

Baldwin found not guilty in trial Tuesday

Redkey man was charged with Level 3 felonies for rape

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

A Redkey man has been found not guilty of raping a mentally disabled person.

Teddy R. Baldwin, 76, received a directed verdict Tuesday in Jay Circuit Court during his bench trial, finding him not guilty of three Level 3 felonies for rape in which the victim is mentally disabled or deficient. Two other Level 3 felonies for the same charge, allegedly committed in 2014, were dismissed with prejudice, and a third Level 3 felony for alleged rape in 2023 was dismissed without prejudice.

A probable cause affidavit filed in connection with the case alleged Baldwin knowingly or intentionally performed sexual acts with the victim identified as "NW" multiple times in his Redkey residence and at his rural Jay County property. Baldwin allegedly warned NW after having sex that he "couldn't tell anyone or he would get arrested," according to the affidavit, and would threaten that NW would be "sent to a home" and his "mother would be left alone" if he told others about the sexual acts. Baldwin would also offer to take NW out to eat or buy him items he wanted in exchange for not telling others, the document says.

NW, 31, expressed to police that it wouldn't have made a difference if he had asked Baldwin to stop during the sexual acts and said Baldwin was intimidating, according to the affidavit.

See Baldwin page 2

Proposal moves



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

Rep. Greg Porter, D-Indianapolis, speaks with reporters after a committee votes to adopt a new property tax proposal. The legislation was amended Monday to make changes that would allow local income tax increases, eliminated business personal property taxes and force the closure of Union School Corporation in Randolph County.

Amendments to legislation makes changes to income tax, would require closure of Union School Corporation by July 2027

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A new property tax plan from Indiana House Republicans including big business breaks and increased discretion over local income taxes, prevailed over qualms from Democrats on Monday.

It advanced to the House floor for further considerations after the 15-8 committee vote.

Under a massive amendment accepted by the committee, municipalities could for the first time raise local income taxes at 1.2% — though total local income taxes for the county must fall under a 2.9% cap.

The legislation would also phase out, by 2030, the business personal property tax on any-

thing purchased this year or later.

Democrats balked at voting for the 368-page amendment without any fiscal foresight. The Legislative Services Agency doesn't draft fiscal notes on amendments until they're adopted.

"(This) is not ready for prime time," said Rep. Greg Porter, D-Indianapolis. "We still have a lot of movement on it to get it to the point that we can even entertain it, as Democrats."

Amendment author Rep. Jeff Thompson, R-Lizton, said it balances local government funding needs with relief for homeowners.

"Ninety-three percent (of homeowners) will pay less than they would have without this bill," said Thompson, who chairs the committee. "Fifty-

five percent will actually pay less in pay '26 than pay '25 and we do know that it's roughly \$200 per home."

Veterans will qualify for a \$250 credit toward their bills on top of that estimated \$200 average credit. Fixed-income seniors will see another \$100 credit. Currently, both groups may qualify for deductions to their property taxes.

In total, Republicans said homeowners would save \$1.1 billion over three years through a "decrease on the increase" in revenue that local units of government are expected to see in coming years. Thompson said that, without action, locals would see an estimated 5.3% revenue growth.

Under the new property tax plan, that growth will fall to 3%, he continued, higher than

the state's projected revenue growth.

But Democratic committee members criticized the plan for falling short, saying it further benefitted businesses at the expense of homeowners and that relief should be targeted for the most vulnerable Hoosiers.

"... It seems like every time that we have a decrease for the business community, that (burden) has shifted over to the homeowners," said Rep. Cherish Pryor, D-Indianapolis. "Everybody else has been benefitting from the decrease that homeowners have been paying for."

As of 5:40 p.m. on Monday, no new fiscal analysis had been posted to the General Assembly website.

See Proposal page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

FFA meal

Hrmny Tuell puts food on a plate for a visitor to the Jay County FFA banquet on Friday in the auxiliary gym at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Village to add parking

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — More public parking may be available downtown in the future.

Fort Recovery Village Council approved a resolution on a 5-2 vote Monday authorizing village officials to purchase part of the property at 111 W. Butler St.

Mayor Dave Kaup explained the village began discussions with property owners Theodore and Alison Homan about six months ago to purchase the vacant lot next to their building and convert it into a public parking lot. Kaup pointed to its central location in the downtown area where there is limited street parking.

Next steps include conducting a survey on the property, with the lot to be resurfaced at a later date. Hopes are to begin using the lot for public parking sometime this year.

The village plans to buy the property for about \$85,000

Council approves purchase of lot downtown

using dollars from the village's general fund.

Council members Al Post, Erik Fiely, Greg Schmitz and Luke Knapke approved the resolution, with Cliff Wendel and Scott Pearson dissenting.

Also Monday, council paid a \$6,435.76 invoice to consulting firm Kleinfelder for work related to updating the village's master wastewater plan for Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and a \$4,338.14 invoice for engineering work related to dredging the lagoons.

Fort Recovery village administrator Randy Diller — he attended the meeting via phone call to share his report Monday — noted village officials met with Kleinfelder representatives last week to review the plan, coming to a consensus on a system with Lemna Environmental Technologies to meet new Ohio Environmental Protection Agency limits for phosphorus, ammonia and E. coli. Plans are to submit the updated master plan in the next week.

Diller also noted plans to begin design work related to dredging the wastewater lagoons, with hopes to begin seeking bids for the project soon.

Council also approved a \$245,534.62 request from Tom's Construction for reconstruction work completed so far on Butler Street.

Diller noted water work has been completed in the project.

See Village page 2

Deaths

Mary Boxell, 68, Portland  
Thomas Harriett, 84, Bloomington  
Pamela Best, 69, Portland  
Rob Love, 50, Berne  
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature peaked at 53 degrees Monday. The low was 31.

Rain is expected tonight with a low in the lower 40s. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with a 50% chance of rain and a high in the mid 50s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Plan Commission will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the conference room at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. The meeting will include a public hearing on a moratorium on new battery storage and solar energy facilities.

Coming up

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

Saturday — Results from the Jay County softball game against Delta.





# Village ...

Continued from page 1

It runs along Butler Street (Ohio 119) between Fort Site and Main streets. Plans are to complete asphalt work near June 1. Diller pointed out traffic signal poles are not expected to arrive until early August, meaning the village will need to install a four-way stop at the intersection of Butler and Wayne streets in the interim. Diller suggested using flashing lights at the intersection to draw attention to it.

In other business, council:

- Heard inspections were

recently completed on the village's first water tower and clear well near the water department. Diller said both facilities had no immediate deficiencies needing to be addressed, with maintenance to take care of a few small issues.

# Obituaries

## Mary Boxell

*May 21, 1956-April 5, 2025*

Mary Donna Boxell, age 68, of Portland passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2025 in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

She was born in Waco, Texas, on May 21, 1956, the daughter of Gerald and Gladys Jane (Nelson) McGee. She was married on June 22, 1986, to Jerry Boxell and he passed away on Jan. 21, 2016.

Mary had worked for The Commercial Review and enjoyed gardening and flowers. She also enjoyed spending time with family and friends.

Surviving is one son, Tyler Boxell of Portland; three daughters, Kylie Craig of Portland, Margaret Cardenas of Portland and Cynthia Rodriguez of Texas; one brother; two sisters; and eight grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at a later time.

Memorials can be made to the choice of the donor.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed at [bairdfreeman.com](http://bairdfreeman.com).



Boxell

ence degree from Ball State University.

Tom married Mary Helen (Decker) on Sept. 30, 1962, in Pennville, where they continued to reside and raise their two daughters, Tammy and Dee Dee.

Tom was a longtime member of the Pennville Church of Christ and later the West Walnut Church of Christ in Portland.

Tom retired from 3M in Hartford City in 1999 following a lengthy career of 36 years.

Tom was immensely proud of his family and his community. He was a 50-year member and past master of the Pennville Masonic Lodge and served on the Jay County Fair Board, as a volunteer at the Indiana State Fair Pioneer Village and, after relocating to Knightstown, Indiana, on the Big Blue Water Conservancy Board. Tom had a deep love for the outdoors, bird dogs, hunting and woodworking.

Survivors include:

His wife of 62 years: Mary Helen Harriett, Bloomington, Indiana

Two children — Tamara Jordan (husband: Curt), Cary, Illinois, and Dee Dee Poole (husband: Wayne), Bloomington, Indiana

One sister — Janice (Harriett) Quinn, Bloomington, Indiana

Three grandchildren — Evan Poole (wife: Kristin), Abby Poole (husband: Carlos Sanchez) and Audrey Poole (fiancé: James Little)

One great-grandson and namesake: Eli Thomas Poole

He was preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Maxine Harriett; and a brother, David Harriett.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, April 13, 2025, from 1 to 6 p.m. at the Pennville Chapel of the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home (190 S. Union Street). A Masonic service will be held at 6 p.m. on Sunday at the funeral home.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. at the Pennville Community Gym (390 W. Pleasant Street). Visitation will be

- Paid the following additional invoices: \$182,413.67 and \$152,740.15 for construction on the village's second water tower; and \$5,544 from PMG Consulting for work on water plant improvements designs.

held from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the gym prior to the service.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be directed to the Thomas Harriett Family Fund for the Pennville Community Gym. Envelopes will be available at the services or donations may be directed to this fund through The Portland Foundation.

Condolences may be expressed at [williamsonspencer.com](http://williamsonspencer.com).

## Pamela Best

*Nov. 20, 1955-April 3, 2025*

Pamela Best, age 69, a resident of Portland, passed away on Thursday, April 3, 2025, at IU Health Ball Hospital in Muncie.

Pam was born Nov. 20, 1955, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Reginald and Lois (Craig) Gillum. She worked at Walmart in Portland for 17 years.

Survivors include:

Her children — Phillip Gillum (Julie Hart), Portland, Indiana, David Best (Katie Branscum), Portland, Indiana, and Ted Best (wife: Lisa), Portland, Indiana

Two sisters — Cheryl Loper, Portland, Indiana, and Jackie Michaels (husband: Jack), Anderson, Indiana

Great-nephew — Markola Gillum

Several grandchildren and great-grandchildren



Best

Visitation will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2025, from 10 a.m. to noon at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow on Saturday, April 12, 2025, at noon at the funeral home. Pastor Steve Arnold will officiate and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant.

Condolences may be expressed at [williamsonspencer.com](http://williamsonspencer.com).

**Rob “Wobbly Wob” Love**, Berne, the father of a Portland man, Oct. 7, 1974-April 6, 2025.

CR almanac				
Thursday 4/10	Friday 4/11	Saturday 4/12	Sunday 4/13	Monday 4/14
<b>57/36</b>	<b>48/31</b>	<b>57/37</b>	<b>63/50</b>	<b>73/49</b>
Thursday's forecast shows a 50% chance of rain throughout the day with gusts up to 20 mph.	Friday looks to be mostly cloudy with highs in the upper 40s. The low may dip to 31 degrees.	Mostly sunny on Saturday when the low at night may hit the mid to upper 30s.	Another day of mostly sunny skies on Sunday when the high will be in the low 60s.	Monday's forecast shows mostly sunny with highs in the low 70s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 12-41-44-52-64 Power Ball: 25 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$30 million	Daily Four: 5-7-9-8 Quick Draw: 2-5-7-11-12-13-18-19-27-28-37-50-51-57-61-64-67-69-70-79 Cash 5: 6-10-35-39-45 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$29 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 3-3-2 Pick 4: 3-4-4-5 Pick 5: 3-2-7-5-3 Evening Pick 3: 0-4-1 Pick 4: 9-2-2-8 Pick 5: 0-4-5-1-4 Rolling Cash: 1-11-29-32-37 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 8-2-6 Daily Four: 5-1-4-7 Quick Draw: 2-4-19-20-22-23-27-31-37-38-49-54-63-64-65-70-74-76-78-80 Evening Daily Three: 8-8-2	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.74 May corn.....4.77 June corn .....4.77	May beans.....9.94 Wheat ..... 4.96
<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.76 May corn.....4.78 Beans.....9.93 May beans.....9.96 Wheat .....5.00	
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.87 May corn.....4.92 June corn .....4.93	
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.81 May corn.....4.81 Beans.....9.94	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.67 May corn.....4.72 Beans.....9.76 May beans.....9.81 Wheat .....4.83

## Today in history

**In 1860**, French inventor Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville creates the world's first recording of the human voice using his phonograph, an early sound recording device. He recorded himself singing “Au clair de la lune,” a French folk song.

**In 1865**, Confederate general Robert E. Lee surrendered to Union forces. Lee and Union general Ulysses S. grant met in Appomattox Court House, Virginia, that day. It signaled the fall of the Confederacy, with its forces surrendering over the coming weeks.

**In 1940**, Germany invaded Denmark and Norway in an effort to secure access to Swedish iron ore.

**In 1965**, the first indoor baseball game began at the Astrodome in Houston, Texas. The facility was the world's first domed and air-conditioned indoor stadium.

**In 2001**, American Airlines became the world's largest airline after acquiring Trans World Airlines.

**In 2003**, United States forces overcame Baghdad. The conflict, in relation to the Iraq War, led to plans to oust Iraqi president Saddam Hussein.

— The CR

## Citizen’s calendar

**Today**  
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.

**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.  
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Local Schools, community room, high school, 400 Butler St.  
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

**April 16**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North, Portland.

# Baldwin ...

Continued from page 1

Following the prosecution's case presented Tuesday, chief public defender Brandon Murphy argued the dates aligned with charges didn't match up with evidence presented.

Circuit court judge Brian Hutchison agreed, pointing to charges allegedly happening on or around Dec. 25, 2022, and Dec. 20, 2023. He also questioned whether the prosecution proved the victim is disabled or deficient as the statute defines, making it difficult to find Baldwin guilty beyond a reasonable doubt of the crime.

Baldwin's bond was then released.

A transgender male, NW testified Tuesday and shared a few instances in which he said Baldwin touched his genitals and breasts, used a vibrator on him and engaged in sex.

He said some of the incidents happened at their Redkey home and others at the “farm,” a property later identified as being located on county road 350 South in rural Portland. He recalled some of the incidents occurring in the winter. He also said the events occurred around the time his biological father died (November 2023).

NW said he told Baldwin no to sexual acts, with Murphy later questioning when NW would tell Baldwin to stop. Murphy pointed to medical records from visits NW made to a doctor in the latter half of 2023 and March 2024, noting the records indicate he told providers he was not sexually active at that time.

Jay County prosecutor Wes Schemenaur asked NW whether he understands what sex is, with NW saying he does not but likened it to “hugging and kissing.”

Liberty Noble, the victim's therapist for the last several years, said NW has generalized anxiety disorder and a moderate intellectual disability. She said she believes NW isn't capable of consenting to a sexual relationship and said he expressed he has no interest in one.

Answering a question from Murphy, Noble confirmed NW had a history of schizophrenia and prior hallucinations, with some occurring during his treatment. Murphy also pointed to general complaints NW aired with Noble about his stepfather between November 2023 and March and April 2024.

NW's mother said her son can be taken advantage of because of his condition.

Jay County Sheriff's Office investigator Tony Lennartz said he began looking into the case when it was brought to police April 20. He recalled searching the rural Portland property, where NW directed him to a mattress, vibrator and sex lubricant allegedly used for the acts.

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SERVICES

Today

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.

Monday

Harriett, Thomas: 11:30 a.m., Pennville Community Gym, 390 W. Pleasant St., Pennville.

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Photos provided

FFA honors

Fort Recovery FFA held its annual banquet March 25. Pictured above are top honorees from the banquet. They include (front row) Kassidy Dues with the Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award and Jake Fortkamp with the Star Farmer Award, and (second row) Zach Schoenlein with the Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award, and Cody Klenke and Kyle Huntsman with the Star in Agribusiness Placement Award. At left are Star Greenhands Jackson Dues and Hoyt Schmitz.

Girlfriend finished with wandering eye

DEAR ABBY: I have been with my boyfriend for 3 1/2 years. Before me, he was known for sleeping around. He has never cheated on me that I am aware of, but when we go to social gatherings (or just out), he flirts with other women. If there is another woman in the room, he keeps his eyes on her like I can't see it happening.

When I told him several times that it really bothered me, he said I was overreacting. When he drinks, it's 10 times worse. I'm trying to let it go, but it hurts my feelings deeply. In his mind, it's OK that we hang out with women he has been to bed with. He says it's no big deal. How do I learn to deal with all of this and be happy? I just want the respect I deserve. — GIRLFRIEND OF MR. POPULAR

DEAR GIRLFRIEND: If you want the respect you deserve, find a man who has some respect for women. Clearly your boyfriend does not. If he cared about your feelings, he wouldn't ogle other women while the two of you are out together. Doing so after you told him how it affected you is rude and inconsiderate.

I know you have invested a lot of time in this person, but he isn't going to change. Unless you want to perhaps be married to a womanizer with a drinking problem, end the romance now. (And once that's done, ask your doctor to test you for STDs.)

DEAR ABBY: My husband's daughter lives in another state. When COVID hit, her youngest was still in school. When they closed down, the girl didn't own a laptop or tablet (and the school didn't provide one), so she couldn't do her schoolwork. We offered to provide her with a tablet and run it

Dear Abby



through our phone plan so she had access if their Wi-Fi got bogged down or didn't work.

Fast-forward to today: That child is out of high school and no longer lives at home. Her mom has possession of the tablet and uses it regularly. She has a good job and could take over the plan.

I'm still paying for her internet access and have paid for that tablet many times over with just the monthly access fee. On top of that, Mom doesn't make much effort to keep in contact with her dad or me. Months go by with no phone calls or texts, and the last time I dialed her number, I got a message that made it sound like she had blocked my number. Phone calls from her dad go unanswered.

I want to shut down the line the tablet is connected to, but I know when she figures it out, she'll call raging that it was a gift. However, it was a gift to her DAUGHTER, not to her. Must I keep paying to keep peace, or shut it down? — MIFFED STEPMOM

DEAR STEPMOM: I can see why you might be miffed. Your husband's daughter is distant and not interested in fostering a relationship with her father or you.

Discuss this with your husband. Because his daughter has a job and can afford to pay the monthly access fee, there is no logical reason why you should be footing the bill.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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 CORYDON 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 Begin-

nings, 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 — BRANNA'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. Come early for a meal. 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.

PORTLAND AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland. All Auxiliary members are welcome.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — 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.

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

Friday

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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

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**The Commercial Review**



# Do something to help a good cause

*Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from 2010. Jack did plenty for many good causes throughout his life. He knew that there isn't much more fulfilling than helping others. As you read this, think about efforts to which you can contribute time or money or even pie. And maybe think about doing something for cancer research in Jack's honor.*

**By JACK RONALD**  
The Commercial Review

What would you do for a good cause?  
I mean, a really good cause. Good-hearted people do amazing things all the time to raise money for charities. They bowl, they dance, they walk, they rock in rocking chairs. You name it, they do it. And if they sacrifice a little dignity along the way, so be it. Being a little less stuffy and a little less full of ourselves is part of what makes that sort of charitable effort worthwhile. At least, that's what I'm telling myself. Next Sunday, I take a pie in the face for a good cause. A really good cause. Not only that, eleven other friends of mine are prepared to

## Back in the Saddle



do the same thing for the same cause. Let me explain, or try to. I'm a member of the Portland Rotary Club. Rotary is one of those service clubs like the Lions and Optimists and Kiwanians that does a great deal of good work, usually outside the public eye. In fact, it's safe to say that service clubs and sororities and lodges are essential to the glue that holds communities together. They're the groups - from the Delts to the Moose, from the Elks to Tri Kappa - that provide scholarships, fund charitable giving, and make countless things happen. Their very existence is a vote of confidence in the future of our community and our neighborhoods. They represent the essence of paying-it-forward, of giving back. If you're not involved in one,

you should be. You will be a better person for it. In my case, it's Rotary. And in my case, the good cause - the really good cause - is the eradication of polio. Folks under a certain age don't think much about polio. But during my childhood, it was a fact of life, a very scary fact of life. Jay County suffered through a severe epidemic of the disease in 1949, when I was still an infant and no one knew how the disease was transmitted or what caused it. As an elementary school student, I walked with classmates to Jay County Hospital to receive the first vaccine. All my life growing up here, I have known those who suffered from polio. The old term would have been "polio victims," but these people were too tough, too strong, and too determined to be considered anyone's victims. Still, the scars were there. If you grew up in Jay County during a certain era, you knew polio. You knew those whose lives had been touched by the disease. You knew, also, that you were lucky, extremely lucky, to have avoided it. That's why, I think, the Portland Rotary Club has responded

so strongly to Rotary International's efforts to eradicate polio from the face of the earth. The effort began back in 1985, and it continues today. When it began, there were something like 300,000 new cases of polio per year. Today, there are fewer than 1,500 per year and the disease is limited to four countries. The effort at inoculating the world's children has been nothing short of remarkable, and I have to admit I'm proud that the local club has played a substantial role. Back in 1985, the club raised several thousand dollars, thanks in large part to a challenge gift from the late Lee G. Hall. Three years ago, Rotary was given a challenge by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: Raise \$200 million and the Gates Foundation would kick in \$355 million. The goal for the Jay County club was \$3,000 over three years. The club raised \$6,400 the first year and has raised \$2,300 so far this year. Only the Indianapolis Rotary Club has raised more for polio eradication, and no club has raised more per member. Most of that has come out of the pockets of members, folks who grew up with polio all around them.

But this weekend, you get a chance to participate. Rotarians have decided to take a pie in the face — to sacrifice an ounce of dignity — to help the cause. Twelve Rotarians have agreed to be the target for pies in the face at Expo 2010 this weekend. Eight will be on the firing line on Saturday; four on Sunday. There will be a silent auction, with all proceeds going toward polio eradication. High bidders get to unleash their inner Moe and deliver a pie to the face. For the record, the 12 are: Former president of Portland Forge Charlie Freel, the Portland Foundation's Doug Inman, Wayne Blevins of Sertech Heating and Cooling, Jay County Chamber of Commerce executive Vickie Tague, Jay chamber president Scott Bollenbacher, candidate for Jay County prosecutor Wes Schemenaur, accountant Hannah Hughes, Jay County community developer Ami Huffman, investment adviser and Rotary president Mike Engels, city attorney Bill Hinkle, funeral director Don Spencer and — oh, yeah — me. I'm scheduled for Sunday afternoon. What are you willing to bid?

# WTC program must be saved

**New York Daily News**  
Tribune News Service

The World Trade Center Health Program, providing essential medical care to the heroes and the victims of 9/11, was spared a 20% Trump administration budget cut in February only when Republican members of Congress from New York fought back and saved the WTCHP. Those members must now ride to the rescue again. GOP Reps. Andrew Garbarino, Nick LaLota, Mike Lawler, Elise Stefanik, Nick Langworthy and Claudia Tenney have to reverse the firing of the head of the WTCHP and all of its doctors by the supremely unqualified Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Of course, all the Democratic House members from New York and Sens. Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand will also object to the sacking of WTC Program Administrator Dr. John Howard and his colleagues, but it is the Republicans who will have the sway to get President Donald Trump and Kennedy to revoke the firings. For years, Howard has been director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which lives within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That was until this week, when Kennedy wiped out NIOSH, firing Howard and all of the doctors at NIOSH, who also served as the expert medical staff of the WTCHP. Gone are the epidemiologists who identified what cancers stemmed from exposure to the toxins at Ground Zero and the physicians who have to certify each person being monitored or treated (currently 90,000) by the WTCHP. So now there's a health program for the 9/11 responders and survivors without any doctors and with no one in charge. Way to go RFK Jr.!

## Guest Editorial

Howard was re-appointed to a six year term atop NIOSH by Trump during his first administration and has done double duty (for a single salary) leading the WTCHP since it was established by Congress in 2011 after years of strenuous advocacy by sickened and dying FDNY firefighters and others (including this editorial page). NIOSH does much more than backstop the WTCHP by establishing nationwide workplace safety rules, such as protecting construction workers from hazards and miners from black lung disease. The Firefighter Fatality and Investigation Program is now completely gone as the WTCHP is being decapitated and stripped of its medical professionals. In fact everything at NIOSH was eliminated save for the WTCHP, but the swinging ax also loped off the head of the WTCHP, crippling it. NIOSH was not alone in getting gutted by RFK, the vaccine and science denier quack, who also cut deep into the CDC, the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institutes of Health, claiming to Make America Healthy Again. Kennedy must have been under orders from the White House to leave the WTCHP alone (as messing with 9/11 heroes is off limits) but he failed the instructions by offing Dr. Howard and the other doctors. Trump is loath to admit mistakes. He made one in cutting the WTCHP funding and had to retreat. Now he has to retreat again. He can blame Kennedy if that helps, but the WTCHP has to be restored and Congress has to finally fully and permanently fund it.



# Funding cut puts Fulbright at risk

**By CARTER POPKIN**  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

I am one of thousands of Americans sitting in limbo while working abroad on a Fulbright grant. The recent funding freezes have left many of us stranded in foreign countries without funds or guidance on how to proceed. Rather than just detailing this crisis, I want to illustrate Fulbright's importance through my experience as an English teaching assistant in Cambodia. The United States has a difficult history with Cambodia. In the late 1960s and early '70s, the U.S. dropped an estimated 500,000 tons of bombs on the country, killing 150,000 civilians. This relentless campaign cleared the path for the Khmer Rouge, who exploited a destabilized Cambodia. From 1975 to 1979, they committed one of the worst genocides in human history, with death toll estimates ranging from 1.5 million to 3 million. If any people have legitimate reasons to resent Americans, Cambodians do. Yet, they don't. Flying into Cambodia five months ago, dressed in my Fulbright T-shirt and equipped with my distinctly American accent, I braced for suspicion and hostility. What I instead encountered was extraordinary warmth. Without exception, every Cambodian I've met has been welcoming and eager to talk to me. During my trips to the local market, vendors pause their work to ask about the United States, share their dreams of visiting someday and insist I try some of their food. When my bike tire blew out on a rural road, three strangers stopped within minutes to

## Carter Popkin



help. During my moments of homesickness, my Cambodian colleagues have invited me into their homes to share meals with their families. While Cambodian hospitality is legendary, these connections represent something deeper: the cumulative impact of decades of cultural exchange. The U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh provides valuable services but has limited reach in other provinces outside the capital. Through foreign exchange programs such as Fulbright, many Cambodians outside Phnom Penh experience their most direct and meaningful day-to-day interactions with Americans. These connections complement the embassy's incredible programs and outreach. Each positive encounter — multiplied across the grantees over generations — builds global goodwill that formal diplomacy alone cannot achieve. This person-to-person approach forms an invisible but crucial foundation of American influence worldwide. But it's not just a one-way relationship. Like many Americans from modest backgrounds, international travel remained financially out of reach for me until Fulbright. Living in Cambodia has opened my eyes to another culture while making me appreciate our rights and opportuni-

ties back home. In the United States, I never thought twice about the safety of tap water or reliable health care. Now, I see these conveniences for what they are: privileges not everyone enjoys. In a moment in which American discontent seems to be the prevailing attitude of the nation, this reminder of our prosperity puts our struggles into perspective. The impact of a Fulbright grant extends far beyond individual participants. Each grantee serves as a cultural ambassador, breaking down stereotypes and building relationships that persist for decades. My Cambodian students don't just learn English from me — they gain a more accurate, nuanced understanding of American society that counters dramatized stereotypes. And, when I return home, I'll bring insights about Cambodia that will inform my work and community engagement for years to come. At a fraction of the cost of the military budget, Fulbright grants represent one of America's most effective diplomatic investments. As President Donald Trump's administration considers the program's future, it should realize that pausing Fulbright doesn't just strand Americans — it also undermines decades of careful relationship building in regions where the United States needs friends. In a world of increasing geopolitical tension, these people-to-people connections aren't luxuries; they're strategic necessities for maintaining America's global standing. \*\*\*\*\* Popkin, a recent graduate of Northwestern University, is teaching English in Cambodia on a Fulbright grant.

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# Court allows use of wartime law

**By GREG STOHR**  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service  
WASHINGTON — A divided U.S. Supreme Court let President Donald Trump resume using a wartime law to try to deport alleged Venezuelan gang members, giving the administration a boost in a high-profile clash over the limits of presidential power.

Granting an emergency request by Trump on a 5-4 vote, the justices tossed out a lower court order that had paused deportations under the Alien Enemies Act while litigation continues. The majority said detainees must have notice and a chance to make their case to a judge before they are deported.

In an unsigned opinion, the court downplayed the significance of its decision, saying it was requiring only that detainees challenge their deportation through a so-called habeas corpus case filed in the jurisdiction where they are being held. That means the five men pressing the case will have to press their arguments in Texas, not the Washington court where they sued.

Trump hailed the decision in a social media post. “The Supreme Court has upheld the Rule of Law in our Nation by allowing a President, whoever that may be, to be able to secure our Borders, and protect our families and our Country, itself,” he wrote on Truth Social.

The majority didn’t address arguments that scores of people were



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Alex Pena

Members of the Salvadorian army stand guard at maximum security penitentiary CECOT (Center for the Compulsory Housing of Terrorism) on Friday in Tecoluca, San Vicente, El Salvador. Granting an emergency request by the Trump administration on a 5-4 vote, the justices tossed out a lower court order that had paused deportations under the Alien Enemies Act while litigation continues.

deported on March 15 to a brutal prison in El Salvador without having a chance to argue that they aren’t gang members. The court instead said the detainees’ “rights against summary removal” aren’t “currently in dispute,” pointing to the Justice Department’s latest position on the issue.

In a recent court filing, the Justice Department said alleged gang members “subject to removal

under the Alien Enemies Act get judicial review.”

Justice Sonia Sotomayor dissented, sharply criticizing the majority’s ruling and the Trump administration’s use of the Alien Enemies Act.

She said the court’s decision to rule now “is as inexplicable as it is dangerous.” She said that on March 15, “the government was engaged in a covert operation to deport dozens of immigrants

without notice or an opportunity for hearings.”

In another dissent, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson said the president “invoked a centuries-old wartime statute to whisk people away to a notoriously brutal, foreign-run prison. For lovers of liberty, this should be quite concerning.”

Justice Amy Coney Barrett joined the three liberal justices in dissent,

though she didn’t endorse all of their reasoning.

Chief Justice John Roberts and Justices Clarence Thomas, Samuel Alito, Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh formed the majority.

Lawyers for the American Civil Liberties Union and Democracy Forward representing the Venezuelans had no immediate comment.

Trump has made unprecedented use of the

1798 Alien Enemies Act, a law previously invoked only in the War of 1812, World War I and World War II. The measure lets the president bypass federal immigration law to deport “alien enemies” when the U.S. is involved in a declared war or a foreign nation has started or threatened an “invasion or predatory incursion.”

The high court said it wasn’t deciding whether the administration’s interpretation of the law was correct, though the effect of the decision will be to let the government resume invoking it.

The administration has already used the Alien Enemies Act to ship more than 130 alleged members of the Tren de Aragua gang to a prison in El Salvador on March 15 — even though U.S. District Judge James Boasberg orally ordered the two planes carrying the Venezuelans to turn around midflight. The judge is now considering whether the government violated his orders.

An Immigration and Customs Enforcement official said March 18 that the administration had identified another 258 gang members who could be deported. Most weren’t in custody at the time of the statement.

The administration was sued by five Venezuelans who say they aren’t gang members. Their lawyers at the American Civil Liberties Union and Democracy Forward blasted the government for relying on factors like tattoos and Michael Jordan jerseys as conclusive markers of Tren de Aragua membership.

## Proposal ...

Continued from page 1  
The business community notched a long-fought win under the new property tax proposal, phasing out a charge placed on business personal property, which can include equipment, billboards and more. Small businesses with less than \$80,000 in such property are already exempt.

Thompson argued that the taxes two corporations might pay for similar buildings — one filled with people and another filled with business personal property equipment, or BPP — “are a night and day difference.”

“I argue that this is true: the one full of BPP might need less services. They’ve been paying part of the taxes for the other because they’ve been paying a whole lot more,” Thompson said. “We’re going to a system where both ... pay the same cost.”

A 2024 study from the Indiana Chamber found that exempting the tax on new business personal property would reduce revenue by \$1.2 billion for the state

while eliminating the depreciation floor would shave away another \$35 million.

But some analysis has found that homeowners have seen a disproportionate increase in their share of the overall property tax burden when compared to businesses, an argument that appeared to resonate with Democrats.

Property tax caps apply differently depending on the land’s use, whether it’s farming, housing or corporate. Homes fall under the 1% cap while businesses generally fall under the 3% cap.

“I think one of the major things that’s missing (in this discussion) is the reason why the homeowner’s property taxes have gone up at such a rate,” said Rep. Chris Campbell, D-West Lafayette. “The 2% and the 3% assessments are done differently. Because homeowners are based on market value and our market value for homes has skyrocketed.”

Taxes for properties that fall into the non-homestead categories, which don’t have the

same market value assessment triggers, have grown at a flatter rate, Campbell said.

“This amendment does not address that. We’re continuing to give additional cuts to the 2%, 3% (properties),” Campbell continued.

Notably, the state is in the midst of a multi-year effort to lower its income tax rate, from 3.05% in 2024 to 2.9% in 2027. A bill headed for Braun’s desk would allow that rate to fall further after 2030, dropping 0.05% if revenue collections exceed 2.5% growth in the four preceding years.

But that overall rate doesn’t account for the variance between counties.

The Tax Foundation reports that even as the statewide rate falls, local income taxes have climbed. Between 2014 and 2025, the state rate fell from 3.4% to 3% — but the local rate grew from 1.4% to 1.72%.

Under the newly amended bill, the total maximum rate would drop from 3.75% to 2.9% for most counties. An earlier

version of this story said it would increase, but that was only one portion of the three components making up the local income tax: property tax relief, expenditure, and special purpose. The expenditure category will rise to 2.9% but the other two categories will eventually expire.

The municipal tax of 1.2% is within that rate, staffers said.

The possibility of increased local income taxes negated potential property tax savings to Democrat Rep. Tonya Pfaff, of Terre Haute.

“I’m going to get \$200 relief and then I’m going to turn around and get a LIT and pay around \$200,” Pfaff said. “To me, it’s a wash.”

But one taxing entity won’t be able to impose a local income tax — even though school corporations will likely lose out on funding.

One of the explicit targets for the GOP authors was the use of debt in communities, specifically at school corporations. A Friday release said that local governments held \$54.3 billion but

didn’t break that number down further.

“We’re going to put some restrictions on that because that’s not good governance,” said Thompson, referring specifically to General Obligation bonds.

Funding referendums, for both schools and locals, will be moved to the general election, which has a higher turnout rate than a primary or special election. Schools previously objected to such a requirement, noting that the school year doesn’t align with the election calendar.

The bill, according to Thompson, will also incorporate elements of Senate Bill 518, which prompted a handful of protesters on Monday. The original version would require traditional schools to split their revenue with charter schools.

The updated language also dissolves the Union School Corporation, which has thousands of virtual students alongside a small physical campus. However, Thompson said that dissolution doesn’t occur until 2027, giving parents time to find other options.

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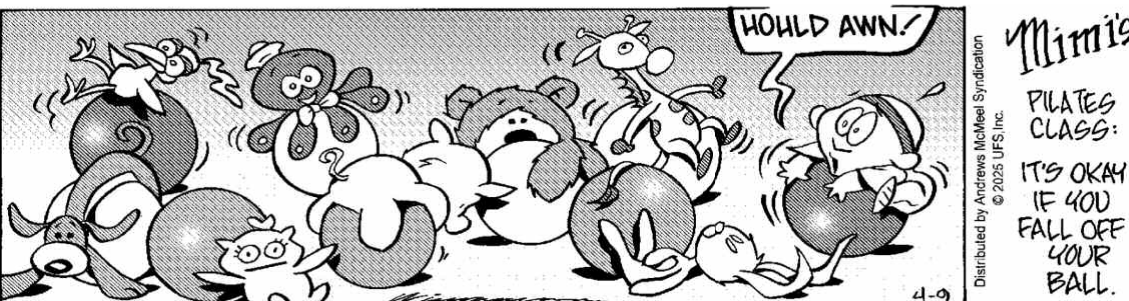
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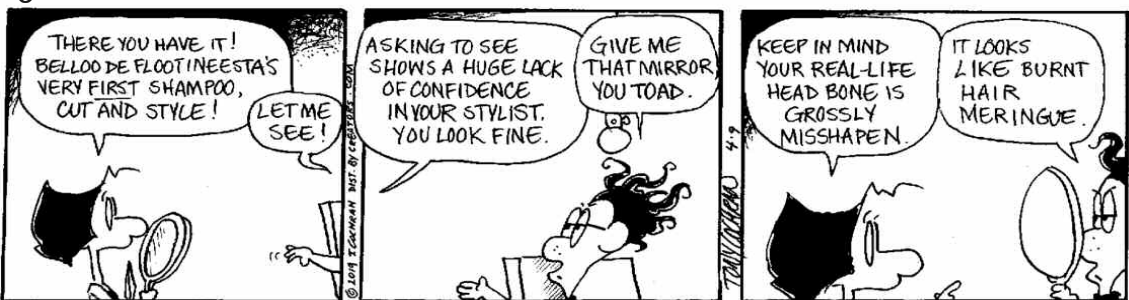
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Diabolical defense

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ Q 10 8 5  
♥ A K J  
♦ Q 9 2  
♣ 7 6 3

**WEST**  
♠ A K 4 3  
♥ 7 2  
♦ 8 5 3  
♣ Q 10 8 5

**EAST**  
♠ J 9 6  
♥ 6 5 4 3  
♦ J 10 4  
♣ A 9 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ 7 2  
♥ Q 10 9 8  
♦ A K 7 6  
♣ K J 4

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♥ Pass 1♠ Pass  
2♦ Pass 3♥ Pass  
3 NT

Opening lead — three of spades.  
The opening lead often has a crucial effect on the outcome of a deal. But even when a defender does find the best lead, he might still have to follow it up perfectly to exploit his initial advantage.

Here is a classic illustration of a good opening lead combined with an effective follow-up. The deal occurred in the 1969 Life Masters Pairs.

Meyer Schleifer, for many years

one of Los Angeles' top players, elected to lead a low spade against three notrump, even though North had bid the suit. Had Schleifer chosen the routine opening lead of a club, South would have made the contract easily.

Declarer played low from dummy, hoping Schleifer had led from a holding that included the jack or nine of spades, or both. But East won the trick with the nine and shifted to a low club.

South made the normal play of the jack of clubs, losing to West's queen. Now Schleifer unabashedly underled the A-K of spades again! Declarer played dummy's eight, this time losing to East's jack.

East then returned his remaining spade to Schleifer's A-K. A club to East's ace added the final touch, so South went down two on a hand where practically all the other notrump declarers finished with 9 or 10 tricks.

Schleifer's underlead of the A-K of spades at trick three was clearly the right play, since declarer was virtually certain to misgauge the actual situation. However, the play required both imagination and cunning, and these are traits with which all successful players are well-endowed.

Tomorrow: When to draw trump.  
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4-9

CRYPTOQUIP

ZMQB ZFYL-YJUQB JL HFXGCB JY  
BFFU IMFCUL QR JYYFY-GYFRJ  
IFYHJYJY XQPJ ICYJ BF CIJ?  
IGJUU HMJHP.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF WEATHERMAN AL OPERATED A COMPANY FOR BUYING AND SELLING STOCKS, WOULD THAT BE A ROKERAGE?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals R

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>43</b> Energy	<b>2</b> Old	<b>24</b> "— Hate Me" (Spike Lee film)
<b>1</b> Labels	<b>45</b> Less moist, as a brownie	<b>3</b> Billion (Pref.)	<b>25</b> One-piece swimsuit
<b>5</b> Nursery cry	<b>47</b> Puzzle	<b>4</b> Hide	<b>27</b> '60s chic
<b>8</b> Rocker Osbourne	<b>51</b> Sports-caster	<b>5</b> Odd-balls	<b>29</b> Letters of approval?
<b>12</b> Landed dam	<b>52</b> Italian	<b>6</b> Bristle	<b>30</b> — Paulo, Brazil
<b>13</b> Lamb's dam	<b>54</b> Bonn	<b>7</b> Names in a will	<b>32</b> Like bland journal pages
<b>14</b> Poolroom supply	<b>55</b> Dict. info	<b>8</b> Ottawa	<b>34</b> Fall asleep
<b>15</b> Violin virtuoso	<b>56</b> — about (roughly)	<b>9</b> Rata-touille	<b>37</b> Get older
<b>17</b> Plot unit	<b>57</b> Stated	<b>10</b> Goose egg	<b>39</b> Victories
<b>18</b> Pencil end	<b>58</b> Santa's helper	<b>11</b> Belgian river	<b>42</b> —
<b>19</b> Ill will	<b>59</b> Siestas	<b>16</b> Tidy	<b>Triomphe</b> (Paris landmark)
<b>21</b> Possessed	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>20</b> "Eureka!"	<b>44</b> Moun-taineer's spike
<b>22</b> Persian leader	<b>1</b> Carton sealer	<b>23</b> TGIF part	<b>45</b> Mediocre grades
<b>23</b> Belief			<b>46</b> La Scala melody
<b>26</b> Male cat			<b>48</b> Actress Gershon
<b>28</b> Francisco's farewell			<b>49</b> L-Q bridge
<b>31</b> Grand			<b>50</b> Melodies
<b>33</b> Turf			<b>53</b> Seminary subj.
<b>35</b> Singer Paul			
<b>36</b> Cathartic drug			
<b>38</b> Part of DJIA			
<b>40</b> Equi-			
<b>41</b> Gymnast Korbut			

Solution time: 23 mins.

HUFF	EVE	TRIB
AREA	VIE	IOTA
HATTRICK	ESAU	
ALA	ETE	PSALM
	SEA	BIG
SMACK	SOSORRY	
ISSA	TUG	RUED
SUPREME	DEGAS	
	FRI	DAS
PANDA	KEN	ART
OREO	SOCK	AWAY
SLAW	ANO	BOWN
TORN	PAR	ELITE

Yesterday's answer 4-9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
15				16				17		
18						19	20			
		21				22				
23	24	25		26		27		28		29
30										
31		32		33		34		35		
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45	46					47			48	49
50										
51				52	53					
54				55				56		
57				58				59		

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# Early ...

Continued from page 8  
After a strikeout and a walk, freshman shortstop Brenna Ruble got the Patriots within one run of victory with an RBI ground out. Then Lykins delivered, notching her third hit and third RBI with a walk-off single that plated Bice.

"I was just keeping my head clear, not trying to overthink it, not trying to do too much," said Lykins. "Just put the ball in play and it can do a lot. ... I think we all hit really well."

The four-run fifth inning in which the Bruins recorded just one out put the cap on a strong day at the plate for JCHS. In addition to the third hits and three RBIs apiece from Lykins and Bice, Ruble also drove in three runs.

The bulk of the Patriots scoring came from its No. 6 through 8 spots in the order as Schwieterman came across the plate three times and Trinidad and Bice tallied two runs apiece.

Schwieterman had an individual highlight, as she smacked a solo home run to right field in the third inning between drawing a walk in the second and getting hit by a pitch in the fifth.

The offense that stretched across the innings and the lineup supported a strong pitching performance from Winner, who escaped early trouble to stymie the Bruin bats.

Blackford had a chance to score first as Raegan Ridgway opened the season by working Winner for a walk. Coach Scott



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School second baseman Ava Bice fields a ground ball during the Patriots' 10-0 victory over Blackford on Monday. In just five innings Bice had a career day at the plate, going 3-for-3 with a double, three RBIs, two runs and a stolen base.

Cagle called for a sacrifice bunt. Adrianna Hall tried to get the ball down, but instead popped it up and Lykins was able to step out from behind the plate to make the play for the first out. It proved costly, as Gracie Townsend-Straight followed with a single up the middle.

Lykins recorded a second put-out on a Lehman hit just in front of home plate before Kinze Clamme walked to load the bases. A walk or a hit would have put the Bruins ahead, but Winner was able to strike out Wilson to end the threat.

"That could have been a difference if she laid that

down," said Cagle. "That may have been a difference. Just momentum."

The strikeout to close the first inning was the first of 11 straight outs Winner recorded. The ball never left the infield for the Bruins again as their only baserunner after the first inning came thanks to a Jordynn Gephart

walk in the top of the fifth inning.

Winner went the distance for the victory, shutting out the Bruins on a walk and three hits while striking out six batters.

"I think she adjusted well to what the umpire was giving her, pitched to his strike zone a little bit more, kept the ball down

Box score

Blackford Bruins vs. Jay County Patriots						
Blackford (0-1)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Ridgway c	2	0	0	0		
Hall 1b	2	0	0	0		
Twnsnd-Stigt ss	2	0	1	0		
Lehman p	2	0	0	0		
Clamme cf	1	0	0	0		
Wilson 2b	2	0	0	0		
Heiser 3b	2	0	0	0		
Sargent 3b	0	0	0	0		
Gephart lf	1	0	0	0		
Limle rf	2	0	0	0		
Clark rf	0	0	0	0		
Totals	16	0	1	0		
Jay County (2-0)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Missicano rf	2	0	0	0		
Ruble ss	3	1	1	3		
Lykins c	4	0	3	3		
May cr	0	0	0	0		
Shimp 1b	3	0	0	0		
Winner p	3	0	1	0		
Plessinger cr	0	1	0	0		
Schwieterman rf	1	3	1	1		
Trinidad dp	3	2	1	0		
Bice 2b	3	2	3	3		
Brown 2b	2	1	0	0		
Totals	24	10	10	10		
Blackford	000	00X	X	— 0		
Jay County	121	24X	X	—10		
LOB — Blackford 4, Jay County 4. 2B — Jay County 2 (Lykins, Bice). HR — Jay County 1 (Schwieterman). SB — Jay County 4 (Ruble 2, Bice, Brown).						
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Blackford						
Lehman	4	7	6	6	3	3
Wilson	0.1	3	4	3	1	1
Jay County						
Winner	5	1	0	0	3	6

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Softball vs. Delta — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Belmont — 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**  
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)  
**Thursday**  
3 p.m. — The Masters golf tournament (ESPN)  
5 p.m. — College hockey: Western Michigan

at Denver (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — Women's college lacrosse: Ohio State at Johns Hopkins (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Cleveland Cavaliers at Indiana Pacers (TNT)  
8 p.m. — Women's college lacrosse: Rutgers at USC (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — College hockey: Boston U at Penn State (ESPN2)  
9:30 p.m. — NBA: Minnesota Timberwolves at Memphis Grizzlies (TNT)  
10 p.m. — NHL: Seattle Kraken at Vegas Golden Knights (NBC)

## 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.  
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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

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 30½ x 157½ 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

90 SALE CALENDAR

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 24½ x 26½ car detached garage with heat and water, a small utility barn with a walk in cooler and a 32½ x 48½ 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 Hirschy Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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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

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FRHS softball came up short at Celina on Monday, see story below

JCHS and FRHS track teams will clash Thursday, see Sports on tap

# Another early ending

## Jay County finishes off Bruins in five innings

**By RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

Inclement weather kept the Patriots off the field Saturday. Based on the two games they've played, that may have been a saving grace for their opponent.

On a chilly, windy Monday, the Jay County High School softball team turned in another dominant effort as it defeated the visiting Blackford Bruins 10-0 in five innings.

"I feel really good," said JCHS senior Jaelynn Lykins, who finished with three hits and three RBIs including the game-ender. "It was fun. It was cold, but it was a really good game."

The Patriots beat Marion in their season opener Thursday and have now outscored their opponents by a combined 30-0. "We'll take that," said Jay County coach Doug Arbuckle. "I thought the girls stayed mentally tough through the

whole game," he added. "(Starting pitcher) Mallory (Winner) struggled a little bit in the first inning but then she settled down. We put runs up in every inning, so that's key. If we can do that and hit all the way through the lineup ... that's just key for us to be able to have that balance. Defense played well with the plays they had to make."

After the win over Marion, the team took a day off Friday,

then had its Saturday game against Winchester rained out ahead of its regular off day Sunday.

"So three days off," Arbuckle said. "We came out, I thought we were mentally sharp and focused. Good win for us tonight."

The Patriots (2-0) nickered and dimed their way through the first four innings, scoring once in the first and third and twice in the second and fourth.

Then they feasted when Blackford (0-1) pulled starting pitcher Serenity Lehman in the fifth.

Winner singled to start the bottom of the fifth inning, Hallie Schwieterman was hit by a pitch and Carly Trinidad reached base on an error. Freshman Ava Bice then delivered a two-run single to right field — it was her third hit of the game and gave her three RBIs — to put the home team up 8-0.

See **Early** page 7



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## Fort finally falls

CELINA, Ohio — The Indians couldn't have asked for a much better start to the season. Thus far, they had put up double digit runs in four out of five wins and beat three opponents by the mercy rule.

But the Tribe finally hit a snag against the Bulldogs.

Fort Recovery High School's softball team lost its first game of the season Monday at the hands of the Celina Bulldogs 4-3.

Back-to-back two-run innings did the Tribe (5-1) in for the loss. The first two Celina (1-1) runs came in the bottom of the third inning as Maddie Allen smacked a 2-run home run to right field. The two runs from the fourth inning came from an Alexis Siefring single and an Allen single.

The Indians struck first in the game when Ava Grisez blasted her own home run in the top of the third inning.

FRHS also put up a pair in the front half of the fourth frame on an Alexis Grisez double, but it got shut out over the final three innings after giving up the lead in the bottom half.

Jenna Homan suffered her first loss of the season, giving up all four earned runs on nine hits and one walk. She also struck out six batters over the six innings.

Celina's Colbie Kinney earned the victory, going the distance for the Bulldogs in the circle. Kinney gave up the three earned runs on seven hits and three walks and struck out three Tribe hitters.

## Tiger Woods starts projects with Augusta National

**By STAN AWTRY**  
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
Tribune News Service

AUGUSTA, Ga. — Two new projects announced Monday will further strengthen the bond between Tiger Woods and the Augusta National Golf Club.

Woods and TGR Designs has agreed to build a nine-hole par-3 short course at the Augusta Municipal Golf Course that is being rebranded as "The Patch," the name it long has been called by locals. The new development, the walkable Loop at the Patch, is expected to open next year around the Masters.

Woods' TGR Foundation also is going to build a TGR Learning Lab, the fourth in the United States, in the Harrisburg community of Augusta in the vacant Lamar Elementary School. The Learning Lab, with an emphasis on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and math), will serve the 27 schools and 23,000 students in Richmond County. It is expected to open in 2028. Students at the Learning Lab will also have access to The Loop.

*Woods will help design nine-hole par-3 short course and will build TGR Learning Lab*

Woods, currently recovering from surgery for a ruptured Achilles, was unable to attend. He sent a video message that reiterated his excitement about the project.

The Loop at the Patch is the latest step in the

revitalization of Augusta's oldest existing public golf course. A new clubhouse with an outdoor pavilion, driving range and spacious practice area is on the drawing board.

Ridley said the new design will "pay homage" to the 11 existing holes at The Patch — which earned the name because of a cabbage garden once planted behind the 14th green and the 10th tee. Designers Tom Fazio and Beau Welling will utilize the existing corridors for the remaining holes and expand the playing area by approximately 20%.

The Patch and The Loop at the Patch will be open to the public and remain a low-cost option.

"I can promise that the word 'affordability' will continue to be the watchword," Ridley said. "We realize that this an asset for the community and we have every intention and we will — I commit that we will continue to have it be an affordable place for people to play golf."

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