## Wednesday, April 2, 2025

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

## Jay stays among lower rates

County's unemployment came in at at 4.1% in *February* 

## **BV RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review No change was good news for the county in February.

Jay County's unemployment rate stayed at 4.1% in February according to estimates Indiana Department of Workforce Development released Monday afternoon.

The stable rate kept Jay County in the lowest third for unemployment in the state, ranking tied for 26thlowest among the 92 counties. It was tied for 25th lowest in January after consistently being in the upper half of unemployment rates over the previous couple of years.

The local rate was the same as in February 2024.

The last two months have been a significant improvement for Jav County as compared to the rest of the state. It was consistently among the lowest third, and sometimes better, in Indiana for years, including tying for the 12th-lowest rate in June 2021. Its performance began to slip in the second half of 2021, moving near the middle and then consistently in the upper half until January. (It was tied

# **Options reviewed**



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay School Board members were presented Monday with three options for the Harold E. Schutz Memorial Stadium grandstand — \$723,380 to make repairs to extend its life for 10-plus years, \$1.7 million to replace the grandstand with bleachers in the same location or \$2.1 million to take down the current grandstand and move the home bleachers to the opposite side of the field. The options were part of an overall discussion regarding a potential capital improvement project at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. The other big-ticket items being discussed include the heating, ventilation and cooling system (replacing the control system), upgrading the electrical service and replacing the pool's dehumidification unit.

## **Board considers project possibilities**

## **By RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review School board members reviewed information about finances and facilities.

They have more questions before any decisions can be made.

During a work session Monday, Jay School Board members brought up or heard questions regarding the food service area, tennis courts, track and stadium grandstand as part of a discussion about a potential capiCounty Junior-Senior High School.

The board heard a review of information that had been presented to it over the last few months, including that bonds from previous projects will be repaid in the next few years. That is projected to provide the school corporation about \$18.3 million in bonding capacity without raising the tax rate, according to details from consulting and accounting firm Baker Tilly. (All other outstand-

from a building study by engineering and architecture firm Barton Coe Vilamaa that rated exterior steel work, the pool roof and dehumidification system, water mains, building controls (for heating/cooling), the main electrical panel and noncompliant guardrails as high priorities. It also reviewed other areas that have been suggested for improvements, including the band/choir areas, auditorium curtains, TV

It also looked at information practice areas and outdoor athletic facilities.

> Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley noted that the goal is to sustain the building, which houses 43% of the corporation's students, for the long term and to improve functionality in some areas.

"It's not set in stone," he said. "There's things that could come on the list. There's things that could come off the list. There's things that could be modified."

See **Options** page 5

for the 29th-highest rate in the state in November.)

The state's unemployment rate came in at 4.1% in February. That was down 0.4 percentage points from January and down 0.3 percentage points from February 2024.

Howard County continued to struggle in the unemployment statistics, coming in with the highest rate in the state at 7.1%. Lake (6.7%), Crawford (6.6%) and Starke (6.6%) counties were next. Each of the other 88 counties came in at under 6%.

Union County claimed the lowest rate in the state for the second month in a row at 3.2%. Boone, Daviess and Hamilton counties were again tied for second at 3.4%.

unemployment Area rates are as follows:

Adams County: 4.2%, up 0.1 percentage points, tied for 28th-lowest

Blackford County: 5.3%, down 0.3 percentage points, tied for 10th-highest

Delaware County: 4.9%, no change, tied for 18thhighest

Jay County: 4.1%, no change, tied for 26th-lowest

Randolph County: 5.2%, up 0.3 percentage points, tied for 13th-highest

Wells County: 3.7%, down 0.1 percentage points, tied for seventhlowest

tal improvement project at Jay ing bonds will be repaid in 2033.) studio, food service, wrestling

## **Contracts inked for rehab program**

## **Bv BAILEY CLINE**

The Commercial Review More owner-occupied rehabilitation program projects construction could begin soon.

Jay County Commissioners signed contracts Monday with contractors and homeowners involved in the \$1 million project intended to help local residents pay for home improvements.

They also heard about a few grant opportunities.

## Projects can involve water heaters, roofs, electrical and heating and cooling

Office of Community and Rural Affairs grant for taking part in the Hoosier

owner-occupied rehabili-

Jay County received an process for federal coron- roof, water heater or heatavirus relief dollars. The ing ventilation and air conditioning unit replacetation program was creat- ments, electrical work or Enduring Legacy Pro- ed using those funds. Pro- upgrades to make a home gram (HELP) planning posed work may include more accessible. Projects

are limited to \$25,000 per household.

Nearly a year ago, in May and June 2024, the county accepted applications for the program and received more than 100 submissions.

Jodi Golden of engineering company Egis of Indianapolis — the firm inspects each home proposed for the project - shared contracts Monday.

See Contracts page 2



Tribune News Service/MLive.com/Joel Bissell

## **Storms** slam

A barn collapsed along 92nd Street SE in Gaines Township, Michigan, in severe storms that caused widespread damage Sunday afternoon. Four deaths were reported after a massive line of storms swept across Michigan beginning late Sunday afternoon, sparking of chain severe а thunderstorm warnings and tornado warnings.

## Weather

Temperatures were cooler Monday with a high temperature of 57 degrees. The low was 35. Highs had been in the 70s the previous three days.

Rain is expected tonight with a chance of thunderstorms and winds gusting to 40 miles per hour. The low will be in the upper 50s.

Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with a high in the upper 60s and a 50% chance of rain.

At least a 40% chance of rain is in the forecast through Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

## In review

Jay County Public Library will celebrate Earth Day with a recycling art event at 4 p.m. Thursday, April 3, in its Community Room. Children in first through sixth grade are invited to come and create art from items including magazines, water bottles, cans and egg cartons.

## **Coming up**

**Thursday** — Results from the FRHS baseball game against Franklin Monroe.

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.



## Felony arrests

## **Domestic battery**

A Portland man was arrested Sunday for domestic battery. Matthew C. Osterhold, 40, 620

N. Commerce St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for the alleged crime.

He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

## **Drug possession**

A Portland man was arrested

Monday for possession of methamphetamine and related charges.

Mark A. Reinhart, 61, 1152 W. Collett Drive, is charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 5 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance and Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

He was being held on a \$5,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

## **Probation violation**

Two Indiana residents were arrested Monday for violating their probation.

Andrew J. Bailey, 36, 209 W. Seventh St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced released from jail on a \$450 bond.

in August to 545 days in Jay County Jail with 180 days suspended and given 166 days credit. A petition alleging he violated the conditions of his probation was filed in court Monday. He was also charged in Jay Superior Court in a separate case Friday with two Level 6 felonies for resisting law enforcement and domestic battery. Bailey was

Stephanie A. Reed, 35, 1042 Susan St., Auburn, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced in January to 545 days in jail with 533 days suspended and given 12 days credit. A petition alleging she violated the conditions of her probation was filed in court Monday. Reed was released from jail on a \$500 bond.

Thursday 4/3	Friday 4/4	Saturday 4/5	Sunday 4/6	Monday 4/7
		-		Q
66/44	56/47	54/41	46/31	44/26
Another day of rain with a 70% chance of showers. Thunder- storms are possible.	Mostly cloudy, with a 40% chance of rain. Tempera- tures may hit the upper 50s.	More rain is in the forecast for Saturday with highs in the upper 50s.	Sunday's weather looks to be rainy and cool, with a 50% chance of showers and lows near freezing.	Mostly sunny on Monday with highs in the lower 40s.

## Powerball

Quick Draw: 6-8-11-15-Monday 16-18-19-24-26-31-45-49-51-12-41-44-52-64 54-58-61-65-70-74-75 Power Ball: 25 Power Play: 2 Cash 5: 3-9-15-28-40 Estimated jackpot: Estimated jackpot: \$30 \$85,000 million

Ohio

22-38

\$150,000

Monday

Midday

Evening

Pick 3: 0-7-0

Pick 3: 0-6-2

Estimated

Pick 4: 9-0-6-5

Pick 5: 6-9-4-8-2

Rolling Cash: 3-14-21-

jackpot:

Pick 4: 6-2-2-4

Pick 5: 6-7-0-2-5

## **Mega Millions**

Estimated jackpot: \$29
million

## Hoosier

Monday Midday Daily Three: 8-1-4 Daily Four: 7-1-8-1 Quick Draw: 8-13-18-22-23-29-30-32-33-34-36-52-54-55-60-63-70-71-72-75 Evening Daily Three: 4-7-3

## **Markets**

Cooper Farms	May beans10.18
Fort Recovery	Wheat 4.91
Corn4.57	ADM
May corn4.61	Montpelier
June corn4.70	Corn4.63
POET Biorefining Portland Corn4.80 May corn4.80	May corn         4.65           Beans         10.15           May beans         10.18           Wheat         5.10

## Contracts

They were from Dave's Heating and Cooling of Portland (six projects

reviewing bids, 10 of the 23 properties received bids meeting the criteria. Egis proposed accepting 14 bids totaling \$154,122.75.

Golden asked commissioners to sign contracts with the companies, as well as contracts with each of the homeowners participating in the program. Once work is completed, next steps would include sending an inspector to homes.

Commissioners agreed to sign the contracts.

Also Monday, Jay County community coordinator Darlesia Lee and East Central Indiana Regional Planning District community development planner Matthew Nichols shared information about the Safe Streets and Roads For All federal grant.

Nichols explained the grant program came about through the 2021 federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, allotting \$5 billion in appropriated funds between 2022 and 2026. It's intended to fund initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries, with almost \$2 billion remaining for regional, local or tribal entities.

Nichols noted East Central Indiana Regional Planning District has already received funds for planning through the grant. (According to its website, it was awarded \$400,000 to benefit Delaware, Grant, Blackford and Jay counties.) He shared plans to create a region-wide action plan across the four counties, highlighting top safety projects to complete. Nichols said the planning district

then aims to go after additional grant funding to pay for those projects.

He shared hopes for Jay County to get involved with a region steering committee, asking for three to four representatives. Commissioners president Chad Aker agreed to serve on the committee and suggested Nichols and Lee reach out to Jay County Sheriff's Office, Jay Emergency Medical Service and Portland Police Department for additional representation.

Commissioners were also reminded by Lee and Autumn Marshall of East Central Indiana Regional Planning District about the digital equity capacity grant through Indiana Broadband Office.

The grant is intended to fund programs promoting internet adoption and availability in Indiana communities, according to its website.

Lee noted Jay County Public Library has created a survey to weigh the community's needs on the matter. Commissioners agreed to sign a letter of support for the grant application.

In other business, commissioners: •Heard concerns from residents Bob Lyons and Greg Miller about pending legislation regarding energy facilities. Lyons shared worries about commissioners considering a moratorium on battery storage facilities and solar farms, as well as restrictive ordinances for such facilities in Jay County. He asked them to listen to experts in the field before making a decision. Lyons and Miller also voiced opposition to setting up tax increment financing (TIF) districts around solar farms, with Lyons saying it takes money away from the school corporation and Miller saying the residents living in the same area as solar farms should see the benefit on their taxes.

•Approved the following: paying \$9,885 for an updated wireless "panic" system at Jay County Jail; purchasing discounted stone material for roads from US Aggregates at a cost of \$8 per ton, a \$4.50 per ton savings from the current rate; a farming bid with Chris Muhlenkamp for the county's 68 acres on the west edge of Portland at \$420 per acre; and buying a \$5,900 Ricoh copier for Jay County Health Department.

•Gave permission to the highway department to purchase a new truck chassis — estimated at \$141,000 later this year utilizing dollars from the 2026 budget. Dan Stocker of Stoops Freightliner in New Haven talked about the state of the current commercial vehicle market, noting significant price increases looming in the future because of a potential steel tariff and stricter emissions requirements through Environmental Protection Agency.

•Heard a request from Jay County Country Living advisory board president Cindy Bracy to sell the facility's farming equipment. Commissioners asked Bracy to send them a list of the items, with plans to potentially offer them at an auction this spring along with other county department items and equipment.

•OK'd Jay County Health Department to apply for an annual immunization grant estimated at \$4,467.68 and Jay County Community Corrections to apply for its annual funding grant through the state.

 Heard Jay Emergency Medical Service's financial breakdown for February from director Gary Barnett. The department had \$162,450.62 in expenses and \$68,062.86 in income.

•Gave permission to open Jay County Courthouse from 1 to 5 p.m. May 17 for restroom usage during the Arch Bridge Kroozers Car Club event.

•Paid claims, including \$264,626 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars to Motorola for new body and vehicle cameras at Jay County Sheriff's Office and \$11,186.55 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars to US Aggregates for highway bridge repairs.

## **Capsule Reports**

**Turning accident** 

ter line, according to a .lav went east off the road and lost control of her van. She struck a pole regisenth streets in Portland and left the scene about 2:26 p.m. Thursday. tered to Jay County REMC, causing the pole to split in half, and also hit an address sign. The accident also damaged Rvan Fifer's vard.



of

newspaper roll ends

## Continued from page 1

for a total \$49,495), Mustard Seed Remodeling of Portland (four projects for a total \$67,427.75), Fortitude Design and Consulting of Evansville (two projects for a total \$29,000) and Air Xray of New Haven (two projects for a total \$8,200).

The representative said after

June corn4.78	Heartland
The Andersons	St. Anthony Corn4.57
<b>Richland Township</b>	May corn4.62
Corn4.71	Beans9.90
May corn4.71	May beans9.90
Beans10.18	

is now Florida.

In 1792, the United day. States passed The Mint Act, establishing dol- a German sculptor and lars as the United painter known for States currency. A majority of global tionality, was born. trade today is measured in U.S. dollars.

"First Beethoven's that day also included works from Haydn and Mozart.

Petersburg, Virginia. A prime-time dramas. Union victory, the bat-

In 1513, Juan Ponce tle marked the fall of de Leon of Spain land- the Confederacy's capied on the coast of what tal, Richmond. Troops evacuated the city that

> In 1891, Max Ernst, advocating art irra-In 1968, "2001: A

red in U.S. dollars. Space Odyssey," pre-In 1800, Ludwig van miered worldwide. The film, directed by Stan-Symphony" premiered ley Kubrick, touched at the Burgtheater in on human evolution, Vienna. The program technology and extraterrestrial life.

In 1978, soap opera "Dallas" debuted on In 1865, Ulysses S. television. The popular Grant's army attacked series led the way for the Confederates at the development of

— The CR

rontiant complained of head pain Office report. Ramirez after an unknown driver crashed into the back of her car at the intersection of Meridian and Sev-

Linda Kelly, 57, was driving her 2005 Buick LeSabre on Meridian Street when she stopped to turn east onto Seventh Street. She told police a vehicle behind her rearended her before speeding off.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500and \$5,000.

#### Lost control

An Illinois woman lost control of her van and crashed into a utility pole along county road 50 West in rural Bryant about 5:28 a.m. Monday.

Yuleyda V. Ramirez, 43, Romeoville, was driving her 2006 GMC Savana south on the road near county road 800 North when she crossed the cen-

**Discounts Available All Day:** 

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1111 N. Meridian St. • Portland, IN 47371

260-726-4210

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The van was towed.

## **SERVICES**

Thursday Upp, William: 4 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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



Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8141 Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

**The News-Gazette** 

Winchester, Indiana

**The News Times** 

Hartford City, Indiana

## Citizen's calendar

#### Today

7 a.m. — Jay County Health Board, health department office, 504 W. Arch St., Portland.

#### Thursday

4 p.m. — Portland of Board Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

Commission, Plan Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian April 9 St.

## Monday

5:30 p.m. — Portland Court St., Portland.

City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St., Portland. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S.

Main St.

#### Tuesday

6 p.m. – Ridgeville Town Council, fire 5:30 p.m. — Portland department, 302 N. Walnut St.

6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N.

## P 0001 DATE MARCH 20 2025 GUESS PAY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB \$ 1,000 00 TO THE ORDER OF Jour Thousand and %100 DOLLARS Jay Stall MEMO

## **Club awarded**

Portland Elks recently awarded two Portland nonprofits with grants. Pictured at left, Boys and Girls Club programs at Jay Community Center received \$5,000.

Photo provided

## Ex-wife has carried secret for two decades endured. My son speaks to me death and what is in it. Then band nor I have heard from

Family

DEAR ABBY: I was married to a police officer for 20 years. It wasn't a warm marriage. We divorced 20 years ago. Our one child is in his late 30s. I always put my son first and loved him with all my heart.

During the last year of my marriage, my ex was poisoning my coffee. After drinking my one cup of afternoon coffee, my heart rate would go as high as 200 beats a minute until I passed out. When I woke up, the rate would be back to normal. I set up a camcorder and captured him putting something in the well of the coffee pot. At the time, we had half a million dollars in life insurance on me. This poisoning had been hap-



year until I finally figured it out.

I didn't confront my husband and moved out immediately. I told no one except my mother. I did not tell my son because I wanted to protect him from knowing something so horrible about his dad. My son has hated me ever since the divorce because I received half his friend or your lawyer that dad's pension. I never disclosed you have a safe deposit box with complications. It has been pening on and off for about a the physical and mental abuse I you want opened upon your two weeks, and neither my hus-

only once or twice a year, and when he does, he is very unkind. My heart is broken over this. I believe I should have told him about this a long time ago, but I'm afraid even with the proof of the recording, no one would have believed a police officer would do such a thing. I didn't want my son to have to live with the knowledge. That recording is in a safety deposit box at the bank. Should I destroy it? — SURVIVED IN THE EAST

DEAR SURVIVED: No, you should not destroy the recording. Tell a trusted

and the copy sent to your son. whole story instead of only his father's side of it.

DEAR ABBY: My brother-inlaw and his wife are expecting their first child. My husband and I are happy for them. We recently shared that we are expecting our first child two months after them. They were surprised but seemed excited for us to be raising children of similar age.

Unfortunately, the next day, I suffered a miscarriage and was hospitalized the following week

have that recording copied them. We know they are aware of what happened. It surprises He deserves to know the me they wouldn't check in or even send a text message. What should we make of their lack of contact? — FUTURE MAMA IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR FUTURE MAMA: What you should make of their lack of contact is that they may not know what to say to you. They could suffer from a form of survivor guilt because their pregnancy is progressing. Because they are extended family, the chances are great that you'll be seeing them again. Raising the subject then would be appropriate if you feel the need.

## **Community Calendar**

Notices will appear in news@thecr.com.

#### Today

— Will meet at 8 a.m. in

Community Calendar as long-term care or sufferspace is available. To sub- ing from an illness, the mit an item, email group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Well-WEDNESDAY MORN- ness Pavilion in Berne. will meet from 6:30 to 8 ING BREAKFAST CLUB For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) Redkey United Methodist support group for par-589-4496. COMMUNITY REIN-FORCEMENT AND FAM-ILY TRAINING — A nonconfrontational, evidence-based intervention helping families for affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland. **ÅL-ANON** FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of SUPPORT alcoholics, will meet at — For anyone 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday who's lost a loved one or in the Zion Lutheran

has a spouse living in Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, p.m. each Wednesday at

CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A

# Consumer Cellular

the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

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

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

SINGLES AND SEPA-RATES GROUP

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

**Tuesday's Solution** 

Level: Intermediate

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

	Tuesday's Solution												
I	1	6	9	5	2	8	3	4	7				
	7	2	4	6	9	3	5	1	8				
I	3	8	5	7	4	1	2	9	6				
I	9	3	1	2	8	7	4	6	5				
	5	7	2	4	6	9	8	3	1				
I	8	4	6	1	3	5	7	2	9				
I	4	5	8	9	1	2	6	7	3				
	2	9	3	8	7	6	1	5	4				
I	6	1	7	3	5	4	9	8	2				

Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. who have lost a baby For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

#### Thursday

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

LIONS PORTLAND

ents, friends and relatives through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

## Friday

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) 251-3259

SOFT SHOULDERS -A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne.



## DIA MINLLIJJ VUJI.

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## Opinion

## Page 4

# Baseball is for the love of the game

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from April 1, 2015. These columns are among my favorites. Just about every spring, Jack would write about plans for or experiences at a Minor League baseball game in Fort Wayne. I often (always) teased him about the situations, which were often marked by cold, rainy or otherwise inclement weather.

## By JACK RONALD

The Commercial Review

You know, I said to my wife a few weeks back, if we lived somewhere that had spring training going on, we would have been to a couple of ballgames by now.

You know, she responded, we would also be warmer.

It's been one of those winters. Not nearly as bad as the one a year ago, at least not for those of us in Indiana and Ohio, but no cakewalk either.



and February monitoring the situation in Boston, where two of our three daughters reside with their husbands and our grandchildren. That three meant countless hours watching Jim Santori and the other gab-meisters on The Weather Channel. Each storm had a new name, and none of them were friendly.

For our twins, it became "this weekend's snowstorm" after awhile. Shoveled walks looked like tunnels or routes in a maze. We spent much of January Public transport — critical how green grass can be.

when it comes to getting around Boston — was intermittent.

So, when we would get 5 inches of snow in Jay County, the two of us would remember that the kids were dealing with well over 5 feet. It helped to keep things in perspective.

of spring training trickled in, I couldn't help catching a bit of baseball fever. When Brent Harring of the TinCaps stopped by for his annual visit, it was all I could do to remember that winter was still with us. I was that ready for the first pitch.

I'm not exactly sure when we became a baseball family.

Maybe it was the first time my father took me to see the Reds at Crosley Field. Anyone who has ever visited a major league ballpark knows the rush of that amazing moment when you see

Maybe it was on those September afternoons when my wife's father would listen to his beloved Cardinals on the radio, imagining the game, picturing each pitch, each hit, each pick-off play to first base.

Maybe it was when my old All the same, as initial reports friend Jim Klopfenstein recommended that I read some essays by Roger Angell, one of the finest sportswriters to have ever walked the planet. Angell connected me to the poetry in the game, its timelessness.

Maybe it was my first trip to Wrigley Field or Comiskey, again with my father.

Maybe it was the poet Donald Hall, who spent some quality time with the Pittsburgh Pirates in their glory days and who wrote splendidly about the game and its meaning in his life.

Probably it was all of those.

we lived in Indianapolis we could spend only a few bucks and be entertained for an afternoon or an evening by the Indians when they were a Reds affiliate, watching some future Hall of Fame members and knowing they could hear us when we called their names in encouragement.

It didn't hurt when the Wizards, now the TinCaps, put good minor league baseball closer at hand.

And it sure didn't hurt to have the Portland Rockets keeping the sandlot, love-of-the-game tradition alive. No salaries, no fireworks, just bring your own lawn chair and enjoy the game. What could be better than that?

Nothing I can think of at the moment.

It's April. Baseball is on the horizon, as inevitable as the longdelayed spring, and we couldn't It didn't hurt that back when be readier for the first pitch.

## Turn up heat on monopoly utilities

#### **By VICTORIA LEE** OtherWords

The utility bill that almost broke me was \$2,200.

You've probably heard the statistic that most Americans can't afford a \$500 emergency. But hardly anyone talks about how bills have electricity become that emergency for families like mine - and all because of corporate greed.

I always thought utilities were government agencies like the DMV. Yet when I did my research, I found out I was wrong. It turns out that NV Energy, the socalled "public utility" that wreaks havoc on my household finances, is part of a for-profit corporation called Berkshire Hathaway Energy (BHE). But it's not just a problem in my state of Nevada. Seventh-two percent of Americans are forced to get their energy from for-profit, monopoly utilities like mine.

Monopoly utilities are a reliable moneymaker for shareholders, because federal and state regulators allow them an average 10 percent return on equity. These corporations then raise our rates to pay for political lobbying and to expand fossil fuel infra- build these plants. Second, structure, rather than to subsidize big tech. investing in cheap and Third, to rebuild the dirty, renewable energy like expensive, unreliable grid solar and wind. It reached 120 degrees in knocks it down. Nevada last summer. Every time I plugged in my fan to cool down, it made my anxiety rise because I already couldn't afford my electric bill. When I learned our rate hikes weren't out of necessity but simply to reward ultrawealthy investors like Buffett, it felt like a punch in the gut. Energy is a basic human need. We all need to keep our lights on, stay cool in the summer, and warm up in the winter. Yet a third of U.S. families like mine struggle to pay our energy bills, so we often must choose between food or medicine and energy every month. So for our vulnerable family, friends, and community members, not having power is more than an inconvenience. If they need dialysis, a respiratory device, or a mobility aid to survive, it's a matter of life and death.

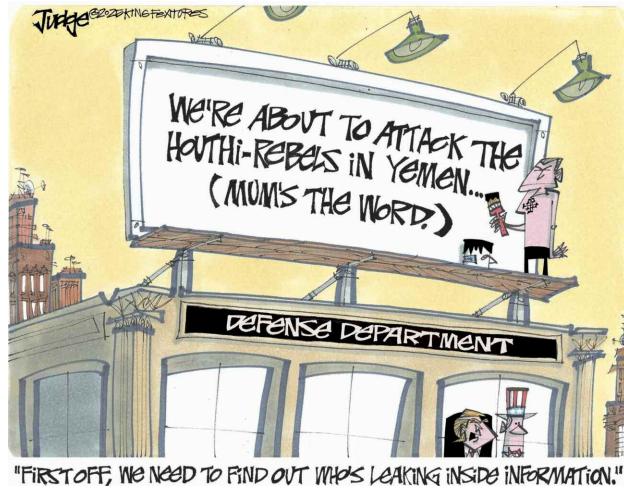


sunny as mine. Yet NV Energy doesn't take advantage of all this free power to lower our bills. Instead, they burn fossil fuels to generate electricity, which powers a vicious cycle.

Their pipelines and gas plants pollute our air, water, and homes, and intensify climate catastrophes. And when deadly wildfires — like the ones in Reno last November strike, they cause costly damage.

Now NV Energy even wants ordinary ratepayers to fund fire insurance for fires they make worse with their own dirty fossil fuels. All while our utility bills go up and up.

Energy demand is rising everywhere because of AI and big tech data centers. And across the country, utilities are charging us billions to build new gas and fossil fuel plants. We're paying the price many times over. First, to after a climate catastrophe Enough is enough. Our power bills are already too damn high, and the only way any of this will change is if we demand it. That's why starting on April 1, which climate activists call "Fossil Fools Day," folks like me who are headed into hot summers, hurricane season, and being threatened with disconnection are mobilizing 'Lights Out on Monopoly Power" actions - and organizing to hold greedy corporations like BHE accountable. It's time for monopoly utilities to get out of the dirty, unreliable, and expensive fossil fuel business. So that as long as the sun is in the sky and the wind blows, we can all get clean and reliable energy, with bills we can afford.



## Europe needs more than money

## **Bloomberg Opinion**

Tribune News Service Europe finally appears serious Guest about rearming. German legisla-

orative in 2021, well below even the modest target of 35%.

Nations with often very different ideas of what constitutes security

corporations Private pain in this way, especially *network* of *community* in a state as windy and organizing groups.

#### .....

Lee is a mother of two from Las Vegas, where she is active with the Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada (PLAN), part of should never profit off our the People's Action national

tors have agreed to exempt defense from constitutional limits on debt spending. The European Commission is urging members to raise military budgets to 3% of gross domestic product and issue joint debt to fund weapons purchases moves that could unlock more than €800 billion (\$867 billion) in additional spending over four vears.

If European leaders are to build truly capable militaries that no longer depend on the U.S., however, they'll need to change how they spend on defense, not just how much.

To be effective, any new funds must be deployed strategically, efficiently and cooperatively something Europe has historically struggled to manage. Billions in joint European Union funding for COVID relief, for instance, were allegedly lost to fraud and waste; accountability has been a problem.

Past defense buildups have fueled fragmentation rather than cooperation. European militaries field 29 different types of major warships, 27 howitzers, 20 fighter jets and 17 main battle tanks. By comparison, the U.S. operates four, two, six and one, respectively. This overlap inflates costs and dilutes effectiveness. Consolidation alone could free up 30% more resources, the European Defense Agency estimates.

Despite its plethora of platforms, Europe continues to rely on European procurement was collab-

## Editoriai

the U.S. for capabilities that are core to its security, including airlift, missile defense, precisionguided munitions, and intelligence and surveillance systems. Over the past decade, European nations spent \$100 billion on U.S.-made arms. Almost two-thirds of imports by European NATO states from 2020 to 2024 came from the U.S.

The immediate task must be to shore up Ukraine's defenses. Allowing the country to falter would create instability on Europe's doorstep, weaken deterrence, embolden Russia and ultimately require even greater defense expenditure. Realistically, that means some of the new funds will also have to be spent on U.S.made artillery, missile-defense systems and other capabilities while European factories gear up.

Achieving genuine defense autonomy will demand deeper reforms, many outlined in a white paper issued by the commission last week. The top priority is to rationalize procurement. European countries too often invest in platforms unsuited for modern combat or which are not the best use of available resources (the UK's aircraft carrier fleet is a case in point). Notably, only 18% of

will quickly have to agree on a defense concept. Leaders must confront national protectionism headon, promoting policies that favor integration and interoperability over continued duplication. (The Eurofighter aircraft and MBDA Missile Systems Services SAS, the pan-European joint venture in missile manufacturing, show cooperation at scale is possible.)

Next, European manufacturers will require stable, long-term defense contracts. Companies will only invest in building sustainable industrial capacity and developing a skilled workforce if they can count on a predictable pipeline of orders.

Finally, Europe's defense sector must attract more private-sector investment. Venture capital flows lag considerably behind those in the U.S. Clear regulatory frameworks and targeted tax breaks can help spur innovations in emerging technologies such as drone, cyber and electronic warfare.

While the commission can encourage such changes, only national capitals, combining forces, can see them through. Existing NATO infrastructure offers one ready means of coordination. Having long called on its allies to do more while paradoxically discouraging a European defense identity that would pull orders from American firms, the US should welcome and support the process. It, too, will be stronger if Europe spends more on its defense — and spends better.

**The Commercial Review** HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus US PS 125820

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## Local/World

## **Prescott** was House sponsor of measure

#### By LESLIE **BONILLA MUNIZ** Indiana Capital Chronicle

indianacapitalchronicle.com Legislation adding political party affiliations to Indiana's currently nonpartisan school board elec-

tions got one step closer to law Monday, when it narearned House rowly approval. The 54-40 tally included "no" votes from 14 Republicans and all 26 Democrats present.

Supporters maintained the locally chosen boards are already partisan.

'Just in the last few years, we've had issues that've been brought to the forefront ... One party is saying it's okay that biological males can compete with our daughters ... in sports; another party is pushing against that," began Rep. Jim Lucas, R-Seymour. "One party thinks it's okay to sterilize and mutilate children; another party is pushing against that. One party thinks it's okay that we have pornography —

Infuriated Democrats alleged a violation of the chamber's rules, prompting a command from House Speaker Pro Tempore Mike Karickhoff for Lucas to "speak to the bill."

that we know who is run- tions.



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta, D-Fort Wayne, standing to the right, calls a point of order during an address from Rep. Jim Lucas, R-Seymour. Legislation that would add political party affiliations to school board elections passed the Indiana House by a 54-40 vote on Monday.

ning for our school boards (and) making decisions for our children that have been extremely controversial," Lucas finished. "... This is an easy vote.'

Rep. Cherrish Pryor, D-Indianapolis, said Lucas' remarks showed lawmakers are "injecting" politics into school board races "at a level that is truly beneath us.'

She also recalled that many supporters in committee were unsuccessful school board candidates "I think it's important who had lost in recent elec-

Pryor and other opponents — despite the vote, only Democrats spoke on Monday — asserted the changes would create or exacerbate the partisan divide.

"The whole premise of this bill is, 'Ah, there's politics in the schools. Let's just put more politics in ... and make everybody be a politician that runs for the school board," said Rep. Chuck Moseley, D-Portage. "Well, I spent nine years on the school board, and ... we kept politics out of that." J.D. Sponsor Rep.

Prescott, R-Union City, said Senate Bill 287 would "provide transparency" to vot-ers and drive up Indiana's infamously low turnout.

But Rep. Kyle Miller, D Fort Wayne, asserted that it'd instead create "lazy voters and lazy candidates" who rely on partisan designations to do the work — of researching candidates and campaigning to community members - for them.

Prescott later called the affiliations "just the starting point, not the ending adding, "When point."

you're looking at Republican or Democrat on the ballot, you still have to go through and evaluate the candidates themselves for who they are.'

Rep. Kyle Pierce, R-Anderson, said Prescott 'has done a great job to find a middle ground."

The legislation requires nominating petitions to state the candidate's political party affiliation, the candidate is independent of a party, or that the candidate chooses to be listed as nonpartisan.

Partisan hopefuls would have letters next to their names on general election ballots, while independent and nonpartisan candidates would get blank spaces. Straight-ticket voting — in which voters can choose a party's entire slate of candidates with a single ballot mark wouldn't include school board elections. Hoosiers would still make each pick.

Forty-one states provide for nonpartisan school board elections, according to Ballotpedia. Five allow for either, depending on the district, and four do partisan elections. Indiana could soon join the latter group.

But Senate Bill 287 isn't heading to Gov. Mike Braun's desk just yet.

That's because a House committee this month stripped the measure of its original language requir-ing school board candidates to run in primary elections like other candidates. Members replaced it with the general election designation, pulled from the long-dead House Bill 1230.

The Senate must concur with the House's changes

— or, the two chambers must agree on a compromise — before it exits the legislative process.

Page 5

The proposal retains other partisan features, however. Candidates claiming affiliation with political parties would have to meet Indiana's two-party rule: their most recent two primary votes must match the party they seek to represent. If not, they need a county party chair's O.K. That could block thou-

sands of Hoosiers from running, along with a federal law barring employees from partisan activities.

The Indiana School Boards Association (ISBA) mourned the move Monday evening.

Executive Director Terry Spradlin said his organization has "fought against" the push for partisan school board elections for multiple years — but will adjust once it's in effect July 1.

"Once elected, ISBA will encourage school board members to leave politics at the board room door by working collaboratively to focus on what is best for our 1 million public school students," Spradlin continued, in a statement. "School board members should also conduct themselves in a manner that models effective board governance practices regardless of party affiliation."

Another provision would raise board member pay from the current \$2,000 maximum by tying compensation to 10% of starting teacher salaries. The state has a \$40,000 minimum - which would double school board pay — but Braun wants to land at \$45,000.

## Options

Continued from page 1 The most costly items in cost estimates presented Monday were replacing the building's heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) controls at \$3.2 million, upgrading the electrical service at \$2.1 million and replacing the pool dehumidification unit at \$1.6 million.

The board was presented with three options for the stadium grandstand:

current grandstand and move the home bleachers to the opposite side of the field, as had been proposed in a previous plan

After reviewing all of the information, board members took turns commenting, with several bringing up the tennis courts — reconstruction and lights are estimated at nearly \$850,000 — as an area in need of further improvement. Marcie Vormohr asked about the possi-

areas that are top priorities, with president Ron Laux referring to the electrical and HVAC work as "critical." Chad Towell concurred, while Donna Geesaman noted the electrical upgrades and pool equipment. (Towell also asked for more information regarding the tennis courts, track and proposed food service improvements.) Aaron Clark expressed his desire to be fiscally conserva-

much work is needed all at once. Gulley responded, saying the school corporation is limited by its budget constraints while also noting previous projects that included renovations at the junior-senior high building in 2006 and 2019.

Jon Eads acknowledged that the board will have some difficult decisions to make and encouraged feedback from the public, asking residents to contribute to

Setting a timeline, Gulley noted that the public survey will be open until April 15. The board will then solicit and consider input at its April 21 meeting. A first public hearing on a potential project could be held in May, with a second to follow in June.

If a project was approved at those meetings, design could begin in late July, with bidding in early 2026 and construction

•\$723,380 to make repairs to bility of adjusting the layout of the existing grandstand to the courts in order to make extend its life for 10-plus years •\$1.7 million to replace the

grandstand with bleachers in the same location

•\$2.1 million to take down the

them more spectator friendly, including moving them further away from the adjacent softball field.

tive, noting the high price tags the process rather than complainon the HVAC, electrical and pool project.

Chip Phillips reiterated the importance of not increasing Several board members noted the tax rate and asked why so

ing after it is complete. (A survey components of the potential is available online at jayschoolcorp.org/page/school-board, as is a recording of Monday's meeting and the documentation that was presented to the board.)

SPECIAL

to follow.

Gulley noted that a capital project of the size being considered would likely need to be "sequenced" rather than being completed all at once. It could stretch over two to three years.

## **Ukraine pushes** ahead with deal

Kyiv is prepared to endorse agreement

#### By OLESIA SAFRONOVA and ALIAKSANDR **KUDRYTSKI**

Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

Ukraine's top diplomat said officials are pressing ahead with the U.S. toward an "acceptable" economic accord hours after Presi-Donald Trump dent accused Kyiv of trying to renegotiate the deal.

Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha said Ukrainian officials were poring over the latest draft of an infrastructure and natural resources deal sent by the U.S. last week as talks with negotiators in Washington moved ahead. Kyiv is prepared to endorse an agreement that provides security with a significant U.S. business presence in Ukraine, the Cabinet minister said.

The process will continue," Sybiha told reporters in Kyiv Tuesday as he met his counterpart with from Lithuania. "We will be working with our American colleagues in order to achieve a text that would be mutually acceptable.'

Days Trump after

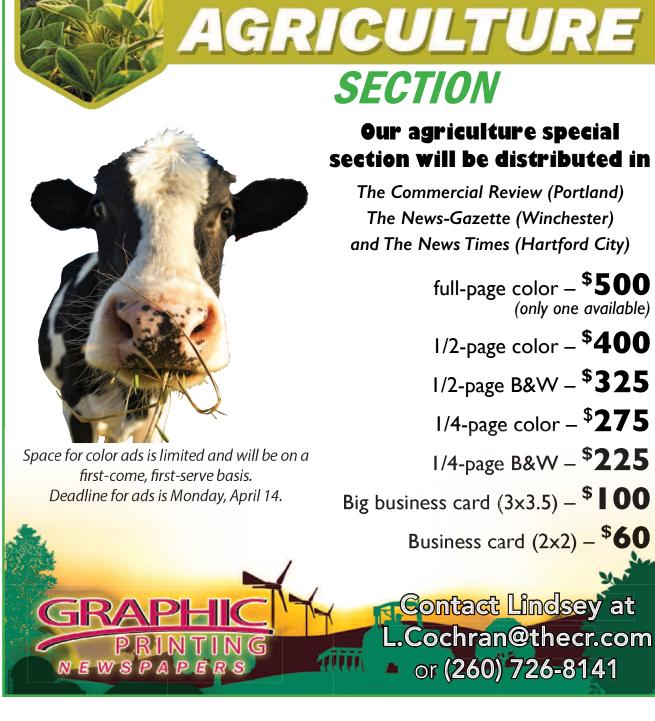
expressed frustration with President Russian Vladimir Putin, the U.S. leader on Monday turned his ire back to Ukraine's Volodymyr Zelenskyy, blaming the Ukrainian president for seeking new terms for the accord.

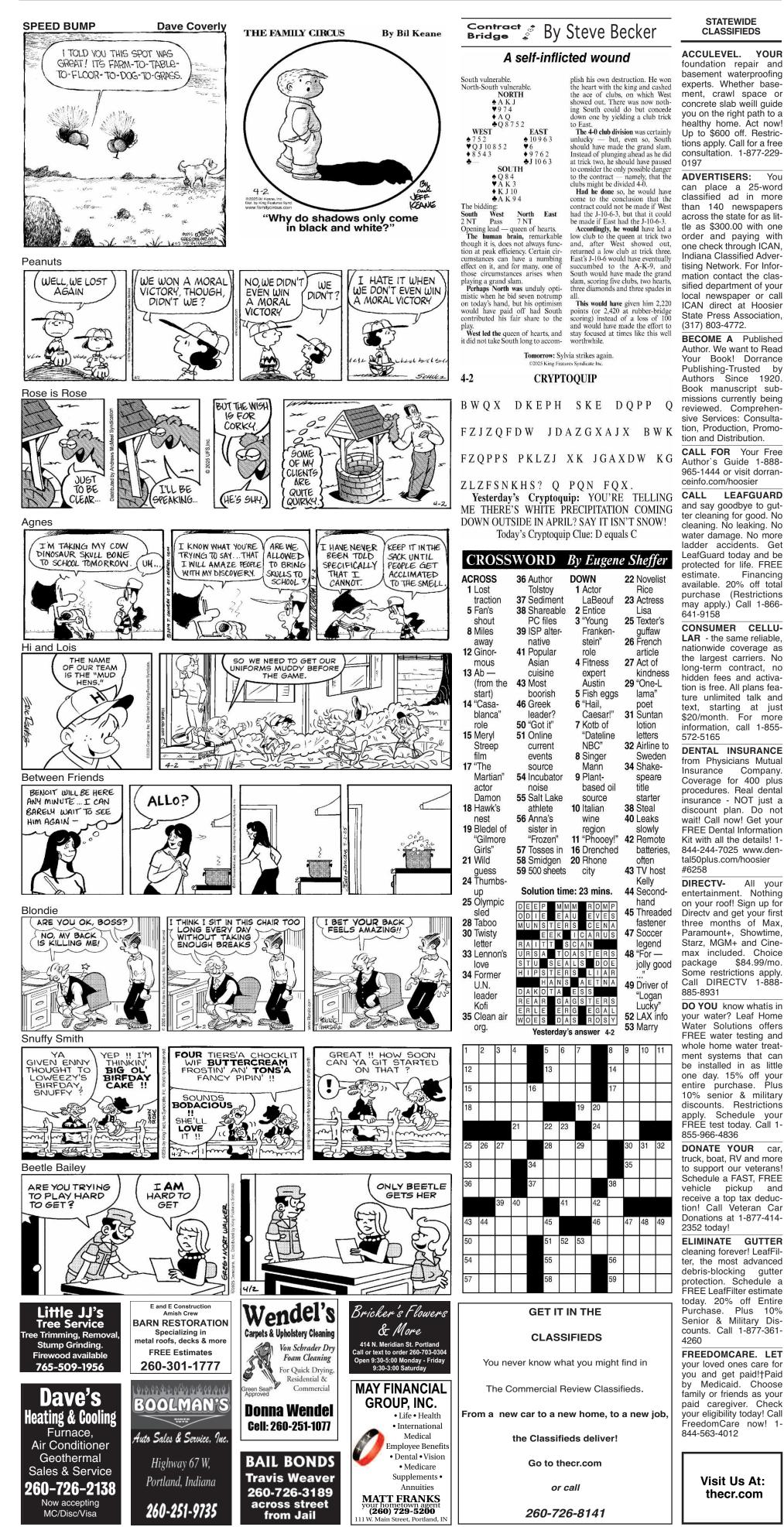
The comments amount to geopolitical whiplash during a week in which Trump plans to unleash global tariffs — and exposes impa-White tience in the House with efforts to end Russia's war in Ukraine. Trump on Monday signaled he thought Putin will "follow through" on a ceasefire, while reinforcing his anger at Zelenskyy over what he called new conditions from Kyiv for the pending accord. "I heard that they're now

saying, well, I'll only do that deal if we get into NATO or something to that effect," Trump said in the Oval Office.

While Zelenskyy has repeatedly said joining NATO would be the preferred and the most efficient option to ensure peace and security, he has expressed openness to other security guarantees. Instead, the latest draft

of the agreement — which would grant the U.S. control over all major future infrastructure and mineral investments in the war-battered country - raised concerns in Kyiv that a deal could undermine its bid to join the European Union, Bloomberg News reported last week.





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## Sports

## Cold

Continued from page 8 approach and was said. "We can't have ready to hit," Eyink those two mistakes said. "He got a pitch he that extend innings, knew he could hit and drove in two runs.'

While the Tribe didn't have the start to the season it was hoping for, they are looking to move swiftly past the performance and improve on the mistakes they made.

ontinued from page 8 "We want to fix "He had that good those things," Eyink makes our pitchers throw more. We've got to have a better approach at the plate and be able to hit with two strikes. ... We can go fix that. This is game one, so

we've got a long way

## Sports on tap

#### Local schedule

Thursday Jay County — Softball at Marion -5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Adams Central - 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Minster - 5 p.m.; JV softball vs. New Knoxville - 5 p.m.

#### Friday

Jav County - Baseball vs. Eastbrook – 7 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Eastbrook - 5 p.m. Fort Recovery — Track at Celina Relays - 4:30 p.m.; JV softball vs. St. Henry - 5 p.m.

Saturday Jay County — Softball vs. Winches-11 a.m.; JV baseball at Mississinewa - 10 a.m. Fort Recovery - Baseball doubleheader vs. Fort Loramie - 11 a.m.: Softball at Lima Shawnee – 11 a.m.; JV

Loramie - 11 a.m.; JV softball at Lima Shawnee - 1 p.m.

doubleheader at Fort

## **TV** sports

**Today** 12:40 p.m. — MLB: Texas Rangers

at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana) 2:45 p.m. — Premier League soc cer: Manchester City at Leicester City (USA)

 Women's college basket 6 p.m. ball WBIT Championship: TBD vs. TBD (ESPN2)

- NBA: New York Knicks at 7 p.m. Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN): Charlotte Hornets at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indi-

ana) 7 p.m. — College Basketball Crown tournament: TBD vs. TBD (FS1) 8:30 p.m. — NBA: Atlanta Hawks at

Dallas Mavericks (ABC)

9:30 p.m. — NBA: Detroit Pistons at Oklahoma City Thunder (ESPN)

listed.

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9:30 p.m. - College Basketball

Crown tournament: TBD vs. TBD (FS1) 9:30 p.m. — NHL: Colorado Ava-

lanche at Chicago Blackhawks (TNT) 9:30 p.m. — CANCACAF Champions

Cup: Vancouver Whitecaps at Pumas UNAM (FOX)

11:30 p.m. — CANCACAF Champi

ons Cup: Los Angeles FC at Inter Miami

Thursday

7 p.m. — College Basketball Crown tournament: TBD vs. TBD (FS1)

7 p.m. — College baseball: LSU at Oklahoma (ESPN2)

i p.m. — women's college lacrosse: Penn State at Rutgers (BTN) 7:30 p.m. — NBA: Memphis Griz-zlies at Miami Heat (TNT)

at Milwaukee Brewers (FDSN Indiana)

7:40 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds

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Women's college

ies at Philadelphia Phillies (NBC)

7 p.m. –

1:05 p.m. - MLB: Colorado Rock-

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Championship: TBD vs. TBD (ESPN) 9:30 p.m. - College Basketball Crown tournament: TBD vs. TBD (FS1) 10 p.m. - NBA: Golden State War

riors at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT) 10 p.m. - MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN2)

## 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 refreshments.

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message.

AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 **PUBLIC AUCTION** Saturday April 5th, 2025 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/ private showing contact Carryall. Ford Golden LOY REAL ESTATE KIM Jubilee Tractor. Bush LOY BROKER 260-726-Hog 5í 3pt Mower. 2700 OR GARY LOY

Craftsman Table Saw, AUCTIONEER 260-726-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 Sil-

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 Auctioneer at 260-726-Personal property to sell immediately following JANICE STUCKY by Herb Hummel Per-Josh Atkinson Attorney

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260-849-2489.

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, housing, assembly, dis-

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ware-

www.sycamorespace.co m

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## **250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

## Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That on 04/28/25 at 10:30 a.m. a sale will be held at 1237 N US Hwy 27(PARK OFFICE) Portland IN, for the sale of the mobile home located at: 1237 N US Hwy 27, Lot 135, Portland IN 47371 to sell the following articles to enforce a lien existing under the laws of the State of INDIANA against such articles for labor, services, skill or material expended upon a storage furnished for such articles at the request of the following designated persons, unless such articles are redeemed within thirty days of the publication of this notice.

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PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN APRIL 5, 2025 9:30 A. M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS -OLD ITEMS - TOOLS 4 pc. queen size bedroom suit; table with 6 chairs and 2 leaves: Coca Cola chrome table with 3 chairs; small grandfather clock; world globe on stand; metal patio table and 2 chairs; Coca Cola animated Santa; Pfaltzgraff set of dishes; Fenton candy dish; TOY TRUCK

ver 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 260-726-5587

#### 130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

Name: Lonnie E Stephen Name: Crossroads Financial Fed Credit Union Vin #: 010P09902 1988 HPK 14 x 68 Lien: \$381.71 CR 3-26, 4-2-2025-HSPAXLP



## **250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

BANKS: Do It Best

Garden Center, Car

## Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Tax Duplicates for the several taxing units of Jay County, for the year 2024 payable 2025,

are now in the hands of the County Treasurer, who is ready to receive the taxes charged thereon. The following table shows the rate of taxation on each \$100.00 worth of taxable real

nd doling

	personal property. First installment is due on or before and delinquent after May 12, 2025. Second installment is delinquent after November 10, 2025.																	
2024 pay 2025 Tax Rates	Penn		Dunkirk		Bryant	Greene	Jackson	Jefferson	Knox	Madison	Salamonia		Pike	Richland		Wabash		Portland
Co Cum Capital Dev	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333	0.0333		0.0333
JEMS	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217	0.0217
County General	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893	0.3893
County Health	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235	0.0235
Cumulative Bridge	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500	0.0500
Jay Co Jail Lease Payments	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507	0.0507
Reassessment	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126	0.0126
County Total	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811	0.5811
Twshp Cum Fire	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0181	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Twshp Fire Fighting	0.0199	0.0000	0.0000	0.0244	0.0000	0.0177	0.0400	0.0173	0.0135	0.0068	0.0000	0.0093	0.0207	0.0197	0.0000	0.0147	0.0558	0.0000
Twshp General	0.0481	0.0481	0.0174	0.0341	0.0341	0.0094	0.0293	0.0093	0.0596	0.0116	0.0116	0.0161	0.0227	0.0174	0.0174	0.0231	0.0038	0.0038
Twshp Poor	0.0123	0.0123	0.0113	0.0032	0.0032	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0058	0.0039	0.0039	0.0000	0.0000	0.0113	0.0113	0.0000	0.0211	0.0211
Twshp Recreation	0.0123	0.0123	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Township Total	0.0926	0.0727	0.0287	0.0617	0.0373	0.0271	0.0693	0.0266	0.0789	0.0404	0.0155	0.0254	0.0434	0.0484	0.0287	0.0378	0.0807	0.0249
Library Debt Service	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Library General	0.0353	0.0353	0.2226	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673
Library Total	0.0353	0.0353	0.2226	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673	0.0673
School Education	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
School Operation	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806	0.5806
School Debt Service	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835	0.3835
School Pension Debt	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164	0.0164
School Total	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805	0.9805
Corp Aviation/Airport	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0507
Corp Cum Cap Improv	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0973	0.0000	0.0000	0.0500
Corp Cum Capital Dev	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0500
Corp Police Pension	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Corp General	0.0000	1.12290	1.6128	0.0000	0.7571	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2239	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.6254	0.0000	0.0000	0.9492
Corp Parks & Recreation	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0536	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.1127
Corp Park Bond	0.0000	0.00000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0463
Corp Street (MVH)	0.0000	0.00000	0.1791	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.3461
City Total	0.0000	1.1229	1.7919	0.0000	0.8107	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.2239	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1.7227	0.0000	0.0000	1.6050
Total Tax Rate	1.6895	2.7925	3.6048	1.6906	2.4769	1.6560	1.6982	1.6555	1.7078	1.6693	1.8683	1.6543	1.6723	1.6773	3.3803	1.6667	1.7096	3.2588
Chata af In																		

State of Indiana, Jay County, SS: I, Emily Franks, Auditor of Jay County, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of all tax levies for the taxes collectible in the year 2024 pay 2025.

Emily Franks, Jay County Auditor

Tribe softball won its fourth game by mercy rule, see story below

Wednesday, April 2, 2025



**JCHS** softball opens its season Thursday, see Sports on tap

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The Commercial Review

# Cold day, bats and arms

www.thecr.com

Tribe can't get offense going in 7-2 defeat to open the season

## **By ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review CELINA, Ohio — It was just 40 degrees when the Bulldogs threw out the first pitch of the 2025 season.

As chilly as the temperature may have been, the Tribe's bats were even colder.

Then adding in a cold arm didn't help to the cause.

Fort Recovery High School's baseball team couldn't get its bats going early and a five-run fifth inning powered a 7-2 victory for the Celina Bulldogs in Monday's season opener.

"Not how we wanted to start, we had a little higher expectation there," said FRHS coach Kevin Eyink, who led the Indians to the state finals in 2024. "Caden (Grisez) did a nice job, but we just gave them too many chances. We had a couple errors that made him throw too many pitches and extended innings and didn't get done what we wanted to."

Grisez started the game on the bump for the Fort Recovery (0-1). He threw four innings, giving up two unearned runs on two hits and three walks before he was moved to shortstop.

Shortstop Alex Gaerke and Grisez switched positions in the bottom of the Nick Steinbrunner and finally got a pair of outs Logan Sapp crossed the Brodee Schulte-Arnold fifth, but the new pitcher came in cold as he had to hit in the top half of the inning, preventing him from getting in the bullpen.

"It could be that he didn't get a chance to warm up," Eyink said. "He's coming in cold and didn't get a lot of time to get things going. We've been



## **Box score**

Fort Recovery Indians vs. Celina Bulldogs										
Fort Recovery (0-1)										
RWendel cf Gaerke ss Grisez p Homan 3b Diller rf Hart c Muhlenkamp dh Foote 1b Evers lf <b>Totals</b>	<b>ab</b> 4 3 2 2 2 3 2 <b>25</b>	r 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 2	<b>h</b> 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 <b>3</b>	<b>bi</b> 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 <b>2</b> 0 <b>2</b>						
Celina (1-0)										
NSteinbrunner c Gerber cf Shulte-Arnold ss Wendel rf BradSthbrnnr p Miller 3b BraySthbrnnr 2b Maxwell dh Sapp If <b>Totals</b>	<b>ab</b> 3 3 2 2 3 2 1 1 <b>20</b>	r 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 7	<b>h</b> 1 0 2 0 0 0 0 0 <b>4</b>	<b>bi</b> 0 1 0 1 1 0 0 <b>4</b>						
Ft. Rec. 000 Celina 012		002 050	0 - X -	- 2 - 7						
LOB — Fort Rec 2B — Celina 1 Celina 2 (Gerber,	(G	erber)	. SE	3 —						
IP H	R	ER	BB	<b>SO</b>						
Fort Recovery Grisez 4 2 Gaerke 2 2	2 5	0 1	3 4	1 2						
<b>Celina</b> BrdStnbrnnr5 2 Maxwell 1 1 Siefring 1 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	2 1 0	8 1 0						

The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School right fielder Mason Diller ranges over to catch a low line drive hit by Celina's Nick Steinbrunner during the 7-2 loss in the season opener Monday at Montgomery Field. Diller was one of the runs that got plated on a Jacob Foote single in the sixth inning.

an RBI double to Wes Ger- on a RBI-groundout and a ber. (Gerber reached sacrifice fly. Two more third on his hit to deep walks and a passed ball left field after a miscom- would get Brady Steinmunication left third brunner across the plate on an error by Gaerke. the sticks going. Through base wide open after the before the inning ended, initial cut.)

Gerber scored on advantage. another error by Caden

giving Celina (1-0) a 7-0

Celina drew first blood Homan after Schulte- in the second inning as third. After a pair of more consistent, so it just throw, allowing all run- by left fielder Gavin smacked the ball behind runners made it into scor- strikes, Jacob Foote Gaerke walked the next around due to a pair of passed balls.

plate as an unearned run. Sapp reached base after the error on the next play with a 6-3 double play while Sapp advanced to Homan fielded the ball cleanly, he lost the footrace to the bag with

giving up the run.

While the Bulldogs getting hit by a pitch and built their lead, Fort advanced to second base Recovery struggled to get The Indian made up for the first five innings, the Indians had seven baserunners on two Gaerke singles, two walks, a hit by pitch, a ters later, Keegan Muh-Arnold hit a hard ground Colten Miller, who walks loaded the bases, fielder's choice and an lenkamp got plunked. trying to get him a little ball that he hesitated to reached base on an error Brady Steinbrunner error. Four of the seven With two outs and two

lineup, we started off the hitters with fastballs," said CHS coach John Dorner. "They've got some pretty good sticks and put some good swings on balls. Second time through we were able to change some things up. Threw some curveballs and some changeups in there. I think trying to change speeds on them really made a difference as the game progressed."

The only runs the Tribe managed to generate came in the sixth inning. Mason Diller got on base with a walk and two batcouldn't get the timely field to score both runners.

wasn't the best day for ners to advance safely. Evers, made his way third base and while ing position, but the Tribe pushed a ball into right him."

start giving up a single to load the bases. The Tribe

Gaerke had a shaky batter and hit another to

In the next inning,

hitting to break through. "First time through the

See Cold page 7

## lationa mercy

RECOVERY Indians' bats haven't failed them through the first three games of the season. They came through once again to secure the Tribe's third mercy-rule victory.

A pair of big innings pushed the Fort Recovery High School softball team to an 11-1 win over

The the National Trail Blazers on Tuesdav.

The victory kept the Tribe undefeated on the season, pushing its record to 4-0. It was the third time FRHS mercy ruled its opponent with the sole singledigit win coming on March 27 against Memorial.

National Trail (0-3) struck first

passed ball got Morgan House around the bases.

Fort Recovery punched right back in the bottom half of the second. It scored runs on an Alexis Grisez ground out, singles by Kylia Dues and Emma Will and a passed ball and a wild pitch. an Ava Grisez double.

after a pair of singles and a the third inning on a passed ball, two-RBI singles by Layla Armstrong and Will and an error.

> The eventual game-ending run scored in the bottom fourth as Kayla Heitkamp smacked a double and worked her way home on

FRHS piled on six more runs in innings for the Indians, giving up

four hits and one walk. Nine of the 15 outs recorded (60%) came via strikeout.

Will and Armstrong both had a game-high two RBIs. Will, Ava Grisez and Heitkamp each led with two hits apiece. Will, Heitkamp and Dues each hit Jenna Homan pitched all five home plate twice to lead FRHS as well.



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