

Growing venture



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Ali Buckland, left, checks out a customer during Three Chicks Farm's grand opening June 14. Buckland recently expanded her business from porch pick-ups to a storefront. She and husband Brandon Buckland converted a portion of their barn into a shop space on county road 200 South.

Three Chicks Farm has expanded from porch pick-up to storefront on county road 200 South

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

It started with a small desk and weekly porch pickups in March 2024. In just over a year, the Bucklands' bakery and farm business expanded to a storefront running out of the family barn. Three Chicks Farm celebrated its store grand opening last month. The new storefront, located at the Bucklands' home at 1538 W. 200 South, Portland, offers fresh eggs, frozen meat, tallow, jam and sourdough bread, among other items. It's open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays and 3 to 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Co-owner Ali Buckland started a farm stand business on Facebook approximately 14 months ago, with the idea stemming from efforts made by the family to eat healthier foods. "It was more so rooted into wanting to better the health of our family, and then it just turned into a passion for helping others do the same," she explained. Ali recalled her first porch

pickup attracted five people. Each weekend, her reach grew. She started selling pasture-raised eggs. Soon enough, she also began preparing sourdough bread and offering pasture-raised meats. "I think people want to be a part of the movement of, you know, kind of closing that gap of knowing where your food comes from, and that's a big part of our purpose," she said. Grocery store labels marked as "pasture-raised," she noted, don't necessarily mean what consumers may think. As long as the animals used to make the product had access to the outdoors, a product can be labeled as "pasture-raised." "That doesn't mean they're actually going outside," she said. "When you come to our farm, our chickens are running around and have free will to do whatever they please, from sun up to sun down, and that makes all the difference in the nutrients in the eggs." See Growing page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

One of Three Chicks Farm's bestsellers is homemade bread. Pictured above are a batch of jalapeño and cheddar loaves on sale during the farm store's grand opening June 14.

Russia launches drones, missiles

Attack followed Trump's decision to send Ukraine more weapons

By OLESIA SAFRONOVA
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Russia launched a record number of drones and missiles at Ukraine on Wednesday after U.S. President Donald Trump reiterated his displeasure with Vladimir Putin and confirmed he's sending more defensive weapons to Kyiv. Ukraine's air defense forces said Russia launched around 730 drones, including Iranian Shahed-type strike drones, as well as a dozen ballistic and cruise missiles mostly at the country's central and western regions. In total, Ukraine shot down seven missiles and 718 drones, they said. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in a post on social media platform X that the western city of Lutsk was a major target of the attack, though damage was reported across several regions including Kyiv and Dnipro in central Ukraine and Kharkiv in the east. The attack is the third record barrage on Ukraine within two weeks, one of which followed Trump's call with the Russian president. Trump has since strongly voiced his displeasure with Putin over his refusal to work toward a ceasefire in Ukraine, a proposal backed by Zelenskyy. Trump's decision to renew military aid to Ukraine swept aside an earlier pause by the Pentagon. "He's killing too many people, so we're sending some defensive weapons to Ukraine and I've approved it," Trump told reporters at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday. At the meeting, Trump said he's also looking "very strongly" at a bill introduced in the Senate that would impose severe sanctions on Russia and on countries that purchase its oil, petroleum products, natural gas or uranium. Local municipal authorities across the country said that Wednesday's attack caused major damage to civilian infrastructure, commercial storage facilities and private vehicles. Neighboring Poland scrambled fighter jets in response to the barrage, the Polish military said in a post on X.

Three mariners killed in Houthi attacks

By MOHAMMED HATEM and ERIK OLSSON
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Houthi attacks on cargo ships in the Red Sea killed three crew members, sank one vessel, and left a second without propulsion in signs the Tehran-backed group is once again escalating assaults in the vital trade route. The attacks resulted in the "tragic loss of three mariners, with many others injured and the complete loss of the MV

Magic Seas and its cargo," U.S. State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce said in a statement. The U.S. "will continue to take necessary action to protect freedom of navigation and commercial shipping," she added. Liberian-flagged MV Eternity C "has sustained significant damage and has lost all propulsion," the U.K. Maritime Trade Operations, a liaison between the U.K. Navy and commercial shipping, said on Tuesday. The

Greek-owned vessel had sustained hours of attacks, including by propelled grenades and an approach by multiple boats, the group said. Earlier, a Liberian delegation had confirmed some deaths during a meeting of the International Maritime Organization. The Associated Press also reported that three mariners had been killed, citing the European Union naval force. The return of attacks, espe-

cially given their severity, could once again deter more owners and crews against going through the Red Sea, an unavoidable area when using Egypt's Suez Canal to cut between Asia and Europe, and boost freight rates and insurance costs. The assaults — coming just a few weeks after Israel's military confrontation with Iran but with the Gaza war still raging — will add to the anxieties of

crews being asked to sail through the waterway. If the attacks worsen, the violence could boost oil prices as it snarls supply chains. The Eternity C, which saw the three fatalities, was a bulk carrier carrying grains to Somalia for the World Food Programme, and was attacked after completing the trip. The Houthis have not explicitly claimed responsibility. See Houthi page 2

Deaths

James Hartvig, 74, rural Bryant
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 degrees Tuesday.
The forecast calls for a low in the mid 60s tonight with a slight chance of rain. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high in the upper 80s. There is a 20% chance of rain.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Vintage Motor Bike Club annual meet continues today through Saturday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Mini bike games are scheduled for 1 p.m. today, with a merchandise sale from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and presentation of awards at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Coming up

Friday — Details from this week's Jay County Council meeting.
Saturday — Photos from the Community "Hero" event at Jay County Public Library.
Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.

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Obituaries

James Hartvig
April 29, 1951-July 4, 2025
James “Jim” Hartvig, age 74, a resident of rural Bryant, passed away on Friday, July 4, at the Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis.

Jim was born April 29, 1951, in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, the son of Herbert and Elsie (Madson) Hartvig. He graduated from Rosholt High School in 1969 and was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving in Viet-

nam. Jim retired in 2010 from Jay County REMC where he worked as a journey line-man.

He was a member of the Union Chapel Church in rural Bryant, Portland American Legion Post #211, IBEW and Omega Lodge #281 IOOF of Portland, and was a Boy Scout leader.

Jim married Carolyn Richards on Dec. 16, 1972.



Hartvig

Survivors include:
His wife — Carolyn Hartvig, rural Bryant, Indiana
Two children — Aric Hartvig, Upland, Indiana, and Adam Hartvig, Bryant, Indiana
Granddaughters — Val Hartvig, Emmy Hartvig and Danielle Tinkham
Grandsons — Vee Von Lynn and Jordan Tinkham
Siblings — Marilyn Brethouwer (husband: Richard), Jacksonville, Florida, John Hartvig (wife: Leslie),






Wausau, Wisconsin, Raymond Hartvig, Seattle, Washington, Kevin Hartvig (wife: Kim), Rosholt, Wisconsin, and Dale Hartvig (wife: Theresa), Rosholt, Wisconsin

He was preceded in death by a granddaughter, Azerika Hartvig; his siblings, Barbara Smith and Donald Hartvig; and a nephew, Andrew Hartvig.

Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, July 19, at Union Chapel Church. Memorial services will follow at 1 p.m. on Saturday at the church.

Arrangements are entrusted to Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

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				
Friday 7/11	Saturday 7/12	Sunday 7/13	Monday 7/14	Tuesday 7/15
 88/71 Another day of mostly sunny skies with the possibility of thunderstorms.	 89/71 There's a 70% chance of thunderstorms Saturday. The high may be in the upper 80s.	 85/68 Sunday's forecast shows a chance of rain under mostly sunny skies.	 86/67 Mostly sunny on Monday when the high will reach the mid 80s.	 89/70 There's a chance of thunderstorms Tuesday under mostly sunny skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$216 million	Daily Three: 4-0-6 Daily Four: 1-2-9-4 Quick Draw: 2-11-14-17-19-22-30-32-38-42-44-47-53-54-57-63-64-67-70-72
Mega Millions 4-6-38-44-62 Mega Ball: 24 Estimated jackpot: \$80 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 7-9-7 Pick 4: 4-5-1-2 Pick 5: 2-3-3-5-1 Evening Pick 3: 1-6-8 Pick 4: 4-7-5-5 Pick 5: 4-2-2-3-8 Rolling Cash: 5-9-10-13-37 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 9-7-3 Daily Four: 3-5-2-8 Quick Draw: 7-10-14-22-25-29-31-34-36-47-56-58-62-65-68-69-73-76-77-80 Evening	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.51 Aug. corn4.59 Sept. corn4.54	Aug. beans.....9.73 Wheat 5.19
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.49 Aug. corn4.44 Sept. corn4.34	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.29 Aug. corn4.27 Beans10.12 Aug. beans.....9.92 Wheat5.19
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.41 Aug. corn3.80 Beans10.15	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.44 Aug. corn4.39 Beans9.93 Oct. beans9.53 Wheat4.94

Today in history

In 1934, Franklin D. Roosevelt visited Colombia, becoming the first United States president to visit South America.

In 1942, Nazi Party Reich leader Heinrich Himmler ordered the sterilization of all Jewish women in Ravensbrück concentration camp of northern Germany.

In 1965, The Rolling Stones' single, "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction" topped the United States' charts.

In 1972, the Portland High School baseball team defeated Delta 3-0 to clinch at least a share of the Mississinewa Valley Conference championship. The Panthers were undefeated in league play with only a game against Mississinewa remaining.

In 1976, a chemical factory explosion in Seveso — it's near Milan, Italy — covered the area in toxic dioxin. It's been ranked by Time magazine as one of the worst environmental disasters.

In 1985, Coca Cola announced plans to resume selling the old formula of Coke after public outcry of the "new Coke."

In 2022, Micro Wrestling made its debut at the Jay County Fair.

— The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, living facility, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland.

7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Tuesday
7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council public forum, Cooper Brothers Community Pavilion, Community Park, 401 W. Milligan St.

Wednesday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North., Portland.

Growing ...

Continued from page 1

Three Chicks Farm's chickens are supplemented with feed, although Ali noted a majority of their diet, such as bugs and grass, comes from the outdoors.

"People are more interested in knowing how their food is raised and where it comes from," explained Ali. "The more it comes to light in the news when you read about all these recalls of food products, when you start to really research how this food is prepared or raised, it's kind of scary."

The farm currently has about 300 meat chickens and 150 egg-laying chickens of a variety of breeds. It also has up to 16 cows and six pigs, all of which are given space to roam.

As the business grew, the Bucklands realized they needed more than a porch pickup option to meet demand. Ali also hoped for a space to connect with customers for a more personal experience.

Ali's husband and Three Chicks Farm co-owner Brandon began converting a portion of the barn into a storefront. Seven months later, the family celebrated with their shop's grand opening. Ali said her family estimated between 900 and 1,000 people stopped by the farm on June 14.

"Beyond my wildest dreams," she said.

In addition to the sourdough, beef, pork, chicken and eggs, Three Chicks Farm also offers beef tallow, homemade jam, non-toxic cleaning sprays, natural soaps, beeswax candles and gift items, such as mugs or bread knives.

The name, Three Chicks Farm, stems from the three ladies in the family — Ali and her daughters Blair, 5, and Maeby, 3. Ali noted the entire family helps out on the farm, gather-



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Three Chicks Farm, pictured above, provides pastures for its chickens, cows and pigs to roam.

ing eggs and providing for the animals as needed.

With full-time jobs — Brandon is a lineman for American Electric Power; Ali is a nurse at IU Health Jay Hospital — the Bucklands manage their farm and storefront in their free time.

Janna Snyder has been a regular customer of the Bucklands' products since they first started offering them. A former work colleague of Ali's, she talked highly of the farm's products. Three Chicks Farm's jam and bread, she noted, are staples of the Snyder household.

"I can tell you her stuff is just incredibly delicious," she said. "It's such high quality. I've never had anything I've been disappointed with."

She also praised Buckland for putting in the effort and providing her services to the county.

"We're very fortunate to have someone like her who is willing to share her talent with our community," she said.

There's now a place for customers and the Bucklands to connect on a deeper level with the store front, said Ali. She talked about how she's developed friendships through her business.

"I think we're part of a growing movement that we want to reconnect people with real food and where it comes from, who's behind it," Ali added. "I think that sharing the process transparently and just to be able to create a space where customers can really know their farmer is important to us."

Houthi ...

Continued from page 1

The incident comes on the heels of a Sunday attack on Magic Seas, another Liberian-flagged vessel, which was targeted with missiles, rocket-propelled grenades and gunfire, the UKMTO said. The Yemen-based Houthis, in a televised statement, claimed responsibility for the assault on that vessel, an Ultramax owned by Greece's Stem Shipping.

The Magic Seas was sinking as of 4:49 pm in Greece, according to Diaplous Group officials citing information from nearby ships. Twenty-two individuals on board were rescued, the United Arab Emirates said.

The Houthis released a video late Tuesday purporting to show that the vessel had sunk.

The owner of Magic Seas did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"These incidents highlight the Houthis' disregard for human life, as they continue to exploit seafarers as pawns in their strategic conflicts," said Jakob Larsen, chief safety and security officer at BIMCO, the world's largest direct-membership trade group for the shipping industry.

The Houthis began attacking commercial vessels in the Red Sea in 2023 after Israel launched a campaign against Iran-backed Hamas in the Gaza Strip, with the proxy battle disrupting global shipping routes and causing freight rates to rise because vessels had to avoid the Suez Canal. Scores of ships were hit or forced to reroute, and at least four sailors were killed, including three on a single vessel early last year, the U.S. military said.

After an intense U.S. and Israeli bombing campaign on Houthi targets in Yemen earlier this year, President Donald Trump announced a ceasefire with the group. But the Houthis threatened to return to targeting ves-

sels in the Red Sea following the U.S.' decision to join an offensive by Israel on Iran's nuclear sites.

The attack on the Eternity C happened about 51 nautical miles west of Yemen's Hodeida, not far from where the Magic Seas was also struck. The Houthis said the Magic Seas was targeted because it had called on Israeli ports in the past.

"The reality is that this ship has called in Israel a couple of years ago, but so did so many others," Stem Shipping Chief Executive Officer Michael Bodouroglou said in an interview.

Stem Shipping stopped sailing through the route after the Houthis attacked the Sounion, a Greek-operated oil tanker, in August last year, said Bodouroglou. The company only restarted after the U.S. announced the truce.

The Israel Defense Forces carried out airstrikes on Hodeida, Ras Issa and Al-Salif ports on the Red Sea and a power plant in Hodeida on Sunday, according to a post on its X account, following the attack on the Magic Seas.

SERVICES

Friday Geesaman , Angelina: 11 a.m., Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland.
Saturday Hartvig , James: 1 p.m., Union Chapel Church, 6200 N. 375 West, Bryant.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com



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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

FR to host Heatwave this weekend

Another free show is coming up Sunday in Fort Recovery.

Heatwave, the music of Linda Ronstadt, will perform at 7 p.m. in Hein Amphitheatre at Van Trees Park. According to its website, the group brings Ronstadt’s music live to the stage, starting with “The Stone Poneys” and continuing through her greatest hits. The performance is a part of Fort Recovery Friends of the Arts’ summer concert series.

Taking Note

State scholarships

Three Jay County students earned state scholarships recently.

State representatives Matt Lehman and J.D. Prescott announced in a press release recipients of the Next Generation

Hoosier Educators Scholarship. The program, established in 2016 by Indiana General Assembly, awards up to \$10,000 per year to high-achieving high school and college students who agree to teach in an eligible Indiana school for five years. Earning the scholarship were Jay County locals Aubrey Millspaugh, Adriene Denney and Ellie Darnell.

To learn more and apply for the next round of scholarships opening in

the fall, visit LearnMoreIndiana.org/nextteacher. For questions, email NextTeacher@che.in.gov.

Dean’s list

A Pennville resident recently made the dean’s list at University of Maryland Global Campus.

Terri Thompson earned the honor for the spring semester. To be eligible to receive the award, students must complete at least six credits during the term, earn at least a 3.5

GPA for the term and maintain a cumulative 3.5 GPA at the university.

Series continues

The Muncie Three Trails Music Series is in full swing.

Its next concert, a performance by Blue Moon Marquee, opens at 7 p.m. Aug. 16 at Canan Commons.

Dates for other shows are as follows:

- Saturday, Aug. 23 — Vanessa Collier at Brown

Family Amphitheater at Ball State University

- Saturday, Aug. 30 — Jennie Devoe at Canan Commons
- Saturday, Sept. 6 — Colby T. Helms & the Virginia Creepers at Brown Family Amphitheater
- Saturday, Sept. 20 — The Afro Peruvian Jazz Orchestra at Brown Family Amphitheater

All shows begin at 7 p.m. Visit munciethreetrails.com for more information.

Boyfriend’s daughter complicates relationship

DEAR ABBY: I have been seeing my partner, “Gil,” for five years. After my husband passed, Gil came into my life again. We had been colleagues about 10 years prior. We always had a spark but never acted on it, as I was deeply committed to my late husband.

After the funeral, Gil came into my life with guns blazing. We struck up a friendship, and it wasn’t long before it became more. I have come to care deeply for him, and I want to be there for him, as he is older and facing some health issues. My problem is Gil and his youngest daughter, “Nicole,” are very close. I initially wanted a warm relationship with her and went out of my way to orchestrate vacations and time together.

Fast-forward to now: I dislike Nicole immensely because she takes advantage of her dad. She’s rude, inconsiderate and holier than everyone, even though she would have nothing if not for her father’s generosity. I hesitate to call her out, because I’ll become the “bad guy,” which she has

already tried to make me out to be.

Nicole is in her late 20s with kids of her own. I’m younger than Gil, and I know she sees me as a threat. I know there is some jealousy there, but I’m concerned for his well-being. His health isn’t great, and Nicole is never around for doctor appointments, etc. I want to be gracious because she can do no wrong in his eyes. Your input would be greatly appreciated. — CARING ABOUT HIM

DEAR CARING: Continue to be gracious to Nicole. As I see it, you have little choice. Because she can do no wrong in her daddy’s eyes, if you try to point out otherwise, it won’t endear you to either of them. What you must decide is



which is more important to you — calling out Nicole’s glaring flaws or a relationship with her father.

.....

DEAR ABBY: As a young mother, I endured a difficult marriage filled with domestic abuse. In the midst of that turmoil, I struggled to be the parent my children needed. They are adults now, and I find myself distanced from them. It pains me deeply to know they want nothing to do with me. I can’t help but feel I ruined their lives, and the weight of that thought is unbearable.

I miss them dearly and long for the chance to reconnect and heal our relationship. I’m at a crossroads and unsure of how to move forward and mend the bonds that have been strained. I deeply regret my past mistakes and want to make things right, but I’m uncertain where to start. Thank you for your guidance. — LOST AND OVERWHELMED IN CANADA

DEAR LOST: I know of no perfect parents. Everyone makes mistakes. I wish you

had mentioned why you think you “ruined your children’s lives.” Were you physically or emotionally abusive? Did you abandon them? If that’s what happened, reach out. Apologize and offer to join them in family counseling if they are willing. It might be a healthy first step toward reconciliation.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I have been working with a personal trainer for a year who just gave me the bad news that he may be leaving soon for a promotion in Chicago. I’m happy he’s so motivated and hardworking, but I have grown to adore him. I feel like we’re connected.

Lately, when I think about his leaving, it almost makes me cry. He’s so kind, protective, funny and sweet to me. He mentioned in one of our first sessions that he was attracted to me. He tells me I’m beautiful, and it makes me smile. If he moves away, it will leave a hole in my heart. I feel like he’s forgetting everything we have shared.

I text him but don’t want to be a pest. Should I tell him how I feel before it’s too late? Does it seem clingy? How do I know he feels the same way about me without making myself look like a fool? — WORKED UP IN PHOENIX

DEAR WORKED UP: You wrote that your trainer said he “may” be moving to Chicago. How definite is it? Forgive me if this seems harsh, but if your feelings are reciprocated, your trainer would invite you to move to Chicago with him, or at least find time to see you outside of your paid sessions. If you think it would help to express your feelings for him, say so. It’s a huge compliment, and he should regard it as such. I don’t think you have anything to lose by being honest.

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

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

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.

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 informa-

tion, 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. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

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

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

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at noon the second Monday of each month at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E Walnut St, Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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

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

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins are accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COM-

MUNITY 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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — 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.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday’s Solution

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

July SALE

RUN A 6-COLUMN BY 6-INCH COLOR AD IN ALL THREE OF OUR NEWSPAPERS

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‘What ifs’ with flood are haunting

The Dallas Morning News
Tribune News Service

It is hard to know what words to share in a moment of such unimaginable pain and shock as the one our state is experiencing right now.

The loss of so much life, of little girls from all over Texas camping near a riverbank, of grandmas and grandpas and mothers and fathers, people swept away from us so suddenly, it defies understanding.

We are Texans, and we understand that our rivers are dual beings, that they can shift from gently rolling water to massive surges before your eyes. But even

Guest Editorial

by that understanding, what happened on July 4 exceeds anything we can remember.

At this writing, the death toll from flooding in the Hill Country and south central Texas was 52. About two dozen girls staying at Camp Mystic in Kerr County were still missing.

Questions must be answered

about how much warning people in harm’s way received and how quickly local officials reacted to those warnings.

From what we know now, flash flood warnings did go out from the National Weather Service in sufficient time to evacuate, and NWS officials have said they had adequate staffing and technology.

Texas river flooding is unlike most natural disasters not only in its speed and ferocity but in its unpredictability. Rainfall frequently triggers flash flood warnings, but the severity of the actual flooding is so variable that many people too often disregard those warnings.

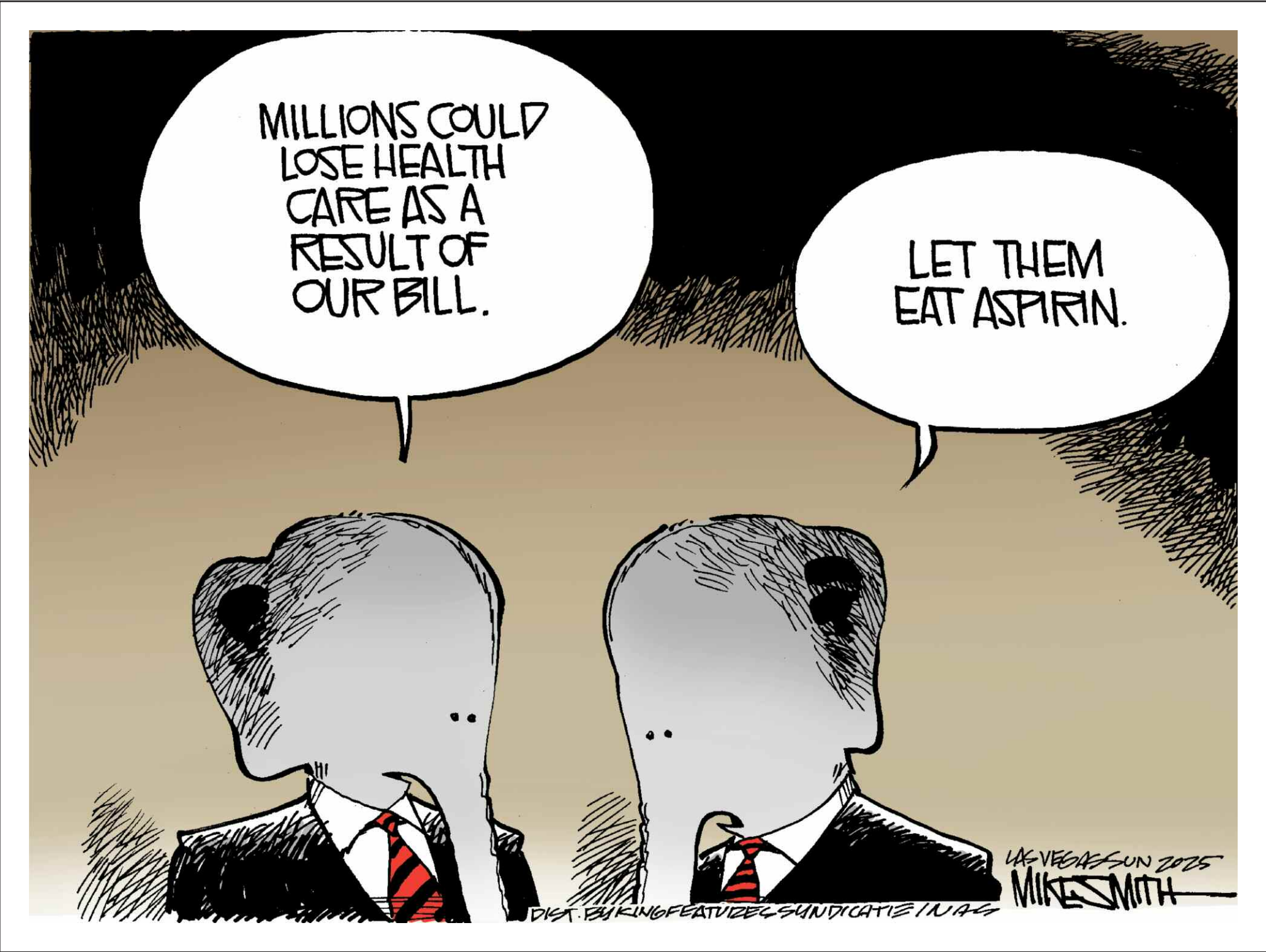
Once this initial response has ended, and recovery begins, state and local officials need to wrestle with improved warning systems. We need to understand whether improved staffing or technology at either the National Weather Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration could give more accurate advance warning.

Local officials, meanwhile, must review their own practices and policies. Should they have acted to require people to move away from the Guadalupe River as the rain began to fall? Should people be permitted to

live and camp so close to the riverbanks?

These are haunting questions now of “what if.” We could have done a thousand things differently and perhaps spared our state this terrible tragedy. We need to understand those things and do whatever can be done to ensure that this doesn’t happen again.

For now, we give thanks to the first responders who have rescued hundreds of people and reunited them with their loved ones. We mourn with those families who have lost what is most precious to them, and we pray that a few miracles may yet emerge.



Churchill was right about Americans

By MICHAEL J. HICKS


Our nation was born in an epic struggle over the radical ideals of our founding — that (1) we each have value and (2) government exists to preserve rights bestowed by our Creator. The ideals of that revolution, which was already upon us 250 summers ago, remain radical and new.

We Americans have been at our best when we work hard and sacrifice for an idea. Some of these ideas are mighty and bold — freeing the slaves, defeating the Nazis or communists. Sometimes the struggles are more down to earth — building a family business, getting an education or raising children.

Our success in these matters required more than just determination and sacrifice. Success also demanded that we look a problem squarely in the eye without false optimism or self-delusion. Then we moved forward with grim or confident determination, based on facts, not fantasy.

As a democracy, it often takes us an agonizingly long time to come to grips with these epic challenges. As Winston Churchill, perhaps apocryphally quipped, “Americans will always

Michael J. Hicks



do the right thing, when they’ve exhausted all other options.”

That moment is now upon us. The U.S. faces a large and growing federal debt. It is not an acute crisis, but a chronic one that threatens to make our economy grow sickly and deprive a generation or two of prosperity. The only way to address this honestly is to face the facts of it, with unvarnished eyes.

The federal debt belongs to us all. Many have deceived Americans about simple solutions — whether closing agencies as DOGE promised, or taxing billionaires at 100%. Even if the government only issued Social Security checks and paid Medicare and Medicaid, we’d still run a deficit.

In the end, it has been citizens — plain, ordinary, voters — who allowed this. We haven’t balanced the budget in 25 years, across 12 years of GOP presi-

dents, 12 years of Democratic presidents and more swings of the House and Senate than are worth counting.

Congress is poised to pass the largest, most expensive increase in American debt in peacetime history, President Trump’s Big Beautiful Bill. I am somewhat sanguine about its passage, for I feel Churchill was right about us.

We are at the end of our options, and it is time for some grim truth.

The U.S. federal budget has run a surplus only when total tax and spending runs between 19% and 20% of our gross domestic product. Today, our taxes are at 17.4% of GDP, while our spending is at 23.4% of GDP.

The only way to run a surplus is to significantly raise federal taxes and trim all types of federal spending, including the so-called entitlements of Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. We cannot get there any other way.

This will be painful in unforeseen ways. Take the Medicaid cuts in the Big Beautiful Bill, which will affect more than 1 in 7 recipients — many in rural areas that voted for Trump.

Those people will still get

sick, but instead of seeking preventive care, they’ll use costly emergency rooms. In urban areas, families with insurance will bear higher costs. In rural areas, hospitals will close — I expect at least eight in Indiana alone.

The only consolation will be that the vast majority of local voters supported this approach. It was clearly laid out in Project 2025 for everyone to read.

I don’t make this point to defend or oppose Medicaid or Medicaid expansions, nor to criticize this part of the BBB. I merely mention this because cutting Medicaid is certain to backfire, particularly in the places that supported Trump. In the words of Thomas Sowell, “there are no solutions, only trade-offs.”

This BBB will likely be the last huge peacetime spending bill, as rising debt service costs constrain future spending while spilling into capital markets — raising mortgage, car loan and credit card rates. This will slow growth and increase economic pain, bringing more pressure to bear.

The second big reason why the BBB will look so disastrous in the long run is that most

Americans will see the ill effects of it by this time next year. The cuts are deep in places that will be visible quickly — health care, SNAP, water/sewer improvements, energy production and other infrastructure.

In contrast, the tax cuts will affect very few Americans. The roughly 1 in 50 workers who now earn tips, or the 1 in 50 who earn more than \$400,000, will see some benefits. Everyone in between will struggle to discern any change.

Future budgets will have to make trade-offs in spending and taxes that demand courage from our elected leaders. Our forthcoming experience with the BBB will do much to frame the nature of those trade-offs. It is also likely to usher in a very different Congress in next year’s elections.

That’s OK with me. In fixing the budget, we cannot get worse than this one.

.....

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Mark Acree
(260) 251-0987
Services: 10 a.m.

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

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

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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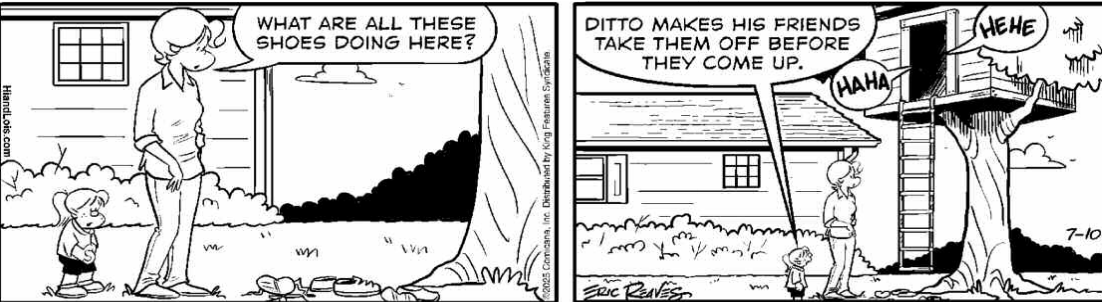
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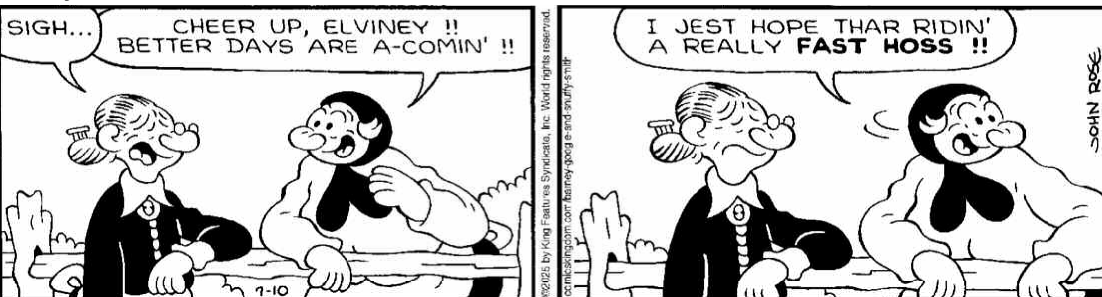
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Structural visualization

East dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ J 9 6 2
♥ A 4
♦ K J 7 2
♣ J 9 4
WEST
♠ —
♥ 10 8 5 2
♦ 8 5 4
♣ 10 7 6 5 3 2
EAST
♠ A 10 8 4
♥ K Q 9 7 3
♦ 9 6
♣ A 8
SOUTH
♠ K Q 7 5 3
♥ J 6
♦ A Q 10 3
♣ K Q

The bidding:
East 1♥ South 1♠ West Pass North 2♣
Pass 4♠
Opening lead — two of hearts.

Safety plays come in all shapes and sizes, and many of them are immediately recognized by the experienced declarer. But others are decidedly off the beaten path and might easily be overlooked by an inattentive declarer.
Consider this deal where South arrived at four spades after East opened one heart. Declarer won West's heart lead with dummy's ace and played the spade deuce to his king as East followed with the four. When West showed out, discarding a club, South found he could not

avoid losing two spades, a heart and a club, and so finished down one.
While it is true that declarer ran into exceedingly bad luck in the trump suit, it is also true that he would have made the contract had he exercised greater care in trying to protect against a possible 4-0 division of the suit. The correct play at trick two was to lead the jack of spades instead of the deuce. If South had done that, East's 10-8-4 eventually would have succumbed to repeated trump leads from dummy regardless of how East chose to defend.

It could be argued that leading the spade jack from dummy would have failed if West, instead of East, had held the A-10-8-4 of spades. In that case, the winning play would be to lead a low trump from dummy at trick two, retaining dummy's J-9 for a subsequent finesse against West's ten.

However, this argument is not valid if the bidding is taken into account. East had to have the ace of spades for his opening bid (there were only 13 high-card points missing), so this ruled out the possibility of West holding the ace of spades. It followed, therefore, that the only sensible safety play was to lead the spade jack from dummy at trick two in case East had all the missing spades.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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7-10

CRYPTOQUIP

X S G D O V N X F R W H L V S H M S F V

V G C G K G Y M W H N G G V P H R K Q

C F L R H O V X S R K Q V . F W H X Q H G V

H K D G S R K P X S G V G F Y V .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A PERSON IS THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF AN ORIGAMI COMMITTEE, I'D CALL THEM THE FOLDING CHAIR.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals E

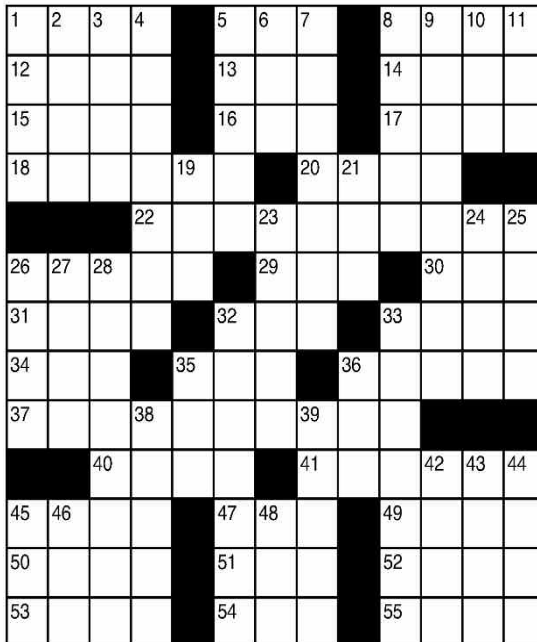
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 35 Prefix with athlete | DOWN | 21 Celeb gossip source |
| 1 Avocado dip, for short | 36 Sanctify | 1 Arizona river | 23 Iberian nation |
| 5 Carried out | 37 Eleventh hour | 3 Jai — | 24 Some defensive linemen |
| 8 Transcript stats | 40 Slightly rider | 4 House wine orders | 25 Declares Church ringer |
| 12 "La — Bonita" | 41 Wave | 5 Interior design | 26 Operatic solo |
| 13 Language suffix | 45 Wheel-ing's river | 6 Terre Haute sch. | 27 Schooner features |
| 14 Coffee vessels | 47 Chit | 7 Battled verbally | 32 Part of BBC |
| 15 Mad king of theater | 49 Yarn | 8 Tropical fruit | 33 Tipped off |
| 16 Young lion | 50 Shopping complex | 9 Immaculate | 35 Texter's "No more!" |
| 17 "If it — broke ..." | 51 Camera type | 10 New England cape | 36 A/C stat |
| 18 Italian cheese | 52 Earth sci. | 11 Retired jet | 38 Letter-shaped hardware |
| 20 Off-roaders, for short | 53 Heart of the matter | 19 Dogtag wearers (Abbr.) | 39 Loan shark's practice |
| 22 Aides to captains | 54 "Yoo-hoo!" | | 42 Confront |
| 26 "Matlock" star Kathy | 55 Contradict | | 43 Carolina college |
| 29 Dis-pensed candy | | | 44 Depend (on) |
| 30 Chef Garten | | | 45 Texter's "Wow!" |
| 31 Love god | | | 46 Japanese "yes" |
| 32 Mis-behaving | | | 48 Yucatan "Bravo!" |
| 33 Actor Garcia | | | |
| 34 Back talk | | | |

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 7-10



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40 NOTICES

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LeBron ...

Continued from page 8

“Having a whole TV special, and people getting the opportunity to watch me make a decision on where I want to play, I probably would change that,” James told ESPN’s Rachel Nichols in 2011.

“Because I can now look and see if the shoe was on the other foot and I was a fan, and I was very passionate about one player and he decided to leave, I would be upset, too, by the way that he handled it.”

The much-viewed broadcast raised millions of dollars for charity, which Gray has said he wishes he brought more attention to that night.

“Could we have all done better on that evening? Yes, but I look at that as the ultimate player

empowerment,” Gray told Front Office Sports in an interview published last month.

“You look back now, at how that has changed everything, it was a seminal moment. ... If you look at what that has done to all of these guys, across all the spectrum of sports, particularly the NBA. That was a big moment that changed a lot for everybody. They can all thank LeBron for making their lives a lot better.”

James has continued to flex his power as a prominent athlete, including by returning to Cleveland before the 2014-15 season and leading the Cavs to the 2016 championship.

A decade and a half after “The Decision,” James is again at the fore-

front of the NBA’s off-season rumor mill.

James, 40, picked up his \$52.6 million player option for 2025-26 with the Los Angeles Lakers, but his agent, Rich Paul, told ESPN that his client wants to compete for a championship and “knows the Lakers are building for the future.”

The Lakers, who acquired Luka Doncic in February to be their franchise cornerstone, were eliminated in the first round of this year’s playoffs. They have since signed center Deandre Ayton but lost a valuable defender and 3-point shooter in Dorian Finney-Smith.

The fact James did not restructure his contract with the Lakers to add additional years has fur-

ther fueled speculation about his future.

The Knicks and Cavaliers have often been floated as destinations where James could be the missing piece for championship contention, though that buzz remains mere fodder among fans and debate shows to this point.

James’ visit to the Cavaliers’ practice facility last week garnered attention — and a swift response from James.

“I live here still and train every summer,” James wrote on social media, adding, “yall bored man! Go get a plate of food somewhere and enjoy the 4th of July!”

Still, James’ career has been full of twists, turns and surprises, as evidenced by “The Decision” 15 years ago.

A’ja Wilson suffers injury

By CALLIE FIN
Las Vegas Review-Journal
Tribune News Service

LAS VEGAS — A’ja Wilson suffered a wrist injury in the first half and the Las Vegas Aces lost 87-78 to the New York Liberty on Tuesday at Barclays Center.

Wilson, the reigning WNBA MVP, went down hard on a drive to the basket with 4:13 remaining in the first half. She remained on the court in pain for a while. Her teammates shielded her from cameras until she was able to get up on her own.

Wilson shot two free throws for her only points of the game and

continued to play for a few more possessions, but then exited for good with two minutes left in the second quarter.

Wilson eventually returned to the bench with a black wrap on her right wrist.

Guard Jackie Young led the Aces (9-10) with 19 points in Wilson’s absence. Guard Dana Evans added 16 points off the bench.

Guard Sabrina Ionescu had 28 points for the Liberty (13-6).

Wilson missed three games earlier this season with a concussion, and the team went 2-1 in her absence.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Saturday

Jay County Summer swim hosts conference championships – 7:30 p.m.

Portland Rockets doubleheader vs. Fort Wayne Blues – 1 p.m.

TV schedule

Today

8 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)

3 p.m. — UEFA Women’s Euro soccer: Finland at Switzerland (FOX); Norway at Iceland (FS1)

3:30 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: New Orleans Pelicans vs. Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN2)

5:10 p.m. — MLB: Miami Marlins at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

5:30 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Brooklyn Nets (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: Los Angeles Lakers vs. Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: San Antonio Spurs at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)

Friday

8 a.m. — Tennis: Wimbledon (ESPN)

10 a.m. — LIV Golf: LIV Golf Andalucia (FS1)

3 p.m. — UEFA Women’s Euro soccer: Italy at Spain (FOX); Portugal at Belgium (FS1)

7 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: Utah Jazz vs. Charlotte Hornets (ESPN)

7 p.m. — PLL lacrosse: New York Atlas at Boston Cannons (ESPN2)

7:10 p.m. — MLB: Colorado Rockies at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

9 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Monterey Bay at Orange County SC (ESPN2)

11 p.m. — NBA 2K26 summer league: Portland Trail Blazers at Golden State Warriors (ESPN2)

11 p.m. — Liga MX soccer: Juarez at America (FS1)

Local notes

Tickets available

Jay County Junior-Senior High School will begin selling its super and season tickets on Monday, July 21 from 8 a.m. until noon and from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m.

After July 21, tickets will be available during the high school’s office hours which are between 7:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Regular season tickets for individual varsity

events will cost \$7, while admission to JV, freshman or junior high events will be \$6 for adults.

The Patriot Pass, which gets you into all high school and junior high events costs \$115. The Senior Patriot Pass for those 65 and older will be \$70.

Other deals are as follows:

- High School Adult Super tickets - \$90
- Senior Super Tickets - \$55
- Pre-Paid Sports Pass - \$60
- Basketball season pass - \$60
- Football season pass - \$25

Outing scheduled

United Way will be hosting a golf outing at Portland Golf Club on August 2.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the teams teeing off at 12:30 p.m. Teams can register for \$250 each, with lunch included, at www.united-wayjaycounty.org or by going to Portland Golf Club.

Prior to the golf outing, there will be a freewill pancake and sausage breakfast from 7:30-10:30 a.m.

After golf there will be a family fun night. It will cost \$40 for two adults and two kids to play nine holes and eat. There will be live music by Ken Bantz, a bounce house and fireworks.

Tickets available

The next race in the Adams County Challenge series is the Swiss Days Race in Berne on Saturday, July 26 at 8:15 a.m.

There will be a 1-mile kids run and a 5K race. To register, visit www.adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

.....

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

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Moratorium on Co2 Geological Carbon Sequestration Storage Facilities

City of Portland, Common Council will hold a public hearing pertaining to an original zoning ordinance.

WHEN: Monday, July 21, 2025

WHERE: 1616 North Franklin Street, Portland, IN 47371

TIME: 6:15 P.M.

Any written objections to the proposal that are filed with the City Clerk Treasurer at or before the meeting, will be heard. Objections can be emailed to: Cityclerktreas@thecityofportland.net or mailed to City of Portland, 321 North Meridian Street, Portland, IN 47371.

The public hearing on this matter may be continued from time to time as may be found necessary.

CR 7-10-2025-HSPAXLP

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JAY COUNTY
PORTLAND, INDIANA
VS
CAUSE NO:
38C01-2503-MF-00006
PLAINTIFF

LESLEY NEWLAND; INDIANA HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY;
SERVICE FINANCE COMPANY
DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of an Order of Sale, directed to me from the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court and pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on 06/17/2025, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the office of the Sheriff of Jay County, in Jay County, Indiana, located at Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Portland, IN 47371 on July 31, 2025 at 10:00 AM Local Time, the fee simple title together with the rents, profits, issues and income or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, interest, costs and accruing costs of the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana, to-wit:

Lot Number One Hundred Seventeen (117) in Woodlawn Park Addition to the City of Portland, Jay County, Indiana.

Commonly known as: 1007 West Race Street, Portland, IN 47371

State Parcel Number: 38-07-20-201-090.000-034

This sale is to be made in all respects pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, approved March 7, 1931, and entitled An act concerning proceedings in actions to foreclose real estate mortgages, providing for the sale and custody of the mortgaged premises and repealing all laws conflicting therewith (see Indiana Code). It is further provided by law that there shall be no redemption from such sale, and the purchaser at such sale, upon complying with the terms of his purchase, shall be entitled to immediately receive from the undersigned, Sheriff of Jay County, a deed conveying to him, the purchaser, the fee simple title in and to said real estate.

Taken as the property of the Defendant(s) stated above at the suit of U.S. Bank National Association. Said sale to be without relief from valuation and/or appraisement laws.

Attorney for Plaintiff
Codilis Law, LLC
8050 Cleveland Place
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 736-5579
15-25-00405

Larry R. Newton, Jr. Sheriff of Jay County

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector.

CR 6-26;7-3,10-2025-HSPAXLP

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: Under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN

Wednesday Afternoon
JULY 16, 2025
4:30 P.M.

MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD ITEMS - TOOLS

Midea small chest type freezer; leather chair and a half; Wicker settee with 2 matching swivel rockers and end table, like new; Electric reclining sofa; (2) gaming chairs; marble top dresser; French Provincial bookshelf; Cannon gun safe; Pipka - Reflections of Christmas figurines; Pipka - Stories of Christmas ornaments; #6 Star crock; #3 crock; slate; cement lawn items; David Winter iThe Fisherman’s Wharf painting; Maurcie R Bebb color etching iRed Eyed Vines, 1963; several other prints and paintings; Black & Decker battery powered tools; Kids Rechargeable ride-ons to include: Paw Patrol Rubble ride on dump truck, Paw Patrol Marshall ride on fire truck, Flybar bumper

90 SALE CALENDAR

car, and Hour dirt bike; and other items not listed.

CLETUS RINES & LEWELLEN FAMILY
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: 925 West Race Street, Portland IN

FRIDAY AFTERNOON,
JULY 11TH, 2025
5:30 P.M.

REAL ESTATE

Single story home with approximately 1036 square feet of living space situated on a 52’ x 136’ lot. Home features include 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. A new water heater was installed recently. Property also offers a 12’ x 14’ deck and a detached garage with approximately 720 square feet. This property will make a great

90 SALE CALENDAR

starter home or rental investment property.

SUV-HOUSEHOLD GOODS-TOOLS

2002 Geo Tracker with 144,00 miles, Whirlpool side by side refrigerator; Amana electric range; Maytag washer; Amana dryer; twin bed; Haier air conditioner; 4 drawer chest; kneehole desk; glider rocker; leather sofa; Power XL air fryer; Bissell sweeper; electric recliner; lamp stands; coffee table; cement bird bath; cement angel; wood step ladder; and other items not listed.

For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY, Auctioneer and (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.

PERSONAL PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE REAL ESTATE.

SONJA YOHE ESTATE
BY AMBER WANKEN, PERSONAL REP
JOHN LARUE - ESTATE ATTORNEY
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auction-

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF 14-DAY PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Proposed Approval of Interim Significant Source Modification for POET Biorefining - Portland, LLC in Jay County

Notice is hereby given that the above company located at 1542 South 200 West, Portland, Indiana, has made application to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM), Office of Air Quality (OAQ) for an interim permit to construct an eighth fermenter with a capacity of 730,000 gallons and associated piping and piping components (valves, pumps, and connectors) to connect the fermenter to plant fermentation process equipment. Emissions from the fermenter will be controlled by the existing regenerative thermal oxidizer or the existing scrubber.

Based on the fermenter and piping components operating at the maximum capacity for 8,760 hours per year, the potential to emit for the project is provided in the table below:

	Uncontrolled Emissions Increase (tons/yr)	Controlled Emissions Increase (tons/yr)	Limited Project Emissions Increase (tons/yr)
Pollutant VOC	207.57	0.09	0.01
Total HAPs	3.46	0.05	3.42E-06

The company has submitted an application for a significant source modification. The OAQ shall review the application in accordance with the Permit Review Rules. Operation of the source cannot commence until a valid operating permit is issued. The construction of the proposed project is entirely at the applicant’s own risk.

Notice is hereby given that there will be a period of 14 days from the date of publication of this notice during which any interested person may comment on why this interim permit should or should not be issued. Appropriate comments should be related to air quality issues, interpretation of the applicable state and federal rules, calculations made, technical issues, or the effect that the operation of this facility would have on any aggrieved individuals. A copy of the application has been sent to Jay County Public Library, 315 N Ship Street, Portland, Indiana, 47371. All comments, along with supporting documentation, should be submitted in writing to the Indiana Department Environmental Management, Office of Air Quality, Permits Branch, Indiana Government Center North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room 13W, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251.

Persons not wishing to comment at this time, but wishing to receive notice of future proceedings conducted related to this action, must submit a written request to the Office of Air Quality (OAQ), at the above address. All interested parties of record will receive a notice of the decision on this matter and will then have 15 days after receipt of the Notice of Decision to file a petition for administrative review. Procedures for filing such a petition will be enclosed with the Notice.

Questions should be directed to Indiana Department Environmental Management, Office of Air Quality, Permits Branch, Indiana Government Center North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Room 13W, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2251, or call (800) 451-6027 or (317) 233-0178.

CR 7-10-2025 -HSPAXLP

90 SALE CALENDAR

eers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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

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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Wednesday Afternoon

JULY 16, 2025

4:30 P.M.

MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD ITEMS - TOOLS

Frigidaire refrigerator; Amana washer & dryer; Hot Point gas stove; Midea small chest type freezer; leather chair and a half; Wicker settee with 2 matching swivel rockers and end table, like new; Electric reclining sofa; recliner; sofa; chair; King size bed; dresser; night stands; full size bed; dresser; Peter Grant dining table with 4 chairs; full size bed; hall tree bench; end tables; flatscreen TV’s; Oak table with 4 chairs; (2) gaming chairs; knee hole desk; futon; settee; mirrors; Oak high chair/rocker; hall table; marble top dresser; French Provincial bookshelf; Thomasville Solid Cherry kitchen hutch; 4 pc. desk/hutch and bookshelves set; Cannon gun safe; glass top table with 4 chairs; metal plant stands; small chest type freezer; small upright freezer; refrigerator; Balsam Hill pre lit Christmas tree; Kitchen Aid slicer and ice cream maker; Haviland set of dishes; Rada knives; Rachel Ray utensils; baking dishes; flatware; Corning; The Museum Collection England set of dishes; oil lamps; celery dishes; Lead Crystal vase; copper pans; old dolls; goblets; Pipka – Reflections of Christmas figurines; Pipka – Stories of Christmas ornaments; brass candelabra; Royal Doulton Toby mugs; crock bowl; #6 Star crock; #3 crock; slate; cement lawn items; lamps; pictures; mirrors; metal candleholder; David Winter “The Fisherman’s Wharf” painting; Maurcie R Bebb color etching “Red Eyed Vines, 1963; several other prints and paintings; several pieces of pottery to include plates, bowls, mugs and vases; rug; troll figurines; cookware; Pink Depression; small kitchen appliances; plasticware; luggage; books; DVD’s; VHS tapes; pencil collection; jewelry; Ball jars; large lot of decorations; bedding; towels; Blackstone 36” griddle; Davy Crockett Green Mountain smoker; wall clock; floor lamp; storage containers; air compressors; chain saws; hand tools; Black & Decker battery powered tools; Kids Rechargeable ride-ons to include: Paw Patrol Rubble ride on dump truck, Paw Patrol Marshall ride on fire truck, Flybar bumper car, and Hour dirt bike; and other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This auction offers a nice variety of items. The household goods are very clean and like new.

CLETUS RINES
& LEWELLEN FAMILY

LOY AUCTION AC31600027
AUCTIONEERS

Gary Loy AU 01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

CR 7-10-2025

2024-25 boys golf
All-GPC team

Graphic Printing Company
Player of the Year
Cohen West
Monroe Central High School junior

Cohen West was selected as the inaugural Graphic Printing Company Player of the Year for boys golf. “It means a lot,” said West. “I put in a lot of work to be the best golfer in the area and strive to do that every week.” West held the best average among area golfers in nine-hole matches at 38.9 strokes. He was also successful when it came to 18-hole courses, averaging 78.8 strokes per tournament, trailing only Fort Recovery’s Reece LeFevre at 76.5. Those numbers translated to success on the links. West claimed the Mid-Eastern Conference title with 74 strokes as he led the Golden Bears to second place. His 77 helped Monroe Central to the Randolph County title and the junior put up a 78 to secure MCHS the runner-up spot at the sectional. One bad hole at the regional resulted in a 79 that left him six strokes short of a state appearance. “I think it was my work ethic,” West said. “I mean, I spent almost every day out on the course and just putting in work with the team and having confidence all year.” “He’s our MVP,” said MCHS coach Chandler Hoel. “I mean, he’s everything. Our good scores, our bad scores, they reflect based on his performance and we rely on him a lot. There’s a lot of pressure on his shoulders, but he carries it better than anybody. He knows that he has the pressure, he feeds off of it, he plays consistent golf and he’s lights out.”

All-Graphic Printing Company first team

Matt Boyle Delta junior	Boyle acted as the Eagles’ No. 1 golfer for a majority of the year and put out the top score of 85 strokes in the regional tournament.
Tucker Griffin Jay County senior	Griffin replaced Caleb DeRome as the lead for the Patriots, putting up team bests of 40.7 strokes on nine-hole matches and 85.4 in 18-hole tournaments.
Reece LeFevre Fort Recovery junior	In the fall, LeFevre powered the Indians to third in the Mid-west Athletic Conference and was the medalist in the MAC meet. He led the area golfers in 18-hole matches at 76.5.
Maddox Taylor Monroe Central soph.	Taylor made a large jump in his second season to help West get MCHS back to the regional for a second consecutive season. He averaged 41.8 strokes on nine holes and 81.7 on 18.
Honorable mention Griffin Byrum, senior, Jay County Dylan Dodd, sophomore, Wapahani Easton Foster, senior, Monroe Central Keegan Muhlenkamp, senior, Fort Recovery Griffin Wilson, sophomore, Delta	



15 years after ‘The Decision’ LeBron dominates rumor mill

By PETER SBLENDORIO
New York Daily News
Tribune News Service
NEW YORK — Fifteen years ago, LeBron James made “The Decision.” It was on July 8, 2010, that James sat down at the Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich, Conn., about 35 miles from Madison Square Garden, and revealed on live TV that he was joining the Miami Heat. “I’m gonna take my talents to South Beach,” James, then 25, told moderator Jim Gray in a quote that became as synonymous with the superstar as slam dunks and pregame chalk tosses. The decision capped the most frenzied free agency in NBA history and altered the very fabric of the league, ushering in an

LeBron James captured NBA media’s attention in 2010 with decision to join Miami Heat

unprecedented era of player empowerment and mobility that continues to ring true. After seven seasons with the Cleveland Cavaliers, whom he dragged to the 2007 NBA Finals despite a ragtag supporting cast, James opted for sunnier skies and teamed up with Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh on a Heat superteam constructed by Pat Riley. “I want to be able to win championships,” James said at the time, “and I feel like I can compete down there.” The move devastated Cavaliers fans, who felt betrayed by the native of Akron, Ohio. But it also changed the long-term trajectory of the New York Knicks, who had hyper-aggressively pursued James in hopes of bringing the NBA’s brightest star to Broadway. The Knicks cleared cap space

to make a run at James, including taking on Tracy McGrady’s league-high expiring contract that February to get longer-term deals off their books. Fresh off of a ninth consecutive losing season, the Knicks entered that offseason as the only team with enough space to sign two max contracts and were eager to pair James with a star running mate. But the Heat and Chicago Bulls maneuvered in the days leading up to James’ decision to create their own financial flexibility. “We’re selling the best place in the world to come live and play,” then-Knicks head coach Mike D’Antoni said at the time. “As long as we keep the Empire State Building where it is, I think we’ll be OK.” Shortly after James chose the Heat, the Knicks pivoted by signing Amar’e Stoudemire to a five-year, \$99.7 million contract. They traded for Carmelo Anthony less than eight months later. The decision proved to be a fruitful one for James, who went to the NBA Finals in each of his four seasons in Miami and won his first two championships there. “The Decision,” which is what ESPN called its broadcast of James’ 2010 reveal, was more polarizing. Critics questioned why the broadcast took nearly 30 minutes to get to James’ choice, while the Cavaliers reportedly found out about James’ intentions mere moments before the event started. See LeBron page 7

Restaurant Specials



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

Or run **two 4x4 ads** for your restaurant in the publication(s) of your choice *during July* for:

The Commercial Review –	\$156
The News-Gazette –	\$145
The News Times –	\$120

Advertise your restaurant in all of our publications with:

Four 4x4 ads in *The Commercial Review*
Two 4x4 ads in *The News-Gazette*
One 4x4 ad in *The News Times*
for **\$300**



Call (260) 726-8141 or email ads@thecr.com