

The Commercial Review



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

IEDC deems breach of loans

Venture firm defaulted on investment program

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Troubled venture capital company Elevate Ventures has been deemed “in breach of” lending language in all of its active loan agreements with the Indiana Economic Development Corp. after defaulting on an angel investment program this month.

David Watkins, IEDC’s senior vice president of entrepreneurship and small business, gave the firm 30 days to cure the breaches before it nears default on those agreements.

In a Wednesday letter, he asked Elevate Ventures to provide a detailed financial plan and schedule, also within 30 days, to “demonstrate how it will be able to fulfill all of its outstanding obligations” — and why the IEDC shouldn’t make all outstanding loans due immediately.

The agency has “unreconciled, ongoing concern” that the company, “in its current state, will be unable to fulfill any of its current or future obligations,” Watkins wrote.

Elevate Ventures did not reply to multiple requests for comments.

The firm operates the Indiana Angel Network Fund, intended to entice and aid angel investments to Hoosier start-ups. It nabbed the contract with IEDC on Aug. 2, 2011, with repayment due exactly 14 years later.

IEDC sent a request for repayment of nearly \$17.2 million the day before. Elevate Ventures repaid about \$12.9 million on Aug. 4 — falling more than \$4.3 million short.

That prompted another letter, this time a notice of payment default that requested full payment within five business days.

See **Breach** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Busy day

There was plenty happening Saturday in Jay County. Pictured above, Chris of Soarin’ Hawk Raptor Rehabilitation Center of Huntertown shows a vulture during a presentation at Balbec Days. At left, John Beatrice and fellow band members perform Saturday at The 615 in Portland during the annual No One Fights Alone benefit. And at right, Patricia Boelte of Glass Arts Indiana works on a glass chain during Glass Days in Dunkirk.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Texas Senate panel advances new map

By **AARON TORRES**
The Dallas Morning News
Tribune News Service

AUSTIN — The Texas Senate could move the GOP’s redistricting plan forward in the next few days after the redistricting panel advanced the map on Sunday afternoon.

Wasting little time in the second special session, the redistricting committee voted out the map on a 6-3 party-line vote. Senate Bill 4, by Sen. Phil King, R-Weatherford, contains the same map that was considered in the first special session.

Proposal is projected to improve GOP odds in five congressional districts

The map would give Republicans an advantage in five congressional districts.

The first overtime session ended Friday after dozens of House Democrats left the state, denying the House a quorum and stalling

action on legislation in the state House.

Gov. Greg Abbott, however, kept his word and immediately called a second extra session to start Friday. The Senate was scheduled to work later that day and scheduled

the redistricting committee to hold their public hearing for Sunday afternoon.

Similar to all of the redistricting hearings conducted by panels in both the House and Senate, an overwhelming majority of individuals who spoke Sunday opposed the new congressional map. Only one person of the 43 people who testified Sunday supported the map.

Sunday’s hearing lasted a little over two-and-a-half hours. The Senate was scheduled to gavel in Monday afternoon.

Allies plan to push for Ukraine support

By **ALBERTO NARDELLI, JOSH WINGROVE and NATALIA DROZDIAK**
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and his European allies arrived in Washington on Monday anxious to find out what Donald Trump committed to at his summit with Vladimir Putin and apprehensive that he’ll force Kyiv into making unpalatable concessions.

Trump was set to host Zelenskyy and several European leaders to set out terms for a potential peace deal he discussed with Putin at last Friday’s meeting

European leaders were set to arrive in Washington on Monday

in Alaska. While the U.S. is expected to focus on territorial concessions demanded by Russia, Kyiv will seek to pin down possible security guarantees, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Unease hangs over the allies,

which have few options for pushing back on demands from Trump that Ukraine may oppose, and are skeptical that Putin really wants peace. Another challenge is Trump himself: he wants a quick peace deal but has offered little clarity on how to get there.

Trump told leaders in a weekend call that he’s open to U.S. involvement in guarantees of Ukraine’s security, other people familiar with the matter said. All asked not to be identified to discuss private deliberations.

He also told allies he wanted to reach a deal quickly and would urge Ukraine to agree to one, with the goal of holding a Putin-Zelenskyy meeting within a week. That’s a timeline that many of the Europeans regard as too aggressive, given how many issues remain unresolved.

The people said Trump revealed elements of his conver-

sations with Putin in calls with allied leaders, though without much detail. Senior European diplomats privately vented frustration at the outcome, noting Putin appeared to have gained most from the summit.

Leaders were also weighing the fact that Trump’s own team sought to tamp down expectations for a quick solution.

“We’re still a long ways off,” Secretary of State Marco Rubio, who took part in the summit, told Fox News on Sunday. “We are not at the precipice of a peace agreement.”

See **Push** page 2

Deaths	Weather	In review	Coming up
Spencer Whittington , 88, Vincennes Details on page 2.	Jay County had a high temperature of 84 degrees Sunday. The low was 71. Skies will be partly cloudy tonight with a 50% chance of rain and a low in the upper 60s. Expect partly cloudy skies Wednesday with a high in the lower 80s and a chance of rain. See page 2 for an extended outlook.	Second Harvest Food Bank will host food tailgates Wednesday, Aug. 20, in Redkey Morgan Park, 102 W. Holmes Ave., Redkey, Thursday, Aug. 21, at Blackford County Fairgrounds, 409 E. Park Ave., Hartford City, and Friday at Goodrich Park, 701 N. Union St., Winchester. All tailgates will begin at 10 a.m.	Wednesday — Details from next week’s Jay School Board meeting. Thursday — Results from the JCHS boys tennis match against Alexandria-Monroe. Friday — Coverage of Jay County Commissioners’ special meeting.



Utility consumer advocate is retiring

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Longtime Utility Consumer Counselor William Fine is leaving his post effective Aug. 31 — setting up an opportunity for Gov. Mike Braun to have a direct impact on utility issues in the state.

Fine has led the Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) since 2017. The agency represents all Indiana consumers to “ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education and creative problem solving,” its website said.

Fine was appointed the 24th Utility Consumer Counselor for the state by then-Gov. Eric Holcomb and was reappointed in December 2020.

He led a staff of more than 50 professionals including attorneys, analysts, engineers, and additional employees who represent Indiana’s residential, com-

mercial, and industrial ratepayer interests in state and federal utility regulatory proceedings.

Fine is retiring after 45 years of practicing law. Before joining the OUCC, he served in the Indiana House of Representatives and was a member of the Lake County Election and Voter Registration Board, the Indiana

Public Defender Commission and the Board of Managers for the Lake County Bar Association.

His bio on the OUCC site said he is a former vice president and treasurer of the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and currently serves on its executive committee. Fine was a member of Indiana’s 21st Century Energy Policy Development Task Force and was on the Critical Consumer Issues Forum Advisory Committee.

A Lake County native, Fine holds degrees from the Maurer School of Law, Purdue University and Indiana University.

Gov. Mike Braun will appoint his successor.






The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) will also be getting a new leader soon.

Current IURC Chairman Jim Huston announced his retirement in May. He plans to step down in January 2026 after more than a decade with the agency.

The governor appoints members of the IURC from among persons recommended by a nominating commission, and also appoints the chairman.

The IURC hears evidence in rates cases filed before it and makes decisions based on the evidence presented.

CR almanac

Wednesday 8/20	Thursday 8/21	Friday 8/22	Saturday 8/23	Sunday 8/24
 78/62 Mostly sunny skies are expected Wednesday with highs in the upper 70s.	 78/58 Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high around 78.	 82/61 Friday looks to be sunny with the high jumping to the lows 80s.	 83/58 Saturday's weather looks like mostly sunny skies and a low at night in the upper 50s.	 77/51 Sunny, with the low temperature at night dipping to a cool 51 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$605 million	18-26-31-38-39-40-42-51-55-61-64-67-68-69-71-73 Cash 5: 6-7-9-30-37 Estimated jackpot: \$169,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$216 million	
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 1-7-0 Daily Four: 2-3-9-9 Quick Draw: 9-12-14-15-22-33-36-37-41-43-46-52-53-57-61-62-63-66-72-79 Evening Daily Three: 1-9-2 Daily Four: 2-8-8-1 Quick Draw: 4-8-9-13-	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 3-2-9 Pick 4: 8-8-6-2 Pick 5: 4-4-5-2-5 Evening Pick 3: 5-7-4 Pick 4: 7-4-7-7 Pick 5: 1-2-4-8-2 Rolling Cash 5: 10-25-26-27-28 Estimated jackpot: \$202,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.04 Sept. corn.....4.02 Oct. corn3.91	Sept. beans10.20 Wheat4.78
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.17 Sept. corn4.17 Oct. corn4.02	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.90 Sept. corn3.82 Beans10.19 Sept. beans10.15 Wheat4.77
The Andersons Richland Township Corn3.87 Sept. corn3.87 Beans10.20	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....3.97 Sept. corn3.97 Beans10.10 Sept. beans9.85 Wheat4.48

Today in history

In 43 BC, Octavian was elected consul of Rome. (He was later known as Augustus.)

In 1814, British troops landed at Benedict, Maryland, during the War of 1812.

In 1847, U.S. forces started the Battle of Contreras. It was the final campaign of the Mexican-American War.

In 1909, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway opened.

In 1934, in a referendum, 90% of German voters approved making Adolf Hitler “Führer und Reichskanzler” (“leader and chancellor”).

In 1964, Syncom 3 became the world’s first geostationary satellite — a manmade object that follows the Earth’s rota-

Citizen’s calendar

Wednesday 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners special session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St., Dunkirk.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County	

Fine has served in state role since 2017

Obituaries

Spencer Whittington
May 16, 1937-Aug. 11, 2025
Spencer Clifford Whittington, passed away on Aug. 11, 2025, at the age of 88 in Vincennes, Indiana.

Born on May 16, 1937, in Portland, Indiana, to Ruby M. Freeman Whittington and Spencer M. Whittington.

Spencer was a father of five, grandfather to eight and great-grandfather to four. He is survived by his five children, Deborah Maxwell (Bill) of Portland, Indiana, Charles Whittington (Janet) of Ros-traver Township, Pennsylvania, Tamara George of Salisbury, North Carolina, Teresa Bozzarello (John) of Evans, Georgia, and Jeffrey Whittington of Portland, Indiana. His

legacy continues through his eight grandchildren, Christy (deceased), Erica (deceased), Justin, Monica, Josh, Kaitlyn, Chandler and Victoria; and four great-grandchildren, Isabella, Neveah, Aaliyah and James. Spencer is also survived by two brothers, Paul Whittington (Julie) of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Rick Whittington (Linda) of Brownsville, Kentucky.

Spencer was a member of the United States Navy in the field of cryptology. Following his naval career, he then pursued the new emerging field in computer sciences until he retired.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Marjorie L. Clark Whittington, along with two sisters and two brothers.

Spencer's love for music and musical instruments was his life's passion. This love was a testament to his joyful spirit and creative mind.

There will be a military service at Memorial Park Cemetery at a later date.

Fredrick and Son McClure-Utt Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements. Condolences may be expressed at fredrickandson.com.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

Breach ...

Continued from page 1

The Aug. 5 document warned that the unpaid principal balance would rack up interest at 8%, or about \$956 daily.

Elevate Ventures failed to pay in full by Aug. 12, constituting an “event of default” under the contract. Watkins’ letter, sent the next day, noted more than \$7,000 in interest had accumulated.

The company offered to repay with a new loan from the returns of the Indiana 21st Century Research and Technology Fund, according to Watkins.

“However, this proposal appears

to merely utilize assets designated to pay back other future obligations to pay back the Loan, which would only impair the ability to repay those other obligations,” he wrote in the letter.

IEDC also froze all accounts related to Elevate Ventures. Monthly payments on a separate professional services agreement during the “period of open collaboration” and specific investments that were allocated capital at an IEDC board meeting in June are explicitly approved, however.

The company’s repayment struggle comes about three months after

it was dubbed an “entity of interest” — alongside IEDC and its non-profit arm — in a forensic investigation of potential financial wrongdoing.

The contract with FTI Consulting began May 13 and lasts one year. It’s worth up to \$800,000 and will be paid for by IEDC funds, according to Commerce Secretary David Adams.

Gov. Mike Braun promised an audit just days after Indiana Legislative Insight reported allegations of self-dealing, unreported side gigs and more among IEDC and its partners.

Felony arrests

Methamphetamine
A Bluffton man was arrested Saturday for possession of methamphetamine.

Jacob R. Mayer, 35, 67 Sunrise Way, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony, as well as a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

He was being held on a \$4,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Push ...

Continued from page 1

“We are not at the edge of one. But I do think progress was made.”

Over the weekend, Trump golfed and steered clear of further insight on his meeting with the Russian president. In posts on Truth Social, he said the media “distorts the TRUTH when it comes to me.”

“There is NOTHING I can say or do that would lead them to write or report honestly about me,” he said. “I had a great meeting in Alaska on Biden’s stupid War, a war that should have never happened!!!”

In a series of television interviews, Rubio said Monday’s meeting would focus on security guarantees for Ukraine, including what the U.S. would contribute. He also said the US has little to lose if talks collapse — and that continuation of the war would have little impact on daily American life — suggesting that Trump might be willing to distance himself from the conflict entirely.

The stakes couldn’t be higher: Russia continues to make slow but steady advances in eastern Ukraine and Europe may struggle to fill the gap in weapons and ammunition now that Trump has scaled back U.S. support.

In his calls, Trump also said Putin wants Ukraine to cede control of its entire eastern Donbas region of the Donetsk and Luhansk provinces, renewing earlier demands, Bloomberg previously reported. That would hand Russia a victo-

ry it has been unable to achieve militarily since fighting first erupted in 2014, and in an area where Ukraine retains heavily-fortified defenses.

Russia would also halt advancing its claims over the parts of Ukraine’s Zaporizhzhia and Kherson regions that it doesn’t now control, effectively freezing the battle lines at current positions. The Kremlin could also potentially withdraw troops from areas of northeastern Ukraine near the Russian border where its forces control only small pockets of land.

That raises the prospect that the “land-swapping” Trump has teased as part of any deal will be lopsided in Putin’s favor by giving him control of areas beyond what he’s seized, offset by modest concessions of land that had been Ukraine’s anyhow.

“If we’re weak today with Russia, we’re preparing the conflicts of tomorrow, and they will affect the Ukrainians,” said French President Emmanuel Macron, who will be among the leaders joining Zelenskyy in Washington. “And let’s not fool ourselves, they also can affect us, at a time when our country continues to regularly face cyber attacks.”

Trump’s special envoy Steve Witkoff, who was also at Friday’s summit, told CNN’s State of the Union on Sunday that “We got to an agreement that the U.S. and other nations could effectively offer Article 5-like language to Ukraine.”



GREAT SELECTION

of

newspaper roll ends

FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

GRAPHIC PRINTING

NEWSPAPERS

Publishers of

The Commercial Review
Portland, Indiana
The News and Sun
Dunkirk, Indiana

The News-Gazette
Winchester, Indiana
The News Times
Hartford City, Indiana

309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8141

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Chrysler drive was done as a favor

By JAMES FULKS
The Commercial Review

That fateful day when Chrysler, at the direction of Lee Iacocca dedicated an all-new “bustle back” Chrysler Imperial to Frank Sinatra — Aug. 11, 1981.

The Windsor, Ontario, Chrysler assembly plant hosted a star-studded roll-out of the new car and Frank was given one in his signature “blue eyes” color.

Sinatra actually drove the first production model off of the Windsor plant assembly line that day.

Today, celebrities are paid tidy sums to endorse products.

Fulksy
Mayhem



Sinatra, as a favor to his friend Iacocca, did it completely for free.

Iacocca was in the beginning stages of resurrecting Chrysler from a recent federal government bankruptcy bailout. A successful resurrection it turned out to be.

Chrysler rose from bankruptcy and paid back every cent of bailout

money with interest, and ahead of schedule.

The opera-style trunk was a popular luxury car feature at the time and was available on both Lincoln and Cadillac models, so Chrysler put the opera-style trunk on it and resurrected the old Imperial name on this particular car.

Imperial was, at one time, a stand-alone, luxury-branded car from the Chrysler corporation without the Chrysler name attached.

This model used both names and was known as a Chrysler Imperial.

The car itself was not a

big hit with the general public because of ongoing “gremlins” in the system.

Electronic fuel injection was still new technology in 1981, and the Imperial had serious reliability issues.

It ended up being plagued with mechanical issues, and had a very unreliable electronic fuel injection system that was prone to leaving Sinatra stranded.

Of course, he had no tolerance and patience for this and abruptly ended his relationship with Chrysler and demanded his name be removed from the automobile.

Interestingly, it is one of the few cars he ever actually mentioned lyrically in song.

While he mentions Lincolns and Fords in “The Lady Is A Tramp,” in the song “Until the Real Thing Comes Along” he says lyrically, “I’ll even take the Chrysler and leave the Rolls for you, and if that’s not enough, it’ll have to do until the real thing comes along.”

In a photo taken at the Windsor assembly plant the day the first Imperial rolled off the line, you see Gregory Peck and his wife, J. Paul Bergmoser, president of Chrysler,

Sinatra and wife Barbara, and Lee Iacocca. Between Sinatra and Iacocca is R. K. Vining, vice president of engineering, in the second row. The photographer was working for the media department that was housed in the Clairpointe pre-production plant behind the old Jefferson plant. The Chrysler public relations called on them to videotape the presentation of the first Imperial to Sinatra.

Frank drove the first one off of the line and into automotive history, and did it out of loyalty to an old friend, not for financial benefit.

Mother’s patience reaches breaking point

DEAR ABBY: I am 65, single and retired with an almost-40-year-old bipolar child. Although she’s compliant with her meds, she also self-medicates and sometimes must be hospitalized due to her mania. She doesn’t work and refuses to apply for any aid. I have stopped paying for her needs other than food, shelter and helping financially with her dog. Last time, before her expected release, my conditions were simple — be medication-compliant, clean up after herself and the dog, and no drugs or alcohol in my house. I have given her three months to find employment. If these conditions aren’t met, I am bracing myself to no longer house her. I really would like to have my own life. When is it all right to push a kid out of the nest? — ENOUGH ALREADY IN NEW YORK

DEAR ENOUGH: By now you should realize that you may have been enabling your daughter rather than helping her as you intended. If she’s unwilling to follow your rules, assert yourself now. You have

Dear
Abby



passed the point at which you should be living your own life.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I have a neighbor across the street and two doors down. They have five cars. Four are parked on the street. One constantly parks right in front of our house, which isn’t even directly across the street from theirs. The street directly across from their house is always empty.

I have asked them kindly with politely worded notes on the windshield to PLEASE not park in front of our house. Even though it is a public street, I don’t think it is a neighborly thing to do. Was I wrong to request they stop this practice? — TERRITORIAL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR TERRITORIAL: Because parking their car in front of your house bothers you, you had every right to make your feelings known and ask them to stop. I also agree that their continuing to do this after you asked them to stop was the opposite of “neighborly.” However, unless they are violating parking regulations in your neighborhood, there is nothing you can do to force them to stop. Sorry.

.....

DEAR ABBY: On his second day of work, a new co-worker from a different department stole my candy bar. I confronted him, but he had already eaten it. Everyone was staring at me as I scolded him. He later returned to my department and threw a total of \$21.62 at me. Before he threw it at my face, I had told him he didn’t need to give me any money.

His manager later spoke to me defending what he did! He said he was a “nice boy” and that I was out of line to scold him in front of everyone. Abby, who was wrong

here? What should I do since work is now so awkward? I never got my candy back, but I did get \$21.62. — NOT PROFESSIONAL IN THE EAST

DEAR NOT: Speak to your “nice” co-worker privately and see if you can clear the air. Tell him the money you spent on the candy wasn’t what bothered you, what did was that he took something that didn’t belong to him. Then return the cash he threw at you after deducting the cost of the candy bar.

P.S. His manager is mistaken. That “nice boy” has an entitled attitude and sticky fingers.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband’s best friend, “Herb,” (aka “Mr. Cheapo”) is getting married for the third time. He’s planning the wedding and suggesting the attendees pay for their meals. I told my husband that Herb is setting himself up for failure again. (Not to mention he’s having his fiancée sign a prenup as he did

with his other two wives.) I’m beside myself just thinking about it. Attendees have expenses, too, and what will his fiancée think when people send their regrets or don’t bring a gift?

I’m ready to override my husband’s suggestion not to educate this man on wedding etiquette. Otherwise, Herb’s a super guy, very nice and well-mannered. I know for a fact that his cheapness destroyed his second marriage and a subsequent relationship. Both women complained profusely to me about it before storming out. Should I educate Herb? — SEES THE WRITING ON THE WALL

DEAR “SEES”: From what you have written about Herb, he is not doing what he’s doing out of ignorance. If you would like to be helpful, quietly suggest to his fiancée that when he hands her the prenup document, she have it reviewed by HER OWN LAWYER to avoid any surprises in the future (or she could hand him one of her own).

Community Calendar

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

Today

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY —

Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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

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

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards

Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

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

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

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St.

Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and tell is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday’s Solution

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

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.

LeafFilter
GUTTER
PROTECTION

2025 Summer
Home Protection Event!

End Cleaning Out Gutters!
Zero Clogged Gutters Guaranteed

LIFETIME
TRANSFERABLE
WARRANTY

Without LeafFilter

With LeafFilter

Promo Code: 285

CALL 877-361-4260 FOR A FREE INSPECTION!

Limited time only!*
75% OFF + \$250
Installation Discount

*\$250 discount (no cash value) is for same-day signing only. This offer cannot be combined with any other promotion or offer. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. *See representative for full warranty details. See website for all license and registration numbers. AR 366920925, AZ ROC 344027, CA 1035795, CT HIC0671520, DC 420222E11, FL CBC056678, IA C127230, ID RCE51604, IL A55954A, MA 213292, MD MHIC11225, MI 052380331, 052380330, 052380332, 052380333, 052380318, 052380173, WI NRI0524, MT 3661822, ND 47304, NE 5014524, 5014523, NJ 13VH1328500, NM 408693, NY 86990, OR 218294, PA PA179643, RI GC41354, TN 10981, UT 10783658, VA 2705169445, VT 1740000871, WA LEAFPLH-763PG, WI 537-DCFRR WW W056

Contact Lindsey at:
L.Cochran@thecr.com
or (260) 726-8141

The Commercial Review

Seriously
Absorbent
Underwear

Absorbs up
to 6 cups

Because
OVERNIGHT
PROTECTIVE
UNDERWEAR

Because
OVERNIGHT
BLADDER CONTROL
PADS

Try for
FREE

Limited Time Offer!

Get a
FREE Starter Pack
just pay shipping

1-855-837-5131

Discreet Delivery

AUGUST
SPECIALS

COOL!

1/2 PAGE B&W AD:
to run once from Aug. 1 through 16 for \$150
(regular price – \$819)
to run once from Aug. 19 through 23 for \$200
to run once from Aug. 26 through 30 for \$250

Run a second time Sept. 3 through 6 for \$100.
Rate does not apply to special sections.

GRAPHIC
PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

Contact Lindsey at:
L.Cochran@thecr.com
or (260) 726-8141

The Commercial Review

Politics should stay out of church

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

“What we’re fighting for is democracy,” Texas state Rep. Barbara Gervin-Hawkins said Sunday.

She didn’t say this at a news conference or in a committee hearing or a TV interview. She spoke the words in a Chicago church, with the blessing of Father Michael Pfleger who heads St. Sabina on the South Side of the city.

Can a house of worship really serve two masters? Those being God — and overtly partisan politics?

The answer, as your Sunday school teacher might have told you, is a firm “no.”

Guest Editorial

Her appearance raises an old but urgent question: Where is the line between preaching moral truth and campaigning from the pulpit? This one’s a little more complicated than a simple “amen” or “no way.”

Gervin-Hawkins, who fled her home state, was speaking about her efforts to avoid a redistricting push led by Republican Gov. Greg Abbott.

Try as they might to spin this as the great moral issue of our day, mapmaking — at least in this context — is a partisan gambit about political power. This comes as the IRS recently signaled that churches may engage in more overt political speech without risking their tax-exempt status.

There are certainly times when the church provides clarity on faith-based principles that shed light on the pressing issues of the day. Pastors are, and should be, able to preach freely about all manner of subjects that could deal with everything from loving our neighbors (no matter which country they come from) to

championing peace in times of war. Many Black churches played crucial roles in promoting the rights of Black Americans during the Civil Rights Movement — not by and large by promoting politicians, but by speaking biblical truths — including that all men and women are created equal in the sight of God.

But, back to the church-going Texas Democrats.

It’s worth pointing out that the difference between faith and politics is that while politics is about power, religion is about connecting to a higher power. In other words, just because you can, doesn’t mean you should.

Just as no two people need the same spiritual medicine, so to speak, church members each have unique political perspectives. Churches are supposed to be a safe haven from such naked partisanship — one of the few left in modern American society.

God does not write electoral maps. And he does not smite one side messing with our democratic process and ring the bells of heaven for the other.

We don’t pretend to know the will of the Almighty on salamander-like districts, but we’re guessing he is of the view that each side should look to themselves.

Dems can’t fight while undermining

By RHONDA BELFORD
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

Gov. JB Pritzker is once again talking about gerrymandering — just not in Illinois.

This week, he welcomed Texas Democratic legislators to Oakwood, Illinois, to denounce Republican redistricting efforts in that state. But while Pritzker lectures red states about fairness, he continues to ignore the glaring problems in his own backyard.

Don’t forget that in 2021, Pritzker signed one of the most blatantly and aggressively gerrymandered congressional maps in the country, drawn and passed by his own party.

The map created districts with lines that make my grandchildren’s scribbles look like Pablo Picasso’s.

That map gave Democrats a clear advantage in 14 of Illinois’ 17 congressional districts and earned an “F” for fairness from the nonpartisan Princeton Gerrymandering Project. The maps weren’t an accident. They deliberately cut out two Republican-leaning seats and helped lock in Democratic control.

It’s a stark contrast from when Pritzker was on the campaign trail. He promised to veto any map that was “in any way drafted or created by legislators, political party leaders and/or their staffs or allies.” Pritzker campaigned with a message of hope and fairness and moving past Democrats’ history of corruption.

Then, at his first opportunity, Pritzker broke that promise without hesitation. “Fairness” wasn’t on Illinois Democrats’ minds.

Now, as he positions himself to run for president, Pritzker is outraged. While standing on his giant soapbox and projecting his moral authority, he floated the idea of redrawing even more favorable maps in Illinois. That’s not democratic leadership; it’s partisan gamesmanship.

Let that sink in: The same man who signed, supported and pushed one of the worst partisan gerrymanders in the nation is now upset that other states are following his lead. Instead of looking in the mirror or pushing for national changes, Pritzker responds by threatening additional

Rhonda Belford



partisan moves that will continue to divide our state.

Illinois families deserve better. They deserve fair representation, not districts drawn in backrooms to silence opposition and insulate power.

When maps are rigged to favor one party, voters lose faith in our elections and our country’s founding principles.

The truth is, with Democratic supermajorities in Springfield, there’s no one who can force Illinois Democrats to do the right thing and clean up partisan games — they need to do it themselves. If Pritzker truly wants to lead on voting rights and gerrymandering, he should start by honoring the promise he made to Illinois voters: to support an independent redistricting commission and end partisan gerrymandering in our state.

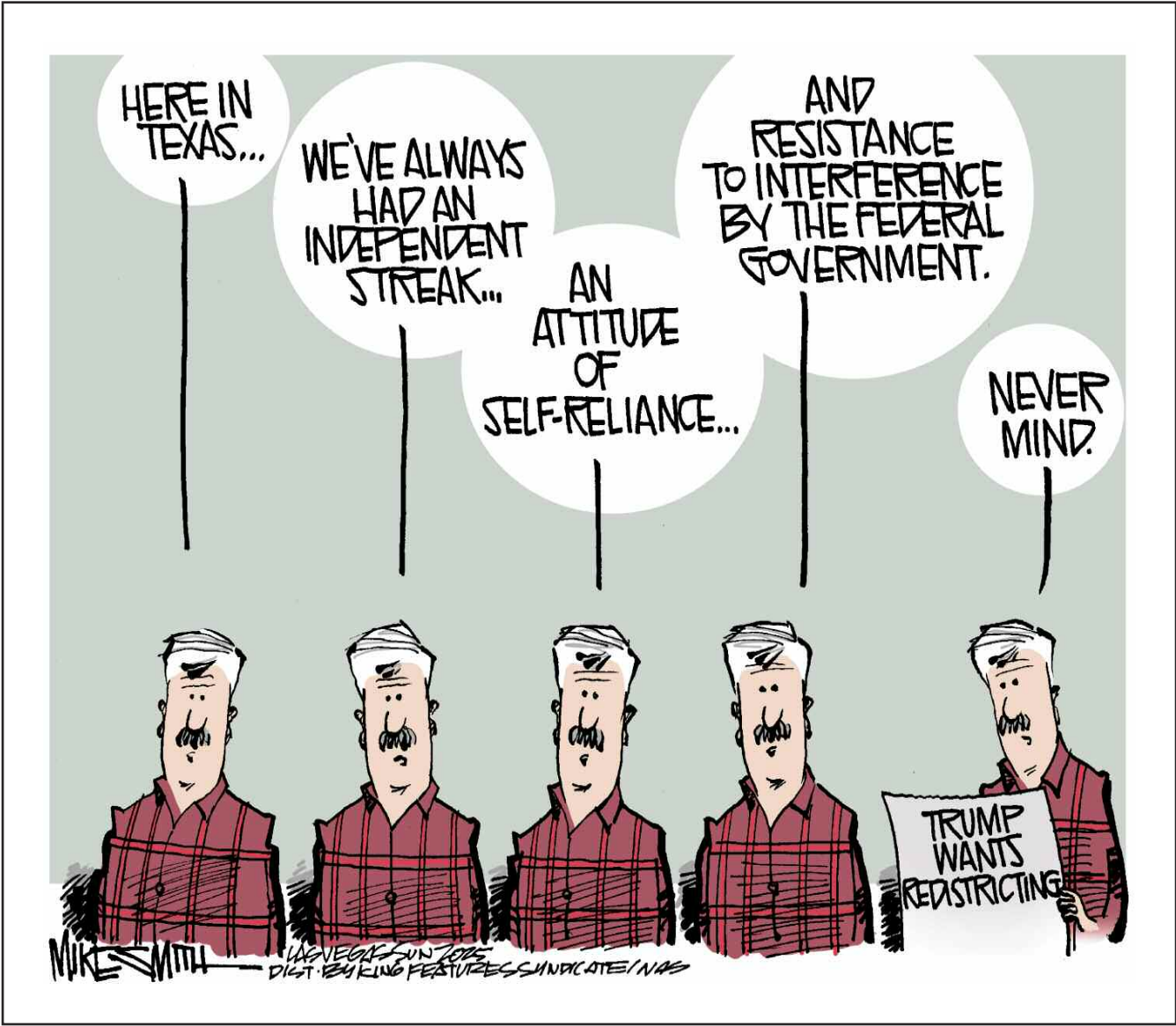
Until then, his speeches about fairness will continue to ring hollow. You can’t fight for democracy in Texas while undermining it in Illinois.

The phrase “fix your own house before criticizing your neighbor” has never been more apt. And until Pritzker refuses to rein in Illinois’ partisan splintering map, his lectures about Texas ring hollow.

Gerrymandering matters, and both Republicans and Democrats should do their part in making sure that there is a system that doesn’t play political games. But our country won’t learn how to draw better maps from the man who inked Illinois’ most gerrymandered script.

Before our governor lectures Texas on fairness, he should take a long, hard look at his own record — and start living up to the promises he made to the people of Illinois.

Belford is an Illinois Republican national committeewoman and president of the Republican County Chairmen’s Association of Illinois. She leads the 12th District State Central Committee.



Special session must be legitimate

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

I certainly didn’t have Indiana embroiled in a debate over new congressional maps on my 2025 bingo card, but here we are.

My unsolicited advice to Republicans considering the likely unprecedented move: make the case. Give me population and demographic data that shows the maps must change immediately and then convince me how it will help Hoosiers.

Not how it helps President Donald Trump — Hoosiers.

At this point, no one is doing that, which makes crystal clear this is simply partisan politics.

Some politicians have called out Democrats in other states with gerrymandered maps, such as Illinois.

Gov. Mike Braun made that case in an interview with the Indiana Capital Chronicle on Tuesday:

“But the other side of the aisle, I think, have mastered gerrymandering by looking at their maps. And I think it’s a little bit maybe hypocritical that they’re now so kind of sanctimonious about it. I don’t know that they would hesitate if things were reversed.”

And, a few minutes later: “But again, I’d like to stress that the most gerrymandered maps in the country are among blue states.”

But here’s the problem: both sides gerrymander.

This year’s discussion started in Texas, which no one would call a blue state. And I don’t care about the maps in another state. I care about Indiana’s map, the process

Niki Kelly



used to create them and their impact on Hoosier voters.

My mom taught me that two wrongs don’t make a right. We’ll never get anywhere as a society if the justification for doing wrong is “they did it first.” And this can be said about a host of public policy issues.

I was heartened to see some well-respected Republicans say just that.

Sen. Spencer Deery, R-West Lafayette, released a statement condemning the idea.

“What we are being asked to do goes far beyond the partisan map fights that happen every 10 years across the country. Rationalizing a mid-cycle redistricting by saying, ‘Democrats gerrymander too’ is an empty and irrelevant excuse,” he said. “Instead, we are being asked to create a new culture in which it would be normal for a political party to select new voters, not once a decade — but any time it fears the consequences of an approaching election.

“That would clearly violate the concept of popular sovereignty by making it harder for the people to hold their elected officials accountable and the country would be an uglier place for it.”

Deery is the latest in a line of GOP lawmakers speaking out

against redistricting — my running tally is seven now.

Republican House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray ran a good process in 2021 drafting maps with 14 hearings all around the state — from Sellersburg to Valparaiso. Nine of those hearings didn’t have proposed maps because the pandemic delayed data collection and analysis.

In 2011, the process was just as robust — with hearings in nine cities taking citizen input.

Now, of course, that doesn’t mean the maps are perfect. There will always be criticism. You can’t keep every community together and they do favor Republicans more than recent Democrat turnout in statewide elections would indicate.

But if you look at it, it’s a map that makes sense.

Huston and Bray generally run their chambers cleanly and try to instill respect in the institution. A mid-decade redistricting process would erode that. Best case scenario, it would likely involve a few hearings in Indianapolis only over a week or two. Worst case: they would come in with pre-ordained maps, suspend all rules and approve them in one day.

Indiana lawmakers are better than either of those options.

Kelly, editor-in-chief of Indiana Capital Chronicle, has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. “JACK” RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus



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

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 151-NUMBER 77
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2025

www.thecr.com

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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days – \$3; Monthly auto-pay – \$10; 13 weeks – \$32; six months – \$60; one year – \$108.
City (walking – where available): Monthly auto-pay – \$12; 13 weeks – \$37; six months – \$70; one year – \$125.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay – \$13; 13 weeks – \$45; six months – \$76; one year – \$144.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay – \$14; 13 weeks – \$51; six months – \$83; one year – \$156.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588



Photo provided

Donated

First Bank of Berne recently donated \$1,000 to Jay County Development Corporation. Pictured, from left, are mortgage loan originator Tanner McClain, Ceann Bales and Jodi Hayes of JCDC, agribusiness banker Angela Paxson and First Bank of Berne Portland branch manager Tracy Carpenter. Paxson is also president of the JCDC board of directors.

Ball State launches five-year plan

Ball State University has launched its 2025-30 strategic plan that was approved in June.

The plan has a long list of goals, including:

- All students complete at least one course that involves undergraduate research, immersive learning, study abroad, study away or focus on a societal or global issue.
- Offering a variety of microcredentials, professional licensure preparation, certificates and enrichment opportunities
- Collaborating with community partners for programs involving the arts, culture and athletic events
- Having flexible learning spaces conducive to innovative models and enhancing student experiences

The five-year plan is part of the university's overall Destination 2040: Our Flight Path that was launched in 2019.

"Destination 2040 has delivered significant results across our University, from enhancing student success to deepening our engagement with the community," said Rick Hall, chair of Ball State's Board of Trustees, in a press release. "This next iteration of the plan builds on

Business roundup

that momentum, challenging us to reach even higher levels of excellence and innovation as we prepare our students for fulfilling careers and for meaningful lives."

Holding drive

Menards stores are serving as drop sites for local humane organizations.

Stores will accept donations from now through the end of September. Items needed include pet food, treats, feeders, collars, beds, storage containers and other items. Collection boxes will be near the doors of participating locations.

Taking part in the drive are Menards stores in Muncie and Richmond in Indiana and Celina in Ohio.

Funds awarded

Dollar General recently awarded more than \$3.5 million in youth literacy grants.

The grants went to more than 700 schools, libraries and non-profit organizations for purchasing books, technology, equipment and materials. They can already be used for professional development.

"As the need for accessible educational materials and resources for our country's youth continues, we are proud to provide vital support to local literacy programs," said Denine Torr, executive director of the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, in a press release. "The Dollar General Literacy Foundation believes the investment in the education of a young student is an investment in a brighter future. We are grateful to the local schools, libraries and non-profit organizations that are serving students and helping them thrive."

Among those awarded grants were Selma Elementary School, Every Child Can Read in Richmond, Grant County Boys & Girls Club, Minster Elementary School and Van Wert Middle School.

Leaders hired

Bowen Health has hired several new leaders for its organization, with Jesseca

Downs named director of intensive programs and Channing Westerman selected as associate director of safety.

Downs will fill a new role that is responsible for overseeing and planning the strategic direction of programs. Westerman will focus on strengthening a company-wide culture of safety in her job, which is also new to the organization.

Hospital recognized

The American College of Cardiology recently recognized Lutheran Hospital of Fort Wayne with the HeartCARE Center National Distinction of Excellence.

The honor goes to facilities that meet criteria including participating in accreditation programs and quality improvement campaigns.

"Lutheran Hospital has demonstrated its commitment to providing Fort Wayne and the surrounding area with excellent heart care," said Dr. Deepak L. Bhatt, chair of the ACC Accreditation Management Board, in a press release. "ACC Accreditation Services is proud to award Lutheran Hospital with the HeartCARE Cen-

ter designation."

Deal signed

Eli Lilly has signed a \$1.3 billion deal with Superluminal Medicines.

The agreement calls for developing drugs through artificial intelligence to treat obesity and cardiometabolic diseases. Lilly, an Indianapolis-based pharmaceuticals firm, will have exclusive rights to develop and commercialize those drugs.

"GPCRs have established themselves as very important targets in the obesity and cardiometabolic landscape, but we're at the very early stages of exploration of the target class," Superluminal CEO Cony D'Cruz told Reuters.

Flight added

Indianapolis International Airport has announced that it will offer a non-stop flight to Cabo, Mexico, for spring break in 2026.

The flight will be available on Saturdays from March 5 to April 6. Other new destinations announced this year include Chicago, Nashville and Portland, Oregon.

"Cabo is the latest win for Indy travelers — join-

ing Punta Cana and Dublin as new international nonstop destinations," said Mario Rodriguez, executive director of the Indianapolis Airport Authority, in a press release. "New flights like this open doors. Cabo becomes our second destination in Mexico, and every new route means more convenience, more opportunity, and more ways we're delivering on what Hoosiers want most."

Expo scheduled

Registration is open for the Indiana Chapter of the National Tooling and Machining Association and the Precision Machining Association Indiana District's Indiana Manufacturing Suppliers Expo.

The event will run from 1 to 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 21, at Embassy Suites in Plainfield. It will include educational tracks including AI in manufacturing.

To register, or for more information, visit intma.org.

.....

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

MusicWorks

Starts Tuesday, September 2, 2025



Take private lessons from our many talented instructors:

David Blakley – Blackford & Jay
Kathryn Fenstermacher – Blackford & Jay
Margaret Hammond – Blackford & Jay
Andy Kern – Blackford & Jay
Dayton Molendorp – Blackford & Jay

Ann Clamme-Monroe – Blackford
Yuki Erbes – Blackford
Danielle Lilly – Blackford
Erika Miller – Blackford

Linda Braun – Jay
Amelia Freeman – Jay
Alex Huey – Jay
Anna Livera – Jay
Jan Rittenhouse – Jay
Pete Vogler – Jay

Scholarship Opportunities available:

Jay County Campus:

- *Elizabeth Starbuck MusicWorks Merit Scholarship
- *Tiffany Grace Abner Music Scholarship

Blackford County Arts Center & Jay County Campus:

- *Dr. Jennifer Hammond Clamme Memorial Scholarship

Financial Assistance is available.
Monthly payment options are available.

* **Deadline to register is August 25th!**

For more information about MusicWorks, please visit myartsplace.org or contact:

Blackford County Arts Center: 765-348-4154, bcac@myartsplace.org
Jay County Campus: 260-726-4809, jcc@myartsplace.org

COMING SOON in October:
Piano & Guitar labs at Blackford and Jay
Eastern Breeze Flute Ensemble at Jay

You can register for MusicWorks with this QR code:
OR visit myartsplace.org

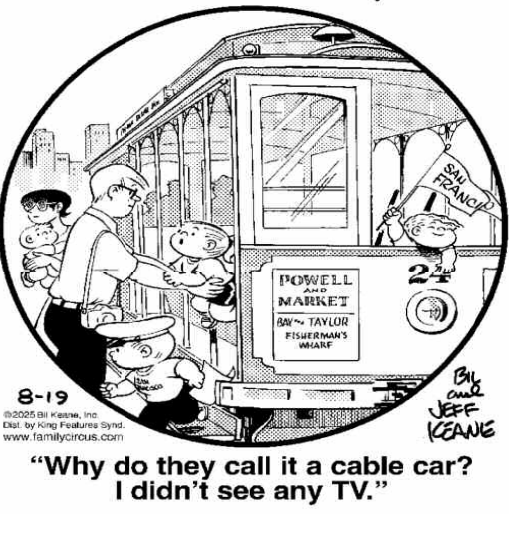


These programs are sponsored by The Portland Foundation, the Adams County Community Foundation, Citizens State Bank, the Blackford County Community Foundation, Dennis & Marianne Horn, and WPGW Radio.

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



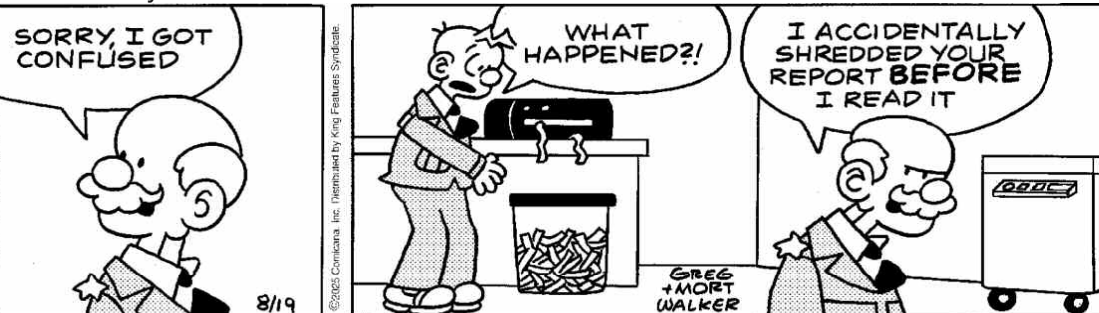
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Comparing right with wrong

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 7 4
♥ A 8 2
♦ J 8 3
♣ A 6 4

WEST
♠ 8 5
♥ J 10 9 4
♦ A 10 7 5
♣ J 9 3

EAST
♠ K 2
♥ Q 7 3
♦ 9 6 4
♣ K 10 8 5 2

SOUTH
♠ Q J 9 6 3
♥ K 6 5
♦ K Q 2
♣ Q 7

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
2 ♣ Pass 4 ♣

Opening lead — jack of hearts.

South still had to lose a trick to the ace of diamonds, so he finished down one, losing a trick in each suit.

The trouble with this method of play is that declarer gave himself only one chance for the contract. He banked everything on the success of the 50-50 spade finesse. In so doing, South ignored an equally good second possibility that would have given him an additional chance to make the contract.

The better approach is to win the opening heart lead in dummy and immediately lead a low club toward the queen. If East has the king, as in the actual case, the best he can do is to take it and return a heart.

Declarer wins the heart return with the king, cashes the queen of clubs and then crosses to the ace of spades, refusing the finesse, which is no longer necessary. South's heart loser is discarded on the club ace, and the only tricks remaining for the defense are the king of trump and ace of diamonds.

Of course, if the low club play at trick two fails because West has the king of clubs, South still has the spade finesse in reserve. Since this line of play succeeds whenever East has the king of clubs or West has the king of spades, it is clearly superior. Two chances are obviously better than one.

Tomorrow: A valuable defensive signal.
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

8-19

CRYPTOQUIP

HN WCKDUCBQ FDOD ODIRRQ
GHELDB CNN FVHRD ECCLHSM
DMMW HS VCG FIGDO, GVDQ'B
UD UCHRHSM KIB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CRYING, WHINY KITTEN WHO TAKES A DAY OFF IN A COMEDY FILM OF THE EIGHTIES: FERRIS MEWLER.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals F

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Dowels
5 America's uncle
8 Amor-phous mass
12 Non-committal answer
13 Altar vow
14 Classic Kinks song
15 Lip plumper
17 Thor's father
18 Moving vehicle
19 Crew activity
21 Slugger Roger
24 251, to Cicero
25 Bailiwick
26 Did a sorting job
30 Genetic letters
31 — mistake (blew it)
32 Lyricist Gershwin
33 Plots (with)

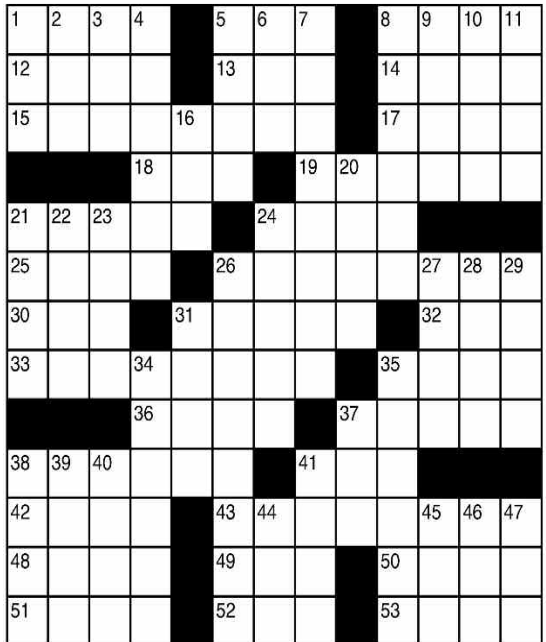
DOWN
35 Dis-order
36 Salt Lake City
37 Circum-ference
38 Pale yellow
41 Goal
42 Hum-dinger
43 Dialogue
48 Addict
49 Hosp. sections
50 "Abso-lutely!"
51 Online craft shop
52 "Hamil-ton" actress
53 First-rate

20 Penne — vodka
21 Artist Chagall
22 Florence's river
23 Authentic
24 Encryp-tions
26 Rhythmic patterns
27 Level
28 Formerly, once
29 Sprint
31 TV remote button
34 Kind of hotel
35 Brunch cocktail
37 Violinist Shaham
38 Chimney part
39 Craving
40 Pub orders
41 Too
44 Acapulco gold
45 Status —
46 Coffee vessel
47 "— (cowboy cry)

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 8-19



00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141

ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge....
\$12.40

1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/word
12 insertions. \$1.52/word
26 insertions. \$1.77/word

Includes
Online.....FREE
Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch
No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page
Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication.
Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

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

50 RUMMAGE SALES
ZANE'S ANNUAL BARN SALE
840 W 100 N, Portland. August 17th thru August 24th.

Opening at 7am on the first day. 8am-4pm the rest of the week.

Antiques, Furniture, Primitives, Quilts, Buggy Wheels, Shop and Hand Tools, Household, Guns, Knives, Ammunition, Longaberger, Boyds Bears, Precious Moments. We have something for everyone. Can preview early but there will be no early sales.

60 SERVICES

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

GOODHEW'S ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

SEAMSTRESS NAN HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, AppliquÉ, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334

SUBSCRIBE

TO THE
COMMERCIAL
REVIEW

up to
49% off
Newsstand prices
Subscribe at
thecr.com
or call
260-726-8141

BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W,
Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

Wendel's
Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry
Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying,
Residential &
Commercial
Green Seal
Approved
Dave Wendel
Ph. 260-726-4520
Cell 260-729-2797

Bricker's Flowers & More
414 N. Meridian St. Portland
Call or text to order 260-703-0304
Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday
9:30-3:00 Saturday

E and E Construction
Amish Crew
BARN RESTORATION
Specializing in
metal roofs, decks & more
FREE Estimates
260-301-1777

Little JJ's
Tree Trimming, Removal,
Stump Grinding.
Firewood available
765-509-1956

Dave's
Heating & Cooling
Furnace,
Air Conditioner
Geothermal
Sales & Service
260-726-2138
Now accepting
MC/Disc/Visa

BAIL BONDS
Travis Weaver
260-726-3189
across street
from Jail

Visit Us At:
thecr.com

THE CLASSIFIEDS
Find it - Buy It,
Sell It!
(260) 726-8141

Notre Dame ...

Continued from page 8
Continuing the competition means the starter won't receive as many reps with the first-team offense until a decision is made.

But Freeman also put a positive spin on the offensive players getting so familiar with both quarterbacks, saying it could help if the Irish ever need to turn to the backup.

Denbrock noted he has tried to use the com-

petition to gather data and information about what will work best within the offense under each quarterback.

"It's going to be important that whoever wins the job that we play to the strengths of who they are and not put them in compromising situations, especially too early in the season," he said. "I don't think (the offense) will change a bunch, but there are

several strengths and weaknesses and differences you have to be aware of when you're making a plan."

Whichever quarterback is chosen, he will be stepping into a high-pressure situation starting against No. 10 Miami in South Florida.

The No. 6 Irish have tried to simulate pressure situations in practice with two-minute drills. But Denbrock noted the challenge

ahead for a first-year starter.

"I hope everybody knows that no matter who we name the quarterback, it's no easy task going down to Miami and playing in a season opener," Denbrock said. "No matter who the starter is, there will be a learning curve involved in all of this. But we're confident we've got two guys who can compete at a very high level and do a really, really good job."

Roundup ...

Continued from page 8
Gabe Overton and Brock Wasson started the day at the No. 2 doubles position, losing to Kocson Anman and Oglan Blackford 6-0, 0-6, 10-7 in the closest match of the day.

Later, Nick Snow and Jace Vance fell to Evan Miller and Logan Young 6-0, 6-2.

Fort falls

BRADFORD, Ohio — The Fort Recovery boys golf team dropped Friday's match to the Russia Raiders 161-181 at Stillwater Golf Course.

For the first time this season, Reece LeFevre didn't earn match medalist honors. He finished with a 42 that included six pars and two bogeys.

Russia's Michael Voisard was the only golfer to break 40. He carded a 35 to claim the top spot.

Following LeFevre were Andrew Rehmert and Caleb Smith, who shot 45 and 46, respectively. Garrett Diller rounded out the team score with a 51.

Also competing, but failing to score for the Indians (4-2) were Luke Fortkamp with a 56 and Hudson McAbee with a 64.

Rushin' Reece

Fort Recovery High School senior Reece Wendel breaks through the line on a carry during the Indians' scrimmage against Indian Lake on Friday evening. Wendel is the Tribe's leading offensive returner after converting eight touchdowns on 100.8 rushing yards per game in 2024.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls golf at Adams Central – 4:30 p.m.; Boys soccer at Muncie Central – 5 p.m.; Boys tennis vs. Alexandria-Monroe – 5 p.m.; Volleyball at Madison-Grant – 6 p.m.; JV boys soccer at Muncie Central – 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Cross Country at Mercer County meet at Parkway – 5 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Memorial – 5 p.m.; Middle school volleyball at Versailles – 5 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
11 a.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN2)
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Houston Astros at Detroit Tigers (TBS)
8 p.m. — WNBA: Seattle Storm at Chicago

Sky (ABC)
9:38 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Los Angeles Angels (FDSN Indiana)

Wednesday
11 a.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN2)
1 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)
5 p.m. — Horse racing: Saratoga Live (FS1)
7 p.m. — U.S. Open tennis (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — Leagues Cup soccer: Inter Miami at Tigres UANL (FS1)
9:38 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Los Angeles Angels (FDSN Indiana)
10 p.m. — Athletes Unlimited softball: Team Falby at Team Willis (ESPN2)
11 p.m. — Leagues Cup soccer: Seattle Sounders at Puebla (FS1)

Local notes

Outing announced
The Adams Health Network Foundation will host the 12th Annual Golf Classic on Sept. 12 at Wabash Valley Golf Club.
There will be two shotgun starts at 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Breakfast, snacks and beverages will be provided, as well as a lunch in between flights.
The event raises funds for healthcare scholarships and local health initiatives in Adams County.
The deadline to register is August 22. To register visit adamshospital.org/foundation. For more information, email kim.tormbley@adamshhealthnetwork.org.

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.

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

Next race set
The next race in the Adams County Challenge series is the Adams Memorial/Kekiongna Greenway Gallup at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 23.
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@theocr.com

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 1702 W Tyson Road, Portland IN
SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025 9:30 A.M.
REAL ESTATE
Tract 1 - 2 story home with approximately 2,048 square feet of living space situated on approximately 1.75 acres. 1st floor features include kitchen with floor to ceiling cabinets, dining room, living room, bedroom, full bathroom, and enclosed front porch. 2nd floor includes 3 bedrooms and 1 half bathroom. Home is connected via an enclosed area to a 2 car garage with approximately 895 square feet and includes a pull down stairway accessing attic storage. Property also offers a 48' x 56' pole building with front and rear overhead doors, enclosed shop/office area, concrete floor, and 100 amp electrical service.
Tract 2 - One acre bare lot located just west of the home on Tyson Road.
Tract 3 - Forty-seven +/- acres of bare land located within the city limits of Portland. This property offers the rare opportunity to purchase

90 SALE CALENDAR

land in Portland with both agricultural and commercial opportunities.
Tract 4 - Combination of Tracts 1 and 2.
Tract 5 - Entire package which includes house, pole barn and 50 acres.
OPEN HOUSE: SUNDAY AUGUST 10, 2025 FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M.
For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY, Auctioneer and (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
THE ESTATE OF MAX & BERNICE MCCLURG
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069
PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20th, 2025
TIME 9:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 2641 E 1100 S. Montpelier IN.
TRACTORS - CRAWLER
1968 JD 4020 D. w/ Quad-shift, Front weights, 4900 hours.
1967 JD 2510 w/ Front weights, 6800 hours.

90 SALE CALENDAR

Case 1030 Tractor w/ 3600 hours. New Holland GT-122A Lawn Tractor w/ deck and blade.Wheelhorse 14HP Garden Tractor. JD 450-B Crawler Loader. TRUCKS-MOTORCYCLES-FARM EQUIPMENT
. 1968 Chevy C50 Single Axel Dump Truck. 2000 Chevy S10 ZR2 4x4 93,000 Miles. 1985 Chevy C30 Utility Truck w/ Boom Lift and Snow Plow. 2021 Harley Davidson 1200 Model 48 w/ 2300 Miles. 2009 Kawasaki KLX 250 S Dirt Bike w/ 708 Miles. JD 55-A 3 Bottom Plow. Oliver 565 4 Bottom Plow. JD 7' Cycle Bar Mower. JD 4 Row Cultivator. New Idea 2 Row wide Picker. JD 24T Square Baler. Kelly 18i Backhoe Bucket. 30 Ton Hyd Press. Lincoln 225 Welder. Merry Mac Shredder Chipper. Rabbit Cages.
TOYS-ANTIQUES
JD, Oliver, Massey Ferguson, AC, Massey Harris Toy Tractors. (2) 110 lb Anvils w/ Stands. Corn Sheller. Misc Slate. (4) Steel Wheels. Radio Flyer Wagon.
OWNER: James M Robbins.
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more

90 SALE CALENDAR

photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587
PUBLIC AUCTION
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4th, 2025 TIME 4:30 P.M.
LOCATED: 506 N George St. Ridgeville, IN
GUN -GUN SUPPLIES-AMMO
Taurus 357 Mag 6 Shot Revolver (3 Screw). 45 Cal ACP Pistol. H & R Sportsman 22 Cal 9 Shot Revolver. Ammo Reloader. Tumbler. Reloading Supplies. Large Lot of Lead. Large Lot of Gun Supplies. TRAILER-TILLERS-SHOP EQUIPMENT
5' X 8' Single Axel Utility Trailer. Stihl Mini Tiller. Craftsman Rear tine Tiller. Dewalt Power Miter Saw. Delta Bandsaw. Router w/ Stand. Roller Stand. Double Arbor Buffer. Fishing Poles and Supplies. Consew Industrial Sewing Machine. Sentry Small Safe.
ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD-MISC

90 SALE CALENDAR

Toys and Miniatures. Primitive Tools. Cross Cut Saws. Banjo. Marlboro Sign. Marlboro Top Ornate Sofa Table w/ End Tables and Coffee Tables.Laser Printer. 2 and 4 Drawer Filing Cabinets. Large Lot of Hardware.
OWNER: Friends Firearms by Flora Friend.
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587
100 JOBS WANTED
AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.
110 HELP WANTED
HELP WANTED Painting and Pressure washing in Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

110 H ELP WANTED

TJ EXPRESS SERVICE, LLC is seeking 3 CDL-A truck drivers to join the team! Multiple 53' van trailers and a 48' flatbed spots available. Most Saturdays and Sundays off. Starting at \$0.63/mile. Responsibilities include inspecting the truck before and after trips. Make all appointments on time. Qualifications: Verifiable previous experience in truck driving. At least 2 years experience. Commercial driver's license (CDL-A). No hazmat. Ability to handle physical workload. For more details, please contact Patrick at (502)-545-7825.
HOUSE KEEPER to work 3hr Tuesday in September & October. Call 260-251-0793
130 MISC. FOR SALE
FOR SALE Hay and Straw call 260-249-8458
SCRATCH PADS ARE BACK various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.
PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30",.007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax.
The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.
190 FARMERS COLUMN
AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309
200 FOR RENT
LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com
230 AUTOS, TRUCKS
WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

Jay girls cross country placed third at Warsaw, see roundup below

FR cross country opens season at County meet, see Sports on tap

Garringer, JC girls start season strong

WARSAW — The Patriot boys team has some significant shake up to the roster, while the girls remained consistent from the 2024 campaign. As a result, the boys’ team score suffered compared to the girls, but they still managed to claim the highest individual finish.

Caleb Garringer opened his junior season with a sixth-place finish at the Warsaw Cross Country Classic on Saturday, while a trio of girls placed in the top 20 to lead the Jay County High School girls cross country team to third place.

The girls earned 78 points to finish two behind runner-up Northwood, while host Warsaw ran away with first place at 16. The boys wound up with 161 points to place sixth out of eight teams. Columbia City took the title with 48.

Garringer earned the top finish of the day after running a time of 17 minutes, 54.3 seconds.

Ava May (22:18.6), Abby Fifer (22:41.8) and Brooklyn Byrum (23:29.4) led the girls as they claimed 12th, 16th and 19th, respectively.

Rounding out the girls’s score were Jessie Homan (24), who finished in 23:58, and Alexis Sibray (24), who ran a 25:08.9.

The other four boys scores came from Grant Glentzer (20:11) in 47th, Caison Lloyd (20:34.7) in 49th, Alex Rivers (21:56.3) in 73rd and Ethan Powers (23:40.7) in 89th.

Finishing outside the top

Local Roundup

five for the Patriots on the girls side was Paityn Wendel (25:53.5) and Alyvia Muhlenkamp (30:53.4), while John Cook (26:46.9) had the sixth-best time for the boys.

Patriots swept

NEW CASTLE — The Jay County boys tennis team walked away from the New Castle Invitational on Saturday without managing to pick up a set with a nearly brand new lineup.

Freshmen Paul Dirksen and Henry Dirksen played the No. 1 and 2 singles throughout the day. Paul Dirksen fell 6-1, 7-5 to Austin Nunez of NCHS and later to Connersville’s Anthony Struewing 6-0, 6-1. Henry Dirksen got beat by Caleb Inman 6-4, 6-1 to start the day before Jay McMullen claimed the final 6-2, 6-4.

At No. 3 singles, Clark Wellman lost 6-1, 6-1 to Cameron Hastings and 6-0, 6-0 to Abel Parsley.

The returning varsity players from last season, Kady Carpenter and Alex Miller, dropped a pair of matches 6-3, 6-2 against New Castle’s pair and 6-2, 6-1 to the duo out of Connersville.

See Roundup page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Splitting scrimmage

Running back Troy Post of the Fort Recovery High School football team splits a pair of defenders during Friday’s scrimmage against Indian Lake. The Tribe opens the season on Aug. 22 with a match against Ponitz.

Notre Dame coaches not ‘freaked out’ as QB competition continues

By COLLEEN KANE

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Two weeks out from Notre Dame’s Aug. 31 opener at Miami, coach Marcus Freeman wasn’t yet ready to name a starting quarterback.

Freeman held his final news conference of fall camp Sunday at Notre Dame Stadium following his team’s 100-plus play closed scrimmage, during which quarterback competitors CJ Carr and Kenny Minchey split reps with the ones.

Freeman said Carr and Minchey are still in competition, and he didn’t provide an idea of when he will make the final determination of who will succeed 2024 quarterback starter Riley Leonard, who is now with the Indianapolis Colts.

But Freeman did acknowledge that time is ticking down for the 2024 national runners-up, saying a decision will happen “soon.”

“I never put a timeline on it,” Freeman said. “I didn’t because — why? It’s only going to make you frustrated if you do that. I said, ‘Hey, as soon as one clearly says he should be the starter, then we’ll make a decision.’ Now, we have to make a decision before we play, and we will. But there hasn’t been that moment where this guy says he is clearly the starter. Let’s just lead with the one. They’ve been battling. They’ve both done a really good job.”

Freeman said he will take into consideration the opinions of coaches on what he called “the best staff in America.” But ultimately, the decision will be his.

“We’ll talk, and at the end of the day, I have to make a decision, and it will be my decision,” Freeman

CJ Carr and Kenny Minchey are fighting for the starting position

said. “I’m not passing this along on anybody else. I have to make a decision.”

Carr, in his second season with the Irish, is a former four-star recruit from Saline, Michigan, who is the grandson of former Michigan coach Lloyd Carr. He hasn’t thrown a pass in a game yet at Notre Dame.

Minchey, a former four-star recruit from the Nashville area, is in his third season with the Irish. He has completed 3 of 3 passes for 16 yards and rushed for 12 yards and a touchdown on two carries over two seasons.

Freeman said he believes the competition has helped both Carr and Minchey to elevate their level of play.

“They’re both really good players, man,” he said. “They both have a short-term memory. They’re able to move forward from mistakes. They’re coachable. They both work at the game. They work outside of the NCAA-mandated hours. Again, there’s not much negative I can say about them. Those dudes are improving and doing a really good job.”

As anticipation grows among the Notre Dame fan base for the decision, Irish offensive coordinator Mike Denbrock made sure to stress that the coaches have seen a lot of positives during the battle.

“They’re both good enough to help us win football games, and that’s why it’s such a close competi-

tion,” Denbrock said. “I guess I would add to that both of those young men have tremendous love and respect within the framework of our locker room. So we’re not as freaked out about the fact that somebody hasn’t been named the starting quarterback as a lot of people seem to be. It’s because we know both individuals involved. We know how their teammates feel about them, care about them, trust them. And they both have played really well.”

Denbrock said coaches mapped out a plan before camp to make sure Carr and Minchey were each getting similar work — in the number of reps and the type of situational work.

Freeman said in his pre-camp news conference that he was zeroing in on consistency in the competition as he weighs his decision. And he added Sunday that watching the quarterbacks’ decision-making will be a key determining factor.

“I don’t want to just sit here and watch the outcome, good or bad, and blame the quarterback,” Freeman said. “It’s like, ‘What decision was he supposed to make? Did he make the right decision?’ Then you look and say, ‘OK, was the ball good? Was the protection right?’ All those different things that are on his plate. But that is more important to me than anything, the decision-making.”

See Notre Dame page 7

Portland’s Largest Selection of

FRESH CUT QUALITY MEAT

AWARD WINNING MEATS

While supplies last, no rain checks

Fisher Gift Cards available for purchase! They can be used at either Portland or Muncie locations and never expire.

Whole Boneless Pork Loins <i>less than whole \$2.99/lb</i>	\$2³⁹ lb	Flank Steak \$12⁹⁹ lb
(butterflied & tenderized) Pork T-Loin	\$3⁹⁹ lb	Pinwheel Steak \$13.69 /lb
Whole Hog Sausage Patties <i>-frozen 1 lb pkgs, 4 patties/lb</i>	\$3⁶⁹ lb	Colby & Cojack Cheese \$6³⁹ lb

From Fisher’s Smokehouse

Cheese Hot Dogs	\$4.69/lb
Honey Loaf	\$5.69/lb
Ham Salad	\$4.99/lb
White Truffle Jerky (3.2 oz pkg)	\$6.49/pkg

***while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register**

300 W. Walnut St., Portland, IN
(260) 726-7355
Monday - Friday 8 am-5 pm • Saturday 8 am-1 pm • Closed Sunday

Call your order in today!
Freezer bundles are also available. They offer the perfect mix of our most popular cuts of meat in quantities small enough to not crowd your freezer or cramp your budget. Save time and energy with call ahead ordering and have your order ready to go when you arrive.

www.fishermeats.com