

The Commercial Review

County rate dips to 3.2%

Jay was tied for the 30th-lowest rate in March

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

Unemployment numbers went down dramatically across the state in March.

Jay County was no exception.

According to estimates Indiana Department of Workforce Development released Monday, Jay County saw its unemployment rate drop by nearly a full percentage point last month.

Jay County had an unemployment rate of 3.2% in March, which was down 0.9 percentage points from February. It was down 0.6 percentage points from March 2024.

The county was tied for the 30th-lowest rate in the state after coming in tied for 26th lowest in February and 25th-lowest in January. It had been among the upper half of unemployment rates among the state's 92 counties before its improvement this year.

Every county in the region saw its unemployment rate drop by at least 0.9 percentage points, including Randolph County's rate falling by 1.5 percentage points.

The state's unemployment rate came in at 3.4% in March. That was down 0.7 percentage points from February and down 0.9 percentage points from February 2024.

Union County posted the lowest unemployment rate in Indiana for the third month in a row at 4.4%. Daviess County was next at 2.5%.

Howard County continued to post the highest unemployment rate in the state at 5.7%, though that number was down 1.4 percentage points from the previous month. Lake County was the only other above 5%, coming in at 5.1%.

See **Rate** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Easter treats

Rain didn't keep away Easter festivities this weekend. The Easter Egg Walk normally held at Hudson Family Park kicked off Saturday morning inside The Rock Church in Portland. Pictured, Jessa Bergman, 11, Portland, waits as 3-year-old Kinsley Brock of Portland and grandmother Trena Cromeenes pick out an Easter goodie Saturday.

Lawmakers still must address gap

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

Indiana lawmakers have just a week to close a staggering \$2 billion hole in the state's next two-year spending plan — plus, bridge disagreements over publicly funded vouchers to private schools, regulations on marijuana-like products and school board elections.

The General Assembly aims to finish its work this week, but technically has until a statutory April 29 deadline to wrap up.

"Our job, one more important than any other legislation that we pass, is to make sure we pass a budget that is balanced and done so with integrity and not gimmicks," Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray told reporters Thursday. "So, it's going to be hard to do now, but we're going to get it done."

Indiana faces \$2 billion budget hole for next two years

The budget, contained in House Bill 1001, is typically the last to cross the legislative finish line. But a crushing revenue forecast last week complicated an already formidable task.

The anticipated shortfall creates a "major" challenge, Bray said, and puts "everything" on the table when it comes to cuts and revenue generators.

"They're working through the line items. I think the thing that we want to protect and hold to the longest is trying to protect K-12,"

House Speaker Todd Huston told reporters.

Both GOP leaders acknowledged that'll be a challenge. K-12 is 47% of the budget.

Asked how he'd justify a universal expansion of a "school choice" voucher program amid cuts, Huston replied, "I can justify that we fund students in the state of Indiana. We don't fund systems. So that's the way our caucus has always approached it."

The voucher expansion would

allow wealthy Hoosiers of all income levels to send their children to private school on a state-paid voucher. Right now the cap is 400% of the amount required for a student to qualify for the federal free or reduced price lunch program, equal to about \$220,000.

House Republicans put the expansion into their version of the budget, but the Senate GOP stripped it out even before the rough financial news. Democrats in both chambers have long decried the spending of taxpayer dollars on private schooling.

"They're very important to some people in our caucus, the House as well," Bray acknowledged. "And so, the idea of having vouchers is certainly a viable option, but we're going to have to figure out how to pay for it if that's the case."

See **Gap** page 2

Pope dies at 88

By **HENRY CHU**
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Pope Francis, the first pontiff from Latin America, whose warm, humble, no-nonsense manner galvanized the Roman Catholic Church and drew widespread admiration from outsiders almost from the moment of his surprise election to the throne of St. Peter in 2013, has died.

The church's 266th leader Francis died Monday morning, the Vatican announced.

Francis' death came the morning after he made a high-profile appearance, giving the traditional Easter blessing from the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican following a brief

Francis gave traditional Easter blessing on Sunday

meeting with U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance.

No cause of death was announced in a statement released by Cardinal Kevin Farrell, the Vatican camerlengo who will lead the church until a new pope is named. Francis is weeks removed from a lengthy hospital stay to treat pneumonia and a complex lung infection.

"Dearest brothers and sisters, with deep sorrow I must announce the death of our Holy Father Francis," Farrell's statement released by the Vatican read. "At 7:35 this morning, the Bishop of Rome, Francis, returned to the house of the Father. His entire life was dedicated to the service of the Lord and of His Church."

Francis was beloved by many for his public displays of compassion, commitment to social justice and willingness to shake up the scandal-ridden Vatican.

See **Pope** page 2



Tribune News Service/AFP via Getty Images/Alberto Pizzoli

Pope Francis blesses faithful as he delivers the "Urbi et Orbi" blessing for Rome and the world from the balcony of St Peter's basilica after the Easter mass on March 31, 2013, at the Vatican. Pope Francis led his first Easter Sunday celebrations that year with tens of thousands of people in St Peter's Square for a mass marking the holiest day in the Christian calendar. He died Monday morning at the age of 88.

Deaths

Judith Glessner, 83, rural Portland
Ruth Fifer, 76, Balbec
Details on page 2.

Weather

After a rainy Saturday, Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Sunday. The low was 48.
The forecast calls for a low around 50 tonight. Skies will be mostly sunny Wednesday with a high in the upper 70s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Public Library will host Rapunzel & Flynn's Enchanted Celebration from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 24. The event will include face painting, hair braiding, crafts and games. Rapunzel and Flynn will be in attendance for a meet and greet. The library is located at 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

Coming up

Wednesday — Details from Monday's Jay School Board meeting.

Thursday — Results from the JCHS golf team's match against Bluffton.

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Obituaries

Judith Glessner
Sept. 16, 1941-April 19, 2025
Judith C. Glessner, age 83, of rural Portland passed away on Saturday, April 19, 2025, in Albany Health-care and Rehabilitation. She was born in Geneva on Sept. 16, 1941, the daughter of Ralph and Elna Glessner (Weaver) Bailey. She was married on Dec. 8, 1962, to Fredrick Glessner, and he passed away on Sept. 30, 2013. Judith had worked for W&M Manufacturing and Community Care Center. She was a member of Harrisville Congregational Christian Church.



Surviving are one son, Alden Glessner of Pennville; two daughters, Roxanna Mortimer of Lowmansville, Kentucky, and Susan Knepper of Plymouth, Indiana; one stepson, Frederick Glessner Jr. of Florida; two stepdaughters, Edwina Sue Gorzen of Jackson, Michigan, and Robbi Forslund of Spring Lake, Michigan; 17 grandchildren; and several great- and great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sons, Stephen Glessner and William Tyson; and a brother, James Bailey. Funeral services will be Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Coleman Smith presiding. Burial will follow in the Center Ceme-

tery. Visitation will be Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. Memorials can be made to the Shriners. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Ruth Fifer
July 21, 1948-April 20, 2025
Ruth Fifer, age 76, a resident of Balbec, passed away on Sunday, April 20, 2025, at her home in Balbec. Ruth was born July 21, 1948, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Harold and Elma “Jeanne” (Young) Geesaman. She worked from Tom and Rod’s Steakhouse in Portland for 15 years and JCI in Portland for 14 years. Ruth was a member of VFW Auxiliary in Fort Recovery and

American Legion Auxiliary in Montpelier. She married Ernest Fifer on Sept. 11, 1996. Survivors include: Her husband — Ernest Fifer, Balbec, Indiana Daughter — Phaedra Harding (husband: Jason), Madison, Indiana Stepson — Marty Fifer, Bryant, Indiana Sister — Sheila Wenger (husband: Mark), Bluffton, Indiana Grandchildren — Kodee Brotherton and Tripp Fifer Five great-grandchildren Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m. at



Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home. Charlene Wilder will officiate and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant. Memorials may be directed to Jay County Cancer Society. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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 4/23	Thursday 4/24	Friday 4/25	Saturday 4/26	Sunday 4/27
78/54 Mostly sunny skies on Wednesday when the high will reach the upper 70s.	82/61 Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a chance of rain.	76/54 Friday has a 60% chance of showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.	63/44 Mostly sunny on Saturday, when there's a slight chance of rain in the morning and afternoon.	66/52 Sunday looks to be mostly sunny with highs in the mid 60s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$139 million	18-19-23-26-29-30-32-42-43-52-54-67-69-71-75-76 Cash 5: 4-11-14-19-38 Estimated jackpot: \$289,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$50 million	
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 3-3-1 Daily Four: 4-8-0-2 Quick Draw: 1-3-4-9-12-16-28-31-37-42-43-44-46-47-48-51-58-70-71-74 Evening Daily Three: 4-0-7 Daily Four: 4-2-8-7 Quick Draw: 1-6-9-17-	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 3-6-5 Pick 4: 6-6-4-8 Pick 5: 2-0-6-1-3 Evening Pick 3: 4-6-8 Pick 4: 4-9-1-3 Pick 5: 5-2-2-2-7 Rolling Cash 5: 22-23-24-29-35 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.96 May corn4.98 June corn5.04	May beans10.34 Wheat 4.95
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.01 May corn5.08 June corn5.11	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.92 May corn.....4.94 Beans10.33 May beans10.36 Wheat5.00
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.97 May corn4.97 Beans10.34	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.88 June corn4.92 Beans10.21 May beans10.21 Wheat4.92

Today in history

<p>In 1073, Gregory VII was elected pope. He followed Alexander II and was later canonized a saint.</p> <p>In 1370, work to construct the Bastille began. The fortress became a national symbol of despotism in France.</p> <p>In 1500, Pedro Alvares Cabral of Portugal spotted the mainland of South America near present-day Porto Seguro, Brazil.</p> <p>In 1864, Congress passed the Coinage Act of 1864. It led to “In God We Trust” being printed on American coins.</p> <p>In 1998, Jay County Hospital Board approved spending \$37,000 for repairs at the facility.</p>	<p>In 2013, Jay School Board approved an exchange program in partnership with school officials from Taiwan, Adams Central Schools, Northwestern Consolidated Schools of Shelby County, Ball State University, Central Indiana Education Service Center, Indiana State Teachers Association and Indiana Department of Education.</p> <p>In 2022, the Jay County High School girls tennis team knocked off the sectional rival Winchester Golden Falcons 4-1, with senior Grace Brewster scoring a 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 comeback win at No. 1 singles.</p> <p>—The CR</p>
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Citizen’s calendar

Today 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board special meeting, Portland Memorial Park (Runkle-Miller Field), Western Avenue, Portland. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, Redkey park, 50 Mooney St.	Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St. Friday 8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
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Rate ...

Continued from page 1
Eighty-three counties had rates of 4% or lower. Area unemployment rates are as follows:
Adams County: 3.2%,

down one percentage point, tied for 30th-lowest
Blackford County: 4.2%,
down 1.1 percentage points, tied for fifth-highest
Delaware County: 3.8%,

down 1.1 percentage points, tied for 17th-highest
Jay County: 3.2%, down 0.9 percentage points, tied for 30th-lowest

Randolph County: 3.7%, down 1.5 percentage points, tied for 19th-highest
Wells County: 2.8%, down 0.9 percentage points, tied for eighth-lowest

Gap ...

Continued from page 1
Skipping the expansion is among Democrats’ first choices for cuts.
House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta assailed the voucher program as “irresponsible spending,” adding, “I mean, we’re almost approaching, now, a billion dollars there.”
Senate Minority Leader Shelli Yoder also suggested holding off on scheduled income tax cuts, which Bray said was “certainly ... on the table.”
But cutting expenses isn’t the only way to plug the anticipated hole in state finances.
Indiana’s sobering fiscal outlook may soften the Senate’s traditionally hostile stance against a long-sought increase in the cigarette tax. But is it enough?
The current rate of 99.5 cents per pack has gone unchanged

since 2007. A \$2 increase could bring in \$318 million in new revenue annually, and bring down the state’s high smoking rate.
“Our caucus was slightly more amenable to that than they have been in the past, primarily because of the challenge that Medicaid has created for us,” Bray said.
The House has voted to approve cigarette tax hikes multiple times but Bray indicated his caucus’ resistance hasn’t totally waned.
“That’s still on the table, but it’s not at all going to be the first thing we look at,” he said.
Yoder, his Democratic counterpart, additionally suggested pursuing a managed care assessment fee. If fully implemented, the fee could bring the state \$1 billion a year.
“We should be doing this (to) our managed care entities, the insurance companies who are making

money off of our Pathways (to Aging program) patients,” she said. “We should be looking there.”
But it would require federal approval. Mitch Roob, who helms the agency overseeing Indiana’s Medicaid program, has expressed doubt that President Donald Trump’s administration would allow the Hoosier state to max it out.
And despite repeated assurances from leaders that “everything is on the table,” Huston was clear that one thing isn’t: marijuana legalization.
“We’re not going to legalize marijuana in the budget,” he said. He similarly batted away questions about gambling industry expansions.
“Significant public policy things shouldn’t be considered just because you have a revenue shortfall,” Huston told reporters.


Pope ...

Continued from page 1
He largely hewed to the church’s conservative line on social issues such as abortion and LGBTQ+ rights but urged clerics not to be “obsessed with” those issues. His emphasis on God’s love and his demand that the church go out and minister to oppressed and needy people impressed even those who disagreed with him.
In the years before his death, the pope was beset by several illnesses. His health again began to deteriorate Feb. 14, when he was admitted to Gemelli hospital for what was described as a respiratory infection. Within days, it had developed into pneumonia in both lungs.
Francis’ nearly 12-year papacy presented a stark change in style and tone from that of his predecessor; the late Benedict XVI, a shy scholar who wrote dense theological treatises and saw the church as a holy institution under siege from an increasingly godless, relativistic society. Francis, by contrast, likened the church to a battlefield hospital tending to the spiritually wounded.
His call for a “poor church” also put him at odds with those inside the Vatican who prized the church’s splendor and finery as symbols of its transcendent nature. Some conservatives were upset by his choice to shun such trappings as richly adorned papal vestments and the lavish apartment in the penthouse of the Apostolic Palace.
But many more Catholics, and plenty of non-Catholics, were captivated. They thronged St. Peter’s Square during Francis’ appearances, eager to see him wade into the crowd, kissing babies and laying hands on the sick and disabled despite security concerns — an accessible leader whose simple white cap and robes matched the homespun wisdom of his humor-laden homilies.

Less than nine months after his elevation to the papacy, Time magazine named Francis its Person of the Year.
“This focus on compassion, along with a general aura of merriment not always associated with princes of the church, has made Francis something of a rock star,” the magazine wrote, crediting him with “pulling the papacy out of the palace and into the streets, for committing the world’s largest church to confronting its deepest needs and for balancing judgment with mercy.”
Beneath the friendly exterior was also a leader willing to take decisive action. Vatican watchers noted Francis’ determination to sweep clean institutions that had become rife with dysfunction, factionalism and accusations of corruption. Soon after his election, he replaced key officials at the troubled Vatican bank and appointed a blue-ribbon commission to advise him on overhauling the Curia, the Vatican administration.
Those and other moves hardened the opposition of some within the church, particularly more conservative senior clerics who already felt that Francis was weakening traditional

Catholic teaching on personal morality while focusing too much on societal and environmental problems such as the treatment of migrants and climate change.
Francis cut his teeth as an authority figure in his native Argentina. He served for 15 years as the archbishop of Buenos Aires, where he gained his reputation for humility by opting to live in a small apartment, ride the bus and cook his own meals.
He was born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in the Argentine capital Dec. 17, 1936, the son of Italian immigrants: a railway worker and a homemaker. He entered the priesthood a few days before turning 33. He

served as a parish priest in San Miguel, received a doctorate in Germany and then returned to Buenos Aires, becoming archbishop in 1998 and a cardinal three years later; under Pope John Paul II.
He flew far enough below the radar of even veteran Vatican experts that, when Benedict made his shock decision to resign as pope—the first to step down in six centuries — the Argentine figured on virtually no one’s list of likely successors. The vote for Benedict’s replacement, inside Michelangelo’s magnificent Sistine Chapel, concluded the evening of March 13, 2013, after just five rounds and barely 24 hours.



Jesus words to St. Faustina
“I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish”
Diary 48



Abby E. Small, O.D.

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SERVICES

Thursday

Fifer, Ruth: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Glessner, Judith: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
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Phones have significantly changed

By JAMES FULKS

The Commercial Review

Unless you have been living under a rock, or are a complete shut-in, you’ve undoubtedly heard the term distracted driving by now.

Several highway patrol agencies have even addressed the issue by placing signs and, in the case of our neighboring state to the east, they have implemented “targeted enforcement areas” where they increase patrols and penalties for such infractions.

In my travels all over the U.S. and Canada as a commercially licensed driver for more than 30 years now, I’ve certainly seen the encroachment of technology into our daily lives.

Of course, for the layman driver who only commutes to and from work daily, their biggest temptation for distraction is the mobile device constantly in their hand.

Admittedly, I was once as guilty of this as anyone, especially in the early days of rea-

Fulksy Mayhem



sonably affordable cell phones.

I say reasonably affordable, because to those too young to remember, my first cell phone literally took a day for a professional technician to install. The phone consisted of a black “brain box” about the size of a shoe box in the trunk, then a handset mounted on the transmission hump in the floorboard and the ubiquitous steely, squiggly wire glass mount antenna directly in the top dead center of the rear glass.

That phone was not only expensive to purchase outright, but each and every call could add up to serious money at that time because of the fact that so few towers

were up in those days that virtually every call was charged “roaming fees.”

Today we take the phone with no itemized call charges so for granted that the vast majority of us no longer even use or need a regular home telephone anymore.

Now it’s only one of a myriad of devices that can, and absolutely do, distract me on a daily basis.

A modern tractor trailer unit now is easily going to have a telephone, a windshield-mounted GPS navigation device, a dispatch portal/device, an electronic logging device (they are sometimes but not always linked to the dispatch device), a forward collision avoidance mitigation system, lane departure warning sensors with annoying audible warnings, cameras that show forward, side and in some cases inward to the cab images in real time and interactive cruise control.

Some of us who have been at this for a lot of years still

use a two-way radio. The vast majority of trucks no longer have a two-way/CB radio, but at one time they were hugely popular in trucks nationwide.

Today, as I pass a sign stating that the next few Ohio miles are a “targeted enforcement area” for distracted driving. It’s difficult to suppress a good laugh at just how much of the aforementioned “technology” is the distraction that they are adamant about enforcing, especially on a bright, sunny day when the forward collision avoidance mitigation system “sees” a dark shadow on a white concrete highway from an overpass and decides on its own to throw on the red lights in the heads up display on the windshield and, oh yeah, slam on the brakes, too.

Technology is a truly amazing thing.

I could certainly do without a good bit of it as I drive my final few years and last leg of over 4.5 million miles into retirement.

It can’t come soon enough.

Fifty two give blood

Fifty two donors gave blood April 15 during the American Red Cross blood drive at Jay Community Center.

Donors were Elizabeth Schoenlein, Stephen Fennig, Carla Pogue, Billy Sipe, John Hart, Michael Timmerman, Darwin Johnson, Michael Schmidt, Chase Ainsworth, Sharon Schoenlein, Larry Coby, Mary Laux, Denise Glentzer, Dennis Negele, Kevin Keller, Freeda Osenbaugh, Jack Freeman, Kathleen Wood, David Hendrickson, Doris Muhlenkamp, Cynthia Morris, Carol Kennedy and Rebecca Kovacs.

Also Douglas Shidler, Sarah Rines, David Jennings, Connie Ronald, Eric Rogers, Lorrissa Bousman, Rebecca Kunkler, Brian Kunkler, Dustin Guggenbiller, Brian West, Madonna Bruggeman, Tammy Krieg, Kenneth Wellman, Paula Barron, Jennifer Esparza and Barbara Myers.

Also Timothy Danielson, Braulio Ruiz Macias, Elizabeth Skiver, Robert Coats, Nichole Parks, Kyle Epler, Kathy Ayers, Sarah Jellison, Lori Phillips, Jane Childs, Denise Culy, Jayne Pearson and Steven Swingley.

Doorbell camera caught words

DEAR ABBY: We were recorded on video and audio on our daughter’s porch, thinking we were talking to each other privately. We were discussing how hurt we were that she didn’t want to spend time with us on our 50th wedding anniversary, shortly after she and her husband moved out of state. They could easily have driven to a new RV park close to our house. Her aunt tried to talk with her about seeing family members and being with us, but she refused.

We have supported our daughter despite all the mistakes she has made. She was offended that we had no good thoughts regarding her new life in another state and confronted me about my negativity, which was caught on camera. I have apologized to no avail about my negativity, but I was angry and hurt. My husband believes she has to be the one to forgive and forget. It’s been two years of sending Christmas and birthday cards with no acknowledgement. What to do? — BUSTED IN GEORGIA

DEAR BUSTED: I agree with your husband. Remember the adage, “The best defense is a good offense”? (It is also known as the strategic offensive prin-

Dear Abby



ciple of war.) Your daughter knows she was wrong not to come to your anniversary celebration, and she also knows how upset you were about it because she has seen it on her doorbell camera. However, she doesn’t want to admit she was wrong and apologize. What you should do now is continue sending holiday cards to let her know the ball is in her court, and hope that, with time, she will grow up.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have known each other for 36 years and been married for 20. He has a severe drinking problem. He still works and doesn’t drink during the workweek, but he makes up for it in spades on weekends. We both stopped drinking alcohol 15 years ago. I never started again, but he

did, and now he can’t stop. He is too proud to seek professional help. He’s an engineer and thinks he can quit on his own, but he is only fooling himself.

My problem is that he retires soon, and I’m afraid he will be drunk all the time. To me, it is a deal-breaker. We are both in our 70s. I retired 15 years ago. If I leave him, I have nowhere to go, with only SSA to support myself. Any advice you may have is welcome because I am at my wits’ end with the whole thing. — FLOUNDERING IN UTAH

DEAR FLOUNDERING: Because you didn’t mention Al-Anon, the 12-step program that supports friends and families affected by a loved one’s drinking, I will assume you have never attended any of their meetings. Go online to al-anon.org/info and find out whether there are meetings near you. (You may be surprised to discover there are many.)

If you attend meetings, you will find others who are experiencing problems similar to yours and learn coping methods. You might even find a roommate if you choose to move out. Please don’t wait to start.

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 devel-

op long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

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.

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

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

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.

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.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.

Festival Specials

1/2 Page Color – \$450 (limited availability)

1/2 Page B&W – \$375

1/4 Page Color – \$350 (limited availability)

1/4 Page B&W – \$250

Big business card (3x3.5) \$100

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

Deadline for ads is Monday, May 12.

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

Our summer festivals special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), and The News Times (Hartford City).



Be prepared for impact on prices

The Daily Independent (Ashland, Kentucky)
Tribune News Service

As we venture toward midway of another week, who can imagine which way or how tariffs will be imposed?

Indecisiveness in Washington has caused the stock market to be on a real roller coaster ride this past week.

It whipsawed thousands of points in different directions on various days. Stock markets like certainty. We're certainly not seeing that coming from Washington. If you think it makes no difference to you, you probably don't have a 401(k) or a pension plan.

Guest Editorial

Tariffs have been talked about or imposed for decades. To some degree, we understand President Trump's goal of creating more manufacturing in America. But, unfortunately, manufacturing that many of us grew up with doesn't exist anymore. We make too little steel to sustain our country's need.

We agreed with local steel workers in the 1970s and the 1980s when they often had signs saying "kindly do not park foreign vehicles on our parking lot." Armco did so much for us and educated our children plus made charitable donations throughout our area.

They had a valid point then. Nowadays, it's hard to tell where cars are made. Georgetown has one of the largest Toyota manufacturing plants in America. In nearby Eleanor, West Virginia, Toyota has a transmission manufacturing plant.

Most know America has a

serious trade imbalance. We import far more goods than we export. Eliminating a trade imbalance is unsustainable. We agree more manufacturing needs to happen in America, but it would take years to build plants to manufacture goods. Plus, manufacturers would have to comply with various government regulations to be compliant with environmental laws and much more.

Many economists agree, tariffs serve three purposes — to raise revenue for the government, eliminate foreign competition and to reach agreements with other countries regarding

reciprocal tariffs. The problem is tariffs can impose increased prices on nearly everything we buy.

Many members of Congress are starting to speak up on this. Some now want input and legislation on tariffs. Congress began a two-week recess starting Monday. We think they will hear an uproar from their constituents back in their home states. Food prices, which were promised to drop on Day 1 during the Trump administration, are not happening.

Brace for impact on prices of everything you buy in the time ahead.

RFK Jr. must explain himself

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

Some 10,000 federal health workers lost their jobs earlier this month — among them, a group of regulators who help new medicines get approved. If Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. doesn't reverse course, American patients will suffer and half a century of US leadership in pharmaceutical innovation could come to a precipitous end.

Three decades ago, the US lagged Europe in access to new medications. Respiratory drugs, on average, were available to Britons more than five years before Americans; cardiovascular drugs had a three-year lead. Pressured to narrow this disparity, Congress passed a law in 1992 to speed up drug approvals. The new framework allowed regulators to collect fees from drug companies, which vastly increased resources at the Food and Drug Administration for reviews.

The law — the Prescription Drug User Fee Act — has been a notable success. Median FDA review times fell from 26.6 months between 1980 and 1992 to 9.9 months in the decade through 2022. Today, Americans have access to three-quarters of new medicines, and the US has become a world leader in some of the most advanced treatments, including cell and gene therapies. The promise of such innovations — which can, among other medical miracles, target and destroy cancer cells, potentially reverse hearing loss, and enable sickle-cell patients to live without debilitating pain — can hardly be overstated.

Yet US dominance in such medicine shouldn't be taken for granted. China's drug industry is racing ahead, thanks to government investment and ambitious regulatory reform (that included aggressive hiring). Once known for supplying raw ingredients and manufacturing copycat drugs, China is now second only to the US in the development of new medicines. In the past three years, the number of drugs in China's pipeline has doubled. Recent data show almost a third of clinical trials start in China, roughly on par with the US and up from 5% a decade ago.

Against this backdrop, these seemingly indis-

Guest Editorial

criminate job cuts are worrisome. In addition to removing the head of the office that reviewed applications for new medicines, the FDA also has eliminated staff who negotiate user fees with drugmakers. Kennedy has long objected to user fees, arguing that the FDA's reliance on industry funding — which constitutes almost half its budget — compromises its oversight. This is false: Cases of FDA-approved medications causing patients serious harm remain exceedingly rare. More to the point, the only serious alternative — raising taxes to pay for regulatory staff — is a political nonstarter.

Kennedy's department said that neither drug reviewers nor inspectors would be cut in this reorganization, and that approvals wouldn't slow down as a result. Recent reports cast doubt on those claims: For example, a governmentwide \$1 limit on spending cards has already hamstringing field operations; a pilot program for unannounced foreign inspections, meanwhile, has been paused because the staff who'd once secured translators have been fired. Dozens of employees with cross-cutting responsibilities, including those who wrote guidelines for inspectors or compared results across reviews, are gone.

The pharmaceutical industry — quiet, to date, about Kennedy's potential impact on their business — now appears concerned: "The rapid and substantial changes at FDA this week raise questions about the agency's ability to fulfill its mission to bring new innovative medicines to patients," a large industry group said after the cuts. Investors have been less ambiguous, with biotech stocks declining sharply after Kennedy's announcement.

The health secretary has been called to testify before the Senate. He should explain how his cuts will protect American innovation and benefit patients. Otherwise, the public might reasonably conclude that the US is about to squander its hard-won dominance in drug development for no good reason.



Package was more than expected

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

There are some big opinions on the overall impact of the property tax bill that lawmakers passed and Gov. Mike Braun celebrated. I don't think it's either as good or as bad as some believe — but today, I want to focus on some smaller provisions that deserve notice.

They aren't sexy, like a \$300 homeowner credit or a business personal property tax cut. But they do make a difference.

The first is a bond debt cooling-off period.

Under current law, when a local unit of government is planning to bond for a new project, it'll often do it when another bond is set to expire. That means local officials can tell taxpayers they won't see an increase in their tax bill. That is technically true, but they also won't see a decrease.

Senate Enrolled Act 1 requires a one-year freeze after a bond expires so that taxpayers see the reduction.

Another change is moving all referenda votes to the general election. Schools use referenda largely for construction projects but can also hold them for school security and operational needs if they feel the state hasn't provided what they need.

Of course, they still have to convince taxpayers to fund those needs.

For years, these votes were allowed in primary elections, when fewer Hoosiers go to the polls. Lawmakers believe moving them to general elections gives more transparency to the costs that lie above the percent caps for bills.

According to data collected by the Indiana School Boards Association, the school referendum pass rate in Indiana is 16 percentage points higher at the primary election than at the general election. The organization believes this is

Niki Kelly



because primary voters are better informed and highly motivated to vote for or against the referendum. But voters in the general election are often surprised by the referendum and reflexively vote no.

Several provisions in the new law require affirmative voting on taxes, which can only be a good thing.

One section says if a unit's assessed value remains the same, its levy cannot exceed the year before unless its fiscal body votes to do so by ordinance following a separate public hearing. Also, if assessed value does grow, it requires a decrease in the tax rate to bring in the same amount of money unless it's affirmatively raised.

This language is meant to draw attention to the automatic nature of property taxes, which are essentially a calculation involving tax rate and assessed value.

Similarly, local income taxes — which got a lot of attention in discussion over the property tax package — will revert to zero each year. This forces an annual vote by fiscal leaders of local government to continue collecting that money.

I'm not actually sure this is necessary, and I can't imagine state lawmakers would want to vote on the state income or sales tax every single year. But it is consistent with other moves to make the overall taxation system more open and understandable.

The last bits of language I want to highlight are deep in the weeds of property taxes.

The maximum levy growth quotient currently limits how much

local property tax levies can rise in a year based on a six-year rolling average of non-farm personal income growth. Because of inflation, it rose to 5% in 2023 compared to 3.4% in 2019. Lawmakers last year put in an artificial cap of 4% and Senate Enrolled Act 1 extends that another year.

The bill also limits excess levy appeals by units. In that past, cities, counties and other units were allowed to ask for more revenue based on certain circumstances, such as assessed value growth and school transportation costs. Those won't be allowed any longer, though an appeal would still be an option in case of natural disaster or other emergency.

None of these items individually — or even collectively — will likely drop your tax obligation in any massive way. But they do create a more responsive and open system so that Hoosiers can more easily understand the decisions that are being made. It also puts local officials on the hot seat instead of state lawmakers.

"They're waving a flag, saying we're the ones cutting your taxes ... when what they're doing is shifting everything on to the local government and saying, 'You be the bad guys,'" Sen. Ron Altling told Based in Lafayette.

He was one of 12 Republicans to vote against the bill. Some believe it didn't go far enough to cut property taxes.

In the end, those who simply disagree with the mechanism of property taxes will never be pleased with what occurred. But from a pragmatic standpoint, this package was more than I thought Gov. Mike Braun could get.

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.

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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.

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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

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Goodwill store to open Thursday

A new retail store will open in Portland this week.

Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana will hold a grand opening at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 24, for its new location in Portland.

The new store will be located at 124 W. Votaw St. in the former Walgreens building.

Goodwill is also accepting job applications for the Portland store at goodwillindy.org.

Goodwill of Central & Southern Indiana also operates locations in Muncie, Anderson, Marion, Richmond and New Castle and is in the process of rebuilding its Winchester store that was severely damaged in the March 2024 tornado.

Business roundup

ice will host a job fair Thursday, April 24.

The Dunkirk Post Office will have a session from 1 to 4 p.m.

Sessions are also scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the following locations:

- Montpelier — 215 S. Jefferson St.
- Richmond — 400 North A. St.
- Winchester — 130 N. Meridian St.
- Berne — 215 W. Main St.

Building opens

Ball State University celebrated the reopening of its Cooper Science Building last week.

The building went through a \$60 million renovation process in three phases. It includes modernized labs, interactive classrooms and new space for collaboration and research.

“The renovation of Cooper Science Building is another example of how strategic investments in our physical campus directly support the success of our students,” said BSU president Geoffrey S. Mearns. “I am grateful for the state’s continued support, which enables us to build and maintain innovative, sustainable facilities that advance academic excellence and serve the needs of our community.”

Project begins

Purdue University recently held a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Mitch Daniels School of Business.

The 164,000-square-foot facility is expected to open in fall 2027. It will be the second-largest classroom building on Purdue’s campus.

“Practiced with integrity, business careers are the noblest of life choices,” said Daniels, the former president of the university for whom the new school is named. “They create new jobs and wealth for others and bring into being the resources which the public and nonprofit sectors take to pursue their goals. This modernized school of business will send out its graduates armed with a sense of mission and the tools to fulfill that mission in the most complex of enterprises.”

Partnering

Ardagh Glass Packaging – North America announced a new partnership Thursday with CAP Glass for establishing glass recycling services across the country.

The initiative is expected to divert tens of thousands of tons of glass from landfills. The glass will be used in Ardagh’s glass manufacturing process for new infinitely recyclable glass containers.

“Ardagh appreciates the valuable contributions from CAP Glass, as well as their forward-thinking approach and dedica-

Launching brokerage

Mark Leavell of Redkey announced last week that he is launching Leavell Real Estate.

The new real estate brokerage will be located at 123 W. High St., sharing a building with Redkey Junktion. Leavell said he plans to add to his team.

Leavell can be reached at leavell.mark@yahoo.com or (260) 729-7040.

Klenke nominated

Mercer Health’s Lisa Klenke has been nominated for the 2025 Ohio Hospital Association Albert E. Dyckes Health Care Worker of the Year Award.

Klenke has been CEO of Mercer Health for 12 years. Previously, she was its chief nursing officer for 20 years.

The award goes to an Ohio health care worker who “personifies leadership, motivates colleagues, influences others, provides valuable service, exemplifies the mission, vision and values of their organization, and has an impact in their community.”

“On behalf of the Mercer Health Board of Governors, we are proud to recognize Lisa for her unwavering leadership and years of dedication,” said Mercer Health board president Robert Rose in a press release. “Her vision and integrity have profoundly shaped Mercer Health’s success and the well-being of our community.”

Mercer Health also recently honored volunteers, including Irene Seitz for most total hours (5,722) and Roy Kremer for most hours in 2024 (508). To volunteer, visit mercervolunteer.com/about/volunteer-services.

Organization adds

Bowen Health has named Hasnain Naqvi as its new director of revenue cycle, Malissa Dupree as associate director of billing and Emily Smith as associate director of patient services.

Naqvi has managed billing and revenue cycle teams at clinics in Texas and Kentucky as well as Indiana. Dupree has been with Bowen for 10 years in its accounts receivable department.

Job fair is Thursday

The United States Postal Serv-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The new Goodwill store in the former Walgreens building at 124 W. Votaw St. in Portland is hosting a grand opening at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 24.

tion to bringing this vision to life,” said Derek Wall, Vice President Procurement for Ardagh Glass Packaging-North America. “Their innovative ideas and long-term vision have played a pivotal role in making this collaboration a success.”

Ardagh owns and operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester.

Deal signed

Invenergy signed a 20-year power purchase agreement last week with Grant County Public Utility District.

Beginning in 2027, Invenergy will provide the district with 120 megawatts of energy from its Quincy Solar Energy Center in Washington. Construction is expected to begin in late 2025, with commercial operations to start by the end of 2027.

“We are excited to partner with the Grant PUD to advance their generation goals and help meet local energy needs with home-grown solar power,” said Laura Miner, Invenergy senior vice president of renewable development, in a press release. “We look forward to continuing to work with landowners, local officials, and the broader community to bring the benefits of Quincy Solar to Grant County residents.”

Invenergy is planning Skycrest Solar in northwest Jay County.

Training available

Indiana Chamber of Commerce will host Forklift Safety: Train the Trainer from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20.

The event offers in-person and virtual options and will be held at the Indiana Chamber Conference Center in Indianapolis. Participants will learn about training staff on forklift operation.

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

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 exit doors at Menards locations, including in Muncie, Richmond and Celina, Ohio.

Nominate manufacturers

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.

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.

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.

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.

.....

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

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www.ehomeidea.com

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260-726-7171

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Coalition

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Portland, IN 47371
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jcdpcccontact@gmail.com

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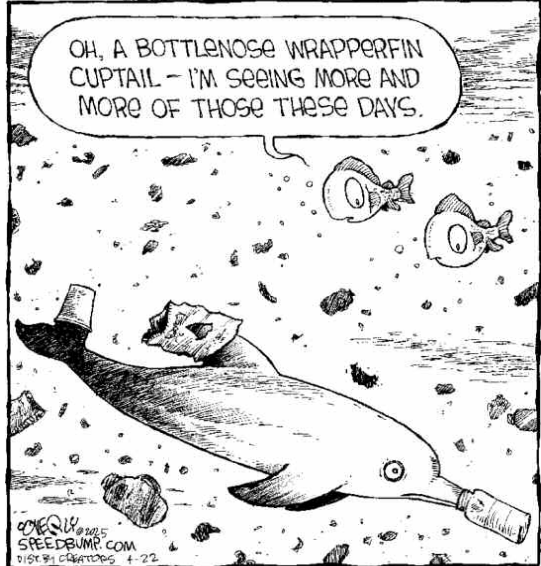
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By Bil Keane



Peanuts



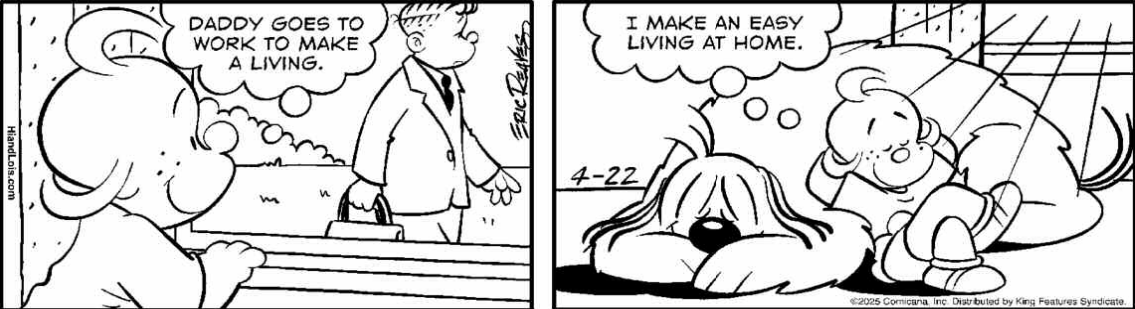
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Agnes



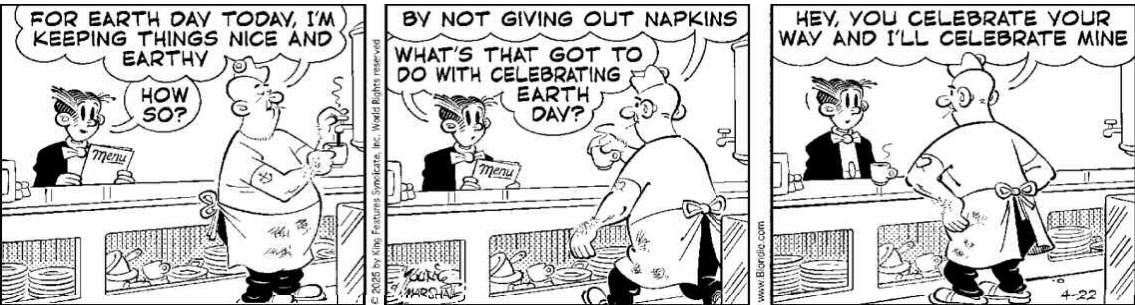
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Solution to a dilemma

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

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass
5 ♠ Pass 5 ♣

Opening lead — ace of clubs.
Occasionally — hopefully not too often — you wind up in five hearts or five spades as a result trying for a slam. Sometimes you find yourself in jeopardy at this awkward contract — and remember, you get no extra points for having undertaken to make 11 tricks instead of 10.
Consider the problem faced by declarer in this hand where he had to make five spades. West led the ace of clubs and shifted to his singleton diamond. Declarer won in dummy and played a spade to the

king and a spade back to the jack, West refusing to win either trick.
South was now in trouble. He could probably make the contract if he guessed West's distribution, but he had no way of knowing for certain what it was.
For example, suppose he had led the queen or ten of spades at this point, and West took the ace and returned a club. South could discard a heart, but he would then be faced with the question of how to return his hand to draw West's nine of trump.
If West originally had two diamonds and two hearts, declarer would have to lead a diamond to reach his hand, but if West had started with one diamond and three hearts, declarer would have to cash the A-K of hearts and ruff a heart to bring the contract home. South didn't know which was the actual case, but he solved the problem neatly by avoiding it altogether.
Instead of leading the third round of spades at trick five, he first cashed the king of clubs, discarding a heart, and then cashed the A-K of hearts. Now he led a spade and could sit back and relax.
He didn't care what West returned after taking the ace — whether a spade, a heart, a diamond or a club. In all of these cases, he could win in his hand and draw West's last trump before claiming the balance.

Tomorrow: Unnecessary guesswork.
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4-22

CRYPTOQUIP

ZV B RBWNJB LNJN ZGHFBKKNC
FI HUIL B JZSNJ VKILZGT, Z
TPNHH Z LIPKC RBKK FUBF B
KZSN HFJNBW.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MEMBER OF THE MAFIA WHO IS WILD ABOUT SNACKS SUCH AS OREOS AND SNICKERDOODLES: COOKIE MOBSTER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals C

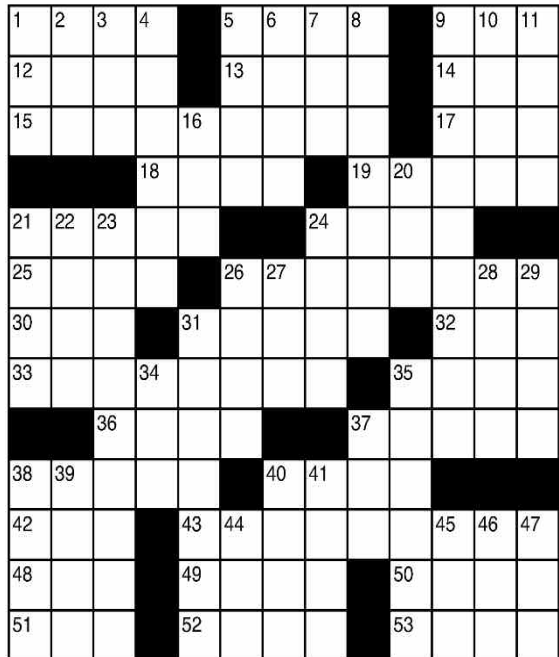
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Slightly
5 Battery
9 Abysmal
12 Sultry
13 Long hair
14 Ab —
15 ATM
17 "Just
18 Different
19 Idyllic
21 Cuba
24 Gator's
25 Hosp.
26 Aged
30 Half —
31 Basket-
32 Mineral
33 Compelled
35 Chew like
36 Actor
37 Jennifer
38 Partners
40 Ledge
42 Joan
43 Ring-
48 Sportage
49 Writer
50 Help a
51 Corn
52 CPR
53 Senate
DOWN
1 Priestly
2 Arthur of
3 Hostel
4 Recipi-
5 Latin l
6 Give a
7 Ky.
8 Arid
9 Fine
10 Bard's
11 Pixels
16 Browns,
20 Physi-
21 Grown-up
22 Volun-
23 Dining
24 Frigid
26 Punch
27 Prompt
28 And
29 Gives a
31 Thrown
34 Raw
35 Tablet
37 Diner
38 Create
39 Met
40 Peevish
41 March
44 City
45 Lawyers'
46 Beer
47 Montreal

Solution time: 22 mins.

RENO MBA DECO
OVERSEER ERIN
TEENAGER VINE
ARA EBKES
HAITI PSAT
OLDE TATTOOS
TIL BENES ROB
DEplete OLLA
LOTS CRYIN
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Yesterday's answer 4-22



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2 insertions.....81¢/ word
3 insertions.....96¢/ word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/
word
12 insertions. \$1.52/ word
26 insertions. \$1.77/ word
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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 505 West Line
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Saturday Morning
MAY 3, 2025
9:30 A.M.

REAL ESTATE:
1 Ω story home with 3
bedrooms, 1 full bath-
room 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 din-
ing room. There is a 24' x
26' 2 car detached
garage with heat and
water, a small utility barn
with a walk in cooler and
a 32' x 48' pole barn
that has a workshop
with heat and water.
This property sits on
2.06 acres. This prop-
erty has been well main-
tained and has a spa-
cious yard.

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LOY BROKER 260-726-
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Commits ...

Continued from page 8

It was not immediately clear how much Iamaleava, a Long Beach native whose initial college deal reportedly was set to pay him more than \$2 million to pay for Tennessee next season, agreed to accept from the Bruins as part of his move back to Southern California. An unnamed friend of Iamaleava's family told Front Office Sports that the dissatisfaction with the Volunteers centered on the need to bolster the offensive line and receiving corps, not a demand for additional compensation.

UCLA appeared to have substantial leverage in negotiations given that most teams had committed to a starting quarterback for next season, significantly reducing demand for a high-priced transfer. Fur-

ther limiting Iamaleava's options, he couldn't have gone to another Southeastern Conference school without sitting out a season as part of conference rules associated with entering the transfer portal in the spring.

The redshirt sophomore will have three seasons of remaining eligibility. Moving from a CFP participant to a team that hasn't won a conference championship in more than a quarter of a century presents some risk for Iamaleava in his bid to win at the highest level of college football before moving on to the NFL. He'll have to learn a new offense relatively quickly after presumably missing the rest of spring practice and joining the team upon his enrollment this summer.

The addition of Iamaleava

leaves in doubt the future of Joey Aguilar, who spent the first three weeks of spring practice as UCLA's presumed starting quarterback next season after putting up prolific numbers at Appalachian State. Iamaleava's arrival could nudge Aguilar back into the transfer portal considering he only has one more season of eligibility left.

The Bruins nearly added Nico's younger brother, Madden, to their roster on signing day in December before the Long Beach Poly High quarterback and teammate Jace Brown backed out of their verbal commitments and signed with Arkansas. Nico's decision to join the Bruins signals that whatever hard feelings emerged from his brother's situation have been smoothed

over between the team and the Iamaleava family.

UCLA had one strong ally in its pursuit of Nico Iamaleava because Stacey Ford, the team's director of player personnel, was on the coaching staff at Warren High when the quarterback emerged as a star during the 2021 season. Iamaleava later reportedly signed a four-year, \$8 million name, image and likeness contract with Spyre Sports Group, Tennessee's name, image and likeness collective, with a six-figure payment while he was still in high school.

After playing sparingly in his first college season, the 6-foot-6, 215-pounder starred during a 2024 season in which he led the Volunteers to the playoff before they lost to eventual national champion Ohio State in the

first round. Iamaleava completed 63.8% of his passes for 2,616 yards with 19 touchdowns and five interceptions, though critics pointed out that eight of those touchdowns came against lightly regarded Texas El Paso and Vanderbilt.

As part of a messy split with Tennessee that angered Volunteers fans, Iamaleava left before the team's spring game. Acknowledging that he was moving on, Tennessee coach Josh Heupel told reporters that "there's nobody bigger than the 'Power T.'"

Iamaleava's chance to win over a new fan base starts in several months. UCLA will open the season against Utah on Aug. 30 at the Rose Bowl, its quarterback vying to become the local hero the Bruins have long needed to reclaim long-lost glory.

Ownership ...

Continued from page 8

In the case of some of them — certainly Sherman in Miami, who grossly overpaid (\$1.2 billion) to buy the Marlins in 2017, Sternberg in Tampa and Nutting in Pittsburgh — they simply aren't wealthy enough to own baseball teams. Which is why they're perfectly content to finish out of the playoffs with the lowest payrolls in baseball but still make a nice profit every year thanks to \$60-some million in revenue sharing and another \$60 million from the central fund.

In terms of the 89-year-old Reinsdorf, whose White Sox, as a large market club are revenue sharing payors, the demise of his franchise can largely be attributed to his steadfast resistance to change and fierce loyalty to his employees. While he deserves major credit for the 2005 World Series team that ended an 88-year span without a championship on Chicago's south side, that was a veteran club with players

Fans of five franchises, Chicago White Sox, Pittsburgh Pirates, Tampa Bay Rays, Miami Marlins and Colorado Rockies, clamor for change in ownership as early as Opening Day due to mismanagement.

mostly obtained from other organizations and there was no foundation of young players from within to replace them. Kenny Williams, Reinsdorf's GM/VP of baseball ops from 2000 until 2023, oversaw the draft throughout — and from 2000 until 2010 when they drafted Chris Sale No. 1, the White Sox didn't hit on a single No. 1 pick.

Things hit rock bottom last year when the Sox lost a record 121 games, but Reinsdorf chose not to go outside the organi-

zation for a "new look" GM and instead promoted Chris Getz, one of Williams' deputies. So far, Getz has done nothing to improve the club. This year's Sox may be even worse than last year's, and in his three major trades he got almost nothing back for Michael Kopech from the Dodgers, or Dylan Cease from the Padres, while his four-prospect return from the Red Sox for Garrett Crochet also does not initially look promising.

One of the problems

Manfred is having with his owners is that nobody seems to want to buy baseball teams (at least the small or middle market ones) right now. The Lerner family, which owns the Nationals, recently took them off the market when nobody stepped up with an offer to their satisfaction, and in February Chicago billionaire Justin Ishbia withdrew from bidding on the Twins to increase his minority share of the White Sox.

Meanwhile, in Pitts-

burgh, the Pirates are heading for their sixth straight losing season under the leadership of GM Ben Cherington and manager Derek Shelton, but Nutting doesn't seem to care. He would do himself a favor by bringing in a baseball savvy guy like Buck Showalter and, if nothing else, just pick his brain on what they're doing wrong in Pittsburgh.

It's been reported that Manfred is fed up with Sternberg and is pushing him to sell the Rays (preferably to Tampa interests) after he backed out of the proposed \$1.37 billion St. Petersburg stadium deal. Things are almost as bad further south in Miami where Sherman has saddled the Marlins with the lowest payroll in baseball (\$67 million) as they play with a Triple A-caliber lineup to the fewest fans (average 13,093) of any team in baseball not in a minor league ballpark. Just two years ago, GM Kim Ng traded the Marlins into the postseason with

inspired deals for Luis Arraez and Jake Burger and Sherman's response was to push her aside and replace her with Peter Bendix, an over-his-shoes analytics nerd from the Rays, who traded both Arraez and Burger for a bunch of low level non prospects. This is what you call ownership malpractice.

Lastly there's the Rockies who are embarking on their seventh straight losing season since being swept in the 2018 NLDS — all of which can be attributed not to penny pinching but rather the incompetence of owner Monfort. To wit: Alienating their star player Nolan Arenado then trading him to the Cardinals and throwing in \$50 million; bidding against themselves to sign off-injured Kris Bryant for seven years, \$182 million. We could go on, but what's really mystifying is how did Monfort wind up being named chairman of the owners' negotiating committee for the upcoming CBA?

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Boys golf vs. Bluffton — 4:30 p.m.; Girls tennis at Frankton — 5 p.m.; Baseball at Norwell — 5:30 p.m.; Track at Bluffton — 5:30 p.m.; JV baseball at Alexandria-Monroe — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high golf at Richmond — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Track tri meet at home — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball vs. Minster — 5 p.m.; Softball at Minster — 5 p.m.; JV baseball at Minster — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today

3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester City at Aston Villa (USA)

6:40 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Miami Marlins (FDSN Indiana)

7 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Milwaukee Bucks at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)

7:10 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets (TBS)

7:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Memphis Grizzlies at

Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)

10 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Minnesota Timberwolves at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)

Wednesday

1:10 p.m. — MLB: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets (NBC); Cincinnati Reds at Miami Marlins (FDSN Indiana)

3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Arsenal FC at Crystal Palace (USA)

3:30 p.m. — La Liga soccer: Getafe at Real Madrid (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — NHL: Montreal Canadiens at Washington Capitals (ESPN)

9:30 p.m. — NHL: Dallas Stars at Colorado Avalanche (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NHL: Edmonton Oilers at Los Angeles Kings (TBS)

10 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup: tigers UANL at Cruz Azul (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

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
APRIL 26, 2025
9:30 A. M.

ANTIQUES n OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
Oak floor model glass show case; Oak table; Oak table top model glass show case; Gendron Wheel Co. wooden wheelchair; military foot locker; wood sleigh with reindeer and Santa; spinning wheel bench; Touring Car external trunk; liquor cabinet; TOYS: Lindstrom Gold Star pinball game, (2) Auburn fire trucks, Overland Express 3140 engine (in box), Wolverine Express bus, Mountain Special train engine, and many other toys not listed. Indian blankets; CROCKS: 25+ to include jugs, crocks, chicken waterers, #5 crown, bean pots, crocks with lids, and Weir jars. BOY SCOUT: hatchet, hat, books, pins, patches, etc; GM Goodwrench motor oil papers; cast iron trivets; (4) brass barber shop stand feet;Coca Cola dishes, service for 4; wood honey jug; glass cigar jar; doctors bag; vintage childrens clothing; and many other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is a quality auction with a nice variety of antiques and collectibles. Auction preview will be held on Friday April 25th from 4:00

90 SALE CALENDAR

p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Doors will open day of auction at 8:00 a.m.

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Loy Auction
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Auctioneers
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Travis Theurer
AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata
AU12400069

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130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

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

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

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Notice to Taxpayers Of Proposed Additional Appropriations

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Madison Township, Jay County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of the Madison Township advisory Board will meet at the Salamonia Volunteer Fire Station at 9 am on the 3rd day of May,2025 to consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year;

0101- Township General	\$10,600.00
1190- Cumulative Fire	\$29,500.00

Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriation as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a certified copy of the action time.

Scott Hilfiker
Madison Township Trustee

CR 4-22-2025 -HSPAXLP

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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

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

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

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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

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: 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

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Bill Madden



Manfred has an ownership problem

By BILL MADDEN
New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — In a couple of recent interviews, MLB commissioner Rob Manfred candidly admitted that baseball is facing a “massive” disparity problem that became further illustrated last winter with the Mets’ \$765 million investment on Juan Soto and the Dodgers’ shocking heavily deferred spending spree that merely widened the gap between the large and small market teams. But make no mistake, while payroll disparity in baseball is real and getting worse, Manfred can’t help but concede it is exacerbated by his equally real owner problem.

It had to be a baseball first on Opening Day when at least three owners, Jerry Reinsdorf in Chicago, Bob Nutting in Pittsburgh and Stu Sternberg in Tampa were booed lustily by the hometown fans and greeted with “Sell the Team” chants and banners. Look around Mr. Commissioner, nearly 17% of your fan bases — we’ll throw in those of Bruce Sherman’s Marlins and Dick Monfort’s Rockies — are fed up with the ownership of their teams.

See **Ownership** page 7

Handing it off

Jay County High School’s Gabe Pinkerton hands the baton off to Caden Gambill during the 4x100-meter relay in Thursday’s track meet with Delta and Yorktown. The Patriots finished third in the event with a time of 45.55 seconds.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Nico Iamaleava commits to UCLA

By BEN BOLCH
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — College football’s highest-profile transfer is coming home.

After a falling out with Tennessee, Nico Iamaleava has agreed to play for UCLA next season in a move that will generate significant buzz for the Bruins after they added a quarterback who took his previous team to the College Football Playoff.

But the nature of Iamaleava’s

Former Tennessee quarterback had dramatic departure from Volunteers as transfer portal, NIL run rampant in college sports

departure, which reportedly involved a desire for more name, image and likeness money from the Volunteers at a time when most teams had lined up a starting quarterback for next season, could make Iamaleava a polarizing figure before he sets foot on his new campus.

Iamaleava announced his

commitment to the Bruins on his Instagram account Sunday, ending more than a week of speculation about his future.

“My journey at UT has come to an end,” Iamaleava’s post read. “This decision was incredibly difficult, and truthfully, not something I expected to make this soon. But I trust God’s timing, and I believe He’s leading me where I need to be.

“Even though, this chapter is ending, a new chapter has begun and I am committed to UCLA!”

See **Commits** page 7



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(bulk style)	Italian Sausage \$2 ⁹⁹ lb	Rump Roast \$5 ⁹⁹ lb
Marinated Boneless Chicken Breasts (assorted flavors) \$4.99/lb		
Provolone Cheese \$5.99/lb		
From Fisher's Smokehouse		
Boneless Smoked Chicken Breast \$5.99/lb -sliced or shaved		
Mac and Cheese Loaf \$5.49/lb		
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Cavaliers pull away from Heat for 121-100 victory

By IRA WINDERMAN
South Florida Sun-Sentinel
Tribune News Service

CLEVELAND — The Oklahoma City Thunder set the standard for No. 1 seeds earlier in the day, when in their Western Conference playoff opener against the Memphis Grizzlies they went up by 56 points and won by 51.

Four hours later, against that backdrop, the Miami Heat took the court against the East No. 1 seed Cleveland Cavaliers, a team second only to the Thunder in the NBA this season.

Cavaliers led 31-24 at the end of the first period and moved to a 16-point lead in the second quarter before the Heat closed within 62-54 at the half.

The Heat then fell behind by 13 in the third quarter, closed within six later in the period, before going into the fourth down 87-79.

From there, the Heat closed within seven before Cleveland pushed back to a 17-point lead midway through the final period, effectively ending it.

The Cavaliers’ largest leads of the game came at the end of the game, in what proved to be an evening of attrition for the Heat.

— 2. His part: Herro was up to 17 points by the intermission, despite drawing almost the entire focus of the Cavaliers defense, scoring 12 in the second period to keep the Heat afloat.

Most of Herro’s offense came off his own shot creation.

He closed one rebound short of his 32nd career playoff double-double, at 10 of 22 from the field, with nine rebounds.

— 4. Not his time: When the Heat drafted 7-foot Kel’el Ware last June at No. 15 out of Indiana, the thought was he eventually could provide the type of length needed in matchups such as this against the Cavaliers Jarrett Allen and Evan Mobley.

Instead, Ware closed the first half with neither a rebound nor a point.

In addition, Ware, who turned 21 Sunday, very much showed his youth in defending the paint against the Cavaliers’ attacking game.

That again often had Spoelstra going with 6-foot-5 Haywood Highsmith in his power rotation.

Ware’s first rebound did not come up 1:50 into the second half, off a missed Adebayo free throw. His first points came on a put-back dunk with 7:01 to play in the third period.

He closed with two points and three rebounds.

— 5. Time to marinate: There now will be only one game in the series over the next five days, Wednesday night’s 7:30 p.m. Game 2 back at Rocket Arena, before Game 3 at 1 p.m. Saturday in the first of two at Kaseya Center.

If nothing else, it will give the Heat time to regroup after Friday night’s overtime play-in victory in Atlanta, Saturday’s optional practice at Cleveland State and then Sunday’s game less than 45 hours after advancing to this series.

The Cavaliers, by contrast, had been off a week prior to Game 1.

Herro was coming off 38- and 30-point performances in the play-in round, against Chicago and Atlanta, respectively.

But the toll of all too often being forced to play 1-on-5 on the perimeter took its toll, with Herro trailing off significantly in the second half. He closed 7 of 18 from the field.

With the need for his offense, Herro finished with just one assist.

— 3. His part, too: Adebayo extended his career-best postseason streak of 20-point games to 11.

It was the 61st postseason game for Adebayo in double figures, tying him for third place on that Heat all-time postseason list with Chris Bosh and Jimmy Butler. The franchise leader is Dwyane Wade (166), followed by LeBron James (85).

— 1. Closing time: The