

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## TORNADO HITS

*Storm destroys several homes in northeast Jay, continues path of damage into Fort Recovery area*

By **RAY COONEY**  
and **BAILEY CLINE**  
The Commercial Review

A tornado ripped across northeast Jay County and into Mercer County near Fort Recovery late Friday afternoon, leaving a swath of destruction in its wake.

The tornado destroyed at least half a dozen homes, including several in the area of county roads 450 East and 500 North. A complete accounting of the damage was not available at press time.

The one piece of good news as of Friday evening was that the residents of Jay and Mercer counties escaped the tornado unscathed. No injuries were reported in Jay or Mercer counties as of 8 p.m. Friday.

"No injuries, thankfully, have been reported," said Amy Blakely, director of Jay County Emergency Management Agency, adding that her agency, Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Highway Department, local law enforcement and others were all in the area working to get a handle on the situation. "We've got people out trying to assess how bad things are and get things clear."

The hardest hit location based on initial observations was in the area of county roads 450 East and 500 North.

"That's apparently the worst of it," Blakely said.

Homes with severe damage in that area included those owned by Keith and Melissa Brunswick at 5396 N. 450 East — it no longer had a roof — and Matt and Betsy Minnich just to the south at 5212 N. 450 East.

At the time the twister hit, Betsy Minnich and her children were 2 miles south helping her parents with a garage sale. Matt was at Minnich Poultry instructing other workers to buckle down for the storm.

"We could see the tornado," Matt Minnich said.



Special to The Commercial Review/Josh Stephenson

A tornado ripped through northeast Jay County and into Mercer County late Friday afternoon. The aerial photo above taken via drone by Portland Police Chief Josh Stephenson shows the destruction at the property of Edward and Paula Davidson, 5006 E. 500 North. Below, clean-up begins at the Matt and Betsy Minnich home, 5212 N. 450 East, where the roof and the front of the garage were torn off. Damage continued southeast through Jay County and into Mercer County, with the tornado passing along the north side of Fort Recovery.

"We saw the debris flying, (I) didn't think it was mine. Apparently it was."

In the aftermath, the Minnichs walked over broken glass, loose bricks and other pieces of their house scattered across the yard in order to assess the damage. Their outbuilding was flattened, half of their home's roof was missing and their garage was reduced to nothing but a shell of strand boards and concrete.

The tornado also hit an unoccupied building at 5183 N. 450 East owned by H&G Agriculture Holdings. Grain bins and outbuildings lay in the field or around the property.

Several buildings were wiped out at the Edward and Paula Davidson property at 5006 E. 500 North.

A series of utility poles was also torn down along the east side of county road 450 East north of county road 500 North.

Trent Muhlenkamp said his wife Kelsi first saw the weather taking a bad turn from their home at 6263 E. Indiana 67.

"I didn't think much of it at the time," he said. "Then I kind of got up and looked. It's like, 'OK, it's time to go to the basement.' And then, it was just like that, it was done."

See **Tornado** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

### Retrospect

## City prepped for race

Twenty-five years ago this week, Portland was preparing for visitors.

The June 22, 1996, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of the city making preparations for the arrival of the Corel Great American Race.

- They included:
  - Hanging 40 banners to decorate Jay County Courthouse in patriotic colors
  - Decorating dozens of downtown buildings
  - Converting Main Street on the west side of downtown into a pit area for the 82 drivers who were headed toward Jay County.

"This is a town that's different from any place on earth," said Rosie Grapner, chair of the pit stop committee, noting the hours of volunteering that had gone into getting ready for the event.

The Great Race, a time-speed-endurance rally for pre-World War II vehicles, had started June 16 in Tacoma, Washington. Drivers were slated to begin their drive June 26 in Peoria, Illinois, with a pit stop late in the day in Portland before an overnight stop in Lima, Ohio.

The pit area on Main

Street was to be decked out with a red, white and blue balloon arch, with tape designating the pit areas. Food stands were also to be set up on Court Street, with an announcer's stand at the intersection of Court and Main streets. (George Reitenour, a Portland man who participated in the Great Race four times, was set to be the announcer and his car — Spirit of Jay County — was going to be on display.)

"I think Portland is going to do as good a job as has ever been done on a pit stop," Reitenour said.



The Commercial Review/Jack Ronald

Portland's Les Eads, an old car collector and active volunteer for the Portland Great Race pit stop, had the yard in front of his Main Street home decked out in preparation for the event.

### Deaths

**Jessica Roop**, 31, Conersville  
**Charles Klingel**, 86, Muncie  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County's high temperature peaked at 77 degrees Friday. After severe weather, including a tornado, blew through the county Friday, more showers and thunderstorms are expected today. The high will be 86. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

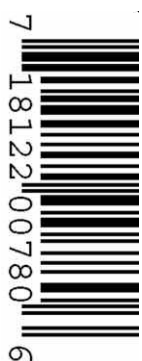
### In review

Dunkirk Public Library Board has scheduled an executive session for 6 p.m. June 28 at the library. A special meeting will follow at 6:30 p.m.

### Coming up

**Tuesday** — Coverage of Jay County High School's graduation ceremony and Monday's Jay School Board meeting.

**Wednesday** — Results from the Jay County Summer Swim Team's meet against Wells Community.



# Obituaries

## Jessica Roop

June 23, 1989-June 17, 2021  
Jessica Roop, age 31, a resident of Connersville, Indiana, passed away on Thursday, June 17, 2021, at her home in Connersville. She was a former resident of Portland.



Roop

Jessica was born on June 23, 1989, the daughter of Terrie (Garringer) Roop.  
Survivors include:  
Her mother — Terrie Roop (companion: Sam Crump), Portland, Indiana  
Her grandfather — Joe Garringer, Portland, Indiana  
Uncle and aunt — Scott and Beth Garringer, Bradenton, Florida  
She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Norma Garringer.  
Services for the family will be held privately at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.  
Burial will be held at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.  
Condolences may be

expressed at [williamson-spencer.com](http://williamson-spencer.com).

## Charles Klingel

Jan. 1, 1935-June 15, 2021  
Charles Klingel, 86, went to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, on June 15, 2021.

He was born on Jan. 1, 1935, in Madison Township, Jay County, to Herman and Mildred Klingel. He was a graduate of Madison High School in 1953 and a member of St. James Lutheran Church.



Klingel

Charlie loved questions, asking them, finding answers to them ... pondering everything. How can I fix that? What's the best route to our destination? How did you accomplish this? What's the name of that ornamental tree? Is that a support- ing wall? I wonder if this seed would grow here if I planted it? How can I improve this?

He was a doer and never understood the concept of boredom. The world is a better

place because of people like him.

As a young man, Charlie could be found at the Fort Recovery Roller Rink skate dancing, backwards, without missing a beat or falling. For several years he sang baritone in the Union City Barbershop Quartet.

In 1953, Charlie joined the Battle Group, Guard Unit at Portland. In 1957, he acquired the rank of S.F.C., then in '58 he received his Expert Infantry Badge at summer camp. He graduated from Indiana Military Academy, The Sabor Class, Six Sixty-One Indiana Army National Guard.

Charlie worked with his father and brother on the same land his paternal grandfather settled after immigrating from Germany in 1881. Known as Jay-Ayr farms because of the registered Ayreshire cattle, they also had poultry and farmed.

Charlie earned his private pilot's license in the late '50s and encouraged his date to "Come Fly with Me." Hesitant at first, she finally agreed. He loved to dance, and this woman enjoyed dancing, too. They liked dream-

ing and planning, talking and sharing many things. He decided to ask Glenna Applegate to marry him and they wed in 1968. Together, they raised two daughters and celebrated 51 years of marriage in 2019. Charlie loved being with his family and attending any and all school and sporting events of his grandson.

Charlie became Muncie district manager for The Independent Order of Foresters life insurance company. He was inspired by the people in his office and their success, together. It afforded him the opportunity to travel with his wife in the U.S. and Canada and he stayed with Foresters until retirement.

Ever constant in Charlie's life was the love of the automobile. Because he needed more to do, he began buying and working on cars in the '70s. He built a model classic in his garage and drove it in a lot of car shows and parades, usually walking away with best in class. He loved the early model T-Birds and Mercedes. He and his wife shared a passion for remodeling homes and landscaping, including one

they bought in the '70s on Anna Maria Island, where memories with family and friends were cherished.

Surviving are daughters Angela Faith and Julia Applegate; a grandson, Tait; a great-grandson soon to be born; his sister Susan Klingel-Dowd (Michael) of Muncie, Indiana; nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herman and Mildred Klingel of Salamonia; his wife, Glenna Klingel; and a brother, Donald Klingel of Rushville, Indiana.

Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, June 22, at Eden Church, 11205 Indiana 3, Muncie, Indiana, with the funeral following at 1 p.m. Pastor Kevin Holt will officiate. Burial will follow.

On behalf of Charlie, his family would like to thank Elmcroft of Muncie for its caring staff.

Memorials may be made to Second Harvest Food Bank, 6621 Old State Road 3, Muncie, IN 47303.

An online guestbook is available at [ballardandsons.com](http://ballardandsons.com).

# CR almanac

Sunday 6/20	Monday 6/21	Tuesday 6/22	Wednesday 6/23	Thursday 6/24
<b>89/73</b>	<b>83/54</b>	<b>70/50</b>	<b>75/58</b>	<b>82/62</b>
There is a 30% chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon with winds up to 20 mph.	Showers and thunderstorms are expected with a half-inch of rain possible. The high will be 83.	Expect sunny skies with a high of 70.	The high temperature will be in the mid 70s under mostly sunny skies.	Skies will be mostly sunny with a high of 82.

# Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 2-6-9 Daily Four: 1-5-4-7 Quick Draw: 06-12-14-22-25-29-32-34-35-39-41-42-50-58-59-61-62-67-70-79	Pick 4: 1-2-9-1 Pick 5: 2-2-1-9-9 Rolling Cash 5: 5-16-35-36-39 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 5-5-5 Pick 4: 6-4-4-8 Pick 5: 8-7-7-3-8 Evening Pick 3: 0-2-3	<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$52 million  <b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$30 million

# Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.75 July corn.....6.74 Wheat .....6.60	Wheat ..... 6.52 July wheat ..... 6.52
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....7.10 June corn .....7.10 Aug. corn .....6.37	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.83 July corn.....6.81 Beans .....14.13 Nov. beans .....12.83 Wheat ..... 6.53
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.70 July corn.....6.70 Beans .....14.11 July beans .....14.11	<b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.67 July corn.....6.67 Beans .....14.03 July beans .....14.03 Wheat .....6.18 July wheat.....6.18

# Today in history

On June 19, 1865, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War was over, and that all remaining slaves in Texas were free — an event celebrated to this day as "Juneteenth."  
In 1775, George Washington was commissioned by the Continental Congress as commander in chief of the Continental Army.  
In 1911, Pennsylvania became the first state to establish a motion picture censorship board.  
In 1917, during World War I, King George V ordered the British royal family to dispense with German titles and surnames; the family took the name "Windsor."  
In 1944, during World War II, the two-day Battle of the Philippine Sea began, resulting in a decisive victory for the Americans over the Japanese.  
In 2011, the Portland Rockets swept a doubleheader from the host South Bend Sultans — 12-0 in five innings and 7-2 — to improve to 10-5. Tyler Reynolds, who returned to the Rockets this year, tossed a no-hitter in the game-one win.  
—AP and The CR

# Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.	cil, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council	<b>Wednesday</b> 5 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, Dunkirk City Park.

# Tornado ...

Continued from page 1  
The storm continued on a generally southeast trajectory, destroying a barn at the 6428 E. 300 North property of Gregory Wright and Michael White's home across the road at 6137 E. 300 North.

Matt White, Michael's brother, who grew up in the home that was hit Friday, watched the storm from a distance.

"It was a big funnel cloud," he said, noting that his own house had been hit by a tornado in 2007.

"This was devastating here," he continued, pointing across the road to the Wright property. "It physically pulled posts out of the ground. They're 4 foot deep and square. ... And that building's been there since I was a kid."

The Wrights were in the process of trying to account for livestock shortly after the storm.

The roof of at least one building was ripped off at Fort Recovery Lumber Company, 2550 Wabash Road, just north of the village.

The storm skirted the north side and east sides of Fort Recovery, continuing a line of damage from near the intersection of Fort Recovery-Minster Road and St. Peter Road southeast toward Fox Road and Township Line Road.

Pieces of twisted siding, pink fiberglass insulation and other debris was strewn across miles and miles of fields stretching from where the tornado first touched down in Jay County deep into Mercer County.

Sheryle Kuhn, administrative assistant at the Mercer County Emergency Management Agency, noted the storm downed multiple power lines, trees and farm outbuildings, along with damaging about four or five homes.

"I think everybody took cover," Kuhn said. "We were pretty fortunate there were no injuries."

Within about an hour of the tornado blowing through the county, family, friends and neighbors were already descending to help the clean-up process get underway. They arrived with front-end loaders to help



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Debris from Friday's tornado was strewn all over, including here along county road 300 North near county road 600 East.

move the debris and livestock trailers to haul it away. Others came to drop off water, help with the debris or load moving trucks.

Though the Brunswicks are currently on vacation, neighbors were there working Friday to cover the exposed house.

Matt Minnich estimated at least 80 people came out to his home in the aftermath to offer their assistance. He noted his family will be moving into a home his parents built recently until further notice.

"The house doesn't bother me," he said. "Instead of being stressed out about the fact that, you know, it's all tore up, I would say that I'm more moved by the fact that I live in a neighborhood and community that showed up (to help) ... that means more than anything."

It was at 3:38 p.m. Friday that Jay County Sheriff's Office sent out a message warning of a severe storm with 60-mph winds and possible large hail. Mercer, Blackford and Delaware counties sent out similar messages about the same time.

Friday's tornado crossed the path of the last such storm that caused severe damage in Jay County. That 2017 tornado traveled northeast from

the Dunkirk area, crossing U.S. 27 just south of county road 300 North and leaving a series of homes damaged along the county road 300 north corridor. It continued on to Celina, Ohio, where it destroyed a Dollar General store.

The funnel cloud Friday came within about a quarter-mile of the Carl and Laurie Muhlenkamp house at 3707 N. 550 East that the 2017 storm lifted and moved off of its foundation. The Muhlenkamp's son, Austin, was at home for that storm. This time, Laurie and her daughter Briana saw the tornado blow through.

"We saw it swirling, a black circle over there by Dennis and Theresa's place," Laurie added, pointing northwest toward another Muhlenkamp couple's home at 4202 N. 550 East. "We went to the basement then."

She said she did not receive a tornado warning until she and her daughter were already in their basement.

Shortly after the storm, Mercer County Electric was reporting about 3,000 customers without service. Jay County REMC on its Facebook page said it was "experiencing widespread outages due to the extensive storm damage."

## SERVICES

**Saturday**  
**Markley, Jackie:** 5 p.m., 5 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Monday**  
**Glass, Gregory:** 5 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

**Sunday**  
**Coons, Jalen:** 4 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

**Monday**  
**Caylor, Harry:** 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Tuesday**  
**Klingel, Charles:** 1 p.m., Eden Church, 11205 Indiana 3, Muncie.

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50th anniversary

Connie and Jack Ronald

Jack and Connie Ronald of Portland are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary today.

Constance Evelyn Frank and John C. "Jack" Ronald were married June 19, 1971 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Jacksonville, Illinois.

Connie is the daughter of the late Dr. Charles and Dorothy Frank of Jacksonville. Jack is the son of the late Hugh N. and Sara Haynes Ronald.

Jack retired as publisher of The Commercial Review in 2020. Connie also retired



Connie and Jack Ronald - 1971



Jack and Connie Ronald - 2021

last year as an environmental specialist for her own firm, Twin Leaf Consulting.

Connie currently serves as president of Friends of the Limberlost. Jack is currently treasurer and a board member at Arts Place. He also serves on the board of

trustees of Minnetrista Cultural Center, Muncie.

The couple has three daughters, Margaret Ronald (husband: Josh Lawton), Watertown, Massachusetts; Emily Ronald (husband: Michael Veloso), Waltham,

Massachusetts; and Sara "Sally" Ronald (husband: Ben Lawson), Bloomington, Indiana. They have four grandchildren.

The couple plans to celebrate with a trip to Italy in the fall.

Births

Fields

Huntley Lee, a son, was born May 29 to Leah Knott and Erik Fields of Dunkirk at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester.

He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces.

Grandparents are Erik Knott of Parker City, Ernie and Amy Fields and Lori Hall. Great-grandparents are Bill and Kathy Fields and Kay Segraves.

May

Pagan Reigns, a son, was born June 6 to Katelyn Bradburn and Kyle May of Winchester at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester.

He weighed 4 pounds, 10 ounces.

Grandparents are Jesse and Sherry Rowles of Portland and Danny and Candy Bradburn of Winchester.

Great-grandparents are Jerry and Linda Hopkins of Portland, and Larry and Sherry May of Connersville.

Segraves

Laney, a daughter, was born June 7 to Marrisra and Matthew Segraves of Winchester at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester.

She weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces.

Grandparents are Lori Hall of Winchester, Penny Moore and Johnna Alston of Anderson, Gary and Lisa Moore of Winchester and Kevin and Dodi VanSkyoock of Ridgeville.

Great-grandparents are Kay Segraves of Portland, Linda Moore of Winchester, and Ruby and Jeff Brown of Anderson.

Young professional can't escape gossip

DEAR ABBY: I'm a girl of 23 who has never had a boyfriend. Now that I finished college and am a journalist, I have met some guys, mostly from high school and places like that. One of them, who went to my middle school, recently asked me on a date. Another one from high school asked me out, too, in the same week. (Neither one ever talked to me in the respective schools.) Even if I wanted to go out, I'm a little nervous because I've never been on a date. What do you think I have to do? I know I shouldn't care about what my family and friends say, but they are gossips. — FEELING WEIRD IN MEXICO

DEAR FEELING WEIRD: I'm glad you wrote. You do not have to do anything except calm down and get to know these guys. You should not rush into

Dear Abby



ANYthing. Romances evolve from friendships, and friendships take time and effort. Hang on to your sense of humor, and remember: You are at the beginning of an interesting career and life journey. Stop worrying about the gossips, and take advantage of the opportunities that are opening up for you.

DEAR ABBY: My mother and her companion recently moved to be closer to me (20 minutes away).

The problem is I don't really care for her companion, and he is always around my mom. He comes over to my house when she does, plops himself in our den and turns on the TV — LOUD.

We now need to replace the reclining chairs in the den. He weighs more than 300 pounds, and I can't find a loveseat or chairs that can accommodate his weight. He won't allow Mom to drive herself over here. What can I do? I would like comfortable seating in my den, but I don't want furniture that will break the first time he sits on it. — IMPOSED UPON IN THE SOUTH

DEAR IMPOSED UPON: You are under no obligation to buy furniture to accommodate someone you "don't particularly like." Tell your mother YOU will provide the transportation

when she wants to visit you. Problem solved.

DEAR ABBY: When six of us women got together for lunch, one gal brought copies of her mother's newly published book of poetry. The book was \$20. After describing the book and her mother, she offered one to each of us to PURCHASE! I thought she showed poor taste by pushing this book on us. We all bought one because we felt obligated. What's your opinion about what she did? What would have been a tactful way to refuse? — DUMBSTRUCK

DEAR DUMBSTRUCK: You could have thanked the woman for offering the book, told her you are sure it was "wonderful" and refused by saying, "But I'm just not into poetry!"

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.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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.

MOUS — 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.

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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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# Let's give infrastructure a chance

The Washington Post

Talks on a possible infrastructure compromise between President Joe Biden and Sen. Shelley Moore Capito, R-West Virginia, collapsed definitively on Tuesday, but fortunately there is more than one way to achieve a bipartisan deal. If there can't be one between the White House and Senate Republicans, perhaps something acceptable to the president can be worked out among senators themselves, working across the aisle. That, at least, is the hope raised by the announcement on Thursday that a 10-member Senate group, split evenly among Republicans and Democrats, has agreed on a proposal.

Details are sketchy, and what is known of the deal suggests it

## Guest Editorial

is far from ideal. Some Republicans are likely to object to anything that spends a lot of money and hands even a partial political victory to Biden; on the Democratic left, meanwhile, critics are already saying their party should stop wasting time and pass a bill using a party-line procedure known as reconciliation. Biden, however, campaigned not only on investing in productivity-enhancing public goods but also on restoring functionality to

Washington. He should therefore engage with the Senate group in good faith.

Their plan includes about \$974 billion in infrastructure spending over five years. Of that amount, however, \$579 billion would be new spending above what has already been authorized. Biden has said he won't settle for less than \$1 trillion in new money, but the Senate group's plan is at least within shouting distance of that number — and reportedly also adds clean energy spending, a Biden priority that Capito rejected.

The real problem is how to pay for the plan. The Senate group, in deference to GOP ideology, claims to do it without raising taxes. The president, whose original \$2.2 trillion relied on raising

the corporate tax rate from 21% to 28%, should insist on some revenue from higher corporate taxation, perhaps in the form of the 15% minimum corporate tax rate he floated in discussions with Capito.

In fairness to the Republican members of the group, they are open to inflation-adjusting the federal fuel excise tax — a tax increase in all but name, and a truly modest one given that the tax hasn't been raised since 1993. Higher fuel taxes are also good policy: They both raise revenue and, at the margins, reduce driving, which means they reduce carbon emissions. Biden is the obstacle here, because he has sworn not to increase taxes for anyone who earns less than \$400,000 per year. That promise

seems especially ill-advised in the context of transportation infrastructure, where fuel taxes function as a rough user fee for the nation's highways.

Time is growing short between now and the self-imposed July 4 deadline of Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., to bring a bill to the floor. The smart money is betting that Republicans and Democratic centrists are just posturing, and that these negotiations will end in the usual partisan impasse. Americans in general would not be surprised if that happens — but undoubtedly wish it wouldn't. As the one player in this drama who was elected by all the people, Biden's role is to help prove that this time the smart money is wrong.

## Bitcoin doesn't act like currency

Bloomberg Opinion

Anyone who still thinks bitcoin is a viable form of money should have learned otherwise.

The cryptocurrency's wild fluctuations say it isn't. For those just looking to get rich quick, the message is even simpler: Buyer beware.

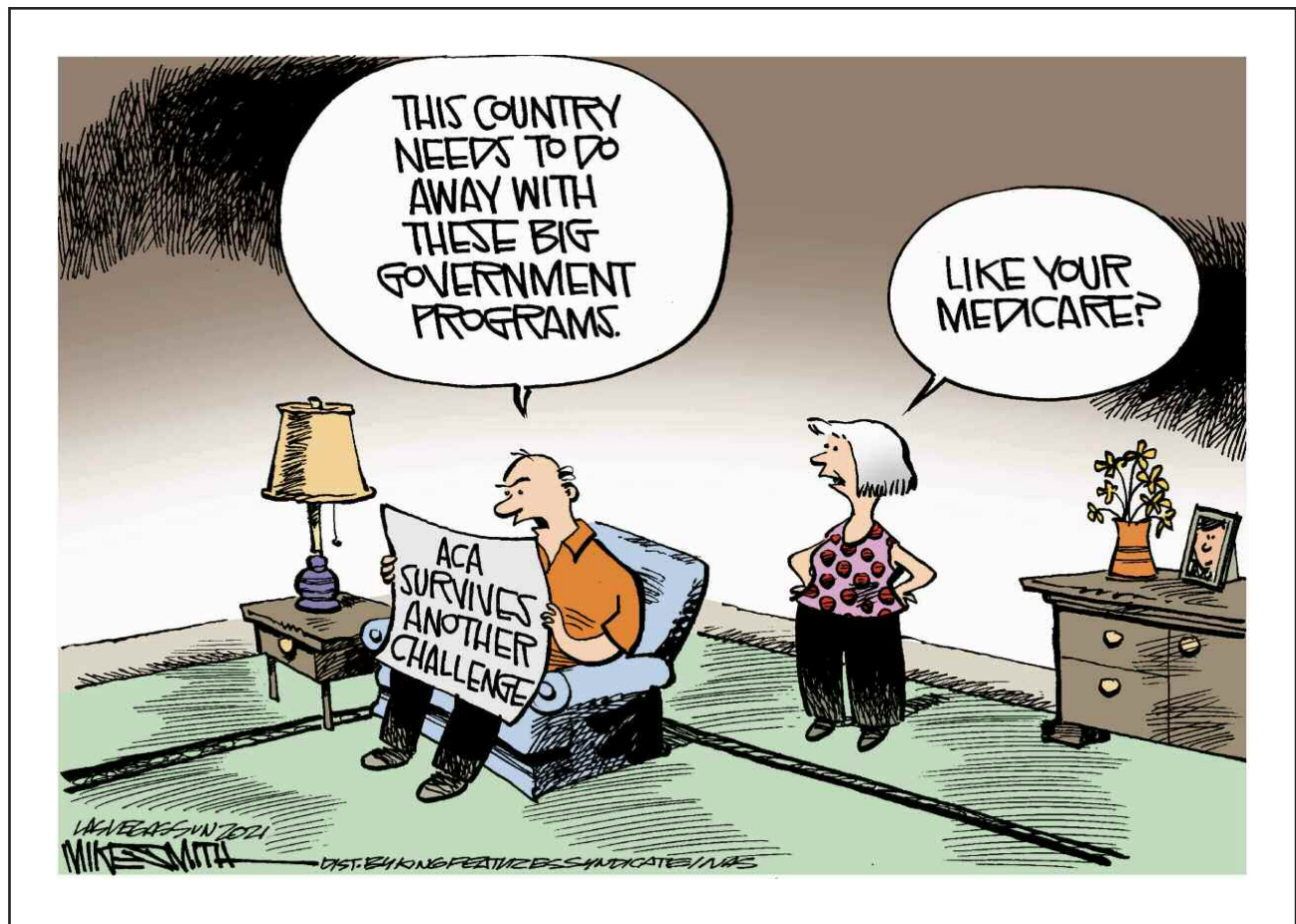
At one point, the price of a bitcoin had dropped more than 40% over the course of a week — disconcerting for the throngs of retail investors who, egged on by Elon Musk and other celebrities, had helped drive it up more than 230% over the previous six months. In a matter of days, hundreds of billions in virtual wealth disappeared.

That's right: Bitcoin is volatile. In other words, it isn't on track to displace traditional government-issued currencies. If a bitcoin buys one Tesla today and only half a Tesla tomorrow, it's useless as a means of payment and store of value (unless you're a criminal with limited options). And this is before you consider the inefficiencies and environmental impact of a system that requires power-hungry computers around the world to vouch for each transaction.

Crypto's lack of actual utility won't stop many from profiting handsomely. Its novelty and detachment from any sense of fundamental value make it appealing to the very intermediaries it was designed to disrupt. Traders and hedge-fund managers thrive on the volatility; banks can offer custody services; creators of exchange-traded funds are eager to offer bitcoin versions. Investors briefly valued crypto exchange Coinbase at more than \$100 billion, thanks to the fees it charges customers wanting a piece of the action.

Cryptocurrencies' gyrations will most likely create and destroy many more fortunes yet. Authorities should pursue the criminals, caution the unsophisticated, and ensure that speculative fervor doesn't threaten the broader financial system. Beyond that, look out. Your crypto is worth only what the next buyer will pay — and that could be an awful lot less than you hope.

### Guest Opinion



# Census is key because people count

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

The Census Bureau is now rolling out their population estimates from the 2020 counts. We have state and now local municipal counts.

These figures are used to determine the number of House seats each state receives, and to draw congressional district lines within states. The census is also used for drawing Senate and House seats within states, at least for those 49 states that have a bicameral legislature.

This is the 41st time the United States has conducted a census. The first was conducted in the summer of 1790, as required by the Constitution two years earlier.

Demographers are also keenly interested in the decennial census. These counts give us a better idea if the annual population estimates conducted by other government agencies are accurate, and it provides a more comprehensive snapshot of changes in American population. The more detailed data that will arrive over the next couple years will tell us more about the structure of age, education, race, ethnicity, ancestry, marriage patterns, family structure and hundreds of other pieces of data.

Economists care about the data for even more immediate reasons. Population growth of a region is the strongest single sign of regional economic health and a marker of prosperity. So, population growth alone is often the best measure of recent improvement in economic conditions. Perhaps more importantly, population growth is a robust measure of future economic prospects for a region. For that reason, civic leaders should be closely attentive to population growth.

The 2020 Census revealed unsurprising results. Indiana's population grew last year by 23,943. This measure is "as of" a date in March, so it largely measures growth

prior to the pandemic. What this count omits is the nearly 14,000 COVID deaths that are above the expected levels of mortality in the state.

That means nearly two-thirds of Indiana's population growth in 2020 was erased by COVID, a population equivalent of a Chesterton, Auburn or Bedford. This should be a sobering piece of data. In a better world it might even give cause for the many critics of Gov. Holcomb's pandemic restrictions to reconsider their objections.

Many of the trends of the past decades continued in 2020. The greater Indianapolis region absorbed almost 75 percent of the state's population growth. Most of the rest occurred in Fort Wayne. This continues the 21st century trend where the Indianapolis metropolitan area absorbs more than 100 percent of new jobs and close to 80 percent of new people statewide. Few places outside the large metropolitan regions are growing.

As we dive down to municipal levels, the big growth as a percent of population comes in places within the Indy region. So, Ingalls (Madison County), Whitestown (Boone County), and Bargersville and Trafalgar (Johnson County) all grew at rates five times the nation as a whole, and closer to 15 times the state rate of growth. Larger communities typically grow more slowly, but that didn't stop Winfield, Pittsboro, New Palestine, Plainfield, Avon, McCordsville or Zionsville from fast growth.

A few places outside the Indi-

anapolis region grew quickly also. St. John (Lake County), Greenville (Floyd County), Utica (Clark County), and Huntingburg (Dubois County) saw robust population growth. I'm omitting lots of smaller communities, where a small annexation or a few families can have a solid growth effect. Hopefully these places will continue to attract people in the years ahead.

Almost one in three Hoosiers live in the communities that aren't growing. About 20 percent live in places that are growing faster than the national average, and the remaining half live in places that are in relative population decline. This reflects deeper, longer-term, structural problems in the state's economy that suppresses population growth. Those places with significant population loss should be familiar to everyone.

Muncie and East Central Indiana saw large declines that continue a half-century trend. Terre Haute and West Central Indiana likewise extended their long-term decline. Both Elkhart-Goshen and South Bend-Mishawaka metropolitan areas reversed several years of growth. These types of trend reversals are likely linked to the weakness of factory employment in the 18 months prior to the pandemic. The regions extending a half-century of decline remain decades away from reversing the trend.

These data are interesting and useful, but it is really critical to understand why economists view population growth is a measure of prosperity. There are three reasons that are related but worth considering separately.

The first of these is that people are the driving force of economic growth. As inputs to the production of goods, people matter far more than capital investment, tax rates, incentives or infrastructure. It is inevitable that local elected leaders get excited about a new

business bringing a large investment to a community. In reality, they should be far more excited about people.

The second reason is that most economic production, some 70 percent of household spending, is allocated to the purchase of services. Almost all services are produced and consumed locally. Since 1970, all the net job growth, actually more than 100 percent of it, has gone towards the production of services. That's more than 100 million jobs. The production of goods, which are consumed outside a local region, has declined by 8 million. One major engine of local economic growth is simply the consumption of local services.

I know it boggles the mind of many readers that consumers might drive local economies. Many of you have been told that making stuff locally and selling it elsewhere is the source of economic growth. You've been misled, and the best way to explain this is simply to note that the world economy has grown some six-fold over the last century. To the best of my understanding, we are conducting very little trade with Mars.

The final reason people matter is that population growth, particularly net in-migration is signal that the community is doing something right. The ability to attract people is the most important economic development metric. To be honest, whatever is in second place hardly matters. That's why the decennial census and the annual estimates of population growth are so decidedly important to economists who study and advise about economic growth.

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball Distinguished Professor of Economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University.

### Michael J. Hicks



# The Commercial Review

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



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

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## Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon-cutting event last week for Mustard Seed Remodeling. The business can be reached at mustardseedremodeling@gmail.com or (260) 251-5685.

## Wheat easing grain shortfall

By MEGAN DURISIN and KIM CHIPMAN  
Bloomberg

Farmers from Kansas to Kyiv are gearing up to collect abundant wheat crops in coming weeks, helping ease a global grain shortfall that's fueled a surge in prices.

Spring rains showered fields in the Black Sea region, U.S. Plains and European Union, bolstering prospects for the approaching winter-wheat harvest across major suppliers. The staple is the first major crop collected in the Northern Hemisphere, and hefty harvests will aid in replenishing grain silos drained by surging Chinese demand and poor weather last year.

The outlook for refreshed supplies is contributing to a cool-down in prices after a rally across agricultural markets propelled a gauge of global food costs to near a decade high. Still, weather issues linger in some growing areas and easing lockdowns are boosting grain demand, tempering the likely retreat.

"It should help some of the food inflation concerns — bread is such an important part of people's diets," said Jack Scoville, a vice president for Price Futures Group in Chicago. "There's enough of the growing season left that there still could be some issues."

Conditions for soft-wheat in France, the EU's top producer, are the best for this time since 2015 with a few weeks left in the growing season. A May crop tour in the U.S. bread-basket state of Kansas pointed to record yields, and a stretch of sunny, warm weather has set early harvests "off to a good start" following showers, according to Justin Gilpin, chief executive officer of the Kansas Wheat Commission.

Russian analysts have been ratcheting wheat estimates higher, and yields in Ukraine could climb near a record. Mykola Gorbachov, president of the Ukrainian Grain Association, likened the country's non-stop showers to a Scottish spring.

"Weather conditions are just perfect," he said at last week's International Grains Council conference. "All fields are green."

Prices are easing as harvests kick off, with most-active futures in Chicago shedding about 13% from an April peak.

# Ardagh announces investment

A manufacturer with local ties announced that it is investing in STEM education.

Ardagh Group, which operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester, announced Monday that it is providing a multi-year grant to Project Lead the Way for science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The funding is expected to benefit more than 500,000 students in the United States over the next decade. It will also be used for teacher training.

"Ardagh is a major employer in all of the communities in which we operate across the Americas and Europe," said Ardagh chairman and CEO Paul Coulson in a press release. "Social sustainability is at the core of our sustainability strategy. We recognize the critical role education, and access to education, plays in ensuring equal opportunities and in building successful, vibrant communities. We expect to invest \$50 million over 10 years to support education in our U.S. communities."

### Fair awarded

Jay County Fair Association was honored this week with the Governor's Century Business Award.

Gov. Eric Holcomb on Wednesday awarded 101 Indiana companies and organizations with century and half-century awards for their longevity of service. Jay County Fair Association has been in existence for 149 years.

More than 1,160 Indiana companies have been recognized during the award's 30-year history.

### Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon-cutting

## Business roundup

ceremony next week for Cryo Beauty & Wellness.

The ribbon-cutting is scheduled for noon Friday. The business operates at 406 W. Votaw St. inside the Clear Choice Chiropractic office.

### Office opens

Mercer Health has opened a new primary care office in Celina, Ohio.

Mercer Health Medical Group has a new office at 329 E. Market St. in the south end of the building that also houses Dr. Neal Holleran's office. Nurse practitioner Ben Werling will see both pediatric and adult patients in the office.

The new location can be reached at (567) 890-7124. For more information visit mercerhealth.com.

### Job fair set

Muncie Mall will host a job fair next week.

Delaware County Job & Resource Fair, hosted by Eastern Indiana Works and the City of Muncie, will be held at the mall, 3501 N. Granville Ave., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday and 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday. It will include employers from a wide range of fields in both the public and private sectors.

"This job fair is aimed to connect Muncie's talented workers with employers looking to hire, this is a critical part of our partners' efforts to strengthen our economy and support the local workforce, including our retail-

ers here at Muncie Mall now that we have extended mall hours," said Muncie Mall general manager Chataun Porch.

### Adams honored

Adams Memorial Hospital was recently awarded the American Diabetes Association Education Recognition Certificate.

The honor goes to organizations that provide educational services for diabetes self-management and support that meet the National Standards for Diabetes Self-Management Education and Support.

### Airport adding

Indianapolis International Airport recently announced it will be offering a new non-stop flight.

Through American Airlines, travelers will be able to fly non-stop from Indianapolis to Austin, Texas, beginning Sept. 8. Flights will increase to twice daily beginning Aug. 2.

"This is a triple win for Hoosier travelers," said Mario Rodriguez, executive director of the Indianapolis Airport Authority. "We're getting another new nonstop, and to the great city of Austin, Texas, where food and music culture thrive, and American will leverage Indy headquartered Republic Airways' operations and E-175 aircraft."

The airport had previously announced 16 new non-stop flights to begin between May and September, including to Los Angeles, Boston and Orlando.

### Chief named

Indiana University announced this week that Dr. Aaron Carroll has been named as its inaugural chief health officer.

Carroll has served as a distinguished professor of pediatrics and associate dean for research mentoring at the IU School of Medicine. He was also one of the leaders of the university's COVID-19 Medical Response Team.

He will be responsible for leading and coordinating IU's response to major health issues.

"Over the last year of our intensive and all-consuming efforts to keep Indiana University safe from the pandemic ... the need for a more systematic university-wide approach to future public health crises and to ongoing medical and other public health issues has become clear," IU president Michael A. McRobbie said in a press release.

### Walmart invests

In a press release Thursday, Walmart announced that it is making an investment in DroneUp to continue working toward developing a "scalable last-mile delivery solution."

Walmart last year partnered with DroneUp to launch trial deliveries of at-home COVID-19 testing kits via drone. DroneUp operates a drone delivery network.

### NextEra to meet

NextEra Energy and NextEra Energy Partners announced a series of meetings Tuesday.

Members of the senior management team of NextEra, which owns and operates Bluff Point Wind Energy Center in Jay and Randolph counties, are participating in a variety of investor meetings this month. They plan to discuss issues including long-term growth rate expectations.

A copy of the presentation materials is available at NextEraEnergy.com/investors.

# Poultry prices soaring

By MICHAEL HIRTZER and DOMINIC CAREY  
Bloomberg

Chicken-sandwich fever means poultry is pacing U.S. food inflation in the meat case.

U.S. producer prices for processed poultry jumped to an all-time high in May, climbing 2.1% in the eighth straight monthly increase, U.S. government data showed Tuesday. Gains in poultry outpaced the 0.8% increase in the broader producer price index.

The surge comes after

several large fast-food restaurant chains recently launched fried-chicken sandwiches in a bid to match Popeyes' 2019 viral success. Sales have also surged with consumers preparing more meals at home during the pandemic. Meanwhile, poultry producers have struggled to keep up with the growing demand, with labor shortages at meat plants and severe winter storms that killed thousands of birds constricting chicken supplies.

McDonald's, KFC and Burger King have all recently introduced new chicken sandwiches. At U.S. restaurants, orders for chicken entrees were up 4% for the year ending in April 2021, according to market researcher NPD Group.

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6-19 CRYPTOQUIP

VOZGZ VAXQR WAX PDW TP NOZ ZJDFN FZSNZG AB D SZNVAGI AB DGNZGTZP? RZZC

TS NOZ OZDGN AB CQZJXP. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: YOU KNOW WHAT I CALL PATTIES PRODUCED WITH MEAT SUBSTITUTES LIKE SOY OR LENTILS? SHAM-BURGERS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals X

Trivial Review (Answers are printed below, upside down.) A day for dads 1) What president signed legislation to make Father's Day a national holiday in the U.S.? 2) What is considered the official flower of Father's Day? 1) Richard Nixon 2) The rose

6-21 CRYPTOQUIP

ZLSS - QB - BLEY VYPPUN HZLEWUQP TZQ WSLKN VZY EQJVZ QORLP NJOWOUNUPRSK

TYSS: ZLOEQPUHL NYSYN. Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHERE WOULD YOU SAY IS THE EXACT CENTER OF A NETWORK OF ARTERIES? DEEP IN THE HEART OF PLEXUS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals T

CRYPTO FUN Determine the code to reveal the answer! Solve the code to discover words related to dairy. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = E) A. 19 15 22 12 Clue: Does a body good B. 2 23 3 3 16 3 Clue: Hard or soft dairy item C. 6 14 4 10 5 21 Clue: Breakfast food D. 2 5 3 18 19 Clue: Dessert topping

WORD SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to diet. YDRIA Answer: Dairy

Guess Who? I am an athlete born in California on June 17, 1980. My parents moved my family out of Compton so we could train with the best coaches. I was the first black woman to become World No. 1, and I've won many tennis championships in my career. Answer: Venus Williams

kids' corner

HEALTH FACT: THIS POPULAR ITEM CAN BURN AT UP TO 1,800 F. WHILE THEY'RE OFTEN HANDED TO KIDS, THESE NOVELTIES MUST ONLY BE USED SAFELY. ANSWER: SPARKLER

How they SAY that in... ENGLISH: Burn SPANISH: Quemar ITALIAN: Bruciare FRENCH: Brûler GERMAN: Etwas verbrennen

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS 1. Animal face shown with no neck 4. Former U.S. president 5. Opposite of up 6. People who work DOWN 1. Very vibrant in restaurant 2. Buffet station 3. Absence of light

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY JUN 13 1774: RHODE ISLAND BECOMES THE FIRST OF BRITAIN'S NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES TO BAN THE IMPORTATION OF SLAVES. 1967: THURGOOD MARSHALL IS NOMINATED TO BECOME THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN ON THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. 1983: THE U.S. SPACE PROBE PIONEER 10 IS LAUNCHED.

New word CAUTION care taken to avoid danger

DAIRY ITEMS WORD SEARCH

Word search grid containing letters for dairy items.

WORDS

- AYRAN BUTTER BUTTERMILK CAMELS CHEESE CLOTTED CREAM COTTAGE COW CULTURE FACTORY FERMENT GHEE GOATS KEFIR MILK PRODUCTS QUARK SHEEP SKYR SOUR SPREADABLE VILLI WATER BUFFALOES YOGURT

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Coin toss 5 Hotel chain 9 Poke 12 Verdi heroine 13 Pencil filler 14 Bobby of hockey 15 Recognized amounts 17 Crucial 18 "Manhattan Beach" author Jennifer 19 - cone 20 Low-fat 21 Large snake 23 Win - nose 25 Place in trust 28 "Who cares?" 32 Rice, on a Spanish menu 33 Door handles 34 Fleeced 36 Unjust verdict

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-56.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Declarer makes a key play. North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: A Q 7 6, A K 3, A J 2, J 10 5. WEST: 9 2, J 8 6 5, K 10 7 6 4, K 8. EAST: 5 4, 10 7 2, Q 8, A Q 7 6 3 2. SOUTH: K J 10 8 3, Q 9 4, 9 5 3, 9 4. The bidding: North 1 Pass, East 1 Pass, South 1 Pass, West 4 Pass. Opening lead - five of hearts. Some players develop a reputation for always choosing the most straightforward line of play, while others become known for adopting the most imaginative approach, regardless of the circumstances. Of course, neither of these types is likely to experience great success over the long haul since the play of every hand should be considered with a completely open mind. The proper line of play should be selected by taking all factors into account in order to determine which approach offers the greatest chance of success. Take this case where South started with four apparent losers in four spades. Since two clubs had to be lost, declarer needed to find a way to avoid losing two diamond tricks. The most obvious possibility was to lead a diamond to the jack at some point, hoping West had started with the K-Q. But before committing himself in the diamond suit, declarer decided to find out as much as he could about the opposing hands. So, after taking the heart lead with the ace, he drew trump and cashed the Q-K of hearts before leading a club to the nine. West won with the king and returned a club to East's queen, and South ruffed the ace-of-clubs continuation as West discarded a diamond. By now, declarer knew East had started with six clubs, two spades and at least three hearts. He therefore could not hold more than two diamonds. The key question was whether East had a diamond honor. South reasoned that if West held the K-Q of diamonds, he might well have led the king initially. On this basis declarer led a low diamond toward dummy, but after West followed low, he put up the ace and returned the deuce. East won with the queen - West could not afford to overtake without establishing dummy's jack - and East's forced club return yielded a ruff-and-discard that gave declarer the contract. <2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

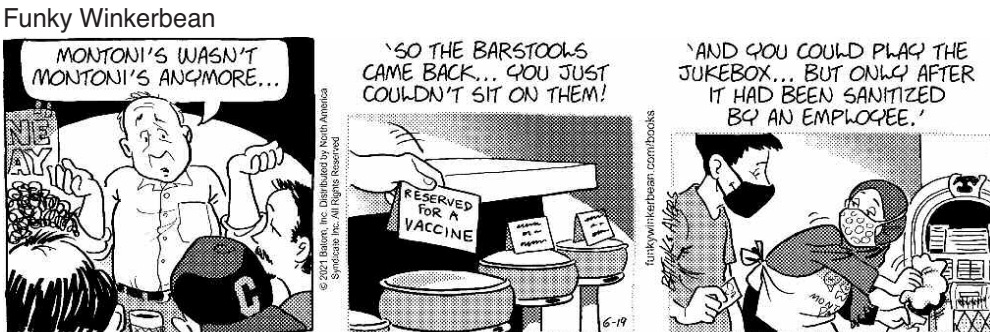
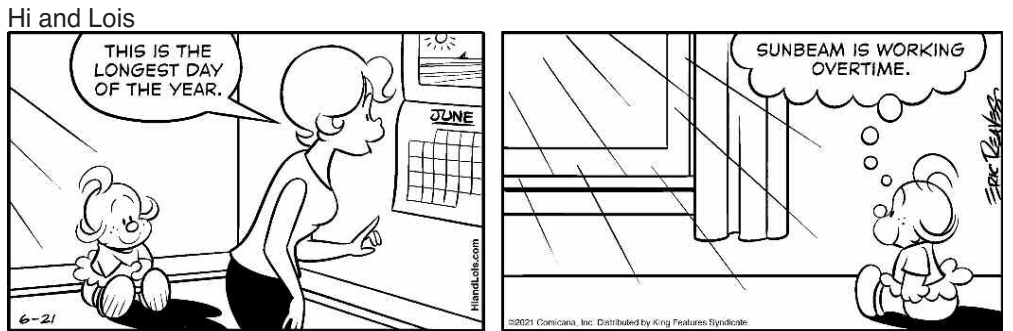
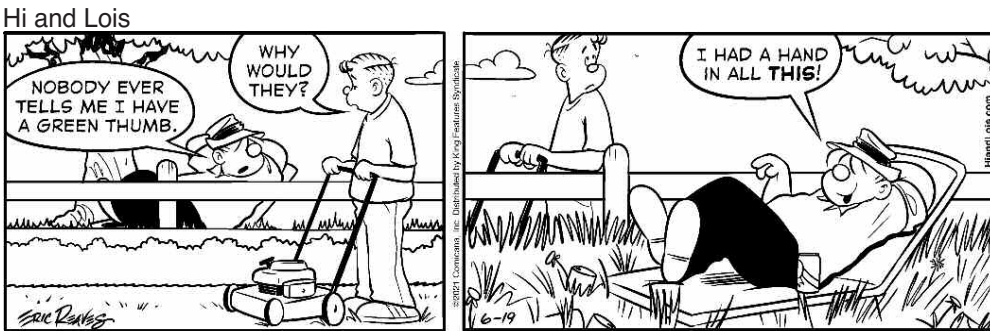
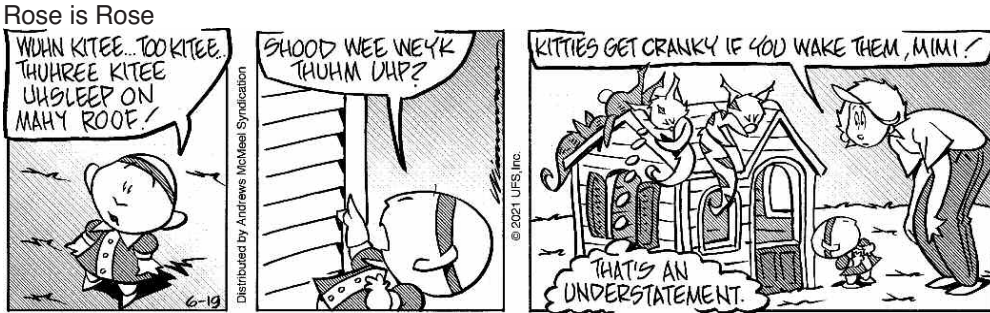
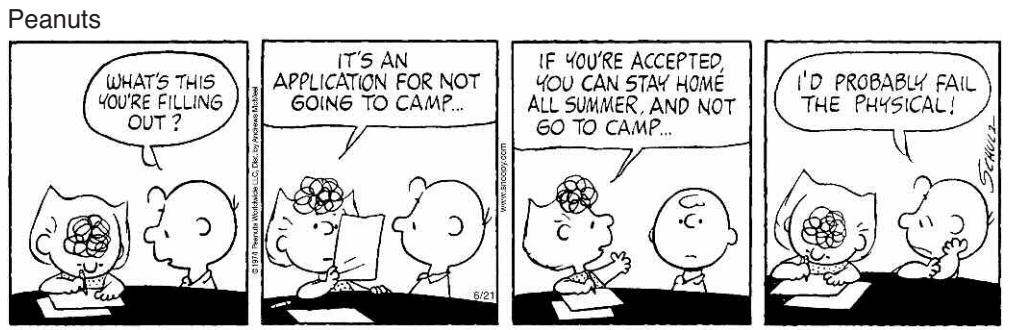
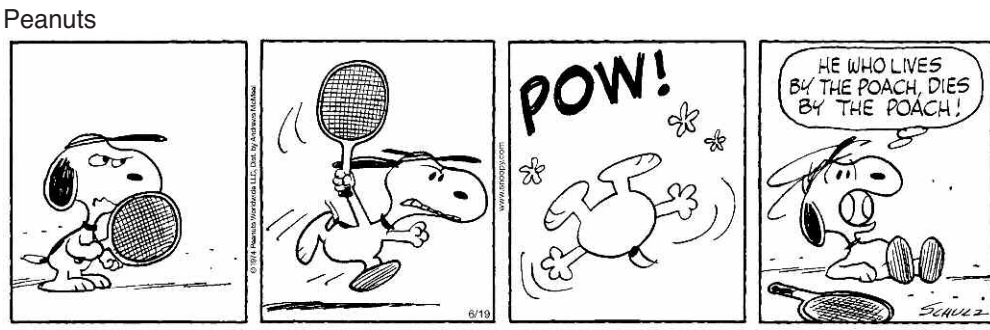
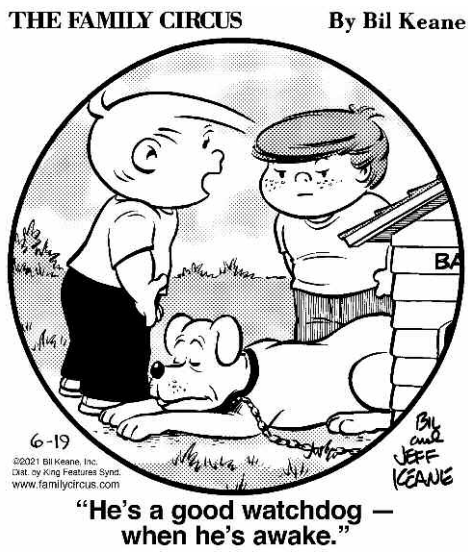
Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand. South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: K Q J 8, 10 5 4 3, Q 6, Q 9 4. WEST: 10 6 5 2, J 9, 8 3, 7 6 5 3 2. EAST: A 9 7, K 6, J 10 7 5 4 2, 10 8. SOUTH: 4 3, A Q 8 7 2, A K 9, A K J. The bidding: South 2 Pass, West 2 Pass, North 3 Pass, East 4 Pass, South 4 NT Pass, West 5 Pass, East 5 Pass. Opening lead - nine of hearts. This deal occurred in a match between Austria and Italy at the world championship held in Monte Carlo in 1976. It was played at 44 tables, and 23 times South got to six hearts, a dreadful contract that had about a 20 percent chance of making. However, thanks to a fortunate lie of the opposing trumps, the slam was successfully negotiated by 22 of the 23 declarers. The opening lead was usually a diamond, a club or a spade. Against any of these leads, declarer's only real chance was to take a first-round trump finesse - leading low to the queen - and next play the ace, hoping to find East with precisely the doubleton king. The 22 lucky declarers found this to be the actual case and, as a result, scored 1,430 points. The Austrian declarer was the only one who failed to make the slam. At his table, Italian star Benito Garozzo chose the diabolical opening lead of the nine of trump! Declarer, in an effort to guard against the possibility that East might have the K-J-6 of trump, covered the nine with the ten and won East's king with the ace. Declarer then led a diamond to the queen, returned a trump and, when East produced the six, found himself faced with a harrowing guess. He had to decide whether Garozzo's opening lead of the trump nine was from the J-9, which would be an unusual lead against a slam, or whether Garozzo's lead of the trump nine was a singleton, also an unusual lead against a slam. With nothing to go on, the Austrian declarer elected to finesse the eight and so went down one. Ironically, the slam was easy to make without a trump lead, but once the trump was led, declarer had a chance to go wrong - and did. Tomorrow: Strike while the iron is hot. <2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Spumante source 5 "O Sole -" 8 Throat clearer 12 Uses as a platform 14 Lap dog, for short 15 Sweet white wine 16 Raw materials 17 Knock 18 Asian temple 20 Bar twist 23 Drill 24 Stew veggies 25 Cup holders 28 Devious 29 Lake flock 30 - Lingua 32 Fried quickly 34 Monster 35 First-place medal 36 Shoe blemish 37 Write illegibly 40 Droid 41 Panache 42 Wursts 47 Kite flier's need 48 Comes apart 49 Part of N.B. 50 Zing 51 "Legally Blonde" role 4 Pre-ambles 5 Car sticker no. 6 Charged bit 7 Candy box 8 Orbit point 9 Protagonist 10 Scratched (out) 11 Small plateau 13 Campus VIP 19 Story lines 20 Vinyl records 21 Morays 22 Poet Angelou 23 Sounded sheepish? 25 Distends 26 Pasta sauce brand 27 Lowly worker 29 Pack cargo 31 Ump 33 Kam-pala's land 34 Do to do 36 Slugger Sammy 37 Darned 38 Advertising award 39 Harangue 40 Baby-feeding finale 43 Chemical suffix 44 Solidify 45 Right angle 46 Away from NNW

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-56.



**We Deliver**

*Laughter*

**The Commercial Review We Deliver**

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.





# Curry keeps 76ers alive

By CHARLES ODUM  
AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA — Seth Curry hit six 3-pointers and scored 24 points and the top-seeded Philadelphia 76ers avoided elimination in the Eastern Conference semifinal series by beating the Atlanta Hawks 104-99 in Game 6 on Friday night.

The 76ers overcame Trae Young's 34-point effort to force Game 7 on Sunday night in Philadelphia.

Tobias Harris also had 24 points, making four free throws in the final 13 seconds to protect the lead. Joel Embiid added 22 points and 13 rebounds.

Young's long 3, just before the shot clock expired, cut Philadelphia's lead to 94-93. Embiid answered with a basket. Free throws by Embiid and Tyrese Maxey, who scored 16 points off the bench, pushed the advantage to 98-93.

Danilo Gallinari's jam with 20 seconds remaining cut the lead to three points.

After rallying from deficits of 18 and 26 points in their last two wins, the Hawks finally started strong. Atlanta led by 12 points in the first period, and never trailed in the first half.

Atlanta led 51-47 at half-time. The 76ers opened the second half with a flurry of four 3s, including three by Curry, for a 12-0 run to open the second half that gave Philadelphia a 59-51 lead. The 76ers led by 11 at 68-57, following a jumper by Embiid.

Atlanta cut the lead to 80-76 entering the final period.

With Atlanta leading 92-84 with 4:03 remaining, Embiid was called for an offensive foul when guarded by John Collins. Embiid fell on top of Collins on the court and Collins then shoved the 76ers center before both rose to their feet. Embiid had his arms stretched out wide with Collins' hands around his neck as both walked off the court under the basket.

Officials reviewed the altercation and called technical fouls on each player with no free throws rewarded.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## To the plate

Madison Reier tosses a pitch for Masonic Lodge on Thursday night during the team's 8-6 loss to All Circuit Electrical in Portland Junior League Major softball at Weiler-Wilson Park.

## Rockets roll in return home

Being back at home proved helpful for the Rockets.

With a pair of home runs in the mix, the Portland Rockets cruised to a 10-4 victory Thursday night over the visiting Muncie Chiefs. The win put a halt to a three-game skid.

Zach Tanner and Pete Smith each hit home runs for Portland, which had closed last weekend with three consecutive defeats

including a doubleheader Sunday in Fort Wayne. Smith had three hits in all as nine Rockets teamed up on the 12-hit effort.

The result was never in doubt, as Portland scored once in the second inning and three times in the third to kick off their big offensive night.

Jared Holley tossed three solid innings to help the Rockets (4-10) to the win. He also had two hits.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Fort Recovery Eels at Darke County Invitational - 9 a.m.  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at Dayton Dragons - 7:05 p.m.

**Sunday**  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at Dayton Dragons - 2:05 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County Summer Swim at Union City - 6 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County Summer Swim vs. Wells Community - 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery Eels at St. Henry - 6:30 p.m.  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at South Bend Cubs - 7:05 p.m.

**Wednesday**  
Fort Wayne TinCaps at South Bend Cubs - 7:05 p.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
5:55 a.m. — Formula 1 Auto Racing: French Grand Prix practice (ESPN2)  
8:30 a.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Hungary vs. France (ESPN)  
9 a.m. — Horse Racing: Royal Ascot (NBC)  
11 a.m. — Golf: U.S. Open - Third round (NBC)  
11:30 a.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Portugal vs. Germany (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — NCAA Softball Tournament: Florida State vs. Oklahoma (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Chicago Sky vs. Connecticut Sun (CBS)  
1 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Oakland Athletics vs. New York Yankees (ESPN)  
2:30 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Spain vs. Poland (ABC)  
4 p.m. — National Women's Soccer League: North Carolina Courage vs. Seattle Reign (CBS)  
6 p.m. — Major League Baseball: New York Mets at Washington Nationals (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — Mixed Martial Arts: UFC Fight Night (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — Auto racing: Camping World SRX Series (CBS)

8 p.m. — NHL Hockey: New York Islanders vs. Tampa Bay Lightning (USA)  
10 p.m. — Boxing: Naoya Inoue vs. Michael Dasmarinas (ESPN)

**Sunday**  
7:30 a.m. — Auto racing: formula One Grand Prix (ESPN)  
11:30 a.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Italy vs. Wales (ESPN2); Switzerland vs. Turkey (ESPN)  
Noon — Golf: U.S. Open - Final round (NBC)  
1 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Oakland Athletics vs. New York Yankees (TBS)  
2 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Atlanta United vs. Philadelphia Union (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — LPGA Tour Golf: Meijer LPGA Classic - Final round (CBS)  
3:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Utah Jazz (ABC)  
3:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Monster Energy Cup Series at Nashville Superspeedway (NBCSN)  
4 p.m. — United Soccer League: Sporting Kansas City vs. Indy Eleven (CBS)  
4 p.m. — WNBA Basketball: Los Angeles Sparks vs. New York Liberty (ESPN)  
5 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Venezuela vs. Ecuador (FOX)  
5 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals vs. Atlanta Braves (ESPN,ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Colombia vs. Peru (FS1)

**Monday**  
11:30 a.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Macedonia vs. Netherlands (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — NCAA Baseball: College World Series (ESPN)  
2:30 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Finland vs. Belgium (ESPN2); Russia vs. Denmark (ESPN)  
5 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Uruguay vs. Chile (FS1)  
5 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta Brave vs. New York Mets (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Argentina vs. Paraguay (FS1)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Conference Finals (TNT)  
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers vs. San Diego Padres (ESPN)

**Tuesday**  
2:30 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Czech Republic vs. England (ESPN)  
3 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Croatia vs. Scotland (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — NBA Playoffs (ESPN)

**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Slovakia vs. Spain (ESPN)  
Noon — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Sweden vs. Poland (ESPN2)  
2:30 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Euro 2020 - Germany vs. Hungary (ESPN2)  
5 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Ecuador vs. Peru (FS1)  
8 p.m. — Soccer: Copa America - Brazil vs. Colombia (FS1)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Conference Finals (TNT)  
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers vs. San Diego Padres (ESPN)

**Local notes**  
**Outing is July 23**  
The Jay County Chamber Classic Golf Outing will be July 23 at Portland Golf Club.  
Cost is \$250 per four-person team, and they must be members of the Jay County Chamber of Commerce. Lunch will be provided.  
Registration begins at 9 a.m. with a 10 a.m. shotgun start.  
Deadline to register is July 12, and sponsorship opportunities are available.  
For more information, call the chamber office at (260) 726-4481.

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.....  
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## Playoff ...

Continued from page 10  
Last week, the CFP unveiled a plan to expand from four to 12 teams. Six spots would be reserved for the highest-ranked conference champions, but no league would automatically qualify. The other six teams would be chosen at-large from the selection committee's rankings. The plan calls for first-round games on campuses and quarterfinal and semifinal games played in bowls.

The detailed proposal was developed over two years by four members of the CFP management committee: Bowsby, Southeastern Conference Commissioner Greg Sankey, Notre Dame athletic director Jack Swarbrick and Mountain West Commissioner Craig Thompson.

"You can imagine how many pages of notes I have on two years of work. And that's what we're trying to bring everybody else up to speed with," Bowsby said.

This week's meeting was the first chance for the

entire 11-person management committee to discuss the proposal in person. The other members include the commissioners of the Big Ten, Pac-12, Atlantic Coast Conference, American Athletic Conference, Conference USA, Sun Belt and Mid-American Conference.

"Four of us were at one place. Now I think we have 11 of us at that place," Bowsby said. "Now, we move to talk to the presidents and see if we can get them at that place."

Incoming Pac-12 Commissioner George Kliavkoff, who represents the only Power Five conference to publicly support playoff expansion, left his first CFP meeting encouraged.

"The good news is everyone who's on this conference committee supports expansion. So we're aligned on that," said Kliavkoff, who attended the meeting along with outgoing Pac-12 Commissioner Larry Scott.

## Kaulig ...

Continued from page 10  
Without team owners like the Wood Brothers, Richard Petty, Rick Hendrick, Chip Ganassi, Joe Gibbs and Barney Visser, for whom we all have the highest respect, the charter system would not be the valuable and sustainable business model it has evolved into.

Spire said it would continue to field the No. 7 next season with Corey LaJoie as a chartered entry.

"We remain committed to NASCAR and the Cup Series and we will continue to look for opportunities to grow and compete in the future," Spire said.

Haley has driven Cup races for Spire and gave the team its only victory in a rain-shortened July race at Daytona in 2019. But he's

full-time Xfinity for Kaulig and the team's longest-running full-time driver.

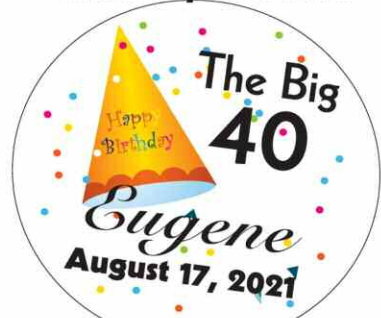
Allmendinger was lured out of semi-retirement by Kaulig and team president Chris Rice, who persuaded Allmendinger to help them grow the organization that first entered NASCAR in 2014 when Matt Kaulig put his company, LeafFilter Gutter Protection, on a Cup car as the primary partner.

Kaulig had his own team by 2016 and has been pushing toward a move to Cup since.

Haley and Allmendinger each joined the team in 2019. Allmendinger has five wins, 16 top fives and 19 top-10 finishes and won at Kaulig's home track of Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course earlier this month.

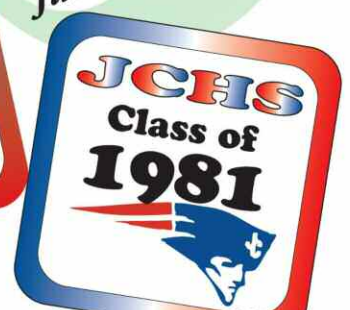
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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Byrum breaststroke

Brooklynn Byrum moves through the water on the breaststroke leg of the 11-12-year-old girls medley relay Thursday for the Jay County Summer Swim Team during its victory over Blackford.

## Kaulig to join Cup Series

By JENNA FRYER  
AP Auto Racing Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Kaulig Racing has purchased two charters from Spire Motorsports and will move to NASCAR's Cup Series next year with a full-time ride for Justin Haley and select races for AJ Allmendinger.

Team owner Matt Kaulig had been eyeing a move up to Cup and made it official Friday while announcing multi-year contract extensions with both drivers. Haley will run a full Cup schedule while Allmendinger will run select races and also compete in the Xfinity Series.

"Not only are we planning on making a splash in the NASCAR Cup Series, we plan on continuing to trophy hunt in the Xfinity Series," Kaulig said. "AJ has been a phenomenal addition to this Kaulig Racing family and we are glad to have him back with us moving forward."

Spire confirmed after the Kaulig announcement it is selling two of its three charters to Kaulig.

"Matt Kaulig will bring new ownership and new enthusiasm to the NASCAR Cup Series garage," Spire said in a statement. "NASCAR has created a valuable charter model and we're grateful to the sanctioning body and all the owners who have come before us."

See **Kaulig** page 9

## Playoff expansion moves forward

By RALPH D. RUSSO  
AP College Football Writer

ROSEMONT, Ill. — College Football Playoff expansion took another step forward Friday as the full group of commissioners who manage the postseason system wrapped up two days of digging into a plan for a 12-team format that would revamp the national championship.

The first debate about what the final version of a new playoff will look like has emerged:

The Pac-12 is pushing for each Power Five conference to receive an automatic berth.

Expect a lot more negotiating to come.

"This is the beginning of a long, ongoing process," Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby said as he departed Big Ten headquarters in suburban Chicago. "It's going to be months before we come to any closure on any of this."

There is no announced time-

line and the earliest expansion would be possible is 2023 if there are no big snags. Change could be as far out as the 2026 season after the current media rights contract with ESPN expires. The proposal put forth by a subcommittee that included Bowlsby does not address when a new format could be implemented.

"The working group intentionally did not get into it. They wanted to put a proposal in front of the management committee

that the committee could consider without having the shackles of trying to figure out when to implement it," CFP Executive Director Bill Hancock said. "The group this week didn't get into implementation time in a significant way. That will come later."

"The first step is determining whether this new format is feasible or something the people on campus want to do," Hancock said.

See **Playoff** page 9

### 33rd Annual Maria Stein Country Fest

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mscountryfest.com

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**BBM**  
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**TRACTOR SQUARE DANCING**  
Friday 10:30  
Saturday 2:30 & 10:00  
Sunday 3:30 & 10:00

For more Information about the Maria Stein Country Fest  
Website: [mscountryfest.com](http://mscountryfest.com)

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