Florida vs. Norfolk

7:10 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Kentucky vs. Troy 7:25 p.m. — NCAA Tournament

men's basketball: Marquette vs. New Mexico (TBS) NCAA Tournament 7:35 p.m. men's basketball: Arizona vs. Akron

8 p.m. — Women's college basketball First Round: Tennessee vs. South 8 p.m. — College wrestling: NCAA Championship (ESPN) 8:30 p.m. — NBA: Detroit Pistons at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)

9 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Baptist Health 200 (FOX) 9:25 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: UConn vs. Oklahoma

9:45 p.m. — NCAA Tournament

men's basketball: Illinois vs. TBD (CBS) 10 p.m. — NCAA Tournament men's basketball: Michigan State vs. Bryant

10 p.m. — Women's college basketball First Round: UCLA vs. TBD

(ESPN)

men's basketball: Oregon vs. Liberty (TRUTV)

Local notes Registration open

Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. To register, visit RunSignUp.com.

There are rides ranging from 20 to

100 miles long.

The event will be held at 7 a.m.

Saturday, June 21. It will start at Bellmont high school and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with

To have an event listed in "Sports on

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday April 5th, 2025 TIMÉ 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 9514 N 100W, Ridgeville, IN SUV-GOLF CART-TRACTOR-TOOLS 2011 Ford Escape XLT w/ 80,000 miles. Club Car Gas Golf Cart w/ Carryall. Ford Golden Jubilee Tractor. Bush Hog 5í 3pt Mower. Craftsman Table Saw,

Planer, and Radial Arm Saw. 200 gallon Overhead Fuel Tank. Hog Panels. ANTIQUES-FURNI-

TURE-MISC. (2) Street Lights. Cast RR-W Sign. Chambers Gas Cooking Stove. Steamer Trunks. Forge Horse tie-down. Large lot of Deer Antlers and Mounts. Four Compartment Chicken Nester. Dress-making Mannequin. Tigerwood 2 door Chest. Oak Ice

Chest. Handmade Doll Collection. Portland Forge and Ridgeville Silver Coins. Hotpoint Refrigerator. Large Cedar Chest. Sofa. (3) Recliners. Playground and Spring-

Loaded Ride-On Play Ground Set. **OWNER: CHARLENE** WHITENACK ESTATE Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

260-726-5587

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2025 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 Ω miles west of

Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South. **NOW ACCEPTING** CONSIGNMENTS UNTIL

NOON, THURSDAY. MARCH 27TH, 2025 **HEAVY EQUIPMENT-FARM TRACTORS-FARM EQUIPMENT** Case SR 210B Skidloader w/ CHA high flow, 765 hours. International 354 Tractor w/ Bush Hog, International 15í Disc., Kil Brothers 24í Rolling Basket, (2) J&M 250 bu. hopper wagons. TRUCKS-TRAILERS-

AUTOS 2021 Dodge 3500 Single Axel Dump w/ 6.7L. Cummins, 2005 Ford Single Axel Dump Truck 56,000 miles, 6.0 Diesel, 2000 Freightliner Semi FL112 w/ C13 CAT

Engine, 2013 Chevy Traverse LT 4x4, 18í Car Hauler Trailer, 16í Enclosed Trailer. MOWERS-RTVS-SUP-PORT EQUIPMENT-

MISC. Kubota 2G 327 Zero turn Mower, Snapper Pro ST50 w/ Bagger, Ryan 24î Sod Cutter., Club Car 48 Volt Electric Golf Cart, Pallet Forks, Cement Mixer, (2) Western 2&3 Ton Salt

Spreaders, Large Lot of Landscaping Pavers, Blocks, and Bricks, Approximately 150 Trees including Oak, Maple, Elm, and Pine. Rose Bushes. Shrubs. Misc Plants.

& FARMERS OWNERS

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS

90 SALE CALENDAR

AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com ñ

REAL ESTATE PUBLIC AUCTION

Auctioneer ID #4243

Located: 722 E Main St, Portland, IN Friday Afternoon April 11th, 2025 5:00 P. M. **REAL ESTATE** This home sits on a 30í x 157í lot with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom and 792 sq. ft. of living area. This home is heated

with a Warm Morning stove and has a gas water heater. There is a detached garage and a utility shed. This home has a cement driveway, a covered back porch and a nice size yard. For more information or private showing contact Loy Real Estate 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy

5160. Personal property to sell immediately following real estate.

Auctioneer at 260-726-

JANICE STUCKY **ESTATE** by Herb Hummel Personal Rep. Josh Atkinson Attorney Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers

Gary Loy AU01031608 100 JOBS WANTED

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(TRUTV)

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nity employer. 130 MISC. FOR SALE

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SCRATCH PADS ARE **BACK** various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.

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230 AUTOS, TRUCKS WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your

location. 1-765-546-2642

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1-765-857-1071.

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT

2025 TERM No. 38CO1-2503-EU-000006 In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: Anna Mae Sutton, Deceased

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Douglas K. Sutton was, on the 7th day of March, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Anna Mae Sutton deceased, who died on November 26, 2024.

All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after decedent's whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 10th day of March, 2025. Melissa Elliott

Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR 121 W. High Street Portland, IN 47371 Attorney CR 3-14,21-2025-HSPAXLP

THE

CLASSFIEDS

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE TO BIDDERS Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Commissioners of Jay County at the Jay County Courthouse, Auditor's Office, 120 North Court Street #2, Portland, Indiana 47371 until Monday April 14, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. EDT for the following:

Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 139 On Seventh Street Over Salamonie River Jay County, Indiana

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a commissioners meeting in the Jay County Courthouse on April 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. EDT. Bids received after Monday April 14, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. EDT will be returned unopened. Bids received by facsimile machine will not be accepted. Only bids from those Contractors who are registered on the Indiana Department of Transportation's current listing of Prequalified Contractors for this type of work included in this project will

be considered Construction shall be in accordance with the bidding documents which are on file with the County Highway Department. Said documents may be examined by prospective bidders at the following locations:

Jay County Highway Department 1035 East 200 North Portland, Indiana 47371 Egis BLN USA, Inc 8320 Craig Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46250

Bidding documents are available for purchase and/or viewing through the Egis BLN USA, Inc. online plan room at http://www.blnplanroom.com beginning at 12:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday March 19, 2025. Further information will be posted there on the Job Details page of the job posting. Order options and prices will be listed on the order page. Partial sets will not be available. Addenda will be posted to the plan room for downloading and a notification of each addendum will be emailed from the plan room to each plan holder.

Bid Documents: All bids shall be accompanied by (1) Bid Form included in the bidding documents (2) completed Form 96 (Ind. State Board of Accounts - Rev.) with required attachments (3) Non-discrimination affidavit as required by the laws of the State of Indiana, and (4) Bid security, as described be low (5) Other bidding documents as described in the instructions to bidders

Bid Security: Bid Security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Bid shall accompany each Bid. Bid Security may be in the form of a Bid Bond (A-310), certified check or cashier's check. If the Bidder withdraws a bid within sixty (60) days after the opening date, without consent of the Owner or fails to execute a satisfactory contract within ten (10) days after notice of acceptance, the Owner may declare the Bid deposit for feited as liquidated damages.

Bonds: The successful Bidder will be required to furnish Performance and Payment Bonds for 100% of the Contract Sum. The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to waive any irregularities in the bidding. All bids may be held for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, or as otherwise stated in the Contract Documents before awarding the con Jay County is an Equal Opportunity Employer in accordance

with I.C. 22-9-1-10 and shall not permit discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of the contract, with respect to his or her hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment or any matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of his race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, or All out-of-state corporations must have a certificate of au-

thority to do business in the State. Application forms may be

obtained by contacting the Secretary of State, State of Indiana, Statehouse, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204. Chad Aker, Duane Monroe, Doug Horn

Jay County Board of Commissioners CR 3-21, 4-1-2025-HSPAXLP

FRHS softball opens season on Saturday, see Sports on tap

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

Playoff atmosphere

Cubs fall to L.A. in front of electric Tokyo crowd

By MEGHAN MONTEMURRO

Chicago Tribune Tribune News Service

TOKYO — Murmurs rippled through the packed Tokyo Dome when the velocity flashed onto the scoreboard.

Los Angeles Dodgers phenom Roki Sasaki hit 101 mph on his first pitch in the first inning Wednesday to Chicago Cubs designated hitter Seiya Suzuki in a matchup between the Japanese stars. Every time Sasaki hit triple digits in his major-league debut — five times in his three-inning start — the 42,367 fans comprised largely of Dodgers supporters reacted with a sense of awe.

Cubs fans again didn't have much to cheer for in a 6-3 loss, getting swept in the Tokyo Series. The Dodgers took a tworun lead in the second and were in command the rest of the game. When the Cubs scored, putting up a run in the third through fifth innings, the Dodgers had a knack for responding.

"Obviously he was a little amped up at home, throwing pretty hard," said Cubs second baseman Jon Berti, who went 3 for 4. "We just stayed patient with it, and unfortunately, we just couldn't get the big hit at the big time.'

Shohei Ohtani's solo home run to right-center field generated the loudest pop in the stadium during the series. A replay review, which showed potential fan interference, determined the call stood.

Left-hander Justin Steele surrendered five hits and five runs in four innings. Home runs from Tommy Edman (a two-out solo homer in the third) and Enrique Hernández (two-run homer in the fourth) proved to be costly.

'My body felt good, felt good overall, made a few mistakes, got punished for it," Steele said. "The home runs kind of hurt me tonight, but overall, felt pretty good. Felt really cool to pitch here in Tokyo and it's

der lost command.

Sasaki walked three consecutive hitters following Berti's one-out single. Although they I thought we did a good job execut the Dodgers' lead to 3-1, cuting our game plan.'



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/John J. Kim

Cubs starting pitcher Justin Steele heads to the dugout after throwing against the Dodgers in the third inning at the Tokyo Dome on March 19, 2025, in Tokyo. Cubs fans didn't have much to cheer for in a 6-3 loss, getting swept in the Tokyo Series.

Sasaki struck out Michael Busch looking and got Matt Shaw to whiff at a slider near the dirt to end the Cubs' threat. The Cubs went 1 for 7 with runners in scoring position and left 11 on base in the loss.

"We did put pressure on him that we needed to, but he made pitches, especially in the third inning when they we had bases loaded and one out, there was a real opportunity there just to pitches there so give him cred-

two strikeouts and stranded three on base with two outs. He collected his first big-league hit on an infield single off the pitcher's mitt.

"I don't think he swung the bat well this series," Counsell said. "I thought it was an important day defensively to come back and make some something I'll never forget." get him out of the game, the The Cubs had a chance for a big inning against Sasaki in the game," manager Craig to show us and improve on. the third when the right-han-Coursell said "And he made And today was a good stop in which feetures are which f that direction."

slate, featuring five games Texas Rangers and Philadel- again in October."

The big moments kept find- leading up to their domestic phia Phillies. The Cubs will ing Shaw, who was 1 for 5 with opener March 27 at the Arineed to grind through that zona Diamondbacks.

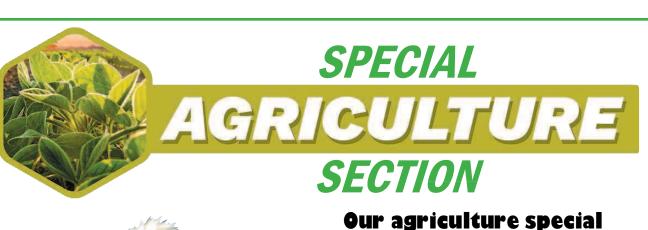
It creates a bit of a wonky schedule. The Cubs are off Thursday and regulars aren't expected to play in Friday's Cactus League game against the San Diego Padres. Pitchers regressing is a concern with just four games scheduled in a week's span, but there isn't plays. Look, it's two games, it much the Cubs can do to com-

the third when the right-han- Counsell said. "And he made And today was a good step in which features seven games pregame especially resembled against the Diamondbacks, six the playoffs, I thought. And so The Cubs left for Arizona versus the San Diego Padres, "The stuff is really good, but after the game to complete the five against the Dodgers and our young players. And hoperest of their spring training three versus the Athletics,

stretch and not dig themselves too much of a hole.

Their focus remains on returning to the playoffs. The Tokyo Series provided a glimpse of what that type of environment might entail for the less experienced players on the Cubs roster.

"These are great experiences, period, and they're fun that's a great experience for fully, we'll get that experience





Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Deadline for ads is Monday, April 14.

section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland)

The News-Gazette (Winchester) and The News Times (Hartford City)

full-page color – **\$500** (only one available)

1/2-page color - \$400

1/2-page B&W - \$325

1/4-page color - \$275

1/4-page B&W - \$225

Big business card (3×3.5) – $^{\$}$ **I OO**

Business card (2×2) – $^{\$}60$



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

Lions proposed NFL rule changes

Team calls for modifying playoff seeds

By NOLAN BIANCHI The Detroit News Tribune News Service

DETROIT — Although the Detroit Lions haven't been very active in free agency this offseason, the franchise still has been quite busy.

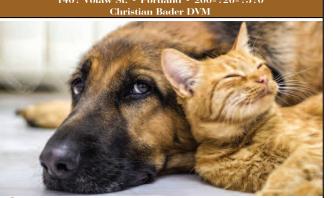
According announcement from the NFL, the Lions were

responsible for proposing two amendments to league bylaws and one playing rule change, all of which will be voted on in two weeks at the NFL's league meetings in Palm Beach,

Fla.
The first bylaw proposal seeks to amend the current playoff-seeding format, something that was a hot topic of conversation entering the winner-take-all finale between the Lions and Minnesota Vikings in Week 18 in which the NFC North title and No. 1 seed in the conference were on the line.

See **Proposed** page 7





Spring is here...

and so are the fleas.

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And others