

The Commercial Review

Commissioners halt contract

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

It's time to go in a different direction.

Jay County Commissioners agreed to terminate a contract with Understand, Service and Innovate (USI) Insurance Services on Monday.

The agreement has a 60-day out clause, meaning the county and company will work together for another two months before the contract is officially terminated. Amid the waiting period, Jay County officials will likely look into an agreement with a

County notes repeated issues with new insurance broker USI

different health insurance broker.

Commissioners hosted an executive session Thursday to discuss issues stemming from the company, including problems

with the county have been cropping up since it took control at the end of last year. Company representatives met with commissioners during a special meeting in March to talk about concerns, with the company agreeing to step up its communication efforts to meet the county's needs.

Commissioners president Chad Aker said Monday the company hasn't met Jay County Auditor's Office's or commissioners' expectations since then.

"We had given them a chance to, I guess, correct their shortcomings, and it was not done to

the commissioners', as well as the auditor's office, satisfaction," said Aker. "We have discussed changing brokers."

Last year, commissioners looked into options from three insurance brokers regarding fully funded and partially self-funded health insurance plans for employees. They included then county broker OneDigital of Fort Wayne, Unified Group Services — it came recommended by Steve Stockton of Portland's Bixler Insurance — and USI Insurance Services of Carmel.

See **Halt** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Field work

A farmer makes a turn in his tractor while working a field Monday morning on the south side of county road 350 South, just east of county road 200 West. A wet spring slowed the start of the planting season, but farmers got a lot of work done over the weekend with warm and sunny conditions. Rain is expected to return tonight, with more precipitation possible Wednesday.

Union Schools file suit against state

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Legislation passed last month calls for the closure of Union School Corporation. The Rockets do not plan to go away quietly.

Union School Board filed a lawsuit against the State of Indiana on Thursday in Randolph County Circuit Court in an effort to block

the section of Senate Enrolled Act 1 that calls for Union Schools to be closed following the 2026-27 school year.

The suit, filed by Union School board and its members Christina Ogden, Jeff Burke, Christa Ellis, Chad Ogden and David Schmucker and signed by superintendent Galen Mast, names

Gov. Mike Braun and State Secretary of Education Katie Jenner as defendants as well as the State of Indiana. Law firm Delk McNally of Muncie is representing Union School Corporation in the suit.

It alleges that SEA 1 violates the Indiana Constitution and requests that all aspects of the legislation

directed at Union Schools be halted.

The lawsuit targets a portion of SEA 1 that bans Union Schools from issuing new bonds, entering into a lease or otherwise incurring any new obligations after July 1. It says the provision prevents Union Schools from entering into new contracts with teach-

ers and any other new purchases or agreements, such as food service, that would be necessary to run the school corporation for the next two years.

"Perhaps if the House or Senate permitted public comment or input on the July 1, 2025 moratorium on incurring new obligations, someone would have real-

ized this requirement was unworkable and created a dangerous environment for the students of Union Schools," the suit says. "Rather it seems no one advocating for SEA 1 made any effort to determine either the workability or constitutionality of this law."

See **Suit** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Run arrival

Runners hold flags high as they arrive for the stop at the intersection of Hendricks and Wilson streets on Friday in Bryant during the opening day of Indiana's Run for the Fallen. The event continued Saturday with a leg from Portland to Anderson and concluded Sunday with runners traveling the final 30 miles to Indianapolis.

U.S., China to pause tariffs

By JENNY LEONARD
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

The U.S. and China will temporarily lower tariffs on each other's products in a dramatic ratcheting down of trade tensions that buys the world's two largest economies three months to work toward a broader agreement.

The combined 145% U.S. levies on most Chinese imports will be reduced to 30% including the rate tied to fentanyl by May 14, while the 125% Chinese duties on U.S. goods will drop to 10%, according to a joint statement and from officials in a briefing Monday in Geneva.

"We are in agreement that neither side wants to decouple," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said, adding that "we had a very robust and productive discussion on steps forward on fentanyl" and that talks might lead to China buying more American-made products.

"We would like to see China open to more U.S. goods," Bessent said. "We expect that as the negotiations proceed, that there will also be the possibility

World's two largest economies plan to work on longer-term agreement

of purchase agreements to pull what is our largest bilateral trade deficit into balance."

Bessent added that the tariff reductions don't apply to sectoral duties imposed on all U.S. trading partners, and the tariffs applied on China during the first Trump administration remain in place. Asked what would happen at the end of 90 days to avoid tariffs ratcheting back up, Bessent indicated there's a chance to extend the truce further.

"Just like with all our other trading partners, as long as there is good faith effort, engagement and constructive dialog, then we will keep moving forward," he said.

Equity markets in Asia and Europe rose, and S&P 500 futures jumped 3%. Oil prices increased, Treasury yields gained and the dollar was

stronger. The offshore yuan strengthened, rising by more than 0.5% before paring gains. China's bonds fell, with the 30-year yield climbing by six basis points, the most since March, to 1.95%.

The U.S. statement also said "the parties will establish a mechanism to continue discussions about economic and trade relations."

In a research note, Maeva Cousin of Bloomberg Economics said today's move "substantially lowers the U.S. average tariff shock on China," though the remaining import taxes remain high and could still cut U.S. imports from China by about 70% in the medium term.

China also said it would suspend or cancel its non-tariff countermeasures imposed on the U.S. since April 2.

See **Pause** page 2

Deaths

Joann Eicher, 7, rural Bryant
Keith Cline, 81, Pennville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 75 degrees Sunday. The low was 48.
Rain is expected tonight with thunderstorms possible and a low in the lower 60s. Expect a high in the upper 70s Wednesday with mostly cloudy skies and a 60% chance of rain.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

A variety of events are scheduled for Saturday in Portland, including the Arch Bridge Festival on Main Street from 1 to 6 p.m. — it includes an Arch Bridge Kroozers car show — a veterans recognition at 3 p.m. Saturday at Freedom Park and the Portland Rockets' season opener at 5 p.m. at Runkle-Miller Field.

Coming up

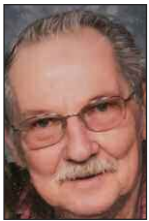
Wednesday — Details from next week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.
Thursday — Results from the FRHS sectional final against Preble Shawnee.
Friday — Coverage of Wednesday's Jay County Council meeting.

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Obituaries

Keith Cline

Jan. 25, 1944-May 10, 2025
Keith Cline, age 81, a resident of Pennville, passed away on Saturday, May 10, 2025, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.
Keith was born on Jan. 25, 1944, in Portland, Indiana, the son of John and Velma (Lovell) Cline. Keith was a 1962 graduate of Pennville High School, and was in the U.S. Army National Guard and was stationed in Puerto Rico.
Keith retired from the Jay County Highway Department after 35 years of service. Keith



Cline

was an avid coon hunter and was a member of the Bryant Coon Hunters Club. He enjoyed mowing yards and chewing beech nut chewing tobacco.
Keith married Linda Landers on Oct.13, 1963.
Survivors include:
His wife — Linda Cline, Pennville, Indiana
Two daughters — Karen Garringer (companion: Robert), Pennville, Indiana, and Becky Cline, Pennville, Indiana
Three Sons — Robert Cline (wife: Christina), Huber Heights, Ohio, Jeffery Cline, Pennville, Indiana, and Stephen Cline, Pennville, Indiana
Several nieces, nephews and grandchildren.
He was preceded in death by his parents, John D. Cline and

Velma Cline; two brothers, Carl Cline and Larry Cline; a sister, Phyllis Hart; and a great-granddaughter, Allison Garringer.
Visitation will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, May 14, at the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 15, at 11 a.m. at the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland, and burial will follow at IOOF Twin Hill Cemetery in Pennville.
Joann Eicher
June 12, 2017-May 10, 2025
Joann D. Eicher, 7 years and 11 months old, of rural Bryant, Jay County, Indiana, passed away at 2 a.m. on Saturday, May 10, 2025, at her home.
She was born on Monday, June 12, 2017, in Adams County, Indiana. Joann was of the Old Order Amish Church.
Survivors include her parents, David MK and Wilma N. (Girod) Eicher, Bryant, Indiana; brothers David, Nathan, Menno, James and William Eicher; paternal grandparents Menno and Christine Eicher; and maternal grandparents Nathan and Veronica Girod.
She was preceded in death by her sister Christine Eicher; and brother Marvin D. Eicher.
Visitation will be held at the David MK Eicher residence located at 040 E. 800 North, Bryant, on Sunday, May 11, 2025, from 1 to 8 p.m. and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2025.
A funeral service will be held

at the residence at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 13, 2025, with Bishop Mervin B. Wickey officiating. Burial will follow in the Bearcreek Amish Cemetery in Bryant.
Arrangements are being handled by Downing and Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva.
Condolences may be expressed at glancyfuneralhomes.com.

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

CR almanac				
Wednesday 5/14	Thursday 5/15	Friday 5/16	Saturday 5/17	Sunday 5/18
77/62 Wednesday's forecast looks like a 60% chance of showers throughout the day.	86/67 Mostly sunny skies are expected on Thursday when highs will be in the mid 80s.	86/61 Friday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a low chance of afternoon rain.	79/56 There's a slight chance of rain Saturday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	74/51 Mostly sunny on Sunday when the high will be in the mid to upper 70s.

Lotteries	
Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$93 million	16-17-20-24-25-36-39-40-46-51-54-58-62-64-65-68-73 Cash 5: 6-20-23-32-37 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$110 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 9-4-7 Pick 4: 8-0-9-1 Pick 5: 1-3-3-3-4 Evening Pick 3: 4-0-3 Pick 4: 5-0-5-5 Pick 5: 4-9-6-3-6 Rolling Cash 5: 5-10-13-25-30 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 3-3-0 Daily Four: 7-2-6-6 Quick Draw: 8-9-10-11-30-31-37-40-44-47-50-52-56-60-61-66-70-73-74-77 Evening Daily Three: 2-1-0 Daily Four: 5-1-6-4 Quick Draw: 3-10-13-	

Markets	
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.63 June corn.....4.65 July corn.....4.67	June beans10.89 Wheat4.77
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.68 June corn4.72 July corn.....4.75	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.58 June corn4.58 Beans10.85 June beans10.88 Wheat4.66
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.65 June corn4.65 Beans10.84	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.65 June corn4.67 Beans10.59 June beans10.59 Wheat4.61

Today in history	
In 1775 , Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold led the Green Mountain Boys in capturing Fort Ticonderoga, which had been controlled by the British. In 1973 , Albert Milton “Billy” Miller, 39, rural Parker City was found dead in Dunkirk. (Local law enforcement were investigating his death as a murder.) A crewman on a Penn Central freight train found his body in the 600 block of Lincoln Avenue. In 2013 , Dunkirk Public Library Board accepted the resignations of the entirety of the staff of Dunkirk Public Library and The Glass Museum.	In a statement, former glass museum curator Blake Watson was critical of what he called the board’s “unethical behavior.” In 2018 , the Fort Recovery High School softball team topped Perry 10-2 to win its first sectional championship since 2010. Macy Day’s inside-the-par-home run in the fifth inning helped to extend the Indians’ lead. In 2021 , Jay County Commissioners approved contributing \$70,000 to a project to remodel 4-H buildings at Jay County Fairgrounds. —The Commercial Review

Citizen’s calendar	
Tuesday 6 p.m. — Ridgeville Town Council, fire station, 302 N. Walnut St.	6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.	Thursday 6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Halt ...

Continued from page 1
In August, USI Insurance Services indicated the county had overspent about \$780,000 on insurance, per data from Physicians Health Plan between 2020 and 2024. Representatives told commissioners clients who switch to their care save on average \$180,000 annually.
Jessica Clayton of OneDigital warned commissioners in October about switching to a partially self-funded plan, pointing to the number of

claims outweighing the county’s premiums in prior years. Forrest Williamson of Unified Group Services referenced the same issue.
Commissioners decided in November to switch from OneDigital to USI Insurance Services and stick with a fully funded plan. (USI Insurance Services also said in November that a partially self-funded plan wouldn’t be viable for 2025 based on recent claims history.) Commissioners approved a nearly \$1.58 million proposal with Physi-

cians Health Plan in November, with an 8% increase in cost for 2025. They selected an option that required the county to pay an additional \$79,000 to offer lower monthly rates for some plans.
County attorney Wes Schemenaur noted the auditor’s office has been frustrated in dealing with USI Insurance Services.
“I think we’ve given them ample time according to the contract to address these issues and it sounds like we’re still having some,”

said Schemenaur. “I think there were a number of concerns that we addressed in executive session about various employees, coverages and maybe lack thereof that create some concerns for us ... I think that those things need to be addressed quickly.”
Commissioners Doug Horn, Duane Monroe and Aker then decided to terminate the agreement.

For more news from the commissioners’ meeting, see Wednesday’s newspaper.

Suit ...

Continued from page 1
The suit also questions why Union School Corporation was the sole target of the legislation. Referencing a statement from State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City) regarding low test scores, the suit notes that a school corporation with lower scores was not addressed in SEA 1.
The suit also alleges that the section of the legislation regarding Union Schools violates the Indiana Constitution on various fronts, including not being limited to a single subject. It also says the measure violates the prohibition of local and special legislation,

denies students a general and uniform system of education and deprives students of privileges available to other school corporations.
“As a result, the Union School Corporation, the Plaintiffs and the constituents of Union School Corporation will be irreparably harmed by the lack of educational, athletic, and civic opportunities schools provide, which form the bedrock of a free state,” it says.
SEA 1, which Braun signed into law on April 15 after it passed the Senate on a 27-22 vote, calls for Union School Corporation to be dissolved on July 1, 2027. All of

Union’s territory that is in Randolph County is to be annexed to Monroe Central School Corporation while its territory in Henry County will be annexed to Blue River Valley Schools.
It also calls for the school corporation to sell property or transfer it to Monroe Central School Corporation and use any unencumbered funds and assets to pay existing debts. (If those funds are not enough to pay debts, the state general fund will pay off any remaining debts. If there are leftover funds, they will be distributed to Monroe Central and Blue River based on a formula laid out in the bill.)

Pause ...

Continued from page 1
That’s an apparent reference to China’s addition on April 4 of seven rare earths to its export control list. Securing the removal of those restrictions was a priority for Washington as a range of industries faced disruption.
China has always handled relations with the U.S. based on the principles of mutual respect, the official Xinhua News Agency reported, citing a white paper on national security. China is committed to the stable development of relations with the U.S., it said, and imposing pressure and threats are not the right way to deal with China.
“The agreement, which significantly lowers tariffs without any concessions, is likely to be viewed as a particular victory for China,” Lynn Song, ING’s chief economist for greater China, wrote in a research note.
Around the same time the tariff reductions were unveiled, China released a white paper on national security that vowed to add more tools to Beijing’s retaliation toolkit and improve mechanisms for countering sanctions and so-called long-arm jurisdiction.
The de-escalation comes after recent data showed a slump in trade across the Pacific Ocean. The two countries had earlier reported “substantial progress” in talks, which buoyed markets and helped Chinese stocks recoup their losses since President Donald Trump’s “Liberation Day” announcement of tariffs on April 2.
Ryan Petersen, the founder and CEO of digital logistics platform Flexport Inc., posted a note on X indicating he expects a race to transport goods across the Pacific given the tariff reprieve. “Get ready for a shipping boom,” he wrote without elaborating.

Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said the U.S. wants to have more balanced trade with China and “our Chinese counterparts clearly came to deal this week.”
Before the talks began in Switzerland, Trump has posted on Truth Social that an 80% tariff on China “seems right,” but left it up to his Treasury chief to decide.
Asked on Monday how the U.S. team ultimately landed on a much lower number in the talks, Greer said: “Everything is a negotiation.”
The U.S. president offers “direction and advice on how to proceed, and we ended up at a result that is very good for the United States — very good for China as well,” Greer told reporters.
He listed measures that were left in place as part of the truce, including the 10% global baseline tariff that was applied to all U.S. trading partners, as well as China-specific tariffs Trump imposed during his first term that “have been effective in reducing the U.S. bilateral trade deficit with China.”

SERVICES

Today
Eicher, Joann: 9 a.m., David MK Eicher residence, 040 E. 800 Nrth, Bryant..

Thursday
Cline, Keith: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm



Kiwanis donation

Greg Franks, president of Portland Kiwanis, presents a check for summer support for Jay County Marching Patriots. Parent support group officer Rachel Cole Bernischke and daughter and band member Maddie spoke to Portland Kiwanis about the upcoming summer season.

Marriage licenses

Kenna R. Kahlig, 23, Portland, and Gabriel E. Link, 23, Portland
Levi Pitser, 30, Redkey, and Marissa Whitehead, 32, Redkey
Eathan B. Dennis, 21, Dunkirk, and Jaiden R. Roser, 21, Dunkirk
Melissa M. Buzzard, 33, Portland, and Damion U. Nunley, 22, Union City
Jarrett Emenhiser, 21, Hartford City, and Skylar R. Keller, 25, Portland
Ronald I. McCord, 59, Dunkirk, and Jeanette L. Nichols, 58, Dunkirk
Christopher M. Shannon, 36, Celina, Ohio, and Betsy A. Tobe, 34, Celina, Ohio
Daniel W. Fugiett, 24, Redkey, and Kylie N. Strietelmeier, 22, Mooresville
Gabriella H. Lowrance, 25, Portland, and Mason E. Quickery, 36, Portland
Heather Baker, 49, Celina, Ohio, and Timothy Doner, 54, Celina, Ohio
Mason D. Franks, 30, Portland, and Alivia M. Maitlen, 24, Portland
Mitchell W. Green, 42, Dunkirk, and Brittany R. Hobbs, 35, Dunkirk

Husband claims he’s changed

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married 33 years, but the last 10 years have been extremely difficult. His attitude and selfishness during that time led me to strongly resent him.

He’s now telling me he has changed and things will be different, that I am important to him and he will consider my thoughts, feelings, wants and needs going forward. The problem I’m having is, he didn’t decide this until I finally had enough and moved out.

How do I decide what is best for me? I love him, and at his core he is a good person, but sometimes I feel like there’s too much water under the bridge. — JUST NOT SURE IN ILLINOIS

DEAR JUST NOT SURE: For a leopard to change his spots takes effort. It doesn’t happen overnight. Do not go back to your husband before the two of you have had counseling with a

Dear Abby



licensed marriage and family therapist for one year. If, after that, he has proven that he’s capable of change, you can decide then whether there has been too much water under the bridge or you feel safe living with him again.

DEAR ABBY: I had an accident and have been in a walking boot for a few weeks with several more to go. This has happened before, unfortunately. I am regularly annoyed by strangers who feel compelled to comment about the boot — “Oh, did

you kick someone?” or “Hey, what happened?” I don’t think I owe a stranger an explanation of the state of my body. It’s none of their business.

First, please remind your readers that this behavior is intrusive and rude. Second, what is an appropriate response to these insensitive people? I have gone from light jokes — “You should have seen the sidewalk when I got through with it!” — to ignoring them. Nothing seems to shut it down. — HOBbled IN GEORGIA

DEAR HOBbled: If you think you’re alone in being subjected to this annoyance, think again. People are curious, and some have little or no filter. None of them are actively trying to be offensive. Because nothing seems to shut it down, hang on to your sense of humor. Your light joke is upbeat and clever. My advice is to stick to it.

Community Calendar

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

Tuesday
COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop

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

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for

substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday
WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

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

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

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

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

No water needed

By JAMES FULKS
The Commercial Review

While randomly scrolling a social media boating page, a post on the page asked, “What’s your most memorable moment towing a boat?”

I replied, and realized it’s a story that a few of you may get a kick out of.

Here’s a warm and funny memory of a day we spent together, picking up a boat, although, to be perfectly honest, some parts of this story weren’t funny at the time. But in retrospective memory, they certainly are.

A good old U.S. Marine buddy of mine, who has since passed of cancer, bought a 1988 Bayliner Cabin Cruiser.

He knew the history of the vessel and knew the late owner’s mother quite well, so although it wasn’t completely sight unseen, he really didn’t know what we were getting into.

The boat had been moored at a yacht club/marina northeast of Detroit.

He talked me into driving him up to pick it up in a truck he had borrowed for the occasion.

We make the four-hour drive from east central Indiana up to Mount Clemens and find the boat not moored in the marina.

Fulksy
Mayhem



It was sitting up on blocks in the boat’s long-term storage area, with no trailer.

He wheels and deals to find a used tandem axle trailer and after several hours of cajoling, cussing and coaxing, we get that huge vessel loaded up on this trailer that it wasn’t really meant for.

We manage to get rolling down the highway with this massive 28-foot, heavy behemoth of a boat, with the borrowed truck, which incidentally was merely an early 1990s era Chevy with a 4.3-liter, 6-cylinder engine.

It was all that truck wanted to haul that old Bayslammer up the big concrete mountain there along Dearborn on Interstate 75.

The Chevy got it done, but the most harrowing moment was on Interstate 75 near Lima, Ohio.

My friend kept insisting we could make it to a fuel stop where he had an account, but I kept insist-

ing we were going to run out.

I was driving and literally could see the fuel gauge go down in real time as that poor, old truck sucked down the petrol.

We ran out and I literally coasted, out of gas, down the freeway ramp, blew the stop sign at the bottom, and rolled up to the gas pump at a Speedway gas station, completely out of gas, with that huge boat and trailer blocking the entrance, but close enough to the pump, to get gas.

What an adventure of a day.


All other negative things you hear about Bayliners aside, we eventually got that big monster on Grand Lake Saint Marys in Ohio and for several summers we had a blast on that old party boat. We made a lot of great memories.

And yes, to those familiar with Grand Lake Saint Marys in its glory days, you know, with a boat that size on that lake, we replaced and repaired a lot of props.

That lake is man-made and extremely shallow for those who are unfamiliar.

Great memory of a long, tiring day picking up a boat with an old Marine buddy who has since died of cancer.

What a day it was.



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Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday’s Solution

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

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

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Show support for retirement home

To the editor:
Hello friends and fellow residents of Jay County.
Please voice your support for keeping Jay County Country Living (the retirement home) open and fully operational.
County-operated retirement homes serve a unique and irreplaceable role. They provide a place to live and basic care for seniors and other citizens who may not have the ability to live alone or have the means to afford private care. Without this facility, residents may face homelessness, isolation or inadequate care. Some may have to move far away from the community they've always called home.

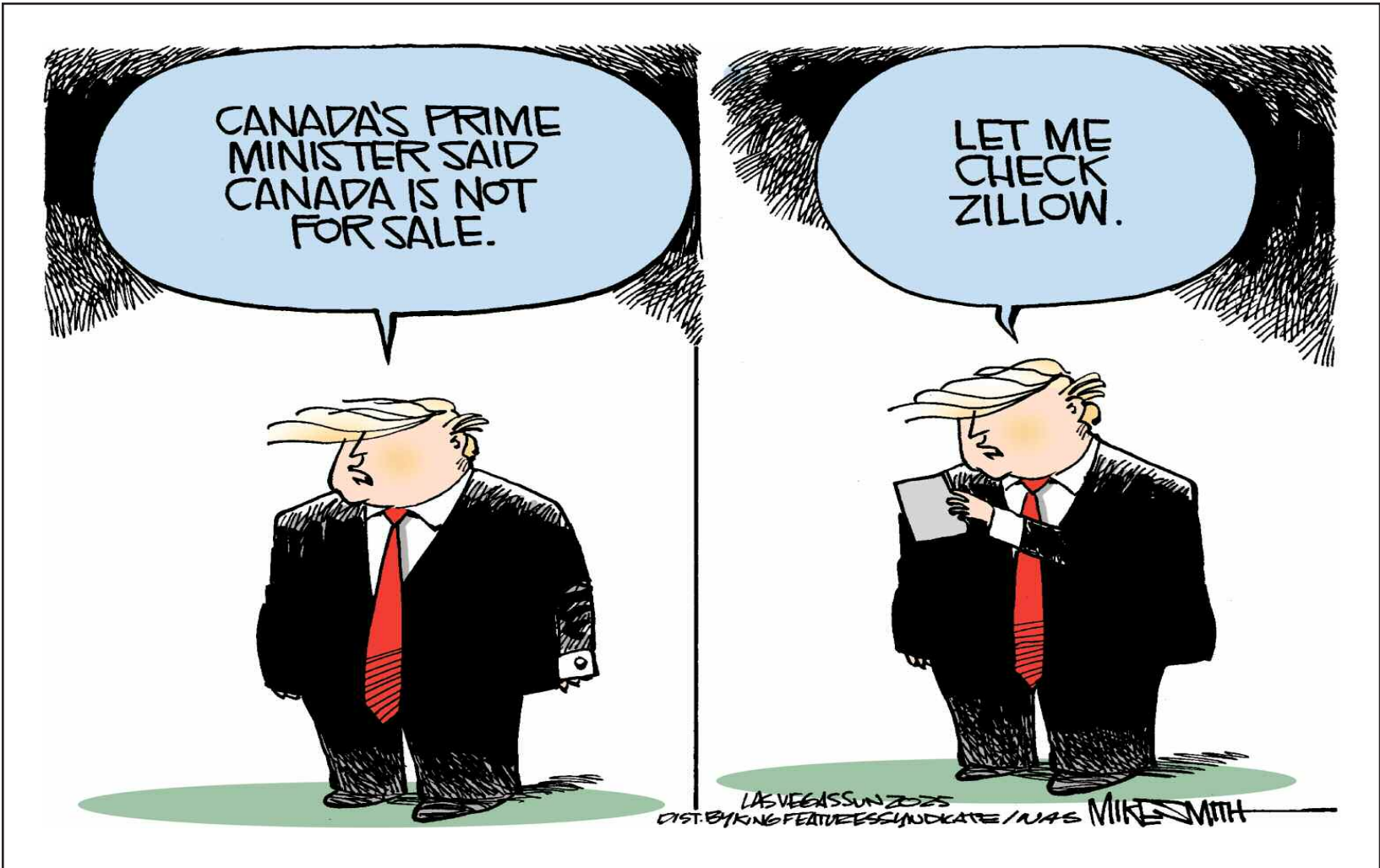
Letters to the Editor

This facility is not just a building — it is a vital lifeline for some of our most vulnerable community members and a community cornerstone of compassion by offering a place to care for those in need of an affordable place to live in our county. It gives them a sense of family, especially for the residents who do not have anyone.

The county retirement home provides essential services to elderly residents who often lack the financial means or family support to seek private care. It stands as one of the few affordable and accessible options available to seniors and others who have contributed to our community throughout their lives and now deserve the dignity and care that this home offers. It also provides a way for them to still be somewhat independent but also have some basic needs met.
Closing this facility would create significant hardship, not only for its current and

future residents but also for their families who rely on its local proximity as a great place for their loved ones. Many families simply cannot afford to travel long distances or pay for private options, and this home allows them to stay connected with their loved ones.
Our population is aging rapidly and demand for long-term care places to live is only going to increase. Closing this facility now would be a short-sighted decision that could leave our county unprepared and scrambling to meet growing needs for an affordable place to live. As a taxpayer, I do not mind paying a little extra in

order to care for our most vulnerable.
This home is more than just a facility — it's a caring neighbor that provides essential services to those in need within our community. It offers an affordable, peaceful and supportive place to live for individuals who might otherwise be alone. The quality of life it provides is immeasurable.
In a world where so many struggle to find safe and nurturing environments, Jay County Country Living is a beautiful place to call home.
Sincerely,
Jenny Bricker
Portland



Pope encouraged Christian-Muslim dialogue

By CRAIG CONSIDINE
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com
Pope Francis' pontificate marked a distinct shift in the Catholic Church's engagement with the Muslim world. While his predecessors fostered dialogue and tolerance, Francis sought more active engagement with Muslims, particularly in the Middle East.
Francis framed his efforts around the "culture of encounter," which he explained in a 2016 morning meditation. Drawing inspiration from the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 7, he noted that this approach was about "active engagement" rather than passive observation. He urged individuals to embody Jesus by "not just seeing, but looking; not just hearing, but listening; not just passing people by, but stopping with them."
In my 2025 book "Beyond Dialogue — Building Bonds Between Christians and Muslims," I stress the importance of moving beyond mere tolerance to collaboration as a way to engage with religious diversity — something that Francis demonstrated in his interfaith dialogue efforts with Muslim countries.
In 2021, Francis visited regions in Iraq once held by the Islamic State, or IS. This was the first papal visit to the country. He held masses in Irbil, the capital of the Kurdistan region of Iraq, and he addressed a gathering in the courtyard of the Al-Tahera church, the hub of the Syriac Catholic population in Mosul. The historic 18th-century church was partially destroyed by IS during its occupation of the city from 2014 to 2017. An estimated 5,000 Christians were killed and some 125,000 displaced in Iraq during that time.
At Church Square in Mosul,



where there are four churches, Francis prayed for the victims of the conflict and called for harmonious coexistence between Christians and Muslims. He also invited displaced Christians to return to their homes and praised the young Iraqi volunteers — both Christians and Muslims — working side by side to rebuild the churches and mosques destroyed by IS.
In addition, he convened an interreligious gathering in Ur, the birthplace of Abraham, a prophet revered by Jews, Christians and Muslims.
His actions not only brought together Christians and Muslims but also helped break down stereotypes.
In 2019 he visited the United Arab Emirates, marking the first papal visit to the Arabian Peninsula, the birthplace of Islam. The visit coincided with the Emirati government proclaiming 2019 the Year of Tolerance, promoting coexistence, diversity and respect.
During his visit in Abu Dhabi in 2019, Francis celebrated a historic Catholic Mass in Zayed Sports City, drawing 180,000 attendees from over 100 countries, for which the UAE government declared a special holiday.
This unprecedented event challenged negative Western stereotypes about the Arabian Peninsula's religious intolerance. The UAE Constitution, for example, guarantees religious freedom to all people, albeit with restrictions

on proselytization among non-Islamic communities. It also offered a counternarrative of unity between Christians and Muslims in a region often viewed through a lens of religious strife and war.
Francis' visit to the UAE also culminated in some crucial interfaith initiatives. In Abu Dhabi, Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar University, Ahmed El-Tayeb, cosigned the document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together. The document stresses the need to work together to promote a "culture of reciprocal respect." While the Emirati president, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, did not directly sign the document, he supported the interfaith initiatives that followed Francis' trip.
This document led to the setting up of the Higher Committee of Human Fraternity, a collaborative project of a diverse groups of academic, cultural and religious leaders and entities from around the world. The committee created the Human Fraternity Education and Leadership for Peace program, a global youth movement. It also worked with the United Nations General Assembly to designate Feb. 4 as the International Day of Human Fraternity.
The Higher Committee of Human Fraternity also guided the construction of the Abraham Family House in Abu Dhabi, a shared space for a church, mosque and synagogue that opened in 2023.
I had the opportunity to attend the opening ceremony of the Abraham Family House in 2023. It was a memorable experience. A Christian girl, a Muslim boy and Jewish boy each brought a cube representing each house of worship to the center platform of the forum and placed them side by

side on the ground. The simple act mirrored the architectural design of the Abraham Family House by bringing the abstract concept of interfaith harmony to life in a concrete and relatable way. The Emirati youth provided a glimpse into what a tolerant future could look like.
The closest historical comparison to the Document on Human Fraternity is the Nostra Aetate, a declaration from the Second Vatican Council of 1965, when major reforms were initiated in the Catholic Church.
Nostra Aetate marked a turning point in the Catholic Church's relations with Islam and all non-Christian traditions. After a history of conflict, limited positive engagement and mutual suspicion, it emphasized harmony, dialogue and respect with Islam.
However, the Document on Human Fraternity went further. For starters, it was a joint declaration with prominent Muslim leaders, signifying a deeper commitment to Christian-Muslim partnership, whereas Nostra Aetate was an internal Catholic document. The document called for grassroots activities, pointing to a more action-oriented approach to Christian and Muslim relations. Given that it was signed by the pope, it held influence within the Vatican leadership and among liberal cardinals. Its core principles are being integrated into pastoral initiatives and interreligious dialogue at the national and international levels.
Francis' approach to Christian-Muslim dialogue differed notably from his predecessors. While Pope John Paul II focused on intellectual exchange and theological dialogue, Francis emphasized that they were insufficient on their own. In turn, he prioritized direct action and personal engagement with others as a

means to a deeper understanding of the other.
Pope Benedict XVI, despite his commitment to dialogue, faced challenges due to remarks that outraged Muslims worldwide. During his Regensburg address in 2006, he mentioned a medieval dialogue attributed to Manuel II Palaiologus, the Byzantine emperor who reigned from 1391 to 1425, a period of growing power of the Ottoman Empire. Manuel II had criticized the concept of jihad in Islam and referred to Muhammad, the prophet of Islam, as "evil" and "inhuman." While Benedict repeatedly emphasized that he was quoting Manuel II's views on the relationship between faith and reason and not personally endorsing the emperor's assessment of Islam, the pope's comments were perceived as disrespectful toward the Islamic faith and its prophet.
Upon Francis' death, the president of the UAE — Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan — described him as "a symbol of human fraternity, cultural coexistence and interfaith dialogue," adding that he inspired "future generations in upholding the values of tolerance and mutual understanding."
Francis' gestures of solidarity, personal relationships and frequent visits to Muslim countries, I believe, laid a tangible foundation to move beyond dialogue and toward human fraternity. The Conversation
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Considine is a professor and has written seven books and multiple articles for the field of Christian-Muslim relations and Islamic studies.
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—Thomas Jefferson

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Photo provided

Farm Bureau assists Firefly

Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance employees from across the state participated in a companywide service project during an event May 1 at Victory Field in Indianapolis. They packed about 1,400 bookbags with school supplies for Firefly Children and Family Alliance. The organization has offices in 64 counties and distributed the bags to families in need across Indiana.

Expanded partnership announced

An Indianapolis firm and a university have agreed to expand their partnership.

Eli Lilly and Purdue University announced Friday that the company plans to invest up to \$250 million in the Lilly-Purdue 360 Initiative collaboration over the next eight years.

The partnership could become the largest industry-academic agreement in U.S. history. It is targeted at accelerating innovation of pharmaceuticals.

“As potentially the largest single university-industry research agreement in American history, Lilly and Purdue are blazing a new trail to the endless frontier,” said Purdue University President Mung Chiang in a press release. “Today marks a monumental watershed in the generation of jobs, workforce and innovation along America’s Hard Tech Corridor. We thank Lilly for its pioneering impact on health and medicine in our society and for what is now the largest single research funding, from public or private capital, in Purdue’s history.”

Goals of the partnership include:

- Discovering and accelerating the delivery of medicines
- Bridging the gap between laboratory discoveries and clinical applications
- Creating more resilient, efficient and sustainable supply chains
- Deploying innovative, scalable approaches to workforce development

An earlier agreement was set to expire in 2027. The partnership now includes four new projects and extends through 2032.

Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at noon Thursday, May 15, for the Cincinnati League’s new ice cream machine.

The event will be at the Cincinnati

Business roundup

natus League’s booth at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Nearing completion

CenterPoint Energy has entered the final phase of its natural gas infrastructure improvements.

The firm plans to replace more than 19 miles of pipelines as part of a \$25 million investment this year. Included are lines in Hartford City, Eaton and Muncie.

“Through strategic, long-term investments, we’ve strengthened our infrastructure with industry-grade materials that meet current federal and industry safety standards,” said Gregg Maurer, vice president of gas operations for Indiana and Ohio, in a press release. “As we move into the final phase of this work, our focus remains on completing these upgrades efficiently while minimizing disruptions for customers and communities.”

Bank earns rating

The Federal Reserve Board gave First Financial Bank a rating of “outstanding” for its performance under the Community Reinvestment Act.

The rating is the highest available. Banks are evaluated on meeting the credit needs of its entire community, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, consistent with the safe and sound operation of the institution.

“Reaching the highest possible rating for the second consecutive period is the best possible demonstration of our commitment to help our clients and communities thrive,” said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate

responsibility officer for First Financial Bank, in a press release. “I’m proud of all the team members who are working every day to help us maximize our impact on the communities we serve, and grateful for the community partners we work with to have such a meaningful impact on our neighbors.”

Plans filed

Indiana Michigan Power recently filed plans with the Indiana Utility Regulatory commission for approval to enter into power purchase agreements for more than 570 megawatts of wind energy generation.

The firm plans to purchase power from five wind energy facilities in Indiana and Illinois. It currently has agreements for about 450 megawatts from four Indiana wind farms.

“By diversifying our generation mix, I&M is able to provide safe and reliable service to our customers and continue making a significant impact on the communities we serve,” said Steve Baker, I&M president and chief operating officer, in a press release. “The addition of diverse, renewable resources, like wind, is an important step in being Future Ready to serve customers’ homes, businesses and factories now and into the future.”

I&M said in the release that it expects Indiana’s demand for power to more than double its peak load from 2,800 megawatts in 2024 to 7,000 megawatts in 2030.

Trial complete

Ardagh Glass Packaging has completed an industrial fuel switching trial to produce glass packaging using biofuel in the furnace at its Knottingley facility in the United Kingdom.

The nearly \$8 million project was funded by the UK government’s Net Zero Innovation Portfolio program. The goal was to

evaluate the feasibility of using alternative liquid bio-derived fuels for glass melting.

“This trial validated and supported our existing knowledge and proved that liquid bio-derived fuels can effectively replace natural gas in glass packaging production over an extended period,” said Ardagh business development director Dean Butler in a press release. “This is an exciting development for the glass industry as we continue to seek innovative solutions to reduce carbon emissions. The trial provides a clear example of how adopting liquid bio-derived fuels has the potential to help the industry to meet its ambitious sustainability goals.”

Ardagh operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester.

Donated for literacy

Dollar General announced a donation of \$13.2 million Thursday to support adult, family and summer literacy programs.

The grants will support more than 1,200 public schools, libraries and non-profit organizations, impacting more than 1.3 million individuals.

“For over 30 years, the Foundation has been investing in literacy and basic education programs in our hometown communities,” said Denine Torr, executive director of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, in a press release. “Today’s grant announcement is a celebration of our unwavering commitment to student and teacher success. We are grateful to all the grant recipients for their commitment to advancing education and helping students thrive.”

Hosting drive

First Financial Bank is hosting a book drive at various locations.

The drive will run from May 5 through 31. It is part of an effort to support financial literacy.

Books can be dropped off at the following locations:

- 112 N. Meridian St., Portland
- 211 W. Pearl St., Union City
- 101 W. Washington St., Hartford City

“In recent years, our book drives have collected thousands of volumes to foster improved financial literacy in our communities, and we’re proud to continue this campaign as another way to help our clients and communities thrive,” said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate responsibility officer for First Financial Bank, in a press release.

More than 4,000 books were collected in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and Illinois last year.

ServSafe offered

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

The next session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, May 20.

An additional session is scheduled for June 24.

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

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

Training available

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

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

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

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

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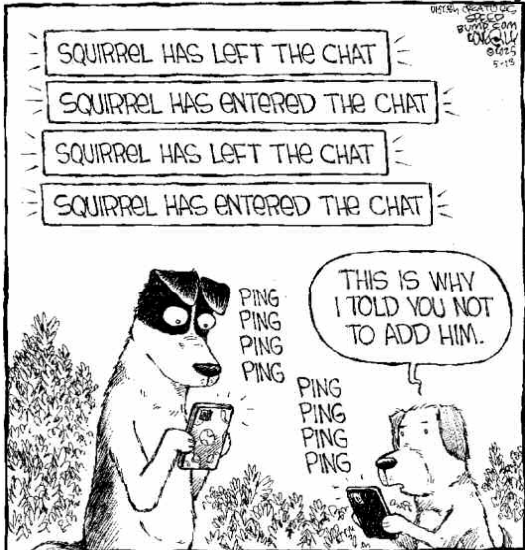
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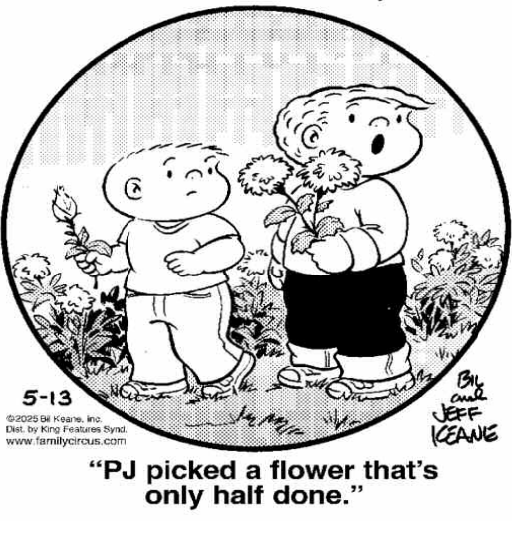
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Peanuts



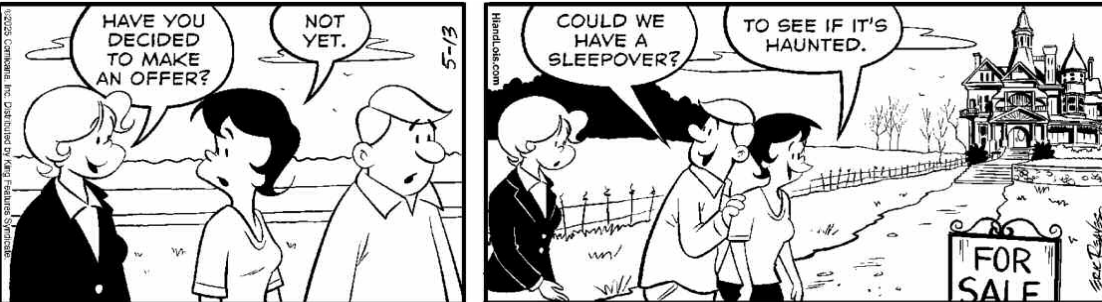
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand — Part 2

East dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH			
♠	K Q 9 8 7		
♥	7		
♦	J 3		
♣	Q J 9 8 3		
WEST			
♠	A 6 5 4 3		
♥	K Q 10 8 6		
♦	4 2		
♣	A		
EAST			
♠	J 10		
♥	5 4 2		
♦	A 7		
♣	K 10 7 6 4 2		
SOUTH			
♠	2		
♥	A J 9 3		
♦	K Q 10 9 8 6 5		
♣	5		

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 ♦ 2 ♦ Dble Pass
2 ♥ 3 ♦ Pass
3 ♥ 5 ♦(1) Dble

Opening lead — ace of clubs.
Yesterday we saw how an Italian pair holding the East-West hands in the final deal of the 2003 Bermuda Bowl reached four hearts and went down four tricks, losing 400 points to their U.S. opponents. Going into the last board of the 128-deal match, the Italians held an 11-IMP lead. After the 400-point loss at the first table, everything depended on how the U.S. East-West pair fared at the other table.
With a large audience watching on closed-circuit TV and the Inter-

net, the auction shown unfolded. Had the Italians allowed East to play in three hearts and sent that contract only one trick, they would have won the match by 3 IMPs. But to everyone's amazement, South now bid five diamonds, which West happily doubled. A trump lead and trump continuation would have produced a four-trick set, but West led the club ace and shifted to the king of hearts. South took the ace, ruffed a heart, ruffed a club, ruffed the jack of hearts (covered by the queen), then lost the spade king to West's ace. Had West now cashed the heart ten, he would have assured a two-trick set — enough to win the match by 1 IMP. But, drastically misreading the position, he returned a spade instead, giving South a chance to discard the nine of hearts and so go down only one to tie the match!
However, so certain was South that West would cash the heart ten that, without looking at the actual return, he played the spade seven from dummy, thinking he was discarding! East won the seven with the ten, at which point South attempted to retract his play. The director ruled that he could not, and the ruling was later upheld. So the U.S. gained 12 IMPs on the deal, enough to win the Bermuda Bowl by 1 IMP!

Tomorrow: Accent on the wrong syllable.
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CRYPTOQUIP

QFPHM XHRIPGU RBDKGA QPVF

VFPN WRNMWRHH DCMB WI

VFM QPGMBI, P FKBHMA PV

VFBDKUF VFM UBRXMCPGM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: OUR NEW LIVING ROOM IS NEARLY COMPLETE. WE ONLY HAVE TO PUT A FEW FURNISHING TOUCHES ON IT.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals B

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS
- 1 Oil cartel
 - 5 Bikini top
 - 8 Boot (out)
 - 12 "The Green Hornet" valet
 - 13 Trench
 - 14 Concept
 - 15 Hawaiian feast
 - 16 Tale with a lesson
 - 18 Court order?
 - 20 Grand parties
 - 21 "Nova" subj.
 - 22 "On the Road" narrator
 - 23 Menace, to a military pilot
 - 26 "The Diplomat" actress
 - 30 Have bills
 - 31 Whatever
 - 32 A Gershwin brother
 - 33 Everything counted
 - 36 Very breezy
- 38 Adam's mate
- 39 Help
- 40 German poet
- 43 "Fin-ished!"
- 47 Sexy
- 49 Work on proofs
- 50 Addict
- 51 Hwy.
- 52 Oscar-winning
- 53 Withered
- 54 Army address
- 55 Beholds
- 3 List-ending short-hand
- 4 Soup or salad, e.g.
- 5 Corleone enforcer
- 6 Occupy the throne
- 7 Pac. counterpart
- 8 Capital of Rwanda
- 9 Fan fave
- 10 Michael of "Super-bad"
- 11 Strikeout symbols
- 17 Alike (Fr.)
- 19 Glacial
- 22 Devious
- 23 Fluffy scarf
- 24 Hooting bird
- 25 Solidify
- 26 Moreover
- 27 Serena, to Venus
- 28 Scrap
- 29 Dissent-ing vote
- 31 Stein filler
- 34 Length of service
- 35 Above
- 36 Base-ball's
- 37 Cow features
- 39 Rags-to-riches author
- 40 Residence, in Bonn
- 41 Differently
- 42 Robert of "The Sopranos"
- 43 Con
- 44 Garfield's pal
- 45 Evening, informally
- 46 Greek vowels
- 48 Apr. check casher

Solution time: 22 mins.

S	A	N	G		E	E	L		U	C	L	A
K	L	E	E		A	V	E		M	O	O	G
E	A	R	L		T	E	A	L	B	L	B	L
W	I	D	T	H	S		S	T	R	U	T	S
	A	A	A		A		D	I	M			
T	A	X	I	B	I	L	L	S	A	B	B	E
R	E	A		G	O	B	A	G		I	C	E
U	S	M	C		T	U	R	N	B	A	C	K
	O	A	F		S	C	A	R				
N	A	U	S	E	A		A		A	W	A	R
T	E	N	B	U	C	K	S		Z	E	E	S
S	R	T	A		T	A	M		I	N	S	T
B	O	S	H		S	I	S		L	O	I	S

Yesterday's answer 5-13

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19				20			
				21				22				
23	24	25				26				27	28	29
30						31					32	
33			34	35					36	37		
					38				39			
40	41	42				43				44	45	46
47						48				49		
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

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Patriot girls go back-to-back

BLUFFTON — In 2024, the Patriot girls squeaked past the Warriors by 7.5 points to claim the Allen County Athletic Conference title. This year, they expanded the deficit as the runner-up fell 19 points short.

The Jay County High School girls track team won the ACAC track and field Championship hosted by Bluffton on Friday, as the boys slipped to third place.

The girls totalled 149.5 points to claim the victory, while Bluffton finished in second with 130.5.

The JCHS boys edged out Woodlan for third place by 0.5 points as they collected a score of 97.5. Bluffton ran away with the crown as they posted a 163 to runner-up Heritage's 125.

Jay County's girls only won three events outright, the same number as the boys team, but six second-place finishes and five more third placements pushed them to the top.

The only individual wins came from Mya Kunkler and Maria Hemmelgarn in the high jump and pole vault, respectively. Kunkler cleared a height of 4 feet, 10 inches,



Photo provided

The Jay County High School girls track team poses atop the podium with the Allen County Athletic Conference championship trophy on Friday night at Bluffton. The Patriots only had three victories but a plethora of second and third-place finishes lifted them to victory over Bluffton by 19 points.

to take the top spot, while Hemmelgarn cleared a bar that was 9 feet off the ground. Hemmelgarn's height also set a new meet record.

The 4x100-meter relay team of Morgan DeHoff, Jenna Dues, Ariel Beiswanger and London Lloyd took the top spot as well. The Patriots finished with a time of 51.75

seconds to beat out Heritage' team by 0.86 seconds.

Other scores for the JCHS girls came from:

- The 4x400 relay team (second)
- The 4x800 relay team (second)
- Beiswanger in the 200 dash (second) and the 400 dash (second)
- Dues in the high jump

(second) and 100 dash (third)

- Lloyd in the 200 dash (third)
- Brooklynn Byrum in the 800 run (second) and the 1,600 run (fourth)
- Ava May in the 3,200 run (third) and the 1,600 run (seventh)
- Peyton Carpenter in the 400 dash (third), 100 dash (fourth) and long jump (eighth)

- Kunkler in the pole vault (fourth) and 300 hurdles (fifth)
- DeHoff in the long jump (third), 100 hurdles (sixth) and 300 hurdles (sixth)
- Jessie Homan in the 3,200 run (fourth)
- Jordyn Hutzler in the discus (fourth) and shot put (sixth)
- Paityn Wendel in the

800 dash (eighth) The JCHS boys matched the girls with three individual victories.

Adam Alig led the way with wins in the 110 hurdles (15.27 seconds) and 300 hurdles (41.63).

The other victory came from Dash Thacker in the 3,200 run, posting a time of 9 minutes, 59.62 seconds.

Other points came from:

- The 4x100 relay team (second)
 - The 4x800 relay team (second)
 - Joseph Boggs in the 800 run (second)
 - Thacker in the 1,600 run (second)
 - Alig in the high jump (third)
 - Caleb Garringer in the 1,600 run (fourth) and 3,200 run (fourth)
 - Sytreet Jordan in the 400 dash (fourth)
 - Peyton Yowell in the pole vault (fifth)
 - Brasen Glassford in the shot put (sixth)
 - The 4x400 relay team (sixth)
 - Caden Gambill in the 200 dash (seventh) and 100 dash (eighth)
 - Austyn LeMaster in the discus (seventh)
- Jay County boys finished fourth at the ACAC meet in 2024.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys golf vs. Southern Wells – 4:30 p.m.; Baseball at Southern Wells – 5 p.m.; Softball at Southern Wells – 5 p.m.; Girls tennis vs. Randolph Southern – 5 p.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Daleville – 5 p.m.; Junior high tennis at South Adams – 5 p.m.; Junior High softball at Blackford – 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Track MAC meet prelims at Coldwater – 4:30 p.m.; Softball sectional final

Wednesday
Fort Recovery — JV softball vs. South Adams – 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
4 p.m. — IndyCar: Indianapolis 500 (FS1)

6:40 p.m. — MLB: Boston Red Sox at Detroit Tigers (TBS); Chicago White Sox at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)
7 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL Playoffs: Winnipeg Jets at Dallas Stars (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Denver Nuggets at Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)

Wednesday
1:05 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at

Philadelphia Phillies (FDSN Indiana)
4 p.m. — IndyCar: Indianapolis 500 (FS1)
7 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: New York Knicks at Boston Celtics (TNT)
7:14 p.m. — MLB: Chicago White Sox at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)
8 p.m. — NFL: 2025 NFL Schedule Release (ESPN2)
8:45 p.m. — MLS: St. Louis City at Sporting Kansas City (FS1)
9:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Golden State Warriors at Minnesota Timberwolves (TNT)

Local notes

Registration open
Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. To register, visit RunSignUp.com. There are rides ranging from 20 to 100 miles long. The event will be held at 7 a.m. Saturday, June 21. It will start at Bellmont High School and will have stops in Wellshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
MAY 17th, 2025
9:30 A. M.
ANTIQUES - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMSñ HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Oak wardrobe; Radio Flyer wagon; John Deere 3 speed bicycle; John Deere wrench sets; JD, Case & Oliver steering wheel centers; JD wrenches; hump back trunk; flat top trunk; #20 cast iron pot belly stove; Marlin 22 semi-automatic rifle; ammo; 1940is Coke tray; Stanley scraper plane; Stanley Bailey smooth plane; Indiana Band ribbons and awards; marbles; ice cream freezer; tractor plates; cleaning supplies; and many other items not listed.
TOY TRACTORS ñ JOHN DEERE COLLECTIBLES
JD 1953 Model D tractor; JD Model R tractor; JD 5020 tractor; JD mini tractor; Case IH McCormick Deering tractor; White Row Crop tractor; Fairbanks Morse Battery Ignition unit; JD Model A 1934 tractor; Minneapolis Moline UTS tractor; JD 1/24 scale race car; JD thermometer; JD trays; JD goat wagon; large amount of JD manuals, literature, and books; JD jewelry; JD comforter; JD lamp; JD ornaments; JD lighters; JD banks; JD belt buckles; 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.
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AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday JUNE 14th, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 1207 N SR 167 DUNKIRK, IN
REAL ESTATE
Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.
2 bedroom home with Central Air, 30ix40i attached garage, 24ix32i Quonset building. Nicely situated on 2 acres.
Open House: Sunday June 1st
1-3 PM or for private showing phone auctioneers.
RIDING MOWERS ñ ANTIQUES ñ HOUSEHOLD
Troybilt Riding Mower w/ 42i Deck. Troybilt and Murray Mowers for parts. Iron Bed. Steamer Trunk. Hen on Nest and other collectible Glassware. Roll-top Desk. Bird Cages. Elvis Picture. Fishing Poles and Supplies. Generator. Shop Mate. Large Chicken Feeder. Several Items Not Mentioned.
OWNER: Mary L Shory Estate by Crystal R Suman and Michael Dahlestrom
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587
PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY JUNE 7TH, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 127 Rayburn Dr, Portland IN.
REAL ESTATE
Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.
3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch style home containing 1,328 sq ft finished living area. Central Air, Sun room, 2 car attached garage. Detached garage/ shop building. Home has been well maintained.
Open House: Sunday May 25th from 1-3 PM or for private showing phone Auctioneers.
VEHICLE ñ FURNI-

90 SALE CALENDAR

TURE ñ SHOP
2003 Chevrolet Venture Minivan. Cast Iron Bulldog.
Grandfather Clock. 8 Track Stereo/ Record Player. Glider Rocker w/ Ottoman. 3 Cushion Sofa. Rocker Recliner. Metal Patio Set. Bird Bath. Lawn Cart. Craftsman 10i Table Saw. Craftsman Router w/ Stand. Craftsman Scroll Saw. Craftsman Grinder/Sander. Shop, Hand, and Lawn and Garden Tools.
OWNER: Rose Fennig Estate, by Dale W Fennig
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587
PUBLIC AUCTION
Friday May 16th, 2025
TIME 5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: 225 E WATER ST, PORTLAND IN
VEHICLES ñ SHOP ñ APPLIANCES ñ MISC
2011 Ford F350 4x4 with utility bed. 2008 Ford E350 15 Passenger Van. 2007 Chevrolet 3500 Box Truck w/ lift gate. Simplicity Citation 0 Turn Mower w/ 52i cut, 623 hours. . Dewalt Table Saw. Delta Industrial Table Saw. Delta Sander. . Paint Shaker. Sun Generator Alternator Tester. Hot and Cold Tables. Ice Maker. Coca Cola Cooler. Coca Cola Upright Cooler. (15) Folding Lunch Tables.. Balance Beam. Gymnastic Vault. Uneven Bars. Desks, Chairs, Filing Cabinets. Large Auction. Several Items Not Mentioned
OWNER: Jay School Corporation
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168

90 SALE CALENDAR

260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587
PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday May 24th, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 606 S Western Ave, PORTLAND IN
REAL ESTATE
Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.
3 bedroom, 2 bath Ranch style home containing 1,456 sq ft finished living area. Home has central air, newer roof, 1 car attached garage, 12x20 ft utility shed/shop. Home is in move-in condition.
Open House: Sunday May 11th 1-3 PM, or for private showing phone auctioneers.
VEHICLES ñ JEWELRY ñ ANTIQUES ñ SHOP
2007 Kia Rondo EX V6 w/ 196,000 miles. Remington Score Master 511 22 cal Bolt. 1932 Bryant Owls Gold 14k Class Ring. JayCees 10k Gold Ring. 1972 JayCees Gold Pins. Scottish Rite 10k Gold Ring w/ Diamond. Lions Club Silver Necklace. Shriner, Masonic, and Scottish Rite Memorabilia. Howdy Duty Puppet. 22K Gold Overlay Dishware. Stained Glass and other Tiffany Style Lamps. Mantel Clocks. . Hummels Coat Rack. Miniatures and Figurines. . Portable Air Compressor. Bench Model Drill Press. Wood Clamps. Wood Lathe Knives. Poulan Chainsaw. Battery Powered Weed Eater. Large Lot of: Shop, Hand, and Lawn and Garden Tools.
OWNER: Richard B Frank
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587

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Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2025 TERM
In the Matter of the Estate of:
Hunter Lairson, Deceased
No. 38C01-2504-ES-000004
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Jennifer Dalrymple was, on the 30th day of April, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Hunter Lairson deceased, who died on February 22, 2025. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this 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 the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 30th day of April, 2025.
HINKLE, RACSTER, SCHEMENAUR & LANDER
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorney
Notice of Administration to be published Two Times.
Melissa Elliott
Clerk of the Circuit Court,
For Jay County, Indiana
CR 5-6,13-2025-HSPAXLP

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree from the Clerk of Jay Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38D01-2409-MF-000019 wherein ARVEST BANK was Plaintiff, and VIRGINIA K JACKSON; was/were Defendant(s), requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 12th day of June 2025 ;at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible at the Jay County Sheriff's Department 120 North Court Street; 3rd floor Courthouse; Portland, IN 47371 in Jay County, Indiana, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.
A part of the northwest quarter of Section 31, T23N,R14E, second principal meridian, Wayne Township, Jay County, Indiana, more particularly described as follows, to-wit:
Commencing at the Northeast corner of the Northwest quarter of Section 31, T23N, R14E; thence West along the North line of said Northwest Quarter, a distance of 2740.50 feet to an iron pin; thence S 00 degrees 30'00" West (assumed bearing) a distance of 215.00 feet to an iron pin; thence N. 88 degrees, 19' 00" W, parallel with the North line of the Northwest quarter,a distance of 181.00 feet to an iron pin; thence N 00 degrees 30'00" E, a distance of 215.00 feet to an iron pin on the N line of the Northwest quarter; thence S 88 degrees 19'00" E, along the North line of the Northwest quarter, a distance of 181.00 feet to the point of the beginning, containing 0.89 acre more or less. More Commonly Known As: 2029 S Lutes West Dr, Portland, IN 47371
Parcel No. 38-07-31-202-004.000-033
CR 5-6,13-2025-HSPAXLP

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Jay girls track took the ACAC crown on Friday, see story page 7

FRHS softball opens the postseason against PSHS, see Sports on tap

Patriot baseball split with Hagerstown

HAGERSTOWN — One good inning was all the Patriots needed to claim game No. 1.

The Tigers came back with a vengeance in the second game that the Patriots couldn't slow down.

Jay County High School's baseball team split a pair of games with the Hagerstown Tigers on Saturday. The Patriots claimed the first contest 6-2 before falling 7-4 in game No. 2.

JCHS (6-10) gave up a pair of runs in the second inning, but got the offensive lift it needed in the fifth. They plated six runs in the frame on a three-RBI double from Carter Fugiett, a Joe Geesaman single, an error and a passed ball.

Zedrian Vazquez picked up the victory, giving up two runs on four hits through six innings.

Hagerstown (10-6) struck first in the second contest, scoring three runs in the first inning. It added three more runs in the third inning and a final one in the sixth. Jay County managed to plate a pair in the fifth and seventh frames.

A.J. Myers suffered the loss after giving up five runs on four hits and three walks over two innings pitched.

Patriots sweep

ELWOOD — The Jay County softball picked up two wins at the Lady Panther Classic by beating Marion 11-1 and host Elwood 15-5 on Saturday.

The Patriots (14-2) got on the board first with a pair in the opening frame, but didn't break the game open until they put six up in the sixth.

Ava Bice led JCHS with two RBIs against Marion (5-13). Malory Winner collected three hits and scored twice.

Carley Trinidad went the distance in the circle, giving up four hits and one walk while striking out 10 batters.

Jay County had an eight-run sixth inning to walk off the Panthers (6-12). Jaelynn Lykins led the offense with four RBIs on three hits, including a home run.

Local roundup

Zoe Romine drove in the game-ending run with a single to right field that scored Chloe Brown.

Winner threw all six innings to secure the win for JCHS.

Bye to open

The Fort Recovery baseball team received a No. 2 seed in the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 3 District tournament on Sunday and opens with a first-round bye.

Its first game, the district opener, will be played on May 28 at 5 p.m. against the winner of eighth-seeded National Trail (5-13) and No. 9 seed Twin Valley South (5-13).

The Tribe (13-6) is set up to face either the No. 4 seed Northeastern (4-5) or sixth-seeded Legacy Christian (10-6) in the district championship on May 30.

Should the Indians make it to the regional, they would face the winner of the Southwest 1 bracket. Both No. 1 seeds, Summit Country Day (13-8) and Dayton Christian (13-5), preside in that bracket.

FRHS avoids seeing another Midwest Athletic Conference team until the regional final at the earliest.

Indians slide

COVINGTON, Ohio — Fort Recovery's softball team dropped its last two games before opening the postseason as it fell to Fort Loramie 8-5 and Troy 8-4 on Saturday at the Covington Classic.

The Indians (13-9) held a 5-4 advantage on Fort Loramie (11-13) before giving up four runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Jenna Homan suffered the loss after giving up the final four runs on two singles, a fielder's choice and a home run.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School sophomore Wyatt Foster spins to try and turn a double play during the second game of a doubleheader against Hagerstown on Saturday. The Patriots opened the day with a 6-2 victory before falling 7-4 later in the day.

Ella Schoen led the offense with two RBIs on a double.

FRHS got down early as Homan gave up four runs in the bottom of the first inning to Troy (20-6). She suffered the loss after giving up seven earned runs on nine hits and five walks.

The Tribe will open the post-season today against Preble Shawnee.

Cooks, Williams win

Portland Junior League

opened the season with a pair of Rookie baseball games on Saturday.

Cooks Nursery had no problem taking down Barnetts Auto Parts 15-0. Kayden Alberson, Steven Robbins, Waylon Huelkamp, Griffin Haffner and Cameron Hardesty all finished 3-for-3 for Cooks Nursery. Alberson and Robbins each had three RBIs and scored three runs as the former smashed a home run and the latter hit a triple.

Adam Brunnermer, Dray Brown and Jackson Abels led Barnetts Auto Parts with one hit apiece.

Williams Auto Parts also pulled off a 9-1 win over Poet.

Zander Williams led a group of nine hitters from Williams Auto Parts with four RBIs on three singles. Thobe Keller also put together a solid day with two RBIs on two doubles.

Nolan Homan drove in Poet's only run after James Brugge-man hit a triple.

Indiana goes up 3-1 on Cavs

By DAVID HUGHES

The Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)
Tribune News Service

Sunday night was still considered part of Mother's Day, right?

Evidently inspired by the NBA playoffs, the Indiana Pacers chose to celebrate it by playing a not-so-friendly, physical game of "Who's Your Daddy?" in beating down the mostly full-strength Cleveland Cavaliers 129-109 at Gainbridge Fieldhouse.

The final score does not indicate how thorough Indiana's annihilation of one of the NBA's best regular-season teams from this decade really was. More on that later.

The victory gave the Pacers a 3-1 lead in their Eastern Conference semifinal series. Game 5 will head back to Cleveland's Rocket Arena, where Indiana opened the series with a pair of triumphs, for a 7 p.m. matchup Tuesday.

Should the Pacers win again, they would return to the Eastern Conference finals and face either Boston (same as last season) or New York. The Knicks lead that series two games to one with Game 4 slated for Monday night in New York.

If you were a Cavs fan Sunday in Indy, you knew your team was in trouble when it fell behind by 41 points ... 78-37, with 26.8 seconds left in the first half.

Cleveland never led. Two Donovan Mitchell free throws did tie the score for the Cavs at 5-5, then the home team went on a 9-0 run that consisted of a 3-point goal from the right wing by Aaron Nem-bhard, an inside bucket by Pascal Siakam, another basket that Siakam created with a sweet, powerful move around Max Strus inside and a tip-in of his own miss by Myles Turner.

The Pacers maintained a nine-point advantage or larger through much of the first period, boosting their margin to 19 (33-14) when Thomas Bryant sank a 3-pointer from the left corner with 2:18 showing

on the scoreboard.

Fast forward to the second quarter because that's when the Pacers really dominated, outscoring the Cavs 42-16 during that 12-minute stretch.

Siakam opened the frame with two 3s and a 15-foot jumper to provide the Pacers with a 46-23 lead, then helped it increase to 48-23 by feeding teammate Obi Toppin for a thunderous, two-handed dunk.

The Cavs, who finished the regular season with a 64-18 record (14 games ahead of the second-place Pacers in the Central Division), were struggling to stay within 30 points in the second period Sunday.

At one point, the scoreboard flashed a telling statistic that stated Indiana owned a 20-2 edge in total number of assists.

Up 61-37 with 3:16 remaining in the first half, the Pacers rattled off 17 straight points — highlighted by an inside fielder, a 3 from the top of the arc and two 3s from the left wing, all by Turner — to crank their margin up to an improbable 41 at 78-37.

Tyrese Haliburton — remember that overrated dude? (sarcasm alert) — contributed four points to the Pacers' 17-point barrage.

And they weren't done yet.

Indiana kept a 41-point lead at intermission — 80-39 — when Aaron Nesmith connected on a 17-foot jumper at the buzzer. That tied the biggest halftime margin in NBA playoff history, matching the Cavaliers' 72-31 lead over Boston in Game 2 of the 2017 Eastern Conference finals.

A video of Sunday's second half could be used to accompany the definition of "garbage time" in a dictionary, if dictionaries still exist. (Google says they do.)

Cavs guard Darius Garland, who had missed four straight playoff contests with a strained big toe but came back for Friday's Game 3 win over the Pacers, benefited the most

from the helter-skelter style of play in the final two periods Sunday, finishing with 21 points.

The Pacers had seven players score in double figures — Siakam with 21 points, Turner and Toppin with 20 each, reserve Ben Sheppard with 14, reserve T.J. McConnell with 13, Nesmith with 12 and Haliburton with 11.

Indiana ended up with a 37-20 advantage in assists, thanks in large part to eight from McConnell and seven from Nem-bhard.

Terre Haute's Craig Porter Jr. of the Cavs entered the game in the final frame and totaled four points, four assists, two rebounds and one steal in a hair shy of 10 minutes.

In the Cavaliers' postgame news conference with coach Kenny Atkinson, the first question asked of him concerned the status of Mitchell — their leading scorer this season — who didn't play at all in the second half.

"Left ankle injury," Atkinson told reporters, adding that he didn't know how or when it occurred. "He'll get an MRI [on Monday]. ... I have no idea [about Mitchell's potential availability for Tuesday]."

Regarding how the first half gradually fell apart for his squad, Atkinson described it as "complete domination" by the Pacers.

"They dominated us in every facet of the game," he later added. "They raised their game to another level and we didn't match it."

Meanwhile, from the Pacers' news conference, coach Rick Carlisle refused to take any victory laps based on Sunday's score.

"We haven't done anything yet," he emphasized. "We're a pretty significant underdog in every game we've played in this series and that will continue until the end."

"We're going to keep approaching this like we have everything to prove."

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