



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Students serve

Freshmen Bailey Towell and Kaitlyn Fisher scoop applesauce into cups to give attendees at Jay County FFA's annual banquet Friday at Jay County High School.

EDP launches solar facility

Wind farm planned for northwest Randolph Co.

MODOC — The county's newest renewable energy facility is in operation. EDP Renewables North America celebrated the launch of Riverstart III Solar Park, located in southwest Randolph County near Modoc, last week. The facility is the third phase of the firm's solar energy effort in the county. "The continued growth of our portfolio in Indiana with the launch of this newest phase of Riverstart Solar is yet another example of the significant contribution that renewables and solar play to serve the Hoosier State's growing energy needs," said EDP Renewables North America CEO Sandhya Ganapathy, CEO in a press release. "As the largest owner and operator of renewables in the state, we are grateful to Randolph County for our continued partnership focused on delivering economic and community benefits that have resulted in a positive track record."

The \$175 million Riverstart III project created a facility that will generate 100 megawatts of energy annually (enough to power 19,200 homes). EDP has contracted with Amazon for all of the energy from the facility via a long-term power purchase agreement as part of the company's goal to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2040. EDP will pay an estimated \$32.8 million in taxes to local governments over the life of the facility along with about \$28 million in lease agreements with landowners. There were about 350 construction jobs during the project.

Riverstart III's launch follows the 2022 completion of Riverstart I, which was an investment of more than \$200 million in a 200-megawatt solar park in Union Township near Huntsville.

The firm also owns and operates the Headwaters wind energy facilities in the county.

EDP is planning additional phases of both Riverstart and Headwaters.

Riverstart IV is projected as a \$250 million investment to construct a 150-megawatt solar farm. Road use, decommissioning and economic development agreements — the firm will provide the county with \$8.55 million in payments over a 10-year period beginning a year after the solar facility becomes operational. The road use agreement covers about 15.5 miles total of county roads 300 South, 400 South, 450 South, 900 West, 1000 West, 1100 West and 1200 West.

Headwaters III is an estimated \$445 million construction project planned to stretch across northern Randolph County from the area 3 to 4 miles west of U.S. 27, south of Ridgeville, to the Delaware County line. It is estimated to have between 45 and 50 wind turbines.

Iran is ready for talks with U.S.

By ARSALAN SHAHLA Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

Iran has sent a "generous and wise" proposal for indirect talks with the U.S. about its nuclear program that could involve Oman as a mediator, officials said.

U.S. President Donald Trump has said he wants direct discussions with the Islamic Republic over a new nuclear deal to replace the one that he abandoned during his first term. Iran has repeatedly

rebuffed the idea of direct negotiations with the U.S.

Trump in March gave Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei two months to reach an agreement or face possible military action. In his reply, Khamenei made clear that Iran "won't start a war, but will respond to any threat with full force," the state-run Islamic Republic News Agency reported on Sunday, citing Major-General Mohammad Bagheri, chief of staff of Iran's armed forces.

On Monday, Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Nasser Kanaani said "we are waiting for the U.S. response. Our proposal for indirect negotiations is a responsible, generous, and wise offer."

He added that the Gulf-Arab Sultanate of Oman, which has facilitated dialogue between Tehran and Washington in the past, is a "main candidate" to mediate talks with the U.S. if they take place.

In separate comments on Monday, Foreign Minister Abbas

Araghchi said "the ball is in the U.S. court."

"The offer for direct negotiations isn't acceptable to us for reasons repeatedly stated before, but we're ready for indirect negotiations through Oman," Araghchi said, according to the semi-official Tasnim news agency.

Kanaani added that a trilateral, expert-level meeting is taking place in Moscow on Monday involving Iranian, Russian and Chinese officials to discuss the moribund 2015 nuclear deal.

New property tax plan introduced

Proposal calls for tax credit in perpetuity

By WHITNEY DOWNARD Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

Lawmakers introduced yet another plan for property taxes this week, pitching a proposal to save homeowners \$1.1 billion over three years.

In comparison, homeowners would have seen nearly \$1.3 billion in relief in 2026 alone under Gov. Mike Braun's previous proposal.

In the atypical Friday afternoon press conference, Rep. Jeff Thompson said that 93% to 94% of homeowners would see lower property tax bills than they would with no action. But the majority of

homeowners would pay less in 2026 than they did in 2025.

"We have two main goals in crafting this bill: deliver immediate relief to homeowners and reform the system to prevent the dramatic spikes in property taxes that we've seen in recent years," said House Speaker Todd Huston. "Our amendment accomplishes both."

The amendment to Senate Bill 1 that was set to be introduced on Monday wasn't publicly available at press time. Once adopted by a committee, the Legislative Services Agency will release an estimated fiscal note.

According to the two Republican leaders, all homestead property tax bills will get a 7.5% credit in perpetuity, up to \$200, based on a calculation performed after accounting for property tax caps. Fixed-income seniors will see an additional \$150 credit while disabled veterans will get an additional \$250 credit.

"Now, every single veter-

an and every single senior will get a benefit if they qualify," said Thompson, R-Lizton.

But one of the biggest benefits for the average homeowner, Huston said, would be improved transparency for taxpayers, who would be able to assess their bills on a Property Tax Transparency Portal.

"When we do a rate-based and non-levy-based system ... I think the normal Hoosier homeowner can understand what their bill looks like. It's not some algebraic equation," said Huston, R-Fishers.

The plan for property taxes joins a handful of other efforts, including one from Gov. Mike Braun, Senate Republicans, a House Democrat and a previous Thompson pitch. Each proposal has varying impacts to homeowners and local units of government, which rely on revenue from property taxes to fund public safety, infrastructure and schools.

For instance, Braun's



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston, right, and Rep. Jeff Thompson present the House Republican plan for property taxes on Friday.

plan would save homeowners the most money on their property taxes going forward but be a heavy hit to the budgets of school corporations, counties, cities and towns. Alternatively, plans that reduce that revenue loss have a small, nearly negligible impact on homeowner property taxes.

It's not yet clear what the total estimated impact of those credits will be to local governments. Thompson, the chief budget architect in the House, said most units will still see additional revenue but smaller increases than they would without Senate Bill 1.

See Plan page 2

Deaths

Faith Timmerman, infant, rural Redkey Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 45 degrees Sunday. The low was 32.

The forecast calls for lows in the upper 20s tonight. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday with a chance of rain and snow showers. The high will be in the mid 40s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Public Library will host "How to Grow a Carrot Cake" at 5 p.m. Thursday. The event will include education about growing carrots as well as planting carrot seeds, creating a mug and making and decorating a carrot cake. The library is located at 315 N. Ship St., Portland. For more information, visit jaycpl.lib.in.us.

Coming up

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

Thursday — Results from the JCHS girls tennis match against Blackford.

Friday — Details from this week's Jay County Council meeting.



Obituaries

Faith Timmerman
April 3, 2025-April 4, 2025
Faith Marie Timmerman went into the arms of Jesus on April 4, 2025.
She was completely loved and treasured every second of her life.
Faith was born on April 3, 2025, at 11:28 p.m. She spent eight perfect hours with us and we will forever love and treasure her.
Faith is the daughter of Matthew and Jill (Cumberworth) Timmerman.
Survivors include:
Her parents — Matthew and Jill Timmerman, rural Redkey, Indiana
Her siblings — Eric (Gentry), Lucas, Kari, Colton, Isaiah, Cameron, Kaylee and Kayce
Grandparents — Michael and Karen Timmerman, rural Ridgeville, Indiana, and Richard and Jane Cumberworth, Portland, Indiana
So many people loved Faith through our entire pregnancy and her short life and will love her until we see her in Heaven! Among those are her Uncle Steven and Aunt Joanna Cumberworth (children: Rowena and William); Aunt Erin and Uncle Jack Thomas (daughter: Eleanor); Aunt Jenny and Uncle



Timmerman

Ryan Outcalt (children: Victoria, Hannah and Emma); and Aunt Laura and Uncle Bob Heitkamp (children Trevor, Aubrie, Gavin and Elise).
Faith was preceded in death by her great-grandparents, Bill and Anne Faudree, Rowena Cumberworth, Melvin and Pauline Timmerman and Adelheit Hess.
Faith had a wonderful church family at Fellowship Baptist Church in Portland. Our church prayed us through every second of this and we will be forever grateful.
Faith Marie was diagnosed with Trisomy 18 during pregnancy. The doctors did not expect much from her life, but our Faith proved them wrong.

She beat the odds and was born alive! She blessed us so much in the time we had with her. Her story has already touched so many and she's just getting started!
We will spend every day of the rest of our lives continuing to honor her by showing love to others and telling them about our God and our Faith. Psalms 139 13-14: For You formed in my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well.
Visitation for Faith will be held on Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Port-

land, Indiana. Services to celebrate her life will follow at 1 p.m. on Wednesday at the church. Pastors Hugh Kelly and Matt Gierhart will officiate and burial will follow at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.
Arrangements entrusted to Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Wednesday 4/9	Thursday 4/10	Friday 4/11	Saturday 4/12	Sunday 4/13
46/40 There's a 60% chance of rain or snow Wednesday with wind gusts up to 20 mph.	54/36 Thursday's forecast shows rain showers throughout the day.	48/33 Friday has a slight chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly sunny with highs in the upper 40s.	57/36 Mostly sunny on Saturday when the low at night may hit the mid 30s.	63/50 Another day of mostly sunny skies on Sunday will be in the low 60s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$54 million	13-14-15-16-22-27-28-30-35-36-44-52-71-73-76-80 Cash 5: 15-21-26-30-42 Estimated jackpot: \$115,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$54 million	
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 7-4-0 Daily Four: 0-0-3-1 Quick Draw: 6-13-18-30-31-32-35-44-54-57-58-59-60-63-68-70-71-76-79-80 Evening Daily Three: 5-1-0 Daily Four: 1-7-5-6 Quick Draw: 8-9-11-12-	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 7-7-1 Pick 4: 4-4-4-6 Pick 5: 2-2-1-1-1 Evening Pick 3: 7-3-9 Pick 4: 0-5-5-2 Pick 5: 1-4-3-6-3 Rolling Cash 5: 6-7-8-12-26 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.67 May corn4.70 June corn4.75	May beans9.80 Wheat 4.89
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.80 May corn4.85 June corn4.87	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.68 May corn.....4.70 Beans.....9.78 May beans.....9.81 Wheat4.93
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.74 May corn4.74 Beans9.80	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.60 May corn.....4.65 Beans.....9.57 May beans.....9.57 Wheat4.76

Today in history

In 1820, the Venus de Milo was found in pieces on the island of Melos. Carved by Alexandros of Antioch in about 150 BCE, it was presented to King Louis XVIII of France and then donated to the Louvre.

In 1913, the Seventeenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified. It called for the direct election of senators by the votes. Senators had previously been elected by each state's legislature.

In 2013, the first eight runs the Jay County High School baseball team scored were unearned as it cruised to a 12-4 victory over Muncie Central. The Patriots totaled 10 hits in the win.

In 2022, Riggs Tobe's bunt single followed by a throwing error brought Alex Dues home for the game-winning run as the Fort Recovery High School baseball team walked off Houston 3-2.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 6 p.m. — Ridgeville Town Council, fire department, 302 N. Walnut St.	Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, living facility, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland.
Wednesday 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	
Thursday 6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	

Plan ...

Continued from page 1
“They’re still going to be gaining dollars. If I recall, it’s about a 5.6% gain (under) current law. This will roughly cut that down to a little over 3%,” Thompson said. “So they’re still

adding more dollars, just not as many new dollars.”
But Huston cautioned that some units, depending on their circumstances, could see losses simply because of the “complexity of the system,” pointing to

Capsule Reports

Lost control
A Portland woman lost control of her car, causing it to roll along the side of county road 50 North about 9 p.m. Saturday.
Tea M. Nichols, 22, was driving her 2016 Honda Pilot west on the road near county road 600 East when she drove across standing water, according to a Jay County Sheriff’s Office report. She began hydroplaning, causing her to lose control of her car and go off the south side of the road. Nichols’ vehicle rolled once before stopping on the driver’s side of the car in the ditch.
No injuries were reported. Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Drunk driving
A Portland man was arrested Sunday for operating a vehicle while intoxicated after driving off Votaw Street into Haynes Park in Portland about 11:28 p.m. Saturday.
Anthony L. Crawford, 38, 322 W. Main St., was driving his 2010

Chrysler 300 east on the street near its intersection with Middle Street when he left the traffic lane and went into the grass at the park just south of the road.
Crawford was administered a blood and alcohol drug test with results pending. He was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice, a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement and a Class B misdemeanor for leaving the scene of an accident.
Crawford's vehicle was towed, with damage between \$2,500 and \$5,000. He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Couldn't see
A Portland woman crashed into a Portland man's truck at the intersection of Morton and Water streets about 8 a.m. Tuesday.
Brandy J. Yates, 29, was driving her 2010 Chevrolet Impala along Water Street. She told police her

windows were frosted over and the sun obscured her vision, making it difficult to see the 2012 Dodge Ram in front of her preparing to turn. Yates crashed into the vehicle driven by 27-year-old Jordan Robbins.
Yates’ vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Pole hit
A Portland teen crashed into a utility pole along county road 200 South about 10:05 a.m. Wednesday.
Julian D. Hudson, 16, was driving a 2013 Chrysler 300 east on the road near its intersection with Indiana 67 when her passenger side went off the south side of the road. The vehicle continued into a ditch on the south side of the road, hitting a culvert and address sign at 3787 W. 200 South, Portland. She also struck an American Electric Power utility pole, according to a Jay County Sheriff’s Office report.
The vehicle Hudson was driving was towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Felony court

Attempted arson
An Ohio woman was sentenced to prison for attempting arson.
Julie E. Smith, 39, 804 W. Market St., Celina, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to attempted arson, a Level 4 felony. She was sentenced to six years in Indiana Department of Correction with two years suspended and given credit for time served. Smith was assessed \$189 in court costs.
As part of her plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: two Level 6 felonies for neglect of a dependent and a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15% or more.

Nonsupport
A Missouri man was sentenced to nearly half a year in jail for three counts of nonsupport of a dependent child.
Daniel Novak, 43, 2837 Miami St., Saint Louis, pleaded guilty to three Level 6 felonies in Jay Circuit Court. He was sentenced to 910 days in Jay County Jail with 746 days

suspended and given 164 days credit. Novak assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay \$13,090.51 to the benefit of Tina Fisher and \$23,255.54 to the benefit of Jasma Schweiterman.

SERVICES

Wednesday
Timmerman, Faith: 1 p.m., Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland.
Emery, Dennis: 4 p.m., Hudson Family Park amphitheater, 509 S.Wayne St., Portland.

Saturday
Best, Pamela: noon, Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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

ELITE
EYE CARE, PC
Abby E. Small, O.D.

We are having a
Frame Show.

April 25th
from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Discounts Available All Day:
Office Hours: 8:00 AM–5:00
1111 N. Meridian St. • Portland, IN 47371
260-726-4210

GREAT SELECTION
of
newspaper roll ends
FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

GRAPHIC PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS
Publishers of

The Commercial Review
Portland, Indiana
The News and Sun
Dunkirk, Indiana

The News-Gazette
Winchester, Indiana
The News Times
Hartford City, Indiana

309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371

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

Stresses weren't part of preparation

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

I'm hopeful our travels can only get better from here.

All the planning, all of the anxiety-ridden days leading up to our trip to Ireland didn't prepare me for one thing.

The stress of it all. The stress of forgetting something. The stress of how my daughter will handle her first two — although exceptionally long — rides on an airplane. The stress of not wanting to disrupt the travel of the passengers around us.

Let me say, broadly speaking, the vacation went well. We had a great visit with Baby Schanz's aunt and uncle. I got to be in the Motherland on St. Patrick's Day. The wedding we attended — on her first birthday — was tremendous. The 18th-century hotel made for a splendid venue.

Parental Ponderings



I never cease to enjoy my time on the Emerald Isle.

Baby Schanz behaved better than I anticipated during our flights. The change in air pressure had zero impact on her. Sure, she could have been better, but for the most part, she did well.

Taking an Aer Lingus flight direct from Toronto to Dublin, we requested the bassinet seat for her. It allows us to have a bassinet that clips into the bulkhead between business class and economy. All children on Aer Lingus flights ages 2 or older require a ticket, whereas those younger can either

be kept in a lap or a bassinet upon request.

We chose the bassinet to potentially make her overnight flight as easy on her little body as possible. We wanted her to be comfortable, as well as ourselves, so we could try to get some sleep.

It didn't work out as planned.

Infants are only allowed in the bassinet at cruising altitude so long as the seatbelt sign isn't illuminated. Unfortunately, we experienced some unexpected turbulence, so the pilot kept the seatbelt sign illuminated for nearly the duration of the flight.

Therefore, she ended up being a lap infant. To make matters worse, the plane was rather warm, and it made the three of us uncomfortable. The conditions were not conducive to sleeping. For any of us.

And we had difficulty getting the flight attendants

to warm up some milk for us to feed her.

While Ireland is only a four-hour difference in terms of the time zone, it wreaked havoc on my daughter's internal clock. Her nap schedule was interrupted by the time of day. Additionally, we tried to pack as much as we could into each day, therefore she wasn't able to get in her normal naps even if her body clock adjusted correctly.

Even the wedding day was tough on her little body. Between the ceremony, the cocktail hour during which the bride and groom surprised her (and us) with a Bluey birthday cake, and dinner, she was being held either by us or others for the better part of eight hours. For an infant who wants to be on the move, that's a long time to not be able to crawl around. By the end of the post-dinner speeches, Chrissy took our

daughter back to the room to get some sleep while I stayed up with the Irish folk and enjoyed the reception until the wee hours of the morning.

Throughout the next few days, the people we spoke to mentioned how well Baby Schanz had done during the wedding. I, however, was stressed the whole time because I didn't want her to be a distraction and take away from the festivities. It was a no-children wedding, but the bride was kind enough to make an exception for us because of how far we traveled. Once the wedding was over, though, the stresses of the visit subsided as we still had another week. We visited a friend to get some family photos taken for our daughter's monumental birthday. We took a trip to the Dublin Zoo, went to the Howth Lighthouse and Castle Roche, a 13th-century Norman castle north of Dublin.

It was a much more care-free time.

The flight back to Toronto was an hour longer than the way there, and far less stressful for all of us despite getting to the airport much later than we should have.

Baby Schanz slept more on the return trip and it was overall a better experience for our family of three.

We learned a lot taking a transatlantic trip with our infant daughter, and we will do some things a lot differently the next time we travel.

I'm just hopeful the worst excursion is behind us.

.....
Chris Schanz is a former CR Sports Editor who wasn't prepared for the stresses of traveling with an infant.
Send ideas for coping mechanisms to christopher.schanz@gmail.com.

Best friend shares false rumor about affair

DEAR ABBY: My best friend of 45 years and I are 65. She has been married since 1985; I have been divorced for many years. She recently shocked me by claiming that a mutual friend told her I have been having an affair with a married acquaintance! This is false, but I now wonder whether she said it because she suspects it herself. When I got angry and said I would confront the other friend, she demanded that I not do so, because it would "make her look bad for telling." Could my suspicion be correct? If the other person was the one who actually suspected me, why wouldn't she want me to question her? — PUZZLED LADY OUT WEST

DEAR PUZZLED LADY: Not knowing your best friend of 45

Dear Abby



years, I am not in a position to answer that question. However, the surest way to get to the bottom of this would be to go directly to the person your BFF said told her and ask where she got such an idea.

.....
DEAR ABBY: For holidays and special occasions, we usually have eight people at a six-place dining room table. Two of our

guests are "orphans," who were invited by my better half. The problem is, the man, "George," is a chain-smoker, and I almost always get a splitting headache in his presence.

I can hold my breath for the 10 seconds or so when George and I hug hello, but what do you suggest I say or do at the dinner table? I will be at the farthest end possible, but I'll still be just a few feet away from the problem. Uninviting them is not an option. — SMOKED OUT IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SMOKED OUT: Lucky you. You live in California where it's possible to open windows and get cross ventilation. Because it isn't possible to uninvite these

guests, give your dining room as much fresh air as possible and insist that if your guests "must" smoke, they do it outside and far from the open windows.

.....
DEAR ABBY: For a long time now, I've been living in the past, thinking about how great it was and how much fun it was. I'm also obsessed with an old boyfriend who cheated and broke up with me to sleep with the "other woman." Abby, this was 48 years ago! I've been married for 35 years, but I haven't been happy since I don't know when. My husband is a wonderful guy, but I no longer feel anything for him. There's no way I can divorce him. He has multiple medical issues,

and I could never do that to him. What can I do? — YESTERDAY'S GIRL IN FLORIDA

DEAR YESTERDAY'S GIRL: It might help to take off those rose-colored glasses and come back to the present. The man you are obsessed with betrayed you and dumped you. It's time to take another look at why you married your husband. While your passion for him may have lessened and his health isn't the greatest, these things sometimes happen as people age. You're in need of an attitude adjustment, which may involve talking with a licensed psychotherapist. If you do, it may help you rid yourself of your unhealthy preoccupation.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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. Includes activities and devotional time.

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

BRYANT/NEW CORY-

DON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

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

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the boardroom at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

PORTLAND EAGLES — Will meet at 6 p.m., on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Eagles' lodge, 320 N. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218

E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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

Thursday

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

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.



BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW
866.937.1159

SPECIAL OFFER

Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 6/28/25.



SAVE \$350 when you transform your patio into an outdoor oasis.



America's #1 Awning

- Instant shade—at the touch of a button.
- Enjoy more quality time with family and friends.
- Up to 10-Year Limited Warranty.

Call 1-855-801-2797 now to **SAVE \$350 TODAY!**



America's #1 Awning!

up to SPECIALS

1/4-page color ad – **\$275**

pick-up color – **\$225**

pick-up black and white – **\$200**

Rates do not apply to special sections. Ads must run in April.

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

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

The Commercial Review

Congress is a reverse Robin Hood

By JOCELYN SMITH

OtherWords

I know how it feels to be hungry and homeless. That's why after work, I drive around town and pick up leftover food from restaurants, schools, grocery stores and special events. My fellow volunteers and I set up in a big parking lot in our downtown to make this food available to anyone who shows up — no questions asked.

And it's why other volunteers and I also work to find empty housing units that have fallen into disrepair because the landlords can't afford the upkeep. We raise money and give them grants so they can bring the units up to code for use as low-income housing rentals.

I'm proud to do this work. But it's no substitute for fair, living wages and a reliable public safety net. The minimum wage where I live is \$12 — well below the \$21 per hour the National Low Income Housing Coalition

Jocelyn Smith



has calculated is necessary to afford a market rate two-bedroom rental locally.

Let's say you're lucky enough to get housing at that wage. Do you then spend all your money on rent and skip nutritious meals for your family? Or do you skip health care and medication? If you have a paycheck and a roof over your head, you might not qualify for food assistance, even if you don't make enough to make ends meet.

I work, volunteer, take care of my child, and I'm fortunate enough to have housing. But I still need to rely on SNAP — the Supplemental Nutrition

Assistance Program, also known as "food stamps" — for my family.

My daughter has epilepsy, and thankfully I was able to get her onto Social Security Disability Insurance. However, she needs not only costly medication but also frequent neurological supervision and a device that helps to stop her seizures. There's no neurologist in our town who can treat her, so we have to travel and lodge hours away for it.

The expense is enormous, and that's not even getting into expensive medications for my own heart problems and autoimmune disorders. Thankfully, we qualify for Medicaid. Otherwise, treatment would be out of reach.

But what does it say about our policy priorities when we need to say, "I'm disabled, taking care of my disabled daughter, I work, and I help feed my community, and yet I need assistance affording meals for my family?" These are the realities that a good society

plans for so we can all thrive, no matter what obstacles life throws our way.

The programs our tax dollars pay for so families like mine can get help when we need it must be more robust. Programs like SSDI shouldn't be so inaccessible. Food, housing, and health care shouldn't be so expensive — and wages shouldn't be so low that these basic necessities are unaffordable.

And when we need help, the bar for our income shouldn't be so low that we must be nearly destitute, without any savings or emergency cushion, to qualify.

Is Congress working on any of this? Unfortunately, no. Instead, they're doing the opposite right now.

In fact, the GOP budget proposal would slash \$880 billion from Medicaid and \$230 billion from food assistance. They're also cutting government agencies that assist with affordable housing,

transportation, safety, veterans, and children with disabilities.

Why? Because they need to find at least \$4.5 trillion to give even more tax cuts to the wealthiest and largest corporations. They are reaching into my very shallow pockets, into my daughter's life-saving medical care, and into the mouths of those who come to my food table in that parking lot.

They're stealing from us to give to the rich, perpetuating a vicious cycle of poverty that keeps people homeless and hungry.

I don't think that's fair. Do you? We all deserve better.

Smith lives in Roswell, New Mexico. She works at a local talk radio station, runs a local Food not Bombs chapter and volunteers at Rehab to Rental, helping to increase affordable housing options.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.

Bill is due for lawmakers

Boston Herald

Tribune News Service

The DOGE-damners on Capitol Hill are going to hate Elon Musk's latest target: Congressional wallets.

Speaking at a town hall in Wisconsin on Sunday night, Elon Musk suggested that his Department of Government Efficiency will investigate how certain members of Congress got "strangely wealthy" despite their comparatively modest public salaries, the New York Post reported.

The deep pockets of some in Congress help explain the disconnect between those in power and the ordinary Americans who elected them to serve, and the political distaste for term limits.

Rank-and-file members of Congress make \$174,000 annually, and yet scores of lawmakers who have spent decades on Capitol Hill are millionaires.

"How do they get \$20 million if they're earning \$200,000 a year?" Musk asked. "We're going to try to figure it out and certainly stop it from happening."

It's not a big mystery. One of the wealthiest members of Congress is former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., with a net worth in the \$250 million-range. And that largesse largely come from her and her venture capitalist husband Paul's lucrative investments in companies like Apple, Microsoft, Amazon, Google and Netflix.

The Pelosi household isn't alone in reaping rewards from the stock market while one member serves in Congress. And Musk isn't the first, or only, person to want the wealth spigot shut off.

For example, Texas Rep. Chip Roy has been trying to get the TRUST in Congress Act passed for years. The bill would ban members of Congress and their families from engaging in insider trading by requiring members of Congress, their spouses, and dependents to place certain investment assets into a qualified blind

Guest Editorial

trust while serving in office.

"The American people should have faith that Congress is at work for the good of the country, not for their own bank accounts. For years I have been working to address the problem of stock trading in Congress, first introducing the bipartisan TRUST in Congress Act with Rep. Abigail Spanberger back in 2020," said Representative Roy. Spanberger retired, but Roy's back at it, reintroducing the bipartisan bill in January with Rep. Seth Magaziner of Rhode Island and a host of co-sponsors, including Massachusetts Rep. William Keating.

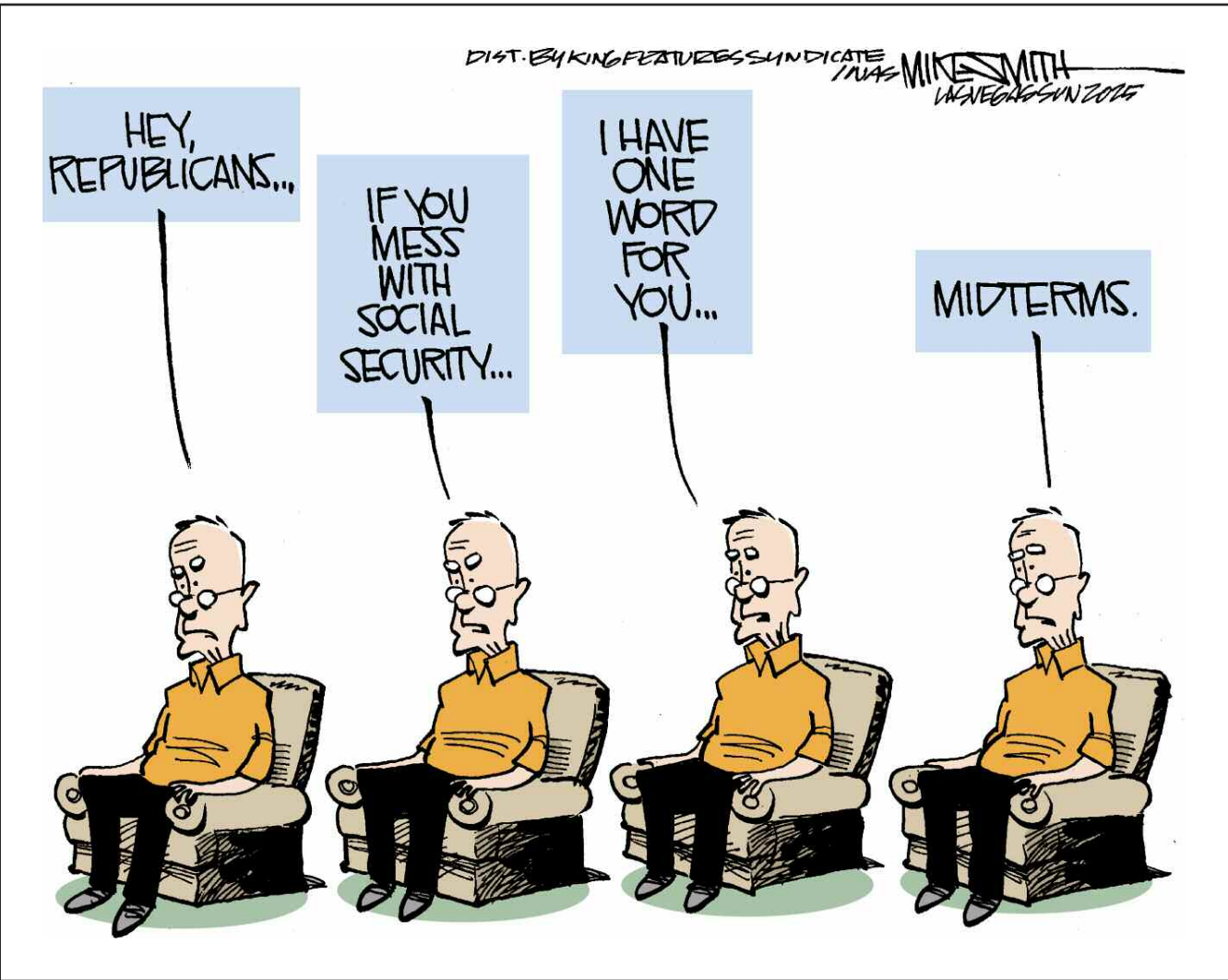
Rep. Marie Gluecksenkamp Perez of Washington and Iowa Rep. Zach Nunn introduced the bipartisan No Corruption in Government Act in January. It would prevent stock trading, end automatic annual pay raises, and triple the lobbying ban for Members of Congress.

A fresh fire's been lit under some lawmakers who see public service as just that, and not a lottery ticket. But making bank is a hard habit to break, and voting "no" on such legislation is an easy way to squash attempts to end the big-bucks buffet.

Adding Musk to the mix could change all that. Alone, the bipartisan lawmakers face another uphill slog to pass such legislature. Musk's DOGE muscle, and the public will to have a government that works for them, not those in power, could push reform over the finish line.

"We have a long road ahead to address this Congress, but we can and should fix the problem during this term. We have the will and the mandate of the American people to do this. Let's deliver," said Roy.

It's about time.



Casino study could be better

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

If Indiana were to start from scratch and legalize casino gambling today, we obviously wouldn't leave out the state's two largest population centers.

That's why I am intrigued by a bill that would study casino reorganization — from the transfer of an existing, underperforming license to potentially adding a new license.

Senate Bill 43 was the result of a failed attempt to move the Rising Star casino in southern Indiana to New Haven, just outside of Fort Wayne. The intense opposition stopped that idea, but led to the next one.

The legislation requires the Indiana Gaming Commission to contract out for a study to identify two regions where a license could locate, which could add a 14th license to the mix.

Honestly, I think the state needs a much broader study looking at gambling overall.

Since Indiana legalized the lottery in 1988, lawmakers have approved virtually every other gambling option you can think about. Riverboat casinos (which have since moved onto land); racinos (which started out as slots at the horse tracks and now are full-fledged casinos); sports betting; charitable gambling; and low-stakes gambling at bars.

All of these are cannibalizing each other at some point. Not to mention the interactive online gambling that casinos and the Hoosier Lottery are seeking. That bill also stalled this session.

Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne,

Niki Kelly



called the study "incredibly short-sighted" in an opposing speech from the Senate floor last month.

"If we are really going to look at this, instead of doing this piecemeal, then let's really look at our gambling revenues," Brown said. "... If we care, then we should have an honest look at our gaming revenue that we're seeing. Whether it's horse tracks, whether it's the sports betting or whether it's the on-the-ground casinos."

"It's a Jenga game. They all need to be looked at in a fix," Brown added.

But alas, we will stick with the current discussion.

I understand that when gambling started in Indiana, lawmakers chose to put facilities near state lines to attract gamblers hailing from other states in which it wasn't legal. But it's a different world now.

It makes no sense that the Indianapolis and Fort Wayne areas don't have casinos — if, indeed, the goal is to maximize tax revenue to the state. An amendment made to Senate Bill 43 acknowledged this, by narrowing the study from three regions to two.

Sen. Aaron Freeman, R-Indianapolis, said any "serious conversation" about a license needed to include his

hometown, adding that the southeastern casino was "dying."

"If the purpose of gaming is revenue, why there is not a casino in downtown Indianapolis defies my understanding," Freeman said. "Because it would support all of our tourism, all of our big games, all our industry. Everything in Indianapolis — it would support it."

Some Indiana gambling operators have said this is destabilizing. And, of course, if you move a license to Indianapolis, it will impact the number of people from central Indiana willing to drive to the racinos in Shelbyville or Anderson. Same for Fort Wayne.

But I think lawmakers need to look at the overall health of the industry and taxes brought to the state, rather than individual operators. According to annual reports by the Indiana Gaming Commission, gaming and sports wagering operations brought in \$691 million in taxes in fiscal year 2022. That dropped down to \$655 million in fiscal year 2024.

Maybe the answer is fewer licenses overall, but placed for maximum impact. Maybe a study would find we need to go all in on more expansions. Or maybe we are right where we need to be. We need to think bigger, and consider what's best for all of Indiana.

Kelly, editor-in-chief of Indiana Capital Chronicle, has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

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

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 151—NUMBER 244
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2025

www.thecr.com

"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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days — \$3; Monthly auto-pay — \$10; 13 weeks — \$32; six months — \$60; one year — \$108.
City (walking — where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$12; 13 weeks — \$37; six months — \$70; one year — \$125.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$13; 13 weeks — \$45; six months — \$76; one year — \$144.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay — \$14; 13 weeks — \$51; six months — \$83; one year — \$156.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

I&M submits 20-year energy plan

Indiana Michigan Power submitted its 2024 Integrated Resource Plan to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission last week outlining its plans for meeting the energy needs of its customers.

I&M's plan, which lays out a 20-year projection, calls for continuing to target more renewable and natural gas resources to meet energy needs as well as relicensing hydroelectric facilities in Elkhart and Mottville. It also recommends relicensing a nuclear facility in Bridgman, Michigan, and looking at opportunities involving small modular reactor nuclear technology.

"I&M has an opportunity to make a significant impact on the communities we serve by adapting to meet customers' evolving energy needs now and into the future," said Steve Baker, I&M president and chief operating officer, in a press release. "By diversifying our generation mix with a portfolio of resources that can be available around the clock, our customers can trust that we are Future Ready to serve their homes, businesses and factories 24/7."

Hospital recognized
Indiana Hospital Association recently recognized Adams Memorial Hospital as a Hospital of Distinction for Maternal and Infant Health. The honor recognizes the hospital for its "commitment to implementing best practices that support the health and well-being of mothers and infants in their care." Adams Memorial was highlighted for its efforts in infant safe sleep

Business roundup

practices, breastfeeding support, perinatal substance use care, addressing social drivers of health, obstetric hemorrhage prevention and management, and maternal hypertension management.

"As always, we remain committed to delivering the highest standard of care for mothers and babies in our community," said Adams Memorial chief operating and nursing officer Chris Butler in a press release. "Congratulations and gratitude are extended to our dedicated OB staff and providers at Adams Memorial Hospital for their exceptional efforts in advancing maternal and infant health."

Hosting drive
Menards stores are holding a pet supplies drive through the end of May. Supplies needed include food, treats, feeders, collars and beds. Items collected will be donated to local humane associations. Donation boxes will be near the next doors at Menards locations, including in Muncie, Richmond and Celina, Ohio.

Surgeon joins
Bluffton Regional Medical Center announced the hiring of Dr. Michael Thorpe on Thursday. Thorpe will be on the surgical staff and treat conditions affecting the breast, colon, skin, soft tissues, digestive tract and vascular

system. He also specializes in minimally invasive surgery of the abdomen.

"We are pleased to announce that Thorpe has joined our team at Bluffton Regional Medical Center," said Bluffton Regional Medical Center chief administrative officer Julie Thompson in a press release. "His exceptional level of care will significantly benefit our patients and reinforce our commitment to delivering quality healthcare in Bluffton."

Thorpe is a graduate of the University of Toledo and served his residency at St. Louis University Hospital.

Nominate
Nominations are open for the Indiana Manufacturers Association 2025 Manufacturing Excellence Awards.

The awards honor Indiana companies and individuals for their contributions to the manufacturing industry. They are open to all manufacturers in Indiana.

Anyone can make a nomination by visiting indianamfg.com/2025-manufacturing-excellence-awards. The deadline is Sunday, Aug. 31.

Applications sought
Tyson Ventures, a branch of Tyson Foods, is seeking applications for Tyson Demo Day 2025. The event will focus on advancing artificial intelligence in food technology, emphasizing brand engagement, innovation in research and development and reimagining product development processes. There will be a focus on artificial intelligence this year.

"This year, we're spotlighting the transformative potential of AI to enhance how we connect with customers and consumers, design innovative products, and deliver exceptional experiences," said Doug Kulka, Tyson Foods chief information and technology officer, in a press release.

Firms that are selected will pitch their innovations at Tyson Demo Day in July.

Nomination opens
The state is now accepting nominations for the Governor's Century and Half Century Business Awards.

The awards honor businesses that have been in operation for at least 50 years and have "demonstrated a commitment to serving the community."

Criteria for the award includes: Continuous operations in Indiana for 100 or 50 years by Dec. 31, 2024.

Participation in the same line of work for the duration of its operations.

Having its base in Indiana since it was founded.

Applications are available at iedc.in.gov/program/century-and-half-century-awards. The deadline is Friday, May 30.

Dean appointed
Ball State University appointed Kristen McCauliff last week as dean of its College of Communication, Information and Media. McCauliff had served as interim dean since July. She has been a faculty member at BSU since 2009 and previously served as associate provost for faculty affairs and professional development.

"McCauliff is a thoughtful and effective leader who exemplifies our University's enduring values," said Ball State president Geoffrey S. Mearns in a press release. "She brings to this role a deep understanding of our campus community, a strong record of academic and administrative leadership, and an unwavering commitment to student success. I look forward to her continued impact in guiding CCIM's innovative programs that provide our students with distinctive experiences and prepare them for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives."

Device developed
Indiana University researchers have developed a device to preserve a patient's hair during cranial surgeries.

The disposable, single-use device prevents hair from getting tangled with medical tools during operations without the need to shave any hair. Dr. Jignesh Taylor, who developed the tool with Steven Wakeman, recently filed a patent application.

"Often during cranial surgeries, hair strands from the patient will get in the way of the incision and the drills used to perform the operation," Taylor said in a press release. "However, shaving a patient's hair can be emotionally challenging and negatively impact the patient's mental well-being as they recover from their surgery."

Conference set
The Indiana District Export Council will host the Doing Business with North America conference

from 11:15 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday, May 8, at Newfields Art Museum in Indianapolis.

Speakers for the event include the General Consuls for Canada and Mexico and leaders from Eli Lilly, Greater Indianapolis Foreign Trade Zone (INzone) and Indiana University.

Tickets are available at indianadec.org.

Training offered
ServSafe training will be available at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland.

The next session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 29.

Additional sessions are scheduled for May 20 and June 24.

The certification course is open to all food service employees and emphasizes safe food- and beverage-handling practices to minimize the risk of food-borne illnesses.

For more information, or to register, call (260) 729-5525.

Conference set
Indiana Chamber of Commerce will host its 2025 Indiana Workers' Compensation Conference April 23.

The event, which will include tips on handling claims, controlling insurance costs and mental health, will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Ritz Charles in Carmel. There are in-person and virtual options available.

For more information, or to register, visit indianachamber.com.

Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@thecc.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Young pushes for congressional voice on tariffs

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

When President Donald Trump unveiled another, broader series of tariffs this week, he sent markets reeling — and sparked bipartisan legislative pushback featuring Indiana's senior U.S. senator.

The changes stoked enthusiasm among most Republican officials representing Indiana in Congress, while Democratic representation spoke against them.

Trump introduced additional import taxes with fanfare Wednesday from the White House Rose Garden, dubbing it "Liberation Day." He said it would "forever be remembered as the day American industry was reborn," States Newsroom's national team reported.

He held up a list of "reciprocal" tariffs purporting to charge other nations half of what they

charge the U.S. But they're actually calculated based on trade deficits — which occur when a country imports more products from other countries than it sells to them — BBC News found.

The day after, a Washington state Democrat and an Iowa Republican introduced the "Trade Review Act of 2025," to "reaffirm Congress' key role in setting and approving U.S. trade policy" — and on Friday afternoon, Republican U.S. Sen. Todd Young of Indiana signed on as a cosponsor.

The president would have to notify Congress of new tariffs or tariff increases within 48 hours in order to enact them. The notice would have to include justification, plus an analysis of the potential impacts on American businesses and consumers. They'd expire within 60 days unless Congress passes a joint

resolution of approval. And Congress could end the tariffs at any time.

Young previously said the Trump administration "rightly takes the view" that it's time to push back on "provocative trade activity" in a Thursday statement to the Capital Chronicle.

"While tariffs can be a useful tool, they also carry downside risk if applied without a clear strategy — especially for Hoosier farmers and manufacturers who need certainty," he said. "I've consistently emphasized the need for greater clarity in our trade approach so that those directly affected aren't left in the dark."

He touted his Leveling the Playing Field 2.0 Act then added, "My hope is that these efforts — both the strategic pressure of tariffs and the enforcement tools in my legislation — can lead to negotiated outcomes that

strengthen America's position on trade and the economic prosperity of our country."

It's also consistent with Young's views that Congress needs to avoid ceding key decisions to the executive branch.

GOP Second Congressional District Rep. Rudy Yakym also referenced potential challenges in a Friday statement to the Capital Chronicle.

"I am in close contact with Hoosier manufacturers, farmers, and the Administration on tariffs," he said.

"Indiana's Second District is the type of production economy President Trump wants to see across the country, and I look forward to passing pro-growth policies that increase manufacturing and jobs to ensure our shared goal of a level playing field," Yakym continued.

But most of Indiana's congressional delegation offered pas-

sionate support for the president's tariffs.

"The days of other countries ripping off America and our workers are OVER," Republican U.S. Sen. Jim Banks of Indiana wrote on X Wednesday. "Thanks to President Trump, it's America First from here on out."

Indiana Ninth District Congresswoman Erin Houchin, also a Republican, wrote the country has been "ripped off" for decades and that Trump is "rewriting global trade policy in America's favor."

Banks, meanwhile, celebrated when General Motors announced Thursday that it would increase production in Indiana.

"It hasn't even been 24 hours and President Trump's plan is already delivering for working families in Indiana in a big way," Banks said in a statement posted to X.

Home Idea Center
901 Industrial Dr.
Ft. Recovery, OH
419-375-4951
www.ehomeidea.com

Baird Freeman
Funeral Home
221 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
260-726-7171

Sisters
Sweet Escape
41 W 275 S
Portland, IN 47371
260-202-9591

Fortkamp Foam
3216 Wabash Road
Fort Recovery, OH 45846
419-852-1390
Fortkampfoam.com

Hopkins Repair,
LLC
Auto & light truck repair
Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm
Call Scott Hopkins
260-251-0459

J Wood Products
For Sale
Sawdust & Firewood Call
or Text 260-251-1154.
415 W Water St. Portland.
7:00 am-3:00 pm.

All Weather
Heating and Air
Conditioning

(260)726-4822
24 hr Emergency Service
Serving Portland
& Surrounding Areas

All Circuit
Electrical, LLC
5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN
260-997-8336
www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Display Craft Signs
630 E. Votaw St.
Portland, IN
260-726-4535

Vormohr Family
Dentistry
1413 W. Votaw St.,
Portland
260-726-7822

Jay County Drug
Prevention
Coalition

100 N. Meridian St.,
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259
Email:
jcdpcccontact@gmail.com

Dunn Family
Dental Care
110 W. North St.
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8007

Brigade

You're safer
with us

1976 W. Tyson Road,
Portland, IN 47371
(260)766-4343
brigade-electronics.com/en-us

Ohio Valley Gas
129 E. Main St.,
Portland
260-726-8114
www.ovgc.com

Williams
Auto Parts, Inc.

1127 Detroit Ave.
Portland, IN
8-5:30 Mon-Fri.
Closed Sat & Sun.
Used auto parts
since 1951
(260) 726-8001
www.williamsautoparts.com

Find
Local
Businesses
&
Services

This local business listing runs
4 times a month with packages of either
\$25, or \$50.
Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included

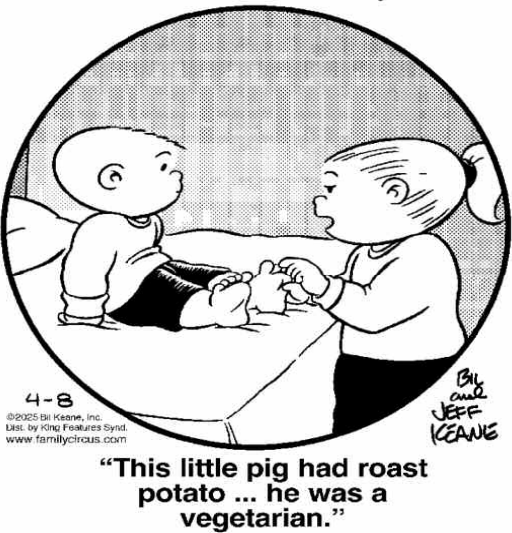
SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



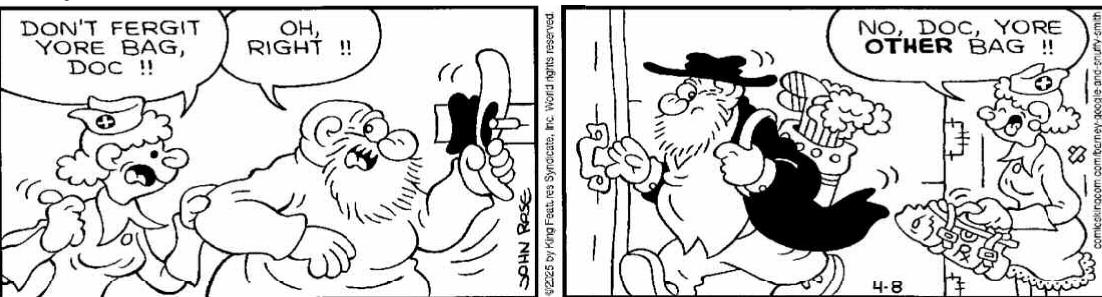
Between Friends



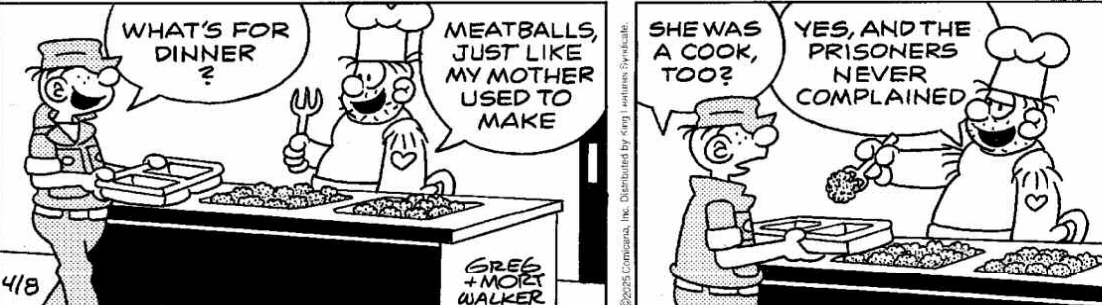
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Never give up!

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 9 8 6 3
♥ 9 6 2
♦ A Q 8
♣ Q J 2
WEST
♠ Q 10 4 2
♥ K Q 10
♦ 9 4 3
♣ 8 6 5
EAST
♠ —
♥ A J 7 5 4
♦ 10 7 5 2
♣ 10 7 4 3
SOUTH
♠ A K J 7 5
♥ 8 3
♦ K J 6
♣ A K 9

The bidding:
South 1 ♠
West Pass
North 2 ♠
East Pass
4 ♠

Opening lead — king of hearts.
It is not uncommon for declarer to go down in a perfectly sound contract because of an unlucky distribution of the opposing cards. But while this may certainly occur from time to time, the fact remains that in some of these hands, it is possible to overcome an unfortunate lie of the cards.

Here is a typical case. The defense begins by leading three rounds of hearts, declarer ruffing the third. There seems to be nothing to the play, but when South cashes the ace of trump, East shows out.
This is a cruel blow, and if declarer panics, he is apt to go down one and move on to the next hand feeling sorry for himself. But if he is made of sterner stuff, he immediately goes to work on trying to find a way to overcome the 4-0 trump break.
And if South concentrates hard enough, he should eventually come up with the right answer. He stops playing trump and, with fingers crossed, cashes three rounds of diamonds and three rounds of clubs.
When West follows suit through- out, South's prayer is answered. He next leads a low trump, and West, whose last three cards are the Q-10-4 of spades, finds that one of his two seemingly sure trump tricks has disappeared. After winning the trick with the ten, he is forced to lead from the Q-4 into declarer's K-J, and the contract is home.

Tomorrow: Diabolical defense.
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

4-8

CRYPTOQUIP

HD GKTS AKLJTE TX YBKLT SKW
T QYJBTEU DY L VZUHEN TEW
MKXXHEN MSYQOM, GYZXW
SATS VK T LYOKLTNK?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: POP SONG ABOUT A FELLOW WHO GETS GOSSIP FROM A BOARDINGHOUSE RESIDENT: "I HEARD A ROOMER."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals G

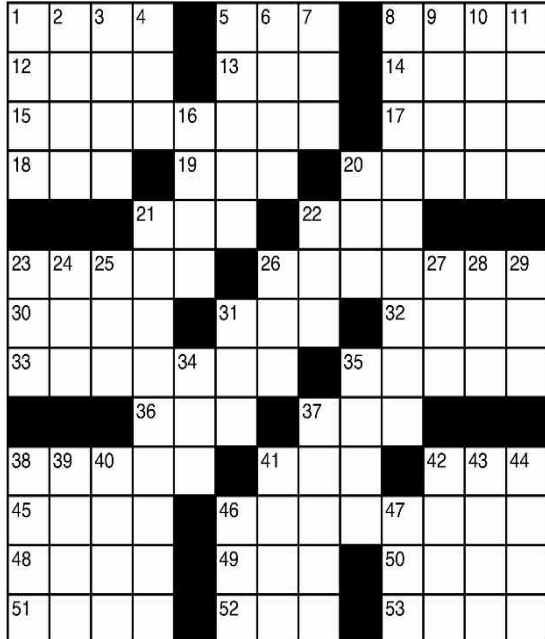
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Fit of anger
5 Leading lady?
8 Chicago paper, briefly
12 Geometric calculation
13 Compete
14 Speck
15 Hockey player's dream
17 Jacob's twin
18 Carte lead-in
19 Giverny summer
20 Song of praise
21 Mermaid's home
22 Pen name
23 Noisy kiss
26 "My bad!"
30 "Insecure" actress
31 Towboat
32 Regretted
33 Paramount
35 Painter of ballerinas
36 Thurs. follower
37 Wagner's "Rheingold"
38 Bamboo eater
41 "The Hang-over" actor
42 Gallery display
45 Crunchy cookie
46 Save diligently
48 Shredded cabbage dish
49 Year in Mexico
50 German city
51 Undecided
52 Standard
53 Writer Wiesel
DOWN
1 "Funny!"
2 Russian river
3 Greek cheese
4 Corpulent
5 Musical set in Argentina
6 Bad habit
7 "A spider!"
8 Overtime causes
9 Activist Parks
10 Slanted type (Abbr.)
11 Oz creator L. Frank —
16 Stink
20 Math ratios
21 Eat quickly
22 Cranberry territory
23 Venus, to Serena
24 The Spartans' sch.
25 Venomous viper
26 Take to court
27 Bad hairpiece
28 "Angie" actor
29 Gridiron stats
31 Texter's "More than I need to know!"
34 Time line period
35 Like a dungeon
37 Interior design
38 Blog entry
39 Woody's son
40 Close
41 Coffee-growing region of Hawaii
42 Missing GI
43 Hindu royal
44 Emmy-winning actress
46 Enervate
47 Prez on a penny

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-8



GET IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

You never know what you might find in
The Commercial Review Classifieds.
From a new car to a new home, to a new job,
the Classifieds deliver!
Go to thecr.com
or call
260-726-8141

00CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141
ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge....
\$12.40
1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/word
12 insertions. \$1.52/word
26 insertions. \$1.77/word
Includes
Online.....FREE
Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch
No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page
Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication.
Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

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

60 SERVICES

J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC. Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.
SEAMSTRESS NAN HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, AppliquÉ, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334
GOODHEWS ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

The Commercial Review

Newspaper Delivery

Comments or

Problems?

Call our

Circulation

Hotline

260-251-9588

After 4:00 p.m.

Leave Message Please.

Carrier Delivery

Deadlines

Tuesday - Friday:

6:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

The Commercial Review

309 West Main St.,

Portland.

Front Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Circulation Department

Hours:

10:00 am - 4:00 p.m.

Little JJ's Tree Service
Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding.
Firewood available
765-509-1956

E and E Construction Amish Crew
BARN RESTORATION
Specializing in metal roofs, decks & more
FREE Estimates
260-301-1777

Wendel's Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying, Residential & Commercial
Green Seal Approved
Donna Wendel
Cell: 260-251-1077

Bricker's Flowers & More
414 N. Meridian St. Portland
Call or text to order 260-703-0304
Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday
9:30-3:00 Saturday

MAY FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.
• Life • Health
• International Medical
Employee Benefits
• Dental • Vision
• Medicare Supplements • Annuities
MATT FRANKS
your home town agent
(260) 729-5200
111 W. Main Street, Portland, IN

Dave's Heating & Cooling
Furnace, Air Conditioner
Geothermal Sales & Service
260-726-2138
Now accepting MC/Disc/Visa

BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W,
Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

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

UConn ...

Continued from page 8

UConn began to slowly build its lead in the second quarter after Bueckers opened it with a mid-range pull-ups. But it was Strong who truly took over on both ends of the floor to enter halftime two points shy of a double-double. She logged 11 rebounds in the first half plus eight points shooting 50% from the field, and she added two blocks, two steals and two assists.

The Huskies pulled ahead by double digits for the first time after Fudd hit a layup to lead the team with 13 points at halftime, but South Carolina scored on back-to-back possessions to get back within seven in the final 35 seconds. Sophomore Ashlynn Shade caught a pass from Bueckers in the corner and nailed the wide-open look to send UConn into half-time leading 36-26.

South Carolina put up a fight at the start of the second half, keeping the Huskies from significantly widening their deficit for the first seven minutes of the quarter. But Auriemma took a timeout with three minutes left in the third, and Fudd immediately hit her first 3-pointer on the game out of the break. Strong added her first 3-pointer seconds later, and the UConn faithful in the crowd reached a fever pitch as they started to feel victory within reach.

The Huskies' bench exploded after Bueckers drew an and-1 against Gamecocks star MiLaysia Fulwiley on a driving layup and hit her free throws to put the team on an 8-0 run at the beginning of the final quarter. South Carolina struggled to recover from a nearly three-minute scoring drought, and there was never a doubt for the Huskies down the stretch, outscoring the Gamecocks 20-17 in the fourth.

Duke ...

Continued from page 8

A Duke team that went 35-4, that won the ACC regular-season and tournament titles, that reached the Final Four, didn't claim the biggest prize available.

Scheyer built a strong roster, one with three freshmen surely to become NBA Draft first-round picks, two returning guards and three transfers that added grit, physicality and needed experience. They added to Duke lore by ensuring that three new banners will hang in Cameron Indoor Stadium's rafters to commemorate their championships and reaching the Final Four.

That sixth NCAA championship banner, though, remains elusive, because for all their talent and experience, the Blue Devils failed to make basic plays in the game's final two minutes.

"The amount of game situations we've watched this year," Scheyer said. "We haven't had the real-life experience all the time, but that's something I really felt we prepared for. So I feel like I let our guys down in that regard."

Flagg and James took



Photo provided

Grisez signs

Caden Grisez, a senior at Fort Recovery High School, recently signed his National Letter of Intent to play baseball at Wright State University Lake Campus. Pictured is Caden Grisez with his mother Jessy and father Tony.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Girls tennis at Blackford — 5 p.m.; Softball at Bellmont — 5:30 p.m.; Track at Blackford — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Houston — 5 p.m.; Track tri meet at Parkway — 4:30 p.m.

Thursday

Jay County — Softball vs. Delta — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Bellmont — 5 p.m.; Track vs. Fort Recovery — 5 p.m.; Baseball at Hamilton Heights — 6 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Shenandoah — 5 p.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Madison-Grant — 5 p.m.; Junior high softball at Union City — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Marion Local — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Marion Local — 5 p.m.; Track at Jay County — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Marion Local — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today

7 p.m. — NBA: Washington Wizards at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)

7 p.m. — NHL: Detroit Red Wings at Montreal Canadiens (FOX); Toronto Maple Leafs at Florida Panthers (ESPN)

7:15 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves (TBS)

7:30 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at New York

Knicks (TNT)

9 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup soccer: Tigres UANL at Los Angeles Galaxy (FS1)

9:30 p.m. — NHL: Vegas Golden Knights at Colorado Avalanche (ESPN)

10:30 p.m. — International friendly women soccer: United States at Brazil (TBS)

11:30 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup soccer: Cruz Azul at America (FS1)

Wednesday

12:35 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Pittsburgh Pirates (FDSN Indiana)

2 p.m. — The Masters golf: Masters Par 3 Contest (ESPN)

3:45 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at San Francisco Giants (FDSN Indiana)

7:30 p.m. — NBA: Los Angeles Lakers at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — NHL: Philadelphia Flyers at New York Rangers (TNT)

8 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Inter Miami at Los Angeles FC (FS1)

10 p.m. — NBA: San Antonio Spurs at Golden State Warriors (ABC); Denver Nuggets at Sacramento Kings (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Edmonton Oilers (TNT)

10:30 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup: Sarmiento at Central Cordoba (FS1)

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.

.....

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

90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	130 MISC. FOR SALE	190 FARMERS COLUMN	100 JOBS WANTED	230 AUTOS, TRUCKS
PUBLIC AUCTION Located at 8341 N 400 E, Bryant Indiana (Bearcreek Farms) on Saturday Morning APRIL 12, 2025 AT 9:30 A. M. HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS (2) Oak glass sliding door lighted display cabinet, nice; Oak corner lighted cabinet; Berne Haus Furniture sofa, love seat and oversized chair; karaoke machine; THOMAS KINCAIDE: large picture, Wonderland Express tree, iTwas The Night Before Christmas figure, light houses and globes. Large assortment of spittoons; large assortment of metal miniatures; games; toys; cast iron skillets; Atari Flashback 7 game console; Wagner cast iron pot with lid; Wagner skillet; Tasco telescope; large assortment of Christmas decorations; animated witch; gum ball machine; combo; kids bikes; stroller; sleds; golf clubs; cotton candy maker; CEMENT: angel, guy on tractor, owl, raccoon, bird bath and others; and many other items not listed. MOWER - TOOLS Craftsman DLT 3000 mower with 18.5 hp engine; Troy Bilt 5.5 hp snow blower with electric start; Troy Bilt 5500 watt generator; Craftsman table saw; 25T floor jack; Century wire feed welder; and many other items not listed. AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is only a partial listing of the many items that will be sold Please note that we will be running 2 rings. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview. Keith Huey Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis	Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 505 West Line Street, Geneva, IN Saturday Morning MAY 3, 2025 9:30 A.M. REAL ESTATE: 1 Ω story home with 3 bedrooms, 1 full bathroom and 1426 square feet of living area. Home has gas forced air furnace with central air, gas water heater, a water softener and a partial basement. The kitchen has nice oak cabinets with space for a table along with a dining room. There is a 24i x 26i 2 car detached garage with heat and water, a small utility barn with a walk in cooler and a 32i x 48i pole barn that has a workshop with heat and water. This property sits on 2.06 acres. This property has been well maintained and has a spacious yard. For more information or private showing contact LOY REAL ESTATE KIM LOY BROKER 260-726-2700 OR GARY LOY AUCTIONEER 260-726-5160 REAL ESTATE WILL SELL AT 9:30A.M. Personal property will sell immediately following real estate. KEN & MARCELLA DOHERTY, Deceased By Lois Debolt and Penny Hirsch Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069	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. HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD ITEMS Amana refrigerator; Maytag gas cook stove; china hutch; 4 drawer chest; Corelle set of dishes; Fenton basket; boom box; croquet set; and other items not listed. 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	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. 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.sycamorespace.com 250 PUBLIC NOTICE STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF MARSHALL, SS: IN THE MARSHALL SUPERIOR COURT #1 CAUSE NO. 50D01-2503-GU-000015 IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF KANTON EUGENE HER-SHEL ROMINE, MINOR. AMENDED NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF THE PERSON OVER A MINOR AND HEARING THEREON To: Desiree Lea Stevenson Last known Address 623 N. Alexander Street Portland, IN 47371 On the 30th day of May 2025 at 10:00a.m., in Marshall County, State of Indiana, the Marshall Circuit Court, a hearing will be held to determine whether co-guardians should be appointed for the minor child. At the hearing, the court will determine whether the minor child is incapacitated person under Indiana law. This proceeding may substantially affect the rights of the minor child. If the Court finds that the minor child is an incapacitated person, the Court, at the hearing, shall also consider whether Steven and Brandi Fredel should be appointed as permanent co-guardians of the minor child. You may attend the hearing and be represented by an attorney. The Petition may be heard and determined in your absence. Clerk of Marshall Circuit Court Prepared by: Edward R. Ruiz, #18860-53 RUIZ LAW P.C. 110 West Adams Street Plymouth, IN 46563 P: 574-540-2345 Attorney for Petitioners 4-8,15,22-2025 -HSPAXLP	Marshall Superior Court 1 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF MARSHALL, SS: IN THE MARSHALL SUPERIOR NO 1 COURT CAUSE NO: 50D01-2503-GU-000015 IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF KANTON EUGENE HER-SHEL ROMINE, MINOR AFFIDAVIT FOR SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION Edward R. Ruiz, upon his oath, deposes and says he is the attorney for the Petitioners, Steven and Brandi, and the last known address of Desiree Lea Stevenson and Wesley Romine are no longer confirmed. The purpose of this affidavit is to obtain an order for Publication by Summons. Edward R. Ruiz #18860-53 State of Indiana County of Marshall, SS: Before me the undersigned, a Notary Public in the above-named county and state, personally appeared Edward R. Ruiz and being first duly sworn by me upon his oath, says that the facts alleged in the foregoing Affidavit are true. Signed and sealed this 27th day of May, 2025. Irene Y. Kelley NOTARY PUBLIC-OFFICIAL SEAL State of Indiana, Marshall County Commission No: NP0725944 Commission Expires: March 24, 2028 Irene Y. Kelley, Notary Public A Resident of Marshall County, Indiana My Commission Expires: March 24, 2028 4-8,15,22-2025-HSPAXLP 250 PUBLIC NOTICE READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE	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 STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF MARSHALL, SS: IN THE MARSHALL SUPERIOR COURT #1 CAUSE NO. 50D01-2503-GU-000015 IN THE MATTER OF THE GUARDIANSHIP OF KANTON EUGENE HER-SHEL ROMINE, MINOR. AMENDED NOTICE OF FILING OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN OF THE PERSON OVER A MINOR AND HEARING THEREON To: Wesley Romine Last known Address 623 N. Alexander Street Portland, IN 47371 On the 30th day of May 2025 at 10:00a.m., in Marshall County, State of Indiana, the Marshall Circuit Court, a hearing will be held to determine whether co-guardians should be appointed for the minor child. At the hearing, the court will determine whether the minor child is incapacitated person under Indiana law. This proceeding may substantially affect the rights of the minor child. If the Court finds that the minor child is an incapacitated person, the Court, at the hearing, shall also consider whether Steven and Brandi Fredel should be appointed as permanent co-guardians of the minor child. You may attend the hearing and be represented by an attorney. The Petition may be heard and determined in your absence. Clerk of Marshall Circuit Court Prepared by: Edward R. Ruiz, #18860-53 RUIZ LAW P.C. 110 West Adams Street Plymouth, IN 46563 P: 574-540-2345 Attorney for Petitioners 4-8,15,22-2025 -HSPAXLP Visit Us At: thecr.com



Roessner commits

Anna Roessner recently signed her national letter of intent to run track at Hillsdale College. Pictured in the front row from left are Fort Recovery High School boys track coach Charlie Vasey, father and assistant cross country coach Matt Roessner, Anna Roessner, mother Angie Roessner and FRHS girls track coach and aunt Christy Diller. Back row are siblings Isaac, Will, Charlie, Sophia, Alex, Emma, Noah and Sarah Roessner.

Duke basketball haunted by ‘what ifs’

By STEVE WISEMAN
The News & Observer
Tribune News Service

SAN ANTONIO — In the end, blank stares replaced the knowing smiles of what had been an ultra-confident team.

Tyrese Proctor sat at his locker inside the Alamodome with a white towel covering his head, a similar pose to a year earlier when Duke was knocked out of the 2024 NCAA Tournament in Dallas by N.C. State.

That loss, to a Wolfpack team on an historic, magical run, denied Duke a Final Four appearance. As Saturday night turned to Sunday morning in San Anto-

Blue Devils held six point lead with 33.7 remaining before collapse to Houston in Final Four

nio, the Blue Devils dealt with a different kind of loss, this one in the Final Four but to a tough-as-nails, super-talented Houston team.

The what ifs from Duke's 70-67 national semifinal loss to the

Cougars will haunt Blue Devil coaches, players and fans for decades.

What if someone, anyone (!), other than Cooper Flagg could have made a shot from the field in the game's final 13 minutes?

What if Sion James could have successfully in-bounded the ball with 32 seconds left when he had not one, but two, opportunities to not turn the ball over?

What if Proctor had hit a free throw, or two, rather than miss the front end of a one-and-one with 20 seconds left and Duke still up by a point?

And, here's the ultimate one: What if Flagg, the national player of the year and, presumably, soon to be top pick in the NBA draft, had hit that jumper in the lane with eight seconds left to put Duke back in front?

All those things had to go wrong for Duke to squander what

had been a 14-point lead with 8:17 to play, a nine-point lead with 2:06 to play, a seven-point lead with 1:15 to play and a six-point lead with 33 seconds to play.

Mind-boggling. Stunning. Deflating.

"I'm heartbroken for our team that did everything for 38 minutes or 39 minutes, and came up short," Duke coach Jon Scheyer said. "Obviously, as a coach, I'm reflecting right now on what else I could have said or done. I'm sure there's a lot more that I could have done to help our guys at the end there. That's the thing that kills me the most."

See **Duke** page 7



Portland's Largest Selection of FRESH CUT QUALITY MEAT



AWARD WINNING MEATS

While supplies last, no rain checks

Fisher Gift Cards available for purchase! They can be used at either Portland or Muncie locations and never expire.

Whole Boneless

Pork Loins

\$1⁴⁹

lb

less than whole \$1.99/lb

Prime to Choice

T-Bones

\$12⁹⁹

lb

Round Steaks

\$5⁹⁹

lb

Cube Steak

\$6³⁹

lb

Mini Colby & Cojack Cheese\$5.69/lb

From Fisher's Smokehouse

Boneless, Smoked Turkey Breast\$5.99/lb
sliced or shaved

Bologna\$3.99/lb

All Beef hot Dogs\$4.99/lb

Spicy Andouille Smoked Sausage\$4.49/lb

***while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register**

300 W. Walnut St., Portland, IN

(260) 726-7355

Monday - Friday 8 am-5 pm • Saturday 8 am-1 pm • Closed Sunday

Call your order in today!

Freezer bundles are available. They offer the perfect mix of our most popular cuts of meat in quantities small enough to not crowd your freezer or cramp your budget.

Save time and energy with call ahead ordering and have your order ready to go when you arrive.

www.fishermeats.com

UConn women's basketball wins 12th NCAA title

By EMILY ADAMS
Hartford Courant
Tribune News Service

TAMPA, Fla. — There may never be a better storybook written than the one the UConn women's basketball team completed on Sunday afternoon at Amalie Arena with an 82-59 win over South Carolina in the 2025 NCAA Championship game.

In the 40th year of coach Geno Auriemma's legendary career at the helm of the program, the Huskies defeated the reigning national champions to bring home the 12th NCAA title in program history after a nine-year drought. As the only No. 2 seed in the Final Four, UConn dethroned three consecutive No. 1 seeds by double-digit margins to emerge as the last team standing in 2025.

Star guard Azzi Fudd made her name as an elite 3-point shooter, but the redshirt junior dominated the Gamecocks despite going just 1 for 6 from beyond the arc. Fudd led the Huskies with 24 points shooting 9 for 17 from the field, and she added five rebounds plus three steals for one of her most complete games of the season on the biggest stage.

Freshman Sarah Strong's star also shined brighter than ever under the lights of the national title game. She logged her fourth double-double of the 2025 NCAA Tournament and her 13th of the season finishing with 24 points and 15 rebounds plus three blocks, two steals and five assists.

Huskies dominate South Carolina in 82-59 victory that earned Geno Auriemma's first NCAA Championship since 2016

Though her final stat line wasn't eye-popping, Sunday's victory was all about fulfilling a dream for superstar Paige Bueckers. The redshirt senior ended her UConn career by accomplishing the single biggest goal she set when she committed to the Huskies as the No. 1 recruit in the class of 2020, logging 17 points, six rebounds, three assists and two blocks in the victory. She surpassed Hall of Famer Maya Moore for the most points in NCAA Tournament history, finishing her career with 477.

Both teams put on a show in the first quarter, going bucket-for-bucket over the opening minutes. There were five lead changes before the first media timeout, and neither team led by more than four at any point in the quarter. All five

starters on both rosters had points in the first six minutes, and both teams were shooting nearly 60% from the field to start the game.

After the early back-and-forth, the matchup quickly evolved into a defensive battle as both teams went scoreless for more than three minutes late in the first. The Huskies forced four turnovers in the opening quarter all off of steals led by two from Strong, and though they also gave up three of their own, the Gamecocks were never able to capitalize with points off the lost possessions. Bueckers sent the team into the second quarter with a burst of momentum, hitting a baseline jump shot assisted by Strong in the final seconds to put the Huskies ahead 19-14.

See **UConn** page 7