



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

A record for Will

Fort Recovery High School senior Emma Will begins to celebrate after learning she broke Brenna Homan's record of 120 career hits during Tuesday's 12-1 win over Anna. Will wrote her name in the record books with a double down the right field line in the third inning. For more on the story, see page 8.

Dunkirk man pleads to series of car thefts

Sentencing hearing for Myers is scheduled for May 20

A rural Dunkirk man has pleaded guilty to stealing a dozen vehicles. Anthony T. Myers, 23, 10770 W. 200 North, pleaded Monday in Jay Circuit Court to four burglary charges, all Level 5 felonies, along with two Level 5 felonies for theft of a firearm, a Level 5 felony for altering a firearm's identifying marks and 12 counts of auto theft, all Level 6 felonies. His sentencing hearing is set for 2:30 p.m. May 20. According to a probable cause affidavit filed in connection with the case, Myers broke into several homes in Portland with the intent to commit theft. He also stole 12 vehicles.

Portland Police Department began investigating a string of auto thefts and burglaries in August, with the crimes spanning through Nov. 12. It conducted surveillance operations on the west side of Portland. Police received a call from John Petro of Portland about 6 a.m. Nov. 12 to report a stolen 2004 Chevrolet Silverado 1500. Officers located the white truck and attempted to stop the driver — Myers — after a brief vehicle pursuit. Myers allegedly tried to flee on foot before officers caught him in an alley in the 900 block of Main and Water streets. Myers was armed with a stolen handgun and also was in possession of another stolen gun, which he said he tried to remove the serial number from, the affidavit says. Police said they discovered he was in possession of items reported as stolen from other Jay County homes. Myers admitted to the crimes shortly after he was apprehended by police and explained where stolen items were hidden, according to the affidavit. (All of the vehicles were recovered the same days they were stolen.)

IEDC releases annual audits

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com
The Indiana Economic Development Foundation has poured more than \$13 million into travel, administrative and other expenses across six years, according to audited financial reports released Thursday under Gov. Mike Braun's orders. The little-known foundation is charged with raising private funds to boost the controversial Indiana Economic Development

Data shows \$13 million spent on travel, administrative and other expenses in six years

Corp. But the nonprofit is on a spending freeze. Indiana had a traditional commerce department until 2005. That's when, under former Gov. Mitch Daniels, lawmakers created the IEDC: "a body politic and corporate, not a state agency but an independent instrumentality exercising essential public functions," per Indiana Code. They allowed its board to create a subsidiary: the foundation. "Everybody always thinks that the tax dollars are going in one direction: they're going out to nonprofits to subsidize nonprofit activity," said Indiana University Professor Beth Gazley, a nonprofit management specialist. See Audits page 2

Russia intensifies attacks

By OLESIA SAFRONOVA
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service
Russia intensified its attacks across Ukraine's frontline and several cities as the success of U.S. President Donald Trump's efforts to bring a rapid end to the war look increasingly doubtful.

Ukraine reports 177 clashes, says effort is to break lines of defense in Zaporizhzhia region

Ukraine's General Staff reported 177 clashes on the battlefield in the country's south-east early Wednesday with Russian troops "rushing" deeper into Ukraine. "The Russians are trying to break defensive lines in the Zaporizhzhia region," a spokesman for the Ukrainian military's southern command, Vladyslav Voloshyn, said late Tuesday. The situation in the Kherson Region in the south has become "quite tense" in recent days, he said. Russia also launched significant drone attacks on the Ukrainian cities of Dnipro and Kharkiv early Wednesday, hitting residential areas, killing one civilian and injuring 50, according to local authorities. The hard push by Moscow's troops comes as the Kremlin takes a maximalist line in peace negotiations brokered by the U.S. While Trump envoy Steve Witkoff sought to persuade President Vladimir Putin that Russia should agree to a ceasefire that halts fighting along the current frontlines, the Russian leader insisted Moscow must take full control of four regions of Ukraine which it claims but doesn't fully occupy, Bloomberg News reported. Russia declared the annexation of Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia Regions in 2022, a move that was denounced as a violation of international law by the United Nations and much of the world. The U.S., which had sought a permanent ceasefire by April 30 as Trump marks the first 100 days of his new term, expressed disappointment with Putin's reluctance to accept an unconditional, long-term ceasefire. Trump is "increasingly frustrated" with the leaders of both Russia and Ukraine, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said on Monday. See Attacks page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Smoothing Seventh

A crew from Brooks Construction works on paving Seventh Street on Wednesday morning. The work is part of a project that also includes paving sections of Franklin Street, Ship Street, Tyson Road, Western Avenue, Williams Street and Wayside Place.

Deaths

Ralph Knapschafer, 72, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 77 degrees Tuesday. The low was 55.
Rain is expected tonight with a low in the mid 50s and winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. Expect a high in the upper 60s Friday with a chance of showers.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

IU Health is offering free mammogram, screenings in May. The screenings are for uninsured women over the age of 40 who live in Jay County or Blackford County. To schedule a screening, call (765) 751-5825.

Coming up

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

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS baseball team at the Wapahani Invitational.

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Photo provided

First in science, fine arts

The Jay County High School academic team finished first in science at the Academic Senior Super Bowl Regional Area Contest on April 22 at Richmond High School. It also tied for first with Connersville in fine arts. While finishing atop the regional area contest, the teams did not score high enough to advance to the state level. (The top five teams from regional area contests across Indiana earn state berths.) Jay County also placed second in the region in English and third in math and social studies. Pictured, front row from left, are academic team members Adamaris Ruiz-Herrera, Cameran Paxson, Ella Stockton and Izzy Winkles. Middle row are science coach Connie Aker, Keira Corwin, Audrey Muhlenkamp, Andrew Stouder, Brennan Chrisman and English coach Anni McClung. Back row are fine arts coach Meg Mauger, Trenten Hamilton, Troy Lee, Jensen Avery, Joseph Boggs, math coach Zach Keller and social studies coach Brittany Martyne.

CR almanac

Friday 5/2	Saturday 5/3	Sunday 5/4	Monday 5/5	Tuesday 5/6
68/48	61/42	67/48	73/51	77/51
There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms with winds up to 20 mph and a high in the upper 60s.	Skies will be partly sunny with a high in the lower 60s. There is about a 20% chance of showers.	Expect a high of 67 under sunny skies.	The high will climb into the 70s under mostly sunny skies.	Skies will be sunny with a high in the upper 70s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$30 million	Daily Three: 6-5-8 Daily Four: 0-9-5-1 Quick Draw: 8-9-12-13-16-17-21-28-32-38-44-47-54-56-59-60-63-64-68-78
Mega Millions 16-33-40-51-57 Mega Ball: 10 Estimated jackpot: \$80 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 8-0-5 Pick 4: 9-9-2-7 Pick 5: 9-7-2-6-9 Evening Pick 3: 5-3-0 Pick 4: 6-3-1-7 Pick 5: 2-4-1-4-9 Rolling Cash: 17-20-21-32-35 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 5-4-9 Daily Four: 1-8-9-9 Quick Draw: 8-9-12-13-16-17-21-28-32-38-44-47-54-56-59-60-63-64-68-78 Evening	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.84 June corn4.92 July corn4.94	June beans10.46 Wheat 4.96
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.94 June corn4.99 July corn5.02	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.81 June corn4.81 Beans10.52 June beans10.54 Wheat4.81
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.87 June corn4.82 Beans10.56	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.87 June corn4.89 Beans10.25 June beans10.30 Wheat4.78

Today in history

In 1914, the Jay County High School softball team ran its perfect record to 12-0 with a 6-0 victory over the Mississinewa Indians. Pitcher Larissa Boles racked up 12 strikeouts while allowing just two hits and a walk in the shutout.

In 2023, The Graphic Printing Company finalized the purchases of The News-Gazette (Winchester) and The News Times (Hartford City). —The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor’s office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland	Tuesday 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.

Obituaries

Ralph Knapschafer

Jan. 13, 1953-April 28, 2025
Ralph “Joe” Knapschafer Jr., a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Monday, April 28, 2025 at IU Health Jay Hospital in Portland.
Joe was born Jan. 13, 1953, in Portland, Indiana, the son of Ralph and Lois (Hutchens) Knapschafer. He graduated from Portland High School in 1971 and was a member of The Church at Westchester and Tri-State Gas Engine and Tractor Association. He worked for Horizon Homes, Champion Homes and retired from FCC in Portland in 2018.
Joe married Mary Betz on June 20, 1981.

Survivors include:
His wife — Mary Knapschafer, Portland, Indiana
Two sons — Jeremy Knapschafer (wife: Ashley), Bryant, Indiana, and Jason Knapschafer (Ashley), Portland, Indiana
Grandchildren — Dylan, Rowdy and Jaley Knapschafer
Sister — Christine Whitenack (husband: Don), Portland, Indiana
Visitation will be held on Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. on Friday at the



Knapschafer

funeral home. Pastor Darrel Borders will officiate and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant.
Memorials may be directed to Tri-State Gas Engine and Tractor Association.
Condolences may be sent to williamsonspencer.com.
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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.

Audits ...

Continued from page 1
“But actually, there’s a lot of money coming back from nonprofits to subsidize government activities,” she continued, noting that the federal definition of a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit includes “lessening the burdens of government.”
The IEDC’s furtive efforts to secure water, land and more for a contentious technology park have made it plenty of enemies since 2022. But now, its problems go beyond public relations.
Braun said Thursday that he’s ordered a forensic audit and reported “impropriety, or even the

appearance of it” to Indiana’s Office of Inspector General amid allegations of self-dealing and more, first reported by Indiana Legislative Insight.
And he’s taken aim at the foundation.
In an April 9 news release, his administration called out the foundation for not filing six years of required audited financial reports with the State Budget Committee. Two weeks later, the lapses were cured and the reports available online.
A spokesperson for the quasi-public agency didn’t immediately answer Capital Chronicle ques-

tions, including why those records weren’t submitted.
The newly released reports show that the foundation spent \$13.2 million from the 2019 through 2024 fiscal years, which begin July 1 and end June 30.
The bulk of that, \$10.9 million, went to travel, meals and entertainment.
“Is that a lot of money to be spending on conferences, travel, meals and entertainment? That really depends on the programmatic goals of the organization, the mission of the organization,” Gazley said. “And only the board can decide: is that the best use of our funding?”

Attacks ...

Continued from page 1
Trump has pointed to Kyiv as the obstacle to securing a ceasefire, telling broadcaster ABC late Tuesday that he believed Putin “wants peace.” But Moscow’s intense attacks on Ukraine in recent weeks have led Trump to voice more pointed criticism of Russia, saying in a TruthSocial post on Saturday that Putin might not want to stop the war.
Similarly, Trump’s envoy to Ukraine, Keith Kellogg, told Fox News on Tuesday that it was “over to Putin” to secure a ceasefire following Ukraine’s willingness

to engage with Washington. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said repeatedly that Kyiv will never recognize occupied territories as Russian and pro-

posed to continue pressure on Moscow, including strengthening sanctions. “We are identifying precisely those pressure points of Russia that will most effectively

push Moscow toward diplomacy,” Zelenskyy said in an address late Tuesday to nation. “We are also preparing for talks with the United States on new sanctions steps,” Zelenskyy said.

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

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.
Deadline for ads is Monday, May 12.

Big business card (3x3.5) \$100
Business card (2x2) \$60

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).





Photo provided

Top volunteer

Troy Atkinson (center) was honored recently with the United Way of Jay County's Volunteer of the Year Award. Atkinson is joined by Jay County Special Olympics athletes. He is a longtime volunteer for the organization.

Starstruck father can't play it cool

DEAR ABBY: I am a 55-year-old father of a 7-year-old child. My social skills and experience are rusty due to graduate school and post-graduate training years (12 years, to be exact) without much social interaction. I believe I missed an opportunity to bond with our 7-year-old.

Five years ago, my wife and I ran into a Hall of Fame ballplayer. I became so starstruck that I couldn't stop blurring out how fantastic I thought he was. It did not go over well.

Fast-forward to today: My child's classmate happens to be the child of yet another superstar. My wife told me, "Do not engage or talk to them." She said she'd handle everything.

Well, I think I may have followed her instructions too literally and came across as rude or dismissive by not chatting with them. I'm afraid they may think I'm a snob or a jerk. How can I dig myself out of the hole I may have placed myself in? Because they are celebrities, I don't want to invade their privacy.

I sent a holiday greeting to the email address shared in the school parent directory. No response. How should I interpret the non-response? Was my greeting delivered? Read? I also have their text number, but I don't want to harass these people. — LOVING DAD IN THE SOUTH

DEAR LOVING DAD: Celebrities often receive greetings from

fans they don't know. Because you didn't receive a response to yours, it is possible the celebrity didn't see it, or was too inundated to answer. That your message went unanswered should not be regarded as a personal rejection. Do not text the person. Simply quit second-guessing yourself. You haven't committed a social faux pas.

In the future, remember that celebrities are usually just like the rest of us, albeit better known. When you encounter one, remain calm. Smile and say hello just as you would the couple who live across the street. Doing that is not harassment, it's being friendly.

DEAR ABBY: My father passed away five months ago. His wife has been unbearable to deal with and is controlling all aspects of any funeral arrangements. During the process of my father getting sick and then being placed in hospice, I have gone above

and beyond to assist her with any of her needs.

My daughter is at college out of state, and in order to receive year-round tuition, she must stay on campus year-round. The schedule of my daughter's temporary job position plus taking time off when my father was sick made it difficult for her to come home at any given time.

My father's wife refused to compromise with me on a day that would work better for my daughter. As a result, my daughter missed her grandfather's funeral. How can I get past my hurt and resentment? — RESENTFUL IN ILLINOIS

DEAR RESENTFUL: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of your father. That your daughter had to miss her grandfather's funeral is regrettable, but the reason is understandable. Please remind yourself that your father's wife is also grieving and isn't her best at this time. Do you know why she could not or would not change the date of your father's funeral to accommodate your daughter? Before starting a rift, the two of you need to have a talk.

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 DearAbby.com or 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.

Today

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.

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

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

(260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Friday

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

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will host its next meeting at noon Friday, May 2, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call

State parks are free on Sunday

This weekend offers opportunities to enjoy the natural beauty of the state.

All Indiana State Parks will offer free admission on Sunday, May 4, to celebrate Welcome Weekend and the opening day of Visit Indiana Week.

Campgrounds at state parks are now open. Sunday is also a free fishing day.

"We're excited to welcome back longtime visitors, and we also warmly invite anyone who's never visited," said Ginger Murphy, deputy director of Indiana State Parks, in a press release. "Our parks offer beautiful scenic views, camping and healthy outdoor activities, nature centers for learning about Indiana's history and natural resources, and delicious dining and restful lodging at our inns."

For a full list of activities planned for the weekend, visit calendar.dnr.IN.gov. Find a list of state parks at on.IN.gov/stateparks.

Cafe is May 20

Indiana Youth Institute will host a virtual Youth Worker Cafe on youth voice and civic engagement at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday, May 20.

The event is designed for

Taking Note

those who work with youth and will provide education on equipping young people with leadership skills and engaging them in the decision-making process. It will also explore ways to build partnerships with families, friends and schools.

For more information, or to register, visit iyi.org.

Series announced

The Muncie Three Trails Music Series will host seven concerts this summer.

The series will open with a performance by Steep Canyon Rangers on Saturday, May 31, at Canan Commons.

Dates for other shows are as follows:

•Friday, June 13 — Harlem Gospel Travelers at Canan Commons

•Saturday, Aug. 16 — Blue Moon Marquee at Canan Commons

For details, visit muncieethreetrails.com.

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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

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309 West Main Street · Portland, IN 47371

No Phone Calls Please

Embrace of vulgarity is a mistake

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

If Democrats think the path back to voters' hearts runs through a minefield of f-bombs, they're in for another rough election cycle.

We get it — Democrats got walloped, hate what is happening now and are engaged in a lot of soul-searching.

We admire self-reflection. But banking on f-bombs is the political equivalent of getting curtain bangs after a breakup or a red sports car when you turn 50. Such are desperate decisions made in an effort to reinvent oneself that almost always end in despair.

Guest Editorial

Kat Abughazaleh, a 26-year-old Texas native who is challenging longtime Illinois U.S. Rep. Jan Schakowsky, 80, despite being a Chicagoan for less than a year and not living in the 9th District, is hoping her message that members of her party need to “grow a f---ing spine” will help her overcome the fact that she

offers little in the way of policy substance or experience. Abughazaleh's main claim to political fame is posting progressive videos on TikTok critiquing Fox News and Republicans. She'll need more than that.

Fellow on-camera personality Mike Sacks is also riding the profanity wave as he hopes to unseat Republican Rep. Mike Lawler of New York's 17th District, which covers the Hudson Valley. Sacks, a former TV journalist, is vowing to “un-f--- our country.”

It's ironic that people railing against a president who rose to prominence in part due to his tel-

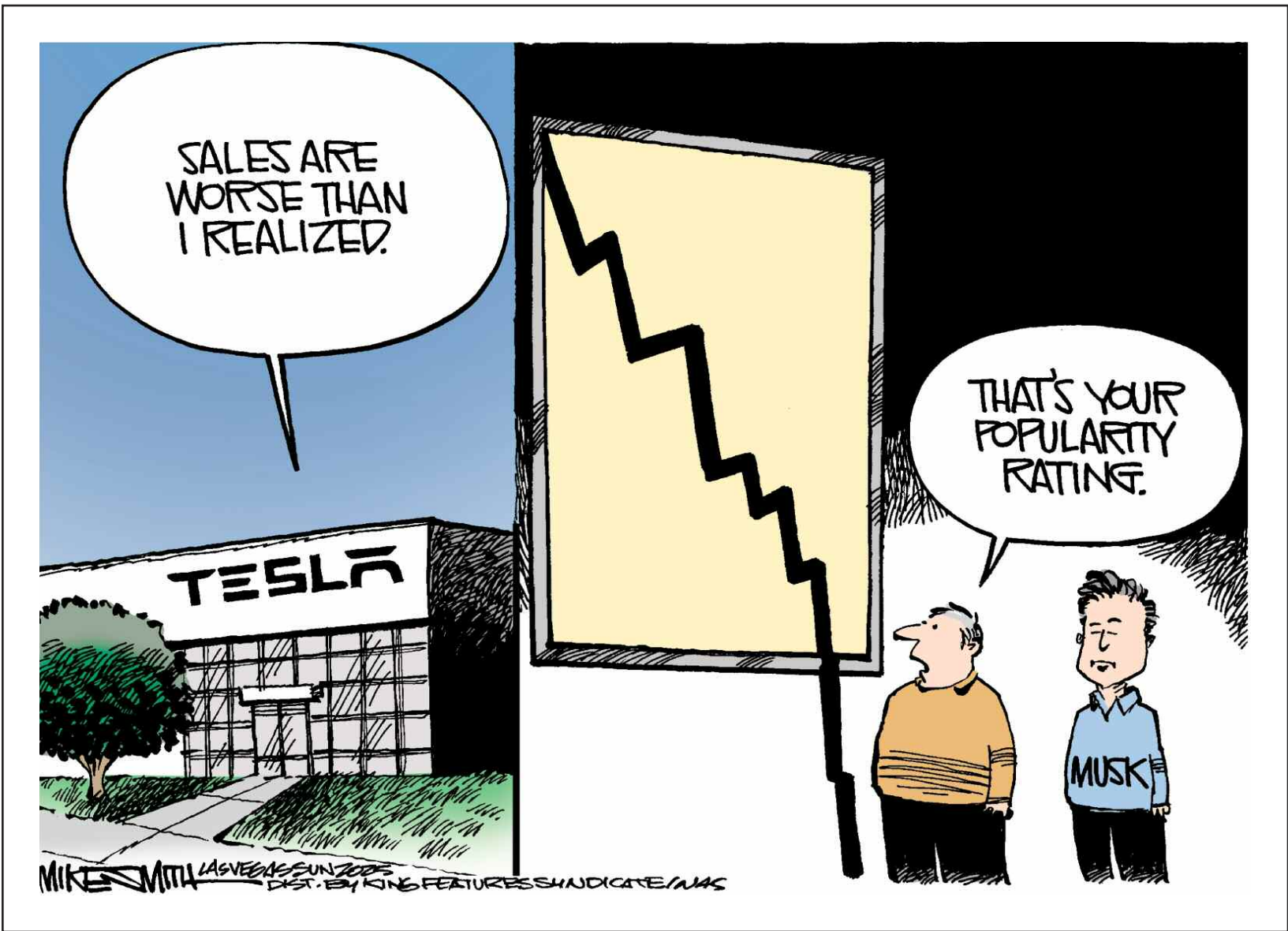
evision persona are deploying the same strategy in retaliation. This descent into the profane comes across as a “stooping to their level” approach, given Donald Trump's talent for obscenities. But most people aren't down with crude tactics that debase American politics even further.

And it's not just brash newcomers: Seasoned Democratic leaders are indulging too. Sen. Tammy Duckworth issued a statement calling Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth a “f---ing liar” in March.

At a time when politics demands clarity, civility and leadership, it's a misstep to

embrace vulgar language as a tool to signal authenticity or passion. Instead of elevating the conversation, it lowers the bar, reinforcing the corrosive idea that rage and vulgarity are substitutes for thoughtful persuasion. Sure, younger generations are tolerant of colorful language. But it's still a mistake to confuse shock value with leadership — and risky for a country that craves political figures who can model respect, restraint and reasoned debate.

We have enough influencers in Washington, D.C., and remain in desperate need of statesmen and stateswomen.



Let's fix economic development policy

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

Media reports identified significant accounting problems at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC). In response, Gov. Mike Braun has ordered an independent accounting audit. Every Hoosier should applaud that order, but the problems with the IEDC are broader than an accounting issue.

Indiana is at a point where fundamental questions about economic development policy and the role of the IEDC need a full-throated public debate. It is best to begin with what the IEDC and the state's development policies get right.

Among former Gov. Mitch Daniels' very first public acts was to reorganize the state's Department of Commerce. He moved the business development group to a new quasi-public corporation, the IEDC, and moved other responsibilities in community development, tourism, energy development and agriculture into their own agencies.

This reorganization worked very well and sparked a great deal of innovation, particularly in rural policy. At the IEDC, the reorganization attracted talented staff and leadership who embodied the Daniels ethic: lean, effective, efficient and humble.

When I arrived in Indiana in summer 2007, I was shocked at the quality of IEDC and its small size. It was then about 65 people. Ohio, Illinois and Michigan had well over 500 people working in unwieldy organizations trying to perform many of the same tasks.

In 2013 I co-authored an efficiency study of the IEDC comparing it to other groups across the

Michael J. Hicks



country. It fared extraordinarily well by comparison. So, too, did its venture capital arm, which we also studied.

The key thing about the IEDC was the conceptual simplicity of its mission. It acted as a supporter of Indiana, providing services to businesses looking for a home. It mapped sites around the state, oversaw a modest tax incentive program and provided a fast, efficient processing of well over 1,000 requests by businesses each year.

The Pence administration viewed the IEDC quite similarly, appointing seasoned businessman to lead it. There was a modest expansion of duties to oversee the Regional Cities Initiative, which ended up being one of the most successful place-based economic development policies of the 21st century.

All that changed during the Holcomb administration, though it is clear that the legislature and new leadership played a big role in this change. Instead of acting as a business concierge, the IEDC morphed into a real estate development company, pushing the state's economic development policies back into the 1970s.

This badly distorted the IEDC's mission, including pushing for incentives to relocate corporate headquarters within the state. The most obvious, but certainly

not the only problem, was the LEAP district in Lebanon.

Over the coming years, much will be written about the folly of this project. Hoosiers will be lucky if we taxpayers lose only a few hundred million dollars in the endeavor. What we do know is that no private developer would have done such a deal without performing better due diligence. The IEDC needs to get out of the real estate development business.

We should offer Braun considerable grace in dealing with this monumental error foisted upon his administration. But it's also time to wholly reconsider our policies toward making the Hoosier economy grow.

The first thing we should do is acknowledge that the IEDC isn't going to make Indiana a prosperous place. That cannot be its job. It should tell the story of Indiana, warn legislators when there are problems, answer every question a potential business has about the state and do almost nothing else.

We also need to understand that economic growth is a private sector matter and the government exists only to create conditions for growth. Allocating tax dollars to land development won't cause economic growth.

We also need to acknowledge that mobile American families and businesses aren't looking for low-tax environments. They aren't the mono-dimensional idiots that the anti-tax crowd supposes them to be.

American families and businesses are savvy and look for places where the quality of public services is a good match to their taxes. They are looking for

value, not just price.

In the modern economy, jobs follow people. People don't follow jobs. That's been increasingly true for a half-century. Today, only a tiny fraction of new jobs are created in the types of businesses that could be lured through tax incentives, the traditional tool of economic developers.

If business tax incentives worked, Indiana would have among the strongest economies in the nation. When Daniels took office, Hoosier manufacturing firms ranked 36th from the bottom in low tax rates. Today, they rank 4th-lowest and factory employment is down by 10%.

I know of no researcher who studies tax incentives and thinks they boost job creation in any meaningful way. Trust me, an economics professor could get rich by finding defensible estimates of tax incentives boosting a region's economy.

It's time to reconsider how Indiana approaches economic development. But, the biggest reason to have a statewide debate on economic development policy is the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 1 and its unintended effect on the state's single-largest business incentive.

Indiana's new tax reforms in SEA 1 render our most common form of tax incentives — local property tax abatements and tax increment financing (TIF) — unusable and obsolete.

Since the Daniels reforms, local governments have been able to grant a tax abatement (no tax payments) to businesses for up to 10 years and TIF districts for 25

years. Most local governments, desperate for new businesses and their tax revenues, offered lavish abatements or created TIF districts.

In so doing, they essentially deferred all taxes for a decade, knowing that after that time, they'd be able to tax that investment at 30% of its value. For dozens of cities and counties with large factories and logistics firms, this remains a major source of tax revenues.

SEA 1 ended that. No rational mayor or county commission will again offer tax abatements or TIF. It'd be spectacularly moronic to have a business come to a town, use public services and never pay a cent in taxes.

Over the past half-century, the economy changed, making high-quality public services that attract new residents the ticket to economic growth. Then, during the Holcomb administration, Indiana ditched its small government economic development policy for an embarrassing and costly real estate speculation plan. And, finally, in a hastily developed tax plan, the legislature effectively ended the state's largest and most widely used economic development tools.

All of these facts force Indiana to re-examine how it approaches economic development policy.

.....

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

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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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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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with location, pastor and
phone number, services and
website or email address.
All services are Sunday,
unless otherwise indicated.

**Asbury United
Methodist**
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Joe Boggs
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11
a.m.
asburyministries.org

**Bellefountain
United Methodist**
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line
Road and county road 300
East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

**Calvary United
Methodist**
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@inumc.org

Christ Chapel
2535 Wabash Road, Fort
Recovery
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

**Church of
the Living God
(Miracle Missions)**
8472 S. 800 East, Union
City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Church of God
of Prophecy**
797 N. Creagor Ave., Por-
tland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

**Church of the
Brethren**
Floral and Chicago
avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

**Church of
the Living God**
South Broad Street,
Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m.
Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of
U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

**Cornerstone Church of
Pennville**
190 W. Main St., Pennville
David Davidson
(260) 202-9718
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St.,
Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Fairview United
Methodist/Jay County**
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South,
Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30
p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road,
Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccftrecovery.org

**First Community
Baptist**
341 S. Meridian St., Red-
key
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m. and
6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South,
Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6
p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15
a.m.
firstpcportland.org

**Fort Recovery Church
of the Nazarene**
401 E. Boundary St.,
Fort Recovery
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Kids vision and teen
ministries: 6 p.m. Wende-
sday
frnaz@frontier.com

**Fort Recovery
United Methodist**
309 E. Boundary St.,
Fort Recovery
Rev. Carol McKay
(304) 617-0101
Services: 9 a.m.

**Full Gospel
Lighthouse Tabernacle**
468 E. Washington St.,
Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30
p.m. Thursday

**Geneva First
United Methodist**
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m.
Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North,
one-quarter mile east of
Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Hickory Grove
Church of the
Brethren**
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**High Street
United Methodist**
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67,
Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30
p.m. Saturday

**Hopewell of
Life Ministries**
County road 200 South,
2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Immaculate
Conception Catholic**
506 E. Walnut St., Port-
land
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Sat-
urday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East,
Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6
p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Mary Help
of Christians**
403 Sharpsburg Road,
Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Sat-
urday, 9 a.m.

**Mount Tabor
Community Church**
216 W. Pleasant St.,
Dunkirk
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Mount Zion
United Methodist**
County roads 600 East
and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

**New Beginnings
Holiness Church
of Blaine**
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

**New Covenant
Fellowship**
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 223-2961
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

**New Mt. Pleasant
United Methodist**
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

**Noble Congregational
Christian**
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove
United Methodist**
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union
City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

**Portland Church of
Christ**
1217 W. Votaw St., Port-
land
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.
Services: 10:20 a.m.
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wed-
nesday
portlandcoc.com

**Portland First
Church of Nazarene**
920 S. Shank St., Port-
land
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

**Praise Chapel
Church of God**
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-
Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets,
Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey Faith
Ministries**
9811 W. Indiana 67, south-
west of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin
Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

**Redkey First
Christian**
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey United
Methodist**
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church
of the Nazarene**
801 W. High St.
Fred Stevens
(765) 369-2676
redkeynaz.org
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Por-
tland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

**Salamonia
Church of Christ**
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

**Second Chance
at Life Ministries**
228 S. Meridian St., Port-
land
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-
day

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday,
5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort
Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
3984 N. 550 West, Portland
Pastor Mike Heckman
(615) 517-1017
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Bible study: 6 p.m. Wed-
nesday

Sugar Grove Church
County roads 600 South
and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167,
Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2
p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

**The Church
at Westchester**
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort
Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contem-
porary service, fourth Sun-
day)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity ArchBridge
Church**
323 S. Meridian St., Por-
tland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris
Kruckow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6
p.m.

**Union Chapel Church
of the Nazarene**
County road 900 North
(Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6
p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North
and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**West Walnut
Church of Christ**
204 W. Walnut St., Port-
land
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

**Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

A matter of card-reading

West dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ K 8 3
♥ J 10 8
♦ J 6 3
♣ K J 7 6

WEST
♠ Q 10 9 7 2
♥ 7 4 2
♦ A K Q
♣ 9 4

EAST
♠ J 4
♥ 6 5
♦ 8 7 5 2
♣ Q 10 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A 6 5
♥ A K Q 9 3
♦ 10 9 4
♣ A 8

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

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

But South realized that if he did this, he would surely fail. He recognized that West would not have passed as dealer had he held a five-card or longer spade suit headed by at least one honor, the A-K-Q of diamonds he had already played, and the queen of clubs as well.

Since the club finesse was therefore bound to lose, South adopted another line of play that offered a legitimate chance for the contract. He won West's trump return with the ace, led a low trump to dummy and returned the jack of clubs!

East covered with the queen, taken by South with the ace. Declarer then drew the missing trump and led the eight of clubs to dummy's king, picking up West's nine along the way. Next came dummy's seven of clubs, and East, holding the 10-5-3 over the 7-6, was a dead duck. Whether he covered or not, South could not be stopped from sooner or later disposing of a spade on one of dummy's clubs.

It's true that South needed to find West with the 10-x or 9-x of clubs for his plan to succeed, but he had the kind of luck that is so often associated with good card play. It is sometimes necessary to forgo a normal line of play because it is certain to fail and instead substitute an approach that at least offers some chance of success.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



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Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located 620 N Pierce Street, Portland IN
Saturday Morning
MAY 24, 2025
9:30 A.M.

REAL ESTATE
3 Bedroom manufactured home with approximately 1400 square feet of living area sitting on concrete crawl space. This 1994 home features 2 full bathrooms, gas forced air furnace, central air, metal roof, and attached carport with approximately 736 square feet. This home is situated on a 136i x 173i corner lot which is equivalent to 3 city lots. Property also has 2 outdoor storage sheds. This home is located at the east end of Portland near the Jay County Fairgrounds which allows you to live in the city limits while enjoying the rural sitting. For more information or private showing contact **GARY LOY, AUCTIONEER** at (260) 726-5160 or **KIM LOY, REAL ESTATE BROKER** at (260) 729-2213. **ELDON MILLER** By Ron Miller POA And **ROWENA MILLER, DECEASED** Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Courtney Klenke of the Fort Recovery softball team rounds third base and makes her way home to tack on the ninth run of the 12-1 victory over Anna. Klenke scored twice in the game as a courtesy runner.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys golf vs. Blackford – 4:30 p.m.; Baseball vs. Adams Central – 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Blackford – 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Adams Central – 5 p.m.; Junior high baseball at Blackford – 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Baseball at Versailles – 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Versailles – 5 p.m.; Middle school track at Coldwater JH Track Invite – 4:30 p.m.
Friday
Jay County — Track at New Castle – 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Track at New Bremen – 4:30 p.m.

TV sports

Today
12:40 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)
2:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Nottingham Forest at Brentford (USA)
5 p.m. — College lacrosse: Big Ten Tournament (BTN)
7 p.m. — College baseball: Texas at Arkansas (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: New York Knicks at Detroit Pistons (TNT)
8 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Louisville City at Lexington (FOX)
9:40 p.m. — MLB: Detroit Tigers at Los Angeles Angels (FOX)
10 p.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters

League (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — LIV Golf: LIV Golf Korea (FS1)
Friday
1 p.m. — Horse racing: Kentucky Oaks (USA)
6:10 p.m. — MLB: Washington Nationals at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)
8 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: SpeedyCash.com 250 (FS1)
8 p.m. — UFL: Arlington Renegades at St. Louis Battlehawks (FOX)
8:15 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at St. Louis Cardinals (FDSN Indiana)
10:30 p.m. — LIV Golf: LIV Golf Korea (FS1)
10:30 p.m. — Major League Rugby: Los Angeles at Seattle Seawolves (FOX)

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 Belmont High School and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.
Challenge set
The Adams County 5K Run/Walk Challenge is set to begin May 10.
The Challenge includes seven races and the Challenge Series award will be given to the first

100 participants over the age of 19 to compete in five or more events.
Registration forms are available at www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com and can be submitted to Debra Gerber at 656 W Van Buren St., Berne, IN 46711.
The series fee is \$125 with a t-shirt included in each race or \$90 without it. For students under the age of 18 registering, the cost will be \$100 with the t-shirts or \$80 without.
The first race, Monroe Lions 5K, is set for May 10 at 8:15 a.m. For more information contact Alan Arnold at (260) 216-1101 or email pamalarn@myfibersolution.com.
.....
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

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 Ω story home with 3 bedrooms, 1 full bathroom and 1426 square feet of living area.
Home has gas forced air furnace with central air, gas water heater, a water softener and a partial basement. The kitchen has nice oak cabinets with space for a table along with a dining room. There is a 24i x 26i 2 car detached garage with heat and water, a small utility barn with a walk in cooler and a 32i x 48i pole barn that has a workshop with heat and water. This property sits on 2.06 acres. This property has been well maintained and has a spacious yard.
For more information or private showing contact LOY REAL ESTATE KIM LOY BROKER 260-726-2700 OR GARY LOY AUCTIONEER 260-726-5160
HOUSEHOLD GOODS ñ OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS
Whirlpool refrigerator; GE washer & dryer; Coldspot freezer; vintage Frigidaire refrigerator; vintage upholstered occasional chair; deer head mount; Coke 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,

90 SALE CALENDAR

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; shoves; 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
PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
MAY 10, 2025
9:30 A. M.
OLD ITEMS & COLLECTORS ITEMS ñ HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Oak 2 pc. cupboard; tall entry bench with coat pegs; old humpback cabinet; (2) hump back trunks; ; Royal Crest iCastle Rosei Sterling flatware (123 pieces); Sterling spoons; Sterling candleholders; Sterling tray and 2 teapots;Portland Typhoons, 1942 thru 1945; JEWELRY: 10k ring (3.7g), 10K ring (3.3g), 10K heart necklace (1.6g), 14K ring (2.3g); Boyds Bears; drums and guitars; (2) Star Wars Battling Drones (new); LARGE ASSORTMENT OF GNOMES; large lot of holiday dEcor; and many other items not listed.
TRAILER - BOWS ñ TOOLS
2017 Look 20i x 8i tandem axle enclosed trailer with generator, refrigerator, air conditioning

90 SALE CALENDAR

and trailer has been set up as a mobile retail unit; Barnett crossbow and arrow with scope; Browning compound bow and arrows; 5i bridge for outdoors; Big Dog tree stand safety harness;12V clay thrower; yard tools; hand tools; and many other items not listed.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE:
Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview.
JOANNA STONE, Deceased
And
BOLLENBACHER FAMILY
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069
100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING for any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

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 weekends. 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

LUMBER SALE, DRIED RED OAK, White Ash, American Elm @ 6565 S 000 Road, Berne, IN.
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.

170 PETS

AKC ENGLISH LABRADORS for sale Black/Yellow, health checked, 1st set of vaccines. Ready Mother's Day! Call 419-852-3331

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS		
Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Jay County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of Jay County Council at the Jay County Court House, at 6:00 o'clock p.m., on the 14th day of May, 2025 will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.		
COUNTY GENERAL		Amount Approved
1000-007-40-0014	Coroner - Vehicles	\$52,200.00
1000-232-20-0048	Circuit Court - Other Operating Supplies	\$2,200.00
1000-232-40-0011	Circuit Court - Office Equipment	\$3,000.00
LIT- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		\$175,000.00
1112-001-40-0032	Bridge Repair (Culvert)	\$175,000.00
PROSECUTOR PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION		\$5,376.47
1182-001-10-0017	Social Security	\$309.65
1182-001-10-0016	Wages	\$4,994.40
1182-001-10-0017	FICA/Med	\$72.42
CORNERSTONE PERPETUATION		\$2,000.00
1202-001-30-0146	Location of Cornerstones	\$2,000.00
INFRASTRUCTURE		\$15,000.00
4908-001-30-0215	Jay County Fairgrounds	\$15,000.00
ARP-2021 CLFRF		\$10,159.73
8950-001-30-0148	Professional Services- Ritter Strategic	\$8,100.00
8950-001-30-0148	Professional Services- REA	\$2,059.73
Total		\$259,736.20
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.		
Emily Franks Jay County Auditor		
CR 5-1-2025-HSPAXLP		

190 FARMERS COLUMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

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

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located at 620 N Pierce Street, Portland Indiana
on Saturday Morning

MAY 24, 2025

9:30 A.M.

REAL ESTATE

3 Bedroom manufactured home with approximately 1400 square feet of living area sitting on concrete crawl space. This 1994 home features 2 full bathrooms, gas forced air furnace, central air, metal roof, and attached carport with approximately 736 square feet. This home is situated on a 136' x 173' corner lot which is equivalent to 3 city lots. Property also has 2 outdoor storage sheds. This home is located at the east end of Portland near the Jay County Fairgrounds which allows you to live in the city limits while enjoying the rural sitting. Terms of sale are 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction and balance within 45 days. Seller to furnish Owners Title Insurance and Warranty Deed. Buyers will assume taxes due and payable in November 2025 and thereafter. Any inspections must be made prior to auction date and will be at the potential buyer's expense. Any statements made day of auction will take precedence over previously printed or oral matter. For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY, AUCTIONEER at (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, REAL ESTATE BROKER at (260) 729-2213. PERSONAL PROPERTY TO BE SOLD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE REAL ESTATE.

ELDON MILLER

By Ron Miller POA

ROWENA MILLER, DECEASED

LOY AUCTION AC31600027

AUCTIONEERS

Gary Loy AU 01031608

Travis Theurer AU11200131

Aaron Loy AU11200112

Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

CR 4-25-2025

PLACE YOUR

CLASSIFIED AD

in The Commercial Review

CALL

726-8141

Box score

Anna Rockets
vs. Fort Recovery Indians

Anna (11-7)	ab	r	h	bi
Epleiman 2b	1	1	1	0
Jenkins c	2	0	0	0
Staudter ss	3	0	1	0
Cruse p	3	0	0	0
DPleiman rf	0	0	0	0
Cohan 3b	1	0	0	0
Osborn cf	1	0	0	0
Koch 1b	1	0	0	0
Flaute lf	2	0	0	0
Totals	14	1	2	0

Fort Recovery (10-6)	ab	r	h	bi
Will cf	4	2	2	2
AvGrisez ss	2	0	1	2
Homan p	4	1	2	4
Schoen 3b	2	0	2	0
AlGrisez 1b	3	0	1	0
Heitkamp rf	2	1	0	0
Post c	2	0	0	0
Klenke cr	0	2	0	0
Hart lf	2	3	1	0
Armstrong 2b	2	2	1	1
Totals	23	11	10	9

Anna 001 00X X—1
Ft. Recovery 003 34X X—12

LOB — Anna 6, Fort Recovery 4.
2B — Anna 1 (Staudter), Fort Recovery Fort Recovery 3 (Will, Homan, Hart). HR — Fort Recovery 1 (Homan). SB — Fort Recovery 4 (AvGrisez 2, Klenke 2).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Anna						
Cruse	3	5	6	5	2	5
Staudter	1	5	6	3	4	0

Fort Recovery
Homan 5 2 1 0 4 4

Jenna getting frustrated but she kept battling," Schoen said. "She wasn't hitting her spots all the time, but once things finally clicked, she started to hit those spots, we were working on pitch at a time and she got there."

Homan threw the second ever perfect game for FR, see story below

Jay boys golf hosts Blackford today, see Sports on tap

Sports

Hit girl

Emma Will goes 2-for-4 to become FR’s all-time hits leader

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Carrie Schoen has coached Emma Will for a majority of her life, starting as a youth player, all the way up to varsity.

Over those years, Schoen watched Will collect an abundance of hits.

At the varsity level, those hits have added up to the point where Schoen got to watch the senior make Tribe history.

Will went 2-for-4 to break the Fort Recovery High School softball team’s career hits record and help the Indians to a 12-1 victory over the Anna Rockets on Tuesday.

“It was exciting,” Will said. “I’m just proud of myself, because I did work hard for this and I hope to break records, but I didn’t know I was this close. ... I’m just proud to represent Fort Recovery and I hope people look up to me and see my hard work as an example.”

With a pair of hits against Anna (11-7), Will surpassed Brenna Homan for Fort Recovery’s all-time hits leader. Homan, who went on the play at the University of St. Francis, set her record of 120 hits in 2021.

“I’m so incredibly proud of her,” said FRHS coach Carrie Schoen. “She’s worked so hard to get where she’s at and she’s just the greatest kid. She’s one of the most coachable kids and



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School freshman Paisley Hart slides in safely before Anna’s catcher, Izzy Jenkins, can attempt a tag during the Indians’ 12-1 win on Tuesday. Hart scored three runs in the win that featured Emma Will breaking the school record in hits.

I’ve had so much fun coaching her. I’ve been coaching her since she was a kindergartener, through summer ball, through travel ball, through high school ball and just to see her flourish and do as well as she’s done it makes my heart so happy. I’m very proud of her.”

While Will didn’t realize it, the FRHS senior entered the game already tied for record. The record stayed in Homan’s name after Will flew out to center field in her first at bat.

Will only needed one pitch in the second inning to write her own name into the record books.

See **Hit** page 7

Homan achieves perfection

FORT RECOVERY — Alex Dues tossed the first perfect game in the Tribe’s history last season as part of a 4-0 victory over New Bremen.

While it was only in five innings, Caden Homan followed in Dues’ footsteps.

Homan joined his former teammate as he achieved perfection in the Fort Recovery High School baseball team’s 13-0 victory over

the New Knoxville Rangers on Tuesday.

Homan joins Dues as just the second pitcher from Fort Recovery (10-4, 2-3 Midwest Athletic Conference) to throw a perfect game. He also added his name to the list of Indian pitchers with no-hitters that is made up of Jerry Orbringer, Dale Bruns, Dominique Coughling, Nick Twaits and Dues.

Homan struck out seven batters in his five-inning perfect game.

There was no shortage of offensive production in the game either.

Mason Diller led the Fort Recovery offense with seven RBIs, three hits and two runs.

The Indians loaded the bases in the fifth inning without creating an out before Diller made his way to the batter’s box. He took the

first pitch to left field for a walk-off grand slam to send New Knoxville (2-8, 0-6 MAC) home.

Diller also smacked a bases-clearing double in the second inning and an RBI single in the fourth.

Austin Siegrist and Brodie Hart also drove in a pair of runs apiece. Siegrist and Cody Klenke led FRHS with three runs scored in the contest.

Roessner breaks records

FORT LORAMIE, Ohio — Anna Roessner has already established herself as one of the best sprinters in the Indians’ history and made it even more apparent in the most recent meet.

Roessner broke two of her own school records as the Fort Recovery High School track teams competed in a quad meet at Fort Loramie on Tuesday.

The girls totaled 41 points to claim third place out of four teams. Anna won the meet with 95 points, while Fort Loramie came up just short at 94. Anna also won the boys competition with 124.5 points, while FRHS fell to fourth with 19.5.

Roessner led the girls by placing first in the 100-meter (11.92 seconds) and 200-meter dashes (24.47) and breaking her own school records in the process.

The only other victory came from Karlie Niekamp in the discus as a throw of 120 feet, 4 inches, claimed the top spot.

Other points for the girls came from:

- The 4x200 relay team that finished second
- Kennedy Muhlenkamp in the 800 run (third place)
- Joelle Kaup in the 3,200 run (third)
- Alivia Brunswick in the long jump (third)
- Aubrey Shuttleworth in the 400 dash (fourth)
- Riley Heitkamp in the 3,200 run (fourth)
- Madison Heitkamp in the 100 hurdles and 300 hurdles (both fifth)
- Theresa Hippie in the high jump (fifth)

The boys team was led by a pair of Indians that were runners-up in their events. Isaac Roessner ran a time of 55.76 seconds to finish second in the 400 run. Carson Fullenkamp finished second in the shot put with a mark of 41 feet, 1.5 inches. Roessner also added a third-place finish in the long jump.

Other boys to earn points were:

- Reese Diller in the 800 run (third)
- Will Fallor in the shot put (fourth)
- Troy Post in the 100 dash (fifth)
- Andy Niekamp in the pole vault (fifth)

Doncic donates \$5,000 to restore Kobe mural

By JOSEPH SERNA and NATHAN SOLIS
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — The first step toward restoring a Kobe and Gianna Bryant mural that was tagged in downtown Los Angeles has already begun, less than a day after news broke that the artwork had been vandalized.

On Tuesday morning, Lakers star Luka Doncic’s foundation donated \$5,000 to a fundraiser to help restore the art piece, located on a building at 14th and Main streets.

“Kobe is L.A. He and Gigi mean so much to this city, to the Lakers organization and to me personally,” Doncic said Tuesday through a representative. “I’m happy to do anything to help make sure he and his daughter are honored.”

In a Monday Instagram post, the account @Kobemural shared before-and-after photos of the Mambas Forever mural in which Lakers legend Bryant is memorialized in uniform and lovingly holding and kissing his daughter, Gigi, who is holding a basketball. Next to them, written in Old English style, “Mambas Forever” is painted in purple and gold.

Now the mural has been vandalized with giant bubble letters outlined in black and filled in with

white, similar to street tagging visible throughout the city.

“Unfortunately one of the first Kobe and Gigi murals has been vandalized in Downtown Los Angeles,” said the image caption. “We’re sharing to bring awareness to the community of fans here in LA, and around the world, who respect and appreciate artists and their mural tributes.”

The caption directs fans to a GoFundMe account to help with restoring the mural.

Artist Louie “Sloe” Motions said that until the recent vandalism, the mural had been untouched since he finished it in 2020.

He plans to place a protective paint coat on the mural with the proceeds from donations.

“As in life, unfortunate situations will always arise and is expected but it’s all about how we rebound from those situations,” he wrote in a message to The Los Angeles Times.

When he learned of Doncic’s gift for the mural’s restoration, Motions said he was shocked and had a message for the Lakers’ recently acquired star.

“I’d like to say thank you to Luka and I’m proud he is a Laker now and representing Los Angeles and I know Kobe is proud,”

A Choired Taste Free Community Concert



The twenty-two voices of *A Choired Taste* will sing under the direction of Eric Rogers, with Linda Braun as the accompanist. The choir will perform American, Irish, and Scottish folk songs, as well as contemporary secular and sacred music. The community choir will be joined by local instrumentalists, Pete Vogler, Reid Knuth, and Zec Landers.

First Presbyterian Church of Portland is sponsoring *A Choired Taste* as a part of its community outreach program.

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 7:00 pm
First Presbyterian Church, 402 North Ship St., Portland, IN

ADMISSION IS FREE OF CHARGE

