

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Moving our way



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Mayor Jack Robbins laughs Tuesday night while delivering the Dunkirk State of the City Address at West Jay Community Center. In addition to Robbins' speech, each of the city's department heads provided an update.

Robbins touts improvements in Dunkirk, notes coming solar and stormwater projects

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

DUNKIRK — Solar is coming. So are stormwater improvements.

Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins touched on those two issues Tuesday while also touting some of the growth his city has had in recent years during his State of the City Address at West Jay Community Center.

While Robbins said he didn't have as much information yet as he'd like on the solar and wastewater issues, he noted that he believes they will both

have a major impact on the city.

"It's probably going to be two of the biggest things that have hit Dunkirk for years," he said.

Leeward Renewable Energy Development has popped up recently in Jay County Recorder's Office deed reports for acquiring easements from landowners in Richland and Knox townships.

Robbins said Tuesday that Leeward, a renewable energy company based in Dallas, is planning a solar facility north of Dunkirk. The site falls within the city's 2-mile buffer for regulations, and said he

expects public meetings about the project to happen "very shortly."

Leeward operates 22 renewable energy facilities in nine states, including the 30-megawatt Barilla Solar in Pecos County, Texas. It also has four wind farms in Illinois and two solar farms under development in Ohio.

Invenergy has already announced plans and signed initial agreements with the county for its Skycrest Solar facility on about 2,500 acres in Penn and Jackson Townships. NextEra Energy and Scout Clean Energy, both of which

already operate wind farms in Jay County, have also expressed interest in solar developments.

Robbins spoke in favor of the developments.

"It's going to be probably the revenue that the county needs," he said. (Revenue comes in both the form of property taxes and economic development agreements.) "I think it's going to be a good thing. I think it's going to help us all out. I think it's going to give the county what it needs to do an awful lot of things for all people in Jay County."

See Moving page 2

Holcomb sues over special sessions

Governor argues new law is not constitutional

By DAN CARDEN

The Times (Munster)

Tribune News Service

Gov. Eric Holcomb is asking a Marion County judge to declare unconstitutional a new Indiana law authorizing the General Assembly to convene during statewide emergencies without obtaining the governor's consent.

The Republican chief executive claims the Indiana Constitution permits only the governor to call special sessions of the General Assembly once the Legislature has adjourned for the year, typically in late April during odd-numbered years and mid-March in even-numbered years.

Holcomb said the provisions of House Enrolled Act 1123, allowing the General Assembly to convene itself for up to 40 days whenever its 16-member Legislative Council decides action is needed to respond to a statewide emergency, infringes on the governor's special session role and violates the separation of powers required by the Constitution.

"The right and authority to call a special session is clearly, unequivocally, and exclusively a function of the governor: As such, neither the General Assembly nor the Legislative Council can exercise this function since the Indiana Constitution does not expressly allow for it," Holcomb said.

House Speaker Todd Huston, R-Fishers, said the governor has been "transparent" with legislators "about his thoughts and intentions regarding House Enrolled Act 1123."

See Sues page 2

India faces shortage

By P R SANJAI, DHWANI PANDYA and BIBHUDATTA PRADHAN

Bloomberg News

Tribune News Service

India is running out of vaccines just as a new wave of COVID-19 infections batters the country, complicating Prime Minister Narendra Modi's plan to inoculate the nation's workforce while threatening to drag out the world's worst health-care crisis.

In the financial hub of Mumbai, vaccinations began later than usual on Monday as vials ran low. The city has enough stock for the next three days but those getting their second dose will be according to priority, the municipality said in a statement. This shortage is likely to get acute starting May 1 when the government plans to allow adults between the ages of 18 and 45 to get the jab, in addition to those above 45 that are eligible currently.

India is still struggling to

Country is running out of vaccines as cases surge

get back on its feet as overwhelmed hospitals ran out of oxygen while new cases have risen to about 3.5 million since mid-April. Vaccine production has also been hit by the stockpiling of certain essential raw materials by the U.S.

In a tweet Sunday, President Joe Biden signaled help is on the way. Ingredients needed to produce Covishield, the Oxford University-AstraZeneca Plc vaccine made in India, have been identified and "will immediately be made available," Emily Horne, a spokesperson for U.S. National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan, said in a statement.

India reported an unprecedented 352,991 new

infections and 2,812 deaths on Monday for the prior 24 hours, though the actual toll may be much higher. These grim scenes are likely to continue for about a month, according to Ramanan Laxminarayan, director at the Center for Disease Dynamics, Economics & Policy in New Delhi.

"The latest epidemiological projections are that the peak won't be reached for another two or three weeks nationwide," Laxminarayan told Bloomberg TV on Monday. "The projections that are being used are that the peak will be at the point where the numbers will probably be three or four times that we have right now."



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Sticker scraping

Fort Recovery High School senior Anna Wendel scrapes lettering off the window Tuesday on the first floor of the Fort Recovery Opera House at 101 N. Wayne St. (Brockman Appliances sold the building to the opera house in December.) Wendel and other student council members helped with volunteer work around the village.

Deaths

Matthew Jutte, 35, Hartford City

Lulu Joyce Lanning, 79, North Manchester

Joseph Schwartz, 61, Berne

Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature climbed to 82 degrees Tuesday in Jay County. The low was 57.

Showers and thunderstorms are expected tonight with a low of 60. Thursday's forecast calls for more rain with a high of 63.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

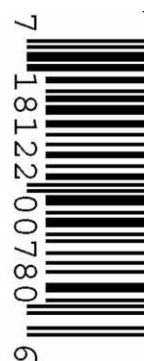
In review

Need to fill out a birth announcement, engagement or wedding form to have your special event announced in the newspaper? They're now available electronically. Just go to thecr.com, hover over "Forms" and select the form you'd like to fill out.

Coming up

Thursday — Family First going through a period of change.

Saturday — Results from Friday's JCHS girls tennis match at Richmond.



Moving ...

Continued from page 1
Robbins also noted the city's new stormwater fee that was passed earlier this year. The \$10/month fee that will be assessed on property tax bills twice a year will initially go toward setting up the utility and to the regular stormwater operating costs. They will eventually start to accumulate in a non-reverting fund to be used to pay for stormwater upgrades in an effort to mitigate flooding. The city's utility plan includes

an estimated \$2 million in needed improvements, including replacing storm sewers. The mayor noted that the intent is to allow the fund to build up and then be able to pull back on the \$10 monthly fee. In addition to his speech, Robbins also asked each of the city's department heads to provide updates. Dunkirk Police Chief Dane Mumbower noted his appointment of a full-time officer to deal with illegal narcotics operations and the

department's focus on pursuing dealing charges rather than possession. Mike Kreps of the street department reminded residents that five streets would be paved this year via a Community Crossings grant from Indiana Department of Transportation, and Dace Mumbower of the water department said that in addition to its already-updated water treatment plant the city is also in need of improvements in the form of new water lines. Tom Johnson,

who oversees the city's parks, reported that the park board is developing its next five-year plan and Dunkirk City Park will be getting a new walking trail and playground equipment. Robbins also shined a light on recent and planned improvements coming to the city. He noted the opening of new businesses, including Glass Capital Grill, Sculpt Fitness and Cute as a Button over the last several years. He invited the communi-

ty to visit the new Dunkirk Historical Society facility in the former Gaunt Jewelry building. And he addressed ongoing or planned projects, including the renovations of the Weaver Building and the former News and Sun building, remodeling of MJS Mortuaries and upgrades at Dunkirk Public Library. "Things are moving in Dunkirk's way," said Robbins. "We're going to try to keep it rolling."

CR almanac

Thursday 4/29	Friday 4/30	Saturday 5/1	Sunday 5/2	Monday 5/3
63/44	60/38	69/52	77/57	75/57
80% chance of rain throughout the day, with between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.	Sunny all day with winds reaching as high as 30 mph. Otherwise clear at night.	Sunny all day with a few clouds at night, leading to a warm Sunday morning.	Mostly sunny all day and mostly cloudy all night with highs in the 70s.	40% chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies. Rain is also possible Tuesday.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$116 million	19-22-23-24-26-31-32-33-40-42-46-50-59-70-73-75-80 Cash 5: 15-27-34-36-41 Estimated jackpot: \$562,500
Mega Millions 15-22-30-41-42 Mega Ball: 25 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$319 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 1-5-3 Pick 4: 2-4-7-3 Pick 5: 4-7-2-5-0 Evening Pick 3: 9-1-7 Pick 4: 5-6-9-6 Pick 5: 9-9-3-7-7 Rolling Cash: 3-21-24-29-31 Estimated jackpot: \$202,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 7-3-6 Daily Four: 1-1-5-9 Evening Daily Three: 6-3-6 Daily Four: 9-4-1-6 Quick Draw: 7-15-17	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.81 Wheat6.99	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.73 May corn.....6.74 Beans15.67 Sept. beans12.95 July wheat 7.11
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.90 May corn.....6.90	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....6.72 May corn.....6.72 Beans15.48 May beans15.48 Wheat6.79 July wheat.....6.78
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.63 May corn.....6.63 Beans15.60 May beans15.60 Wheat 7.14 May wheat 7.14	

Today in history

On April 28, 1967, an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 tore off during a flight from Hilo to Honolulu.

In 1994, former CIA official Aldrich Ames, who had passed U.S. secrets to the Soviet Union and then Russia, pleaded guilty to espionage and tax evasion, and was sentenced to life in prison without parole.

In 2001, a Russian rocket lifted off from Central Asia bearing the first space tourist, California businessman Dennis Tito, and two cosmonauts on a journey to the international space station.

In 2010, Coast Guard Rear Adm. Mary Landry said a massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was worse than officials had believed, and that the federal government was offering to help industry giant BP contain the slick threatening the U.S. shoreline.

In 2016, Jay County High School senior Megan Wellman signed to be a member of the rowing team at Indiana University.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Obituaries

Matthew Jutte

Oct. 6, 1985-April 23, 2021
Matthew Edwin Jutte, age 35, of Hartford City, Indiana, died Friday, April 23, 2021, at IU Health Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. He was born Oct. 6, 1985, at Caylor Nickle Clinic, Bluffton, Indiana, the son of Omer and Kathy (Woodard) Jutte. He was a 2005 graduate of Coldwater High School and attended Mercer County Transition School.



Jutte

Matthew worked at CA Industries, Pax Steel through CA Industries and Community Connections, Coldwater. He was a past member of Mercer County Challenger Baseball, assistant coach for Grand Lake Eagles for five years and a Port Recovery Indians fan. His hobbies included crushing cans, riding his golf cart and getting stuck, and watching "Walker, Texas Ranger," LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers. He has been a Cleveland Cavalier, Miami Heat and Lakers fan following LeBron James.

Survivors include his mother, Kathy (Woodard) Jutte, Hartford City, Indiana; sister and "brother"-in-law Joy (Jutte) and Patrick Howard, New Palestine, Indiana, along with his nephew and niece Phoenix and Phoebe Howard; his maternal grandmother, Jeanette Woodard, Dunkirk, Indiana; aunts and uncles, Edwinna (Woodard) and Neil Dent, Alexandria, Indiana, Lisa (Woodard)—godmother—and John Anderson, Dunkirk, Indiana, Sister Noreen Jutte CPPS, Dayton, Ohio, Laverne and Betsy Jutte, Clayton, Ohio, Lavern Heuing, Celina, Ohio, Walter Jutte, Ossian, Indi-

ana, Phyllis (Jutte) and Harold Homan, Maria Stein, Ohio, Ethel (Jutte) Stemen, Canton, Michigan, Dennis and Delana Jutte, Fort Recovery, Ohio; and several cousins in the surrounding area.

Preceding him in death is his father Omer Jutte; maternal grandfather Edwin Woodard; paternal grandparents Charles and Margert (Wermert) Jutte; and uncles and aunts Joy (Woodard) Current, Maurice and Pat Jutte, and Margery Heuing.

Mass of Christian Burial following all Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines will be held at 10:30 a.m., Thursday, April 29, 2021, at Mary Help of Christians Church in Fort Recovery. Burial will follow in St. Peter Cemetery. Friends may call from 2 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 9 to 9:45 a.m. Thursday at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Coldwater.

Memorials may be made to the Ronald McDonald House.

Condolences may be expressed at hogenkampfh.com.

Mass will be live streamed by Mary Help of Christians Church at fortrecoverycatholics.org.

Lulu Joyce Lanning

July 2, 1941-April 26, 2021
Lulu Joyce Lanning, age 79, a resident of North Manchester, Indiana, passed away on Monday, April 26, 2021, at Peabody Retirement Community in North Manchester. She was a former resident of Portland and Goshen, Indiana.

Joyce was born on July 2, 1941, in Mercer County, Ohio, the daughter of Paul and Blanche (Wiley) Hittle. She graduated from Portland High School in 1960. Joyce was a member of Calvary Assembly of God in Elkhart. She married Larry Lan-

ning on March 1, 1962.

Survivors include: Her husband of 59 years — Larry Lanning, North Manchester, Indiana

One son — Greg Lanning (wife: Mary), Granger, Indiana

One daughter — Lisa Hardman (husband: Dan), Frostproof, Florida

Two sisters — Olive Watson (husband: Doug), Portland, Indiana, and Alice Poole (husband: Dean), Portland, Indiana

Six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. at Calvary Assembly of God, 1010 E. Mishawaka Road, Elkhart, Indiana. Visitation will also be held on Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Joyce's life will follow at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Center Cemetery, west of Portland.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Joseph A.L. Schwartz, Berne, a relative of several Geneva residents, Oct. 19, 1959-April 27, 2021. Services will be at the Joseph A.L. Schwartz Residence, 5560 E. Indiana 218, Berne, on at 9 a.m. Friday.

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.

Sues ...

Continued from page 1
"We are in consultation with the Indiana attorney general's office on what the next steps will be in this matter."

Attorney General Todd Rokita, a Republican originally from Munster, said the governor (and state agencies) lack the authority to sue the General Assembly using outside counsel because state law directs the attorney general to resolve any disputes when two parts of state government disagree on a legal question.

"Allowing state agencies to resort to the judicial system for review of every statute passed would foster legislative irresponsibility and unnecessarily overburden the courts into issuing, essentially, advisory opinions," Rokita said.

The emergency session law took effect April 15 after both chambers of the Republican-controlled General Assembly voted to override the governor's April 9 veto and enact the new law notwithstanding his objections.

During legislative debate, state Rep. Matt Lehman, R-Berne, insisted the Constitution allows the General Assembly to set the days and times it convenes, and establishing an emergency session falls within that authority — though he acknowledged the question was likely to end up in litigation.

Holcomb urged the Indianapolis court to rule promptly on his constitutional claims "or the consequences could be severe,

including disruption to Indiana and the proper functioning of state government — something that concerns every Hoosier."

There is, however, little possibility the General Assembly will convene an emergency session anytime soon, which may prompt the court to dismiss the governor's case and wait to rule until the emergency session law actually is invoked by the Legislature.

Holcomb on Monday signed into law House Enrolled Act 1372 extending this year's General Assembly adjournment deadline to Nov. 15 from April 29 to give lawmakers time to complete the once-a-decade process of redrawing legislative district boundaries that was postponed due to COVID-19 data processing delays at the U.S. Census Bureau.

At the same time, the governor's COVID-19 emergency declaration is unlikely to still be in effect in mid-November; thereby eliminating any basis for an emergency legislative session this year.

House Democratic Leader Phil GiaQuinta, D-Fort Wayne, said it's shameful Hoosier tax dollars are being spent on this "needless power struggle" between Statehouse Republicans.

"Too many times, we have watched as our colleagues across the aisle have forced through legislation with questionable constitutionality. It's yet another symptom of the Republican infighting we've been seeing all session," GiaQuinta said.

SERVICES

Today

Bowler, Alberta: 2 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

Thursday

Jutte, Matthew: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery.

Fifer, Shirley: 1 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Garringer, Mary: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday

Brackman, Virgil: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday

Lanning, Lulu Joyce: 3 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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14oz. NEW YORK STRIP! ...only \$9.99
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ALASKAN POLLOCK FISH or
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Our world famous chicken is sure to be a huge hit!!
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CHICKEN FRY! Dine-in or carry-out
4pc. Dinner with all the fixin's ...only \$6.99!
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The wait never came to an end

By KWAME DAWES

June Jordan died in 2002, an American child of Jamaican immigrants whose remarkable poetry is collected in "The Essential June Jordan," a new collection published by Copper Canyon Press.

American Life in Poetry

This eloquent fist of a poem reminds us of what remains at stake in this

longstanding and necessary conversation that America continues to have with itself.

Democracy Poem #1

Tell them that I stood
in line
and I waited
and I waited
like everybody
else

But I never got
called
And I keep that scrap
of paper
in my pocket

just in case

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2020 by

June Jordan, "Democracy Poem #1" from The Essential June Jordan, (Copper Canyon Press, 2020). Poem reprinted by permission of The June M. Jordan by the Literary Estate Trust and the publisher. Introduction copyright © 2021 by The Poetry Foundation.

Wife's return causes chaos

DEAR ABBY: I've been dating a married man for the last three years, and everything was great. We were attached at the hip and inseparable. I thought we had something special going.

His wife abandoned him and their two children for more than a year, and he didn't know anything about raising kids, so I stepped in to help. It was great. They were just like my own. I was finally happy. I had the life I wanted. He even met with a lawyer to get a divorce.

Suddenly he announced he's letting her come back because she has nowhere to go. I am devastated. Ever since her return, she has made his life a living hell. He tells everyone — including her — how miserable he is, and she does the same thing.

Why won't he get a divorce? Should I wait for him? Did he ever really love me? — LOVING LADY IN TEXAS

DEAR LOVING LADY: There could be any number of reasons why he won't divorce his wife. He may feel that, miserable as he is, a divorce would be too expensive. Or he may be trying to keep the family together "for the sake of the kids." Or he may even love her.

That she is making his life a "living hell" is a problem of his own making. Please, for the sake of your own mental

Dear Abby



health, quit making it yours. Did he ever really love you? I can't answer that and neither can you. He certainly isn't acting like someone who loves you.

Gather your strength and jump off the treadmill. It's time to go on with your life.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are going to be first-time parents in a few months, and this will be the first grandchild on both sides of the family (and the first baby in almost 18 years). We are excited to share this experience with them. However, I have some concerns about after the baby is born.

I already deal with anxiety, and I have strict "rules" that I would like to be followed. For example, no kissing my baby's face, no posting photos on social media, etc. How can I get my wishes across to my family without sounding like a control freak? I worry that they won't respect them and say I'm overthinking everything. Any advice

is appreciated. — FIRST-TIME PARENT IN NEW YORK

DEAR FIRST-TIME PARENT: Your life is in transition, and your concerns are understandable. Remember, YOU are the parent. If you prefer your baby not be smothered with kisses, you are within your rights to say so. However, as long as your relatives are not sick and wash their hands well before touching your newborn, there shouldn't be a problem. After three months, your baby's underdeveloped immune system should be stronger.

If you haven't already discussed this with your pediatrician, schedule an appointment. Not only will you find it educational, it may put some of your fears to rest.

As to your little one's image being posted online, every family has their own comfort level. Explain your concerns, and if the grands don't cooperate, make them surrender their cellphones when they visit.

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.

Library offering legal advice

Legal advice will be available at the library.

Jay County Public Library will begin hosting "Lawyers in Libraries" from 10 a.m. to noon once a month.

Participants will be able to speak to an attorney via video conference. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration.

The first session will be held Thursday. In the future, it will be scheduled for the fourth Thursday of each month.

The service is free and confidential.

Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

Free admission

Indiana Department of Natural Resources is celebrating Visit Indiana Week in conjunction with National Travel and Tourism Week by offering free admission to all

Taking Note

state parks, reservoirs and recreation areas from May 2 through 8.

All visitors who check in with their Indiana State Nature Passport to state facilities during Visit Indiana Week will be entered into a drawing for a prize package. The grand prize is a 2021 State Parks Pass, a \$50 gift card for camping and a subscription to Outdoor Indiana magazine.

Sunday will also be the first of four free fishing days in Indiana this year. Hoosiers can fish in the state's public waters without a fishing license or trout/salmon stamp. (All size and bag limits are still in effect.)

Registration open

John Jay Center for Learning is

now accepting registrations for its VEX Robotics summer camps and clinics.

John Jay will host camps for all levels of robotics participants from June 21 through 25 and June 28 through July 2. Morning and afternoon sessions will be available.

The registration fee is \$50. Attendance will be limited, so registration in advance is required.

To sign up, stop in at John Jay at 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Camps are open

Minnetrista has opened registration for a series of summer camps for children ages 8 through 14.

The Muncie facility will host glass artist camps June 7 through 11 for 11 through 14 year olds and June 14 through 19 for 8 through 10 year olds.

Young cooks camps are scheduled for July 5 through 9 for 8 through 10 year olds and July 12 through 16 for 11 through 14 year olds.

Registration deadlines vary. For more information, visit minnetrista.net.

Geneva Gardens Greenhouse
260 E. 800 S. Geneva, IN 46740

Hours: 7:00am to 7:00pm
No Sunday Sales

Berries
Produce
Pumpkins available in season

JAY COUNTY DUST CONTROL PROGRAM
(400 Ft. Minimum)
Cost. ... \$0.625 per foot

MUST CALL IN FOR PAYMENT AMOUNT AND MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER

- 1) Pick up flags to mark the area
- 2) Specify dust control location & specify footage
- 3) Make payment to the Jay County Highway Dept.

ONE APPLICATION ONLY
DEADLINE: May 21, 2021
LAST DAY FOR PAYMENT
PAYMENT MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE

Jay County Highway Department
1035 E 200N
PORTLAND, INDIANA 47371

For More Information, call 726-8701

Community Calendar

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

Today
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.

STRESS AND ANXIETY CLASS — Meets each Wednesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (206) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

Thursday
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.

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 Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

SENIOR CITIZENS CARD CLUB — Will meet at 1 p.m. on the first, second, third and fifth Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

Saturday
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. upstairs at True Value Hardware, Meridian

Street, Portland. For more information, call (260) 729-2532.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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It's time to bring in the dumpster

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

The attic of the garage awaits. A couple of weeks back, Connie and I made a trek west to Illinois to her hometown. Her oldest brother has reached the point in life when it's time for him to make the transition to assisted living.

Trouble is, the brother — let's call him Charley — has a lot of stuff. Now, admittedly, all of us of a certain age have a lot of stuff.

The late great George Carlin used to do a stand-up bit about "stuff," the accumulated material objects, junk, detritus, recyclables and valued belongings that each of us tends to carry around like those chains Jacob Marley dragged along in "A Christmas Carol."

Stuff is a burden. And it's hard to get rid of.

Just ask Charley. Every little decision seems to add more and more stuff.

Back in the Saddle



When Connie's parents died, Charley inherited the family house in Illinois.

And it was full of stuff. There were papers and paintings, books and bric-a-brac, report cards and tax returns, old clothes and old postcards.

Faced with the enormity of it all, Connie and her siblings decided at the time that the best course of action was to box things up, label them and come back later. That might have worked except for one thing: Charley had more stuff.

After he moved into the family house and his siblings went back to Indiana and North Carolina and

Arizona and New York, he had more stuff shipped in.

Charley had lived in Philadelphia and had inherited mountains of stuff from his late wife's parents. Then he lived in western Pennsylvania for a while and accumulated more.

Eventually, it all made its way back to that family house in Illinois.

By any measure, that should have been enough.

But while he was living in the house, Charley started to accumulate more: Stereo equipment, electronic pieces of unknown origin or use, unopened liquor bottles that guests had brought to parties and well over 1,000 LP record albums.

Eventually, Charley moved out of the house. But the stuff remained.

To say that down-sizing was in order would be a tremendous understatement.

So it was that Connie's younger

brother and sister gathered to try to make sense of it all. After they'd put in a tough week of work, we joined them.

A trailer was filled to haul to recycling and the landfill. At least four; perhaps five, trips were made to Goodwill. The college where Connie's father had taught English literature sent a team over to cherry-pick his library and gather things for the college archives.

And those of us who already have too much stuff took some of the stuff home.

For our part, it was mostly a selection of more of Connie's mother's paintings — she was an art teacher and a talented watercolorist — and other things that our daughters had expressed an interest in.

Did we get the job finished? No.

Another session of work is planned for this fall. But the house has gone from daunting to manageable, thanks to the work put in this month.

And all that brings me back to the attic of our garage.

While its contents are not on Charley's scale, there is certainly way too much stuff, way too much crap, up there.

Some of it isn't even really ours.

When we took possession of our house 40 years ago this summer, the family selling it threw up their hands when it came to the attic of the garage. They'd cleared out the house, but they were exhausted and knew junk when they saw it.

So it's still there, along with 40 years of other stuff: Bicycles that haven't been ridden in years, broken camping equipment, old posters, miscellaneous furniture and more.

To make things even more interesting, the stairs to the attic are a little iffy, at least for my 72-year-old knees.

So the task awaits. But, thanks to Charley, we know it has to be done.

Watch for a dumpster in our driveway sometime this summer.

Stronger laws could save lives

News and Tribune
(Jeffersonville & New Albany)

Indiana's red flag law is under scrutiny after a mass killing last week at an Indianapolis FedEx facility.

In hindsight, it's easy to see the law's shortcomings.

Under red flag laws — as of April 2020, 19 states and the District of Columbia had them — police or family can seek a court order to take guns away from an individual deemed a danger to himself or others. The court can also designate the person as having a violent propensity or emotionally unstable conduct with the intent of preventing future purchase of guns.

Indiana was second only to Connecticut to enact such legal safeguards.

But provisions of Indiana's red flag law, enacted in 2005 after a mentally ill man fatally shot an Indianapolis police officer, add complexities to the process.

The law requires police to file an affidavit with the court within 48 hours after a warrant has been served. It also says courts must make a "good faith effort" to conduct a hearing within two weeks of confiscating any weapons.

Compliance with those timelines is unrealistic for overburdened police departments and courts with burgeoning dockets. Police investigation of the FedEx shooting lifted blinders to the law's inadequacies.

On the night of April 15, 19-year-old Brandon Hole of Indianapolis drove to the FedEx plant near the airport on the city's west side. The former employee emerged from his vehicle with two assault-type rifles and began shooting, killing four people outside the facility and four more inside before taking his own life.

Once the shooter was identified, law enforcement was able to confirm that he had purchased the guns legally. But a troubling scenario emerged, leaving people to question whether Hole should have been able to buy the guns.

Hoosier Editorial

Indianapolis police never returned the shotgun to Hole, but because the case never went to court, he was able to buy the rifles used in this month's rampage.

A police report from March 2020 shows that Hole's mother summoned police over her concerns that he was a danger to himself. At the time, police took a pump-action shotgun away from the then-18-year-old.

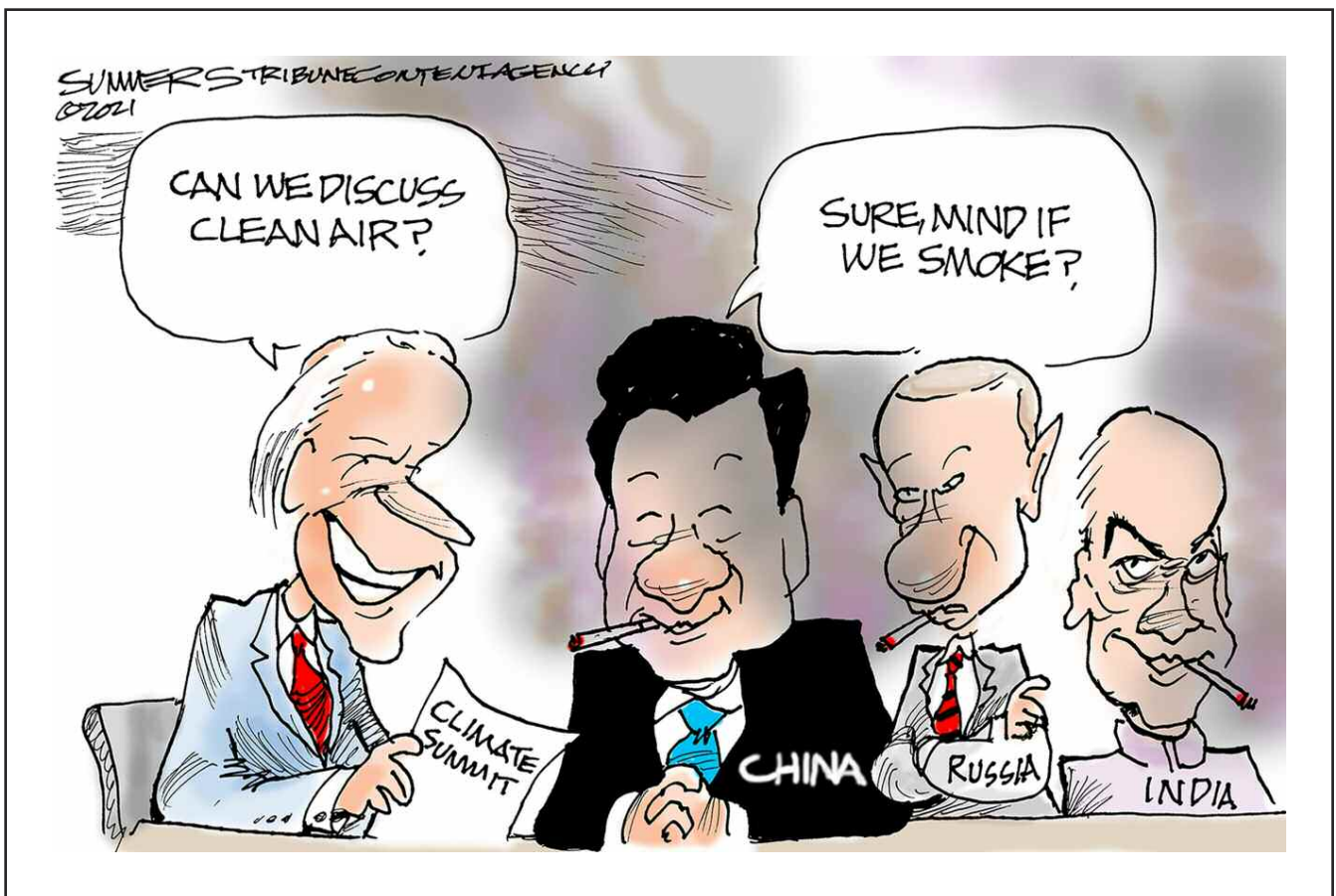
But that's where legal intervention ended.

Hole never appeared in court for a hearing under the state's red flag law. Marion County Prosecutor Ryan Mears said his office didn't have enough time to make the case that Hole was a danger and shouldn't be allowed to have a gun.

Indianapolis police never returned the shotgun to Hole, but because the case never went to court, he was able to buy the rifles used in this month's rampage.

Indiana's red flag law was designed to prevent tragedies like the one that happened last week. This case should have gone before a judge to determine whether Hole was a threat to himself or others.

Red flags symbolize danger and the need to stop, but this time the warnings went unheeded, in part due to intrinsic flaws in the law. Lawmakers need to amend the law to set up a process that actually works.



California should tax big wealth

By DAVID GAMAGE, EMMANUEL SAEZ and DARIEN SHANSKE
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

California's tax system is upside down at the top: Millionaires pay higher rates than billionaires. California's wealthiest residents — who have partaken in a \$4 trillion increase in billionaire wealth in the last year — contribute next to nothing to state coffers. Meanwhile, many less fortunate Californians are suffering.

The ordinary rich — say, a well-compensated doctor — pay a lot in California income tax; they do their share to help support the state. Indeed, many working-class individuals, such as nurses, teachers or firefighters, pay tax on a much larger share of their economic gains than do the wealthiest Californians.

So how do mega-millionaires and billionaires escape the state's Franchise Tax Board?

The answer is that our tax system does not reach large fortunes unless property is sold or money is paid out in salaries or in stock dividends. Playing Wall Street games, the very rich in the state can avoid taxation and still fund their lavish lifestyles.

Consider Elon Musk. He built a fortune in California currently valued at about \$180 billion, the largest ever seen in the state. We don't know exactly how much state income tax he has paid, but because he hasn't sold his Tesla stock or taken a substantial salary or dividends, we can surmise that he has paid very little. Musk now claims to have moved to Texas, so he will probably never pay income tax to California on the billions he accumulated while benefiting from the services and protections provided by the state.

The state Legislature is now considering a pair of bills — Assembly Constitutional Amendment 8 and Assembly Bill 310 — that would levy a

Guest Opinion

1% tax on extreme wealth: anything above \$50 million, with an additional 0.5% tax on fortunes worth more than \$1 billion. With Georgetown University law professor Brian Galle, we helped draft these bills to deter tax avoidance and to restore fairness to California's tax system.

Under these two measures, a household worth \$51 million, for example, would pay a tax of \$10,000 a year (1% of \$1 million). That would be a small burden for such a household but a big boon to California because about one-quarter of all American billionaires reside in the state. As we lay out in a white paper on the legislation, the reforms would raise about \$22 billion a year, and more as wealth increases in the state.

California may be able to weather the pandemic without budget cuts, helped by President Biden's COVID-19 relief package. But soon enough, the state will again face deficits and a host of unmet needs. Sacramento must invest in climate change resilience, such as power line and power grid upgrades to help prevent catastrophic wildfires. The state's school systems are facing teacher shortages. Housing and mental health facilities are needed to help those living on our streets.

Most fundamentally, it is time to make the tax system fairer.

We estimate that about 15,000 families would be subject to the new wealth tax — the richest 0.07% of the state. According to Forbes magazine, there are about 170 California billionaires, and their total wealth is now around \$1 trillion. It was only \$700 bil-

lion two years ago, before COVID-19, and \$300 billion 10 years ago. During the pandemic, while 7.8 million unemployment claims were filed in the state, the state's richest people gained \$300 billion. About half of the \$22 billion the new tax would raise would be paid by these billionaires.

Those opposed to a new wealth tax claim that the very rich would flee California in droves, a la Musk, who has made no secret of his objections to the state's regulations. Much the same warnings were sounded in 2012 and 2016 when California raised income taxes on millionaires. And yet our research shows that the state has gained millionaires and billionaires, along with added revenue from those earlier taxes on the rich.

Other researchers who have studied the question of whether millionaires leave states when taxes are raised have generally found that such movement is uncommon and that when the rich do relocate, taxes aren't the main reason.

Think about it: For many of the ultra-wealthy, paying a 1% or even 1.5% tax on their fortunes would amount to less than the usual fluctuations of their net worth because of weekly swings in the stock market. And those who made a lot of noise about departing because of the tax would probably have left anyway, seeking a lower-tax state when they finally sell off some of their holdings.

Don't buy the scare stories about taxing extreme wealth. We need such a tax so that California's economy benefits all its residents, not just the rich, and to make sure that the wealthiest in the state pay their fair share.

David Gamage is a professor of law at Indiana University Bloomington, Emmanuel Saez is a professor of economics at UC Berkeley, and Darien Shanske is a professor of law at UC Davis.

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HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus



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Track sweeps Heritage

The Patriot girls won every event. The boys weren't as successful in terms of event victories, but won the final race of the night to secure the sweep.

Jay County High School's boys and girls track teams both defeated Heritage on Tuesday. The girls had a dominating 104-18 win, while the boys edged Heritage 62-60.

Abby Benter, Elisa Parazzi, Gabi Bilbrey and Kinsey Shannon all had two individual wins for the JCHS girls. Benter was first in the 100- and 300-meter hurdles with times of 16.21 seconds and 50.7 seconds, respectively. Parazzi had a distance of 13 feet, 9 inches, to win long jump, and a height of 5 feet, 4 inches, for a high jump win. Bilbrey won shot put (30 feet, 8 inches) and discus (89 feet, 5 inches), and Shannon won the 100 dash (12.72 seconds) and 400 dash (1 minute, 4.74 seconds) races.

Shea Bailey got a victory in the 200 dash (27.5 seconds), Natalie Miles was first in the 800 run (2:42.88), Sophia Fugiett won the 1,600 run (6:07.19) and Lindy Wood earned a victory in the 3,200 run (13:41).

Willow Hardy, Molly Muhlenkamp, Miles and Wood teamed for a victory in the 4x800 relay; Bralee VanSkyock, Natalie Wehrly, Makinsey Murphy and Bailey won the 4x100 relay; and Bailey, Miles, Murphy and Shannon combined to win the 4x400 relay.

For the Jay County boys, Aaron Funkhouser handled all three sprinting events to become the lone triple winner of the night. He won the 100 dash (10.98), 200 dash (23.55) and 400 dash (52.78 seconds) races.

Jean Pieterse took first in the 110 hurdles (18.09) and high jump (5 feet, 10 inches), while Dylan Knapschafer had the top long jump (17 feet, 6.25 inches). Jacob Hart picked up a field event win in the discus (121 feet, 5 inches).

Owen Ransom, Gavin Farmer and Knapschafer joined Adrek Pogue to win the 4x100 relay, then teamed with Funkhouser to win the meet-ending 4x400 relay to secure the overall victory.

Tribe offense dormant

FORT RECOVERY — The Indian offense was dormant. It needed to be on top of its game against the ranked Cavaliers.

Fort Recovery High School's baseball team managed just one hit in a 5-0 loss to the Division III No. 9 Coldwater Cavaliers on Tuesday.

Local roundup

3 loss to the Coldwater Cavaliers on Tuesday.

The loss is the sixth straight for the Indians, who dip to 11-9 on the year and 1-2 in Midwest Athletic Conference play. Coldwater improved to 13-5 (4-1 MAC).

Fort Recovery built a lead with a single run in each of the second, third and sixth innings, but Coldwater responded by tying the game with three runs in the bottom of the sixth. The Indian offense stalled after that, going down in order in each of the seventh and eighth frames.

Jackie Homan and Sophie Pearson both had a single and an RBI for the Indians, who also got hits from Brenna Homan and Chloey Grisez.

Jackie Homan was charged with the loss, allowing three earned runs on five hits with seven strikeouts and a walk in six innings.

Coldwater, which is defending its 2019 state championship, kept the top spot in the Midwest Athletic Conference as it improved to 13-4 (5-0 MAC). Fort Recovery, meanwhile, dropped to 4-9 (2-3 MAC).

The Cavaliers jumped out to a 2-0 lead with a pair of runs in the third inning, then added three more in the fifth.

Riley Will was the lone Indian to get a hit off Coldwater pitcher Reece Dellinger. Will singled with two outs in the bottom of the seventh inning to end Dellinger's bid for a perfect game. Dellinger struck out 13 Indians and didn't issue a walk.

Dillan Evers suffered the loss, allowing four runs — three earned — on three hits. He struck out one and walked a pair.

Indians fall in extras

COLDWATER, Ohio — A single with one out in the bottom of the eighth inning handed the Fort Recovery softball team a 4-

Felony court news

Resisting, obstructing

A Bluffton man avoiding the police drove through a yard, fence and field along Indiana 27 about 11:17 p.m. April 15.

Juan E. Chacon, 32, was driving a 2010 Chevrolet Impala away from Portland Police when he drove off the highway and into a Portland yard at 65 W. 300 North, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Department report. He drove through the yard and fence and into a field.

Chacon's vehicle, which was towed, is registered to Morlan Madream of Bluffton. Damage was estimated less than \$1,000.

Chacon was preliminarily charged Level 6 felonies for resisting an officer and obstructing

justice, and a Class A misdemeanor for resisting an officer and a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended license. He is being held in Jay County Jail on \$10,000 bond.

Failure to yield

Between \$25,000 and \$50,000 in damage is estimated after a Portland man did not yield to oncoming traffic on county road 200 South about 7:25 p.m. Monday.

Kyle D. Loyd-Reier, 26, was driving his 2005 Chevrolet Silverado north on Blaine Pike when he came to the intersection with county road 200 South. He failed to yield to a westbound 2005 Ford F350 driven by 48-year-old

Timothy M. Colwell of Marion, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. (County road 200 South does not have a stop sign at the intersection.)

Loyd-Reier's Chevrolet collided with Colwell's Ford, and both vehicles were later towed. Colwell's vehicle is registered to Stanley J. Tenbusch of Marion.

Mailbox hit

A Union City woman drove into a mailbox on county road 300 South about 7:24 p.m. Sunday.

Shae L. Root, 31, was driving her 2019 Subaru Ascent east just past county road 400 East when she drove off the road and into a mailbox. Damage is estimated less than \$1,000.

Capsule Reports

Drunk driving

A Dunkirk woman was arrested Monday for drunk driving.

Sierra D. Teal, 23, 712 N. Main St., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She was also charged with a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. Teal is being held in Jay County Jail on \$4,000 bond.

Linder, 33, 1063 Hillcrest Drive, Charleston, were both preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. They're both being held in Jay County Jail on \$10,000 bond.

Drug possession

A West Virginia man and woman were arrested Monday for drug charges.

Kayla N. Cloyd, 29, and Rodney W.

Probation violation

A Bluffton woman was arrested Tuesday for violating her probation.

Jasmine R. Weatherhead, 23, 119 E. Washington St., has an original Level 6 charge for unlawful possession of a syringe. She's being held in Jay County Jail on \$1,300 bond.

Local ...

No-hitter lifts Jay

Blake Bogenschutz threw a no-hitter, lifting the Jay County junior varsity baseball team to an 11-1, five-inning victory against the Bluffton Tigers on Tuesday.

Bogenschutz, a sophomore, allowed one unearned run with three walks and six strikeouts while throwing just 80 pitches.

Ryne Goldsworthy led the offense for Jay County (3-4), going 2-for-3 with a home run, a triple and four RBIs. Jackson Edwards tripled, singled and knocked in two runs, while Christian Runkle and Kenny Carducci each had hits.

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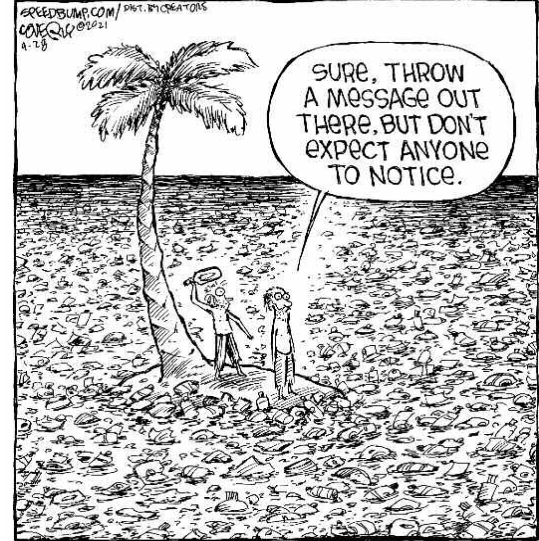
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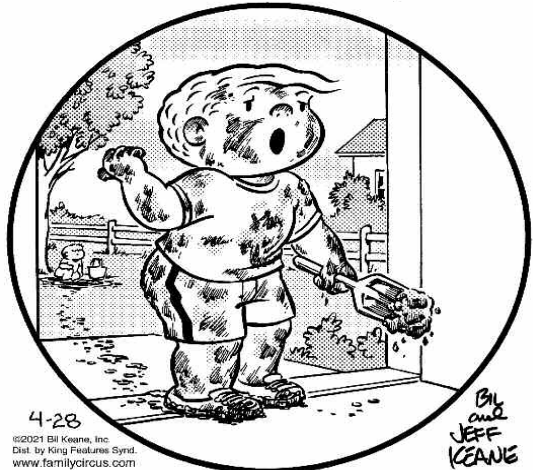
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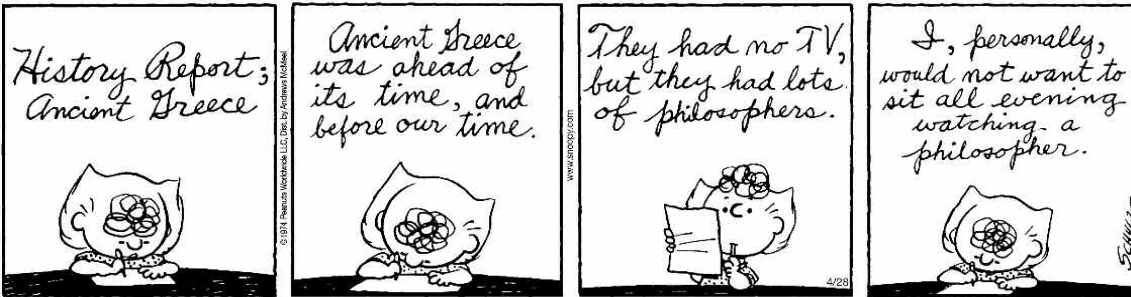
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

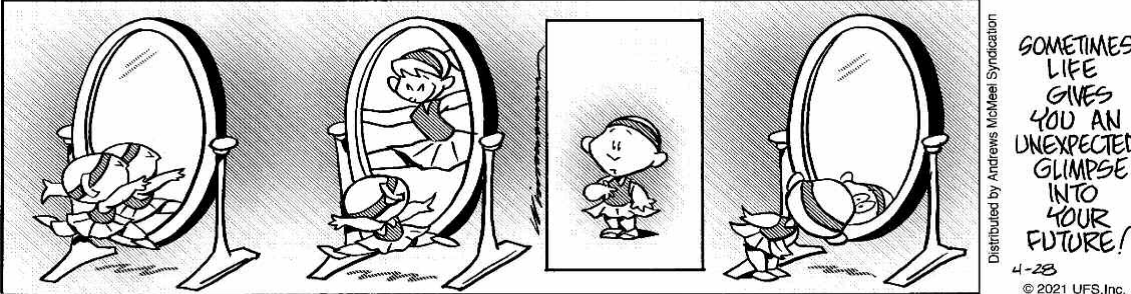


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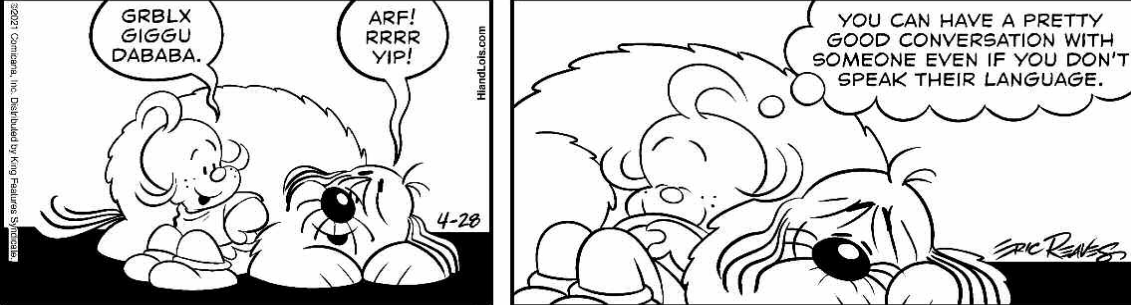
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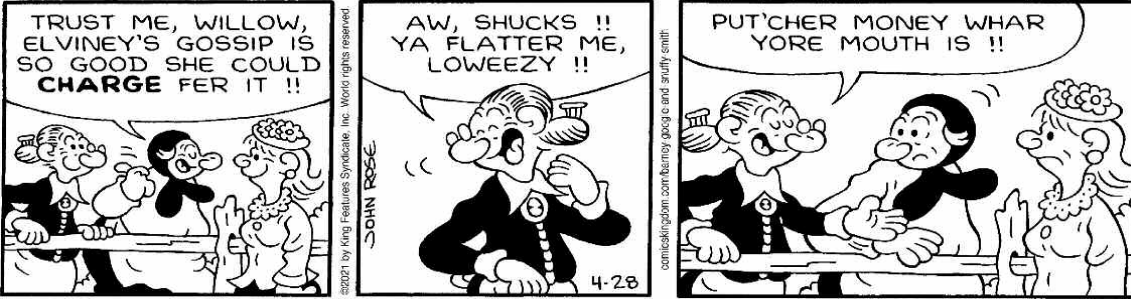
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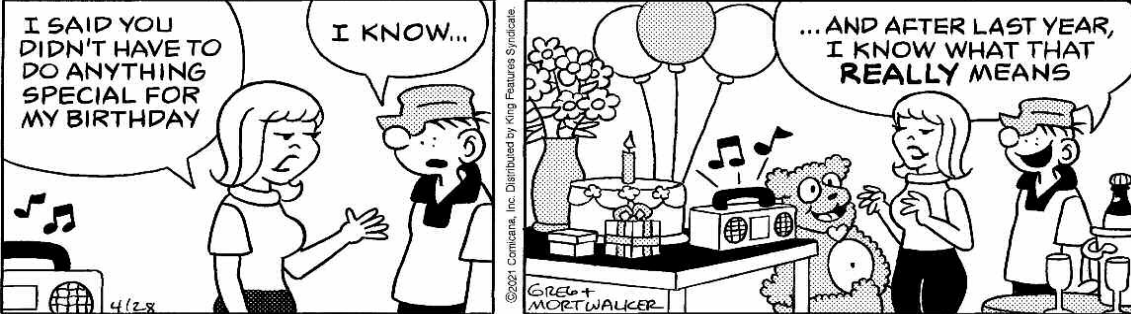
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| 16 Cocktail lounges with music | 8 Plotting groups |
| 18 God, in Islam | 9 Pie — mode |
| 20 — -la-la | 10 Bear hair |
| 21 Beer ingredient | 11 German river |
| 24 Apathetic | 17 Sphere |
| 28 Seedy watering holes | 19 Soul, to Sartre |
| 32 Winter blanket | |
| 33 Numerical prefix | |
| 34 Justice Samuel | |
| 36 Scot's refusal | |
| 37 Words to a backstabber | |
| 39 Reception amenities | |

Solution time: 23 mins.

W	A	N	D	A	I	D	E	H	A	M
A	L	O	E	C	M	O	N	E	R	E
H	I	R	E	D	H	A	N	D	L	E
D	E	E	M	I	D	E	A	L		
U	S	H	E	R	A	N	O	N		
G	L	A	D	H	E	D	G	E	H	O
L	A	S	A	A	R	A	S	U	K	E
T	I	M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	S	N
H	M	O	S	A	N	T	E	S		
C	R	O	A	T	E	S	S	O		
E	A	U	H	I	G	H	O	P	E	S
O	P	S	E	D	G	E	T	I	P	S
S	T	E	R	O	O	D	Y	E	A	S

Yesterday's answer 4-28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13				14				
15			16			17					
18		19				20					
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37		38		39				40			
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50	51	52				53	54		55		
56				57					58		
59				60					61		

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Sports



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Griffin Mann, a Jay County High School senior, watches his put on the 15th green during a match with Adams Central and South Adams on Tuesday at Celina Lynx Golf Club. Mann shot 52 on a windy evening, leading the Patriots to a team score of 205 and first place.

Patriots fight wind, edge Jets, Starfires

CELINA, Ohio — On a night with winds that were unforgiving, the Patriots shot their highest score of the season.

They still returned home with a pair of wins.

Jay County High School's boys golf team edged Adams Central and South Adams to pick up a pair of wins Tuesday in a three-team Allen County Athletic Conference match at Celina Lynx Golf Club.

The Patriots shot 205, matching Adams Central's total, and won the tiebreaker by scoring better on the hole with the lowest handicap.

South Adams shot 206 for third place.

Griffin Mann, the only senior for Jay County (5-2, 2-0 ACAC), led the team with his round of 45, while Caleb DeRome was second with 52.

Kyle Sanders, Simon Pryor and Brock DeHoff each shot 54 to complete the team's score.

The Patriots return to action at 4:30 p.m. Thursday as they host the Blackford Bruins at Portland Golf Club.

Local roundup

tional rivals Tuesday, sweeping the Union City Indians 5-0.

Madison Dirksen and Rachel Muhlenkamp cruised to a 6-0, 6-0 victory in their No. 1 doubles match against Emily Evans and Andrea Sanders, while Lilly Hedges and Holly Hemmelgarn won at No. 2 doubles, 6-0, 6-1, against Camryn Fischer and Maddallen Abel.

At No. 2 singles, Grace Brewster defeated Hannah Fischer 6-1, 6-0.

Grace Brewster won the first set of her No. 1 singles match against Carlee Rismiller 6-4, but lost the second 7-5. She returned the 7-5 favor in set three to get the victory.

Kierston Blunk, the Patriots' No. 3 singles player, outlasted Christina Sowinski 7-5, 2-6, 6-4.

In junior varsity action, Brenna Haines got an 8-0 singles victory.

See Local page 5

Tennis sweeps UC

Jay County knocked off the second of its three sec-



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