

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Jay has jobs glut

*Employers are struggling to fill open positions*

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review  
Help wanted signs have been appearing in windows all over Jay County. The labor shortage is a drastic change from when the coronavirus pandemic began in March 2020, forcing many Hoosiers to stay home, shuttering non-essential businesses and shooting local unemployment levels to nearly 20%.

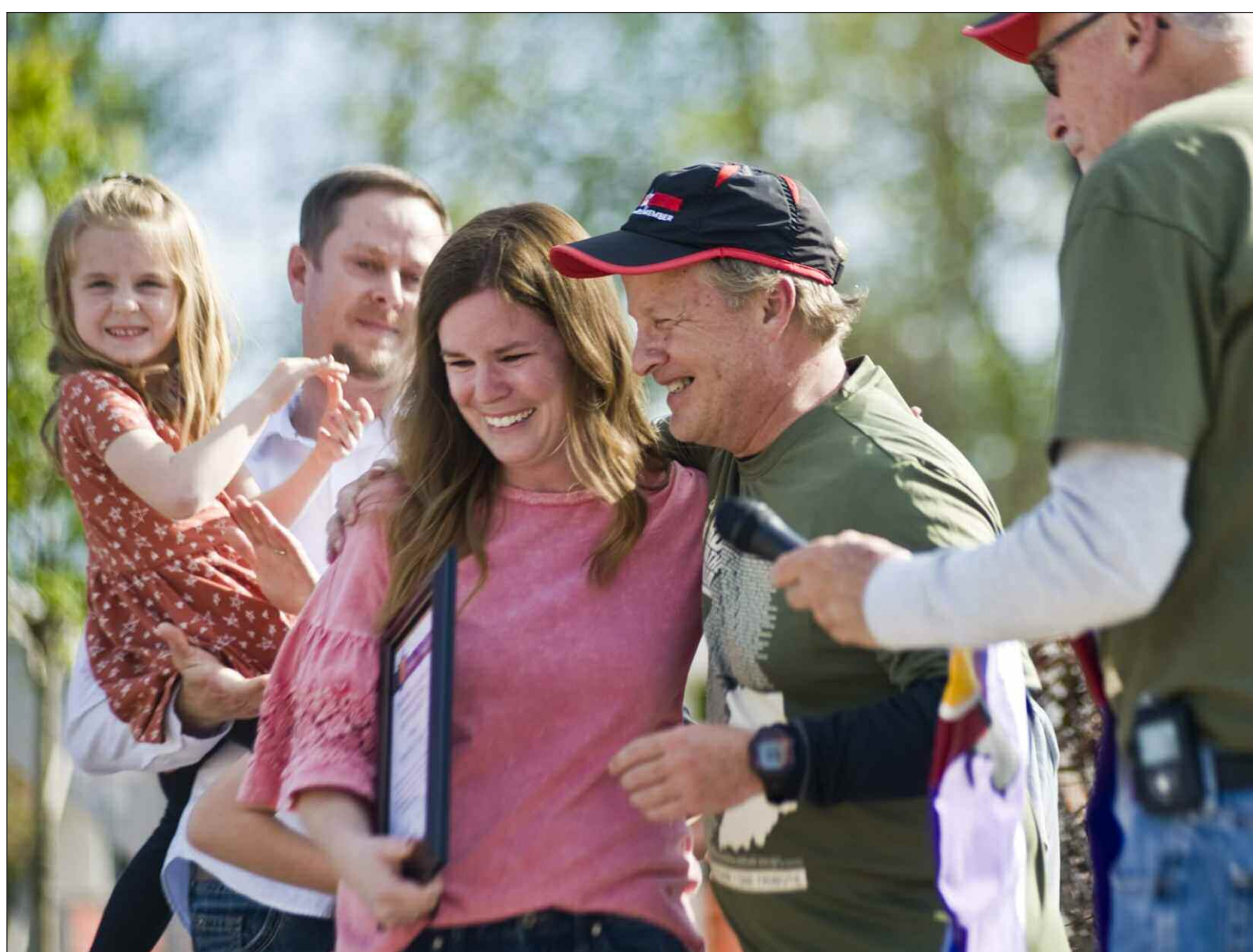
A little more than a year later, after coronavirus vaccines have been widely distributed and state officials have eased restrictions, local unemployment numbers are back to a pre-pandemic status of 3% again.

"A year ago, no one expected to be where we are today," said Jay County Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards.

But that low statistic isn't satisfying the glut of open positions. Richards estimated there are now at least 200 unfilled jobs in the county.

From temporarily closed to help wanted, businesses are struggling to find workers.

See **Jobs** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Honoring fallen

Juli Rains gets a hug from Indiana Run for the Fallen coordinator Donald Gillespie of Portland after she accepted an Honor and Sacrifice Flag in honor of her father, Paul Prater, a former Jay County Sheriff's Office deputy who died in the line of duty in 1983. She was 10 months old at the time of his death. Pictured background left are her husband Cameron and daughter Kendall, 6, and foreground right is Don Finnegan, Indiana Honor and Remember chapter director. Her sons Caden, 12, and Jace, 10, also joined her at the ceremony. At right, runners make their way south on Meridian Street in Portland just north of Water Street. Leading the pack, from left, are Eric Butcher, Aidan Von Gunten, Diana Fox and Danette Von Gunten.



## Retrospect JCHS honored senior class

Twenty-five years ago this week, Jay County High School was honoring its seniors.

The May 14, 1996, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of JCHS's Honors Night festivities.

Local students received more than \$368,000 in scholarships, grants and awards, including \$207,000 from local donors.

Among the honors were:

•Orie Poole receiving the first Randy Poole Memorial Scholarship in honor of his uncle, a JCHS social studies teacher who was killed in a traffic accident the previous year.

•Travis Hammond earning the first Randy O. Poole Mental Attitude Award. He also received the Redkey Gamma Nu scholarship and the Portland Rotary Club scholarship.

•Craig Evans being named the school's first recipient of the Eisenhower Memorial Award. He also earned the Bausch and Lomb sci-

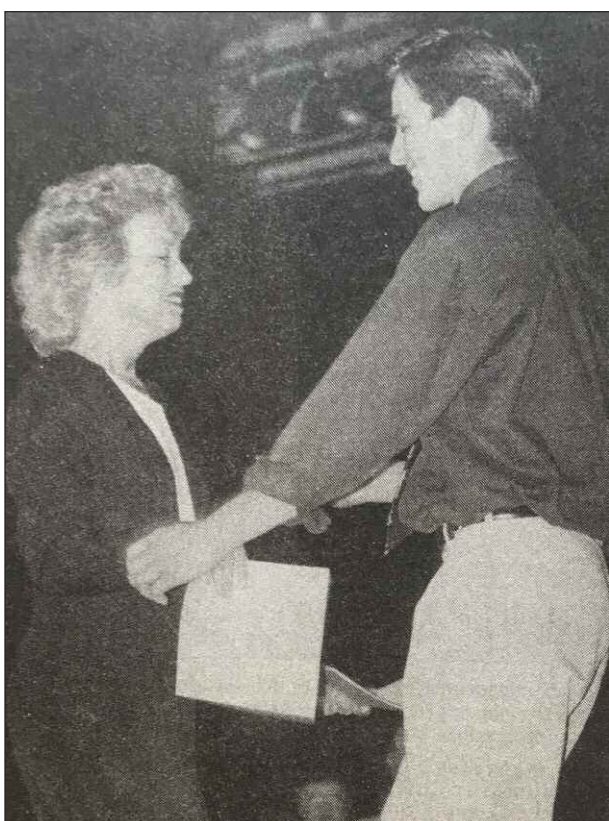
ence award, a Marine Corps scholastic excellence award and the President's Academic Fitness Award, and he was named a Hoosier Scholar.

•Andrew Reitz receiving the Presidential Scholarship, Leadership Scholarship and Goodrich Memorial Scholarship, all from Wabash College.

•Lauranne Beeler earning the first Portland Panther Scholarship. She also received theatre arts and student council awards, as well as the Portland Delta Theta Tau scholarship.

•Travis Brown picking up honors including a math award, a Marine Scholar-Athlete Award and a Portland Lions Club scholarship.

Earning Jay Classroom Teachers Association scholarships were Jonathan Ford, Brent Geesaman, Chris Ralph and Laramie VanSkyock. And receiving Ball State University presidential scholarships were Jacqueline Doyle, Emily Hedges and Kenneth Schmit.



The Commercial Review/Tom Casey

Jayne Poole, the widow of Randy Poole, embraces Orie Poole, nephew of the late Jay County High School teacher during the school's honor night on May 13, 1996. Orie Poole was the first recipient of the Randy Poole Memorial Scholarship.

## Israeli forces strike tunnels

*More than 100 have died in violence this week*

By STEVE HENDRIX, MICHAEL E. MILLER and SHIRA NUBIN

The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — Israel continued to press its air campaign against the Gaza Strip on Friday after a devastating overnight assault by artillery and war planes aimed at destroying an extensive system of tunnels built by the militant Hamas group to move fighters, rockets and other weapons.

Israeli airstrikes and Hamas rocket attacks on Israel both raged into Friday evening with no sign of abating. The reciprocal bombardment has resulted in the deaths of 126 in Gaza and nine in Israel, health and emer-

gency officials say, with hundreds more injured over five days of fighting.

Violence between Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel also continued in cities across the country, while new clashes erupted in the occupied West Bank, which had been relatively calm in recent days, with skirmishes in Ramallah, Nablus, Tulkarim and other cities. Eleven Palestinians were killed in West Bank confrontations with security forces, according to health officials.

By sunset, unrest flared in several Arab neighborhoods of East Jerusalem, where Palestinians throwing stones and firebombs battled police wielding stun grenades and tear gas, and protesters set cars and trees afire. The Israeli human rights group B'Tselem reported that Israeli settlers had set fire to swaths of Palestinian farmland in the West Bank.

Dozens of pro-Palestinian protesters from Lebanon, meantime, broke through a border fence, crossed into Israeli territory and set a fire in an open field near the northern town of Metula.

### Deaths

**Catherine Gelhaus, 58,**  
New Weston, Ohio  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

The high temperature climbed to 68 degrees Friday in Jay County. The low was 41. Skies will be partly sunny today with a high of 69. There is a slight chance of showers Saturday night and throughout Sunday, with rain expected Monday. See page 2 for an extended forecast.

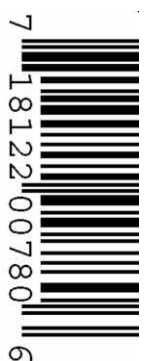
### In review

Registration is open for Jay County Public Library's Kindergarten Prep School (KiPS) program. The program is designed as a "jumpstart" into kindergarten. Forms are available at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. The deadline is today. For details, email shaman@jaycpl.lib.in.us or call (260) 726-7890.

### Coming up

**Tuesday** — Coverage of tonight's Jay County Community Awards and Monday's Jay School Board meeting.

**Thursday** — Results from the opening round of the girls tennis sectional tournament at JCHS.



# Obituaries

### Catherine Gelhaus

*Feb. 13, 1963-May 14, 2021*  
Catherine Louise Gelhaus, 58, of New Weston, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 14, 2021, at her home.  
She was born on Feb. 13, 1963, in Union City, Indiana, to Virginia Caupp of Union City, Ohio, and the late Charlie Caupp.  
In addition to her mother, Cathy is survived by her husband of 37 years, Dan Gelhaus, whom she married on Oct. 21, 1983; her children, Whitney (Adam) Wolters of San Diego, California, Wes (Kelsey) Gelhaus of Rossburg, Ohio, and

Wade Gelhaus of Mililani, Hawaii; her grandchildren, Logan Wolters, and Nora, Tate and Isla Gelhaus; her brothers, Brad Caupp and Gordon Caupp, both of Union City, Ohio; her mother-in-law, Luedna Gelhaus; her in-laws, Dale (Trish) Gelhaus of Union City, Indiana, Peggy (Dave) Becker of Dayton, Ohio, and Mike Gelhaus of Woodstock, Connecticut.  
In addition to her father Charles, Cathy was preceded in



Gelhaus

death by her father-in-law, Eugene Gelhaus; and her brother-in-law, Anthony Gelhaus.  
Cathy can best be remembered for her resilient personality and outlook on life. No matter the challenge, Cathy accepted and tackled with everything she had. Together with Dan, she raised three strong children and dedicated her life to helping others. She was an avid sports fan who loved a good competition and spent thousands of hours in the gym watching her kids compete. Countless hours were spent daily with her husband on the farm where she was never afraid to get her hands dirty. Above all,

Cathy loved her grandchildren and fought every day to be with them. She was loved dearly and will be incredibly missed by all.  
A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 17, 2021, at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, Fort Recovery, with Father Ned Brown officiating. Burial will follow at St. Paul Catholic Cemetery in Sharpsburg.  
Guests may visit with Cathy's family on Sunday, May 16, 2021, from 3 to 7 p.m. and again on Monday from 9 to 10 a.m. at Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home in Fort Recovery.

Memorial contributions may be given to EverHeart Hospice, 1350 North Broadway Street, Greenville, OH 45331.  
Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockmanboeckmanfh.com.  
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*The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.*  
There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

## CR almanac

Sunday 5/16	Monday 5/17	Tuesday 5/18	Wednesday 5/19	Thursday 5/20
<b>71/54</b>	<b>69/56</b>	<b>74/59</b>	<b>76/60</b>	<b>80/62</b>
Partly sunny skies with warm temperatures. There is a 40% chance of rain at night.	There is a 40% chance of rain, which will likely continue all day and night. Otherwise mostly cloudy.	Another potential day of rain with a 30% chance of showers. Otherwise partly sunny.	There is a 40% chance of rain early and thunderstorms throughout the day.	Another 40% chance of rain all day under mostly cloudy skies. Temperatures will reach the high 70s.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 5-1-3 Daily Four: 0-7-6-9 Quick Draw: 1-3-8-14-15-34-38-45-46-52-55-56-57-65-68-72-75-76-78	Pick 4: 9-9-6-3 Pick 5: 9-4-1-5-8	<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$183 million
<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 2-5-0	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$430 million	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms</b> <b>Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.70 Wheat .....6.87	<b>Central States</b> <b>Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.74 June corn .....6.74 Beans .....16.26 Sept. beans .....13.56 Wheat ..... 6.97
<b>POET Biorefining</b> <b>Portland</b> Corn.....6.82 June corn .....6.94	<b>Sunrise</b> <b>St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.79 May corn.....6.79 Beans .....16.11 May beans .....16.11 Wheat .....6.62 July wheat.....6.62
<b>The Andersons</b> <b>Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.79 June corn .....6.79 Beans .....16.31 June beans .....16.31 Wheat ..... 6.97 June wheat..... 6.87	

## Today in history

**On May 15, 1970**, just after midnight, Phillip Lafayette Gibbs and James Earl Green, two Black students at Jackson State College in Mississippi, were killed as police opened fire during student protests.  
**In 1602**, English navigator Bartholomew Gosnold and his ship, the Concord, arrived at present-day Cape Cod.  
**In 1918**, U.S. airmail began service between Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and New York.  
**In 1948**, hours after declaring its independence, the new state of Israel was attacked by Transjordan, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.  
**In 1954**, the Fender Stratocaster guitar, created by Leo Fender, was officially released.  
**In 1963**, Weight Watchers was incorporated in New York.  
**In 1967**, the U.S. Supreme Court, in its unanimous In re Gault decision, ruled that juveniles accused of crimes were entitled to the same due process afforded

adults.  
**In 1968**, two days of tornado outbreaks began in 10 Midwestern and Southern states; twisters were blamed for 72 deaths, including 45 in Arkansas and 18 in Iowa.  
**In 1971**, Louisa Cox of Portland celebrated her 101st birthday. She received a letter of congratulations from Robert M. Ball, commissioner of Social Security, Baltimore, Maryland.  
**In 1972**, Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace was shot and left paralyzed while campaigning for president in Laurel, Maryland, by Arthur H. Bremer, who served 35 years for attempted murder.  
**In 1988**, the Soviet Union began the process of withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan.  
**In 2000**, by a 5-4 vote, the U.S. Supreme Court threw out a key provision of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act, saying that rape victims could not sue their attackers in federal court.  
—AP and The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland	City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
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## Jobs ...

Continued from page 1  
Despite the state allowing restaurants to re-open to full capacity again last month, Buffalo Wings and Rings in Portland is still limiting numbers because of a lack of staff. It is currently hiring for all positions and seeking between eight and 10 new employees.  
“We do not have enough staff to give our VIP service, and we want to be able to give our employees a good balance of work and family time, and not burn them out,” said manager Ashley Knapschafer in an email.  
Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb announced Tuesday that Hoosiers seeking unemployment benefits will be required to actively seek full-time work again starting June 1. (Indiana Department of Workforce Development previously waived work-search requirement — it includes job applications, job fair attendance, participating in a WorkOne orientation and completing online workshops — during the pandemic.)  
Occupying more than 40% of the local workforce, manufacturers are also facing staff shortages.  
Bree Steffen, human resources manager at Tyson Mexican Original, noted the company was looking to fill about 50 jobs — most of them are third shift — as of Sunday. She said in an email that Tyson had a “solid applicant flow” for employment in March and April 2020. Increased unemployment benefits and federal stimulus dollars, though, haven’t helped hiring efforts.  
“It becomes more and more difficult to encourage individuals to apply for employment when they can make just as much or more to stay home,” she said.  
Sonoco Protective Solutions

## Work-search requirements for unemployment will be reinstated beginning in June

plant manager Brian Hayes said the business is hiring second- and third-shift positions. He added that the openings aren't necessarily related to the coronavirus.  
“We have struggled for two-plus years building our rosters,” he said.  
A direct effect of the pandemic, though, has been a booming business at Sonoco. Hayes explained the company has “remained strong,” if not grown, during the last year because of increasing demand.  
“We’ve seen some record sales months through the pandemic, even stuff that might’ve been out of season,” Hayes noted.  
Richards explained that the public has been spending more on tangible goods since other options were not available in 2020. Stuck at home, consumers began spending money other ways.  
“During the pandemic, people couldn’t spend on experiences — you know, restaurants, vacations, movies ... so people have been spending on goods,” he said.  
Shortages are drastically increasing the cost of material goods.  
Lumber prices are up more than 300% since April 2020, according to the National Association of Home Builders website. Steel mill product prices have climbed 22% in the last three months, said association

senior economist David Logan in a recent article for the website.  
There’s also a shortage of electronic goods and automobiles because the supply for semiconductors, a crucial part to many modern-day items, isn’t meeting demand. As a result, stocking issues are facing manufacturers and retailers everywhere.  
“Go try to buy a piece of furniture, or an appliance or fill in the blank. You’re going to wait,” Richards said. “It’s nuts. We’ve not experienced this in a long time... but it’s a global disruption.”  
One attempt at remedying the local industry job shortage is the upcoming Jay County Signing Day. Slated for May 18 and 19, the inaugural event will bring local manufacturers to Jay County Junior and Senior High School with the intent to meet and hire students. It will be beneficial to both parties, Richards explained, because local manufacturers will get workers and students will get experience.  
Both Steffen and Hayes plan for their businesses to attend, and both expressed excitement for the new event. Students have helped to fill positions at Sonoco in the past, Hayes noted. The company hired seven college students for the summer in 2020.  
“(They) really helped fill a void we couldn’t get on a full-time basis,” he said.

## Deeds

Benjamin D. Alig to himself and Caitlin N. Alig, quit claim deed — Part of Section 9, Noble Township, 2 acres  
Carolyn and Theodore R. Kelpien (deceased) to Carolyn Kelpien Living Trust, personal representative deed — Part of Section 26, Knox Township, 55.031 acres  
Carolyn Kelpien Living Trust to Homan Properties LLC, warranty deed — Part of Section 26, Knox Township, 55.031 acres  
Crystal L. and Harold L. Smith to Todd A. McCulloch, warranty deed — Part of Section 4, Jackson Township, 1.617 acres  
Jill Goetz and John and Yolanda Hare to Crossroads Financial Federal Credit Union, First National Bank, First Merchants Bank and CG Investments LLC, Lots 57, 58 and 59, Mount Auburn Addition  
Connie S. Price to herself, death deed — Lots 8 and 9, Tucker Subdivision, Portland  
Daminic Skinner to Ervin Graber, sheriff/marshall deed — Lot 17, Meeker Second Addition, Portland  
Anita L. Orr to Rodney K. Weesner, quit claim deed — Parts of Section 11, Richland Township, about 27 acres; Part of Sections 8 and 7, Jefferson Township, about 267.5 acres  
Anita L. Orr to Anita L. Orr 2021 Revocable Trust, quit claim deed — Section 5, Jefferson Township, 25.188 acres  
James F. McGill and Phyllis L. McGill (deceased) to James F. McGill, death deed — Lot 144 and Part of Lot 145, Woodlawn Park Addition  
Derran F. McGill to Joni L. and Ricki L. Wilson, quit claim deed — Part of Section 20, Wayne Township, 0.49 acres  
Derran F. McGill to David McGill, quit claim deed — Part of Section 20, Wayne Township, 0.49 acres  
Larry Bubb to Barbara and Doug Whitenack, warranty deed — Lot 55, Cartwright and Headington Subdivision, Portland

## SERVICES

**Today**  
**Bell**, Jerry: 11 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Lake**, Sara: 2 p.m., Little Salomon Cemetery, rural Portland.

**Monday**  
**Gelhaus**, Kathy: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

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Service listings provided by  
**PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS**  
**120 N. Meridian St.**  
**Portland, Indiana 47371**  
**(260) 726-9201**  
[progressiveofficeproducts.com](http://progressiveofficeproducts.com)

### Fort Recovery Industries, Inc.

#### Summer Employment Opportunity

### Fort Recovery Industries (FRI) needs you!

We are hiring High School/College students to fill our open Production Positions at all three FRI Locations!

**18 years of age or older**

#### How to Apply

Email Resume to: [applications@fortrecoveryindustries.com](mailto:applications@fortrecoveryindustries.com)

Apply Online at: [www.fortrecoveryindustries.com](http://www.fortrecoveryindustries.com)

In Person at:  
2440 St. Rt. 49, Fort Recovery, Oh 45846  
Hours between 8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

### JAY COUNTY DUST CONTROL PROGRAM

(400 Ft. Minimum)  
Cost. ... \$0.625 per foot

Must come to Jay County Highway Dept. to

- 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**



Photo provided

## Outstanding performers

The Jay County High School band held its annual awards ceremony Wednesday. Pictured, from left, are Outstanding Underclassman of the Year Aaron Funkhouser, Outstanding Senior of the Year Ashlyn Dow and Outstanding Guard of the Year Shealyn Dennis.

## Mixed signals frustrate friend

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I'm a lesbian. There's a girl I have liked for a little over a month. We are like best friends. When I told her I was attracted to her, she basically friend-zoned me, which hurt. Then she told a mutual friend she was considering being "friends with benefits" with me, and I got excited. Well, she changed her mind again because she was afraid it would be awkward.

I still have a crush on her, but I value our friendship. We spend so much time together, and things are easy but also challenging because I just want to grab her and kiss her. We snuggle all the time, and she gives me hugs every day. I want to make out with her. These mixed signals are killing me. What do I do? — DAZED & CONFUSED IN FLORIDA

DEAR DAZED: You're right. This young woman is giving you mixed signals. That's why you should put her firmly in YOUR friend zone. Stop the hugging and snuggling and move on, so you can find someone who reciprocates your feelings. Perhaps when she realizes that you are capable of moving on, her feelings for you will change. However, if they don't, you will have lost nothing but more heartache.

While writing her obituary, it was a challenge to hunt down accurate dates and family information. Many family members chimed in with conflicting information. To prevent this confusion in the future, would it be tactless to ask relatives for some of this information ahead of time? If so, how would you go about writing something on this topic without offending someone? — WONDERING IN MICHIGAN

DEAR WONDERING: What you have in mind is practical. If you have a relationship with these relatives, why not bring some of these questions up in normal conversation? To ask when people graduated from high school or college isn't intrusive. What year someone was married isn't classified information either. If you simply start talking, you may find out much of the information you are after.

P.S. If your relatives are willing to make the effort to write down their own stories, it could be compiled into a precious family history.

DEAR ABBY: My dear mother-in-law passed away.

## Births

**Hunt**  
Makenna Elaine, a daughter, was born April 27 at Adams Memorial Hospital in Decatur to Emily and Joshua Hunt of Pennville. She weighed 7 pound, 3 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Jonas and Emma Graber of Bryant. Paternal grandparents are Stanley and Rhonda Hunt of Wilshire, Ohio. Great-grandparents are Melvin and Emma Hilty of Portland.

**Alexander**  
Everly Dawn, a daughter, was born April 25 at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester to Sierra and Tyler Alexander of Portland. She weighed 8 pounds, 3 ounces.

**Fields**  
Blakely Kay, a daughter, was born April 26 at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester to Olivia Braun and Dustin Fields of Portland. She weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces.

## Community Calendar

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

**Today**  
PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Is open from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church.  
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.

**Monday**  
PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.  
BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER — Walking from 9 to 10 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.  
PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon

each Monday at Jay Community Center.  
EUCHRE — For those 55 and older from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk.  
PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.  
BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.  
TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St.

in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.  
PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.  
**Tuesday**  
BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.  
THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.  
A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'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.  
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.  
ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.  
FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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 - BRANNA'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.

The Portland Foundation seeks an experienced and energetic person to join our team as

### Office Coordinator

who will be responsible for overall office coordination including greeting guests, organizing office for efficiency, supporting team to ensure effective communication in all aspects of donor relations

#### Candidates Must Have:

- Excellent computer and telephone techniques
- Knowledge in Microsoft Office
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Ability to learn

The position will be 30 hours per week with competitive wages and benefits. Approximate start date is May 24, 2021. Send resume to Doug Inman, Executive Director, 107 South Meridian Street, Portland, IN 47371

THE PORTLAND FOUNDATION

### FREE Mammogram Screenings

During the month of May (Must be scheduled by May 31, 2021.)

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Women over the age of 40
- Uninsured
- Resident of Jay County or immediate surrounding Indiana county
- Have not had a mammogram in the past year
- Never had breast implants
- No personal history or symptoms breast cancer

\*Additional testing, views, or procedures after the initial screening is the financial responsibility of the patient.

Funding provided by: IU Health Jay Volunteers

500 W. Votaw St. Portland, IN

iuhealth.org  
©2021 IUHealth 04/27/21

**Schedule your FREE Mammogram Screening today! 260.726.1868**

\*\*Screening for state-assisted insurance will be completed prior to scheduling.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Friday's Solution

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

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.

## WHO DO YOU KNOW

that deserves to be recognized for their lifetime of volunteer service to the Jay County Community?

They must be a Senior Citizen (65 or older)

Tell us what their various volunteer service activities are, or have been, including the number of years and mail to:

Cincinnatus League

"Service Before Self"

P.O. Box 513, Portland, IN 47371

Questions? Call Rose Snow at 260-729-1069

Deadline to receive nominations is May 31, 2021

# Support our performers, athletes

The year 2020 was difficult.

That was true for everyone. It includes our students who are involved in athletics and the arts.

Many activities and events were canceled. When they resumed, ticket sales were down because attendance was limited. Fundraising opportunities disappeared.

This weekend provides a chance to help Jay County groups recover.

The Jay County High School choral department's production of the musical comedy

## Editorial

"Pajama Game" continues tonight. It opened Friday, and there is a performance at 7:30 p.m. tonight and another at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$6 and will be available at the door. Funds are needed to help ensure that the

program can continue to give students the opportunity to perform in musical productions each year.

At 2 p.m. Sunday, the Jay County High School wrestling team will hold a professional wrestling event as a fundraiser at Jay County Fairgrounds. The team is hoping to use the money for new uniforms, warm-up gear and training opportunities.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission.

Beyond those two events, there are plenty of other oppor-

tunities to support our youth programs.

The Fort Recovery Local Schools choral department will hold its spring concert at 6 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free.

And we're about to begin sectional tournaments in Indiana. The girls track, boys track and girls tennis teams will compete in sectionals next week. Softball and baseball will follow a week later.

Support comes in many forms. The finances are essential.

Every ticket you buy helps to give opportunities to students.

But presence is just as important. Taking the time out of your schedule to be there, to cheer, to applaud, to say "good job" is meaningful. It's those moments that children and teens are likely to remember years down the road.

So, take in a show, enjoy an afternoon of professional wrestling, attend a concert or swing by a sectional event in the coming weeks.

Our arts and athletics programs need your support as we continue to work to put 2020 in our rearview mirror. — R.C.

## Others can learn from funeral homes

By BEN SCHOTT  
Bloomberg Opinion

A few days ago the father of a dear friend died. Because he was of an age, and had been unwell for several years, his death was expected, yet still it was a shock — an emotional paradox that will be familiar to many who finally experience long-anticipated grief.

After discussing the injustice of his father surviving the worst waves of COVID but not living long enough to enjoy the fruits of our unlocking, my friend turned to the question of logistics. "It's interesting," he said. "They can get it right when they need to." "Who is they?" I asked. "Funeral homes."

Having rung at least half a dozen funeral homes to check availability and compare prices, my friend had identified two common threads. First, every home he spoke to deployed an identical timbre and tone of voice — warm, caring and with a pitch-perfect balance of compassion and commerce. Second, the customer service was impeccable — crisp, professional and dovetailed to the brain fog of grief. Calls were answered by humans, not machines, and these humans were humane: They listened, they heard, they were well-intentioned and well-informed.

"If undertakers can get it right at the very worst of times," my friend observed, "it's obvious that the banks and airlines and car-hire companies simply don't care."

Funerals are not cheap. According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the 2019 median "nondeclinable basic services fee" for an adult funeral with viewing and burial in America was \$2,195. To this, mourners are delicately (up)sold from a menu of add-ons, including transfer of remains (\$350), embalming (\$750), viewing facilities (\$425), funeral facilities (\$500), metal casket (\$2,500) and hearse (\$340). Together these raise the median cost to \$7,640 — 21% of median annual personal income — on top of which are "miscellaneous cash-advance charges" for flowers, obituaries and the like. Again, these are national American median prices, bearing little relationship to the prices in big cities or tony Zip codes. (The solid bronze "Promethean" casket retails at \$24,000.)

Given this, it could be argued that the very cost of funerals enables a higher standard of cus-

tomers service — just as the platinum-card membership line is inevitably answered first. However, from a practical perspective, funerals are more or less a parity product and, unless there are family traditions to be respected, funeral homes are essentially fungible. Consequently, customer interactions matter. In the United States, 89% of funeral homes are privately owned by families or individuals and, as such, are embedded in local communities and highly sensitive to word-of-mouth. A shabby experience at a time of sorrow is unlikely to be forgiven, forgotten or kept to oneself.

Undertakers know one thing with absolute certainty: Every customer that calls is in a state of distress. And so they calibrate their demeanor and intonation accordingly. If there is a tone of voice common to funeral homes, it's surely no more surprising than the rational and reassuring "Chuck Yeager" cadence still routinely mimicked by airline pilots around the world. In critical and emotional situations, tone counts; but why wait for circumstances to reach this pitch?

The past year has reframed for many the experience of grief — as the shock of so many untimely and "excess" deaths was compounded by the impossibility of maintaining traditional rites of comfort and mourning. Indeed it may seem luxurious to discuss "tone of voice" at a time when, for example, India is suffering catastrophic shortages of oxygen to breathe and firewood to cremate. But words are all most of us have, and words have a disturbing power to linger in the memory long after actions have faded.

Given the stress of life even before COVID, and the increasing complexity of navigating even the most basic services, every consumer-facing company could do worse than take a leaf from the book of condolence, and muster if not sympathy for their customers, then something approaching empathy.

Schott is Bloomberg Opinion's advertising and brands columnist.

Ben Schott



## Party should worry GOP, Dems

By HENRY OLSEN

Special to The Washington Post

More than 100 Republicans, including former officeholders and high-ranking staffers, reportedly plan to create a third party if the GOP doesn't pull back from its embrace of former President Donald Trump. That should worry Republicans — and Democrats, too.

These officials, who are expected to release a letter this week, broadly represent a group that is a significant minority within the electorate. They tilt mildly to the right on economics, are generally centrist on matters of culture and do not highly prioritize concerns from the religious right even if they nominally support them. Not so long ago, they were an important, perhaps even the ruling, element in the GOP. They dominated Republican thinking during the George W. Bush administration and battled the tea party and their religious right allies in the early 2010s.

The rise of Trump changed that. Trump's victory in the 2016 GOP primary exposed this group's lack of support among voters. Its preferred candidates — Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio and John Kasich — were easily swept aside by Trump and tea party favorite Texas Sen. Ted Cruz. Many of these people rejected Trump from the start, refusing to endorse him and preferring to vote for Hillary Clinton or a third-party candidate. But Trump's unexpected triumph sent them reeling even further.

Today, they find themselves out of power and out of step with the broader Republican electorate. Polls show Trump remains a popular figure among Republicans. More importantly, many of the issue stances that these Republicans planning to leave the party continue to tout, such as encouraging immigration and global trade, are not shared by majorities of Republican voters. Republican dissidents may cite Trump's character as their motivation for wanting to leave, but many are also closer on key poli-

cy issues to President Biden and his wing of the Democratic Party than they are to the GOP mainstream.

This is why any third-party effort would likely not attract many current Republicans. Even Republicans who share these views are deathly afraid of Democrats and their agenda. Third parties in the United States often attract higher levels of support early in a campaign only to lose most of those voters as they realize that their preferred candidate won't win. There aren't enough dissatisfied, anti-Trump Republicans to mount credible challenges in safe GOP and winnable states and seats. Ambitious Republican politicians and large donors want to be winners, not spoilers.

But winning may not be this effort's goal. Even if this new party attracted only 3% to 5% of the total vote in the 2022 midterms, that small difference could be enough to make a difference. Ralph Nader's quixotic Green Party campaign for president in 2000 only got 2.7 percent of the vote, yet his vote total exceeded George W. Bush's winning margin in New Hampshire and Florida. Had Nader not been on the ballot, Vice President Al Gore likely would have won. A breakaway Constitutional Conservative Party, to give the venture a name, could similarly determine which party controls the House and Senate.

That might perversely work to the GOP's advantage. Democrats attracted the lion's share of voters who fit this group's issue stance and demographics. Indeed, five of the eight people mentioned as potential signatories on this letter publicly

announced they would vote for Biden last year, and surely others followed George W. Bush's example of writing in a candidate or voting for Libertarian nominee Jo Jorgensen. Such voters also backed Democrats in the key Arizona and Georgia Senate races and many House races. These people would surely be more comfortable in this new party than in a Democratic Party that increasingly moves leftward on economics and culture. A new party that stands for the 2004-era Bush Republican principles may draw more voters from Democratic ranks than from Republicans.

This prospect should not, however, deter Republican leaders from trying to get these people back on board. The Republican Party cannot gain control of the federal government without attracting some people who did not vote for Trump. That includes expanding the party's appeal with working-class non-Whites, but it also means getting some former Republicans back in the GOP tent. A majority party in the United States is always a coalition, and that means the ardent Trump backers need to share space with those who think Trump made himself anathema on Jan. 6. That won't be an easy coalition to form, but it's an effort that must be made.

Ultimately, Republicans threatening to flee will need to decide which party tent they feel less comfortable living in. Unless the demand for this new party exceeds anyone's wildest expectations, they will have to decide whether they would rather coexist with the progressive, woke left or the Trumpist, nativist right. Politics is not the "Hokey Pokey" where people can keep putting one step in a party and take another one out.

Third parties rarely get off the ground. We'll see whose partisan house gets smashed if this effort really takes off.

Olsen is a Washington Post columnist and a senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center.

Henry Olsen



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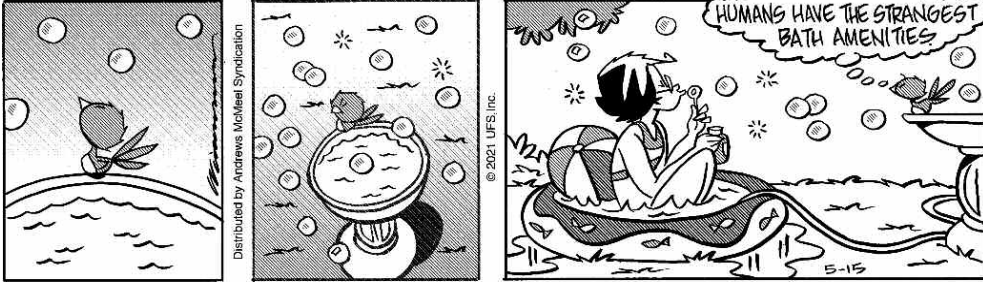
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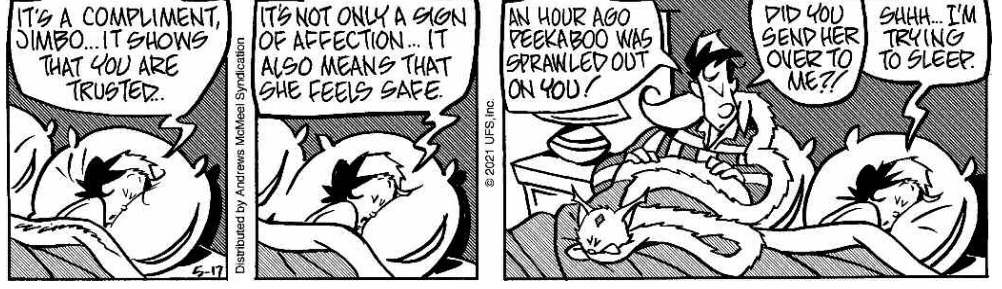
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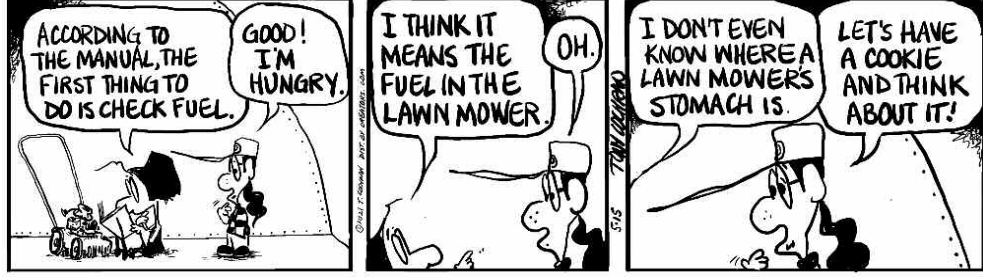
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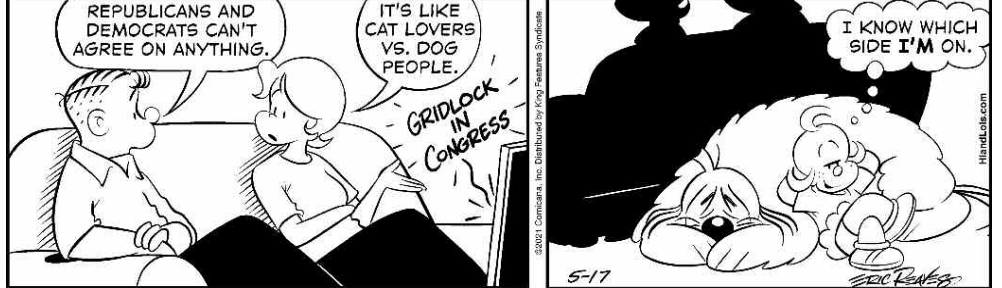
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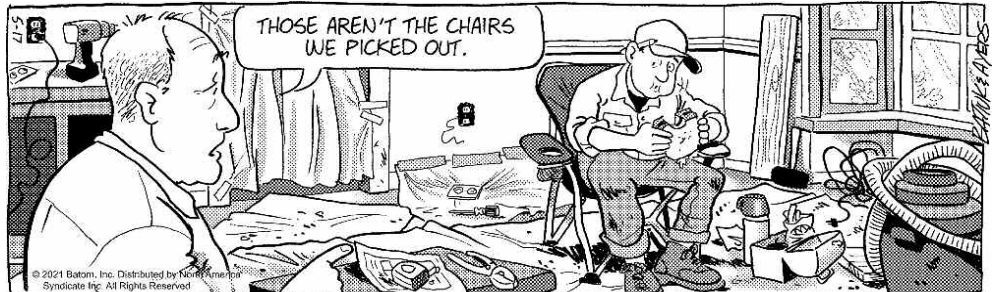
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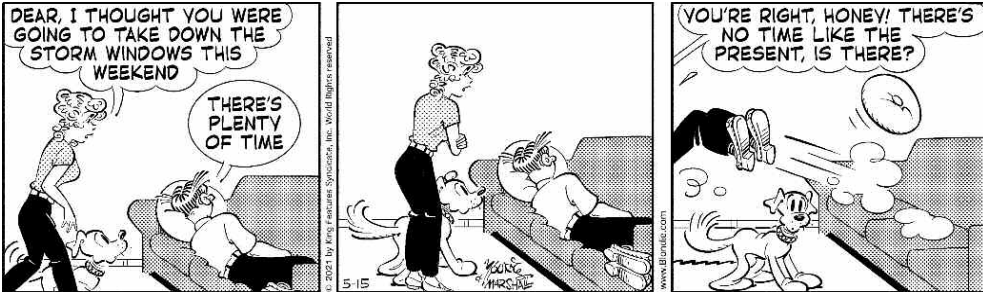
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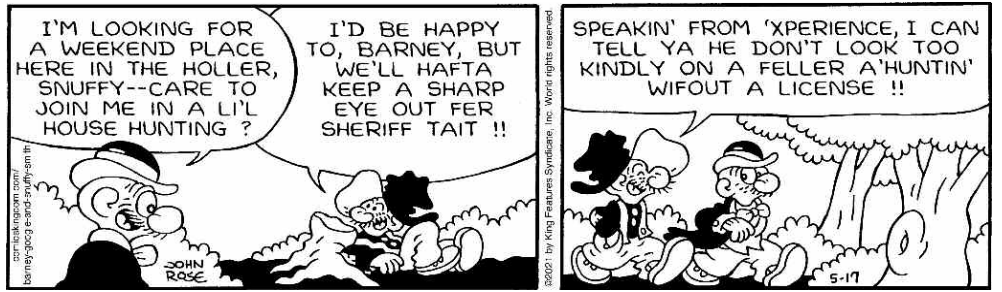
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Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

Laughter

The Commercial Review We Deliver





# Sixers top Magic to clinch East's top spot

By AARON BRACY

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Seth Curry scored 20 points, Joel Embiid had 13 points and 11 rebounds and the Philadelphia 76ers clinched the top seed for the playoffs in the Eastern Conference with a 122-97 victory over the Orlando Magic on Friday night.

Ben Simmons added 13 points and nine assists to help the 76ers improve to 48-23. Philadelphia could've clinched earlier this week, but lost at Indiana on Tuesday and at Miami on Thursday. Embiid didn't play against the Pacers due to illness and logged just

25 minutes against the Heat while still looking sluggish.

But he was more engaged in the second quarter against the undermanned Magic, helping Philadelphia outscore Orlando 39-19 in the period to take firm control. Embiid showed the edge that has made him arguably Philadelphia's most-loved athlete when he picked up a technical for a confrontation with Shane Bacon with 3:16 left in the period.

Philadelphia fans reigned down "M-V-P!" "M-V-P!" chants on Embiid in the first half. And those cheers will get even louder in the postseason, as the city announced this

week that the 76ers' home arena can have 50 percent capacity when the playoffs begin. That will mean about 10,000 fans can be in attendance, or about double the current allowance.

Embiid, Simmons and the rest of Philadelphia's starters relaxed on the bench in the fourth quarter with the 76ers up big.

Ignas Brazdeikis scored 21 points for the Magic. They have lost six straight.

The 76ers last took the top seed in 2001 when Allen Iverson won the MVP, Larry Brown the Coach of the Year and Aaron McKie the Sixth Man

award. That team reached the NBA finals before losing to Kobe Bryant, Shaquille O'Neal and the Lakers in five games.

Philadelphia has made the playoffs 10 times since, but hasn't gotten close to the finals. The club started from scratch under former GM Sam Hinkie, famously rebuilding beginning in 2013-14. The 76ers won just 47 games over the first three seasons of The Process before using high draft picks on Simmons and Embiid helped turn things around.

They will enter the playoffs for the fourth straight season, but the hope of a Process-produced championship has

remained elusive. Philadelphia hasn't even reached the conference finals during the recent stretch, and last year's first-round playoff exit cost former coach Brett Brown his job.

Now, coach Doc Rivers and GM Daryl Morey, Hinkie's ex-boss in Houston, will try to help bring Philadelphia its first championship since 1983. The 76ers will begin that quest on May 22 and have home-court advantage as long as they stay alive in the East. They'll start with a series against the No. 8 seed, which will come by way of a play-in tourney between the No. 9 and 10 seeds.

# Falls ...

Continued from page 10

Another freshman, Ellie Will, who was the third seed in the 3,200 run, was stuck behind Minster teammates Chaney Cedarleaf and Boate for most of the race, eventually passing Cedarleaf after five laps. But Cedarleaf made a late push on the front stretch to overtake Will, and the FRHS youngster ended third in 11:58.3, a second behind Cedarleaf.

"She dropped big time," Diller said. "Jenna (Hart) is a freshman, she dropped big time."

Hart finished sixth in 12:48.1.

Francis, a junior, finished fifth in the 100 dash, which was two spots below her seed entering the meet. Pearson, who was the conference's long jump champion on Tuesday, matched her seed by finishing fifth in the 200 dash as well.

"Our girls stepped up today," Diller said. "All the kids just ran lights out today. I think almost every kid ran a season best across the board."

Fort Recovery's 4x200 relay team of Kierra

Wendel, Fullenkamp, Pearson and Francis was the runner-up in 1:49.08, more than three seconds behind the quartet from Coldwater.

Freshman Trevor Heitkamp had a pair of top-six finishes for the boys. He was third in 3,200 run, crossing the line in 10:31.6 about an hour after taking sixth in the 1,600 run.

Owen Moorman placed fourth in the 200 dash (23.74 seconds) and eighth in the 100 dash (11.98 seconds). Bryan Falk of Minster posted times of 22.99 seconds and 11.39 seconds, respectively, to win the title in each.

The Tribe's 4x100 relay team was third. The 4x200 relay struggled with some of its exchanges and placed fourth.

"We have some things we need to tighten up on the relays and they know that," Diller said. "They have the potential to drop time in both of their relays."

"It's a good stepping stone. We are very young again this year. We graduated all the piece of that MAC team minus two or three kids."



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Fort Recovery High School senior Owen Moorman, left, and Jack Osborne of Versailles sprint toward the finish line of the 100-meter dash during the Midwest Athletic Conference track and field championships on Friday at Barrenbrugge Athletic Park. Moorman was eighth, while Osborne took fourth.

# Wins ...

Continued from page 10

Grosjean missed the final two races of last year's F1 season after a harrowing November crash in Bahrain in which he pulled himself from a fireball of wreckage. He has said the halo cockpit protector likely saved his life, and he suffered severe burns that left scarring on his hands.

He knew even before the crash he was not being retained by American team Haas, and Grosjean had already turned his sights to IndyCar because he was tired of running in a series where the quality of the car wasn't all that mattered.

While Coyne is not an IndyCar heavyweight, Grosjean produced finishes of 10th and 13th in his first two races.

"I've started looking for houses in America," he said when asked if the IndyCar Series could become a permanent destination. "That's the answer you want."

If he continues stringing together strong results, he'll get many more opportunities — starting Saturday as he chases his first podium finish since 2015 and his biggest victory since winning the GP2 Series title in 2011.

"I love the atmosphere between the drivers, I love the tracks," Grosjean said. "The cars are fun to drive. We can go for some good stuff. I'm really happy."

## Old and new

Juan Pablo Montoya and Jimmie Johnson are familiar faces around the speedway. They just find themselves in different roles this year.

Montoya, a two-time Indianapolis 500

winner, is seeking his first win on the track's road course and in his first IndyCar race since 2017. He will start last in the 25-car field because his two fastest laps were thrown out for interference.

Johnson, meanwhile, is a seven-time NASCAR champion and four-time Brickyard 400 winner. While he'll make his third IndyCar start Saturday, Johnson isn't one of the race-day favorites and he knows it. Johnson is starting 23rd.

"I'm not in the game yet so at least now I'm under less pressure than I have been in the past," the 45-year-old Johnson said. "It's my rookie year and there's very little testing."

## All's well

There is no feud, per se, between Graham Rahal and Harvey but the two certainly had to clear the air following a disagreement at Texas Motor Speedway earlier this month.

Rahal wasn't pleased with how Harvey raced that day and said he planned to have a "man-to-man talk" with the driver. Harvey then grumbled competitors often race his Michael Shank Racing entry with a "part-time, small-team attitude and think they can just do whatever, anytime."

Shank, the team's co-owner, backed Harvey this week and said his team would not be pushed around.

That led Rahal to note the Shank team is aligned with powerhouse Andretti Autosport and Harvey has made legitimate inroads.

"They can talk big all they want, 'Guys like Graham still think I'm a part-timer.' That's a complete lie," Rahal said.

# On tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Tennis at Lapel Invitational — 9 a.m.; Softball doubleheader at Hagerstown — 10 a.m.; Baseball doubleheader at South Side — 10 a.m.; Junior varsity track at Huntington North — 11 a.m.; JV baseball vs. Norwell — 10 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Softball at Minster — 1:30 p.m.; JV baseball at Minster — 1:30 p.m.  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at Lake County Captains — 6:35 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at Lake County Captains — 1:30 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Softball at Marion — 5 p.m.; Baseball vs. Delta — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis vs. Alexandria — 5 p.m.; JV softball vs. Union (Modoc) — 5 p.m.; Junior high golf vs. McCulloch — 5 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Girls track sectional at Delta — 5 p.m.; Baseball at Blackford — 5 p.m.; Junior high golf at Monroe Central — 4:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Baseball sectional semifinal vs. Ada — 5 p.m.  
Fort Wayne TinCaps vs. Lansing Lugnuts — 7:05 p.m.

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## FR record falls at MAC meet



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Fort Recovery High School freshman Natalie Brunswick, third from left, runs between a pair of Minster athletes, including Emma Boate of Minster, during the 1,600-meter run as part of the Midwest Athletic Conference track and field championships Friday at Barrenbrugge Athletic Park. Brunswick was third in 5 minutes, 19.05 seconds. Boate won in 5:10.79.

## Patriot softball shares ACAC

*Adams Central tops Heritage to create a three-way tie*

The Patriots got the help they needed. They've made history. The Jay County High School softball team secured the first conference championship in program history Friday. While they played the Wes-Del Warriors in Gaston — and won, 15-3, in six innings — the Adams Central Patriots 5-1 in Monroe, helping Jay County earn a share of the Allen County Athletic Conference championship.

It's the first league title, regardless of conference, for the Patriots in school history.

Adams Central's win against Heritage made a three-way tie atop the ACAC standings at 5-1 with Woodlan and Jay County. A Heritage win would have denied Jay County the championship.

Against Wes-Del, Jay County (14-6) scored twice in the top of the first inning before adding five runs in the second. The Warriors ended the shutout with a three-run third, but the Patriots put the game away with two runs in the fifth and six in the sixth.

Aubrie Schwieterman led the Patriot offense, which racked up 16 hits, with a triple, a double and two singles. She also contributed three RBIs.

Rieley Brewster doubled, singled and drove in two runs, while Olivia Bright hit a double and two singles with an RBI. Mady Fraley contributed two hits and a pair of RBIs.

Taylor Brown earned the win. She allowed three runs — two earned — on nine hits with two strikeouts.

## Tribe 4x100-meter relay breaks 11-year-old mark

By CHRIS SCHANZ  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians saved their best performances for their conference rivals.

The defending champs know what they've got to build on. The girls are aiming to keep the momentum going.

Fort Recovery High School's girls had five runners place sixth or better and had a relay break a school record while two Tribe boys had a pair of top-eight finishes in the final day of the Midwest Athletic Conference track and field champi-

onships in hosted on Friday at Barrenbrugge Athletic Park.

"I think they did great," FRHS coach Christy Diller said of her girls squad. "We definitely can tighten a couple areas up that it's not that far off and we're a place higher."

"A lot of these girls are young. We have a big crew of seniors, (and) we have a big crew of freshmen, so that's good to know we're retaining them next year for another step up."

Minster totaled 135.5 points to win its seventh in the last

eight seasons (not including the canceled 2020 year). Versailles had 108 points for third, and Coldwater, the 2019 champion, was third. Fort Recovery finished fifth with 76 points.

The Minster boys scored 168 for its first title since 2016 and a Wildcat sweep. Marion Local was the runner-up with 130.5 points, and Versailles totaled 104.5 points for third. The FRHS boys, who were defending the 2019 championship but graduated much of that squad over the last two years, was eighth out of 10 teams with 33 points.

Allysen Fullenkamp, Mara Pearson, Marie Nachtsheim and Abbie Francis set a new school record in the 4x100-meter relay, finishing with a time of 51.99 seconds. They finished fourth while breaking the mark of 52.5 seconds, which had stood since 2010.

Natalie Brunswick, a freshman, backed up her No. 3 seed in the 1,600 run by ending in the same spot in 5 minutes, 19.05 seconds. Minster's Ella Boate raced to the title in 5:10.79.

See Falls page 9

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## Grosjean wins 1st IndyCar pole

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Romain Grosjean survived a fiery Formula One crash, then left the series behind for a move to IndyCar where he figured he might compete for wins after nearly a decade of driving cars that never had a chance.

Now he seems right at home in America.

In just his third race with Dale Coyne Racing, Grosjean will lead a 25-car field to the yard of bricks Saturday in the Indianapolis Grand Prix. He turned a lap of 1 minute, 9.4396 seconds around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway road course Friday to beat two-time IndyCar champion Josef Newgarden.

It's the 35-year-old Frenchman's first pole since a 2011 GP2 Series race in Turkey and he celebrated flexing his arms in joy when he pulled into pit lane.

"It's like being alive again," Grosjean said. "That feeling, whoa! I forgot what it was, actually. Amazing."

Newgarden will start second for Team Penske.

Jack Harvey will start third for Michael Shank Racing after a surprising

qualifying session in which defending race winner Scott Dixon did not advance out of the first round. Dixon also struggled in the second practice session because of a problematic clutch.

"It was a mixed up grid," Newgarden said. "I was really surprised where some people qualified."

See Wins page 9



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