

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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Rokita asks courts to take action

Indiana AG requests that abortion law injunctions be lifted

By **LIBBY CUNNINGHAM**
The Evening News and the Tribune (Jeffersonville) Tribune News Service

SOUTHERN INDIANA — Although abortion is still legal in Indiana, state leaders are signaling that will change after next week's planned special legislative session in Indianapolis.

Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita asked state courts Monday to lift injunctions on several proposed Indiana abortion laws:

- One of the laws, rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2019, would prohibit abortions based on gender, race or disability.

- Another law would ban an abortion procedure referred to in the law as a "dismemberment abortion."

- A third law would require the parents of a pregnant minor to be notified when a court approves an abortion for a minor without parental consent.

"Indiana has a long history of defending life," a statement from Rokita said. "And the Supreme Court has recognized these contributions. Indeed, the Dobbs decision expressly cited multiple Indiana cases — such as our battles to outlaw discriminatory abortion and require respectful disposition of the bodies of aborted babies."

Rokita has already obtained a court-filed stipulation stopping expansion plans by abortion providers in South Bend and Evansville.

See **Courts** page 5

Growing stronger



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Portland Mayor John Boggs delivers his State of the City address Tuesday afternoon at an event hosted by Jay County Chamber of Commerce at Portland Lions Club Civic Center. Boggs focused his speech on attracting new businesses, mitigating flooding in the downtown area and improving services for the city's residents.

Boggs touts new businesses, flood mitigation, improved services during State of the City address

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

The city is working to become even stronger for its residents and its businesses.

That was the message from Portland Mayor John Boggs as he discussed spurring business growth, mitigating flooding and improving city services during his State of the City address hosted by Jay County Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday at Portland Lions Club Civic Center.

"The state of our city is strong," he said. "It's proven that it's sturdy. It's proven itself to be durable and resilient through the tough times such as the COVID pandemic. ...

"Together we're going to continue to accomplish remarkable things. We will continue to improve our city's core services. We will continue to grow our economy and be business-friendly. We will continue to improve our quality of life. And we will continue to include everyone in our city's story."

On the new business front, Boggs touted those that have opened in the city in the last few years, including Bizzy Dips Bakery and Coffee Shop, Tutti Fruitti ice cream shop and Yergy's State Road BBQ. He also pointed toward those that are planned to open, such as Tractor Supply Company, Wendy's and Scooter's Coffee.

He noted the various businesses downtown, from boutiques to barber shops and LeeAnn Miller's Reclaiming Design, which is in the process of renovating a storefront on Meridian Street.

"There is tons of space available and we have lots of people inquiring about opening more and more businesses," said Boggs. "We're real positive about what's been happening the last couple of years."

See **Growing** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Pageant dance

Ashlynn May dances Sunday during the Miss Jay County Fair Queen pageant Sunday at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. May, the first runner-up, and other contestants moved along to popular songs from past years of Jay County Fair.

Aide: Trump knew Capitol was target

Testimony says former president attacked Secret Service agent

By **SARAH D. WIRE**

Los Angeles Times Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — Former President Donald Trump and his chief of staff, Mark Meadows, were aware the Capitol was a target of violence and that Trump supporters were armed with weapons when the president urged them to march to the building on Jan. 6, 2021, a former aide testified in a bombshell hearing Tuesday that also revealed Trump repeatedly

pushed to pardon those involved in the attack.

In a hearing abruptly called by the House panel investigating the Capitol insurrection, Meadows' former aide Cassidy Hutchinson gave a detailed accounting that the Secret Service informed Meadows in advance that violence was possible Jan. 6, and that Trump expected to lead the crowd to the Capitol to pressure lawmakers to keep him in office — an act the White House counsel warned could be a crime.

Hutchinson also said that Trump's aides pressured him into giving a speech the next day with threats that he could be removed from office under the 25th Amendment.

In addition, the committee suggested Tuesday that it has evidence Trump's supporters are attempting to tamper with witness testimony to the panel.

See **Aide** page 5

Deaths

Melvin Smitley, 74, rural Portland
Kenneth Roser, 48, Portland
Thomas Johnson, 85, Redkey
Ruby Nifong, 68, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 82 degrees Tuesday. The low was 52.
Tonight's low will be 63. Expect sunny and hot conditions Thursday with a high of 91.
There is a chance of rain Friday and Saturday.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Thursday is the deadline for Indiana seventh and eighth graders to enroll in the 21st Century Scholars program. It provides up to four years of undergraduate tuition and fees for students who meet income and achievement requirements. For more information, visit learnmoreindiana.org.

Coming up

Thursday — Photos from Wednesday's Portland Junior League games.

Saturday — Former band directors will lead 4th of July Parade.



Felony arrests

Obstruction

A Portland man was arrested Monday for obstruction of justice.

Bradley R. Ridenour, 45, 227

W. McNeil St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

He was released on a \$3,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Drug possession

Three Richmond residents were arrested Tuesday for drug possession.

Justin L. Lynch, 34, 334 S. West

3rd St., Amanda J. Reed, 31, 316 S. 7th St., and Dustin D. Smith, 27, 223 1/2 South 12th St., were each preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of

cocaine or a narcotic drug and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. Lynch, Reed and Smith are being held on \$4,000 bonds in Jay County Jail.

CR almanac

Thursday 6/30	Friday 7/1	Saturday 7/2	Sunday 7/3	Monday 7/4
91/69	92/67	86/65	87/68	89/68
Sunny skies are in the horizon for Thursdays, with a high expected in the low 90s.	There's a 30% chance of rain and thunderstorms in the afternoon. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Another small chance of afternoon rain Saturday. Partly sunny skies with a high near 86.	Sunday looks to be sunny, with skies staying mostly clear at night. High of 87.	Mostly sunny skies with a chance of rain. The high should reach the upper 80s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$365 million	Quick Draw: 15-16-22-24-25-27-34-40-47-52-53-54-56-61-62-71-72-77-78-79 Cash 5: 10-16-23-32-36 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Mega Millions 7-12-21-43-55 Mega Ball: 11 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$360 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 2-4-1 Pick 4: 5-6-2-2 Pick 5: 9-1-4-7-9 Evening Pick 3: 1-9-7 Pick 4: 7-3-0-2 Pick 5: 2-6-9-0-6 Rolling Cash: 7-16-21-29-33 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 9-2-9 Daily Four: 7-7-7-7 Quick Draw: 10-14-16-22-27-39-41-45-46-48-53-60-61-62-66-68-74-76-78-80 Evening Daily Three: 8-5-7 Daily Four: 2-5-9-5	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....7.40 July corn.....7.40 Wheat8.64	Wheat 9.02 July wheat9.02
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....7.50 July corn.....7.50 Aug. corn7.60	Central States Montpelier Corn.....7.39 July corn.....7.39 Beans16.55 July beans16.50 Wheat9.00
The Andersons Richland Township Corn7.40 July corn.....7.40 Beans16.55 July beans16.55	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....7.04 July corn.....7.04 Beans16.20 July beans16.20 Wheat8.88

Today in history

In 1613, the Globe Theatre in London was destroyed by a fire caused by the firing of a canon as part of a performance of William Shakespeare's Henry VIII.

In 1767, the British Parliament passed the Townshend Revenue Act, which imposed an import tax on tea and other goods on its American colonies.

In 1927, American aviators Lester Maitland and Albert Hegenberger finished the first trans-Pacific flight. They took off from Oakland Municipal Airport and landed in Oahu, Hawaii, nearly 26 hours later.

In 1945, Chandrika, Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, president of Sri Lanka, was born. He was the first woman to serve as the country's president, holding the office from 1994 to 2005.

In 1951, the United States invited the Soviet Union to the Korean peace talks on a ship in Wonsan Harbor.

In 1964, the Civil Rights Act passed the U.S. Senate after an 83-day filibuster.

In 1972, Indiana State Board of Tax Commis-

sioners held a public hearing regarding Jay School Corporation's planned building project. The proposed construction included a new countywide high school (now Jay County Junior-Senior High School), a new elementary school, an addition to Westlawn Elementary School in Dunkirk and an addition to Pennville Elementary School.

In 1995, the space shuttle Atlantis docked with the Russian space station Mir. The result was the largest man-made satellite of Earth in history.

In 2007, Apple's first "smartphone," the iPhone, went on sale.

In 2009, a court sentenced former hedge-fund investment manager Bernie Madoff to up to 150 years in prison for operating the largest Ponzi scheme in history.

In 2020, Tony Stahl was named the new principal of Fort Recovery High School. He had served as middle school principal since 2016. He was chosen to replace Bill Overla, who resigned to become principal at Graham High School in rural New Paris, Ohio.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 2 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.,	Fort Recovery, Ohio.
Friday 10 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	

Obituaries

Melvin Smitley

Aug. 30, 1947-June 27, 2022
Melvin Smitley, age 74, of rural Portland passed away on Monday, June 27, 2022, in Persimmon Ridge Healthcare.

He was born in Portland on Aug. 30, 1947, the son of Grant and Martha (Wiley) Smitley. He was married on Aug. 1, 1974, to Vicki Hilton who survives.

Mel was owner and operator of Smitley's Auctioneering and Real Estate.

He was a 1965 Portland High School graduate, attended Indiana Central University, where he played baseball and football, and attended Ball State University. He was a member of Portland Evening Optimists, served as Jay County treasurer, was active in 4-H and in Portland Little League, and played baseball on the Portland Rockets.

He was a sports fanatic, being a Cincinnati Reds fan, and he was an animal lover.

Surviving are his wife Vicki, two sons, Ryan Smitley (wife: Jennifer) of Portland and Rob Green of Geneva; one daughter, Laci Smitley of Portland; four grandchildren, Bailee Johnson (husband: Blake), Brad Green, Spencer Smitley and Sawyer Smitley; and one great-grandson Ryder Johnson.

He was preceded in death by a brother Jerry Smitley.

Funeral services will be Friday, July 1, 2022, at 11 a.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Hugh Kelly presiding. Burial will follow in the IOOF Cemetery in Pennville. Visitation will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Pet Refuge, Jay County Humane Society or 4-H.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Kenneth Roser

Feb. 6, 1974-June 28, 2022
Kenneth Rick Roser, age 48, a resident of Portland, passed away on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Capsule Reports

Motorcycle accident

A Portland man and Portland teen were taken to the hospital after a crash on 7th Street in Portland about 2:54 p.m. Monday.

Alex L. Stout, 24, was driving west on the road when 15-year-old Mariah Moore, who was riding a bicycle, pulled in front of the 1993 Harley motorcycle he was driving, according to a Portland Police Department report. Moore had been riding south on a sidewalk before going in front of Stout, the report says.

Stout had a deep cut on his face, and Moore sustained injuries to her right knee and pelvis. The motorcycle was towed,

with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Trailer tipped

The semi an Ohio man was driving tipped over and landed on a fence along county road 200 North about 2:15 p.m. Friday.

Zachary W. Simm, 24, Haviland, was driving west on the road and tried to pull over to the side to allow an oncoming vehicle to pass, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. The wheels on the trailer he was hauling with the 2007 Mack he was driving slid off the road and into a ditch, causing it to overturn and hit a fence belonging to Jay County Country Living.

See page 5



Roser

Rick was born on Feb. 6, 1974, in Portland, Indiana, the son of Kenneth Eugene and Connie (Staver) Roser. He graduated from Jay County High School and worked as a truck driver for over 25 years. He enjoyed riding his motorcycle and recently enjoyed planting and taking care of his garden.

Rick married Melissa Pfeifer on Dec. 29, 1998.

Survivors include: His wife — Melissa Roser, rural Portland, Indiana

His children — Brittanie Dailey, Portland, Indiana, Bridgett Coleman (husband: Kyle), LaFontaine, Indiana, Dustin Roser (wife: Lisa), Portland, Indiana, Ariel Roser, Portland, Indiana, and Felicia Adams (husband: Brandon), Celina, Ohio

Sister — Tara Swanson (husband: Chris), Redkey, Indiana

Seventeen grandchildren
Visitation will be held on Friday from noon to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Rick's life will follow at 2 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Pastor Hugh Kelly will officiate and burial will follow at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

Condolences may be expressed williamsonspencer.com.

Thomas Johnson

Thomas Benjamin Johnson, 85, of Redkey, Indiana, passed away Sunday, June 26, 2022, peacefully while in the company of family members at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital, in Muncie, Indiana.

Tom was born in Blackfoot County, Indiana, a son of the late Hazel (Hart) and Jesse Lee Johnson. He was a 1955 graduate of Roll High School, served in the United States Army and the Indiana State Police, and was a member of the Redkey United Methodist Church and a dedicated farmer through and through.

Tom loved the land and the community it represents. He was named Indiana Master Farmer in 2008, received his Honorary Chap-

ter FFA Degree in 2009, served on Jay School Board for eight years and pulled the Jay County Marching Patriot band trailer for many years.

Tom is survived by his wife Phyllis (Simon) Johnson, who he happily married on June 26, 1965. Together they welcomed a son, Matt Johnson (wife: Jennifer); a daughter, Erica Calhoun (husband: Charles); five grandchildren, Zachary Johnson, Megan Johnson, Doug Calhoun, Ryan Calhoun and Abby Johnson; and one great-grandson, Nathan Johnson. Tom is also survived by one brother, Jim Johnson; and one sister, Elizabeth Cupp.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four brothers, Virgil, Harry, Fred and George Johnson; and three sisters, Betty Michael, Carrie Ann Copsey and Harriett Bragg.

Friends are invited to call Thursday, June 30, 2022, from 4 to 8 p.m. and Friday, July 1, 2022, from 11 a.m. to noon at MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel. Funeral services will follow Friday at noon with Pastor Randy Davis and Pastor Lori McIntosh officiating. Burial will be held in Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Muncie, Indiana, with military honors performed by the Dunkirk VFW and American Legion Post.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Riley Children's Hospital.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel.

Ruby Nifong, Portland, Dec. 22, 1953-June 26, 2022. Services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

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.

SERVICES

Wednesday
Sylvestre, Debbie: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Friday
Smitley, Melvin: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Johnson, Thomas: Noon, MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.
Roser, Kenneth: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Nifong, Ruby: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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Ending is not so sweet

By KWAME DAWES

Alice Friman, in her emotionally complex poem, "The Peach," describes what appears to be the end of a relationship.

American Life in Poetry

The nature of the relationship is not clear, though Friman's images of stickiness and running juices suggests a tactile sensuality, that stands in contrast to the final image of snowdrifts and numbness. It is a

short, compact, narrative, that ends with a delicately captured disquiet, captured in the question that ends the poem.

The Peach

I stood on a corner eating a peach, the juice running down my arm. A corner in Pergos where he left me, Pergos where I could catch a bus. What was I supposed to do now alone, my hands sticky with it standing on the corner where he left me a Greek peach, big as a softball, big as an orange from Spain, but it wasn't from Spain, but from Pergos, where I could see his red truck disappear around a corner, not my corner but further up the street, and only later, months later, back home when the trees were slick with ice, their topmost branches shiny as swords stabbing the heart out of the sky, the earth chilled under snowdrifts or as we tend to say, sleeping. But I don't know, frozen maybe, numb?

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copy-

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Granddad lived to be 109

By KAYLA SAMOY

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

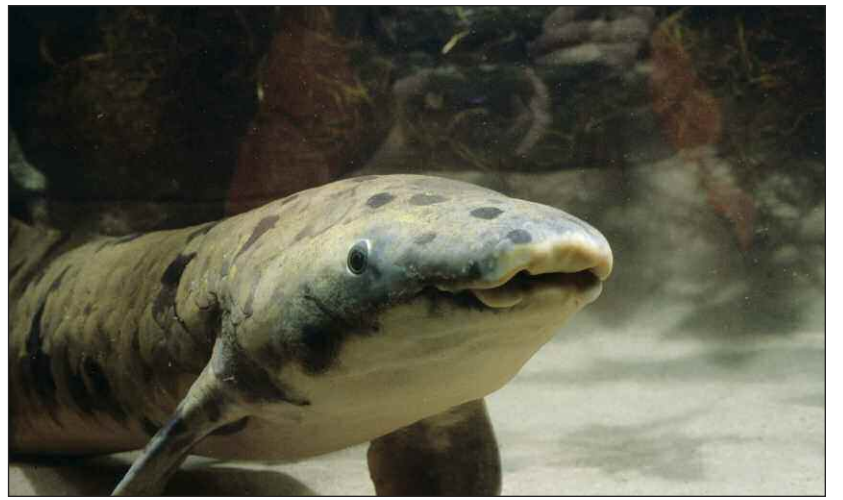
CHICAGO — In the years before his death in 2017, Granddad, an Australian lungfish, was the oldest zoo animal in Chicago and the longest-lived aquarium fish in the world. He spent more than 80 years of his life at the Shedd Aquarium.

New research published in Frontiers in Environmental Science: Freshwater Science revealed that the beloved Shedd icon was from Burnett River, Queensland, Australia, and lived to be 109 years. Previously, the oldest known age of a wild lungfish was just 77 years.

Granddad was popular with visitors to the aquarium in his day and his death brought a lot of attention because of his suspected age. In a news release, the Shedd said this information can help with modern conservation planning and management approaches.

In 1933, Australia gifted Granddad to the Shedd, where he lived until he was euthanized in 2017 as his quality of life started declining because of his old age. He was one of two lungfishes the Chicago aquarium received from the Taronga Zoo and Aquarium in Sydney.

"Granddad was a remarkable animal who sparked curiosity about his species among millions of Shedd Aquarium



Tribune News Service/Shedd Aquarium

Australian lungfish Granddad in 1982. New research shows the lungfish was a native of Burnett River, Queensland, Australia and was 109 years old at the time of his death in 2017.

guests," said Peggy Sloan, chief animal operations officer at the Shedd.

Fossil data indicate that the species has been around for more than 380 million years and have largely stayed unchained for more than 100 million years.

Australian lungfish are one of the few fish species that can breathe both underwater via gills and in the air with lungs. The combination of their single primitive lung and gills allow them to withstand seasonal changes to water levels and water quality. The animals are known to surface every 30

minutes to 60 minutes to noisily breathe in air at the surface.

The fish are typically olive-green to brown with some darker patches, and tend to spend their time where they can camouflage with their surroundings, such as under logs and among dense aquatic vegetation.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List classifies Australian lungfish as endangered. This species of fish can only be found in a few still or slow-flowing pools in river systems in southeastern Queensland, Australia.

Victim wrestling with impact

DEAR ABBY: Many years ago, I was the victim of a violent assault that my then-11-year-old daughter witnessed. It traumatized both of us, but me, the worst. I completely dove off the deep end. I started drinking and smoking pot, and quit going to church. My whole personality changed. I dumped every moment with my children I could onto my husband so I could go out with my "friends" to clubs, bars, concerts or parties. I then started having affairs with many different people, including women. My husband knew about all of it, and despite the torture and pain I put him through, he stayed with me.

Years later, I have managed to slowly heal from that devastating assault. I have found true joy in my children and being a mom again. I don't party, drink or smoke anymore. But one thing has become clear: I'm no longer sexually attracted to my husband. I love him very much, but the thought of being intimate with him grosses me out. It makes me so uncomfortable. I don't even like it when he tries to caress me. It has been like this for a year. But I do love holding hands with him and cuddling with him.

I feel bad because I know he has needs, but I just can't bring myself to

Dear Abby



state. Help is available through these resources. Alternatively, your physician or health insurance provider can give you a referral. Explain to your husband that the problem isn't him — it's you — and you will be getting help for it. Please don't wait to reach out because help is available.

DEAR ABBY: My 45-year-old son is getting married to a lovely girl. More good news: She is an heiress and in a financial bracket that I can never compete with. They are having a big wedding. I need help finding a gift that will have meaning to them. They already have a house, fancy trips and everything they need. — BAFFLED IN OHIO

DEAR BAFFLED: Because you're not an heiress, consider giving them something money can't buy — something personal. If she cooks when they're not traveling or has someone to do it for them, a collection of your family's recipes — especially your son's favorites — might be appreciated. And if they plan to start a family later on, consider giving his wife his baby book if you made one for him.

get physical with him. I've actually thought that leaving him might be necessary because he has never fully healed from what I've done, and I'm still struggling with finding other men attractive. Abby, what do I do? — PUTTING THE PIECES BACK TOGETHER

DEAR PUTTING: Please accept my sympathy for what happened to you. I am struck by the fact that nowhere in your letter did you mention receiving counseling after the assault. If you didn't, please seek a referral to a licensed mental health professional now so you can understand the connection between what you experienced in your assault and your lack of feelings for your husband. You owe it to both of you.

Go online and search on "services for victims of crime" in your

Community Calendar

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

Today
WEDNESDAY MORN-

ING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.
PING PONG — Will be

played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.
AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

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

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call

Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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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AT GRAPHIC PRINTING

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Something was lost in translation

(Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from June 30, 1999. For years, Jack and Connie visited Stratford, Ontario, Canada, for its annual Stratford Festival, which featured various stage performances. Apparently, they ran into some language peculiarities along the way.)

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

We ran into our first "Youse" near Buffalo this time.

To be precise, we were across the border near St. Catherine's, Ontario, when we'd stopped for a bite of lunch.

It was a nice spot, right along the lake, with a breeze to cool us off on a hot day. The waitress, as red-blooded a specimen of Canadian womanhood as could be found, bounded up to

Back in the Saddle



our table full of good cheer and asked, "Wot'll youse be having?"

Club sandwiches, as it turned out, along with a generous helping of Canadian accent.

As accents go, the Canadian variety is a pretty subtle thing. You can even overlook it. But once you tune in, "youse" can hear it all over the place.

We were bound for Stratford, where we had tickets to a number of plays at the theatre festi-

val and modest accommodations at a bed and breakfast.

Anyone with a spare room and the need of a little income seems to operate a bed and breakfast in Stratford, and ours, despite a quaint name, was as ordinary-looking a house as you'd expect to find anywhere.

The owner, however, was full of good cheer and Canadian to the bottom of her soul. She not only sprinkled her conversation with "youse," she also shared the Canadian predilection for beginning sentences with "actually," whether it makes sense or not.

As in, "Do you have chocolate ice cream here?"

"Actually, we do." As if it's something of a miracle that such a thing is possible.

And she occasionally indulged in a "wackin'" as in: "It was a wackin' big fish that he caught."

For most Americans, the quintessential Canadian accents were the overdone comic routines of Bob and Doug McKenzie of late night TV in the 1980s. They made a series of Canadian expressions — "take off, eh," "Hoser," "beauty, eh" — into running gags.

It was a stereotype, of course, and it wasn't fair to Canada to write it off as a country full of beer-drinking, bacon-loving, flannel-wearing guys with funny accents. But it was a funny bit, and inevitably the expressions worked their way into the American vocabulary.

Bob and Doug were at the height of their somewhat limited popularity when I first took the twins to Stratford in 1990.

We were camping in a recreation area south of town, and the twins had warned me not to embarrass them with any stupid lines like, "take off, eh."

I told them I'd try. Then, just as I finished putting up our tent, a Canadian camper ventured by. He admired the set up, saying he'd never seen one like it before.

Then, nodding his head before he moved off, he delivered his final verdict: "Beauty, eh."

Maybe the story doesn't work in translation. I guess youse had to be there ... actually.

Take steps to ensure safety

To the editor:

From 1994 to 2021 there has been a 74.7% decrease in injuries per hundred thousand pounds of consumer fireworks used in the U.S., while there has been a 265% increase in consumption. Consumption has increased from 117 million pounds in 1994 to 428.8 million pounds in 2021, and injuries per 100 thousand pounds of fireworks used during the same period dropped from 10.7 to 2.7.

Last year was record-breaking in the U.S. with the greatest use of fireworks and the lowest fireworks-related injury rate ever recorded. Use up by a factor of four since 1994, while the injury rate is a quarter of what it was then. Truly incredible results.

The first year the American Fireworks Standards Laboratory (AFSL) tested consumer fireworks in China for compliance with U.S. safety standards as regulated by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) was 1994. Phantom Fireworks is a founding member of AFSL, which now tests about 75% of the fireworks coming into the U.S. Phantom tests all consumer fireworks it imports to the AFSL's standards, which exceed the CPSC standards. This is why we measure the fireworks-related injury rates beginning in 1994.

Phantom Fireworks, the nation's top consumer fireworks retailer, is determined to maintain this positive trend and urges everyone to use fireworks safely and responsibly. As the Independence Day holiday approaches, Phantom reminds people to be respectful of their neighbors when shooting fireworks.

Make sure to let your neighbors know the time you will be shooting your fireworks, and make sure the time is within what is permitted by your local ordinances. Do not start too late in the evening, as most firework shows end by 11 p.m.

Among the key safety measures, Phantom Fireworks recommends the following:

- A sober adult should be in charge of the fireworks; children should never handle the products.

- Use common sense and be careful.

Letters to the Editor

- Follow your local laws on fireworks use.
- Use fireworks on hard, flat surfaces; if you shoot on grass, lay down a plywood board as your hard, flat surface.
- Have water readily available for emergencies (hose is best; fire extinguisher or bucket of water will work).
- Keep plenty of distance between the launch site and spectators — 150 feet for aerials and 35 to 50 feet for ground items; and shoot in a clear open area.
- Brace your aerials, tubes and fountains with bricks to avoid tip-over.
- Use safety gear (safety glasses and gloves) when lighting fireworks.
- Keep pets inside during fireworks use (the noise can frighten animals).
- Douse your fireworks thoroughly with water when you are done and dispose of them in a covered metal container outdoors and away from any buildings.
- Clean up when the show is over, which includes picking up any debris that may fall into your neighbors' property.

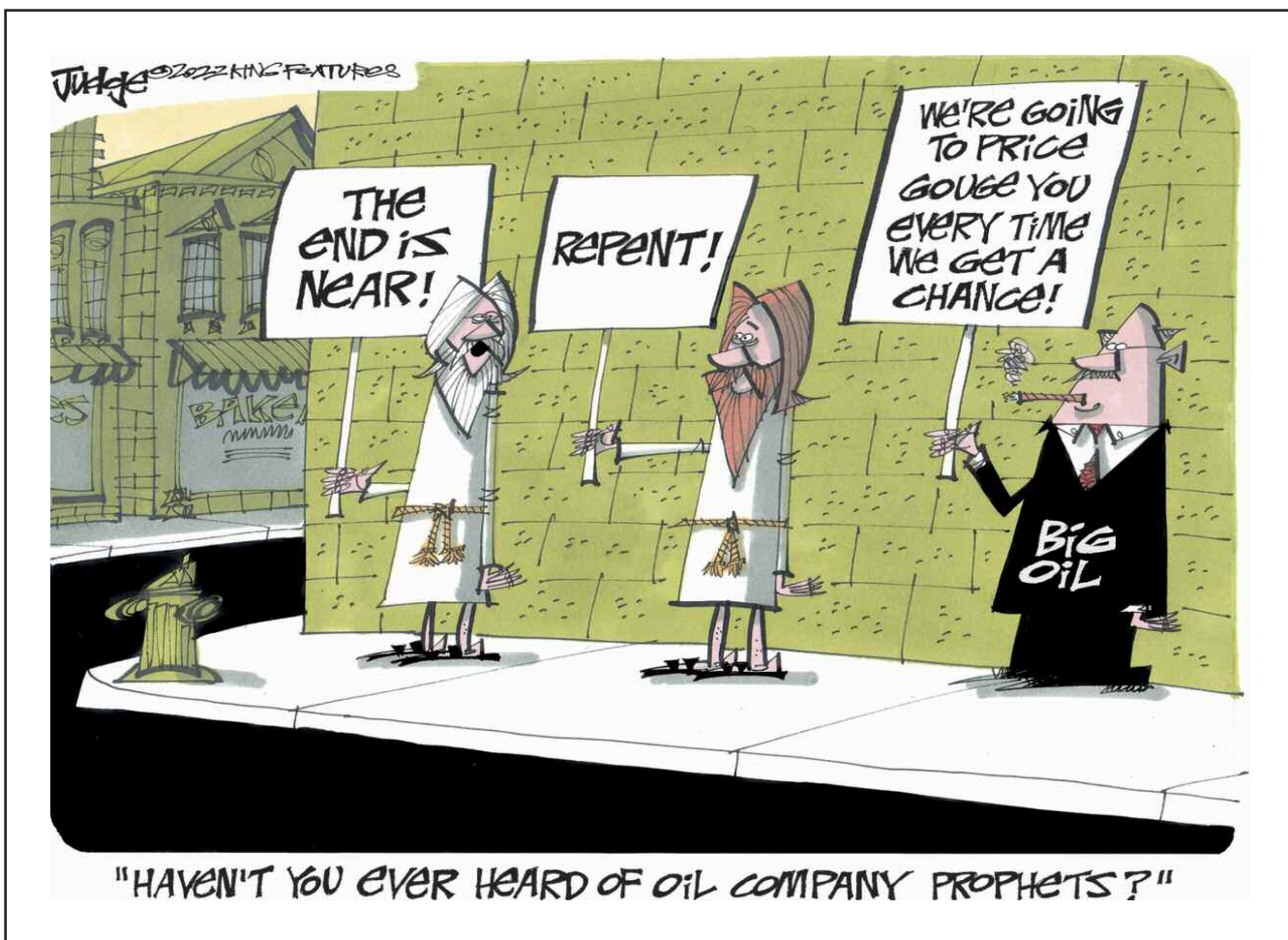
For the complete list of safety tips, please visit [fireworks.com/education-and-safety/safety-tips](https://www.phantomfireworks.com/education-and-safety/safety-tips).

In the "safety" section of [fireworks.com](https://www.phantomfireworks.com), you will also find fireworks use safety videos, state laws and regulations, chemical compositions of fireworks and much more information useful to all fireworks enthusiasts.

Safety is our top priority at Phantom Fireworks — particularly as more Americans are able to celebrate together with family and friends this year as we recover from the pandemic. It is important to remember that fireworks and safety must go hand-in-hand. We encourage all amateur pyros to take the time to understand how to properly use our products.

Phantom Fireworks hopes everyone has an enjoyable and safe Independence Day.

Very truly yours,
William A. Weimer
Phantom Fireworks vice president



Fall in Israel provides lessons

By BINCHENG MAO
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

In 1787, James Madison articulated in Federalist Papers No. 10 that partisan polarization could fundamentally threaten a democratic republic. "Violence of faction," as he called it, must be controlled.

Madison's vision has been proved right yet again this week — in Jerusalem.

On Monday, Israel's teetering eight-party coalition government imploded, triggering the fifth general election in just four years. This collapse occurred after multiple right-wing legislators refused to compromise with their left-wing colleagues and then rebelled against the coalition. Prime Minister Naftali Bennett confessed that his coalition of ideological antagonists, consisting of right-wing Orthodox, left-wing and Arab parties, had "exhausted all efforts to stabilize" itself.

This state of political turmoil has brought real costs to the well-being of the people. The partisan polarization led legislators to refuse compromises for fears of appearing weak, causing the legislature to fail in passing any state budgets for more than three consecutive years. With no state budgets, Israelis lost a total of more than \$6.5 billion. For Israel's neighbors, such political polarization in Jerusalem means few leaders dared to call for negotiations with Palestinians to advance regional peace and human rights agendas. Successful negotiations are often the art of mutual compromises.

American citizens should take notice of these latest developments in Israel. At a time when democracy in America has also been marked by partisan gridlock, Israel provides vital lessons on what to do, and what not to do, to stabilize democracy and serve the needs of the people.

The one thing we can learn from

Bincheng Mao



Israel's recent events is the determination to pursue cross-ideological coalition building to mitigate polarization during election cycles. Even though Israel's eight-party alliance fell after one year, it was not a failure. Coalescing legislators across religious, ethnic and ideological lines, the Naftali government launched public transportation initiatives, reformed kosher certificates for food quality and consolidated the peace with the United Arab Emirates. These concrete actions improved people's lives, and they would not have happened if endless paralysis dominated the past year.

Informed by the Israeli example, America should actively seek unifying figures who are willing to and capable of building such coalitions across racial, religious and ideological lines. Democrats, for instance, can look for consensus candidates who can reach out to both the left and the right, if President Joe Biden forgoes another run in 2024. One example, though rarely mentioned so far as a potential presidential contender, is the Rev. Raphael Warnock. As Georgia's first African American senator and the senior pastor at the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s former church, Ebenezer Baptist Church, he is in a position to understand not only the religious concerns often espoused by right-leaning voters but also the civil rights aspirations of liberal voters. The senator's moderate stance on legislative issues and determination to restore civility also further bridge the

political divide, allowing him to heal polarization in a presidential election rather than exacerbating it.

Meanwhile, the current political morass in Israel also shows us actions that we should avoid. Over the years, centrist scholars in Jerusalem have been warning about the need to reform the parliamentary structures to reduce the room for partisan gridlock. The Israel Democracy Institute proposed the idea of making the leader of the largest party the prime minister automatically after each general election. But these calls were never heeded by the Parliament. Similarly in the U.S., we need commonsense improvements to existing institutions before it is too late, and the prime target should be the Senate filibuster.

It is the moral responsibility of the government to deliver results per people's needs. Yet, the filibuster rule in the U.S. Senate has become a tool often employed to block the elected majority party from realizing the policy outcomes it campaigned on. From restoring voting rights and enhancing gun safety, the Senate struggles to pass critical legislation because the filibuster requires 60 votes. Israel has demonstrated that we need a healthy balance between maintaining institutional stability and reforming ineffective structures. It's time to reform the Senate filibuster to require actual efforts in speechmaking to reduce legislative obstruction.

Israel is set to have a new interim prime minister in Yair Lapid, a moderate legislator and son of a Holocaust survivor. Lapid called on his nation "to find the shared good" and "to take Israeli society from disagreement to agreement" last year. We need to do the same to save American democracy.

.....
Mao is an agenda contributor at the World Economic Forum. He writes on human rights and economic justice.

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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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We welcome letters to the editor. Letters should be 700 words or fewer, signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and clarity. Email letters to news@thecr.com.

Growing ...

Continued from page 1
On flooding, the mayor noted the upcoming Meridian Street storm sewer project that is scheduled for this year. The \$2.42 million construction project will add a new storm sewer line below Meridian Street, running from north of Arch Street to the Salamonie River. Catch basins that are currently connected to the overloaded Millers Branch line will be shifted to the new line in order to mitigate flooding in the downtown area.

Downtown Portland has had

significant flooding in the past, including major events in 2011 and 2015.

“The Meridian Street drainage project is probably the most important flood mitigation project in the town of Portland in many, many years,” said Boggs.

“I believe that this project will lead to increased investment in downtown Portland,” he added.

He also noted the Indiana Department of Transportation planned paving of U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) through

Portland that is scheduled for 2023. It will include some bump-outs, which are required to make sidewalks compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, but will not involve a reduction in lanes, changes to parking or removal of traffic lights as previously proposed.

Boggs mentioned improvements that have been made at various city departments, including: bringing in a new police dog, Spike, who started Monday; adding equipment to improve efficiency at the water

and wastewater treatment plants; implementing the use of Toters for trash pick-up; purchasing a new ladder truck for the fire department; and contributing to a free concert series at the Hudson Family Park amphitheater that kicks off at 7 p.m. tonight with a performance by My Yellow Rickshaw. He said he plans to ask city council to reinstate the 14th police officer to Portland’s force to allow one officer to focus on drugs full-time.

He complimented the efforts of various local organizations,

including Portland Main Street Connect’s work to add benches, planters and Christmas lights to help make the downtown area more inviting.

And the mayor pointed to the Portland Municipal Airport runway extension project — it is slated to be complete this fall — as another effort that will help drive economic development.

“The future of Portland is bright,” Boggs said. “I am very, very optimistic about our future and the direction we’re going.”

Aide ...

Continued from page 1
Tuesday’s testimony from Hutchinson was the most direct evidence provided by the committee that Trump and his inner circle knew of but disregarded the threats to the Capitol.

Hutchinson said she learned that Trump went so far as to grab the steering wheel of the presidential SUV and attack a Secret Service agent when he was told his security detail would not take him to the Capitol on Jan. 6.

She added that Trump was furious that the audience at his speech near the White House wasn’t at capacity, even though he was told by the Secret Service that there was a large number of people outside the fence who had weapons and weren’t submitting to screenings by magnetometers, referred to as “mags.”

Hutchinson said Trump told the Secret Service, “I don’t effing care that they have weapons, they’re not here to hurt me. Take the effing mags away.”

After the speech, in which Trump told the crowd that he would be going with them to the Capitol, the Secret Service instead returned him to the White House because of the violence already underway at the Capitol. Trump became irate, Hutchinson said she was told by Anthony Ornato, Trump’s chief of operations. The head of Trump’s security detail, Secret Service agent Bobby Engel, who was traveling with the president, was in the room when the story was relayed, she said.

“The president reached up towards the front of the vehicle to grab at the steering wheel. Mr. Engel grabbed his arm, and said, ‘Sir, you need to take your hand off the steering wheel. We’re going back to the West Wing. We’re not going to the Capitol.’ Mr. Trump then used his free hand to lunge towards Bobby Engel,” Hutchinson said, adding that the agent gestured toward his clavicles to describe where the president lunged at him. Trump denied the allegation during the hearing in a post on his Truth Social platform.

As the White House struggled with how to respond in the days after the Jan. 6 attack, including discussions among the president’s Cabinet of invoking the 25th Amendment to remove him from power, Meadows and Trump lawyer Rudolph W. Giuliani both sought presidential pardons for their actions on Jan. 6, Hutchinson said.

Trump agreed to give a speech on Jan. 7 calling for unity after aides convinced him it was necessary to protect his legacy and to stave off talk of invoking the 25th Amendment. Rather than calling for rioters to be prosecuted, as early drafts had done, Trump and Meadows pushed to include language in the speech indicating the president might pardon those involved.

“He didn’t think that they did anything wrong. The people who did something wrong that day, or the person who did something wrong that day was Mike Pence by not standing with him,” Hutchinson said of the president.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Wand waver

Annie Dwiggins attempts to wave five magic wands at once Monday afternoon during magician Jim Barron’s show at Jay County Public Library.

Courts ...

Continued from page 1
“We are reviewing the filings and will respond within the time allowed by the rules of the court,” ACLU of Indiana communications director Ariella Sult said in a statement Tuesday to the News and Tribune.

Indiana Right to Life President and Chief Executive Mike Fichter released a statement after Rokita’s moves Monday.

“The AG’s swift action (Monday) to move Indiana forward in the wake of Friday’s ruling underscores the commitment our leaders have to protecting life,” Fichter said in a statement.

“These cases challenged Indiana’s prohibition on late-term abortion and abortion of children based on discriminatory reasons, such as race, sex and even the national origin of the mother. Today’s action demonstrates that our Indiana leaders realize every life has value, and everyone deserves to be born.”

Indiana’s state legislature, which has a Republican super majority, is scheduled to start its special session July 6, which already had been called to deal with taxes.

Gov. Eric Holcomb said last week the state’s abortion law also will be considered.

According to the most recent findings from the Terminated Pregnancy Report from the Indiana Department of Health, a total of 7,756 pregnancies were terminated in 2020. A majority of those abortions occurred within the first two months of gestation.

Capsule Reports

Continued from page 2
Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The vehicle and trailer are registered to Haviland Drainage Products of Haviland, Ohio.

Deer hit

A Salamonia man’s vehicle struck a deer on

“We are reviewing the filings and will respond within the time allowed by the rules of the court.”

—Ariella Sult, ACLU of Indiana

The Guttmacher Institute, a group that studies abortion policy, reports Indiana’s current laws only allow abortions up to 22 weeks with few exceptions.

Patients must wait 18 hours after asking for the procedure to have an abortion in Indiana, requiring two appointments. Counseling is required ahead of time and a patient must undergo an ultrasound first. The provider must offer the patient the option to view the ultrasound image.

Most minors need parental consent for an abortion.

Medical abortions are illegal after 10 weeks.

In a landmark decision last week the U.S. Supreme Court overruled Roe vs. Wade, the ruling that had protected the right to abortion since 1973. The decision now puts abortion laws in the hands of individual states.

Indiana 67 about 11:41 p.m. Tuesday.

Allen N. Mangas, 29, was driving north on the highway when a deer ran in front of his 2018 Dodge Journey. Mangas wasn’t able to avoid a collision with the animal, causing between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in estimated damage.

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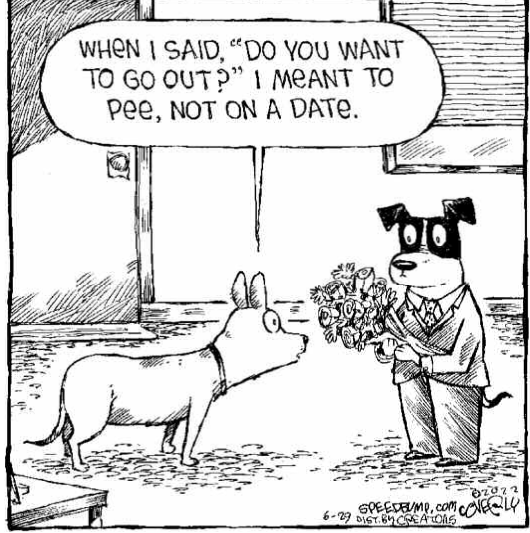
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Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



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The bidding: West North East South Pass 1 4 Pass 1 4 Pass 2 4 Opening lead - ace of clubs. The impetuous player who plays first and thinks later must occasionally pay for his exuberance. Bridge is not the kind of game you can play impulsively and expect to get the best results.

very easy to go wrong. Let's say you're East and that your partner leads the ace and another club to your king. It is not difficult to recognize that West started with the doubleton ace of clubs and that you can give him a ruff. But if your thinking stops right there and you impulsively return a club, declarer makes the contract, losing only two clubs, a club ruff, a spade and a diamond.

Tomorrow: God save the king! ©2022 King Features Syndicate Inc.

CRYPTOQUIP

X J E J E V P R A S F V Z F L E S R L F A I E B F I L F E S P L Y E A E Z L F S S M S E B B N R M , Y E A J E W L F H W F X S J E X L X H W F X N W S ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN DESIGNER WANG GIVES APPROVAL ON ONE OF HER BEAUTIFUL WEDDING GOWNS, IT'S BEEN VERA-FIED. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals F

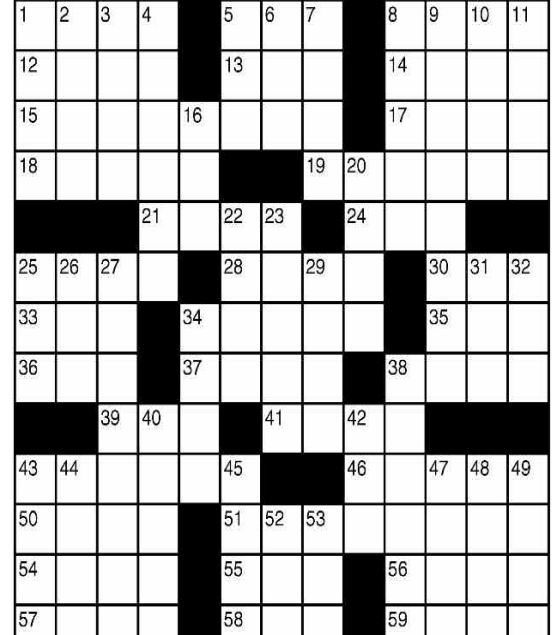
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Jessica of "Dark Angel", 5 Wager, 8 Diner orders, 12 Broadway flop, 13 Hearty quaff, 14 Aviation prefix, 15 Short-range headlights, 17 Eliot Ness, e.g., 18 Road twists, 19 Girl Scout units, 21 Flag feature, 24 Hostel, 25 Guys' dates, 28 San -, Italy, 30 Favorite pal, for short, 33 Swiss canton, 34 Suggest, 35 Frazier foe, 36 Country singer, McGraw, 37 Pairs, 38 Rocky outcrop. DOWN: 2 In - (lined up), 23 Fix a lawn, 25 Belly, 26 Shapiro of NPR, 27 Succotash morsel, 29 Japanese soup, 31 Ga. neighbor, 32 Pear-shaped fruit, 34 School orgs., 38 Diamond makeup, 40 Jazz great, Miles, 42 Shaft of light, 43 Fine, 44 Pleasing, 45 Flair, 47 "The Lion King" lion, 48 Nest egg choices, 49 Sicilian spouter, 52 "As I see it," a texter, 53 Vinyl records.

Solution time: 23 mins.



Yesterday's answer 6-29



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Sports

Cincy defeats Chicago

By MEGHAN MONTEMURRO
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

Keegan Thompson's self-assessment, shortly after pitching the deepest into a start in his big-league career, took on a big-picture vibe.

The right-hander threw a career-high 6 2/3 innings in the Chicago Cubs' 5-3 loss to the Cincinnati Reds on Tuesday night at Wrigley Field, relying on early-innings efficiency. However, he wasn't satisfied with how his outing ended. Manager David Ross went to the bullpen once Thompson surrendered back-to-back one-out singles in the seventh.

Two batters later, Jonathan India connected for a three-run homer off reliever Rowan Wick to extend the Reds lead to 5-0. It began a stretch of three consecutive hits Wick allowed, ending his night after only one out.

For Thompson, it was the second time in three starts he pitched into the seventh. He was on the verge of tallying his third straight quality start. He has 24 strikeouts and only three walks over 24 2/3 innings in that stretch.

"I felt good tonight, but late I got maybe a little tired there," Thompson said. "But I've got to find a way to dig down and make those pitches there at the end and get through that inning."

Thompson's efficiency started with his fastball command before incorporating his secondary stuff as he faced the Reds hitters for a second and third time. He finished with 11 called strikes on fastballs.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Noah Wentz competes in the 9-10-year-old boys 50-yard freestyle Tuesday during the Jay County Summer Swim Team's meet against Randolph County at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. Jay County swept six age divisions and took first place in 18 of 20 relays as it rolled to a 1,199-305 victory.

Jay swimmers crush RC

Jay County needed its depth to get past Catalina on Monday.

A day later, it was simply dominant.

The Jay County Summer Swim Team won all but two relays and 53 of 62 individual events to clobber Randolph County 1,199-305 Tuesday at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Carsyn Guggenbiller and Addisyn Champ combined to sweep the 8-and-younger girls events for Jay County, with the former taking the butterfly, individual medley and short freestyle. Champ won the long freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke.

Josh Monroe and Lincoln

Local roundup

Clamme each won three times as well to help sweep the 15-and-older boys division. Clamme took the top spot in the butterfly, breaststroke and short freestyle while Monroe was first in the backstroke and individual medley. (He also won the open 200 freestyle). Luke Vormohr completed the sweep by earning a victory in the long freestyle.

Lauren Fisher led a sweep of

the 13-14-year-old girls division as she reached the wall first in the butterfly, individual medley and short freestyle, and Mara Bader paced a sweep of the 15-and-older girls events as she posted wins in the long freestyle, breaststroke and short freestyle.

In addition to those led by the triple winners, Jay County also swept the 9-10-year-old boys division behind two wins apiece from Abrahm Lee and Finn Hemmelgarn, and the 11-12-year-old boys division led by two wins each from Cooper Glentzer and Carson Westgerdes.

Hitting in fives

In a game that finished with

a football score, The Rock Church had three players rack up five hits as it defeated Portland Optimists 21-14 Tuesday in Portland Junior League Rookie softball.

In Sandy Koufax baseball, Loy Real Estate and Auction knocked off Display Craft 11-8.

Ellie Wiggins had a triple and four singles for The Rock, Kenzlea Bentz recorded a double and four singles and Jolee Lemaster totaled five singles. Adding four hits each were Journi Dalrymple, Channa Butler and Hendrix Steed.

Peyton Yowell's 3-for-3 effort with a double and an RBI led the way for Loy.

See **Crush** page 7

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