

# The Commercial Review

## Bowers pleads to felony charge

**By BAILEY CLINE**  
The Commercial Review

A former Jay School Corporation teacher pleaded guilty Monday to dissemination of matter that is harmful to minors.

Joel R. Bowers, 38, 116 S. Middle St., Portland, pleaded guilty to the Level 6 felony, admitting he knowingly or intentionally sent a picture of his genitalia through a messaging platform to a minor on or about April 9, 2024.

As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for performance before a minor that is harmful to minors was dismissed.

Bowers was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail, with all but 44 days of his sentence to be served on probation.

Bowers had been accused of masturbating in front of an eighth grade class on April 9, 2024. Following administrative leave from Jay County Junior-Senior High School in April as a result of misconduct allegations, the former social studies teacher later resigned from his role. He was arrested in October and charged with two Level 6 felonies.

Bowers also previously served as chair of the Democratic Party in Jay County, having resigned his post shortly after allegations cropped up.

According to reports filed in connection with the case, a 14-year-old girl told school resource officer Cody Jessee on April 10 that Bowers masturbated in her sixth period class at the junior-senior high the previous day. Other students also witnessed the alleged incident and reported similar views.

Bowers denied touching himself in class.

While looking through Bowers' phone, police discovered a Snapchat conversation Bowers had with a person, "TS," who indicated they were 15 years old. According to the report, Bowers sent pictures of his erect penis to the recipient. The report indicates there were other conversations in which he sent nude pictures of himself to females as well.

Bowers told police the conversations had nothing to do with the April 9 incident. He told police he believed "TS" was an adult because they met on a chat platform called Free Chat Now, which requires that individuals must be 18 years old or older to use it.

Bowers said they couldn't exchange photos on the platform and switched to Snapchat to engage in what he allegedly called "age play."

See **Pleads** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Rivals rewrite records

Fort Recovery High School senior Anna Roessner grins Saturday while chatting with rival Izzy Zahn of Coldwater while awaiting the medal ceremony for the 200-meter dash during the OHSAA Division III Track and Field State Finals at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium on the campus of Ohio State University in Columbus. Roessner finished second to Zahn in the 200 dash after winning the 100 dash earlier in the day to become the first FRHS girls track state champion. Roessner set a new state meet record in the 100 dash and tied the all-time Division III record, while Zahn set state meet and Division III records in the 200 dash and 400 dash.

## Commissioners set EDIT deadline

**By BAILEY CLINE**  
The Commercial Review

Economic development income tax (EDIT) funding requests for 2026 are due by July 11.

Jay County Commissioners agreed Monday to formally set the deadline for EDIT requests for July 11, with commissioners to preliminarily review the requests at their July 14 meeting before deciding on another date to select funding recipients.

Commissioners had originally asked for requests by June 13, with plans at that time to host a special meeting June 25 to review projects and award dollars.

Jay County Development Corporation board president Angela Paxson asked commissioners in May for an extension, pointing out JCDC hadn't received notice for the 2026 deadline until recently.

"I think it was just an oversight that we didn't receive ours, because we received our funding in January," Paxson said at the

*Requests will be reviewed at meeting on July 14*

commissioners' meeting May 27.

County auditor Emily Franks reminded commissioners at that time that the county's budget process had been delayed by a month because of various questions with taxes and other finances as a result of newly enacted Senate Enrolled Act 1.

Commissioners president Chad Aker noted Monday an official date needed to be selected for the deadline. Commissioners then agreed to set the deadline to July 11.

Also Monday, commissioners

took two bids under advisement for designing, building and installing a new public safety radio system and related equipment.

Ritter Strategic Services completed a study on the county's emergency responder radios previously. Commissioners agreed to move forward in recent months with seeking proposals for switching to the Integrated Public Safety Commission's statewide radio system as well as offers for creating a new stand-alone system.

Motorola and J&K Communications both submitted proposals for the multi-million dollar project. Barry Ritter of Ritter Strategic Services explained Monday prices attached to their proposals — they appeared to span hundreds of pages — would not be all-inclusive, suggesting commissioners take the bids under advisement before announcing totals. Commissioners then agreed to a motion to that effect.

Also, commissioners tabled

decision on proposals to outfit Jay County Highway Department vehicles with cameras and Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment.

Four companies submitted quotes for installing the equipment, which would require annual operational costs. Proposals were as follows: Brigade Electronics, \$28,451.90 per year; Samsara, \$24,847.10 with a three-to five-year contract; Linxup, \$25,800 with a three-year contract; and HD Fleet, \$25,990.60 per year.

Highway department superintendent Bob Howell noted prices are expected to increase soon and recommended Samsara, which provided trial cameras to the highway department last year.

Franks suggested commissioners table the matter, noting she would like to check with the county's insurance provider on the proposals. (The equipment is now required per the insurance policy.)

See **Commissioners** page 2

## Dunkirk intersection will be four-way stop

**By RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

**DUNKIRK** — An intersection will become a four-way stop this summer.

Dunkirk City Council voted Monday to make the intersection of Broad and Washington streets a four-way stop.

The council had agreed at its previous meeting to move forward with the process of making the change to the intersection. It is a higher-traffic area during shift changes at Ardagh.

Council members Jesse Bivens, Christy Curts, Dan Watson, Donna Revolt and Randy Murphy voted unanimously Monday in favor of the ordinance to create the four-way stop. (It is current-

### *Council approves change for Washington and Broad*

ly a two-way stop with signs on Broad Street and through traffic on Washington Street.)

City attorney Wes Schemenaur explained that the new ordinance must now be advertised in the newspaper. It can go into effect two weeks after it is advertised.

Mayor Jack Robbins added that flashing signs will be put in place in an

effort to alert drivers to the change. Also, "no parking" areas will have to be extended to accommodate the four-way stop.

Council members also heard about a request to vacate an L-shaped alley in the area of Franklin and Pearl streets. Schemenaur explained the process, noting that he will handle the paperwork but first someone must come forward as

the petitioner for the change. (He estimated the cost at \$500 and said an individual can petition or a group of adjacent property owners could agree to split the cost.)

Council members also provided the following reports:

•**Watson** — There was an issue with some flooding on Layne Drive following recent rain because of farm debris in the waterway. He complimented Jay County Surveyor's Office for cleaning out the area Monday.

•**Curts** — Independence Day fireworks will be held at dusk on Saturday, July 5, at Dunkirk City Park.

•**Revolt** — Dunkirk City Pool opened for the season Monday and new play-

ground equipment has been installed at Dunkirk City Park.

•**Murphy** — New Americans with Disabilities Act ramps will be installed along Main Street (Indiana 167) on the west side of the West Jay Elementary School property.

The council meeting was the first to be livestreamed at youtube.com/@CityofDunkirkIN. (Live streaming is required by state law beginning July 1.)

In other business, council:

•**Heard** a question regarding changing an address on a corner property. Schemenaur advised contacting the post office and Jay County 911 director Bill Baldwin.

•**Learned** from Robbins that the city will be advertising three vehicles for auction this week. Sealed bids will be accepted until noon Monday, June 23.

•**Approved** the following: payment of claims of \$2,900.81 to Living Waters for repair of a pump at the water department at \$2,188.75 to 4TC for electrical work on one of the city's wells; regular claims totaling \$580,611.72; sponsorships of \$200 for the Jerry Nelson Memorial Fishing Derby and \$100 for the Dunkirk Kiwanis golf outing.

•**Heard** from Robbins that 31 properties have been cited for being overgrown and the city has started mowing them.

### Deaths

**Franklin Smiley**, 89, Fishers  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 77 degrees Monday. The low was 61.

Tonight's low will be in the lower 60s. Expect mostly sunny skies Thursday with a high in the mid 80s and a slight chance of showers in the afternoon.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Arts Place's Arts in the Parks program is underway, including classes in Portland, Dunkirk, Pennville, Redkey and Fort Recovery. Classes include apple pie baking on Thursday at Jay County Junior-Senior High School and pinch pot monsters at 9 a.m. Friday in Redkey. For details, visit myartsplace.org.

### Coming up

**Thursday** — Results from Jay County in the boys golf sectional tournament.

**Friday** — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

**Saturday** — Details from this week's Jay County Plan Commission meeting.





Obituaries

**Franklin Smiley**  
*Aug. 29, 1935-May 28, 2025*  
Franklin Eugene Smiley, age 89, of Fishers, Indiana, formerly of Union City, Indiana, passed away on Wednesday, May 28, 2025, at Restorary of Carmel Nursing Home.  
He was born on Aug. 29, 1935, in Union City, Ohio, to the late William and Estella (Amspaugh) Smiley. He graduated from Jackson High School in 1954 and was married for 67 years to Alice (Jetter) Smiley, from March 31, 1955, until Alice’s passing in 2022.

In addition to his parents, Franklin was preceded in death by his loving wife Alice; his eldest daughter Teresa Dotson; and siblings William Smiley, Dorothy Lewis, Virginia Wallace, Verla Smiley and Harold Smiley.  
Franklin is survived by his children Estella (Alan) Woodard, Maitland, Florida, Barry Smiley, Greenville, Ohio, Rebecca (Roger) Bentz, Indianapolis, and



Bruce (Cheryl) Smiley, Fishers. Franklin was blessed with nine grandchildren, Miranda (Tim) Knight, Greenville, Ohio, Robert Dotson, Greenville, Christopher Dotson, Greenville, Michael Woodard (Michael Ann), Milton, Georgia, Alyssa (Troy) Newberg, Tampa, Florida, Austin (Katey) Woodard, Castlerock, Colorado, Megan (Tyler) Busch, Fishers, and Katelyn Smiley and Erin Smiley, both of Fishers; as well as 17 great-grandchildren; and sister, Maxine Grief.  
Franklin was always a farmer at heart and worked numerous

positions as he built his own farming operations in Jay and Darke counties. He ended his working career in security at Frank Miller Lumber. Frank enjoyed sports at all levels, was a die-hard Indiana University basketball fan, and was known for his mischievous sense of humor and outgoing demeanor.  
A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, June 21, 2025, at Tribute Funeral Homes, Greenville. Burial will follow at New Teegarden Cemetery.  
A visitation will be held prior to the service from 11

a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home.  
Condolences may be shared with the family tributefuneral-homes.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.*

CR almanac

Thursday 6/12	Friday 6/13	Saturday 6/14	Sunday 6/15	Monday 6/16
<b>88/65</b>	<b>81/66</b>	<b>76/65</b>	<b>78/65</b>	<b>82/66</b>
Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high in the upper 80s.	Friday looks to be mostly sunny with a 30% chance of showers.	Saturday looks to be mostly cloudy with a 70% chance of thunderstorms.	Sunday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a 50% chance of thunderstorms.	There's a 50% chance of thunderstorms on Monday when the high will be around 82.

Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 30-33-40-43-52 Power Ball: 25 Power Play: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$65 million	Daily Four: 3-4-5-7 Quick Draw: 2-3-6-9-11-12-17-21-22-23-27-39-43-45-50-51-57-58-59-64 Cash 5: 1-13-23-38-45 Estimated jackpot: \$180,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$243 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 9-3-5 Pick 4: 7-5-7-4 Pick 5: 1-1-5-2-6 Evening Pick 3: 2-0-2 Pick 4: 3-1-0-7 Pick 5: 0-2-5-8-4 Rolling Cash: 6-10-17-21-30 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 1-1-6 Daily Four: 1-7-0-3 Quick Draw: 1-2-3-5-10-13-14-27-36-39-40-42-49-56-58-63-66-67-68-80 Evening Daily Three: 5-5-2	

Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.73 July corn.....4.76 Aug. corn .....4.77	July beans .....10.77 Wheat ..... 5.05
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.73 July corn.....4.78 Oct. corn .....4.26	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.50 July corn.....4.52 Beans .....10.83 July beans .....10.77 Wheat .....4.99
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.58 July corn .....4.48 Beans .....10.82	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.66 July corn.....4.70 Beans .....10.57 July beans .....9.80 Wheat .....4.90

Today in history

**In 1927**, Charles Lindbergh was awarded the first Distinguished Flying Cross. It’s a medal that has been given to aviators since then for acts of heroism or extraordinary achievement while flying. Lindbergh received the award for his nonstop one-man flight across the Atlantic Ocean that year completed in 33.5 hours.

**In 1982**, “E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial” was released in theatres. It was directed by Steven Spielberg and starred Henry Thomas and Drew Barrymore

**In 1992**, Tracy Austin became the youngest inductee into the International Tennis Hall of Fame at 29 years old. At 16, Austin won the United States Tennis Open. She won the title again two years later. She was ranked No. 1 in the world in 1980.

**In 1993**, Spielberg’s “Jurassic Park” was released. Starring Sam Neill and Jeff Goldblum, it came in at more than \$1 billion in the box office.

**In 2002**, “American Idol” premiered on Fox. Created by Simon Fuller, the show follows entertainers’ auditions.

**In 2013**, Eliza Bader set a new mark at that time in the 50-meter freestyle for Jay County Summer Swim Team in its meet against Celina, winning the event in a team-record time of 32.44 seconds. She broke the previous mark of 32.76 seconds by her sister, Stophie, set in 2008.

— The CR

Citizen’s calendar

<b>Wednesday</b> 8 a.m. — Upper Wabash River Basin Commission, Wells Carnegie Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., Bluffton. 1 p.m. — Jay County Sheriff’s Office Merit Board, training room, sheriff’s office, 224 W. Water St., Portland. 5:15 p.m. — Portland	Board of Works, council chambers, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
<b>Thursday</b> 6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	

Commissioners ...

Continued from page 1  
In other business, commissioners Doug Horn, Duane Monroe and Aker:  
•Heard from community coordinator Darlesia Lee that the third round of bids in the county’s owner-occupied rehabilitation program are now open, with the county seeking construction projects for 35 remaining homes. The program must be complete by August, per state guidelines for the grant dollars. Officials say the program is on track to meet that deadline.  
•Reminded the public that the commissioners’ meeting schedule will change slightly for the rest of the month. Commissioners have a special meeting slated for 4 p.m. June 23 to open owner-occupied rehabilitation program bids, with their regular meeting to follow the next week at 9 a.m. June 30. (Normally, they would meet at 9 a.m. June 23.)  
•Learned the county is accepting

proposals for constructing a public safety building. Bids may be submitted through July 11 for the project, which would involve building a new facility to be used by Jay County Health Department, Jay Emergency Medical Service and Jay County Coroner’s Office.  
•Approved the following: a memorandum of understanding with Jay School Corporation for school resource officer Cody Jesse’s contract — his current contract is up for renewal Aug. 1 — subject to cost amendments Jan. 1 because of the later budgeting process this year; a \$300,389.34 loan agreement for the highway department’s new grader at 5.9% interest annually for the next four years; a \$73,613 revised claim from LifeStream Services; a supplemental agreement with engineering firm EGIS for bridge inspection services through 2028, with the cost to increase by about

\$18,000 per additional services now required by the state; removing employee Heather Weaver from Jay County Country Living’s bank account; and \$471,296.08 in other claims, which includes \$365,500 for the county’s jail bond.  
•Heard Aker and other county representatives met with Gov. Mike Braun and presented information at Indiana Statehouse recently regarding the county’s 68-acre project, which the county submitted in a request for Regional Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0 funds. Aker said an announcement for grant dollars should come in the next two to three weeks.  
•Appointed Horn to Jay County Visitors and Tourism Bureau commission.  
•OK’d surveyor Brad Daniels to seek quotes for replacing the county’s Kobelco excavator.

Agencies ordered to withhold \$

**By WHITNEY DOWNARD**  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com  
The Braun administration has directed agencies to withhold 5% of their funds from specific budget line items — rather than allowing department heads to identify areas for reserves. This is in addition to appropriation cuts already enacted in the state budget passed in April.  
In previous years, the Office of Budget and Management traditionally directed agencies to reserve

funds but gave agency leaders more discretion in how to achieve the savings. The change appears to stem from a General Assembly addition to the 2025 budget, rather than Gov. Mike Braun.  
“For the first time in recent memory, nearly every agency across all three branches of government finds itself entering the first year of a new biennium with fewer resources than it had the year before,” reads a letter from OMB director Chad Ranney

dated June 2. “At the same time, the costs for the state’s major programs continue to increase at unsustainable rates. Overcoming these challenges will require each of us to place a renewed focus on fiscal responsibility as well as collective commitment to budget discipline.”  
The letter goes on to say that “the amounts withheld are unlikely to be released,” meaning that agencies might need to operate with essentially a 10% budget cut.

SERVICES

June 21

Smiley, Franklin: 1 p.m., Tribute Funeral Home, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio.

Service listings provided by

PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS

120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

Pleads ...

Continued from page 1  
Bowers admitted to police he should have stopped the conversation when the person said they were 15, according to the report.  
Attorney Jacob Dunnuck noted Monday that Bowers’ teaching license has been revoked as a result of his actions.  
“He singlehandedly destroyed that,” noted Dunnuck.  
He referenced Bowers’ wife Roxane Bowers and two children, pointing out the family has worried about lost income as a result of Joel Bowers losing his license.  
Roxane Bowers explained on the stand how her youngest child was recently diagnosed with autism. She said her biggest worry moving forward will be how their children will be impacted.  
Dunnuck said the consequences of Joel Bowers’ actions will fall on his wife and children, saying “he’s got a lot to make up for.”  
As a part of the plea, Joel Bowers’ sentence was

locked in at 545 days in Jay County Jail. Jay Superior Court judge Gail Dues had the deciding factor in how much of the sentence was spent on probation.  
Dunnuck asked the court to allow Bowers to spend the entirety of his sentence on probation, pointing to his lack of a criminal history and family responsibilities.  
“I don’t think you’re going to see Joel Bowers again,” he said.  
Dues ordered Bowers to serve 46 days in jail. Taking into account his two days of credit, that puts Bowers at a 44-day sentence, with the remaining 499 days to be served on probation.  
While she acknowledged Bowers’ lack of a criminal history, Dues also pointed out he had been a teacher. Not only are teachers there to educate, she continued, but also to guide and protect students.  
“I believe you fully understood the consequences of your action when you hit send,” she said.

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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS



# JCHS names honor roll

Jay County High School announced honor roll recipients for the spring semester.

On the list were sophomores Caylin Aker, Erin Aker, Kadence Allred, Jensen Avery, Benson Barnett, Boston Barnett, Emmarie Barton, Ariel Beiswanger, Taven Bentley and Austin Best.

Also Wyatt Bihn, Corbin Bishop, Dakota Blalock, Aubrey Bland, Kya Bland, Blake Bonifas, Beckett Brandenburg, Brena Brewster, Jenna Bricker, Brooklynn Bright, Leighton Brown, Rhoen Brown, Chloe Byrum and Peyton Carpenter.

Also Bryden Carter, Kaylynn Clark, Kaprei Cochran, Blake Collins, Christopher Comer, Shawn Crabtree, Mackenzie Cramer and Kaleb Curts.

Also Conner Davis, Declan Earnhart, Melia Fosnaugh, Tessa Frazee, Madison Gage, Opal Garrett, Caleb Garringer, Joseph Geesaman, Olivia Gillum and Trinity Glassford.

Also Dawson Goldsworthy, Gavin Hambrook, Addison Herman, Elijah Howell, Ava Lairson, Lexi Litmer, Shiya Liu, Allison Lopez Ortiz, Ab Martinez-Martinez, Allie McAbee, Liam McBride, Paycie McCoy, Alison McGraw, Annabelle McKee, Hayden McKibben, Jocelyn Minch, Morgan Missicano and Aryan Montes.

Also Chloe Muhlenkamp, Stanislaus Muhlenkamp, Angie Navarro-Garcia, Fletcher Nichols, Taylee Nichols, Madison Paxson, Ava Raines, Gavin Ray, Kaiden Reynolds, Ella Rigby, Adria Roessner, Efen Ruiz-Herrera, Brenna Schmiesing and Hallie Schwieterman.

Also Daila Sieftring-Runyon, Evan Siegrist, Cierra Smith, Annie Spencer, Chase Spencer, Hailey Steckbeck, Jaley Stephens, Elijah Sotckton, Sophia Thomas, Allison Tipton, Lynzie Tobe, Nicholas Trevino, Carley Trinidad, Isabel Vazquez, Brock Wasson, Clark Wellman and Valiant Willoughby.

Making honor roll were also freshmen Makenna Avery, Brayden Barlow, Brissa Barrera Tapia, Raif Beiswanger, Rockland Beiswanger, Gavin Bell, Ava Bice, Elena Bihn and Makayla Bishop.

Also Bristol Brewster, Madalyn Brewster, Braylon Brown, Chloe Brown, Bo Brunswick, Elizabeth Brunswick, Ivan Brunswick and Emilee Buckner.

Also Brooklyn Byrum, Gavin Byrum, Evelyn Carter, Mariela Castro-Martell, Cameron Coats, Aerolet Cooke, Cooper Cooke, Douglas Cox, Grace Coy, Amara Crawford, Braxton Cross, Emmeline Crouch, Isaiah Dailey, Jax-

son DeHoff, Kevin Dues, Draven Eley, Gabriel Enyart, Abby Fifer, Kaitlyn Fisher and Elias Fosnaugh.

Also Oakland Gaerke, Cooper Glentzer, Jacob Grjalva, Angel Gutierrez, Amelia Heath, Emalyn Homan, Jessie Homan, Harlow Hough, Mallory Hudson, Cody Jacobs, Amanda Jones and Miles Jones.

Also Sytree Jordan, Deegan Klarer, Lyla Kunkler, Cheyenne Ladewig, Troy Lee, Audrey LeMaster, Frederick Lingo, London Lloyd, Aiden Loyd, Reagan Manah, Ava May and Natalie May.

Also Raylynn Meyer, Alexander Miller, Emma Miller, Alyvia Muhlenkamp, Owen Muhlenkamp, Danica Myers, Kali Newell and Brooklyn Padgett.

Also Allison Paul, Gabrielle Petro, Jadalyn Plessinger, Gabriela Raines, Hailee Randall, Milee Rickard, Alexander Rivers, Jaycee Rowles, Brenna Ruble, Alexis Schoenlein and Peyton Schoenlein.

Also Parker Shannon, Cohen Shimp, Cooper Shimp, Kent Siegrist, Kason Sims, Harper Smith, Nicholas Snow, Adam Stephen, Lane Stephens, Tobe Swartzentruber, Dash Thacker, Bailey Towell, Tyler Wasson, Carson Westgerdes, Samuel Westgerdes, Joel Wilson and Danielle Wright.

# Colleague’s mockery truly strikes a nerve

DEAR ABBY: A few months ago, I found out my adult child is transgender. Nobody knows yet except for me, my husband and my other child. Until this year, I have always worked in a very caring, loving and supportive environment. Recently, I overheard a new male co-worker say in a high-pitched voice, “I’m transgender! I’m transgender!” while spinning in circles and waving a scarf around his head. I was floored.

I wanted to say something to him about that being inappropriate and hurtful, but I was speechless. I have never before encountered this type of behavior. How do I handle this if something similar happens again? My child is not ready for the world to know, so I need to be careful. I’m kicking myself for not speaking up at the time. — REGRETFUL IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR REGRETFUL: It is unfortunate that transgender people (who make up less than 1% of the population) are being scapegoated by ignorant, ill-informed individuals. Gender identity disorder is not contagious. Trans people are a danger to no one, and they don’t deserve to be ridiculed. The next time this happens (and it may), don’t be shy about telling your co-worker that what he’s doing is inappropriate and hurtful and not to do it in front of you again.

DEAR ABBY: I have been having a friend-with-benefits relationship with a man I’ll call “Gene.” We are both in our 70s. He lives an hour away, and we see each other once a month. Gene is married, but his wife is disabled, and their relationship has deteriorated. We used to work together, and he was very lonely when I met him. Gene feels responsible for his wife and will never leave her, which

Dear Abby



is fine with me. I am not interested in a full-time boyfriend.

My issue is, if my two adult children found out about this, they would be very judgmental. I know it would damage my relationship with them. On the other hand, I don’t want to live my life on their terms. What do you think of all this? — HAPPY, BUT WORRIED, IN FLORIDA

DEAR HAPPY: I think that at the age of 70 you are mature enough to make your own decisions. I also think that you need to be strong enough to defend them should the need arise. Because you are living in fear of their eventually finding out that you are happy with the relationship you have with Gene, it would be better for you to tell them yourself.

DEAR ABBY: You have printed many letters from women living with deadbeat men. I wish you would write about the benefits of living alone and not needing a man in your life to feel complete. — ALONE AND CONTENT IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR A & C: Every letter I print regarding “deadbeat” men (and their female equivalents) is an object lesson in itself. The writers are overworked, frustrated and miserable. I can’t think of a stronger message to send readers than the ones in those letters, which speak for themselves. No man at all is better than one who is a user.

# Marriage licenses

Graycen M. Neu, 24, Westfield, and Wesley R. Smith, 26, Portland  
Donetta J. McIlwain, 67, Paris, Ohio, and Collin M. Kriegbaum, 24, Portland

Dunkirk, and Daniel K. Robinnette, 74, Portland  
Tristan L. Finney, 24, New

Bryant, and Samuel C.J. Schwartz, 25, Rebecca L. Wengerd, 20, Bryant

# Community Calendar

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

## Today

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

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

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.

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.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the boardroom at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

PORTLAND EAGLES — Will meet at 6 p.m., on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Eagles’ lodge, 320 N. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for

friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

## Thursday

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion

patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

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

## Friday

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

## Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## Tuesday’s Solution

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

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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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

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The News-Gazette



# The only choice was to sing along

*Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from April 23, 2014. Jack recalls fondly his opportunities to see Rick (Zehringer) Derringer perform live while he was in high school. Derringer was born in Mercer County, grew up in the Fort Recovery area and spent his high school years in Union City. The future rock star who went on to a long career in music died May 26 at the age of 77.*

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

The first time I saw them, they were “The Rick Z Combo.” It was a spring dance when I was in high school, one of those girl-ask-boy things that were known back in the day as a Sadie Hawkins dance. (If that reference escapes you, you’re too young to remember the comic strip Li'l Abner.) The combo was fronted by the fastest, most adept guitarist I’d ever seen before. And when the group played certain numbers, kids didn’t just dance. They also

## Back in the Saddle



gathered in front of the band, like an audience, taking in the performance. It was — to my mind at least — the golden age of garage bands. Every town across America seemed to have at least one. For awhile, they seemed to sprout on every block. Order a Silvertone guitar from Sears or buy one at a pawnshop. Get your hands on an amp. Learn three chords. And you were ready to go. Sure, the stage might have been wooden Coca-Cola cases turned upside down to lift you three and a half inches above the floor. But it was a stage, and that’s what mattered.

For most garage bands, the garage was the final parking place. But the kids gathered to listen to “The Rick Z Combo” and watch the lead guitarist’s fingers fly over the fret board knew this band was different. Musically, they were better. Their playlist wasn’t the same as every other band’s. They’d been listening to some rhythm and blues (“Stormy Monday”) and even some jazz (“Fever”). And though it was only rock ‘n’ roll, it was darned good rock ‘n’ roll. The next time I saw them was the prom of my junior year. By then, they were Rick and the Raiders. And by then the rest of eastern Indiana and western Ohio had figured out that these guys were good — so good they might make the big time. By then, everyone around had heard of the guys from Union City. Rick Zehringer and his brother formed the core of the group, and the family’s roots are in the Fort Recovery area.

Rick, that lightning fast guitarist, had become the gold standard for every area garage band. He was the guy to emulate. His was the skill to which to aspire. Legend had it that when Rick Zehringer picked up a guitar at a Dayton pawnshop and began to play it was such a distraction that another member of the group was able to shoplift an instrument. Was it true? Probably not. But when a mystique is building, legends are inevitable. As luck would have it, that high school prom was one of the last for “Rick and the Raiders.” Their gig was the prom itself. Another Ohio group — “The Jokers,” who were often performing at The Triangle in Greenville — was the band for the after-prom. By the time school started in the fall, Rick and the Raiders were no more. Now, they were “The McCoys.” Now, they had the number one hit in America, “Hang On Sloopy.” Now, they

weren’t a garage band but rock stars. Along the way, Rick Zehringer became Rick Derringer, a change I suspect he’s regretted more than once. As a guitarist, songwriter and producer, he went on to a long and successful career, working with rock artists like Johnny Winter and Edgar Winter, among others. As for me, the last time I had a chance to hear Rick on the guitar was at that high school prom in the spring of 1965. But it’s about this time of year that one of his greatest songs starts playing in my head, a youthful, full-tilt rock anthem that brings back echoes of high school, garage bands and endless possibilities. “It was a warm spring night at the old town hall,” he sang. “There was a band called ‘The Jokers,’ they were layin’ down. Don’t you know I’m never gonna lose that funky sound.” Hey, what can I do but sing along: “Rock ‘n’ roll, hoochie koo. Truck on out and spread the news.”

# US had to veto a lopsided resolution

By MEGAN ROBERTSON  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com



Megan Robertson

Parents who want to keep their kids away from candy quickly learn to hide the sugary sweets high on a shelf or tucked away in the back of a cabinet. It’s common sense that if you make something harder to access, fewer people are going to access it. There are plenty of good reasons to prevent toddlers from eating their weight in gummy worms. There are no good reasons to prevent people from exercising their ability to vote. And yet we continue to see more attempts — both nationally and here in Indiana — to chip away at the rights of lawfully eligible citizens to cast ballots for their preferred candidates.

One election substantially increases the likelihood of voting in the future. So if we want to improve that dismal turnout percentage, we should be doing everything we can hook young voters on democracy. One idea lawmakers might consider is voter pre-registration, which allows 16- and 17-year-olds to sign up in advance so that when they turn 18, they’re automatically added to the voter rolls ready to cast a ballot. In most states that offer it, pre-registered voters are listed as “pending” until they reach voting age, at which point their status switches to active without requiring any further action. By making the process easier and more accessible, we could turn first-time voters into life-long voters. That should be the goal. The conversation about voting is about so much more than Senate Enrolled Act 10, which was a solution in search of a problem. It’s about what happens when we slowly chip away at electoral freedom over time. It’s easy to say, “Well, it’s just one form of ID. What’s the big deal? People need to adapt.” And that’s how democracy dies by a thousand paper cuts. There’s bipartisan agreement that young people should be learning more about how government works, including how to get involved and the requirements to vote. To make that shared civics education vision a reality, we need to remove barriers instead of adding them. Let students use college-issued IDs to vote. Make it possible for them to pre-register at 16. Democracy should be attainable, accessible and habit-forming.

.....  
*Robertson is interim executive director of Indiana Conservation Voters. Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.*



# Musk/Trump feud has no winners

The Baltimore Sun  
Tribune News Service

The bitter feud that broke out this past week between Elon Musk and President Donald Trump is more than bravado gone bad. It highlighted the ugly, juvenile tendencies of both as they aired a personal grudge on a global scale. As bizarre and, admittedly, entertaining in a sort of WWE way, it proved, there were no winners to declare. Not Musk, not Trump, not their supporters, investors nor perhaps even bystanders. Ego can bring down the powerful — as Shakespeare observed long ago with Macbeth, King Lear and Othello. Achieving common goals and maintaining stability requires unity and collaboration. But that was quickly lost as they traded punches on social media. For Musk, it only further erodes his current and future customer base for everything from Tesla cars to The Boring Company tunnel contracts to SpaceX rockets and satellites. It also suggests that maybe he isn’t cut out for leadership no matter how many billions of dollars he still has. Lost trust is difficult to recapture. For Trump, the world sees again that if you upset him enough, you can get under his skin. Get close to him, play to his ego and you can win him over without any authenticity. Neither quality is ideal for a global leader at a time when America needs to reassert itself. Oh, it was quite the bromance for a time. Remember when in the aftermath of the assassination attempt on then-presidential candidate Trump, Musk tweeted unequivocally, “I fully endorse Trump.” What followed was a pro-

## Guest Editorial

longed political alliance that saw Musk sporting MAGA hats of nearly every variety, standing beside Trump at rallies across the country, addressing tens of thousands of Republicans at each stop, helping to raise millions for Trump and the GOP, and frequently, if awkwardly, appearing in the background of Oval Office meetings. Now, we suspect, Musk (and his son) won’t be invited back to the Oval Office for some time. Some of the more prescient among us saw this coming. Cracks were already apparent as Trump’s “big, beautiful bill” was vetted. Claims that it would both jumpstart the economy and reduce the deficit proved too difficult a pill for Musk to swallow. “Shame on those who voted for (the bill),” Musk now famously observed. Trump and many of his supporters alleged Musk only took issue with the bill because of the loss of electric vehicle subsidies. Musk, who spent hundreds of millions of dollars to get Trump reelected, then reminded the president of his game-changing political contributions. Oh, and he used the word “ingratitude.” Trump then threatened to cut all of which government contracts, to which Musk quickly replied that SpaceX would begin decommissioning its Dragon Spacecraft (a spacecraft that the government

heavily relies on for deliveries and trips to the International Space Station). Musk also dropped his “big bomb,” accusing Trump of being in the government’s unreleased Epstein files meaning he was associated with the late Jeffrey Epstein, the disgraced financier convicted of sex offenses. In a Shakespeare play, this would now be the third act and one or more of the antagonists would express some remorse. They might even recognize their faults. Whatever offers of rapprochement we hear from the world’s richest man and the world’s most powerful man, we see little chance of such self-awareness. Musk crossed the Rubicon given how Trump values loyalty above all else. Perhaps a marriage of convenience is still possible but trust? Never again. The takeaway for the rest of us? How embarrassing and truly awful that the president of the United States would engage in this juvenile, public dispute with his most valued supporter simply because they have differing views on deficit spending. And perhaps there’s also a lesson in not airing your dirty laundry in front of tens of millions on a social media account. In a better functioning democracy, disputes among political allies are resolved through negotiation and compromise, not through public accusations and threats. We are better than that. Whatever comes next, Musk and Trump might try having a private conversation. Without the public tweets and attempts to humiliate the other. It’s a lesson most of us pick up in middle school or thereabouts.

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VOLUME 151–NUMBER 29  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025

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The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year’s Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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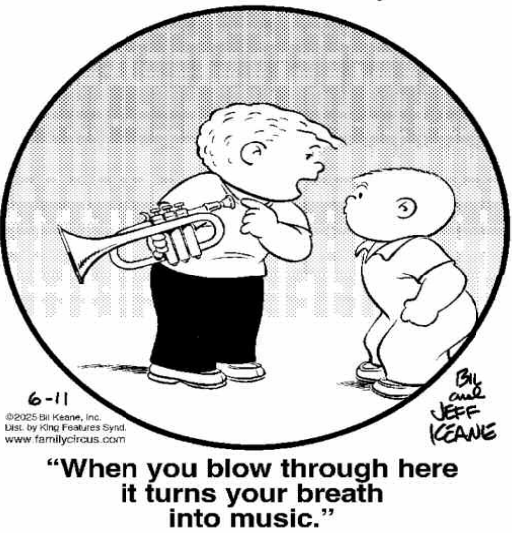
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Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Peanuts



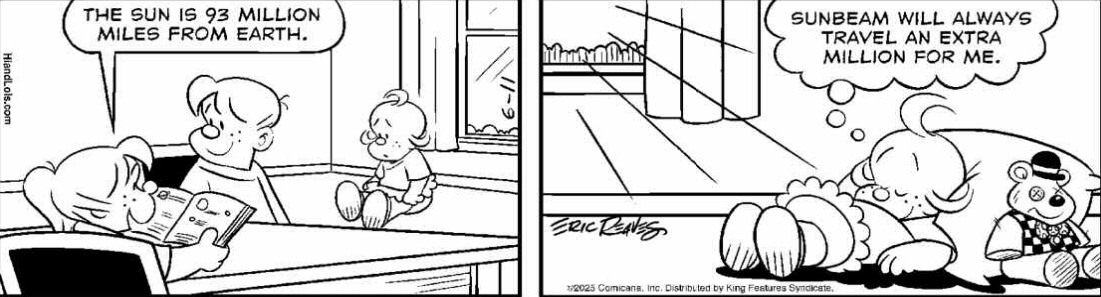
Rose is Rose



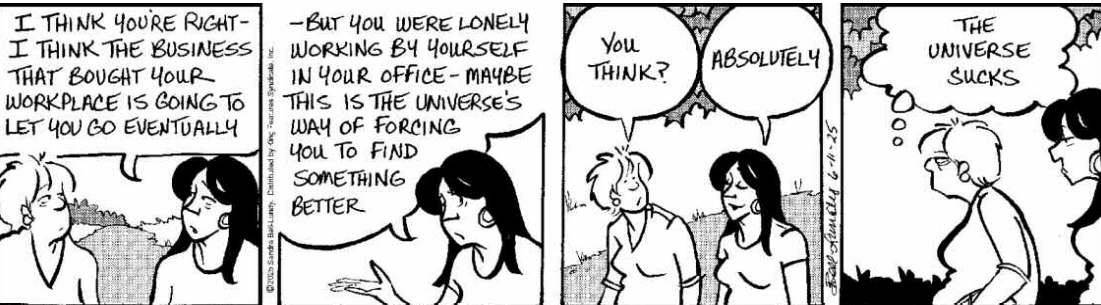
Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Malfeasance in office

South dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 8 4  
♥ A J 9  
♦ A K 10 9 5  
♣ J 9

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

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

**SOUTH**  
♠ J 7 3  
♥ K Q 10 8 7  
♦ 7 4  
♣ A K 2

The bidding:  
**South** 1♥ Pass  
3♥ Pass  
5♦ Pass  
**West** 3♦ Pass  
4NT Pass  
6♥ Pass  
**North** 3♦ Pass  
4NT Pass  
6♥ Pass  
**East** 3♦ Pass  
4NT Pass  
6♥ Pass

Opening lead — king of spades.  
Good declarer play requires good planning from start to finish. Any declarer who believes he can play now and think later is sure to run into trouble from time to time.

Here is a typical case. South got to six hearts as shown, and West led the king of spades. Declarer won with dummy's ace, cashed the A-K of diamonds and ruffed the missing diamonds were divided 3-3.

But after East showed out on the third diamond, South could no longer make the slam. He could

ruff a club in dummy but would then have to lose two spade tricks at the end. Alternatively, he could establish dummy's fifth diamond by ruffing another diamond and then draw trump, ending in dummy, but he would still have to lose two tricks in the black suits.

It is not difficult to find the fault in South's line of play. The malfeasance occurred at trick one, when he should have ducked West's king-of-spades lead (which marked West with the queen).

Had declarer played low from dummy — as he should have in order to retain the ace of spades as a subsequent entry to dummy — the slam could not have been defeated. West could not afford to continue spades, which would have made South's jack a trick, so he would have been forced to shift to another suit.

Let's assume West switches to a club. Declarer wins with the ace, cashes dummy's A-K of diamonds, ruffs a diamond, plays the king of clubs and ruffs a club in dummy.

Then, after ruffing another diamond, South draws trump, crosses to dummy's ace of spades and discards his last spade on dummy's good diamond. All told, South scores one spade, five hearts, three diamonds, two clubs and a club ruff in dummy to finish with 12 tricks. He loses the first trick, but that's all.

Tomorrow: Haste makes waste.  
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6-11

CRYPTOQUIP

SE XQCD NXQEDSTHI AZOOTHF

KQ NT ZH ZDRATD, JAZK IQ

XQC FTT LCRA QE KAT KSLT?

NTZC ZHI ZDDQJ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THOSE KIDS KEPT THROWING A BUNCH OF SCOURING PADS AT EACH OTHER, IT WAS A BRILLO FIGHT.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals Y

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS** 28 Pergola  
1 Attempt  
4 IV  
7 503, in  
8 —  
10 Reviled  
11 Wears  
13 Height-  
adjust-  
able work  
surfaces  
16 Sandy  
color  
17 "Thor"  
actor  
18 Towboat  
19 "Got it"  
20 Karate  
level  
21 Russian  
villa  
23 "It's —"  
("Agreed!")  
25 Take a  
gander  
26 Desertlike  
27 Blunder

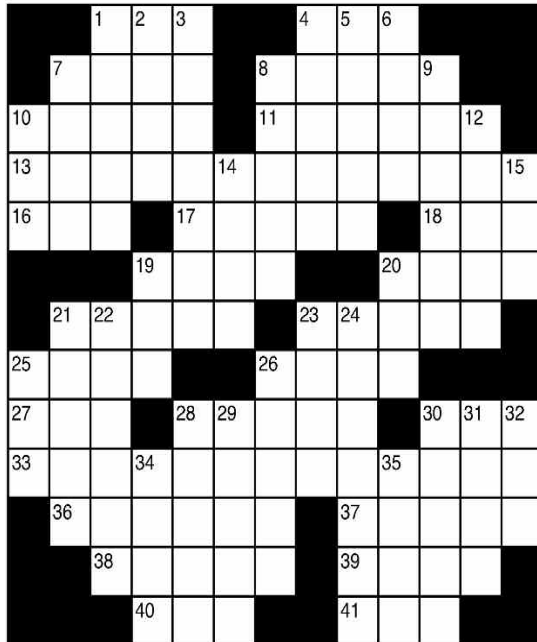
**DOWN** 2 Nothing,  
in Nantes  
3 Isaac  
Bashevis  
Singer's  
language  
4 Welsh  
pooch  
5 Oafs  
Marquis  
de —  
7 Facts and  
figures  
8 Category  
9 Lipton  
rival  
10 FDR  
follower  
12 Cranium  
14 Concept  
15 Pvt.'s  
superior

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 6-11**

IMP S AHI DEMI  
SEAL EOS ROOT  
NOLA TWOCENTS  
TWO TONE HASTY  
EVA TOM  
MENS A TWOSTEP  
SEE MAA ESE  
TWO STAR AREPA  
TIP ONA  
SEWON TWOFEET  
TWO WOMEN TALE  
YORE ATE EVAN  
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sums  
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# Sovereignty wins Belmont Stakes to close Triple Crown season

**By CAMERON DRUMMOND**  
Lexington Herald-Leader  
Tribune News Service

Sovereignty closed horse racing's 2025 Triple Crown season with a win in the 157th running of the Grade 1, \$2 million Belmont Stakes on Saturday night at Saratoga Race Course in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Contested at a shortened distance of 1 1/4 miles at Saratoga, in comparison to the traditional distance of 1 1/2 miles when the race is normally run at Belmont Park, Sovereignty followed up his triumph in last month's Ken-

tucky Derby with a win in the Belmont Stakes over a fast main track.

Sovereignty is the first horse to win both the Kentucky Derby and the Belmont Stakes since 2018.

In winning the Belmont Stakes from post position No. 2, Sovereignty also became the first horse to win both the Kentucky Derby and the Belmont Stakes, but not the Preakness Stakes, since Thunder Gulch in 1995. This double was achieved after Sovereignty's connections controversially opted to skip the Preakness Stakes, the middle race of the

Triple Crown.

Journalism — the pre-race and post time favorite who previously finished second in the Kentucky Derby and won the Preakness Stakes — finished second in the Belmont. Baeza, who finished third in the Kentucky Derby, also ran third in the Belmont.

Once again, there's no Triple Crown winning horse in 2025

As such, the last Triple Crown-winning horse remains Justify in 2018.

A total of 13 horses have won all three classic races in the same year: Sir Barton (1919), Gallant

Fox (1930), Omaha (1935), War Admiral (1937), Whirlaway (1941), Count Fleet (1943), Assault (1946), Citation (1948), Secretariat (1973), Seattle Slew (1977), Affirmed (1978), American Pharoah (2015) and Justify (2018).

More Triple Crown changes are coming in 2026

According to the Times Union newspaper in New York, the Belmont is likely to be run again in 2026 at Saratoga. The construction timeline for Belmont Park still calls for the project to be completed in September 2026, which would be several months after the

Belmont's early June race date.

A New York Racing Association official said the location for the 2026 Belmont Stakes will be finalized and announced in the coming weeks.

This means two of the three Triple Crown races in 2026 could be run at alternate locations.

The Kentucky Derby isn't going anywhere. The Run for the Roses will still be held at Churchill Downs in Louisville.

But, next year's Preakness Stakes is expected to be run at Laurel Park in Maryland, while Pimlico Race Course is rebuilt.

## Prepared to field

Left-center fielder Mylee Noggler prepares to trap a ground ball that made its way to the outfield during a Monday matchup between Fisher Meats and Crossroads FCU in Portland Junior League Minor softball play.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

# Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Fort Recovery ACME baseball vs. Fort Loramie – 6:30 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Portland Rockets at Muncie Chiefs – 7 p.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
5:30 a.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN2)  
1:05 p.m. — MLB: Chicago Cubs at Philadel-

phia Phillies (NBC)  
1:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Cleveland Guardians (FDSN Indiana)  
7 p.m. — NCAA track & field championships (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Louisville City at Rhode Island (ESPN2)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA Finals: Oklahoma City Thunder at Indiana Pacers (ABC)

**Thursday**  
6:30 a.m. — U.S. Open Championship (USA)  
6:35 p.m. — MLB: Detroit Tigers at Baltimore Orioles (FOX)

7 p.m. — NCAA track & field championships (ESPN)  
7:40 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Milwaukee Brewers (FDSN Indiana)  
8 p.m. — NHL Stanley Cup: Edmonton Oilers at Florida Panthers (TNT)  
11 p.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN)

### Local notes

**Challenge continues**  
The Adams County Challenge continues with a pair of races in June.

The first will be held on June 7, as the Youth for Christ 5K starts at the Ceylon Covered Bridge outside of Geneva at 8:30 a.m. Registration is \$20.

The Fitness Delivered Charity 5K and Fun Run will be held on June 21 at 8:30 a.m. The race will begin at Fitness Delivered located at 141 N. First St. in Decatur. Registration will cost \$20 and includes a t-shirt if done by June 1. The Fun Run is free for anyone 12 and younger.

Registration forms for both races can be found at [adamscounty5kchallenge.com](https://adamscounty5kchallenge.com).

**Registration open**  
Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. To register, visit [RunSignUp.com](https://RunSignUp.com).

There are rides ranging from 20 to 100 miles long.

The event will be held at 7 a.m. Saturday, June 21. It will start at Bellmont High School and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.

.....

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap", email [details@theocr.com](mailto:details@theocr.com)

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12 insertions. \$1.52/word  
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Includes Online.....FREE  
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### 00 CLASSIFIEDS

jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

### 40 NOTICES

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

### 60 SERVICES

**J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC.** Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

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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, 30'x40' attached garage, 24'x32' Quonset building. Nicely situated on 2 acres.  
Open House: Sunday June 1st  
1-3 PM or for private showing phone auctioneers.  
**RIDING MOWERS - ANTIQUES - HOUSE-HOLD**  
Troybilt Riding Mower

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

w/ 42' 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 21st, 2025  
TIME 9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 2011 E 200 S, HARTFORD CITY, IN VEHICLES - CAMPER - TRACTOR - ATVs  
1973 Volkswagen Beetle (Non running) with extra parts. 1996 Chevy ZR-2 Pickup 4x4 extended cab. 2002 Sprinter by Keystone 27' Camper with slide-out. Harris Pontoon boat with trailer. Paddleboat. Iseki TS1910 Tractor. Polaris 400 and 300 Xplorer 4x4 ATVs. Hotspirer 8 Person Hot tub w/ Chemicals and Filters. ANTIQUES - TOOLS - HUNTING - MISC  
Large Stamp Collection. Hotwheels Collection. Longaberger Baskets. Childs Sled. Large Childs Makeup Stand. Galvanized 10 hole Chicken Nest. Craftsman Roll away Tool Boxes. Craftsman Transmission Jack. McCulloch Generator. Front-time Tiller. Predator Post Hole Digger. Diamond Plate Toolbox. Wire Cages. Chicken Feeder. Fishing Supplies. Yeti and other Coolers. Bicycles. Pull-

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

behind Childs Buggy. Vera Bradley Purses. Building Supplies and Materials. Several Rolls of R-19 Insulation. Insulation Blower and Blown Insulation. Refrigerators. Hammock. Several Items Not Mentioned. OWNER: CHARLES EDWARDS ESTATE BY JACKIE EDWARDS  
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 28th, 2025  
TIME 9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 346 E 400 N, Portland, IN TRACTOR - EQUIPMENT - GUNS  
Ford Jubilee Tractor. 3pt 5' Box Blade. 5' King Cutter 3pt Rotary Mower. 3pt Post Hole Auger. 6' x 10' Single Axle Utility Trailer w/ Winch. Craftsman Roll-away Tool Boxes. Craftsman 20 Gallon Air Compressor. 10i Table Saw. Insulated Dog Houses. Winchester Model 1200 12 Gauge Pump. Ruger .22 Cal Single 6 Revolver. Thompson 45 and 50 Cal Muzzle Loaders. (2) Muzzle Loader Barrels. Compound Bows and Arrows. Clay Targets and Thrower. ANTIQUES - MISC  
2 and 3 Gallon Crock Butter Churns. Horse Shoes. RR Anvil. Stoplight. Coca Cola Chest Cooler. Coca Cola Carrying Cooler. Bronze Horse Figure. Cross Cut Saw. Miniature Tricycle and Child's Wagon. Old Kitchen Cabinets.3 Cushion Sofa w/ Matching Love Seat. Oversized Recliner. Rocker Recliner. 2 Person Bicycle and Other Bicycles. OWNER: Charles

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

Anderson Estate by Darlene Anderson  
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.  
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Zane Shawver  
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**ALUMINUM SHEETS**  
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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
Notice is hereby given that the Jay County Commissioners will accept sealed proposals at the Jay County Courthouse, located at 120 N Court St #11, Portland, IN 47371, up to the hour of 5:00 p.m. (local time) on 11th day of July, 2025. Notice is further given that a public meeting of the Commissioners will be held on 14th day of July, 2025 at 9am (local time), at Commissioners Court Room 120 N. Court St, Portland, Indiana 47371, at which place the County Commissioners shall open and consider proposals pursuant to Indiana Code 36-7-14-22, for the design, drawings, plans and specifications for the construction of a new Public Safety facility. Specifics related to the project can be found in the Request for Proposals (RFP). Copies of the RFP can be found on the county's website <https://jaycounty.net/plugins/content/content.php?content.25> or requested by emailing [jauditor@co.jay.in.us](mailto:jauditor@co.jay.in.us)  
Dated this 11th day of June, 2025  
Chad Aker, Commissioner  
President  
CR 6-11-2025-HSPALP

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The CR

Classifieds  
[www.theocr.com](http://www.theocr.com)



# Sports



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Just safe

First baseman Alyvia Pfeifer of Crossroads FCU receives a throw as the batter from Fisher Meats reaches the base on Monday during Portland Junior League Minor softball.

## Williams and Pioneer finish game with a 9-9 draw

Offense thrived, but neither team could find an advantage.

Williams Auto Parts and Pioneer Packaging finished in a 9-9 tie on Monday during Portland Junior League Rookie baseball play.

While the game ended in a draw, Pioneer Packaging outthit Williams Auto Parts 20-19.

Nathan Fullenkamp and Wyatt Hough led the way for Pioneer Packaging, going 4-for-4 at the plate. Fullenkamp hit three singles and a triple to drive in two runs and score three himself. Hough had three singles and a double while collecting an RBI.

Adrian Nava and Bentley Kinney supported the effort with three singles and two RBIs each. Kinney also crossed home plate himself twice.

Jett Johnson and Kase Vanskyock slashed a single and a double while combining for an RBI and three runs.

Gunner Lawrence and Simon Chenowith rounded out the offense with a single apiece. Lawrence also drove in and scored a run.

On the other side, Boone Lock and Zander Williams led Williams Auto Parts' offense with six hits between the two. Williams had two singles and a double to drive in two runs and score three times. Locke's three singles led to him crossing home plate once.

Five hitters collected a pair of hits, including Alex Lochtefeld and Matthew Bollinger, who led the team with three RBIs each.

The other batters with a pair of hits were Brett Huntsman, Carson Dailey and Thobe Keller. The trio combined for four runs and one RBI.

Kipton Wendel, Porter Huntsman and Ragnar Jones each provided a single as well.

## Haliburton looks to 'be better' after Game 2 loss

By PETER SBLENDORIO

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

Game 2 of the NBA Finals was a tale of two stars.

While Shai Gilgeous-Alexander lived up to his MVP form in his Oklahoma City Thunder's 123-107 win, Tyrese Haliburton turned in a conspicuously quiet performance for the Indiana Pacers.

Haliburton managed only five points on 2-of-7 shooting with four assists through three quarters, after which the Pacers trailed 93-74.

"I've had two really poor first halves," Haliburton said. "I've just gotta figure out how to be better earlier in games. Kudos to them, they're a great defensive team, but I'll watch the film and see where I can get better."

The Thunder boast the NBA's stoutest defense, and they've found success by throwing multiple defenders — including Lu Dort, Cason Wallace and Jalen Williams — at the play-making Haliburton.

*Pacers' star only scored five points on 2-of-7 shooting in 123-107 loss, while OKC's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander finished with 34 points on 11-of-21 from the field*

With the series tied 1-1, Haliburton is averaging 15.5 points and 6.0 assists per game — down from the 21.0 points and 10.5 assists that the point guard averaged against the New York Knicks in the Eastern Conference finals.

Perhaps even more tellingly, Haliburton's uncharacteristic 4.0 turnovers per game in the Finals are more than twice the 1.7 he averaged in the previous round.

"They've got a lot of different

guys who can guard the ball, fly around," Haliburton said of the Thunder. "They're really physical. Forced the officials to let us play a little bit more. Just got to do a better job of playing through there."

Haliburton scored only 10 points on nine shot attempts in the first three quarters of Game 1, though he finished as the hero in Indiana's 111-110 victory with a game-winning jumper with 0.3 seconds remaining.

In Game 2, Haliburton finally

got going with 12 points on 5-of-6 shooting in the fourth quarter, but it was too little, too late in a game that was already out of reach. He finished with a team-high 17 points but had five turnovers and six assists.

"We had some success there, me playing off the pitch a little bit more, flying around, rather than if I'm in that high ball screen, which I feel like I am really successful at, that gives them a chance to really load up, pack the paint," Haliburton said.

"They got a couple steals in there. I had some really dumb turnovers tonight. They were kind of showing a soft blitz, sometimes a full blitz," he said.

Haliburton was hardly the only Pacer to have a rough Game 2. Pascal Siakam shot 3 of 11 and finished with a plus/minus of -15, while Andrew Nembhard — Gilgeous-Alexander's primary defender — was a game-worst -17.

See **Haliburton** page 7

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