

Council adjusts amounts for tax breaks

Ag abatement thresholds increased to \$5 million, \$15 million

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review  
Agricultural businesses now have an updated guide to follow when applying for Jay County tax abatements. Jay County Council decided Wednesday to increase thresholds in the county's guidelines for agriculture-based tax abatements, setting investment costs for a three-year abatement between \$5 million and \$14.9 million and a five-year abatement at \$15 million or more.

Relatedly, council approved requests from Minnich Eggs for five-year tax abatements related to upcoming additions to the business.

In the county's previous guidelines, which date back to 2014, a three-year tax abatement could be granted for an investment between \$1 million and \$4,999,999 with the creation or retention of two full-time jobs, and a five-year tax abatement could be granted for an investment of \$5 million or more with the creation or retention of four full-time jobs.

New guidelines suggest three-year abatements could be granted for investments of \$5 million and \$14,999,999, and five-year abatements could be granted for investments at \$15 million or more, with the number of full-time jobs created or retained for each to stay the same.

Jay County Development Corporation executive director Ceann Bales explained the tax abatement advisory committee reviewed the guidelines and recommended increasing cost thresholds. See **Adjusts** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Paving Charles

A crew from Brooks Construction of Fort Wayne works on paving Charles Street near its intersection with Arch Street on Thursday morning. The street is being paved between Votaw and Water streets.

Cuts lead to state employee layoffs

By CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com  
Indiana agencies have laid off dozens of state employees in response to recently enacted budget cuts — marking the first such reductions since Gov. Mike Braun signed the state's new, slimmed down spending plan last month.

The governor's office confirmed that agencies under both the education and commerce verticals announced staff reductions on Tuesday. The Indiana State Museum

Agency officials say even more positions will be left unfilled

also let go of several employees last week. State officials attributed the layoffs to the new state budget, which slashed operations funding for most agencies. Courtney Bearsch, a

spokesperson for the Indiana Department of Education, confirmed on Wednesday that 39 employees across four education-related agencies have so far been notified of a "Reduction in

Force" (RIF). Those layoffs included:  
•16 employees at the Indiana State Library  
•14 at the Indiana School for the Deaf  
•6 at the Department of Education  
•3 at the Commission for Higher Education  
"In the final days of the legislative session, our state's leaders had to adjust the final budget to account for an over \$2 billion budget shortfall. Like most agencies across state government, agencies within the education vertical saw budget reductions,"

Bearsch told the Indiana Capital Chronicle. "In response, we have had to make difficult decisions regarding our agencies' operations to adjust to the realities of a much tighter budget."  
But cuts to agency funding predates the late-session budget shortfall. Braun's draft spending plan — released in January — cut appropriations for the state library by nearly 30%, from roughly \$3.7 million a year in the last biennial budget to around \$2.6 million. See **Layoffs** page 2

More than 170 killed in Air India crash

Aircraft exploded as it crashed after flying over residential area

By JOSH PAYNE and NEIL LANCEFIELD  
dipa  
Tribune News Service  
LONDON — More than two thirds of the passengers died after a London-bound plane crashed into a residential area shortly after take-off in India, according to reports. The Air India flight, which was carrying more than 240 people from the western city of Ahmedabad to Gatwick Airport, collided

with a medical college on Thursday, with almost all passengers believed dead. The Hindustan Times said 40-year-old British man Vishwash Kumar Ramesh survived the crash, telling the newspaper: "Thirty seconds after take-off, there was a loud noise and then the plane crashed. It all happened so quickly." A video of the crash circulating online showed the aircraft flying over a residential area before disappearing behind trees, followed by a huge explosion and large plumes of black smoke. The public should be prepared for a significant loss of British lives, Downing Street said. Images of the aftermath of the crash showed parts of the plane embedded into BJ Medical College as firefighters continued to tackle the smoke. Pieces of the aircraft's landing gear, fuselage and tail could all be seen protruding from the building. Officials said the flight was



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/ AFP/Sam Panthaky

Firefighters work at the site where Air India flight 171 crashed Thursday in a residential area near the airport in Ahmedabad. The London-bound passenger plane crashed with 242 on board, aviation officials said.

departing from Ahmedabad Airport with 242 people on board the Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft. Air India said on board were 169 Indian nationals, 53 British nationals, one Canadian national

and seven Portuguese nationals. Tata Group, the parent company of Air India, said it would provide 10 million rupees (\$117,000) to the families of those who were killed in the crash.

The company said it would also cover the medical costs of those injured and provide support in the "building up" of the medical college the plane crashed into. Campbell Wilson, the chief executive of Air India, expressed his "deep sorrow" after the incident, adding: "This is a difficult day for all of us at Air India and our efforts now are focused entirely on the needs of our passengers, crew members, their families and loved ones." U.K. officials are being deployed to India to support the investigation, the Air Accidents Investigation Branch (AAIB) said. King Charles said he was "desperately shocked" by the incident and Buckingham Palace said he was being kept updated on the developing situation. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said the crash was "devastating", while his Indian counterpart Narendra Modi said it was "heartbreaking beyond words."

<b>Deaths</b>  Levi Christner, stillborn, Berne Details on page 2.	<b>Weather</b>  Jay County had a high temperature of 83 degrees Wednesday. The low was 62. Tonight's low will be in the mid 60s with showers expected and a chance of thunderstorms. More rain and storms are in the forecast for Saturday with a high around 80. See page 2 for an extended outlook.	<b>In review</b>  Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.	<b>Coming up</b>  <b>Saturday</b> — Results from Griffin Byrum in the golf regional at The Players Club.  <b>Tuesday</b> — Photos from the Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee.  <b>Wednesday</b> — Coverage of next week's Jay School Board meeting.
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# Felony arrests

**Domestic battery**  
A Portland man was arrested Wednesday for domestic battery charges.  
Andrew R. Busz, 40, 446 W. Arch St., is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for domestic battery committed in the presence of a child younger than 16

# Capsule Reports

**Turning accident**  
Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Union City woman crashed her car into the back of the vehicle a Portland man was driving on U.S. 27 about 9:50 a.m. Wednesday.  
Kristine M. Goodyear, 24, was driving her 2009 Ford Focus south on the highway behind a

2013 Lincoln MKZ driven by 32-year-old Jacob D. McGraw.  
As McGraw turned east onto county road 900 South, he told police, Goodyear crashed into the back of the car he was driving.  
Goodyear complained of neck pain. Both vehicles were towed. The car McGraw was driving is

years old, as well as a Class A misdemeanor for domestic battery.  
He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

**Marijuana**  
An Ossian man was arrested Tuesday for possession of marijuana.  
Joseph L. Shively, 44, 414 Woodcreek Drive, was






charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony.  
He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

# Obituaries

**Levi E. Christner**, Berne, a relative of Geneva residents, stillborn. A graveside funeral service was held on Saturday, June 7, at Bunker Hill Amish Cemetery in Geneva.

\*\*\*\*\*  
*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

Saturday 6/14	Sunday 6/15	Monday 6/16	Tuesday 6/17	Wednesday 6/18
 <b>75/63</b> Saturday looks to be rainy with a 90% chance of thunderstorms.	 <b>80/65</b> Sunday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a 50% chance of thunderstorms.	 <b>83/67</b> There's a 40% chance of thunderstorms on Monday when the high will be around 83.	 <b>85/70</b> Tuesday's forecast shows a 50% chance of rain with highs in the middle 80s.	 <b>85/69</b> There's a 60% chance of showers on Wednesday.

Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> 13-25-29-37-53 Power Ball: 3 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$80 million	Daily Four: 6-7-5-9 Quick Draw: 2-3-8-17-24-32-33-37-38-47-49-53-59-60-62-64-69-74-75-80 Cash 5: 8-13-20-33-40 Estimated jackpot: \$208,500
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$264 million	<b>Ohio</b> Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 3-2-4 Pick 4: 9-1-2-9 Pick 5: 0-7-8-0-3 Evening Pick 3: 2-8-8 Pick 4: 6-2-8-3 Pick 5: 8-0-3-6-8 Rolling Cash: 5-11-18-33-36 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 0-8-0 Daily Four: 8-1-2-1 Quick Draw: 5-9-13-18-21-24-28-31-33-37-38-39-56-59-67-69-72-73-75-77 Evening Daily Three: 0-9-2	

Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.80 July corn.....4.83 Aug. corn .....4.81	July beans .....10.48 Wheat ..... 4.97
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.83 July corn .....4.80 Oct. corn .....4.29	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.57 July corn .....4.59 Beans.....9.93 July beans .....9.93 Wheat .....4.86
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.65 July corn .....4.65 Beans .....10.48	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.82 July corn .....4.82 Beans .....10.42 July beans .....9.74 Wheat .....4.82

Today in history

In 1942, the Office of War Information was created, serving as a United States government propaganda agency during World War II and documenting America's efforts in the war through films, texts, photographs, radio programs and posters. Its establishment came six months after Pearl Harbor was bombed.

In 2005, Michael Jackson was acquitted of child molestation charges following a 14-

week trial that was covered extensively by media.

In 2018, Jay County Council discussed hiring a full-time school resource officer, a position now held by officer Cody Jesse, who also handles Jack, the school resource dog for Jay School Corporation. (They were nominated for the 2023 innovator of the year award at the Jay County Community Awards in May.)

— The CR

Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 404 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St., Fort Recovery.	Sheriff's Office Merit Board executive session, training room, Jay County Sheriff's Office, 224 W. Water St., Portland. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 Butler St., Fort Recovery.
<b>Tuesday</b> 3 p.m. — Jay County	<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North, Portland.

# Adjusts ...

Continued from page 1  
Council member Faron Parr — he also serves on the advisory committee — pointed out it's been more than a decade since the guidelines were put in place, and currency worth has changed significantly since then.  
Bales noted the cost thresholds are merely guidelines for businesses applying for tax abatements, indicating council still has the final decision on proposed tax abatements.  
Council president Matt Minnich voiced concern about the threshold increase.  
“I just think it's a pretty aggressive change in quantities,” said Minnich, who works in the agriculture industry.

Council member Bryan Alexander questioned if Minnich's fears were that the increase would discourage businesses from pursuing tax abatements.  
“I don't want to lose a tool in a toolbox,” Minnich said. “I think we'd still be pretty excited if somebody came in wanting to do a \$4 million investment in Jay County.”  
Alexander noted JCDC is typically involved in the tax abatement process and, in such a case, could bring a recommendation to the advisory committee to consider.  
Also Wednesday, council approved two tax abatements for Minnich Eggs related to upcoming additions to the business.  
The rural Portland company is planning a biochar manufacturing and distribution facility and new feed mill in Noble Township.  
The biochar manufacturing and distribution facility would involve converting layer and pullet manure into soil amendment products (biochar), while the feed mill would help to meet demands for sister company Minnich Poultry.  
Minnich Eggs requested a five-year real property tax abatement and five-

## Two tax abatements approved for Minnich Eggs

year personal property tax abatement, estimating \$14.1 million and \$15.93 million investments, respectively. (Minnich Eggs will save approximately \$699,769 with the real property abatement and \$339,427 with the personal property abatement.) The project will result in 10 additional jobs — plans are to have three shifts at the biochar facility — and help retain several employees.  
According to tax abatement forms, the estimated start date for construction is Sept. 1, with completion set for Dec. 31, 2027.  
Minnich Poultry and Reir Pullets, another sister company, have been approved previously for three other tax abatements. The business has been operating out of Jay County since the 1970s.  
Council reviewed the requests in May before forwarding them to the county's tax abatement advisory committee. Bales noted that the committee unanimously recommended approving both requests.  
She also recalled council member Michael Brewster's words of support for the abatements at council's May 14 meeting, noting abatements can be used as an incentive for businesses to stay and grow locally.  
Council then approved the tax abatement requests.  
In other business, council members Randy May, Harold Towell, Brewster;

Alexander, Parr and Minnich, absent Cindy Bracy:  
•Approved an ordinance re-certifying council districts in Jay County, with Towell dissenting.  
•Heard the county's long-time information technology worker Randy Cleaver of Cleaver Cabling & Consulting is retiring at the end of the year. Jay County cybersecurity committee has been reviewing other options, noted auditor Emily Franks, and it plans to present a recommendation to council and Jay County Commissioners at their July meetings. Cleaver, who has contracted with the county for the last 18 years, had been charging the county approximately \$60,000 annually, at least \$100,000 less than other information technology service providers county representatives have looked into recently.  
•Made the following additional appropriations: \$232,625.80 (Towell opposing) for an existing contract with Rundell, Ernstberger and Associates involving development of the county's 68 acres on the west side of Portland; \$50,000 for Jay County Development Corporation for the rest of its 2025 budget; \$36,000 for Kleinpeter Consulting for work in the owner-occupied rehabilitation program; \$14,000 for upgrading outdated hardware and software at Jay County Circuit Court; \$13,350.81 for the drug-free communities grant from state funds; and \$10,800 for Ritter Strategic Services' work in planning and procuring quotes for upgrading the county's public safety radio system.  
•Approved annual tax abatement compliance forms.  
•OK'd the 2025 budget calendar: Jay County's budget review is slated for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 3, a public hearing and first reading of the budget is set for 6 p.m. Sept. 24 and a second reading and adoption of the budget will be at 6 p.m. Oct. 8.

# Layoffs ...

Continued from page 1  
Original drafts of the budget similarly pitched nearly \$1 million in cuts for the Indiana School for the Deaf.  
Both proposed cuts were retained in the final version of the two-year spending plan.  
Some of the deepest cuts so far appear to be at the Indiana Historical Bureau, a division of the Indiana State Library.  
Agencies instructed to withhold funds on top of 5% budget cuts  
Five of the bureau's six staffers were let go Tuesday afternoon without advance notice, affected employees told the Capital Chronicle. That leaves just one person to run the office, which manages 750 community-funded markers across Indiana as part of the State Historical Marker Program, in addition to various other public history initiatives.

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McClurg, Bernice: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

June 21  
Smiley, Franklin: 1 p.m., Tribute Funeral Home, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio.

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# Hall of Fame announced

Cincinnati League recently named its Jay County Hall of Fame honorees for the year.

This year's honorees are Kathy and Rock Fuqua, Bill Hinkle, Ron Laux, Rebecca Matchett, Kip Robinette and Jane Ann Spencer. They join 196 other individuals who have received the honor for a lifetime of service since the Hall of Fame began in 1993.

They will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at 3 p.m. July 2 at the Farmer's Building at Jay County Fairgrounds during the Jay County Fair. The event is open to the public.

To be selected, applicants must have devoted extraordinary time and effort to the Jay County community beyond ways of employment, live in Jay County or have significant ties to Jay County and be at least 65 years old by the date of the ceremony.

## Degree completed

A Portland resident completed his degree requirements at Trine University at the end of the spring term this year.

Trevor Shaneyfelt earned his degree in education studies at Trine University in Angola.

## Taking Note

### Grant apps due

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition's grant applications are due today.

Jay County Commissioners designated Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition as the Local Coordinating Council (LCC) to review potential grants and award these grants from the Jay County Alcohol and Drug Countermeasures Fund. The mission of the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition is "to promote best practices among youth and adults to reduce the illegal use and abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs in Jay County."

The coalition seeks to provide funding to those alcohol and drug initiatives in Jay County that address identified priority issues in the areas of prevention, intervention and justice or enforcement. Agencies or programs targeting these issues in Jay County are eligible to apply for funding.

Applications are available by visiting the coalition office, 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For questions, please contact Ally Raines at (765) 209-4648 or at allyssa@jcdpc.org.

Applications are due by 5 p.m. today.

Late applications will be disqualified.

### Summer meals

Jay School Corporation is providing free meals again for children under 18 this summer.

Drive-thru pickup meals are offered from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesdays at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. They'll be available at Door 16 behind the auxiliary gym. Pickup meals include five breakfasts and five lunches.

A traditional meal service is also offered at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk and Jay Community Center in Portland.

West Jay Community Center's breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9 a.m., and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Jay Community Center's breakfast will be served from 9 to 9:15 a.m. and lunch from noon to 12:15 p.m. Meals must be eaten on site.

# Man can't forget best friend's silence

## Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I found out that, behind my back, my best friend has been (secretly) growing hair for the past year. He knows I have been balding for many years. Although I have accepted my follicular fate, he knows I constantly search for self-improvement in my life.

What bothers me is that he didn't share the information until I mentioned I was thinking about trying Rogaine. THAT is when he told me he has been using a similar product for the past year and it seems to be working. He even took off his baseball cap (which he has been curiously wearing for a year), to show me the modest results. I doubt he would have shared this if I hadn't raised the subject.

I feel deeply shafted by his secrecy, and I don't see it as such a private matter that it had to be concealed. I do understand that he may have felt embarrassed to admit it bothered him and that he was taking steps to address the issue.

What is the rule of etiquette under the circumstances? Should a person share self-improvement methods that are modestly successful with a close friend who would clearly benefit from the information (assuming it is not so personal or private that it cannot be

shared)? — SHAFTED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR SHAFTED: There is no rule of etiquette that dictates anyone MUST share this kind of information. As close as you may think you are to this friend, try to remember that not everyone is comfortable talking about medical interventions they are using for self-improvement. This includes plastic surgery, weight-loss drugs and cures for baldness (a condition suffered by members of both sexes). Your friend was nice to mention that he has been using a product similar to the one you are contemplating, but he was under no requirement to do so.

.....

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

# Community Calendar

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

## 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.

## Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal.

## Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

JAY RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION — Will meet at noon at Richards Restaurant in Portland. All retired school employees are invited to attend, including those who didn't work in Jay County.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONY-

MOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday 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.

UNDERSTANDING YOUR SUICIDE GRIEF — Meets from 7 to 8:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month. The support group serves to help individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. To register, contact Stephanie Patterson at (260) 251-3259.

## 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.

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

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

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

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

## Wednesday

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

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

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

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.

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

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and tell is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

## Thursday's Solution

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

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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# New trend in data is to get rid of it

By MORTON J. MARCUS

You probably heard that the variety and quality of economic data are being challenged by the cutback in federal workers who collect such data.

For most folks it's no big deal. There are already too many numbers produced by the big three federal statistical agencies, the Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

For the millions of businesses and governments that do need the data, they will just have to get along with less and/or lower quality data. After all, it's just a transitory deprivation on our way to the glory that awaits us.

In this spirit of sacrifice for the

Morton J. Marcus



greater good, let me lay a few numbers on you. There will be questions unanswered, but that's just the geekiness we had before the Elonlight was shown upon us. In 2023, the median household income, adjusted for inflation, was \$78,538 in the United States (\$70,051 in Indiana, 11% short of the nation). Ten years earlier, it was \$53,046 and \$48,248 respec-

tively (with Indiana then 9% below the national figure).

If you listen to many folks talking about the economy, they are unhappy. They don't believe the figures.

But think about all the workers who now get more money for asking, "And do you want fries with that order?"

The hourly minimum wage has risen, monthly social security payments have risen, annual earnings for babysitters have risen and there have been some real improvements in healthcare that cost more with better results than the less costly treatments of a decade ago.

We're in for some backsliding with the current Washington and

state capital leadership. Yes, we were doing so well many folks felt no horror in electing more ignorant representatives and leaders to amuse us with their antics. A wealthy population can afford more entertainment from government.

Plus, we're discussing median income, not median earnings. Income includes capital gains which get favorable treatment from our tax laws. Income can also be derived from greater profits as states cut taxes on businesses. In fact, didn't Indiana do just that by moving along a phaseout of the business personal property tax?

In addition, there's the whole idea of the median income which

means half of those with income are above that figure and half below. Were those data from the IRS? That would make them higher than from some other sources. The Internal Revenue Service gathers its data from tax returns. Lots of folks don't file tax returns because their incomes are too low for them to pay any income tax.

Well, it's no use to fuss about such things. Our leaders do understand they don't understand using data and they'll get rid of as much data as they can while in office.

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Marcus is an economist formerly at the Kelley School of Business. Email him at [mortonjmarcus@gmail.com](mailto:mortonjmarcus@gmail.com).

## We have a choice that should be clear

By LINDSAY KOSHGARIAN

OtherWords

For weeks, Congress has been wrapped up in passing President Trump's big, brutal budget — the one that pays for tax cuts for the wealthy and a trillion-dollar Pentagon budget by taking food stamps and Medicaid away from people struggling to get by.

The GOP-controlled House of Representatives just barely passed this bill — it squeaked through by a single vote. Now the Senate is considering it.

Alongside trillions in tax cuts for the wealthy, the bill also gives big handouts to the Pentagon and the president's plans to separate immigrant families. It would result in the country's first-ever trillion-dollar Pentagon budget — and triple annual spending on the mass detention of immigrants.

There's an army of contractors ready to profit — from the wasteful military contractors who vacuum up more than half the Pentagon budget to the private prison companies that warehouse soccer moms, pediatric cancer patients, and other immigrants caught up in the administration's dragnet.

To fund those cruel contractors, the president's big brutal bill cuts Medicaid and food stamps, among other programs that benefit regular people.

The human costs could be staggering. Researchers have found that the cuts to Medicaid and other health programs could lead to 51,000 preventable deaths a year. And millions of Americans who rely on food stamps could go hungry, including four million children.

None of this needs to happen.

I recently co-authored a report looking at what we could fund instead with that extra money for the Pentagon and this anti-immigrant agenda. If lawmakers just rolled back those increases alone, we could more than cover the annual cuts to Medicaid, food stamps, and the Child Tax Credit combined.

In other words, by just letting the Pentagon and deportation budgets stay where they are now, we can save all of those programs — and potentially save lives.

Nationally, we found that these massive increases would be more than enough to cover the 13.7 million people at risk of losing health care — and the 11 million people at risk of losing food stamps.

Lindsay Koshgarian



That report also looked at what the bill does in every state and congressional district. In Maine, for example, the first year of additional spending on the Pentagon and deportations could keep 107,000 people on Medicaid. In Alaska, 87,000 people could stay on food stamps.

In Arizona's 5th Congressional District, the increase just for the President's dream of a "Golden Dome" missile shield could keep 7,500 people on Medicaid. In Kentucky's 4th district, 6,200 people could stay on Medicaid.

Experts have said that the president's promises for the system are too good to be true. That's not worth risking lives by cutting medical benefits in any congressional district.

Then there's the billions set aside for "killer robots," drones that can use AI to target and kill people — a nightmare that could lead to more deaths in war and kill more civilians.

In California's 5th district, the money for these dangerous weapons could instead keep more than 13,600 people on food stamps for a year. In Ohio's 8th district, more than 11,300 people could keep their SNAP benefits.

This is truly a situation of trading life for death: we can feed hungry people, or we can create new dystopian weapons.

There's an exceedingly simple solution to all of this: drop the extra money for the Pentagon and attacking immigrants — and keep Medicaid and food stamps available to as many people who need them as possible.

In 2024, the average U.S. taxpayer paid \$3,804 for the Pentagon and war, deportations, and border militarization — an already astounding figure. We shouldn't ask people to pay any more to line the pockets of military contractors and private prison CEOs while Americans go hungry and without health care.

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Koshgarian directs the National Priorities Project at the Institute for Policy Studies.

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## Trump should press Putin to end war

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Tribune News Service

Ukraine's audacious drone attack on Russian air force bases was a remarkable display of courage and resourcefulness. While the full extent of the damage is still unknown, the destruction of several strategic bombers is another reminder that Kyiv remains determined in its struggle against Moscow's invasion.

President Donald Trump should find inspiration in the bold attack. If he can muster even a fraction of the resolve shown by Ukraine, he can help broker his long-promised end to the war.

When Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022, many observers did not expect the Ukrainian government to survive the weekend.

With Russian paratroopers landing at Hostomel Airport, just an hour away from Kyiv's presidential residence, and Russian tanks rolling across the famous steppes of Eastern Ukraine, the situation seemed dire. The Biden administration even offered Ukrainian leader Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his family a trip out of the country.

Given these circumstances, many world leaders would have fled. Many militaries would have collapsed. Ukraine, however, remained defiant. According to the U.S., Zelenskyy's response to the evacuation offer was unequivocal — "The fight is here; I need ammunition, not a ride" — and still defines the Ukrainian resistance.

Nearly a quarter of Ukrainians were displaced from their homes by the outbreak of war, including around half of the country's children. And despite billions of dollars' worth of aid from the U.S. and European allies, Ukrainians have been consistently outgunned. Almost 400,000 Ukrainian troops have been killed or wounded since the war began.

## Guest Editorial

That has not stopped Ukrainians from fighting vigorously for their freedom.

In the early days of the war, mobile units armed with handheld anti-tank missiles succeeded in driving the invaders out of Northern Ukraine. The defenders of the Azovstal steel plant in Mariupol held out for 80 days against consistent bombardment, buying critical time to train and deploy soldiers across the front. According to a recent report in the New York Times, Ukraine has inflicted a million casualties on the invading Russians.

Despite not having a significant Navy, Ukraine has succeeded in neutralizing Russia's Black Sea fleet. And now, despite not having a significant air force, Ukraine has succeeded in destroying at least a dozen expensive and hard to replace strategic bombers deep inside Russia. The planes, which were built to drop nuclear bombs on American and Western European cities, have been equipped with cruise missiles and unleashed on Ukrainian civilians since the start of the war.

Operation Spiderweb, the Ukrainian name for their plan to destroy the bombers, sounds more like something from a James Bond movie or Mission: Impossible than anything a traditional military power might attempt.

Utilizing drones placed in secret compartments at the top of shipping containers, Ukrainian intelligence officials contracted Russian truck drivers to deliver the containers within striking distance of Russian airfields. Upon arrival, the secret compartments opened,

revealing the drones. Videos from Russian social media depict onlookers watching helplessly as the drones take flight.

Given how hard the Ukrainians have fought with their limited resources, it is worth asking what they could accomplish if they were given the weapons they've long asked for. For too long, the Biden administration resisted calls to give Ukraine U.S.-made F-16 fighter jets and the kind of long-range missiles that could target Russian military assets deep behind the front lines.

Inquirer Worldview columnist Trudy Rubin — who is currently in Kyiv — has extensively documented the persistent lack of full support for Ukraine as well as what amounts to war crimes committed by Russian troops at the behest of Putin.

Sadly, even though he claimed he would end the war "within 24 hours," President Trump has pulled back U.S. support for Ukraine and shown tepid interest in reaching a ceasefire deal.

Trump has also repeatedly undercut Zelenskyy and provided rhetorical support to Putin, expressing skepticism of any criticism directed toward the Russian leader, and seeking to force Ukraine to make territorial concessions without guaranteeing their freedom and sovereignty in the future.

Instead of serving as Putin's de facto press secretary and telling the world Russia will respond to Ukraine's drone attack, Trump should move ahead with additional economic sanctions and impress upon Moscow that he is serious about his demands for a ceasefire.

More than three years into the war, it is evident the Ukrainian people will not surrender their freedom lightly. The sooner Trump and Putin realize that Ukraine will never quit, the sooner this conflict can end.

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

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# Navitars provide many benefits

**By LINDA GEIST**  
University of Missouri

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Navitars, superhero plants that possess the virtues of native plants but in a more attractive package, make good choices for landscaped areas.

Use navitars as part of your gardening “green movement,” said University of Missouri Extension horticulturist David Trinklein.

Native plants earn gardeners’ accolades because they grow naturally in the local environment. They have stood the test of time, weathering varied temperatures, precipitation, pests and soils. Additionally, many attract and preserve pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

Trinklein, however, is among the horticulturists who prefer the ornamental appeal of navitars, a

term coined by University of Georgia horticulturist Allan Armitage to describe cultivars selected or hybridized from native species.

Navitars offer the benefits of native plants, but their blooms often are more vibrant, larger and showier, Trinklein says. The plants tend to be more compact and neater-looking than the native species from which they were selected. Like native plants, most navitars require little care and are eco-friendly.

Trinklein said two good examples of navitars are purple coneflower “Magnus” and black-eyed Susan “Goldsturm.” Both are selections from native species but have greater eye appeal in the garden.

Navitars do have their critics. Purists in the native plant move-

ment do not agree that navitars can be equated to native species, Trinklein says. They suggest navitars vary too much in appearance from their native species and do not attract wildlife equally, especially pollinators, to the same degree.

However, Trinklein says many navitars bloom longer than their purely native relatives. This makes them available to pollinators for a longer period.

“Unless your gardening efforts are aimed solely at nurturing wildlife, the next time a landscape situation calls for an attractive, low-maintenance perennial requiring minimal input of natural resources, consider navitars,” Trinklein suggests. “They are proof, contrary to the popular adage, that you can have your cake and eat it too.”



Elvert Barnes

Purple coneflower Magnus is a popular nativar, which attracts and preserves pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

# Safeguarding soybeans

## Seed bank preserves diversity for resilient future

**By LAUREN QUINN**  
University of Illinois

Inside a large walk-in refrigerator on the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus, thousands of envelopes hold the fate of global food security, not to mention a significant portion of the world’s economy.

The National Soybean Germplasm Collection, maintained by a small USDA Agricultural Research Service team, is the country’s only public soybean seed bank, encompassing nearly the whole of the crop’s genetic diversity and impacting nearly every soybean product grown today — not just in the U.S., but across the world.

Each seed contains unique gene combinations breeders can mine to create new soybean varieties that can withstand emerging threats. ARS and College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences researchers are constantly digging into the collection, but they’re not the only ones. Unlike privately held collections and those housed in other countries, ARS freely distributes seeds for research purposes to more than 400 requesters each year.

With dozens of research groups mining the genetic repository each year, the collection has given rise to some of the most important soybean traits on the market.

“Most varieties grown in Illinois have resistance to soybean cyst nematode thanks to the collection,” said Brian Diers, soybean breeder and emeritus professor in the Department of Crop Sciences in ACES. “Without that resistance, it’d be hard to grow soybeans profitably.”

The collection has also enabled resistance to eco-



University of Illinois

The National Soybean Germplasm Collection, maintained by a USDA Agricultural Research Service team, is kept in a refrigerated storage room. It is the country’s only public soybean seed bank, encompassing nearly the whole of the crop’s genetic diversity.

nomically important diseases like brown stem rot and Phytophthora in the U.S. and soybean rust in Sub-Saharan Africa, without which the continent’s nascent soybean industry would likely stall out. The collection has also enabled higher protein seeds and oleic acid levels, making soybean oil healthier and more stable.

**How it works**

With century-old origins, the world’s only soybean seed bank comprises seeds from nearly 23,000 soybean plants and their closest relatives, harvested from all over the world. Recent facility upgrades could expand the collection to 40,000 accessions and continue its work well into the future.

Kept near and below freezing, the seeds remain viable for a decade. Every

accession — seed source — must be taken out of storage every 10 years and grown to regenerate more seed for the collection. That means the highly trained ARS team grows 10% of the total collection each year; that’s 2,300 plants to meticulously mark, sow, measure, weed, harvest, dry and store.

It’s not easy, especially for accessions representing extreme maturity groups like those adapted to cold northern climates or perennial tropical varieties unaccustomed to Urbana’s harsh winters. Some years, the ARS team sows more seeds than they harvest.

But it’s well worth the trouble.

“It’s critically important to maintain this collection, because if it were lost, we would never be able to recover it,” Diers said.

“Where would we get all those accessions again? We wouldn’t. This priceless genetic diversity would be lost to agriculture.”

While the collection has enabled major strides in soybean development worldwide, it has also been a boon for ACES scientists who serve Illinois farmers.

While the collection grows and stores all soybean maturity groups, the majority represent maturity groups III through V — the most commonly grown soybeans in the U.S. These happen to grow optimally right here in Urbana, enabling improvement of traits important to Illinois’ 43,000 soybean farmers.

“Having that vast collection so accessible to U. of I. researchers directly benefits Illinois farmers,” said Abigail Peterson, director

of agronomy for the Illinois Soybean Association. “Whether it’s a new disease or soy oleic, I think the germplasm collection is the only avenue to explore and develop new traits. It’s just a huge tool in our toolbox.”

Adam Davis, head of the Department of Crop Sciences at ACES and former ARS lead scientist in Urbana, agrees.

“Supported by modern infrastructure, including a newly installed \$300,000 seed vault and a robust maintenance fund from the state, the Urbana gene bank is well-positioned to continue serving as a national hub for soybean genetic conservation and innovation,” he said.

“Replicating the current cold storage facility in a new location would cost \$2.5 million, not including the \$3.1 million greenhouse facilities needed to grow perennial varieties. That also doesn’t include office space or personnel,” he added. “The collection’s strategic location, scientific expertise, and strong ties to major institutions like the University of Illinois and the Illinois Soybean Association make it an irreplaceable asset in the nation’s agricultural research ecosystem.”

**In the future**

With the soybean industry facing ever-changing pressures, it’s more important than ever to protect and invest in Urbana’s National Soybean Germplasm Collection.

“There are always going to be instances where we will need to have access to this germplasm — the most prominent being when new diseases or insect pests occur, or when diseases that have been around a long time now start to

become a more difficult challenge,” said Bob Reiter, former head of research and development in the crop sciences division at Bayer. “That’s where the collection becomes very important.”

Currently, ACES researchers are mining the collection for a solution to red crown rot, an emerging disease in the Midwest, and shoring up resistance to soybean cyst nematode, which has begun to evolve around existing resistance genes.

“The idea is to create varieties that have a more complete disease resistance package, not just SCN, but other diseases,” says Eliana Monteverde Dominguez, soybean breeder and crop sciences assistant professor. “You never know what’s coming. We’re starting to see diseases in Illinois that weren’t here 10–20 years ago. We have to be prepared.”

With new threats constantly on the horizon, the National Soybean Germplasm Collection isn’t just a resource — it’s a promise. By keeping this genetic diversity alive and accessible, ARS and its ACES partners are helping ensure soybeans remain a reliable, resilient crop for years to come.

“I’ll be honest — I had no idea this collection existed,” said College of ACES alum and Illinois soybean farmer Brandon Laue. “But knowing now that so many of the traits we rely on trace back to it, I can’t imagine where we’d be without it. It’s an invisible foundation that’s quietly shaped the success of farms like mine for decades — and it’s just as critical to our future. With new challenges popping up every season, we’re going to need every tool we can get.”

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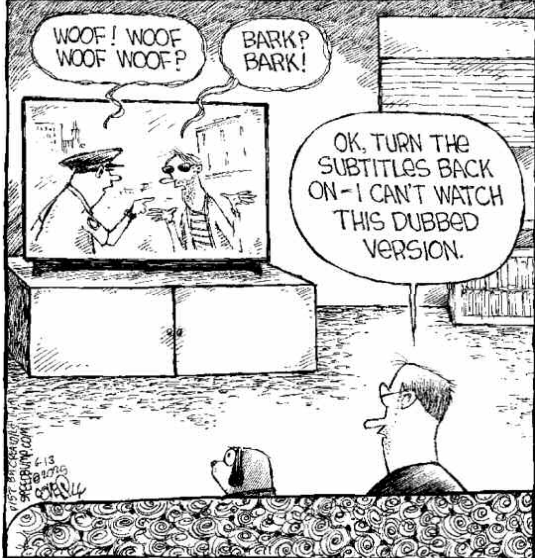
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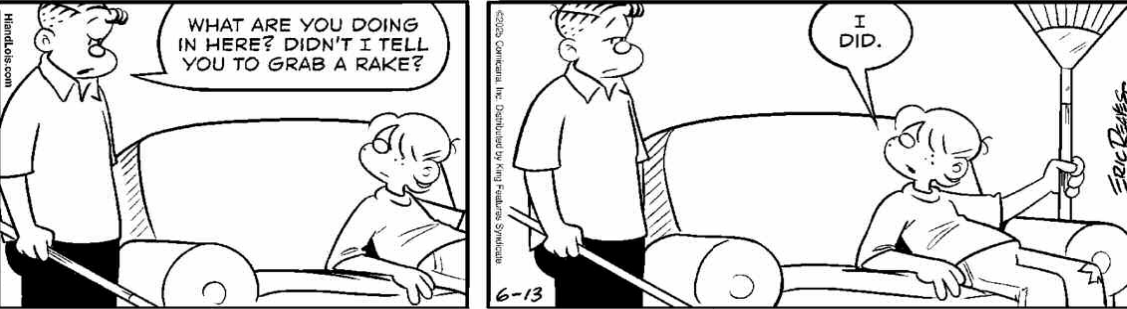
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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play

You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the four of hearts to South's jack and your king. How would you play the hand?

West  
♠ K Q 7 6  
♥ A K  
♦ Q J 4  
♣ 10 9 6 3

East  
♠ A 4  
♥ 7 5  
♦ K 9 6 3 2  
♣ A Q J 2

If you stake the outcome on a club finesse at trick two, the contract is sure to go down if South has the king. He would return a heart, and you would finish with only eight tricks.

You could also fail by attacking diamonds immediately, even though that is superior to trying a club finesse. If you led the queen or jack of diamonds at trick two, for example, you would go down if South had something like:

♠ J 9 3 2  
♥ J 9 6  
♦ A 10 8 7  
♣ K 5

The most promising method of

play by far is to lead a spade to the ace at trick two and a low diamond from dummy at trick three. If South has the ace, you are sure to make the contract whether he takes the ace or follows low.

If he goes up with the ace, you have at least nine tricks — three spades, two hearts, three diamonds and a club — regardless of how the diamonds are divided. If he does not take the ace, you also score nine tricks by trying the club finesse after the diamond queen holds. Even if the finesse fails, you are home, scoring three spades, two hearts, a diamond and three clubs.

The only time the contract can fail on the suggested line of play is when North started with precisely the singleton ace of diamonds and South has the king of clubs, in which case you could make three notrump by leading the four of diamonds from your hand at trick two. As opposed to this one remote possibility — less than a 2% chance — it is significantly better to start the diamonds by leading a low one from dummy initially.

Tomorrow: An example of prestidigitation.  
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6-13

CRYPTOQUIP

Z O B V L N E Z X K V Y K A V

E U C Y A H N V A R L V O H C V N Y

C Q E L V N Q V Z L P Y U Z A V K Q Y X V C ,

E L V N Q V R B V A A - O Z C Q ?

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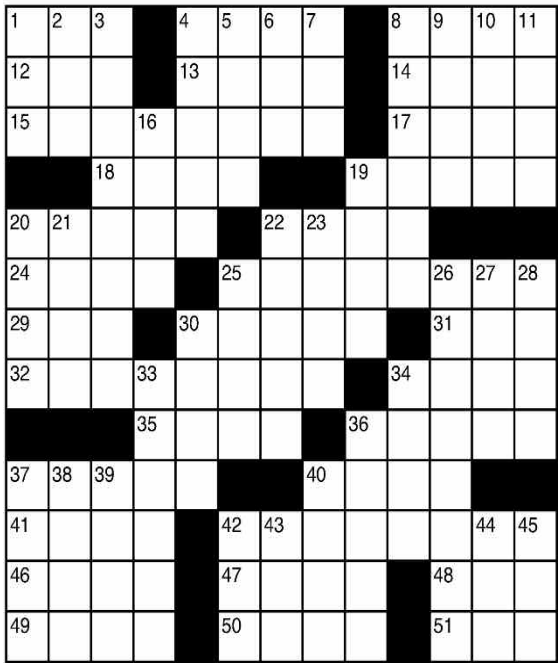
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- |                               |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                 | <b>36</b> High hair-styles            | <b>DOWN</b>   | <b>1</b> Telly network      | <b>19</b> Alliances           | <b>20</b> Pear variety  |
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| <b>4</b> Ad agcy. client      | <b>40</b> Pub potables                | <b>3</b> Rum cocktail                               | <b>4</b> Fess up            | <b>25</b> Thai currency       | <b>26</b> Actor's pic   |
| <b>8</b> Hosp. areas          | <b>41</b> Donald Duck, to his nephews | <b>5</b> Actress Penelope                           | <b>6</b> Anti               | <b>27</b> "Let —" ("Move on") | <b>28</b> Free ticket   |
| <b>12</b> Feathery neck-piece | <b>42</b> Crunchy party snack         | <b>7</b> Toll rd.                                   | <b>8</b> Poison remedy      | <b>30</b> Unpaid TV ads       | <b>33</b> Sermon-ize    |
| <b>13</b> Let fall            | <b>46</b> Idle or Bana                | <b>9</b> Blanchett who played Elizabeth I on screen | <b>10</b> Russian river     | <b>34</b> Detail, in short    | <b>36</b> Arm bones     |
| <b>14</b> Rid of rind         | <b>47</b> —                           | <b>11</b> Vend                                      | <b>16</b> Bits of wit       | <b>37</b> Union payment       | <b>38</b> Concerning    |
| <b>15</b> Squirrel's kin      | <b>48</b> Stop — dime                 | <b>12</b> Russian river                             |                             | <b>39</b> "JAG" spin-off      | <b>40</b> Barks         |
| <b>17</b> List-ending abbr.   | <b>49</b> Meeting, in slang           | <b>13</b> Vend                                      |                             | <b>42</b> Taxi                | <b>43</b> Slangy suffix |
| <b>18</b> Teacher's surprise  | <b>50</b> Ped-estal                   | <b>14</b> Vend                                      |                             | <b>44</b> Chef Garten         | <b>45</b> Peace (Lat.)  |
| <b>19</b> Immune system agent | <b>51</b> Levy                        |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>20</b> Dull                |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>22</b> Europe's neighbor   |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>24</b> Alsace assents      |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>25</b> Stock type          |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>29</b> Old map letters     |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>30</b> Ritzy spreads       |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>31</b> LAX info            |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>32</b> Golf stroke         |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>34</b> Droops              |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |
| <b>35</b> "Phooey!"           |                                       |   |                             |                               |                         |

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Finals ...

Continued from page 8

Wiggins plated runners with a home run and a double, while Guggenbiller had four singles.

The Portland 10-and-younger Red team took down the Yorktown Black team 9-6, clinching a date with Monroe Central in the championship. Aliana Jeffers led the All Stars at the plate, going 3-for-3 with a double and two singles. Lizzie Miller also was perfect from the dish with a double and a single.

Carsyn Guggenbiller picked up the victory after striking out three batters and giving up 10 hits.

The 12-and-younger team had to come back from a 3-2 deficit to walk off Delta.

Emalee Aker led off the inning with a single to center field before getting moved to second base on a Charli Stephens groundout. Aker swiped third herself and scored on an error that got the batter, Paisley Day, all the way to second. Maggie Westgerdes then delivered the walk-off single on a line drive to center field.

Ellie Wiggins also played a key role, driving in the first two runs of the game for Portland and pitching a complete game that included eight strikeouts and only two earned runs.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Chipping at Hickory

Jay County High School golfer Dawson Goldsworthy hits a chip Tuesday during the sectional tournament hosted by Monroe Central at Hickory Hills Golf Course in Farmland. Goldsworthy posted the No. 3 score of 89 for JCHS. The lone Patriot to advance was senior Griffin Byrum, who played in the regional tournament Thursday. For details about the event at The Players Club, see Saturday's edition of The Commercial Review.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

**Sunday**  
Portland Rockets at Fort Wayne Blues – 1 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County Summer Swim Team vs. Fort Recovery – 6 p.m.

TV schedule

**Today**  
1 p.m. — U.S. Open Championship (NBC)  
2 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament: Arizona at Coastal Carolina (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament: Louisville at Oregon State (ESPN)  
7:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Detroit Tigers (FDSN Indiana)  
8 p.m. — NCAA track & field championships (ESPN2)

8:30 p.m. — NBA Finals: Oklahoma City Thunder at Indiana Pacers (ABC)  
10:30 p.m. — MLS: Portland Timbers at San Jose Earthquakes (FS1)

**Saturday**  
10 a.m. — U.S. Open Championship golf (USA)  
11:30 a.m. — IndyCar: Bommarito Automotive Group 500 (FS1)  
12 p.m. — U.S. Open Championship (NBC)  
12:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Canadian Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
1 p.m. — Indy NXT Series: INDY NXT by Firestone at World Wide Technology Raceway (FS1)  
1 p.m. — PLL lacrosse: New York Atlas at Maryland Whipsnakes (ABC)  
1 p.m. — WNBA: Los Angeles Sparks at Minnesota Lynx (CBS)  
1:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Detroit Tigers (FDSN Indiana)

2 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament: Murray State at UCLA (ESPN)  
3 p.m. — WNBA: New York Liberty at Indiana Fever (ABC)  
4 p.m. — BIG3 basketball: Triplets at Detroit Amps (CBS)  
4:05 p.m. — Northwoods Baseball League: Rochester Honkers at Duluth Huskies (ABC)  
4:10 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Milwaukee Brewers (FDSN Indiana)  
4:30 p.m. — MLS: St. Louis City at Los Angeles Galaxy (FOX)  
7 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament: LSU at Arkansas (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Berlin ARCA 200 (FS1)  
7:15 p.m. — MLB: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox (FOX)  
8 p.m. — NHL Stanley Cup: Florida Panthers at Edmonton Oilers (TNT)  
8 p.m. — FIFA Club World Cup soccer: Al Ahly

at Inter Miami (TBS)  
8 p.m. — UFL: D.C. Defenders at Michigan Panthers (ABC)  
9 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament: Arizona at Coastal Carolina (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — NCAA track & field championships (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Colorado Springs at Oakland Roots (FOX)  
10:15 p.m. — CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer: Mexico at Dominican Republic (FS1)

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.

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

.....  
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap", email details to sports@theocr.com

90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 3563 E 600 N, Bryant IN  
Saturday Morning JUNE 21st, 2025 9:30 A.M.  
**OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
(2) wood 36 section bolt bin; 2 drawer work bench; wood 30 section bolt bin; Hover Round mobility cart; Gem Hot Blast 816 cast iron stove; hump back trunk; gun cabinet; several Tipp Mann paint ball guns; Red Ryder & other BB guns; duck decoys; **POCKET WATCHES: 20 PLUS TO INCLUDE ELGIN, WALTHER, AND CROWN;** Several pocket and hunting knives with names such as Old Timers and Buck; metal folding chairs; small windmill; hand corn sheller; Coleman butane stove; and many other items not listed.  
**BOAT-TRACTOR S-VEHICLES-MOTOR BIKES-TOOLS**  
1956 Wagemaker Wolverine 12" Cedar Lined Boat with 3 hp Evinrude motor and trailer; Ford 8N wide front tractor with 3 point (non running); 1972 GT6 Triumph MK car, (non running); Indian Enduro 175 motorcycle (non running); Scorpon Whip 440TR snowmobile; Cub Cadet 101 garden tractor (non running); 1984 Pryer 3 wheeler ice cream scooter; Honda 13 hp - 60i gas trail type mower; Country Plow 60i front blade; Woods 60i - 3 pt. finish mower; Cub Cadet mower (non running); Dewalt drill; hay hooks; cleaver; fishing poles; cane poles; rod & reels; tackle boxes; log chains; hatchets; and many other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** This is the first of 2 auctions. We will be running 2 rings most of the day. Auction #2 will be held on June 28, 2025 and will offer a large selection of guns, ammo and Indian artifacts.  
**JON SMITH, DECEASED**  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027 Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608

90 SALE CALENDAR

Travis Theurer AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069  
**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 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

90 SALE CALENDAR

**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. Hotspring 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. McCouulloch Generator. Front-tine Tiller. Predator Post Hole Digger. Diamond Plate Toolbox. Wire Cages. Chicken Feeder. Fishing Supplies. Yeti and other Coolers. Bicycles. Pull-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

90 SALE CALENDAR

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 Anderson Estate by Darlene Anderson**  
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.  
**SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE**  
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**AUCTIONEERS**  
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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Dunkirk will be accepting sealed bids on the following vehicles until noon June 23, 2025. Bids will be accepted by mail or in person at the Dunkirk Municipal building located at 131 S Main Street. All envelopes must be marked as containing a bid. Vehicles are located at 588 Industrial Drive for viewing. All vehicles are sold As Is.  
2015 Dodge Durango Police – 149,986 miles  
1979 Ford Ranger F250 4-Wheel Drive Truck – 73,885 miles  
1999 Jeep Cherokee 4-Wheel Drive – 53,961 miles  
CR 6-13,14,17,18,19,20,212025-HSPAXLP

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**130 MISC. FOR SALE**

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

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The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

ORDINANCE 2025-5  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 75, SCHEDULE VII, OF THE DUNKIRK CODE OF ORDINANCES BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUNKIRK, INDIANA THAT Chapter 75, Schedule VII, Four-way Stop Streets is amended to include the following intersection: Washington Street and Broad Street  
The penalty for violation of this ordinance shall be the same penalty as provided in Chapter 70.99 of the Dunkirk Code of Ordinances.  
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Dunkirk, Indiana on this 9th day of June, 2025.  
Jack Robbins, Presiding Officer  
Kara Lowe, Clerk-Treasurer  
Submitted to and approved by me on the date of adoption.  
Jack Robbins, Mayor  
CR 6-13,14,17,18,19,20,212025-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 to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2503-MF-000004 wherein Click n' Close, Inc, was Plaintiff, and Joshua Thomas Jacobs, et al were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the day of July, 2025, at the hour of 11:00 AM or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 120 N Court Street, Suite 305, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.  
**LOT NUMBER SEVEN (7) IN CORWIN'S SUB-DIVISION OF OUT LOT 3 IN BLOCK 3 IN THE WEST ADDITION TO THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF PORTLAND AS PER PLAT RECORDED AS PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 98, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.**  
**EXCEPT: EIGHTEEN (18) FEET OFF THE WEST SIDE OF SAID LOT.**  
**ALSO:**  
**EXCEPT: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT NUMBERED 7; THENCE NORTHERLY A DISTANCE OF 5.5 FEET ALONG THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT NUMBERED 7, BEING ALSO THE WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF A 16.5 FOOT ALLEY; THENCE WESTERLY A DISTANCE OF 54.0 FEET; THENCE SOUTHERLY A DISTANCE OF 4.0 FEET TO THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF WATER STREET; THENCE EASTERLY A DISTANCE OF 54.0 FEET ALONG THE NORTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF WATER STREET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 256.5 SQUARE FEET, MORE OR LESS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.**  
**ALSO:**  
**A PART OF LOT NUMBER SEVEN (7) IN CORWIN'S SUB-DIVISION OF OUT LOT THREE (3) IN BLOCKNUMBER THREE (3) IN THE WEST ADDITION TO THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF PORTLAND, INDIANA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING TWELVE (12) FEET EAST OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT SEVEN (7) AND RUNNING THENCE EAST ON THE NORTH LINE THEREOF SIX (6) FEET; THENCE SOUTH PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO (132) FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID LOT SEVEN (7); THENCE WEST SIX (6) FEET; THENCE NORTH ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO (132) FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING, IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.**  
**PARCEL NUMBER: 38-07-20-103-155.000-034**  
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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Patriot camp

The Jay County High School softball program held its youth camp this week. Pictured at left, first through third grade campers get a break at the end of Thursday's session. At right, Emree Spoonemore makes a throw during a contest as part of the camp activities.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

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Teams make Tri-Co. finals

Theurer, Jeffers, Wiggins lead wins

MUNCIE and REDKEY — A trio of travel ball teams competed in the Tri-County softball tournament on Wednesday and all three earned berths to the finals.

Three of the Portland All Star softball teams picked up wins in the semifinal of the Tri-County softball tournament at Delta High School on Wednesday, to clinch spots in Thursday's championship games. Portland's 8-and-younger team came out on top of Cowan 16-2 to earn a spot in the championship game. Maddie Theurer led the way with five RBIs in the game and a triple. Portland also got large offensive efforts from Annabelle Wiggins and Hayden Guggenbiller, both of which drove in four runs. See **Finals** page 7

FR dominates ACME opener

Local roundup

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians opened the ACME season with a mercy rule victory on Tuesday. One day later, they followed the act with a run-run win. A four-run fourth inning powered the Fort Recovery ACME baseball team to an 11-2 defeat of the Fort Loramie ACME squad on Wednesday. Alex Gearke homered for the second consecutive day with a two-run blast that started the Tribe's scoring in the third inning. A Caden Homan single set the Indians (2-0) up to push their lead to 4-1 on back-to-back doubles from Reece LeFevre and Grant Fortkamp. Fort Recovery padded its lead with two runs in the fifth and five in the sixth. Fortkamp led the offensive effort with two hits, two walks and three RBIs. Homan earned the win on the mound, giving up two earned runs on five hits and three walks while striking out six batters in a complete-game performance.

singles to lead the effort. Dailey scored all three times, while Huntsman and Williams each scored once. Williams earned a pair of RBIs on his three singles, while Huntsman had one on two singles and a triple. James Bruggeman, Luke Mikulski, Griffin Spoonemore and Mason Pfeifer drove in the runs for POEt. Bruggeman and Mikulski were the only batters to collect multiple hits, each slashing a double and a single.

**Williams wins** Williams Auto Parts got the better of POET 9-4 in a Portland Junior League Rookie baseball game on Wednesday. Alex Lochtefeld, Brett Huntsman, Carson Dailey and Zander Williams led the way for Williams Auto Parts as all four batters finished 3-for-3 at the plate. Lochtefeld drove in three runs on a double and two

**Berry leads** Bryson Berry left Matt's Garage battered as Cook's Nursery pulled out a 15-8 victory on Wednesday in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball. Berry led Cook's Nursery, going 4-for-4 from the plate and coming around to score four runs. Duke Steed, Kayden Alberson, Waylon Huelkamp, Griffin Haffner and Jaxson Toland all finished with three hits and combined for nine runs scored. Case Kaigler put together three hits in a trio of plate appearances to power Matt's Garage's offense. Rowan Ingram led the team with three runs scored.

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