

It's in the details



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Chase Baxter of the Jay County High School Marching Patriots plays the baritone during the first of two runs of the band's show — "Consumed" — during its Indiana State Fair preview performance on Tuesday at Harold E. Schutz Memorial Stadium. The state fair competition begins at 9 a.m. Friday with JCHS slated to take the track at 1:18 p.m. Preliminary awards will be at 4 p.m., with the top 16 bands advancing to the finals at 8 p.m.

Focus is on little things for best performance at state fair

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

It's been a different year. The show is a different style. The weather has made for a different competition season. The Jay County High School Marching Patriots will take their show, "Consumed," to competition for the final time Friday at an Indiana State Fair Band Day that also looks as if it will be different — in the form of mild weather. Through all of the differences and all of the challenges that have come throughout the summer, the ultimate goal is to be at their best during Friday's finals. Director Chuck Roesch believes they are ready. "I know the growth

that I've seen them make day to day, week to week," he said. "And ... trajectory-wise, I know that their best performance is going to be on Friday night. "What we have to do as a staff is to keep their eye on the prize. And that prize not being a trophy, but to keep their eye on, 'What's going to help me personally give my 100% best performance each time I step onto the field?'" At this point, achieving that best performance is about the details, he said. It's up to each individual to address those moments where they can make adjustments to lift the show to the next level. "We've got to fix little mistakes," agreed trumpet player Andrew Detro.

"There's just little things that happen all over the place — you crack a note or you miss a step-off or don't take steps on every single count. ... "But it's just fixing the little things, trying to polish a little bit." There are perhaps more little things than usual to clean and focus on because of the style of the show the band is performing this summer. Rather than something conceptual, topical or based on a specific genre or style of music, the Marching Patriots are telling a story. There is a village, attacked and destroyed by a dragon. A potential hero emerges and an epic battle ensues. In the end, the hero slays the dragon and saves his people. See Details page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Color guard member Kaidon Sills, who plays the role of the hero in the Jay County High School Marching Patriots' show, raises his sword against the dragon (Callie Houck).

Radio project moves ahead

Commissioners pick Motorola for county's radio system

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Motorola will be providing the county's new radio equipment. Jay County Commissioners agreed Wednesday to move forward with a \$6 million to \$7 million project with Motorola to connect the county to the statewide public safety system. Barry Ritter of Ritter Strategic Services explained two companies, JK Communications and Motorola, submitted proposals for the project, which will involve building infrastructure to meet needs for hooking up to the Integrated Public Safety Commission's radio system. Motorola estimated its overall project will range between \$6.6 million and \$7.1 million. JK Communications estimated its project would cost between \$7.9 million and \$8.3 million. (Ritter noted JK Communications' proposal did not include the cost of land acquisition.) Cost estimates presented Wednesday also include prices for units to be distributed to municipal agencies, such as Portland Police Department. The new equipment would allow both emergency response workers and non-public safety employees — Jay County Highway Department and utility departments — to communicate. (Integrated Public Safety Commission within the last year changed allowances on its system, providing an opportunity for non-public safety agencies such as highway departments to utilize a segment of the system, Ritter explained after the meeting.) Ritter Strategic Services developed various specifications for the system, requiring criteria such as interoperability across 700 to 800 megahertz bandwidths and integration with existing dispatch infrastructure and Jay County Sheriff's Office. Both proposals qualified, with both companies undergoing an evaluation process. Motorola scored significantly higher on evaluations, earning a recommendation from local emergency response stakeholders to move forward with its project, explained Ritter. Sheriff Ray Newton spoke in favor of pursuing the project through Motorola. "We have a longstanding history with them, I cannot say anything bad about them," he said. "They've always been there for us." Jay County officials have been looking into replacing outdated radio equipment for local responders for roughly six years. See Radio page 2

India will be hit with 25% tariff

By SHRUTI SRIVASTAVA  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

President Donald Trump said he would impose a tariff rate of 25% on India starting on Aug. 1 and suggested he would add an additional penalty over the country's energy purchases from Russia. Trump in a post to Truth Social on Wednesday said India had tariffs that were "among the highest in the World, and they have the most strenuous and obnoxious non-monetary Trade Barriers of any Country." "Also, they have always bought a

Trump refers to trade barriers as strenuous and obnoxious

vast majority of their military equipment from Russia, and are Russia's largest buyer of ENERGY, along with China, at a time when everyone wants Russia to STOP THE KILLING IN UKRAINE," he added. "INDIA WILL THERE-

FORE BE PAYING A TARIFF OF 25%, PLUS A PENALTY FOR THE ABOVE, STARTING ON AUGUST FIRST." Trump's announcement comes ahead of the Aug. 1 deadline he set for imposing new import taxes on

dozens of trading partners. The levies dash New Delhi's hopes of preferential treatment over its regional peers. India had been among the first to engage Washington in talks, following Prime Minister Narendra Modi's high-profile White House visit in February. For much of this year, the Modi government had adopted a conciliatory approach toward Trump, revamping India's tariff structure and offering several trade and immigration concessions to the U.S. administration. See Tariff page 2

<b>In review</b> <p>Jay County Public Library will host its Back-to-School Bash and Pop-Up Food Pantry from 3 to 6 p.m. today. The bash will include free school supplies and hygiene products for children. There will also be free food, games and other activities. To learn more information about the event, see page 3.</p>	<b>Weather</b> <p>Jay County had a high temperature of 90 degrees Tuesday, with relative humidity reaching 92%. The low was 72. Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 50s with a 40% chance of rain. Friday's high will be in the mid 70s under partly sunny skies. See page 2 for an extended outlook.</p>	<b>In review</b> <p>The final concert in this year's Hudson Family Park Amphitheater series presented by Arts Place is two weeks away. Brother Believe Me, an Ohio-based cover band, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 14 at the park in Portland. Admission is free and food trucks and children's activities will be available.</p>	<b>Coming up</b> <p><b>Friday</b> — Preview of the Jay County High School girls golf team's season.</p> <p><b>Saturday</b> — Results from JCHS at Indiana State Fair Band Day.</p> <p><b>Tuesday</b> — Coverage of the Jay County Junior-Senior High cheerleaders at the state fair.</p>
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# Radio ...

Continued from page 1

Just over a year ago, commissioners approved a \$178,500 contract with Ritter Strategic Services to move forward with planning, procurement, engineering, project management and other work related to switching over to the Integrated Public Safety Commission’s system.

After commissioners president Chad Aker pointed to a need for a radio system for non-emer-

gency responders, commissioners amended the contract with Ritter Strategic Services in February, allotting an additional \$39,000 to look into costs and other information regarding the purchase of a standalone radio system.

Commissioners president Chad Aker recalled the additional work, noting it led to a delay. He said looking into a separate system for non-public safety

entities allowed officials to exercise their due diligence on the matter.

As for the overall project, commissioner Doug Horn expressed optimism.

“This does everything we want it to do and sets us up good for the future, too,” Horn said. “Not that everything lasts forever, but it gets us in a good place.”

Commissioners Duane Monroe, Aker and Horn agreed to

move forward with the company’s proposal.

Next steps include the county entering into contract negotiations with Motorola. Part of that process will involve ensuring all entities obtain the amount of mobile (in-vehicle) and portable radios that are needed.

“Discussion regarding who’s paying for what would be an important discussion to be had moving forward with all the units






of government,” said Ritter.

Commissioners pointed to a joint session slated for Aug. 13 with Jay County Council and Jay County Country Living Advisory Board. (Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. prior to the joint session, with the session’s meeting time still to be determined.)

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*For more news from Wednesday’s meeting, see Friday’s newspaper.*

CR almanac

Friday 8/1	Saturday 8/2	Sunday 8/3	Monday 8/4	Tuesday 8/5
 <b>76/55</b> <small>Skies will be mostly sunny with a high in the mid 70s.</small>	 <b>76/54</b> <small>Expect a high in the mid 70s under sunny skies.</small>	 <b>79/60</b> <small>The forecast calls for mostly sunny skies with a high in the upper 70s.</small>	 <b>81/63</b> <small>Expect partly cloudy skies with a high in the lower 80s. There is a 20% chance of rain.</small>	 <b>80/63</b> <small>The forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with a 40% chance of rain and a high of 80 degrees.</small>

Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$384 million	Daily Three: 0-6-3 Daily Four: 3-4-7-8 Quick Draw: 5-6-8-12-20-22-23-30-31-32-40-42-46-51-52-56-59-71-72-75
<b>Mega Millions</b> 17-30-34-63-67 Mega Ball: 11 Estimated jackpot: \$140 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 2-8-8 Pick 4: 4-8-7-5 Pick 5: 4-4-5-7-5 Evening Pick 3: 7-1-4 Pick 4: 6-6-6-1 Pick 5: 8-8-6-6-0 Rolling Cash: 2-5-29-33-38 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 0-7-4 Daily Four: 2-1-7-0 Quick Draw: 1-4-8-15-20-25-29-37-42-46-50-51-52-57-64-65-71-72-73-76 Evening	

Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.37 Sept. corn .....4.39 Oct. corn .....3.96	Aug. beans.....9.73 Wheat ..... 4.98
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.34 Aug. corn .....4.34 Sept. corn .....4.24	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.11 Aug. corn .....4.11 Beans .....10.01 Aug. beans.....10.01 Wheat .....5.02
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.24 Aug. corn .....4.24 Beans .....10.03	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.34 Aug. corn .....4.34 Beans .....9.83 Oct. beans .....9.53 Wheat .....4.73

Today in history

<b>In 1816</b> , George H. Thomas was born in Southampton County, Virginia. Thomas was known as the “Rock of Chickamauga” for defending a creek in northwestern Georgia in 1863 for the Union.	<b>In 2015</b> , the Portland Rockets scored three times in the first inning of its National Amateur Baseball Federation regional tournament elimination game Friday and knocked out the 2014 champion Beecher Muskies 4-2. The Rockets advanced to play another elimination game against Michigan City, leading to its season ending in a 6-4 defeat to the Lakers.
<b>In 1971</b> , James B. Irwin and David Scott, Apollo 15 astronauts, explored the Moon’s surface with a Lunar Roving Vehicle.	<b>In 2024</b> , Indiana Public Access Counselor Luke Britt issued an advisory opinion indicating that Jay County Commissioners’ discussion of a proposed contract with Jay County Development Corporation during an administrative meeting violated Indiana’s Open Door Law. The opinion came after The Commercial Review filed a formal complaint. — The CR
<b>In 1981</b> , Arnette R. Hubbard became the first woman to become president of the United States National Bar Association.	
<b>In 2012</b> , American Michael Phelps earned his 19th Olympic medal while helping the United States clinch the 4x200-meter freestyle relay in the London Summer Games. Phelps passed the record set by Soviet gymnast Larisa Latynina.	

Citizen’s calendar

<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 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.	Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. — Salamonias Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.
<b>Tuesday</b> 4 p.m. — Jay County	

# Details ...

Continued from page 1

It’s not a new concept — Roesch has noted that the inspiration comes from Herman Melville’s novel “Moby Dick” — but it does require the band members to do things they may not have done in previous shows. At the top of that list is acting.

“They’ve been an absolutely fun group to teach, and they’ve grown so much not just in their musicianship, but their confidence and their communication and their comfort level with what we’re asking them to do,” said Roesch. “And it’s real easy to go ahead and listen to this music and go, ‘I really like the music,’ and then not be comfortable with, ‘OK, I want you to imagine that a huge fireball just ripped over your head and blew up a building behind you, and now I need you to panic and show me some urgency as you’re moving from this position to another position.’

“And so the characterizations and the professionalism that they’ve grown with in developing those roles has been part of the learning process.”

The hope now is that the process they’ve gone through will continue to make them one of the top

Band day at a glance

*The Jay County High School Marching Patriots will compete Friday at the Indiana State Fair Band Day competition. JCHS finished fifth last year. Muncie Central is the defending state fair champion and has won each of the three competitions in which it has participated this summer.*

Kokomo	1:09 p.m.	Montgomery County	10:48 a.m.
<b>Jay County</b>	<b>1:18 p.m.</b>	Anderson	9:54 a.m.
Muncie Central	10:57 a.m.	Centerville	11:15 a.m.
Richmond	2:03 p.m.	Winchester	1:27 p.m.

*Awards from the preliminaries are scheduled for 4 p.m. The finals will begin at 8 p.m.*

bands at the Indiana State Fair.

Jay County appears to have a chance for another top-five finish based on this year’s results — it has placed in the top five in six of the last seven years, including five third-place finishes — though inclement weather has impacted the contest schedule. The Jay County Lions Band Contest was shifted to a stand-still format, and the Drums at Winchester was called off about halfway through, leaving no scores to be delivered.

That means there has been no event this year that has pitted all of the top contenders head-to-head.

The Marching Patriots — who will compete at 1:18 p.m. on a day for which the forecast calls

for a cooler-than-usual high of 76 degrees — placed third at both the Archway Classic at Centerville and their home contest at the Jay County Fairgrounds. They finished fifth at the Spirit of Sound at Muncie Central.

Centerville won the opening contest of the summer at its home field but has not competed since. Defending Indiana State Fair Band Day champion Muncie Central has won all three contests it has entered, though Anderson closed the gap significantly at its Tartan Tournament of Bands last week. (The margin shrank from more than 2.5 points to just 0.25 points.)

“I know the growth that I’ve seen them make day to day, week to week. And I know, trajectory-wise, that their best perform-

ance is going to be on Friday night.

“What we have to do as a staff is to keep their eye on the prize. And that prize not being a trophy, but to keep their eye on, ‘What’s going to help me personally give my 100% best performance each time I step onto the field?’”

Drum major and mellophone player Ella Littler agreed with that assessment. Friday is about making the most of a final opportunity.

“I think the main thing is that we just need to leave it all on the field,” she said. “You know, we’ve worked hard all summer for this show and even during the school year for this show. And I feel like this is our last chance to get to play it, so we need to do it to our top ability.”

# Tariff ...

Continued from page 1

But in recent weeks, New Delhi had shifted to a tougher stance, as negotiations hit a roadblock over contentious issues like agriculture.

Trump had previously said that a “very big” agreement was imminent — one that would open the Indian market to U.S. businesses. But he has since changed his stance, saying on Tuesday that he could hit the South Asian nation with a tariff rate of 20% to 25%.

Even after these latest tariffs, Indian officials are planning to continue negotiating with the U.S. for a bilateral trade deal by fall of this year, Bloomberg News reported earlier.

The two sides had already finalized terms of reference for a bilateral pact in April, following Vice President JD Vance’s meeting with Modi in New Delhi. That initial agreement outlined the framework for trade negotiations.

The U.S. is India’s largest trading

partner and top export market. New Delhi had attempted — but failed — to secure a limited trade deal with Washington during Trump’s first term.

The two-way trade between India and the U.S. stood at \$127.9 billion in 2024.

Trump’s threat of additional penalties on India comes a day after he formally announced that he was giving Russia a new 10-day deadline to reach a truce with Ukraine in his bid to end the war.

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# Benefit for Dunkirk family set for Aug. 16

The annual No One Fights Alone benefit is coming up next month. This year's event will benefit the family of Bella Sutton, an 8-year-old girl from Dunkirk who was diagnosed at 1 year old with cardiomyopathy. After spending just over a year at Riley Hospital for Children, she received a heart transplant in May. The benefit starts at 6:15 p.m. Aug. 16 at The 615, located at 615 N. Williams St., Portland. Food will be provided, along with live music from John Beatrice Band and a silent auction. Monetary donations will go toward assisting the Sutton family with ongoing medical expenses, transportation and home repairs needed to provide an immune-free environment for Bella. Attendees are advised to bring lawn chairs for outdoor seating. Donations for the auction must be delivered by Aug. 14. Contact (260) 251-1118 or visit the615music.com for more information.

## Taking Note

### School fairs

Jay County Health Department has a few more back-to-school fairs this week. The health department is hosting its Back-to-School Bash from 3 to 6 p.m. today in the parking lot at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Free school supplies, hygiene products and other items will

be available. Also, from the same time, the library in partnership with American Structurepoint, Tyson Foods, the Jay County Farm Bureau, Inc. and the Friends of the Jay County Public Library, is hosting a pop-up food pantry in the Community Room. Community members are welcome to shop for free food items and receive free chicken, chips and hot dogs from Tyson Foods and pizza and other items from Pizza Hut. Another back-to-school fair is slated for 10 a.m. to

noon Saturday at 5816 E. North St., Salamonia. **Wonderful World** The wonderful world of Walt Disney is on display at Arts Place. A collection of Disney artwork is available for free to view now through Aug. 22 in the Hugh N. Ronald Gallery in Portland. The exhibit is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday. For more information, call (765) 726-4809, email

visualarts@myartsplace.org or visit myartsplace.org. **Senior learning** It's time to learn more about mental health as a senior. Kathy Lawrence of Encompass will share a presentation on seniors and their mental health during the senior lunch and learn series Aug. 7. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. with the presentation to follow. Reservations are \$5 and are intended for seniors 55 years old and up.

# Husband hopes to move forward after situation

DEAR ABBY: For nearly 30 years, my husband and I shared a close, trusting marriage. Months ago, I caught him lying about meetings he was having with a 35-year-old colleague. Then I discovered months of ongoing texts. When I asked for an explanation, he became angry and defensive. His explanation was it was work-related, that I was too controlling and that I was making a big deal out of nothing. Because I believed this was not a trivial situation, I pressed for some resolution. Unfortunately, further discussions were heated with no resolve, just more withdrawn behavior while the communications continued. Recently, he informed me that he realizes his behavior was unacceptable and he has ceased the communication. He said he loves only me, and he wants me to trust him again. My problem is, after all his secrecy, lies and defensiveness, I can't do that. He now carries on like nothing has happened, hoping to regain my trust. But for me, the trust has been broken. After many years of what I thought was a loving marriage, I was blindsided. I have always valued your advice, so please help me to put things in perspective. — BLINDSIDED IN MICHIGAN

## Dear Abby



DEAR BLINDSIDED: For nearly 30 years, you had what you thought was a solid relationship with your husband. It is now apparent that he screwed up royally. My question to you is: What do YOU want from now on? It IS possible to rebuild trust after infidelity, but it will take work from both of you. Do you want to sacrifice what you and your husband built together and forge ahead on your own? Your husband cannot act like nothing has happened, because something did. If the two of you are open to healing your broken marriage, it may require the help of a licensed marriage and family therapist, and it may take some time. The ball is in your court.

DEAR ABBY: "Carole" and I have been friends for 30-plus years. Her marriage was great as long as her husband wasn't using drugs. When he was

using, he would abuse her verbally, physically and emotionally. He passed away, and she's now dating an abusive alcoholic. When he's not drinking (which is, maybe, three days a month) he's very sweet. I have tried telling her that she's enabling him, but she says she "loves" him. How can I get her to open her eyes before something bad happens? — WORRIED FRIEND IN ARIZONA DEAR FRIEND: What Carole REALLY means when she says she "loves" this addict is that she needs the companionship he provides, and she's willing to put up with the abuse for three good days a month. Health care providers are required to make a report if they provide medical services to a patient who they suspect is suffering from an injury due to abuse. Short of hauling her to an emergency room if he physically abuses her, there is nothing you can do to "save" her. Let her know you are there for her in times of need and give her the number of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-7233.

DEAR ABBY: After my father passed away, I started doing some family genealogy. Everyone, including family, thinks he

was a great WWII hero. But while researching military records, I discovered it was all a lie. In my opinion, he committed "stolen valor." Do I tell the truth, or let sleeping dogs lie? — TRUTHFUL IN THE WEST DEAR TRUTHFUL: Your father has gone to his great reward. If you feel the record should be set straight, show your family the research you did and tell them the truth. DEAR ABBY: I'm 55 and have been married for 15 years. I have two kids, ages 22 and 25. Both are on their own, living their own lives. My wife is 45. She has a 25-year-old son who has a four-year degree in computer science and claims he can't find a job. He refuses to look for other employment to fill in until something opens up in computers. He stays up half the night getting high and playing games online, and sleeps until noon. He has a considerable amount in his savings and is able to play the stock market, so it's not like he's broke and can't start living on his own. My wife won't let go because he's her only child. She and I have no alone time, no romantic nights and no dinners without him included. He's always here and involved in every-

thing, and I'm tired of it. I have reached a point in my life where I want to enjoy my time with my wife alone. We are shopping for a new house, but I'm ready to say we buy a house together alone, just the two of us, or I'm filing for divorce and buying a house by myself. I feel it's way past time for him to be weaned from his mother and get his own life. Do you agree or am I being overly sensitive? — OVER IT IN ARIZONA DEAR OVER IT: You are not being overly sensitive. Your wife appears to have a serious case of separation anxiety when it comes to her son, which is healthy for neither. I assume you have discussed this with her to no avail. If that's not true, you should. If it IS true, then it's time for marriage and family therapy with someone who is licensed. If your wife refuses to go, the alternative would be to schedule an appointment with an attorney who can help you "untie the knot."

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 Chris-

tian 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. **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. **SOFT SHOULDERS** — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173. **CINCINNATUS LEAGUE** — Will meet at noon Friday, Aug. 1, at Harmony Cafe in Portland. **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. **ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS** — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on

the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463. **MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER** — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com. **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.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## Wednesday's Solution

8	9	5	3	1	7	6	4	2
2	7	1	9	6	4	3	8	5
3	6	4	5	2	8	7	9	1
9	5	8	1	4	6	2	3	7
7	3	2	8	5	9	4	1	6
1	4	6	7	3	2	9	5	8
6	2	3	4	8	1	5	7	9
5	1	7	6	9	3	8	2	4
4	8	9	2	7	5	1	6	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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# It's a tough time for conspiracies

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The government was finally going to have to come clean after draining the swamp of deep-state socialists, and the newest administration was not going to cover for any more of these demonic cabals secretly controlling the country.

"Im so proud of my friend Lee Zeldin and President Donald Trump for their commitment to finally shatter the Deep State Omerta regarding the diabolical mass poisoning of our people, our communities, our waterways and farms, and our purple mountains, majesty," Health and Human Services Sec. Robert F.

## Guest Editorial

Kennedy Jr. posted to social media.

The EPA, thought RFK, was finally going to reveal the dangerous "chemtrails" of which he and many others believe are part of a conspiracy for aircraft to dump toxic chemicals into the atmosphere.

Last week, the EPA did put a new page up on its

site, epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/Contrails. It debunks the theories and explains that "contrails" are in fact condensation.

"This page provides information on contrails — the long, thin clouds that form behind aircraft at high altitudes — and how they form," the introduction reads. "This page also provides information on terms that are often inaccurately used as alleged synonyms of contrails, such as 'chemtrails' and geoengineering."

Oh, for shame. It's been a tough couple of weeks for some folks.

Followed by a lack of trans-

parency and explanation into any perceived revelations on an "Epstein client list" from the Department of Justice, though misguided, people who thought they were going to see justice served, are now outraged.

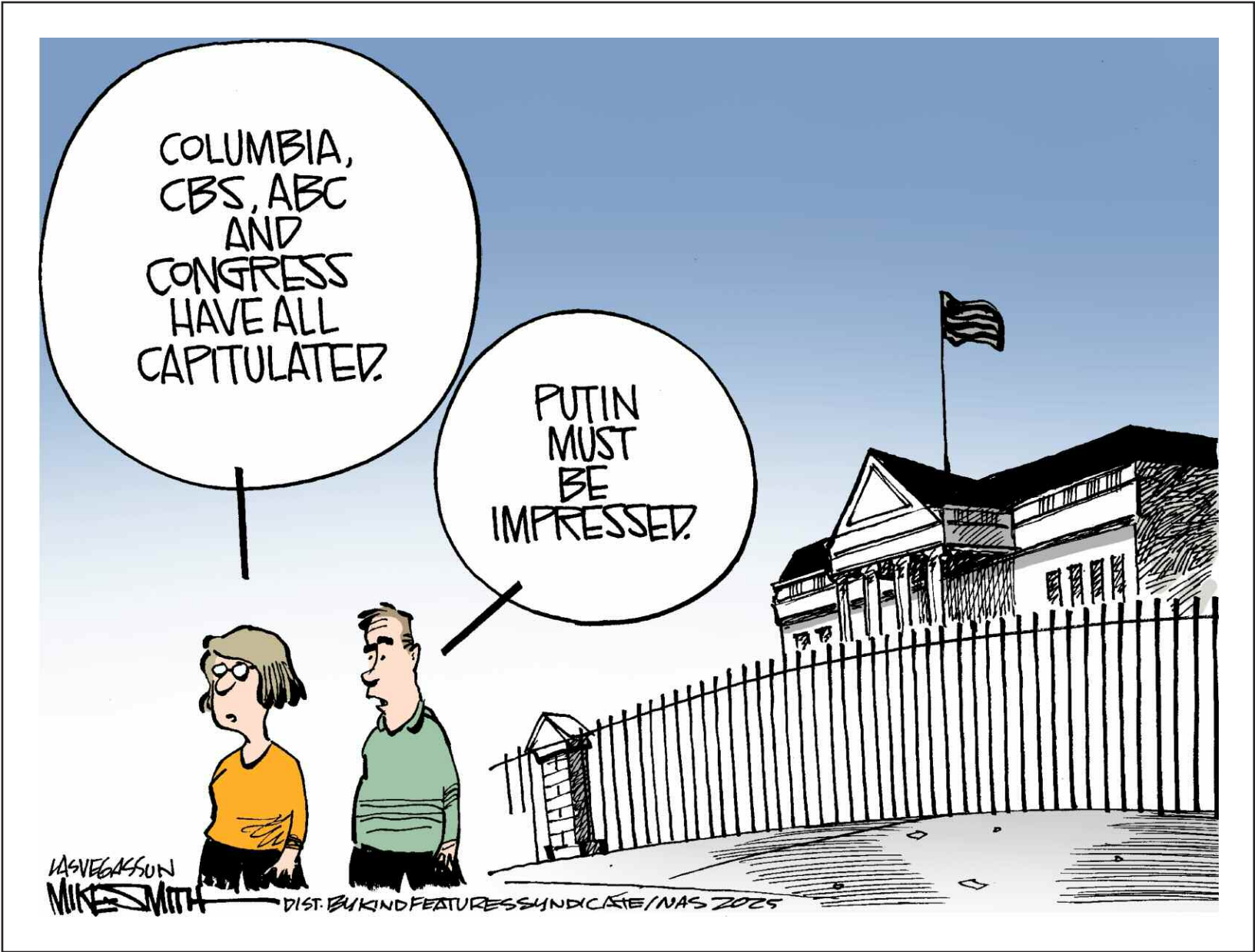
Trump was getting tired of it, lashing out that the people still pestering him about Epstein were "weaklings" being duped by Democrats.

While it may seem far-fetched to many, it's not all that hard to believe there are people who cling to some kind of boogeyman for an explanation when the truth is perhaps not as comfortable nor convenient. But the

large difference between now and, say, 30 years ago, is that these likeminded individuals have platforms to find each other in larger groups and their efforts can have impacts in the real world.

So many examples spring to mind, from the "pizzagate" shooting, to the QAnon-sparked #Savethechildren rallies, reluctance to immunize children, and more recently and locally, a man who sought to destroy an Oklahoma City weather radar station.

Politicians were happy enough to campaign on behalf of these conspiracies, but it remains to be seen if the tactic will work in future elections.



# College attendance news getting worse

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education has released the state's go-to-college data for 2023, the most recent year available. It is terribly disappointing news for the health of our economy.

After two relatively stable years, the share of students who attended college dropped to 51.7%, a full 10 percentage points below the national average. Indiana's educational attainment — ranked 42nd in the U.S. and likely falling — is poised to begin a slow decline that will drag our economy down.

Since 2010, 101.5% of GDP growth in the United States occurred in counties above the average level of educational attainment. That means all the economic growth occurred in places with above-average educational attainment, while the economy in the other half of counties shrank.

The jobs picture tells an even starker story. Since 2010, the U.S. has not created any net new jobs for workers with only a high school education, even as the college wage premium remains near record levels.

Indiana mirrors this trend. From 2010 through last fall, the state created 269,506 jobs for people with college experience, with most going to college graduates. Meanwhile, Indiana actually lost 1,791 jobs for high school graduates during that same period.

Low educational attainment not only dooms a location to slow growth, but also it makes a place

Michael J. Hicks



less attractive to college graduates, worsening brain drain.

The good news is that there's growing acknowledgement of the damage this will cause to Indiana's economy. The bad news is that most people who understand the damage have misidentified the cause of the problem and are offering prescriptions that do more harm than good.

One widely held belief is that college is too expensive and that "woke" colleges are driving students away. I've criticized the ideological bias in universities and offered some tractable solutions. I even criticized tenure in an early column before I was tenured at Ball State, singling out the cost of keeping unproductive scholars on campus.

Still, the problem is not that tuition is too high, or that colleges are too woke. In fact, the data on school attendance clearly rejects both of those claims.

From 2010 to 2023 (the most recent data), the cohort of kids turning 18 each year has remained stable, and is now at 78,089, near the peak of 80,040 in 2019. Indiana hasn't had a demographic cliff like many states. It is the share of kids going to college that plummeted.

Here's the rub: The declines have only occurred among our state colleges and universities.

The number of kids going to Indiana's public universities has dropped by 7,398 over that time period — a whopping 21% loss. Over the same time, private colleges and universities in the state saw a 15% increase and the share of kids going to out-of-state schools grew by 12%.

If it isn't immediately obvious, these data make clear that cost and wokeness aren't driving down college enrollment in Indiana. In-state public universities are far less ideologically biased, and a whole lot less expensive, than private institutions, while out-of-state universities are significantly more costly to attend.

The problem is wholly isolated to Indiana's public universities. That means the problem is about state funding and tuition freezes.

In 2010, Hoosiers spent about 0.61% of GDP supporting higher education. By last year, that dropped to 0.48% of GDP. That is a historic reduction in funding.

If Hoosiers spent the same share of our economy on public higher education today as we did in 2010, it'd mean an additional \$660 million per year. If we adjusted for the slightly larger cohort of students, it would be over \$710 million more.

Now, cutting college budgets due to enrollment declines makes sense, but that gets the chicken and egg problem backwards. In inflation-adjusted terms, Indiana colleges have been cutting tuition long before enrollment peaked

back in the 2008-09 school year. Reductions in state support are reducing enrollment, because tuition is only a small part of the story.

Universities use scholarships, which are really just tailored tuition reductions to attract students. This has been going on as long as we've had higher education in the country. The ability of schools to offer these scholarships is typically tied to the amount of extra funds each school gets from the state, from an endowment and other funding sources (like research contracts and grants).

As state funds have dried up, and tuition restrictions pay for a smaller share of overall costs, it becomes increasingly difficult for schools to offer scholarships. As an example, since 2021, the increase in total cost of attendance for scholarship recipients at Purdue ranged from \$1,218 to \$6,218, depending on family income. For Indiana University the range is \$469 to \$730. Ball State University saw those changes range from a \$469 cut to a \$658 increase.

Today, the total cost differences between Indiana's three big universities are negligible, and schools are adopting new strategies to keep the lights on. Pay is essentially frozen for most instructional faculty and staff. At Ball State, where I work, inflation-adjusted pay is below 2017 levels. It is the same in most schools.

In some schools, class sizes have become gargantuan. Some

online classes now run to 1,000 students and I've heard repeated (credible) reports of in-person classes of 2,500 students. That's a far cry from the 80-plus students I hope to attract to my first-year economics class this fall.

Studies on the effectiveness of large classes don't even examine classes larger than 750 students, so we don't yet know what the effect might be. It appears Hoosier families aren't waiting for that research. They're voting with their feet to go elsewhere in larger numbers — or worse, not considering college at all.

There's some reason for hope. Perhaps the 21st Century Scholars expansion will open more doors for poor students. Maybe the sloppy thinking that attempted to turn public education into a culture war meme will dissipate. Maybe the coming economic slowdown will push more kids back into college.

I hope, rather than expect, these outcomes. We are now a full decade into the first meaningful reversal in educational opportunity in Indiana history. That is more than ample time to have adequately identified the problem and implemented real solutions. We've done neither.

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

# The Commercial Review

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—Thomas Jefferson


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

**Asbury United  
Methodist**  
204 E. Arch St., Portland  
Josh Arthur  
(260) 726-8464  
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11  
a.m.  
[asburyministries.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:susan.duroveyantrim@in.umc.org)

**Christ Chapel**  
2535 Wabash Road, Fort  
Recovery  
(419) 733-1469  
[christchapelfr.com](http://christchapelfr.com)

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

**Church of God  
of Prophecy**  
797 N. Creagor Ave., Por-  
tland  
Nanette Weesner  
(260) 766-9334  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
[nanybell@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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-port-land.com](mailto: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.  
[fccfrecovery.org](http://fccfrecovery.org)

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

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

**First Presbyterian**  
402 N. Ship St., Portland  
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu  
(260) 726-8462  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.  
[firstpcportland.org](http://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. Wendes-  
day  
[frnaz@frontier.com](mailto:frnaz@frontier.com)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Immaculate  
Conception Catholic**  
506 E. Walnut St., Port-  
land  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Fr. Martin Sandhage  
(260) 726-7055  
Services: 5:30 p.m. Satur-  
day, 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. Satur-  
day, 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](http://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](http://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](http://mypleasanthillchurch.org)

**Portland Church of  
Christ**  
1217 W. Votaw St., Port-  
land  
Bob Graham  
(260) 726-7777  
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.  
Services: 10:20 a.m.  
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wed-  
nesday  
[portlandcoc.com](http://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](http://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](http://redkeynaz.org)  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6  
p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Dave Coverly

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

Peanuts

Rose is Rose

Agnes

Hi and Lois

Between Friends

Blondie

Snuffy Smith

Beetle Bailey

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

**You don't need to be a CPA**

East dealer.  
Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K 10 3 2  
♥ Q 8 2  
♦ A Q 3  
♣ Q 10 5

**WEST**  
♠ 6  
♥ J 10 9 7 3  
♦ 10 6 4  
♣ K 8 4 2

**EAST**  
♠ Q 9 8 7 4  
♥ 6 5  
♦ J 9 5 2  
♣ 7 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ A J 5  
♥ A K 4  
♦ K 8 7  
♣ A J 9 6

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 2 NT Pass 6 NT  
Opening lead — jack of hearts.

Let's say you're declarer at six notrump on a given hand, and that after the opening lead you see that you have 12 ice-cold tricks regardless of how the opponents' cards are divided.

This is a happy state of affairs, you could say to yourself, but, sadly, situations like this don't occur all that often. Most of the time you'll have a choice of different ways to play the hand, and your ability to choose the best approach from two or more alternatives is what determines how good a player you are.

Consider the present case where West leads the heart jack against six notrump. You win with dummy's queen, lead the queen of clubs and finesse. If East was dealt the king, the slam would be a certainty, but, unluckily, West produces the king and returns the ten of hearts.

You win with the king, and since you now have 11 sure tricks, your only remaining task is to guess which way to take the two-way spade finesse. This may be a matter involving skill, not luck, so you put your thinking cap on and try to solve the problem.

The task proves to be an easy one, because when you cash the ace of hearts, East shows out, revealing that West started with five cards in the suit. When you next continue with three rounds of clubs, you learn that West also started with exactly four clubs. You then play the A-K-Q of diamonds, learning that West started with at least three diamonds.

With 12 of West's original 13 cards accounted for, you now know he cannot hold more than one spade. So, you cash the king of spades and return a spade to your jack, knowing full well that the jack will win. Thanks to your careful "spade work," this finesse, unlike most others, is 100% certain to succeed.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.  
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7-31

CRYPTOQUIP

KUZMC ZDXZMJZWI WLHW LHR

VUENJU ZDUBSAZEHVAI AZDGUC

WN NDU SHMW NX DUK INMG

EZWI: VMNDBZWZR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE SCHOOLTEACHER HAD TO BRING SUNGLASSES TO WEAR IN HIS CLASS. HIS STUDENTS WERE TOO BRIGHT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals I

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Dalai —  
5 Envelope part  
9 Exploit  
12 Footnote abbr.  
13 Overdue  
14 Cauldron  
15 Hudson River cliffs  
17 Xenon, for one  
18 Make melancholy  
19 Towel material  
21 Condo cooler  
22 Italian scooter brand  
24 Spider creations  
27 Small barrel  
28 Comedian Sandler  
31 — Lingus  
32 Work unit  
33 Mound stat  
34 Source  
36 Curved letter  
37 "Hey, you!"

**DOWN**

1 "My — are sealed"  
2 Quatrain form  
3 Not spicy  
4 Nike rival  
5 Custard recipe  
6 Young fellow  
7 Devoured  
8 Nuisances  
9 Enhanced versions  
10 Fly high  
11 Online crafts site  
16 Moment  
20 Clean air org.  
22 Biblical passage

**38 Thin pancake**  
**40 Pacino of "Serpico"**  
**41 Slow mover**  
**43 Playwright Eugene**  
**47 Brick carrier**  
**48 Summer picnic drinks**  
**51 Prior night**  
**52 Virgil or Wyatt**  
**53 Forum wear**  
**54 Remote batteries, often**  
**55 "Darn it!" aperture**

**23 Omelet ingredients**  
**24 Kids' card game**  
**25 Fair-hiring letters**  
**26 Patterned silks**  
**27 Retain**  
**29 "— Poetica"**  
**30 Wrestling surface**  
**35 Part of TNT**  
**37 Accordion features**  
**39 Barkin or Pompeo**  
**40 New England cape**  
**41 — butter**  
**42 Bright star**  
**43 "Clumsy mel"**  
**44 Teen fave**  
**45 Toy block name**  
**46 Future atty's exam**  
**49 — Claire, Wisc.**  
**50 "The A-Team" actor**

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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

Yesterday's answer 7-31

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CTE ...

Continued from page 8

“He mistakenly went up the wrong elevator bank,” Adams told PIX11 Tuesday, explaining how Tamura ended up on the wrong floor.

Mayor Adams told MSNBC that safeguards on the 33rd floor saved lives.

“On the floor itself, there were safe rooms, such as the bathrooms, where you had bullet-proof doors and you were able to lock in the staffers inside,” he said. “Several individuals were able to lock themselves in the safe rooms and we believe it played a major role in not having a greater loss of life.”

Tamura lived in Las Vegas and had a history of mental illness, NYPD Commissioner Jessica Tisch said at press conference Monday night.

*‘NFL staff are at the hospital and we are supporting his family. We believe that all of our employees are otherwise safe and accounted for.’*

— Roger Goodell, NFL commissioner

In his suicide note, he wrote about Terry Long, a former offensive lineman for the Pittsburgh Steelers, who at first was said to have died in 2006 of cerebral meningitis related to the CTE he was suffering from. A coroner later determined he committed suicide by drinking antifreeze.

“Football gave me CTE and it cause me to drink a gallon of antifreeze,” Tamura wrote.

Tamura drove cross-country and double-parked his black BMW when he arrived at 345 Park Ave., a 44-story skyscraper that takes up an entire block, from E. 51st to E. 52nd St.

Toting an M4, an assault-style rifle, he walked into the lobby of the building and opened fire, Tisch said, first killing NYPD Officer Didarul Islam, who was working his second job as a security officer at the building, Tisch said.

The gunman shot two other

people in the lobby, killing one and badly wounding the other, before taking the elevator to the 33rd floor, Tisch said.

The critically wounded survivor is an NFL executive, police sources said. He has since stabilized, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell wrote in a memo to staffers, according to ESPN.

“NFL staff are at the hospital and we are supporting his family,” Goodell wrote. “We believe that all of our employees are otherwise safe and accounted for.”

Goodell encouraged employees to work from home Tuesday as the investigation continues and said there would be increased security at the building in the weeks ahead.

Beat ...

Continued from page 8

The CU coach was notably absent from June camps in Boulder, leading to multiple reports that Sanders was still dealing with an unspecified health issue that would keep him away from campus.

The Florida native told Asante Samuel that he recently had lost 14 pounds. Sanders said Monday that he'd dropped about 25 pounds.

Coach Prime encouraged men to “get checked ... without wonderful people like this, I wouldn't be sitting here today.”

The Buffs opened their preseason camp this week and will start the 2025 season on August 29 at Folsom Field against Georgia Tech. Coach Prime indicated he intended to return to work as normal when asked how much he had relied on his staff while he was getting treatment.

“Rely on my staff?” Sanders replied. “I'm back, baby.”



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Low throw

Jay County High School's Grant Wendel lays out to try and catch a low pass during the Patriots' scrimmage against Delta on Tuesday morning. Wendel is the returning leader in receiving yards from the 2024 campaign as he reeled in in 17 catches for 207 yards gained and one touchdown.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

**Today**

Portland Rockets in NABF World Series vs. Hackensack Troasts at Lee Pfund Stadium and North Central Field – 11 a.m.

Portland Rockets in NABF World Series vs. Berea Blue Sox at Lee Pfund Stadium and North Central Field – 4 p.m.

**Friday**

Portland Rockets in NABF World Series vs. Lombard Orioles at Lee Pfund Stadium and North Central Field – 6:30 p.m.

**TV schedule**

**Today**

5:50 a.m. — NRL rugby: Melbourne Storm at Parramatta Eels (FS1)

7 a.m. — LPGA Tour: Women's British Open (USA)

6 p.m. — The Basketball Tournament (FS1)

7:10 p.m. — MLB: Atlanta Braves at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

8 p.m. — NFL Hall of Fame game: Los Angeles Chargers at Detroit Lions (NBC)

10:30 p.m. — Leagues Cup soccer: Cruz Azul at Seattle Sounders (FS1)

**Friday**

5:40 a.m. — AFL: Hawthorn Hawks at Adelaide Crows (FS1)

7 a.m. — LPGA Tour: Women's British Open (USA)

12:30 p.m. — LPGA Tour: Women's British Open (NBC)

12:40 p.m. — MLB: Atlanta Braves at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

4 p.m. — Track and field: USATF Outdoor Championships (NBC)

7 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Atlas 150 (FS1)

7 p.m. — Banana Ball World Tour (ESPN)

9 p.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN)

9:40 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at San Diego Padres (FDSN Indiana)

11 p.m. — Leagues Cup soccer: Tigres UANL at San Diego (FS1)

Local notes

**Chamber to host**

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host its golf outing on Sept. 19 at 9 a.m.

Participation costs \$250 per team with lunch included. A \$20 team mulligan golf ball can be purchased as well.

Sponsorships can be purchased as well. A lunch sponsorship will cost \$500, while a gold sponsorship will go for \$450. Hole sponsorships cost \$100 for members and \$150 for non-members.

The deadline to register is Sept. 12. For more info, call (260) 726-4481 or email amanda@jay-countychamber.com.

**Partnership announced**

Ball State University will be partnering with Indy Eleven to provide free training for youth coaches in Indiana on Aug. 2.

The in-person training session will be at Michael A. Carroll Stadium in Indianapolis. It will be a one-hour workshop focused on building positive, youth development-focused coaching practices.

Those who attend will receive a ticket to the Indy Eleven soccer match and Professional Growth Points for those going for a teaching license.

**Tickets available**

Jay County Junior-Senior High School is selling super and season tickets.

To purchase tickets, visit 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 Aug. 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 unitedwayjaycounty.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.

**Next race set**

The next race in the Adams County Challenge series is the Adams Memorial/Kekionga Greenway Gallup at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 13.

The race begins at the Riverside Center in Decatur. Registration forms can be found at adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

.....

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

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STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY  
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT, SS:  
CAUSE NO. 38C01-2505-MF-000011  
Nationstar Mortgage LLC, Plaintiff,  
vs.  
Lydia A. Riojas, et al., Defendants.  
NOTICE OF SUIT SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
TO: The Unknown heirs devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Clyde M Barger and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the estate of Clyde M Barger:  
BE IT KNOWN, that Nationstar Mortgage LLC, the above-named Plaintiff, by its attorney, Nicholas M. Smith, has filed in the office of the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court its Complaint against Defendant The Unknown heirs devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Clyde M Barger and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the estate of Clyde M Barger, and the said Plaintiff having also filed in said Clerk's office the affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence and whereabouts of the Defendant, The Unknown heirs devisees, legatees, beneficiaries of Clyde M Barger and their unknown creditors; and, the unknown executor, administrator, or personal representative of the estate of Clyde M Barger, upon diligent inquiry is unknown, and that said cause of action is for default on the promissory note and to fore-close a mortgage on the following described real estate in Jay County, State of Indiana, to wit:  
Lot Number 73 in Haynes Addition in the City of Portland, Jay County, Indiana.  
commonly known as 727 West Race Street, Portland, IN 47371.  
NOW, THEREFORE, said Defendant is hereby notified of the filing and pendency of said Complaint against them and that un-less they appear and answer or otherwise defend thereto within thirty (30) days after the last notice of this action is published, judgment by default may be entered against said Defendant for the relief demanded in the Complaint.  
Dated  
Clerk, Jay Circuit Court  
Nicholas M. Smith (31800-15)  
Stephanie A. Reinhart (25071-06)  
J. Dustin Smith (29493-06)  
Chris Wiley (26936-10)  
Attorneys for Plaintiff  
MDK LEGAL  
P.O. Box 165028  
Columbus OH 43216-5028  
Telephone: 614-220-5611  
Facsimile: 614-220-5613  
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Around the corner

The Fort Recovery High School volleyball team hosted Jay County, South Adams and Wapahani for a set of scrimmages on Wednesday morning. Pictured at right, Cameron Muhlenkamp, who was the Indians’ top hitter with 244 kills in 2024, swings at a ball during the scrimmage against Wapahani. At right, Elizabeth Barnett, who is one of the eight returning Patriots who played more than 80 sets last season, taps the ball over the net during the opening scrimmage against the host Tribe. The season will open Aug. 19 with Jay County traveling to Madison-Grant and FRHS hosting Memorial.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Deion Sanders says he beat bladder cancer

**By SEAN KEELER**  
The Denver Post  
Tribune News Service  
BOULDER, Colo. — Deion Sanders already has a victory under his belt in 2025. The University of Colorado football coach announced Monday that he beat bladder cancer.  
The CU Buffs coach addressed his health Monday at the CU Touchdown Club adjacent to Fol-

Hall of famer will still coach Colorado in 2025-26

som Field. He was flanked at the table by Dr. Janet Kukreja, director of Urologic Oncology at CU Cancer Center, and by Lauren Askevold, CU’s assistant athletic

The coach had his bladder removed. Kukreja said he is now cancer-free.  
“We’re gonna beat this, (aren’t) we?” Sanders asked Kukreja Monday.  
“It’s beaten,” she replied.  
Sanders, 57, has coached through health challenges before. The Pro Football Hall-of-Famer missed three games with Jackson State in 2021. He’s battled blood clot issues in the past, and had surgery to address a clot in his right leg in 2023.  
Askevold said the tumor was diagnosed during CU’s spring football practices this past April and that the surgery was completed by early May.  
See Beat page 7

NYC Park Ave. shooter blames CTE brain injury

**By CHRIS SOMERFELDT and ROCCO PARASCANDOLA**  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service  
NEW YORK — Shane Tamura, the Park Avenue gunman who killed an NYPD officer and three others before taking his own life, left behind a suicide note saying he suffered from CTE, a brain injury often linked to playing football, and was targeting the NFL — but took the wrong elevator, officials said Tuesday.  
Tamura, 27, who played competitive football when he was young, took issue with the NFL in the note. He never played for the NFL  
“You can’t go against the NFL,” he wrote,

police sources said. “They’ll squash you.”  
The note, which is three pages long and which Tamura had on him as he carried out his shooting rampage Monday, says he wants his brain to be studied, police sources said.  
One in three former NFL players, according to a study, believe they have CTE, chronic traumatic encephalopathy. The neuropathological condition is linked to repeated head trauma but can only be diagnosed through a post-mortem exam.  
“Please study brain for CTE. I’m sorry,” Tamura wrote in the note, the sources said. “The league knowingly concealed the dangers to our brains to maximize profits. They failed us.”  
The NFL has offices on four lower floors of the building where the shooting occurred.  
“We have reason to believe that he was focused on the NFL agency that was located in the building,” Mayor Adams told MSNBC Tuesday morning. Adams confirmed he left a suicide note that talked about CTE.  
The shooting however, took place in the lobby and on the 33rd floor, home to Rudin Management, where police say he killed one woman before shooting himself in the chest.  
See CTE page 7

NBA’s Marcus Morris Sr. allegedly owes Nevada casinos over \$200,000

**By CHUCK SCHILKEN**  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service  
Marcus Morris Sr. was denied bond during a hearing Tuesday morning in Florida’s Broward County two days after the former NBA player was arrested at the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport on felony fraud charges out of Nevada.  
The judge denied Morris’ motion to set bond, saying that she did not have the jurisdiction to make such a ruling for an out-of-state case.  
Footage from Tuesday’s hearing, posted online by TMZ, shows Morris in attendance, wearing a jail-issued beige jumpsuit and handcuffs. NBA free agent Markieff Morris also attended in support of his twin brother.  
Records from the Las Vegas Township Justice Court indicate that warrants were issued earlier this year, one in March and the other in June, for Morris’ arrest. The Boca Raton, Fla., resident faces the same two felony counts in each case — drawing or passing a check for \$1,200 or more with the intent to defraud and theft valued at \$100,000 or more.  
Yony Noy, an agent for Morris, has main-

Former power forward was denied bail in Florida

tained on social media that Morris’ legal troubles stem from an outstanding marker with a casino.  
During the proceedings, the prosecuting attorney representing the state of Florida, confirmed that there are two warrants for Morris’ arrest in Nevada and both are for outstanding markers for more than \$100,000 each.  
The prosecuting attorney also indicated that although Nevada is looking to extradite Morris, it is also willing to consider dismissing the charges if Morris’ debts are paid in full. An attorney representing Morris said that “a large payment” had already been sent via wire in an effort to resolve the issue.  
Morris made more than \$100 million in salary during an 11-year NBA career that included four seasons with the Clippers.

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