

Council OKs new police devices

Redkey department will get radios and cameras

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review REDKEY — Police will be getting new equipment. Redkey Town Council OK'd town marshal Chris Jack to purchase body cameras and new radios at its meeting Tuesday. Council also discussed concerns about not being able to use the county's police software system and heard new council member Jenny Staver has been looking into proposals to renovate the Redkey Morgan Park.

Jack explained that Redkey police previously used two portable radios loaned to them by Portland Police Department. When Jack became town marshal last month, he continued, Portland police asked for Redkey police to return the radios.

Regarding cameras, Jack talked about the importance of recording police interactions for transparency, as well as to aid in disciplinary and legal issues.

"I'm really trying to push this department to not be the laughing stock of the county, to be a professional department," he said. "That's the direction I want to take it, is these guys are going to be held to a higher standard of professionalism."

Jack said the body cameras are from Axon, and the portable radios are from Kenwood. He noted the radios don't have access to the VHF (very high frequency) system, which would be an additional cost, and referred to them "mid-grade" pieces.

Responding to a question from council president Brenda Beaty, Jack said he also purchased dash cameras for police vehicles using his own money.

The equipment total comes to \$21,182.72, or \$4,010.24 annually for the next five years.

See Polices page 2

Board on tour



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Portland Park Board president Brian Ison (center) gestures toward the planned location for a new storage building at Portland Memorial Park's Runkle-Miller Field during Tuesday's annual park tour. Pictured with Ison, from left, are board member Shauna Runkle, Rockets supporter Randy Fisher and street and parks department superintendent Matt Shauver.

Portland parks officials OK site for new building, also discuss options for Hines-Inman and Haynes

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review Portland Park Board members got a look at the planned location of a new storage building for the Portland Rockets.

The board, during a special meeting for its annual park walk-through Tuesday, spent time at the Rockets' Runkle-Miller Field as well as Hines-Inman Memorial Stadium at Portland Memorial Park and visited Haynes Park.

Representatives from the Rockets, an unlimited age ama-

teur baseball team, visited the park board in March to seek permission to place a new storage building at the park. The team has raised funds for the building and materials and requested that the city provide the labor.

The board then confirmed at its April meeting that there is sufficient space for the building on the property, but it tabled a decision until their planned park tour.

During Tuesday's meeting, board members Brian Ison, Shauna Runkle, Michael Brew-

ster and Jennifer Weitzel got a look at the planned location for the building at the southwest corner of the park property, facing home plate. The structure is planned at 20 feet (with an additional 4-foot overhang) by 48 feet.

Board members and Rockets representatives discussed some of the details of the project, including responsibility for building permits and whether a stone or concrete base would be used. (There were questions about installing concrete if

there is a desire to add plumbing or other features in the future.)

The board agreed to move forward, with street and parks staff to fit the stone work into their schedule when time allows. (Staff will coordinate with the Rockets to get the job complete before the team's July 4 tournament or wait to begin until after the tournament. Previous discussion set Aug. 1 as a target completion date in order to have the building ready to store equipment following the Rockets' 2025 season.)



Tribune News Service/nj.com/Jim Lowney

Fighting fire

Firefighters wet down hot spots on New Jersey 532 from the wildfire in Ocean Township on Wednesday. The Jones Road wildfire in Ocean and Lacey townships was 8,500 acres and 10% contained as of 10:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Energy bill passes

By CASEY SMITH Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

House Republicans gave the final go-ahead Tuesday to a caucus priority bill that seeks to incentivize new power generation in Indiana.

A 63-23 party-line vote on House Bill 1007 set the measure on course for Gov. Mike Braun's desk.

The bill will expedite approval processes for large-load customers like data centers and create cost recovery mechanisms for projects utilities take on to serve those big customers.

It will also require a big prospective grid addition to make "significant and meaningful financial assurances" for such projects — reimbursing at least 80% of costs and protecting other existing and future customers from the expenses.

The bill, authored by Rep.

Measure would expedite process for large customers

Ed Soliday, Valparaiso, additionally gets tough with utilities planning to close — or convert to natural gas — any coal-fired plants of at least 125 megawatts. Current law mandates utilities that are not generating at least 85% of peak demand to report three-year projections to the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC).

Utilities will instead be required to annually report the amount of resource

generating capacity they plan to take offline. If, after an investigation, the IURC doesn't think a utility can provide reliable service, it would have to block the utility's plan or order it to either acquire or build capacity.

"We're in competition with other states," Soliday said. "We will not be the biggest incentive-offering state. (The bill) will put us in second."

See Energy page 2

Deaths

Clarence Lowe, 87, Centre, Alabama

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Tuesday. The low was 42.

There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms tonight with a low around 60. Skies will be mostly cloudy Friday with rain expected and a high in the mid 70s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Spring Jay County property tax bills have been mailed. Payments are due Monday, May 12. They can be made at Jay County Courthouse, online at jaycounty.net, via the dropbox on the south side of the courthouse or by mailing Jay County Treasurer, 120 N. Court St., St. 203, Portland, IN 47371.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from the JCHS baseball game against Class 2A No. 9 Shenandoah.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.





Energy ...

Continued from page 1  
“We won’t get a dime if they don’t come here, but if we are able to incentivize them to come here, we get 80% of something, not 100% of nothing.”  
After strong pushback, senators removed more contentious provisions that intended to specifically boost small modular nuclear reactor (SMR) development — including a 20% sales tax credit for utilities.  
That tax credit remains in

the bill, however, for Hoosier manufacturers that produce SMR technology which could later be used by utilities in Indiana or elsewhere across the globe.  
Democratic Rep. Matt Pierce, of Bloomington, said Tuesday he has concerns about the remaining tax credit, which could cost taxpayers an estimated \$280 million, according to a legislative fiscal analysis.  
He worried, too, that the

overall bill will “force more expensive, obsolete coal plants to remain online for a longer period of time” — given that SMR development has largely been proposed on existing coal plant sites.  
“Imagine what we could do with \$280 million when it comes to providing people with health care, childcare, other essential services that people may rely upon the state,” Pierce said.

Felony arrests

**Intimidation**  
A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for intimidation with a deadly weapon and related charges.  
Corey L. Cooley, 32, 5166 S. 250 West, was preliminarily charged with a Level 5 felony, along with two Level 6 felonies for pointing a firearm and domestic battery.  
He was being held on a \$15,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

**Battery**  
An Edinburgh man was arrested Tuesday for battery with body waste and other charges.  
Dillion R. Kimble, 30, 23rd and Schoolhouse Road, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony, along with a Level 6 felony for intimidation and two Class B misdemeanors for public intoxication and disorderly conduct.  
He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

CR almanac

Friday 4/25	Saturday 4/26	Sunday 4/27	Monday 4/28	Tuesday 4/29
<b>75/48</b> Friday has a 90% chance of showers with a slight chance of thunderstorms.	<b>60/40</b> Mostly cloudy on Saturday, when there's a slight chance of rain in the morning and afternoon.	<b>67/49</b> Sunday looks to be mostly sunny with highs in the upper 60s.	<b>80/68</b> Mostly sunny on Monday when there's a slight chance of rain.	<b>80/60</b> Tuesday's forecast shows a 50% chance of thunderstorms.

Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$151 million	Daily Three: 6-0-2 Daily Four: 5-3-3-9 Quick Draw: 9-22-26-28-30-32-33-36-38-41-42-45-52-58-62-64-65-70-73-79
<b>Mega Millions</b> 25-39-49-52-65 Mega Ball: 22 Estimated jackpot: \$60 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 0-1-2 Pick 4: 2-1-9-0 Pick 5: 4-0-1-6-6 Evening Pick 3: 7-9-4 Pick 4: 7-2-0-1 Pick 5: 7-8-8-6-5 Rolling Cash: 12-16-30-31-38 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 1-7-0 Daily Four: 7-9-0-6 Quick Draw: 2-7-10-18-19-22-24-27-28-36-42-44-47-51-54-59-62-64-67 Evening	

Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.88 May corn.....4.90 June corn .....4.95	May beans .....10.57 Wheat ..... 4.90
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.93 May corn.....5.00 June corn .....5.02	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.83 May corn.....4.85 Beans .....10.49 May beans .....10.51 Wheat .....4.94
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.85 May corn.....4.85 Beans .....10.57	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.80 May corn.....4.83 Beans .....10.34 May beans .....10.34 Wheat .....4.87

Today in history

In 1942, Barbra Streisand was born in Brooklyn, New York. Streisand served as the first major female Jewish star of her generation. A singer and actress, her notable works include “The Mirror Has Two Faces,” “The Prince of Tides,” “Walls” and “Yentl.”

In 1982, Kelly Clarkson was born in Fort Worth, Texas. She won the first season of American Idol in 2002, setting the stage for her career in music. Some of her hits include “Underneath the Tree” from her 2013 Christmas album, “Wrapped in Red,” and “Because of You,” from her 2004 album “Breakaway.”

In 1990, NASA launched the Hubble Space Telescope into

Earth’s orbit. The telescope serves as a solution to atmospheric distortion — shifting pockets of air causing light to shiver — when viewing the stars and other aspects of outer space. It has since taken various images of the universe that were previously inaccessible.

In 2013, more than 1,100 people died after a building collapsed in Bangladesh. The facility was used to produce clothing for western markets.

In 2018, Jay County High School’s girls track team moved to 5-0 on the season Tuesday with a 101-22 victory over the visiting Heritage Patriots. Heritage won the boys meet, 79-44.

— The CR

Citizen’s calendar

<b>Friday</b> 8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland.	house, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, court-	<b>May 1</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Obituaries

**Clarence Lowe**  
*April 16, 1938-April 22, 2025*  
Clarence Ledford Lowe, age 87, of Centre passed away Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at his residence.  
A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, 2025, at East Centre Baptist Church with Br. Chip Smith officiating. There will also be a memorial service held at a later date in Indiana.  
Mr. Lowe is survived by his loving wife, Marty

Lowe; son Kevin Lowe (Tammy); daughter Lisa Lowe Wright (Scott); brothers Gordon Lowe (Ginger), Alton Lowe (Reba) and Warren Lowe (Jan); sister Virginia Henry (Dick); brother-in-law Direl Price Jr.; granddaughters Ashley Farmer (Brock) and Grace Wright (Austin Boardman); two great-grandsons; and a host of nieces and nephews.  
He was preceded in death by his daughter,

Theresa Ann Lowe; his sisters, Sharon Price and Debra Whitesell; brother-in-law, Chris Whitesell.  
Mr. Lowe was a native of Smokey Junction, Tennessee, and the son of the late Raymond and Inez Lowe. He was a member of East Centre Baptist Church.  
In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to East Centre Baptist Church or the American Cancer Society.

Perry Funeral Home (perryfuneral.net) in charge of arrangements.  
.....  
*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.*

Police ...

Continued from page 1  
Council discussed paying for the cost out of the Local Option Income Tax fund, which Jack said is designated for public safety.  
Council agreed to purchase the equipment, with “Watermellon” Jim Phillips, Beaty and Staver in favor and Floyd Life abstaining. Dave Dudelston was not in attendance at the time of the vote.  
Also, council heard about issues with Redkey police officers utilizing the county’s police records system through Spillman Technologies. Jack said he and the other town officers have completed training and still do not have access to the system, which he said was previously used by Redkey.  
He aired complaints about Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton’s treatment of the issue. He also said Redkey officers currently can’t run license plates for traffic stops without the system.  
Town attorney Maura Hoff noted she has relayed concerns to the county attorney regarding the problem and has not yet heard back.  
Among other police updates, Jack said he has opted into a volunteer chaplain program with local pastor and Redkey resident Steve Arnold, who said he has served as a chaplain with Jay County Sheriff’s Office and Portland Police Department for about seven years.  
Beaty also noted Jack and officer Alex Heath have been looking into grants for the department, with Jack pointing out the department received a rifle shield donation from the United States Deputy Sheriff’s Association.  
Also, council was reminded Jack

begins training at Indiana Law Enforcement Academy on May 5.  
Council also heard Staver has announced playground vendors Sinclair Recreation and Miracle Playgrounds of Indiana for potential work to be completed at Redkey Morgan Park.  
Hopes are to completely renovate the park, installing all-inclusive playgrounds for all ages and abilities. The new play sets would include activities for children with sensory processing disorders, among other items. Staver also shared plans to remove the old concession building and replace it with a splash pad.  
She said she’s looking into grants to help pay for the project. She’s also hoping to host events and start a GoFundMe page to make her dream a reality.  
Staver asked for input from the community as she develops plans. She noted that if the project is completed, she would like security cameras to be installed around the park.  
Also Tuesday, Dudelston shared copies of a statement he presented to town personnel and The Commercial Review before the meeting. He asked Hoff at the beginning of the meeting to read the statement, with Hoff and Beaty noting it was not on the agenda.  
The discussion devolved into an argument, with Dudelston leaving shortly after.  
Dudelston’s statement, although not read at the meeting, responded to comments about his and Life’s absence from recent meetings. In it, he accused Beaty of starting a “witch hunt” against him and harassing him. He also shared call records and his paycheck, saying he didn’t receive calls to attend a meeting.

In other business, council members:  
•OK’d installing the new water meter antenna on the town’s water tower. Beaty noted the town will sell extra meters purchased with American Rescue Plan Act dollars and old meters to help pay for the additional cost. The town has about 300 more new meters to install, with employees now resuming installation efforts.  
•Agreed to give a \$500 donation to A Better Life – Brianna’s Hope.  
•Heard Redkey Town Hall recently had security system issues. Council approved paying a \$575 bill to fix the problem.  
•Tabled decision on making an appropriation for approximately \$35,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars, with Hoff saying she would like to look into the issue.  
•Heard from Phillips about a farmer’s market planned from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 3, near Redkey Post Office.  
•Held off on a decision regarding a contract for Independence Day fireworks with Redkey Fire Department until learning more information.  
•Discussed but took no action on a \$682 water bill adjustment, with questions surfacing about whether the fault of the leak falls on the plumber or town employees. Beaty said moving forward the town will not turn the water on at a house after a water line repair unless the residents or a plumber will be home to monitor for leaks. Hoff said she would look into policies other towns have enforced regarding the issue.  
•Heard about ongoing efforts by utility worker Seth Fugiett, who is looking into replacing town signs and a hosting a fundraising event at the park, among other work.

SERVICES

Today

**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.

Friday

**Hamilton,** Michael: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Saturday

**Lowe,** Clarence: 2 p.m., East Centre Baptist Church, 1220 .E Main St., Centre, Alabama.

Monday

**Schoenherr,** Marjorie: 10:30 a.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery.

May 3

**Faller,** Peg: Noon, Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home, 308 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

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The Commercial Review





Photo provided

## Elementary recognizes

East Elementary School recently recognized kindergarteners for demonstrating citizenship. Pictured above in the front row are Julian Ballard, Nash Younger and Piper Bihn. In the back row are Rebel Weatherhead, Cleo Chenoweth, Harper Huntsman and Dax Vance. Not pictured is Mordecai Jones.

# Friend’s pain comes, goes in parking lots

DEAR ABBY: My friend “Alma” has a handicapped parking permit. I never asked her why she has it. We regularly go for long walks, and she seems perfectly able-bodied. Alma did share with me once that she got the tag after an accident left her with some intermittent long-term pain. She said most days she doesn’t need the accessible parking and doesn’t use it, but that when her pain flares up, it’s helpful to be able to utilize a handicapped parking space. However, I have been with Alma in situations where there

Dear Abby



is limited parking and she suggests using a handicapped space. I’m uncomfortable taking a space away from someone who may need it, but also uncomfortable questioning whether Alma needs it or if it’s just for convenience. What is

the proper etiquette here? — EMPATHETIC IN TEXAS  
DEAR EMPATHETIC: The proper etiquette would be to tell your friend Alma (with a smile) that unless she’s having pain that day, you would prefer to park a little farther away in a regular parking spot.

DEAR ABBY: I have a set of Chippendale-style dining chairs that are more than 100 years old. They are of sentimental value to me because I grew up with them. Recently, at

considerable expense, I had them repaired and reupholstered. My husband’s son-in-law, “Isaac,” whom I love very much, weighs between 450 and 500 pounds. When the family is dining, he uses one of the chairs. They are not intended to hold such weight. My husband and I agree that we should buy a heavy-duty chair that can accommodate Isaac’s weight. However, I don’t know how to convey to Isaac that the new chair is for him without causing offense or hurt feelings. Do you have a

suggestion? — TREADING LIGHTLY  
DEAR TREADING: Your husband should explain the potential problem to his daughter so SHE can point out to her husband that a special dining room chair has been acquired for him to use at family dinners.  
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## 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**  
**LAWYERS** — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.  
**SMART RECOVERY** — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings,

managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.  
**CELEBRATE 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.  
**DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP** — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.  
**Friday**  
**PAST RECOVERY SERVICES** — Peer Addiction Support Team recov-

ery 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.  
**Saturday**  
**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.  
**MISSISSINewa CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION** — Will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26, at Jay County Historical Society Museum. The chapter is celebrating its 106th anniversary with special guest Brenda Cotton, Indiana Daughters of the American Revolution central district director. For questions, contact regent Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

**Sunday**  
**A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fel-

lowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.  
**Monday**  
**PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS** — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.  
**PING PONG** — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.  
**EUCHRE** — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.  
**TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS)** — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.  
**PREGNANCY CARE CENTER** — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

## JAY COUNTY DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

(300 Ft. Minimum) Cost. .. \$1.40 per foot  
**PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION CONDITIONS:**  
1.) Your dust control flag markers must be in place, at BOTH ends, of your application area by June 5th.  
2.) If potholes appear, during the summer months, in your dust control area; please contact the Jay County Highway Dept @ (260) 726-8701 and request grading or stone applied.  
3.) The Jay County Highway Department retains full control and authority to maintain said dust controlled areas by grading. Grading will usually be necessary if the surface has deteriorated to a hazardous condition in the opinion of the Highway Department.  
4.) I agree to pay, in advance, for the dust control solution applied by GREAT LAKES CHLORIDE, INC.  
5.) Dust mats will be applied in 50 feet increments only. (300 feet minimum)  
**ONE APPLICATION ONLY**  
**DEADLINE: Thursday May 29th, 2025**  
**LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT**  
**PAYMENT MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE**  
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## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday’s Solution

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

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.



# Civics education is a great benefit

**Walla Walla Union-Bulletin (Washington)**  
Tribune News Service

We need to make a bigger deal about civics education.

What does Article VII of the U.S. Constitution establish? In which form of government do people choose elected representatives to act on their behalf? How many U.S. Senators does each state have in Congress?

These are all questions that students answered at the quali-

## Guest Editorial

fyng event for the National Civics Bee competition April 12. What percentage of the population can answer them correctly? We are fortunate to live in a free country that allows voters

to make decisions based on the information they have, but the information they have is too often incomplete, false or non-existent.

According to Pew Research, only 57% of American adults surveyed can correctly identify one of the rights guaranteed by the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Many people who cast votes in federal, state and local elections know very little about how our government operates,

and the results of the Pew survey don't show a significant difference between the two major political parties in terms of civics knowledge.

Students who participate in things like the Civics Bee are a step ahead in their journey to being well-informed members of society, and we should do more to encourage young people to learn about our system of government as well as history and current events.

This includes a push for more

comprehensive and practical civics education in schools and support for programs like the Civics Bee. The more our future voters and leaders know about civics, the better our country will be for everyone.

We congratulate the middle school students who earned spots at the upcoming statewide competition this summer, and we encourage all students to take an interest in civics to some degree; it will be of great benefit in the long run.



# Debate on values will be on full display

**By MICHAEL J. HICKS**

Gov. Mike Braun has signed the contentious Senate Bill 1 into law. This legislation was neither as good, nor as bad, as anyone claims. That is how legislative compromise works. But, there are some hidden, and probably unanticipated, economic consequences.

SB 1 cut residential property taxes. About two-thirds of Hoosier families will see cuts of under \$100 per year, and about half of those will see no property tax cuts. The wealthiest third of households will see cuts of \$250-\$300 per year.

These residential tax cuts are very modest, but the business tax cuts are large.

The legislation raises the minimum threshold for filing business property taxes from \$80,000 to \$2 million, phased in over a couple of years. This will exempt the vast majority of Hoosier businesses from any property tax.

A business with \$80,000 in personal property should be paying about \$2,400 per year in property taxes. A business with \$2 million would pay \$60,000 per year. So, the new minimums will radically reduce business taxes in Indiana.

For context, a firm with \$80,000 or less in personal property might be a small law firm or a plumber. A firm with \$2 million would be a large restaurant or dental office. At the high end, these firms will each get a tax cut equivalent to the total cuts to maybe 400 middle class families.

But there are even bigger cuts. When businesses buy equipment, they can depreciate it over

*Michael J. Hicks*



several years, so their tax liability shrinks each year. But, under previous law, they had to continue to pay taxes on a minimum of 30% of the purchase value so long as they had the equipment. That ensured that there was a stable tax base.

Under SB 1, that 30-percent floor is discontinued for any equipment bought after the start of this year. In the short run, this will have very little effect on local property tax revenues. But, over the long run, say 10 to 12 years, it will devastate local government budgets in dozens of counties and cities with large manufacturing presence, like Kokomo, Gary, Elkhart, Indianapolis, and Fort Wayne.

The bill authors knew this. That's why they exempted oil refineries, petrochemical plants and any property in a tax-increment finance district or linked to municipal bonds.

Altogether, this leaves a budget shortfall of more \$1.4 billion in local government in Indiana over the next three years. Given that local government employment as a share of total jobs is now lower than it has been in 50 years, it is safe to say this is a very big cut.

However, there are two unanticipated business effects of this legislation that may not have been considered in the legislature.

The first is that raising the minimum personal property taxes to businesses with \$2 million will distort capital purchase decisions in many firms. Restaurants will be careful to avoid expanding their dining areas or kitchens to bring their total capital investment over \$2 million. The physician's practice will be careful not to buy that ultrasound machine or lab equipment. The small building contractor will be careful not to buy an extra vehicle or two in fear they might slide over the \$2-million tax threshold, causing a large liability.

So, SB 1 actually creates a fiscal incentive for Hoosier businesses to stay small and less efficient. I'm sure that was not the plan.

Second, the elimination of the 30-percent minimum on depreciated capital is a huge boon to the financing of workplace automation. An economic study of a similar proposal in Ohio found that similarly sized tax cuts would accelerate automation of manufacturing workplaces to the tune of almost 20,000 jobs lost per year.

The effect on Indiana would probably be a bit smaller because Hoosier manufacturers already pay the fourth-lowest total tax rate in the nation. Still, if, like me, you trust free markets to optimally substitute capital for labor, there's little good reason to accelerate the process, as SB 1 does.

The final unintended consequence falls on households.

The legislature was well aware that the combination of modest residential and very large business tax cuts places a major burden on some local governments — particularly public schools. In my county, Delaware, funding cuts will be around \$335 per student by 2028. This is a large contribution to the annual funding cuts that have plagued Indiana schools annually since 2010. Despite what you may hear from overly happy budget discussions, these cuts are well documented by my research and that of my colleagues.

To account for that, SB 1 includes a provision that permits more flexibility in local government finance. This legislation permits local governments to raise their own local income tax to offset their lost property taxes. The new local income taxes can be raised by 1.8% to include municipal or county government, public safety and other local governments, such as schools and libraries.

I welcome increased fiscal flexibility, but it is important to know that for the typical Hoosier family, the new income tax could be over \$1,250 in additional income taxes per year. The distributional effect of this tax change is the unintended consequence.

The new law cuts property taxes with disproportionate gains to families who own more expensive homes, are older than 65 and disabled veterans. As an increasingly older disabled vet-

eran, I say thanks, but wonder why I personally merit this tax cut.

But, with large cuts to local governments that will be made up by new income taxes, we should expect most Hoosier households to ultimately see a tax increase as a result of SB 1. In contrast, almost every Hoosier business will see big cuts.

That's not quite what was advertised. But there may be some long-term benefits of this legislative adventure.

This new legislation revealed the intellectual immaturity of the anti-property tax movement. That is a conspicuous benefit, which will be further revealed as local governments debate the implementation of the new income taxes.

SB 1 also means that every county, city, school and library district in Indiana will now have the chance to debate the value and cost of local public services. We will get to hear about the importance of schools, libraries and police to families, and how much these services cost. Some communities will choose wisely, crafting places that people wish to build their lives in. Other places will choose poorly. Then, we'll all get to see the results.

.....

*Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.*

# The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

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

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

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# Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Sunday, April 27.

**Confessions and Adoration begin at 2 p.m.**

**and Divine Mercy Chaplet begins at 3 pm**

**Benediction begins at 3:30 pm**

**Veneration of the image begins at 11:30**

**(and the Rosary will take place on the hour)**

**Jesus' words to St. Faustina "I demand deeds of mercy. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy. The first- By deed, the second-by word, the third-by prayer. In these in unquestionable love for me."**

*St. Faustina's Diary 742*

## *Jesus words to St. Faustina*

**"At 3 o'clock p.m., beg for My mercy especially for sinners, and immerse yourself, even for a short moment in contemplation of My Passion."**

*Diary 1320*

**"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish"**

*Diary 48*

**"Say unceasingly the Chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priest will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation."**

*Diary 687*

**The conversion prayer... "O Blood and Water which gushed forth from the heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You." 3 times**

*Diary 187*

**"Let the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy." *Diary 1146***



SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



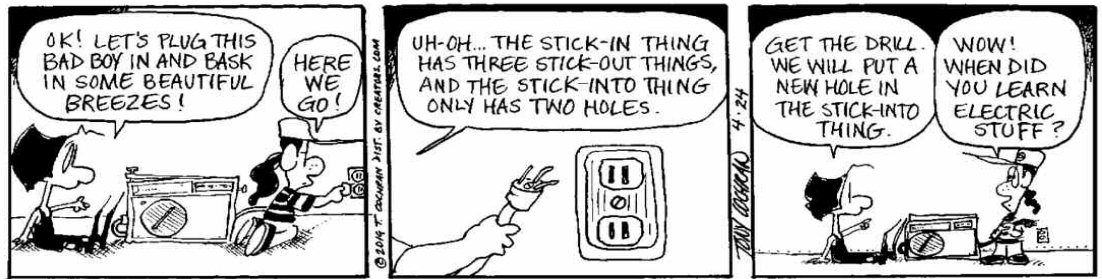
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



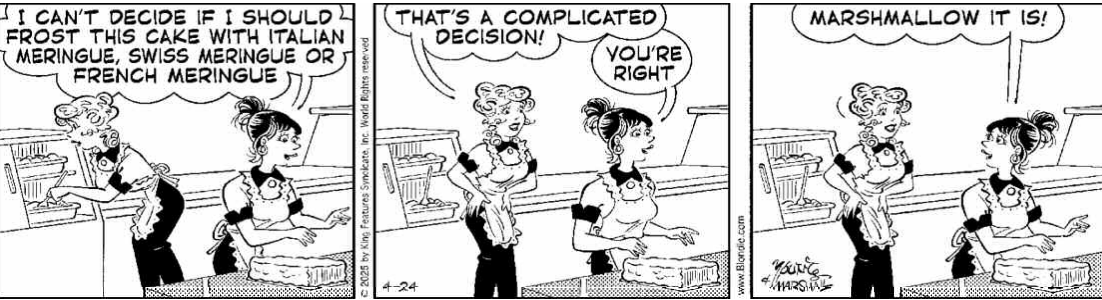
Hi and Lois



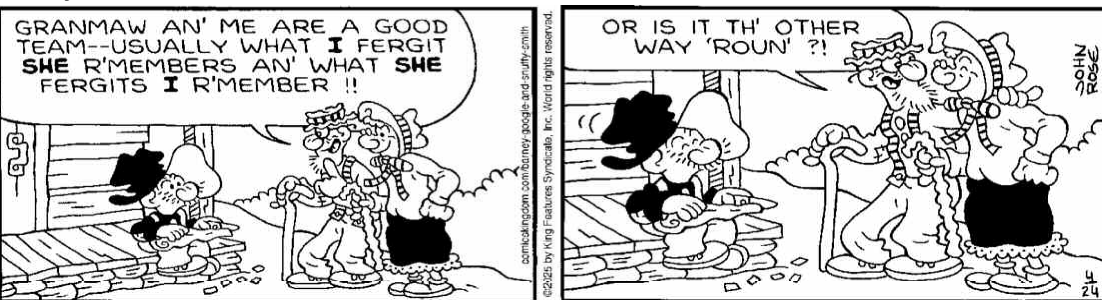
Between Friends



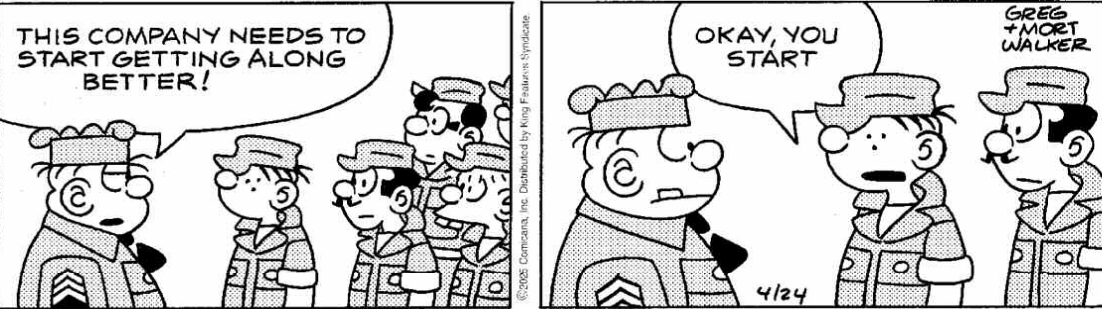
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Think before you act

South dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.

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

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

**EAST**  
♠ 8 5 4 2  
♥ 9 4  
♦ K 2  
♣ J 9 5 4 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J  
♥ Q J 6 3  
♦ J 10 8 4  
♣ A K

The bidding:  
South 1♦ West 1♥ North 2♦ East 3NT  
Opening lead — five of hearts.

Playing by rote can prove to be a very dangerous habit on many deals. Take this case where declarer cost himself a vulnerable game simply by doing what came naturally. South was in three notrump, and West led a heart after having over-called with one heart during the bidding. Declarer won East's nine with the queen and took a diamond finesse, losing the jack to East's king. East returned a heart through South's J-6-3, and the contract

went down one. Bad luck, you could say, because on the bidding West was more likely to hold the king of diamonds than East.

However, the fact is that South should have made the contract. Rather than relying essentially on West to hold the king of diamonds, he should instead have shaped his play so as to assure the contract regardless of which defender had the diamond king.

The turning point was South's play at trick one, when he should have allowed East's nine of hearts to win the trick. True, this is an unnatural play — deliberately losing a trick you can win relatively cheaply — but it's hard to dispute its merits. It guarantees the contract come what may, and who can find fault with that?

The best East can do is to continue with a heart at trick two, which leaves South on Easy Street. He loses the jack to West's king, but there is nothing the defenders can do from this point on to defeat him.

Even if West discontinues hearts, South can attempt the diamond finesse in complete safety. After East takes the king, he has no heart to return, and South winds up scoring three spades, four diamonds and two clubs to finish with nine tricks.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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4-24

CRYPTOQUIP

RNGJ IYVKL EC CBMYJL GBP  
JNP AELJ LEMDNJ-GCJPB GL  
OPPBAGIYVD YVDBPKYPVJL?  
OBPR-OPBBYPL.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THAT SMUG MAN CENSURED THE WAY I WAS SAYING MY WORDS, IT WAS AN ENUNCIATION DENUNCIATION.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals R

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Bankroll  
4 Mythic man-goat  
8 Getz of jazz  
12 Night before the big day  
13 Bart's sister  
14 Blood (Pref.)  
15 Threw off track  
17 401(k) relatives  
18 Corn spike  
19 Self-respect  
21 Tell  
24 Free (of)  
25 Yale grad  
26 Tibetan bovine  
28 Allowed  
32 Lessons for tots  
34 Bubble—  
36 Greek pita sandwich  
37 "Cry, the Beloved Country" author Alan

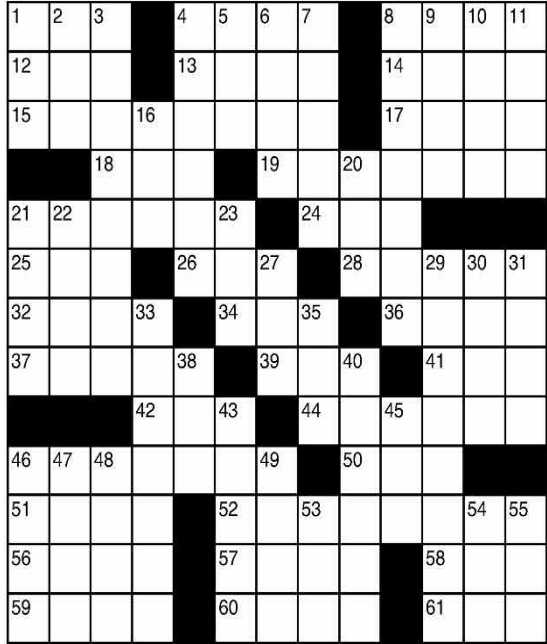
**DOWN**  
1 Marry  
2 "Hail!"  
3 Remiss  
4 Co-quetish  
5 Have a cold  
6 Second-hand  
7 Bottom bash  
8 Big Actress  
9 Hatchery  
10 Latin 101 word  
11 Inquisitive  
16 Motorist's org.  
20 Baseball's Hodges  
21 Harvest

**22** "The Wire" actor Idris  
**23** "Dig in!"  
**27** Crucial  
**29** Piston locale  
**30** Laundry appliance  
**31** Youngsters  
**33** More water-logged  
**35** Billboards  
**38** Neither mate  
**40** Singer Gomez  
**43** Nanny's mate  
**45** Director Howard  
**46** Unpaid TV ads (Abbr.)  
**47** Denny's rival  
**48** Moth variety  
**49** BLT spread  
**53** YouTube clip, for short  
**54** Conclude  
**55** HDTV brand

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 4-24



00 CLASSIFIEDS

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

40 NOTICES

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

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across street from Jail



# Tigers ...

Continued from page 8

The Tigers' No. 1 golfer, Declan Grieser, shot an even 35 with seven pars, one birdie and a bogey. Bluffton (3-1, 1-1 ACAC) also got a 38 out of Reid Abbett at the No. 4 position. The final scores came out of the fifth and sixth positions as Rafe Gerber and Gibson Grieser put up 41 and 42 strokes, respectively.

The first score that didn't count for Bluffton was a 43, which matched Jay County's top two scorers. Isaac Homan had the most pars for the Patriots, making the suggested mark on the first, third, fifth and sixth holes, the first three of which were par-4s while the final was a par-5. A trio of double-bogeys watered down his overall score.

Tucker Griffin had a solid start to the day with a pair of pars on the first and second hole en route to his 43.

He got into some trouble on the 335-yard, par-4 first hole as his drive put him behind some large bushes by the 18th tee box, forcing him to punch back out onto the fairway. Sitting just within 100 yards of the green, Griffin's third shot landed him on the green within three feet of the cup to save himself for par.

The 176-yard, par-3 second hole was smoother as his drive put him on a hill on the left side just off the green. His chip put him about five feet away for another simple putt.

His round went downhill from there as trouble on greens of various speeds resulted in four bogeys, two double-bogeys and



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Cody DeHoff finishes his backswing after driving off the first tee at Portland Golf Club during Jay County's match against Bluffton on Tuesday. The Patriots suffered their first loss of the season to the ACAC foe after starting 3-0 in dual matches.

one more par on the eighth hole put him eight strokes over par one day after shooting just one over at Albany Golf Club.

"It might have been short game from what I can tell," said Houck about what may have been plagu-

ing his team's round in the first home match of the season. "I can't watch everybody, but what I'd seen was some short game. Last night we played at an Albany course where the greens are a lot faster than they are here, so that's

a difficult adjustment that might have been a factor for some of them today."

While three of the Patriots set or matched their worst 9-hole score of the season, Griffin Byrum set his best mark. The

JCHS senior shot a 45 to score for the first time since the Yorktown Invitational to open the season. While some of his teammates struggled with the short game, he said that was the reason he played better Tuesday.

"I've been starting to putt better," Byrum said. "Usually that's kind of my kryptonite. I've been starting to drive better and starting to putt better but tiny, tiny things need to click still."

Byrum's best stretch came between holes No. 3-6 where he sandwiched a pair of bogeys with pars.

He said the highlight of his match came on the 374-yard, par-4 fourth hole. He was worried about his drive as he pulled it right, thinking that it would wind up in the field, but he cleared it to land 72 yards away from the green. He finished with a bogey on the hole.

The final score came from Cody DeHoff with a 47, while rounds of 50 and 52 from Dominick Bright and Dawson Goldsworthy didn't affect the final.

The Patriots will look to move on from Tuesday's hiccup as they prepare to take on Northeastern today and the South Adams Invite on Saturday.

"They've just been playing well and playing really confident," said Houck on the early season success. "So, I don't know what the key is exactly because sometimes golf goes well and sometimes it doesn't. We happened to have a good start so we know we can do it, we just have to get back on the right track."

# Roundup ...

Continued from page 8

Beiswanger's wins came in a pair of sprints as she topped the 200-meter dash with a time of 27.31 seconds (Jay County swept the top four spots) and the 400 dash in 1 minute, 3.81 seconds.

Jenna Dues added another win in the sprints, claiming the 100 dash in 13.19.

Other girls victories came from:

- Brooklynn Byrum in the 800 run (2:32.39)
- Peyton Carpenter in the long jump (15 feet, 5 inches)
- Jordyn Hutzler in the discus (95 feet, 7 ½ inches)

- The 4x100 relay team (52.20)

The boys (1-5, 0-3 ACAC) only topped three events on the day. Adam Alig ran a 16 seconds flat in the 110 hurdles to place first, while Dash Thacker finished the 3,200 run in 10:22.45. The boys 4x100 relay also came out on top with a 44.95.

**Fell to Frankton**

FRANKTON — Jay County's girls tennis team fell to the Frankton Eagles 3-2 on Tuesday.

Brenna Bailey stayed perfect on the season at 5-0 by claiming the No. 1 singles match 6-1, 6-1 over

Lainey Hamaker.

Meredith Dirksen provided the only other point for Jay County (2-3). She secured the No. 2 singles position with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Sloane Harrison.

Gretchen Link and Sophie Sprunger claimed two games in the first set of the No. 1 doubles match, but fell to Laela Dietzer and Campbell Quire 6-2, 6-0.

In their first varsity match, the No. 2 doubles pair of Lydia Johnson and Chloe Muhlenkamp lost to Grace Harrison and Addie Moore 6-1, 6-1.

Lilly Johnson only managed to win one game in the No. 3 doubles match

as she was defeated 6-1, 6-0 by Lilly Hall.

## Bad start

OSSIAN — The first inning snowballed out of control of the Jay County baseball team on Tuesday as they gave up 10 runs en route to a 14-4 loss to the Norwell Knights on Tuesday.

Two of the first three batters reached base on a pair of errors by right fielder Cam Fraley. Between the errors, Kade Sommers gave up a walk, giving the Knights (5-3) an early opportunity with the bases loaded.

The first runner crossed

on a sacrifice fly, but the game got out of control quickly as Sommers surrendered four more walks and five hits to allow 10 unearned runs to score.

The Patriots (2-5) started to turn things around in the top of the third inning when they scored four runs on a Wyatt Foster single and a Drew Schemenaur three-run home run.

But just as Jay County found some life, Norwell punched back for four of their own in the bottom half of the third inning, bringing the Knights back up to the needed number for the mercy rule after five innings.

## Dame leads

RICHMOND — The Jay County Junior High School golf team fell to Richmond Intermediate Schools 202-214 on Tuesday at Elks Country Club.

Jacen Dame led the way for the Patriots (0-1) by shooting a 51.

Karson Hines didn't fall too far behind with a 53 and Murphy Link provided the third score with a 54.

Both Josh Brown and Alexa Ridenour shot 61s to round out the team score.

Crystal Schwartzentruber's 68 did not affect the final result.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**

Jay County — Boys golf at Northeastern — 5 p.m.; Baseball at Woodlan — 6 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Woodlan — 6 p.m.; Junior high baseball at Adams Central — 5 p.m.; Junior high golf at Delta — 5 p.m.; Junior high tennis vs. Adams Central — 5 p.m.; Junior high track vs Delta — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Coldwater — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Coldwater — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Coldwater — 5 p.m.

**Friday**

Jay County — Track at Ansonia — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball vs. Shenandoah — 7 p.m.; JV tennis at Bluffton — 4:30 p.m.; Junior high softball vs. Blackford — 5:30 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**

6:30 p.m. — NHL: Florida Panthers at Tampa Bay Lightning (TBS)

7 p.m. — NHL: Toronto Maple Leafs at Ottawa Senators (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — NFL Draft 2025 (ESPN)

9 p.m. — NHL: Vegas Golden Knights at Minnesota Wild (TBS)

9:30 p.m. — NHL: Winnipeg Jets at St. Louis Blues (ESPN2)

10:30 p.m. — CONCACAF Champions Cup soccer: Vancouver Whitecaps at Inter Miami (FS1)

**Friday**

12 a.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Boston Celtics at Orlando Magic (ESPN)

7 p.m. — NFL Draft second and third rounds (ESPN)

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

8 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Indiana Pacers at Milwaukee Bucks (FSDN Indiana)

8 p.m. — UFL: Memphis Showboats at Birmingham Stallions (FOX)

9:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Los Angeles Lakers at Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN)

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 505 West Line Street, Geneva, IN  
Saturday Morning  
MAY 3, 2025  
REAL ESTATE WILL SELL AT 9:30 A.M.  
Personal property will sell immediately following real estate.  
REAL ESTATE:  
1 ½ 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  
HOUSEHOLD GOODS ñ OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS  
Whirlpool refrigerator; GE washer & dryer; Coldspot freezer; vintage Frigidaire refrigerator; vintage upholstered occasional chair; deer head mount; Coke

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

and 7Up wood cases; JEWELRY: 10k ladies ring (4.7g), 14K ladies ring (7.3g), COINS: Silver Dollars  
(1881,1885,1922), Walking Liberty Silver Half Dollars  
(1927,1934,1935,1936,1939,1941,1942,1943), along with other coins not listed.  
BOOKS ñ TRI STATE MEMORABILIA  
Large collection of Gene Stratton Porter Books (80+),  
; Tri State belt buckles, collector engines, mugs, books and other assorted items.  
MOWERS ñ TRAILER - TOOLS  
Cub Cadet 1250 Hydrostat mower; International tiller for garden tractor; Craftsman gas blower; US 1941 and 1945 hatchets; screws; washers; bolts; nuts; wood and metal pulleys; fishing poles; antlers; hoes; shovels; corn jobber; hammers; galvanized cans; and other items not listed.  
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: We will be running 2 rings most of the day.  
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

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bulp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN  
APRIL 26, 2025  
9:30 A.M.  
ANTIQUES ñ OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS  
Oak floor model glass show case; Oak table; Oak table top model glass show case; Gen-dron 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, Over-land Express 3140 engine (in box), Wolverine Express bus, Mount-ain 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 children's clothing; and many other items not listed.  
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is a quality auction with a nice variety of antiques and collectibles. Auction pre-view will be held on Fri-

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

day April 25th from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Doors will open day of auction at 8:00 a.m.  
JOAN MARSHALL  
Loy Auction AC#31600027  
Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608  
Travis Theurer AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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## 110 HELP WANTED

**PORTLAND WATER PARK** is accepting application for CERTIFIED lifeguards for the 2025 season. Applications are also being accepted for concession stand workers. No certification is required. The Water Park is open 7 days per week and employees will be expected to work week-ends. Applications are available at Portland City Hall, The City of Portland website, and Portland Water Park Facebook page. 2025 season runs May 24th through mid to late August. Applications will be accepted at City Hall, 321 N. Meridian St., until Friday, May 2nd at 4:00p.m. The City of Portland is and Equal Opportunity Employer.

## 130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

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

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## 200 FOR RENT

**LEASE SPACE** available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major high-ways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com  
**FOR RENT 2 BED-ROOM HOUSE** with garage in Redkey. Available May 1st. 260-223-8631

## 230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

**WE PAY CASH** for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocumis Salvage

## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**

STATE OF INDIANA  
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT, SS:  
COUNTY OF JAY  
CAUSE NO.:  
38C01-2504-EU-000010  
THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION OF THE ESTATE OF: PAMELA E. BETZ, DECEASED.  
NOTICE OF UNSUPER- VISED ADMINISTRATION  
In the Jay Circuit Court: In the Matter of the Estate of Pamela E. Betz, deceased.  
Notice is hereby given that John R. Betz was on April 10, 2025, appointed Administrator of the Estate of Pamela E. Betz, deceased, who died on February 12, 2013.  
All persons having claims against said estate, Whether or not now due, must file the same in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier or said claims will be forever barred.  
Dated at Portland, Indiana, on  
Melissa Elliott, CLERK  
John B. LaRue 14018-18  
4910 N. Wheeling Ave.  
Muncie, IN 47304  
765.287.1717  
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# Tigers are too much

*Jay County golf takes first loss as Bluffton shoots in 150s*

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

The Patriots had gotten off to a really hot start in match play taking the first three contests by an average of 14.3 strokes.

When the Tigers rolled into Portland, they shot a season high, so despite the Patriots finishing only three strokes over their season average, they took their first loss by 20.

The Jay County High School boys golf team suffered its first loss of the season 156-176 at the hands of the Bluffton Tigers on Tuesday at Portland Golf Club as the visitors had two players under 40 strokes.

“I think none of our players had their best day today,” said first-year JCHS coach Jay Houck. “You never know exactly why that is, it’s how golf is sometimes. I think the big thing for them is not letting a couple of mistakes build and let their attitude get down.

“I think some of them struggle with that and with golf the mental game is a big part of it. If they keep working on that, they’ll have better rounds.”

While three of the six Patriots (3-1, 0-1 Allen County Athletic Conference) competing on varsity (with both teams touting large rosters, they bumped up to six players while carrying over 12 total JV competitors) matched or set their highest scores on the season, they still kept the team score under 180 strokes.

The primary downfall of the Patriots were a pair of Bluffton players that shot under 40.

See **Tigers** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School senior Griffin Byrum hits out of some tall weed grass during the Patriots’ match against Bluffton at Portland Golf Club on Tuesday. Byrum shot his best 9-hole score of the season at 45 strokes, but Jay County fell to the Tigers 156-176.



**Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions**  
**at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church**  
**on Sunday, April 27.**  
**Confessions and Adoration begin at 2 p.m.**  
**and Divine Mercy Chaplet begins at 3 pm**  
**Benediction begins at 3:30 pm**

**Jesus’ words to St. Faustina “I demand deeds of mercy.**  
**I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy. The**  
**first- By deed, the second-by word, the third-by prayer. In**  
**these in unquestionable love for me.”**

*St. Faustina’s Diary 742*

## Sprints, throws net FRHS girls track second place

FORT RECOVERY — Anna Roessner is guaranteed to bring in the Tribe a nice chunk of points from the sprints at any meet they compete in.

Karlie Niekamp is starting to work her name into that conversation as well, and Elisa Evers added a nice boost behind the senior as well. But the Indians still couldn’t surpass the Wildcats.

The Fort Recovery High School girls track team split with Minster and St. Henry on Tuesday, while the boys fell to third in the meet.

Minster swept the meet with the girls team tallying 86 points and the boys with 73. The Tribe girls (4-4, 3-3 Midwest Athletic Conference) trailed by 36, but the 50 point outdid St. Henry’s 39. The SHHS gathered 67 points, while Fort Recovery (1-7, 0-6 MAC) trailed with 34.

Roessner led the girls with a trio of wins in the 100-meter dash (12.04 seconds), 200 dash (25.18) and 400 dash (57.49).

Niekamp wasn’t far behind as marks of 122 feet, 4 inches and 30 feet, 2 ½ inches earned her the top spot in the discus and shot put. Evers added points to the Indians by producing the second best distance in both events as well.

Riley Hietkamp claimed the only other first-place finish for the girls with a time of 13 minutes, 30.17 seconds in the 3,200 run.

Isaac Roessner won a pair of events for the boys team. His time of 44.05 topped the 300 hurdles and he leapt 20 feet, 6 inches, to win the long jump.

The Tribe also got a victory out of Reese Diller in the 800 run (2:11.99).

### Offense fails

FORT RECOVERY — Despite six hits, the Fort Recovery baseball team couldn’t find any magic with the bats as it fell to the Minster Wildcats 1-0 Tuesday in eight innings.

Neither team found any offense through

### Fort Recovery roundup

the first seven innings, but Minster (9-2, 3-1 MAC) put together a two-out rally to finally push one across. Alex Gaerke surrendered two walks and a single before the Tribe (8-3, 1-2 MAC) made the move to Dylan Klenke with the bases loaded. Connor Schmeising delivered an infield single to give the Wildcats the only run of the game.

Fort Recovery got runners in scoring position three times, including the bottom of the seventh, but couldn’t get any to score.

Gaerke suffered the loss with only the one earned run over 7 ½ innings of work. Mason Diller and Brodie Hart led the offense with two hits apiece.

### Wildcats swamp

MINSTER, Ohio — Minster’s lineup was too much for the Fort Recovery softball team on Tuesday as it fell 14-4 in five innings.

Jenna Homan suffered the loss as she struggled against the Wildcats. They tallied 11 hits and 10 walks for 12 earned runs against the FRHS junior. Minster scored three or more runs in every inning other than the fourth.

Homan led the Fort Recovery offense as a pair of singles plated Emma Will and Ava Grisez. Will made her way around the base paths to score three times in the contest.

The Indians gave the initial punch with a run in the top of the first inning, but didn’t score again until they were already trailing 6-1.

## Kunkler, Beiswanger bolster Patriot girls track

BLUFFTON — The Patriot girls have gotten off to a hot start this season, and it is translating well into conference matches.

Strong performances from Mya Kunkler and Ariel Beiswanger led the Jay County High School girls track team to a perfect start in the Allen County Athletic Conference as it beat Bluffton 74-

### Jay County roundup

58 on Monday. The boys team is on the other side of that pendulum as a 102-30 beatdown to the Tigers

keeps JCHS searching for an ACAC victory.

Kunkler and Beiswanger provided a pair of victories for the girls team (5-1, 3-0 ACAC).

Kunkler excelled in the field events, taking the high jump with a height of 4 feet, 8 inches, and the pole vault by clearing 7 feet, 6 inches.

See **Roundup** page 7