

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

## Ag partnership



Photo provided

One of the many events offered via a partnership between Jay County Farm Bureau and Jay County Public Library was strawberry-themed and featured a visit from "I LOVE Strawberries!" author Shannon Anderson (right). Since starting with an event about sunflowers several years ago, the partnership has grown to offer 15 to 20 events per year with a focus on providing children with education about agriculture.

### Farm Bureau and library team up to provide agriculture education opportunities for children

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Jay County Farm Bureau was looking for new ways to reach local youth.

Jay County Public Library is always seeking options to expand its programming.

Their partnership has grown from an initial event to a full schedule of annual offerings that provide children with education about agriculture.

The partnership launched in 2020. With Farm Bureau's Ag in

the Classroom and school cooking clubs shut down because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a need to find other ways to reach children.

"I've lived in Jay County all my life and I love everything about Jay County and ag," said Farm Bureau's Jenny Wagner, who coordinates programming with the library. "And so I wanted to get it out there."

She pointed out that some children think food just comes from the grocery store.

"I wanted them to learn that farmers are out there and we are taking care of the ground and we're preserving things and we're growing things for them," she added. "We're trying to do all this by having a smaller blueprint ... We're trying to learn better practices for farming."

"And we also wanted to show those kids, 'Hey, you can grow some of your own food in your own backyard.'"

The library was a natural

partner with the focuses of children and education.

"We wanted to do more programs for kids and we like to do a lot of hands-on activities for kids," said children's service librarian Shana Neuenschwander. "That really fits well with the agriculture mission."

"It fits well with what we want to do to reach families, help them learn and grow together as a family. Most of what we is family oriented."

See Partnership page 2

## Annual report to state approved

Details will be presented to council on April 7

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

A report that is due to the state next month received its first approval.

Portland Redevelopment Commission approved its annual report during a special meeting Friday.

Consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes explained that for several years the state has required that redevelopment commissions — they administer the funds generated by tax increment financing (TIF) districts — submit an annual report to the state's Department of Local Government Finance. The report includes the names of the redevelopment commission members, expenditures over the course of the year and parcels of land that are in the TIF district.

He noted that a new stipulation calls for the report to be presented to the fiscal body — Portland City Council — before being submitted to the state.

"It's not anything unusual," said Curtin. "It's just one more thing that the state thinks we need to provide to them ..."

The report shows that the city's redevelopment commission had \$999,107.04 on hand at the end of 2024.

The redevelopment commission spent \$245,444.58 in 2024. Its largest expenditure was the second installment of \$100,000 for the purchase of the Hood Building, home of The Commercial Review. (The Graphic Printing Company sold the building to the redevelopment commission in late 2023 for potential development, with annual payments of \$100,000 over three years. The newspaper rents the basement and first floor.)

See Report page 2

## FR Schools accept bid

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — A contractor has been selected for the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) project planned for this summer.

Fort Recovery School Board accepted a \$870,000 bid Friday from Smith-Boughan Mechanical Service Solutions of Lima, Ohio, for replacing HVAC equipment at Fort Recovery Elementary and Middle School.

The elementary and middle school building has variable air volume control boxes that control airflow. The boxes are original to the building, which was constructed more than 20 years ago, and they're outdated and difficult to find replacement parts for. Plans call for replacing the boxes and related controls. Smith-Boughan Mechan-

### HVAC project at elementary, middle school expected to be finished by Aug. 15

ical Service Solutions's offer came in at approximately 12% lower than the project's original estimate of \$990,000.

School board entered into an agreement in January with Garmann Miller of Minster for architectural and engineering services related to upgrading the school's HVAC equipment. Garmann Miller also conducted a facilities assessment on the district's assets last year and shared its findings in October with board members, detailing various building repairs the district could expect to make in the next

25 years. One of those repairs in the company's presentation included the HVAC units at the elementary and middle school.

The district hosted an open house for contractors to conduct a site review at the building March 6. School officials and Garmann Miller architects opened bids Tuesday, and school board scheduled a special session Friday solely to approve a contract for the project.

Plans are to begin the work over the summer, with construction expected to be completed by Aug. 15.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

### Save A Life

Fort Recovery High School sophomore Cameron Muhlenkamp, 16, laughs after crashing a car in a simulation Friday during the Save A Life Tour impaired and distracted driving prevention program in the gymnasium.

#### Deaths

Stephanie Keene, 69, Franklin  
Carolyn Reynard, 69, Redkey  
Rebecca DeWitt, 80, Muncie  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Friday. There is a slight chance of rain this morning followed by mostly sunny skies this afternoon with a high in the mid 40s. Expect rain Sunday with a high in the upper 40s. There is a slight chance of snow. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Kevin Daniel will perform at 6:15 p.m. tonight at The 615 (615 N. Williams St., Portland). Daniel incorporates elements of rock, soul, country and blues music into his performances.

#### Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the Fort Recovery softball season opener.

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

Thursday — Reporting on next week's Redkey Town Council meeting.



# Partnership ...

Continued from page 1  
The first event Farm Bureau and the library held together was focused on sunflowers. Since then, the partnership has grown to a series of 15 to 20 events throughout the year.  
Offerings are on a wide spectrum, and include:  
•Cookies and canvas events that involved painting along with an agriculture lesson  
•A Thanksgiving dinner for which children made their own butter, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie  
•Family Fall Night featuring education about pumpkins and apples along with crafts and a variety of activities.  
•A strawberry-themed event — it was based on Farm Bureau's book of the year "I Love Strawberries" — with author Shannon Anderson visiting to read and sign books  
"Whatever programming they come up with, I always try to fig-

ure out, 'Is there a way that ag can fit in there?'" said Wagner.  
The library and Farm Bureau have also teamed with Purdue Extension and Jay County 4-H to create the Books in the Barn program, which has become an annual offering at the Jay County Fair. Held in the gazebo on the fairgrounds during fair week, it involves reading a book, crafts and learning about the animals at the fair. The event has grown from 10 to 15 children to more than 200 attending in 2024. (Farm Bureau representatives from other counties have visited to see how they can duplicate the event.)  
Why it is important for children in Jay County to learn about agriculture, Wagner comes armed with statistics.  
Jay County:  
•Totals more than 800 farms, 127 of which are more than 100 years old.  
•Ranks No. 1 among Indiana's

92 counties for market value of agriculture products sold at nearly \$603 million per year.  
•Leads the state in market value of livestock, poultry and products at \$441.3 million per year.  
•Is among the top 10 in the state for production of poultry and eggs (No. 2), hogs and pigs (No. 2) and cattle and calves (No. 8).  
•Has nearly 160,000 of its 245,824 acres planted in soybeans and corn.  
"Since our county is such a high agriculture area, I think that they should know what each and every person is doing here," Wagner said. "When they see them out in the field, what are they doing? What are they creating? I think that's very important. ...  
"I think it's just really important to know what's going on in your backyard."  
Adult and teen services, mar-

keting and outreach librarian Hannah Elliott is hoping to expand agriculture education through the library to adults as well.  
Some of those efforts are already underway. A pop-up food pantry started in 2023, serving 100 families the first year and 200 last year. It will grow again as it is planned for July 31.  
The library is also launching a seed library on April 14 that will allow Jay County residents to pick up seed packets to take home and plant in their gardens. The effort involves working with Purdue Extension on a "grow a row" program to encourage gardeners to donate food from a row of their garden to a local food pantry. (The library will be a partnership site for dropping off the produce.)  
Upcoming ag-related offerings at the library include Ag Week take and makes available beginning Monday. Farm Bureau will

also partner to provide education about dairy cows during Mission Expl-OREO-ation — it will also include taste-testing Oreo cookies, writing Oreo poetry, crafts and an Oreo gaming center — from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday.  
"How to Grow a Carrot Cake," during which participants will learn about growing carrots and take part in other carrot-themed activities, is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. April 10. A similar event about growing tomatoes and peppers for salsa is slated for later this spring.  
And Wagner, Neuenschwander and Elliott have talked about options for other events in the future, always with a focus of reaching more members of the community.  
"I just think our partnership has allowed us to do a lot more here at this library," said Neuenschwander. "It's just been such a blessing."

## CR almanac

Sunday 3/23	Monday 3/24	Tuesday 3/25	Wednesday 3/26	Thursday 3/27
<b>46/38</b>	<b>48/32</b>	<b>53/33</b>	<b>52/32</b>	<b>60/46</b>
Sunday's forecast shows rain with a slight chance of snow. Gusts may reach up to 30 mph.	Mostly sunny on Monday when there's a 20% chance of showers.	Tuesday looks to be mostly sunny with a slight chance of rain.	Another slight chance of rain Wednesday when the high may reach the upper 40s.	Mostly sunny on Thursday with a 20% chance of rain.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 4-8-1 Daily Four: 2-1-8-6 Quick Draw: 2-5-8-10-11-14-19-23-31-37-42-43-50-52-54-57-67-69-72-75	Pick 3: 5-5-8 Pick 4: 6-5-7-5 Pick 5: 0-7-0-8-3
<b>Ohio</b> Midday	<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$444 million
	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$324 million

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.58 April corn .....4.60 May corn .....4.68	April beans .....10.13 Wheat .....5.11
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.86 April corn .....4.86 May corn .....4.86	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.68 April corn .....4.70 Beans .....10.06 April beans .....10.09 Wheat .....5.15
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.78 April corn .....4.78 Beans .....10.10	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.61 April corn .....4.61 Beans .....9.80 April beans .....9.85 Wheat .....5.12

## Today in history

In 1556, Thomas Cranmer, the first Protestant archbishop of Canterbury, was burned at the stake for his violation of heresy laws that were revised under Queen Mary I. A Roman Catholic, she had revised the laws.  
In 1685, Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Thuringia, Ernestine Saxson Duchies, Germany. He is one of the most celebrated composers of all time, famous for pieces including the "Brandenburg Concertos," "The Well-Tempered Clavier" and the "Mass in B Minor."  
In 1918, the Second Battle of the Somme began during World War I. It was a German offensive against the Allied forces on the Western Front.  
In 2007, Portland Board of Works chose Cincinnati-based Rumpke as its new provider for curbside recycling collection services.  
In 2018, Chloe Trisessel of Jay County High School signed to continue her volleyball career at Indiana University — Kokomo.  
In 2022, during his State of the City address, Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins cited various projects including new businesses, events and flood mitigation efforts. "There's quite a bit happening," he said.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.	<b>March 31</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
<b>Tuesday</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.	
<b>Wednesday</b> 6 p.m. — Dunkirk	

## Obituaries

**Stephanie Keene**  
Oct. 15, 1955-March 7, 2025  
On Friday, March 7, 2025, former Portland resident, Stephanie Ann Keene, age 69, of Franklin, Indiana, was called home to rest in peace with her Lord. She will be greatly missed by her community, friends and family.  
Stephanie was born in Portland, Indiana, on Oct. 15, 1955, to Herschel and Martha Romine. On May 23, 2014, she married Thomas Keene who survives. Other survivors include a daughter, Katherine (Jay) Montgomery; a grandson, Maverick; and a granddaughter, Marceline; of Miami-burg, Ohio. Also, a son, Benjamin (Claudia) Keene; a grandson, Benjamin; and granddaughter, Heidi, of Blatzheim, France. Also, a son, Thomas (Debbie) Keene of Loudensbach, Germany. In addition, she is survived by brothers, Steve Romine of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Eric (Linda) Romine of Chattanooga, Tennessee.  
She was preceded in death by her parents, Herschel and Martha Romine; and siblings, Joel, Kevin, Brad and Rick Romine and Sarah Lee.  
Stephanie graduated from Portland High School in 1974 and Purdue University School of Pharmacy.  
Stephanie served her community on Portland City Council, The Portland Foundation board and Jay County Hospital Board. In addition, she was a member of Beta Theta chapter of Kappa, Kappa, Kappa Sorority and Portland Presbyterian Church.  
Stephanie was director of pharmacy at IU Health Jay and Mercer County Community Hospital. She was also a staff pharmacist at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital and a consultant for other pharmaceutical companies. Stephanie was diabetic for all her adult life and, as such, served as a coach for those recently diagnosed with the disease.  
Stephanie was an avid animal lover and rescued many pets over the years as well as supported humane organizations. Also, she was always ready for a day of shopping and lunch with her friends.



Keene

Private family services and a celebration of life will be held later. Memorials may be made to Jay County Humane Society, Diabetes Foundation or the donor's choice.

**Carolyn Reynard**  
Aug. 13, 1955-March 20, 2025  
Carolyn Reynard age 69, a resident of Redkey, passed away on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at her home.  
Carolyn was born on Aug. 13, 1955, in Winchester, Indiana, the daughter of John D. Garringer and Hazel (Caylor) Pitman.  
Carolyn worked for Mobile Medical in Decatur for several years and enjoyed playing Bingo. She married Geoffrey Reynard on Dec. 23, 1972.  
Survivors include:  
Her husband — Geoffrey Reynard Sr., Redkey, Indiana  
Son — Jeremy Reynard, Redkey, Indiana  
Two brothers — Bob Garringer, Bryant, Indiana, Dick Garringer, Ridgeville, Indiana  
Grandchildren — Tyler Reynard (wife: Elizabeth), Portland, Indiana, Taylor Reynard (companion: Nic), Geneva, Indiana, Corey Reynard (companion: Kylie), Redkey, Indiana, Mataya Costello, Decatur, Indiana, and Sierrah Costello, Decatur, Indiana  
Great-grandchildren — Liam, Roan, Brooklyn, Leland, Kevin, Magnus, Matilda and Memphis.  
She was preceded in death by a son, Geoffrey Reynard Jr.; two sisters, Linda Ervin and Mary Lou Pitman; one brother, Bingo Garringer; and a granddaughter, Sharon Reynard.  
Visitation will be held on Monday, March 24, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held on Tuesday, March 25, at 11 a.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Burial will follow at Salamonina Cemetery in Salamonina, Indiana.



Reynard

on Thursday afternoon, March 20, 2025, at The Woodlands.

She was born on April 12, 1944, in Muncie, the daughter of Offit and Ruby (Hoggat) Locke, and she graduated from Royerton High School.  
She married the love of her life, James H. DeWitt, on Nov. 27, 1963, in Muncie.  
Rebecca worked at several area schools, including Morrison Mock, Muncie Central High School, Claypool Elementary, Wilson Middle School and Jay County High School. She also worked for CTS in Berne and for IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in the cafeteria.  
She and James were snowbirds in Okeechobee, Florida, for 20 years. She loved playing Bingo and spending time with her little dogs. She was devoted to her grandchildren.  
Surviving are her husband of over 61 years, James H. DeWitt of Muncie; three children, Thomas DeWitt (wife: Michele) of Redkey; Karen Guilford of Harrison, Ohio, and Stacy Moorman (husband: Greg) of Coldwater, Ohio; 10 grandchildren, Amanda, Samantha, Elizabeth, Eric, Katherine, Abigail, Claire, John Paul, Casey and Cassandra; three great-grandchildren, Cannen, Braylee and Jett; one brother, Norman Locke (wife: Sharon) of Florida; and many nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind many beloved DeWitt family members.  
She was preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Max Locke; and two sisters, Janice Anderson and Mila Kennedy.  
Funeral services will be held at noon on Tuesday, March 25, 2025, at The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, with her daughter Chaplain Karen Guilford officiating. Burial will follow services at Gardens of Memory Cemetery.  
Family and friends may call at The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, from 10 a.m. until noon on Tuesday, March 25, 2025.  
Condolences may be sent to the family at meeksmortuary.com.



DeWitt

**Rebecca DeWitt**  
April 12, 1944-March 20, 2025  
Rebecca L. DeWitt, 80, passed away

## Report ...

Continued from page 1  
Other expenditures in 2024 included \$39,800 for lights around the walking trail at Hudson Family Park and \$10,500 for work on planters for the downtown area.  
The redevelopment commission approved the report contingent on adding property information about the Hood Building. (It created a residential TIF district for the building in 2024 in anticipation of potential development.)  
The report also led to a brief discussion about property values and taxes in general, with Johnston noting that many buildings saw their assessed values go down last year.  
Thirty-two of the 115 parcels in the city's TIF district saw declines, totaling \$1.02 million. Parcels that went up had a combined increase in assessed value of \$12.6 million.  
Curtin acknowledged that assessed value losses are an area of concern and that it might make sense to remove declining properties from the TIF district in order to protect the redevelopment commission's revenue.  
Declining property values are a concern for the

city as a whole, Johnston said.  
Inman agreed, bringing up the potential tax impact of Indiana Senate Bill 1. The measure addresses property taxes and is projected to result in less funding for units of local government.  
The report will be presented to Portland City Council at its April 7 meeting and then submitted to Indiana Department of Local Government Finance.  
The redevelopment commission also agreed to purchase new liners for downtown trash cans with the understanding that the expenditure will need to be funded through the city's

street department budget in the future. (The redevelopment commission provided funds to Portland Main Street Connect for the original purchase in 2020.)

### Jay County FFA Annual BANQUET

**6:30 p.m. Friday, April 4, 2025**

in the Jay County Junior-Senior High School auxiliary gym

**A dinner with options of pork chops or cod will be provided. Awards and a live auction will follow the dinner.**

### SERVICES

**Today**  
**Elzey**, Jerry: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Louck**, Joyce: 1 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.  
**Haynes**, Vicki: 3 p.m., W.H. Dick & Sons — Hellwarth Funeral Home, 218 W. Market St., Celina, Ohio.

**Tuesday**  
**Reynard**, Carolyn: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland  
**DeWitt**, Rebecca: 12 p.m., Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, 415 E. Washington St., Muncie.

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# Set house rules with partner

By JANN BLACKSTONE  
Tribune News Service

Q. I have two sons, 5 and 7. I do not allow my children more than a half hour a day on their iPad. My partner uses screen time as a way to appease his son, who is turning 8. Recently my bonus son lost his temper and yelled at me in front of my sons. I took away his iPad believing if I did nothing it might set a precedent. My partner came home from work to find a sullen child whimpering in his room. His first thought was to give him his iPad and he played down the fact that his son yelled at me. I was furious and felt like my partner threw me under the bus. The next thing I knew, my partner and his son were cuddled up together playing a video game. I want to leave. What's good ex-etiquette?

A. Your story is a perfect example of what happens when new partners with children move in together without a plan for their life together.

## Ex-Etiquette



It's the practical everyday stuff that needs to be discussed before the move takes place. Discipline of each other's children is of particular concern. You can't have a separate set of rules for the kids who live together. Parents must decide the house rules, how they will discipline, and both support each other as a united front. If you don't, the children are sure to divide and conquer. The families then split into factions, you and your children against me and mine. The bonus family will cease to be bonus. A breakup is predicted.

So now you have to play catch up, but all is not lost. This is an opportunity for the kids to see that together

you can assess a situation, not undermine each other when there is a difference of opinion but discuss things and compromise (Good Ex-Etiquette for Parents rule No. 10).

It is also an opportunity to set family rules, so the kids know what to expect. All these things should have been discussed prior to moving in together, but rather than beat yourself up—or each other—use it as a teachable moment and fix it.

If you visit the Bonus Families website and punch in "Before Exercise" in the search bar, you will find the types of things you must discuss with your partner prior to moving in together. Things like house rules, chores, who sleeps where, discipline and screen time are all topics for discussion.

Finally, don't sweep this under the rug. Dad, knowing that you had made a disciplinary decision, chose to undermine that decision in front of the children. Basi-

cally, he chose to identify with his son rather than support you—although you did not discuss it prior so he could plea ignorance. Even so, that's not good ex-etiquette and needs to be taken seriously.

My suggestion is that Dad and you make the final decision regarding screen time in your home, then sit down together with all the kids and explain that it was not handled properly and that will never happen again.

You are a united front. Children must understand that their caretakers are on the same page in order to feel safe. Don't let them think they can divide and conquer. That's good ex-etiquette.

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Jann Blackstone is a child custody mediator and the author of "The Bonus Family Handbook: The Definitive Guide to Co-parenting and Creating Stronger Families. She can be reached at [bonusfamilies.com](http://bonusfamilies.com) or [jann@bonusfamilies.com](mailto:jann@bonusfamilies.com).

# Fire stations serving meals

There's a chance to support two local fire departments and get a few meals on April 5.

Redkey Volunteer Fire Department will kick off the morning partnering with Redkey Fireworks Committee for a pancake, sausage and egg breakfast from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$8 per person, with children 6 years old and younger eating for free.

Pennville Volunteer Fire Department will host its annual beef and noodles dinner from 4 to 7 p.m., with dine-in and carry-out options available. The meal will consist of mashed potatoes, green beans, bread, desserts and drinks. Free will donations will be accepted.

## Taking Note

### New scholarship

Jay County Solid Waste Management District's scholarship application is due before March 31.

The district will award two Jay County High School seniors with \$250 scholarships.

To qualify, students must have volunteered with a group or organization manning recycling drop off centers throughout Jay County during their high school career.

# Friend's paranoid behavior raises cause for concern

DEAR ABBY: How do I tell my friend I feel she needs a mental health evaluation? She has been my closest friend for 20 years, and we have been through many trials together. She has been married for a couple of years to a man who seems very nice.

Abby, she is convinced that she's being followed, but doesn't know by whom or why. She tells me about terrible arguments she has with her husband because she thinks he orchestrated situations in public places. For instance, she claims he seats himself in a position to look at other women. The poor man is blind in one eye and has limited vision in the other. She also believes his ex-

## Dear Abby



I have mentioned it numerous times, as well as suggesting she speak to a pastor (she thinks the church may be in on it) or a therapist, but she tends to dodge it. If I try to contact her husband, she will start to think I'm a traitor. I don't know how to help. Please advise. —TRAINWRECK IN ARIZONA

DEAR TRAINWRECK: From your description of your friend's paranoid and irrational behavior, she appears to be sick. Because neither you nor I are qualified to diagnose what has gone wrong with her, she needs to be evaluated by a doctor. It would not be betraying her to discuss this with her

beleaguered husband, who may be at a loss about how to deal with her behavior. Rather than a betrayal, seeing that she gets help would be a tremendous favor.

DEAR ABBY: I am a "young" senior citizen (age 90). People sometimes think I'm in my early 60s because I look and act it. I have been widowed three times by women younger than I.

I recently met a woman I'm very attracted to. I think the feeling may be mutual. We have a lot in common. The first time we talked on the phone, the conversation lasted more than three hours. Last evening, I learned

while talking on the phone with her that I'm older than her mother by one year. Would you advise me to "back off"? —JUST A NUMBER IN COLORADO

DEAR JUST A NUMBER: If this woman's mother is 89, she probably had her daughter between the ages of 20 and 30. This would make the woman to whom you are attracted between 59 and 69. I see no reason for you to "back off" or obscure your age. Because the two of you have a lot in common, enjoy the relationship. (If she's brave enough to be with you after you have killed off three younger women, more power to her!)

# Community Calendar

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

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

**Sunday**  
A BETTER LIFE - 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 BREAK-

FAST 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.

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

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.

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

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.

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.

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. It includes activities and devotional time.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

## Friday's Solution

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

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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# Help is needed to remove barriers

By ROWAN GRAE  
Foster Success

When I entered foster care at 14, my life changed, and I realized I needed to become self-sufficient quickly. But society doesn't always make that easy for minors. Even the smallest things, like opening a bank account, become a battle.

I got my first job at 15 and, without my consent, my foster parents opened a bank account for me and designated themselves as co-signers. They linked a debit card to the account, which gave them

Rowan Grae



access to any money that I earned.

Many of those in the foster care system don't have a consistent adult in their lives who they trust to be a co-signer on their account. That's why Indiana House Bill

1441 is so important. This bill would allow a foster youth who is at least 16 years old to enter into a contract with a bank to open a savings or checking account with the consent of a juvenile court.

This bill removes a major barrier for foster youth and allows older foster youth to start saving for the future and taking the first steps toward self-sufficiency.

This measure is a lifeline. It goes a long way toward empowering young people experiencing foster care to build financial literacy skills and knowledge. They also can start building trust and

relationships with banks and credit unions that will help them for years to come.

Opening a bank account is just one step. I was able to participate in several financial literacy programs offered by Foster Success, the state's only nonprofit organization specifically supporting older foster youth, to learn the correct way to view and manage my finances. The programs were so impactful that I became a peer facilitator to help teach others, like me, the essential skills needed when entering young adulthood.

An independent bank account would have given me access to my money and a safe place to start saving for my future. Allowing foster youth access to secure bank accounts is a step toward breaking the cycle of poverty. It is more than a bank account. It is a path to success.

.....  
*Grae is a Lafayette resident who entered foster care at the age of 14. He currently is serving as a peer facilitator for Foster Success to help others aging out of the foster care system.*

## Vaccines save while politics kill

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

Vaccines are a modern miracle, saving an estimated 154 million lives in the last half-century. Vaccine skepticism is a fast-spreading virus against which America's inoculation is flagging.

So count it as a very small victory that President Donald Trump and Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s choice to lead the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a vax skeptic named Dave Weldon, couldn't get through a U.S. Senate where even a couple of Republicans can see basic scientific truth.

Weldon, a former congressman and former practicing physician, has shamefully promoted the utterly discredited but still deeply corrosive claim that vaccines cause autism.

We don't know what causes the set of conditions on that spectrum, which now affect some 1 in 36 children according to the best stats we have, provided by the same CDC. There are thousands of smart people doing research to try to crack the mystery all the time in labs and through carefully constructed, ethically sound clinical trials, hungry to find evidence that's significant and replicable.

The hypothesis that vaccines cause autism never held up to scrutiny — but it's the one that seems to best fit the conspiracy-theory-infected worldview of the likes of Weldon and Kennedy and Trump, so it lives and lives and lives.

It has casualties, and growing ones. As more and more families reject shots for their kids, diseases we had permanently purged from America find their way back inside our bodies. (Talk about a foreign invasion.)

Measles, once eradicated, is again spreading in New Mexico and West Texas and even in our own area, where vaccine skepticism has long had a foothold in some parts of the ultra-orthodox Jewish community. In nearby Rockland County, a 2018-19 outbreak led to more than 300 verified cases, numbers that could pale in comparison to what might happen now that anti-vax people are at or clutching for the levers of power in Washington.

Today in Rockland, just 62% of children county-wide have had a measles shot by the age of 2. In Monsey, where there's a large ultra-Orthodox

### Guest Editorial

*It all breaks down if the Senate assents to letting an ideological, evidence-denying vaccine skeptic like Weldon take charge of the apparatus.*

community, the numbers are as low as 41%. Medical history's many Jewish vaccine pioneers would shudder.

This is not to say that every vaccine makes sense at all times for all people. They're medicine, like anything. People should consult their doctors and get the shots that work for them. Off the top of our head we can rattle off the flu shot and the COVID shot. There's the shingles and RSV vaccines. And the tetanus and hepatitis A shots. Listen to your doctor, not kooks like Bobby Kennedy and Dave Weldon.

Medical professionals need to make wise recommendations to their patients, who should listen with open minds. Those recommendations are rooted in research that often gets funded if not conducted by, then synthesized by, good people in the federal government, chiefly the CDC.

It all breaks down if the Senate assents to letting an ideological, evidence-denying vaccine skeptic like Weldon take charge of the apparatus.

Good for Sens. Susan Collins, Lisa Murkowski and Bill Cassidy (a medical doctor himself) for bucking their party and siding with Democrats against Weldon, Kennedy and Trump. It's a small step but a real one.



## Pence comparison is strange

By JOHN KRULL  
TheStatehouseFile.com

The voicemail was succinct. "George Washington had his Benedict Arnold," the caller said. "And Donald Trump had Mike Pence."

That was it. The caller hung up after delivering that short, bizarre message.

It was in response to a column I'd written about former Vice President Mike Pence, a native Hoosier, correcting President Trump's false assertion that Ukraine started its war with Russia. Russia, in fact, launched an unprovoked attack on Ukraine and followed up with an attempted invasion of that beleaguered land.

Pence, I argued, had decided his greater loyalty was not to the man who once was his boss, but rather to this nation.

And to the truth. The caller disagreed. He felt Pence owed fealty to the president who encouraged an enraged mob to try to kill his own vice president.

The caller is not alone in feeling that way. Over the past four years, whenever I've written any kind word about Pence, I have heard from folks who agree with neither Pence nor me.

These calls and notes mystify me.

Often, if the criticism of the former vice president comes by email, the writer makes a point of establishing his bona fides as a devout Christian. Almost always, these writers identify themselves as evangelical Christians.

As one would think that would mean they felt a greater affinity for Mike Pence than Donald Trump.

Pence's faith has been his guide star throughout his political career. Pence, after all, famously described himself as "a Christian, a conservative and a Republican — in that order."

It's a rare Pence speech that does not refer to the Bible or remind his

John Krull



listeners that he considers his public service as an act of faith.

Trump, on the other hand, understands as much about Scripture as a warthog does about nuclear physics. He considers the 10 Commandments to be a set of challenges — obstacles to be overcome — rather than key bits of moral instruction.

Yet, overwhelmingly, so many of the devout in this country have chosen to deny a Godfearing man in favor of a God-ignoring one.

That's a mystery that will take time to solve.

Maybe my caller was one of the faithful.

Maybe not. It's possible that he thought that, as he saw it, the rupture of the Pence-Trump relationship was more a disagreement and power struggle between two powerful men.

After all, the language the caller used was curious.

"George Washington had his Benedict Arnold. And Donald Trump had Mike Pence."

This is strange on so many levels.

In the first place, Benedict Arnold didn't just disagree with George Washington. No, Arnold betrayed the fledgling nation he'd vowed to serve and defend.

He did so because he thought the young America hadn't properly acknowledged and appreciated what he'd done for it. He thought this supposed ingratitude justified treason.

Trump, too, took an oath to defend this country and its people. When things didn't go his way in the 2020 election — when 81 mil-

lion Americans decided they wanted someone other than him to be president — he thought their supposed ingratitude justified betraying his oath of office.

That's why he summoned an angry mob to try to deny and overturn the will of the people.

Pence went in a different direction.

He decided to honor his oath, the one he took with his hand on the Bible. He sided not with the angry man and the angry mob, but with the nation.

That's one strange thing about the caller's message.

The other is that he equated Donald Trump with George Washington.

The source of Washington's appeal to his fellow citizens and their willingness to follow him, even through grim times, sprang from his reluctance to hold and wield power. His public career was marked by renunciations and resignations.

Any time there was pressure put on Washington to assume kingly trappings, he walked away. These endeared him to Americans, who felt that he could be trusted with great power because he clearly did not want it.

He was motivated not by ambition, but by duty.

Trump is a different animal altogether. His ambition for unchecked authority is ravenous while his sense of obligation to anything other than his own narrow interests is non-existent.

That is the part the caller — and so many others like him — get the most grievously wrong.

Mike Pence could not possibly be Benedict Arnold.

Because Donald Trump is no George Washington.

.....  
*Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students.*

# The Commercial Review



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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."  
—Thomas Jefferson

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3-22 CRYPTOQUIP

IWD BQ GWRG ERHD GMRBPPX  
LREN HNNM GJ MCP QIBOGED?  
ZNKRCQN QWN'Q GMDBPX GJ  
LRFN R ORQG ZCKF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE CASINO WORKER'S CARD DECK WAS GETTING ALL WET, HE CRIED, "I CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals H

**CRYPTO FUN**

Solve the code to discover words related to a home office. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 16 = E)

**A. 26 5 3 1 25 18 16 20**  
Clue: Work device

**B. 20 16 3 5 18 16**  
Clue: In a distant location

**C. 4 5 25 24 16 4 5 11 22**  
Clue: Place of residence

**D. 1 20 8 10 6 26 2**  
Clue: Free of being disturbed

Answers: A. computer B. remote C. household D. privacy

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to working from home.

**FECOIF**

Answer: Office

**GUESS WHO?**

I am an actress born in Louisiana on March 22, 1976. I was a fashion model at age seven. I had a breakout role as a party girl who sets her sights on Harvard Law School. I won several awards for playing a country star with an equally famous husband.

Answer: Reese Witherspoon



**Health FACT!**

This type of activity keeps the brain active and can be relaxing and reduce stress.

Answer: Crafts/hobbies

3-24 CRYPTOQUIP

W L F L J M D U L I W K S F I M L V ' Z  
Z L M S L Z U K D U S Z J M Q D I W D Z U  
Q V F S V L S V M L D F U S Y L : " Z L Z D Y L  
Z U M L D Y . "

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHY IS THAT LADY TRAINING MALE DEER TO RUN SWIFTLY? BECAUSE SHE'S TRYING TO MAKE A FAST BUCK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals C

**Crossword Puzzle**

**ACROSS**  
1. Infant  
4. Uncultivated land  
5. Without other people  
6. A popular "Cap'n"  
7. Unique

**DOWN**  
1. Bed coverings  
2. Holds books and items  
3. Yarn craft offerings  
4. Lists restaurant

Answers:  
Across: 1. Baby 4. Moor 5. Alone 6. Crunch 7. Special  
Down: 1. Blankets 2. Bookcase 3. Crochet 4. Menu

**THIS DAY IN HISTORY**

**19**

1649: The House of Commons of England passes an act abolishing the House of Lords.  
1918: The US Congress establishes time zones.  
2003: U.S. President George W. Bush announces the invasion of Iraq in an address to the nation.

**NEW WORD CHAIN**

starting stitches of crochet projects

**REMOTE WORK WORD SEARCH**

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS:  
ANNUALIZED  
ASYNCHRONOUS  
CLOUD  
COMMUNICATION  
COWORKING  
DIGITAL  
FLEX TIME  
FREELANCE  
FULLY  
GIG ECONOMY  
GLOBAL HOURS  
HYBRID  
LOCATION  
MESSAGE  
OFFSHORING  
REMOTE  
SOFTWARE  
SOLOPRENEUR  
TEAM  
TELECOMMUTE  
VPN  
WORKLOAD  
WORKPLACE

**How they say that in...**

English: Yarn  
Spanish: Hilo  
Italian: Filo  
French: Fil  
German: Garn

**Did You Know?**

Crochet patterns feature a lot of abbreviations for stitches. Learning them can make projects easier.

**Get the PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Crochet project

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

**ACROSS**  
1 Swiss peaks  
5 Pleased  
9 Romance  
12 Stead  
13 Misplace  
14 Docs' org.  
15 "So be it"  
16 Makes a choice  
17 Slangy denial  
18 Ego  
19 Old map letters  
20 Diner handout  
21 Vegas opener?  
23 Fuss  
25 Tune  
28 Attention-getting call  
32 Ski resort in Vermont  
33 Disparaging  
34 Banister posts  
36 "Step on it!"  
37 Gun the engine

**DOWN**  
1 Regret-tably  
2 Gimlet  
3 Rind  
4 Van  
5 Shiny, as a photo  
6 Cuts off  
7 Off-course  
8 —  
9 Fades away  
10 Yemen  
11 Waikiki's island  
20 Opal-escents  
22 "19" singer  
24 South Indian crepes  
25 ISP  
26 Tours  
27 Despondent  
29 Smack  
30 Keats creation  
31 — the fields we go ..."  
35 Willowy  
36 Like does and hens  
39 Tubular pasta  
40 Dumb-struck  
41 Seed holders  
43 Starring role  
45 Paper towel brand  
46 Scratched (out)  
47 Actress Russo  
49 Calendar abbr.

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

Yesterday's answer 3-22

Crossword grid for 3-22

**Contract Bridge By Steve Becker**

**A 90% solution**

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 10 9 8  
♥ A K 6  
♦ Q 7 5 2  
♣ 10 8 3

**WEST**  
♠ 5 3 2  
♥ J 10 5 2  
♦ J 10 9 4  
♣ 9 4

**EAST**  
♠ 4  
♥ Q 7 3  
♦ A K 8 6 3  
♣ 7 6 5 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q J 7 6  
♥ 9 8 4  
♦ —  
♣ A K Q J

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass  
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass  
5 ♣ Pass 5 ♥ Pass  
7 ♣  
7 ♠, artificial  
Opening lead — jack of diamonds.

A dummy reversal is relatively easy to execute; the only real difficulty lies in recognizing the opportunity to use it. Consider this deal where South is in seven spades and West leads a diamond. How should declarer play the hand?  
The most obvious approach is to ruff the diamond and draw two

rounds of trump, hoping they are divided 2-2. If they are, the rest is easy enough. Declarer cashes his four club winners, discarding a heart from dummy, and eventually ruffs a heart in dummy to finish with 13 tricks. The objection to this method of play is that it depends almost entirely on finding the opposing trumps divided 2-2, which is only a 40% probability.  
But the alternative line of play — a dummy reversal — will succeed about 90% of the time and is therefore a much better plan of attack. It allows declarer to make the contract whether the opposing trumps break 2-2 or 3-1.  
Accordingly, South ruffs the first diamond high, leads a trump to the eight, ruffs another diamond high and leads a trump to the nine. He then ruffs a third diamond and leads a heart to the king, followed by a fourth diamond ruff and a heart to the ace.  
At this point, South has no trumps in his hand, having led them twice and ruffed four diamonds. When he next cashes the ten of spades, drawing West's last trump, he at the same time disposes of his remaining heart and winds up taking the last four tricks with the A-K-Q-J of clubs. That's all there is to it!

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**Contract Bridge By Steve Becker**

**Famous Hand**

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 5  
♥ 3  
♦ K Q 10 6 5 4  
♣ A Q 7 6 5

**WEST**  
♠ K Q 6 4  
♥ Q 6  
♦ J 9 7 3 2  
♣ J 4

**EAST**  
♠ J 8 7 3 2  
♥ A K 7 5  
♦ A  
♣ 9 8 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A 10 9  
♥ J 10 9 8 4 2  
♦ 8  
♣ K 10 3

The bidding:  
East South West North  
1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ 4 NT  
Pass 5 ♣ Pass Pass

Opening lead — four of clubs.

This deal occurred in the seminal of the 2000 women's world championship in the match between Denmark and the United States. The Americans won the match handily and then lost to the Netherlands in the final by the narrowest margin in world championship history — half an International Match Point.  
The deal illustrates the basic principle that when a partnership has determined during the bidding that it holds the majority of the high cards, and the opponents wind up playing at a high-level contract, a trump lead is frequently very effective.  
The bidding shown took place when the U.S. pair of Jill Meyers and Randi Montin were East-West, respectively. North's four-notrump bid was the "unusual notrump," promising length in the minors. After South stated her preference for clubs, Meyers doubled, ending the auction.  
Montin then led a trump, with devastating effect. Trine Bilde, South, won with the ten and led a diamond to the king and East's ace. East returned a trump, taken in dummy, and Bilde tried to cash the diamond queen, ruffed by East. Regardless of how declarer proceeded, she could score only six trump tricks and the ace of spades — down four for a loss of 800 points.  
At the other table, the bidding was exactly the same, except that East conservatively declined not to double five clubs. West then led the king of spades rather than a trump.  
Renée Mancuso, South, took the spade ace and led a diamond to the king and ace. East cashed a heart and returned a spade, ruffed in dummy. Declarer then embarked on a complete crossruff, scoring eight trumps, the spade ace and the diamond queen (which East unaccountably failed to ruff) to finish down one, -50. The net gain of 750 points gave the U.S. a 13-IMP pickup on the deal.  
Tomorrow: A one-act play.  
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**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

**ACROSS**  
1 New  
5 Insult  
8 "East of Eden" girl  
12 Coffee shop amenity  
14 Insult  
15 Detour, at times  
16 Policy expert  
17 Scratch the surface?  
18 Puts into law  
20 Bo Peep's charges  
23 Slightly open  
24 Cattle group  
25 Military scuba diver  
28 URL ending  
29 Cucumber type  
30 Jury enclosure  
32 Waist-length jackets  
34 Eat in style  
35 From the start

**DOWN**  
4 Appeared to be  
5 French perfume brand  
6 "— tree falls ..."  
7 Moon-lighter's gigs  
8 Teeming, as with  
48 Shown to be false  
49 Grate  
50 Swelled head  
51 Till bills

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

Saturday's answer 3-24

Crossword grid for 3-24

### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



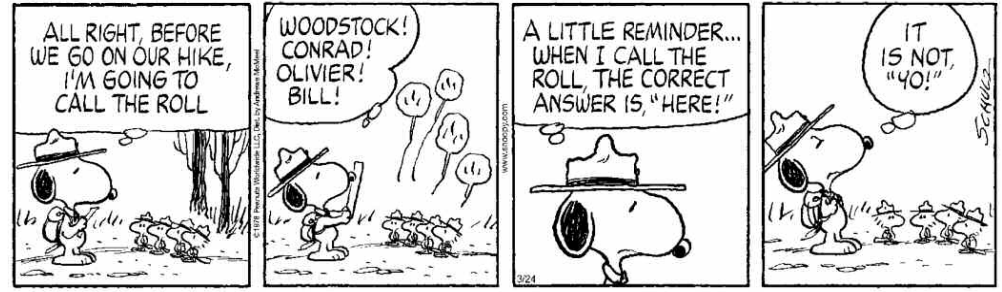
### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



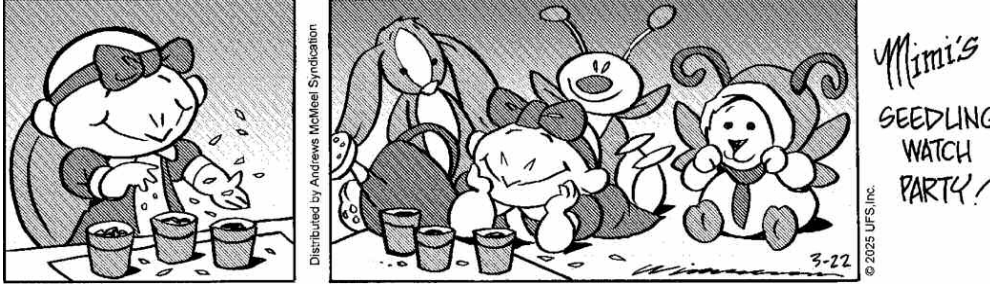
### Peanuts



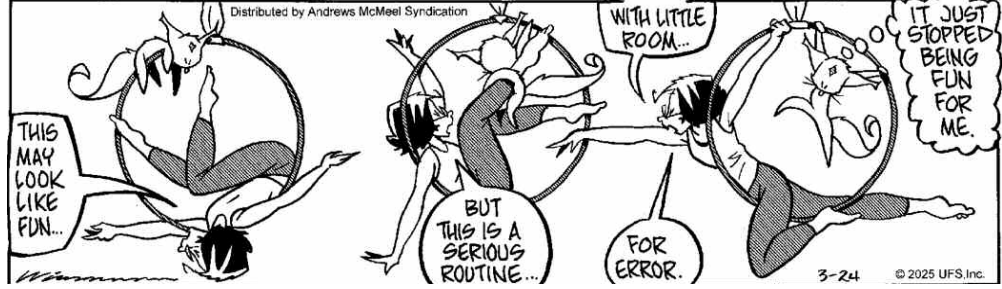
### Peanuts



### Rose is Rose



### Rose is Rose



### Agnes



### Agnes



### Hi and Lois



### Hi and Lois



### Between Friends



### Between Friends



### Blondie



### Blondie



### Snuffy Smith



### Snuffy Smith



### Beetle Bailey



### Beetle Bailey



**We Deliver**

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

**Laughter**

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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## 40 NOTICES

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## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the Jay County Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:00 pm in the conference room of the Community Resource Center, 118 S Meridian Street, Portland, IN 47371. On the agenda will be the establishment of a moratorium on the permitting of battery storage facilities in the County's jurisdictional area to allow for the development of an ordinance establishing standards and regulations for such facilities along with establishing a moratorium on future solar farm development projects to allow for review of Section 219 of the Jay County Zoning Ordinance regarding Solar Energy System Standards. John Hemmelgarn Director/Administrator Jay/Portland Building Department 118 S Meridian Street / Ste E Portland, IN 47371 260-726-6904 March 19, 2025 CR 3-22-2025-HSPAXLP

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## 90 SALE CALENDAR

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TIME 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 5i 3pt Mower. Craftsman Table Saw, Planer, and Radial Arm Saw. 200 gallon Overhead Fuel Tank. Hog Panels.

ANTIQUES-FURNITURE-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 AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2025  
9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 Q 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 Skid-

## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
Notice is hereby given that the Jay County Solid Waste Management District (the "District") will accept sealed proposals at the office, located at 5948 West State Road 67 Portland, Indiana 47371, up to the hour of 4:00 p.m. (local time) on 25th day of April 2025. Notice is further given that a public meeting of the District will be held on 28th day of April 2025 at 3:45 p.m. (local time), at 5948 W St. Rd. 67, Portland, Indiana 47371, at which place the District shall open and consider proposals pursuant to Indiana Code IC 5-22-9, for the design, drawings, plans and specifications for the construction of a new recycling facility. Specifics related to the project can be found in the Request for Proposals (RFP). Copies of the RFP can be found on the district's website jaycosolidwaste.com or requested by emailing jcswd@gmail.com or by calling 260-729-5071. Dated this 24th day of March 2025  
George McGinnis, District Superintendent  
CR 3-22-29-2025-HSPAXLP

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Specializing in metal roofs, decks & more  
FREE Estimates  
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**BOOLMAN'S**  
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.  
Highway 67 W, Portland, Indiana  
260-251-9735

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

loader w/ CHA high flow, 765 hours. International 354 Tractor w/ Bush Hog, International 15i Disc., Kil Brothers 24i 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, 18i Car Hauler Trailer, 16i Enclosed Trailer. MOWERS-RTVS-SUPPORT EQUIPMENT-MISC.  
Kubota 2G 327 Zero turn Mower, Snapper Pro ST50 w/ Bagger, Ryan 24i 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.

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

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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.blplanroom.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 below (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 forfeited 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 contract. 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 ancestry. All out-of-state corporations must have a certificate of authority 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 3-22-2025-HSPAXLP

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**Donna Wendel**  
Cell: 260-251-1077

**BAIL BONDS**  
Travis Weaver  
260-726-3189  
across street from Jail

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**REAL ESTATE PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 722 E Main St, Portland, IN  
Friday Afternoon  
April 11th, 2025  
5:00 P. M.

REAL ESTATE  
This home sits on a 30i x 157i 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 Auctioneer at 260-726-5160.

Personal property to sell immediately following real estate.  
JANICE STUCKY ESTATE  
by Herb Hummel Personal Rep.  
Josh Atkinson Attorney  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608

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**HIRING PART-TIME INSERTER** Hours vary each week. Apply at The Graphic Printing Company i The Commercial Review 309 West Main Street i Portland, IN

## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## 110 HELP WANTED

47371 Office Hours: 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday - Friday NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. Equal opportunity employer.

## 130 MISC. FOR SALE

**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.

**PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE** Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

**ALUMINUM SHEETS** 23"x30" .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side. .35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

## 190 FARMERS COLUMN

**AG RENTAL** Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

## 200 FOR RENT

**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.sycamore.space.com](http://www.sycamore.space.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

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-04  
ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE VII, CHAPTER 71, SCHEDULE IV OF THE JAY COUNTY CODE  
Title VII Chapter 71, Schedule IV, Truck Restriction, is hereby amended to read as follows: RESTRICTIONS WHEN STATE HIGHWAYS ARE CLOSED DUE TO OFFICIAL DETOUR. Trucks, truck-tractors, and semitrailers are prohibited from using any part of the following roads or sections of roads during any period of time when State Highway 26, U.S. Highway 27, or State Highway 18 are subject to an official detour provided by the Indiana Department of Transportation:  
ROAD RESTRICTED SECTION  
State Line Road Between County Road 300 N and County Road 400 S  
County Road 700 E Between County Road 300 N and County Road 400 S  
County Road 600 E Between County Road 300 N and County Road 400 S  
County Road 300 E Between State Highway 26 and County Road 200 S  
County Road 100 E Between the Portland City Limits to County Road 600 E  
Division Road Between U.S. Highway 27 to County Road 600 E  
County Road 100 N Between U.S. Highway 27 to County Road 700 E  
County Road 200 N Between U.S. Highway 27 to State Line Road  
County Road 300 N Between the Portland City Limits to State Highway 26  
County Road 100 S Between U.S. Highway 27 to State Line Road  
County Road 200 S Between U.S. Highway 27 to State Line Road  
County Road 400 S Between State Highway 18 and County Road 650 N  
County Road 50 W Between County Road 50 W and County Road 250 W  
County Road 650 N Between County Road 650 N and State Highway 18  
All other provisions not amended hereby remain in full force and effect.  
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Jay County Commissioners on this 10th day of March, 2025.  
Chad Aker, President  
Jay County Commissioners  
Attest: Emily Franks, Jay County Auditor

## 260 PUBLIC AUCTION

## PUBLIC AUCTION

LOCATED: 3430 W STATE ROAD 67 PORTLAND, IN OR 3 ½ MILES WEST OF PORTLAND AT THE CORNER OF HWY 67 AND COUNTY ROAD 200 S.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH, 2025

9:00 A.M.

**HEAVY EQUIPMENT - FARM TRACTORS - FARM EQUIPMENT**  
Cat 259 D3 Skidloader w/ CHA 1342 hours. Case SR 210B Skidloader w/ CHA high flow, 765 hours. Bobcat S170 w/ CHA, 469 hours. International 354 Tractor w/ Bush Hog, 2246 QT Loader. Antis MC10 mini Excavator. Ford 5000 w/ hyd. Loader. JCV 530B Load All. Great Planes turbo till 1500 Series II. International 460 Disc. International 15' Disc. Deutz 1500 7 Shank Chisel Plow. Kil Brothers 24' Rolling Basket. Hardy 650 gallon Sprayer w/ 60' booms. JD 20' Field Cultivator w/ rolling basket. Kinze 11 row no-till Planter. Bush Hog bat wing Mower. (3) 300 bu. J&M hopper wagons. (2) J&M 250 bu. hopper wagons. New Holland 644 Silage Special Round Baler. Claas 46 Round Baler. Double Chain Elevator. 3pt Drag.

**TRUCKS - TRAILERS - AUTOS**  
2021 Dodge 3500 Single Axel Dump w/ 6.7L Cummins. Boss V Plow. 2019 Dodge 5500 Single Axel Dump w/ 6.7L Cummins. 2005 Chevy 3500 Dump Truck w/ Toolboxes Duramax Diesel. 2005 Ford Single Axel Dump Truck 56,000 miles, 6.0 Diesel. 2000 Ford F450 Single Axel Dump, 7.3L Diesel. 2002 Ford F450 4x4 Single Axel Dump, 7.3L Diesel. 2012 Dodge 2500 Extended Cab 4x4 5.7L Hemi. 2010 Ford F350 4x4 (rebuilt title). 2007 Ford F150 STX 4x4. 2001 Dodge 2500 5.9L w/ Service Body. 2000 Freightliner Semi FL112 w/ C13 CAT Engine. 1996 Volvo Semi Tractor w/ Sleeper. 2005 Ford F350 4x4 w/ 6.0L Diesel flat bed Truck w/ Gooseneck hitch. 2013 Chevy Traverse LT 4x4. 2007 Chevy Blazer 4x4. 2004 Chevy 1500 quad cab 4x4 Pickup. Wilson 42' Grain Trailer. 40' Semi Trailer. Sure Trac 24' w/ 2' Dove 14,000lb Trailer. 18' 10,000lb Trailer w/ ramps. 2001 Cox 7,000lb Trailer w/ ramps. 18' Car Hauler Trailer. 28' Corn Pro 16,000lb Trailer w/ Floating Dove. 24' V Nose Enclosed Trailer. 16' Enclosed Trailer.

**MOWERS - RTVS - SUPPORT EQUIPMENT- MISC.**  
Kubota 2G 327 Zero turn Mower. (2) Snapper Pro 61" w/ Grass Catcher. Snapper Pro ST50 w/ Bagger. Ryan 24" Sod Cutter. Stihl RB 800 Power Washer. Club Car 48 Volt Electric Golf Cart. Premier Pro-Tech & JD 8' Angle Blades. Pallet Forks. Quick Attach Rotary Mower. Cement Mixer. Power Angle Blade. Billygoat Vac. Stihl Chainsaws. (2) Western 2&3 Ton Salt Spreaders. Kwik Way 8' Snow Box. Irrigation Equipment. Premier Hydraulic Postal Auger. Auger Bits. 1,000gall Poly Tank w/ Pump. Large Lot of Landscaping Pavers, Blocks, and Bricks. Approximately 150 Trees including Oak, Maple, Elm, and Pine. Rose Bushes. Shrubs. Misc Plants.

STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD  
TERMS CASH OR GOOD CHECK. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR NO SHOWS.  
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# Sports

## Duke spreads wealth in opener

By STEVE WISEMAN

The News & Observer  
Tribune News Service

RALEIGH, N.C. — Cooper Flagg returned to Duke's starting lineup and everything else got even better from there for the nation's top-ranked team.

With Flagg on the court again after a sprained ankle kept him out of two games, the Blue Devils needed 13 minutes to build a 20-point lead as they rolled to a 93-49 NCAA Tournament first-round win over Mount St. Mary's at Lenovo Center.

The East Region's No. 1 seed, the Blue Devils (32-3) won their 12th consecutive game to advance to Sunday's second round and a matchup with No. 9 seed Baylor (20-14). The Bears, with former Duke guard Jeremy Roach, edged Mississippi State, 75-72, in Friday's first game.

Flagg hadn't appeared in a Duke game since March 13, when he fell to the court in pain with a sprained ankle during his team's 78-70 ACC Tournament quarterfinal win over Georgia Tech. The Blue Devils won the ACC championship two nights later, even though Flagg, the ACC player of the year, wasn't in uniform for the semifinals and final.



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Jared C. Tilton

Cooper Flagg (2) of the Duke Blue Devils and teammates react during the second half in the first round of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament against the Mount St. Mary's Mountaineers at Lenovo Center on Friday in Raleigh, North Carolina.

But the 6-9 phenom returned to practice full speed by Wednesday, signaling he was healthy enough to return to the lineup. He showed no ill-effects from

the injury. Though Duke coach Jon Scheyer gave him frequent breaks during the first half and a longer one after half-time due to the lopsided

score, Flagg scored 14 points with seven rebounds and four assists in 22 minutes of play. Scheyer removed Flagg from the game for good with 10:53 to

play and Duke leading by 32.

Tyrese Proctor's 19 points paced Duke, which shot 60.6% in the first half to open a 54-28 halftime lead

and finished at 50% from the field for the game. After hitting six 3-pointers when Duke beat Louisville, 73-62, in last Saturday's ACC Tournament final, Proctor made six of eight 3-point attempts against Mount St. Mary's.

Proctor fell just shy of Duke's school record for 3-pointers in an NCAA Tournament game, which is eight by Jared McCain last year against James Madison.

Freshman center Khaman Maluach scored 11 points while hitting all five of his shots from the field, including a 3-pointer. Caleb Foster scored 12 points off the bench as Duke hit 14 3-pointers.

Mount St. Mary's shot 30.2% from the field, making 5 of 27 3-pointers (18.5%).

Playing in the same building where a previous Blue Devils team, seeded No. 3, lost 78-71 to Mercer in the 2014 NCAA Tournament, this Duke squad handled its business without drama.

Duke blitzed Mount St. Mary's from the start, never trailing while hitting five of its first six shots to lead 13-3. Proctor had two of his 3-pointers during that opening push.

## Former player: Knight knew about allegations

By STEVE HENSON

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Former Lakers player Butch Carter submitted sworn testimony in federal court Thursday as part of an existing class action lawsuit alleging that he was sexually abused by former University of Indiana team physician Bradford Bomba Sr. nearly 50 years ago.

Carter, 66, states that he

reported Bomba's conduct to former coach Bob Knight and to school officials, but that no action was taken. Carter is the fifth former Indiana player to come forward with allegations that Bomba subjected them to "medically unnecessary, invasive and sexually abusive rectal examinations."

Attorneys for two of the players — Haris Mujezinovic and Charlie Miller — filed the Title IX lawsuit, and a judge com-

pelled Bomba, 88, to sit for a deposition Dec. 4. Bomba, however, refused to answer as many as 45 questions about his alleged conduct and his conversations with Knight, citing his 5th Amendment protection against self-incrimination.

The lawsuit was amended this month to include Carter and names Indiana University trustees and longtime head athletic trainer Tim Garl as defendants. Knight, who led Indiana

to three national championships in 29 seasons despite his infamously volatile coaching style, died in 2023 at age 83. Neither he nor Bomba are named as defendants.

Bomba was the team doctor for most of Knight's tenure, which ended when the coach was fired in 2000. The lawsuit alleges that athletes were required to see Bomba for their physicals and that the doctor routinely performed prostate exams on them,

which the suit says are unnecessary for college-age men.

Bomba reported to Garl, who is still employed at Indiana.

"Garl had actual knowledge of and facilitated and participated in Dr. Bomba, Sr.'s wrongful conduct by continuing to assign IU's student athletes to Dr. Bomba, Sr. for physical examinations with knowledge that, when he did so, Dr. Bomba, Sr. would sexually assault those students," the lawsuit alleges.

Get to Know

# INDIANA SECRETARY OF STATE







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**TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2026**

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**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026**



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