

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

New \$ set for mental health

New 988 program launches Saturday

Indiana Capital Chronicle

The Indiana Family and Social Services Administration's Division of Mental Health and Addiction is providing new funding to help build and support projects in Indiana to improve mental health services for Hoosiers.

This includes funding appropriated by the Indiana General Assembly in House Enrolled Act 1001, and additional funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act and other sources.

"One serious, lingering result of the COVID-19 pandemic that has been widely-recognized by experts all over the country is a worsening of our mental health crisis," said Dr. Dan Rusyniak, secretary. "This major infusion of funds, spread throughout Indiana, will provide more access to mental health care, expand the mental health workforce, and invest in our state's mental health infrastructure."

According to a news release, the largest investment is in Community Catalyst Grants provided to 37 recipients. The \$54.8 million provided in these grants includes \$22.3 million of local and grantee match dollars as well as \$32.5 million in federal funds. The goal of these grants is to enhance the quality, integration and access of mental health prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery services across the state. These funding infusions are intended to build out the care continuum and improve mental health and substance use disorder outcomes for many local and diverse organizations.

Also, on Saturday, 988 will go live in Indiana and around the United States as a new national three-digit dialing code to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. In Indiana, Hoosiers experiencing distress may call 988 to connect to a trained crisis specialist.

See Health page 2

2022 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Spirited evening

The midway was in full swing Thursday evening at the Jay County Fair while Christian music group Cain performed in front of the grandstand.

Above, 12-year-old Natalie May laughs as she crashes into another vehicle while riding the bumper cars.

At left, Zoe Kuhn sings during the Cain concert at the grandstand. Kuhn was filling in for a member of Cain, who is currently on maternity leave.

For more photos, see page 5.

Mercer breaks through in supreme

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Lindy Mercer wasn't the first in her family to make a run at the large animal supreme showmanship title.

Her mom Sara, aunt Shelli and sister Carissa had all been in the contest.

Lindy became the first in the family to break through Thursday, winning the Jay County 4-H

large animal supreme showmanship title in her final year of eligibility.

"Amazing," she said of the feeling of her win. "For one, my 10th year. Great way to go out."

"Two, a lot of my family has been in it in the past and they have never won. So that felt pretty good."

"And three, it's been I believe over 30 years

since a dairy representative won it."

The only other dairy representative with a name on the supreme showmanship trophy is Steve Houser, she said.

Mercer got out to a strong start in the competition, in which the advanced showmanship winners from each of the species compete against each other. They must show each of the species

with the exception of the one from which they advanced. The animals to be shown are distributed via blind draw.

Joining Mercer in the small animal competition Thursday were Rachel Heitkamp (dairy goat), Bretten Basford (meat goat), Ashlynn Brunswick (beef), Gage Sims (swine), Eli Dirksen (dairy beef), Levi Willman (sheep) and Riley Creech

(horse). (Heitkamp won the small animal supreme showmanship crown Tuesday.)

The event Thursday started at the Outdoor Arena with horses — "I was super nervous for that when we started," Mercer said, "but it ended up not being too bad" — before moving to the Show Arena for the remainder of the species.

See Mercer page 5

Manchin blocking climate, tax measures

By LINDSEY MCPHERSON
CQ-Roll Call
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — West Virginia Democrat Joe Manchin III is yet again upending his party's priority economic package, jettisoning climate measures and tax increases he previously favored and leaving only provisions focused on lowering health care costs.

Manchin communicated the decision to his negotiating partner, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, on Thursday, according to two Democratic sources familiar with the situation.

The move came one day after Manchin expressed heightened anxiety about inflation, after the June consumer price index data released that morning showed inflation climbed 9.1 percent on an annualized basis over the previous year.

Manchin had told reporters he wanted to do more "scrubbing" of the reconciliation measure to ensure whatever Democrats put in it would not exacerbate the situation.

On Thursday — after months of negotiations with Schumer — Manchin and his staff told the majority leader and his staff

that he would not support two of the three pillars he'd previously identified for a narrow bill: climate spending and tax credits, and tax increases on wealthy individuals and corporations, according to a Democrat briefed on the conversations.

Manchin spokeswoman Sam Runyon did not dispute the news, which was first reported by The Washington Post.

"Political headlines are of no value to the millions of Americans struggling to afford groceries and gas as inflation soars to 9.1 percent. Senator Manchin believes it's time for leaders to

put political agendas aside, reevaluate and adjust to the economic realities the country faces to avoid taking steps that add fuel to the inflation fire," Runyon said.

The bombshell decision Thursday marked the second time that the pivotal swing Democrat derailed his party's plans for a "Build Back Better" package that once made up the heart of President Joe Biden's economic agenda. Manchin called off the broader talks last December, saying he could not support the sweeping package of child care, health care, climate

change, housing and other initiatives that Democrats were seeking at a time of rising inflation.

But Manchin is not abandoning the effort altogether, having already agreed to provisions that would allow Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies to lower prescription drug prices on a finite list of drugs. The plan would also impose penalties for drug companies that hike prices faster than inflation and implement a \$2,000 annual out-of-pocket cap for Part D patients.

See Blocking page 2

Deaths

Donald Collins, 76, Dunkirk
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 83 Thursday.
There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms tonight with a low of 66.
Skies will be partly sunny Saturday with a high of 87. There is a 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

At the fair

Friday
3 p.m. — Back a 4-Her Networking and Investment Drive
4 p.m. — Greg Rhodes concert in the Farmers Building
7 p.m. — Cole Swindell concert at the grandstand
Saturday
1 p.m. — Senior bingo in the Farmers Building



Blocking ...

Continued from page 1
“We know what we can pass is basically the drug pricing on Medicare. We know that one,” Manchin told reporters Wednesday. “Is there any more we can do? I don’t know.”

Manchin and his staff told Schumer and the majority leader’s staff “unequivocally” that he is “willing to support a reconciliation bill in August that includes only the provision to lower prescription drugs prices and a two-year extension of subsidies” for health insurance, according to the Democrat briefed on the conversation.

While that condition seems to preclude literally everything else Democrats had planned, Manchin was “explicit” that he would not support a bill in August that includes energy and climate provisions or tax increases, the Democratic source said.

The two-year extension of the health insurance subsidies is a reference to a temporary expansion

of the premium tax credits created by the Obama administration’s health law that Democrats first broadened in last year’s coronavirus relief law.

That 2021 law expanded subsidies to higher earners, capping their premiums at 8.5 percent of household income, and provided for zero-premium plans for lower-income earners.

Those credits are set to expire at the end of the year, but many states are set to announce premium increases in mid-August so Democrats want to act before then.

Manchin had publicly left the door open to extending the expanded health insurance subsidies, including as recently as Wednesday. But the assumption was he and Schumer were discussing a permanent expansion — although perhaps more narrow than the version included in the coronavirus relief law — given one of his chief complaints about the \$2.2 trillion House-passed reconciliation bill was

that it relied too much on temporary policies that masked the true cost of the bill.

Manchin had said repeatedly last year — up until he announced his outright opposition to the House bill in December — he would only support policies that spanned the full 10-year budget window.

Also a significant reversal was Manchin’s decision to walk away from an agreement he made with Schumer just last week. The duo had decided they could funnel roughly \$200 billion in revenue from expanding a 3.8 percent net investment income tax to the profits of active business owners into the Medicare trust fund. That provision, which was expected to extend Medicare’s solvency by three years, was added at Manchin’s request, according to one of the Democratic sources.

Schumer had also made numerous other concessions to Manchin in the negotiations as he and his staff provided the

West Virginia centrist with various options, detailed in legislative text, that were designed to address his concerns and demands, the source said.

Those offers include narrowing the roughly \$550 billion in climate and energy provisions in the House bill to \$335 billion by striking policies Manchin opposed like electric vehicle tax credits and “direct pay” tax credits that would have allowed companies making climate-friendly investments to get subsidies that exceeded their tax burden.

Schumer also told Manchin he would support fossil fuel-friendly measures the West Virginian argues are needed in the short-term to lower energy prices, including “permitting reform and additional measures for drilling,” the source said.

And an earlier concession Schumer made that seemingly all Democrats had gotten on board with in recent months was Manchin’s demand to use half of all the revenue from tax increas-

es and other savings provisions in the bill to reduce the deficit instead of offsetting more party spending priorities.

It’s not yet clear that the narrow health care reconciliation package Manchin says he is willing to support will have enough backing from other Senate and House Democrats to get through narrow majorities in both chambers.

In the evenly divided Senate, where Democrats are using the budget reconciliation process to get around the filibuster and pass the bill with a simple majority, all 50 Democratic Caucus members must be on board. And the loss of the climate pillar was already causing some frustration as the news broke Thursday night.

“Rage keeps me from tears. Resolve keeps me from despair. We will not allow a future of climate disaster,” Sen. Edward J. Markey, D-Massachusetts, one of the chamber’s leading climate hawks, tweeted. “We will not give up.”

CR almanac

Saturday 7/16	Sunday 7/17	Monday 7/18	Tuesday 7/19	Wednesday 7/20
87/69	81/67	83/67	89/72	90/66
There’s a 40% chance of thunderstorms Saturday after 2 p.m. Mostly cloudy.	More rain is likely Sunday with a 60% chance of thunderstorms under mostly cloudy skies.	Another slight chance of rain Monday. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high in the low 80s.	Sunny skies with a slight chance of afternoon rain. The high will be in the upper 80s.	Mostly sunny and hot, with a high of 90. There’s also a chance of rain.

Lotteries

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$82 million
16-17-19-23-25-31-36-46-47-55-58-61-70-71-77-80
Cash 5: 8-22-25-34-42
Estimated jackpot: \$270,000

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$480 million

Hoosier
Midday
Pick 3: 3-6-6
Pick 4: 6-4-6-2
Pick 5: 7-9-1-6-9
Evening
Pick 3: 8-8-4
Pick 4: 1-1-9-6
Pick 5: 8-4-1-3-2
Rolling Cash: 1-6-11-22-28
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Wheat 7.43
July 2023 wheat 7.93
Corn 6.82
Aug. corn 6.82
Wheat 6.33

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn 7.02
Aug corn 7.02
Oct. corn 5.91

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn 6.88
Aug. corn 6.88
Beans 15.60
Aug. beans 15.60

Central States Montpelier
Corn 6.91
Late July corn 6.71
Beans 15.59
Late July beans 15.56
Wheat 7.50

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn 6.65
Oct. corn 6.65
Beans 15.11
Oct. beans 15.11
Wheat 7.38

Today in history

In 1099, Christian forces captured the city of Jerusalem during the First Crusade.

In 2006, Twitter, created by co-founders Jack Dorsey, Evan Williams and Biz Stone, was publicly launched.

In 2010, Addison Pijnappels and Tina Whiting were found guilty of murder and robbery in connection with the September 2008 death of Portland resident Shawn Buckner. They were the last of five defendants in the case, as Michael Heffern was also found guilty while Thomas Smith and Rodrick Berry each pleaded guilty.

In 2021, Chloe Campbell and Rachel Heitkamp won the large animal and small animal supreme showmanship contests, respectively, at the Jay County Fair. Both had showmanship in their blood, as Chloe’s sister Alli won the large animal trophy in 2017 and Heitkamp’s sister Sarah, mom Linda and aunt Janet Davidson were all previous small animal champions.

—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Monday
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St., Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Wednesday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.
6 p.m. — Jay County Council, commissioners’ room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Obituaries

Donald Collins
Oct. 18, 1945-July 12, 2022
Donald Joe Collins, age 76, of Dunkirk, Indiana, passed away surrounded by his loved ones on Tuesday, July 12, 2022.

He was born on Oct. 18, 1945 in Huntington, West Virginia, to Ernest and Zedamae (Reed) Collins.

Don is survived by daughter Michelle (John) Giampaolo; son Michael E. Collins; brother Ernest F. Collins; sister Lucille (Robert) Banser; two grandsons, Anthony Giampaolo and Michael R. Collins; granddaughter



Collins

Katie (Antonio Correa) Collins; great-grandson Elijah Correa; two nephews, Robert and Christopher Banser; niece Mary Banser; and many extended family members.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and infant brother, Ernest Howard Collins Jr.

Don graduated from Bloom High School in Chicago Heights, Illinois, class of 1964. He retired as a detective and MEG Officer from the Chicago Heights Police Department following over 15 years of service.

Don loved people and enjoyed spending time with his family. He had a big personality and a great sense of humor, and was always the life of the party. He lived a full life and did everything he wanted to do.

A private celebration of Don’s life will be held at a later date. Arrangements made with Edmonds & Evans Funeral Home, Chesterton, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Don’s honor may be made to the American Heart Association at heart.org.

To leave condolences for the family, please visit eef-h.com.

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

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

Health ...

Continued from page 1
In the coming years, that service will be expanded to include a response team and

Additionally, Indiana is entering into an \$8 million partnership with Riley Children’s Health to provide mental health services at pediatric primary care

officers across the state, removing barriers to access. This includes \$4 million in matching funds from Riley Children’s Health

Through this partnership, services will be embedded within primary pediatric care settings around the state of Indiana, directly addressing the growing child mental health crisis.

Other funding includes:
•\$27.6 million in workforce stabilization grants to community mental health centers around the state
•\$4.4 million provided to the Indiana University School of Medicine to fund

psychiatrist residency (training) slots, and fellowships for psychiatrists and internships for psychology students.

•\$15 million in grants to help Indiana’s community mental health centers transition to the new Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic model.

Felony arrests

Failed to appear
A Ridgeville man was arrested Thursday for failing to appear in court.

Austin A. Moore, 26, 205 E. 4th St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a

Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement.

He’s being held on a \$1,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Battery
A Portland man was arrested Thursday for battery.

Jason D. Harding, 23, 701 S. Western Ave., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony, along with a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement and Class B misdemeanor for public intoxication.

He’s being held in Jay County Jail on a \$4,500 bond.

Deeds

Gary and Lisa McIntire to Luke Bihn and Thomas B. Emerick, warranty deed — Part of Section 4, Jefferson Township, 3.385 acres

Jamie L. Ritchey to themselves and Michael D. Morrissey, quit claim deed — Part of Lot 10, Jones Addition Green Park; Part of Outlot 15, original plat of Pennville

Sylvia Daniels to herself, death deed — Lot 2, Block 31, original plat of Dunkirk

Timothy Ritchie to Carrie A. and James D. Martin, quit claim deed — Lot 22, Block 39, Sutton Subdivision

Marlene J. Fouch (deceased) to Breen Peek, personal representative deed — Part of Section 21, Richland Township, 2 acres

Raymond Castillo to Baldanzi Family Trust and Bob C. and Charlotte A. Brown, warranty deed — Lot 19, Votaws West Addition

Harold W. Heshner (deceased) and Becky E. Heshner to Beck E. Heshner, deed affidavit — Lots 186

and 187, Woodlawn Park Addition

Richard G. Phillips (deceased) and Priscilla J. Phillips to Dennis R. Kelshaw Jr. and Jessica M. Forgille Kelshaw, personal representative deed — Part of Section 11, Richland Township, 2.509 acres

Judy E. Davenport and Robert N. Davenport (both deceased) to Jeffrey D. Decker, personal representative deed — Part of Section 8, Richland Township

Maxine and Troy Geesaman to themselves, quit claim deed — Lot 1, Block 20, Wood Subdivision

Chad Alsip and Ginger Upchurch to Angela Hampshire, warranty deed — Lot 149, Woodlawn Park Addition

Theodore M. Wagoner (deceased) and Hilda F. Wagoner to David Swartz, warranty deed — Lot 21, Block 34, Sutton Subdivision

Luann S. Ford to Scott Kohler, warranty deed — Part of Section 4, Wayne Township, 11.80 acres

SERVICES

Saturday
Klingel, Carol: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

July 23
McMillan, Evelyn: 1 p.m., Brockman-Boeckman Funeral Home, 308 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

Service listings provided by
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Photo provided

Cruisin' donates

Cruisin' For a Cure recently donated \$1,000 to Jay County Humane Society. The money was raised from a benefit ride in memory of Van and Kevin Franklin. Pictured, front row, are Michael Newman and Sharon Van Steenis, and back row, Kent Elam, Dawn Keller and Brian Franklin.

Family finds it difficult to grow roots

DEAR ABBY: My husband, my child and I have moved six times over an eight-year period. Some of the moves were within months of each other. All of them were for financial or emotional reasons. The last one took us an hour and a half away from where we had been living for many years. We had formed relationships there, and our child had built friendships. We loved the area and school. We decided to buy a house after renting, but we struggled to find a place in our price range. Instead, we found one back in an old area we liked.

We have been here three months now, and we all regret the move. We miss our old friends, our child misses the old school and we are unhappy in the new house. I think my child and I may have developed depression. Our child's grades have slipped, and they have made no new friends.

We are debating returning to the area we loved so much. Family and friends are giving us grief about all the moves, and I know they'll do it again. We are at a loss as to why we moved away and would like an outside honest opinion.

Is it OK to move back to

Dear Abby



an area we loved and established roots in? — WANDERING IN INDIANA

DEAR WANDERING: You state that finances had a lot to do with your nomadic lifestyle. That's a valid reason for moving. I do not think you should quickly move again. All of the moves you mentioned may be the reason your child is having difficulty establishing friendships, which takes time. The administrators at your child's new school may be able to help if you explain to them what you think is going on.

As to your own depression, if you can afford it, I'm suggesting some sessions with a licensed psychologist or social worker for the time being. If, after that, your family still cannot adjust, return to the community from which you came without making apologies to anyone (and with my blessing).

Red Cross offers "Shark Week" prize

Blood donations are in need. American Red Cross is giving away a "Shark Week" gift set to encourage more support.

According to a press release from the organization, the American Red Cross collected 12% fewer donations than needed in June.

In July, the organization is partnering with Discovery Channel to offer all blood donors this month a chance to win a "Shark Week" merchandise package, which includes a beach bike, smokeless portable fire pit, paddle board, kayak and \$500 gift card for accessories.

Donors through the week of July 21 through 24 will also receive a "Shark Week" T-shirt.

For more information, visit rcblood.org/sharkweek. To schedule an appointment, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call (800) 733-2767.

Community Calendar

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

Reunions

JAY COUNTY HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, in the Community Room at Jay County Public Library. Attendees should bring their own table service and are invited to bring a dish to share and a white elephant gift as a prize for bingo. Reservations are not required. For more information, call Sharon Taylor at (765) 578-0357.

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

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 9:30 to 10:30 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 — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., 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.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

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IN MEMORY OF SHEA BRIAR

2nd Annual Memorial Ride

July 30, 2022

Hosted by American Legion Post 211

DINNER ♦ SILENT AUCTION ♦ DJ RJROX



Registration at 11:00 a.m.

Kickstands up at 12:00 p.m.

\$20 for Bike - \$25 with a Rider - \$10 for Cars

Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 211

211 W. Walnut Street Portland, IN

\$5.00 - Dinner

Dinner included with bike/rider registration

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFITS THE SHEA M. BRIAR MEMORIAL FUND THROUGH THE PORTLAND FOUNDATION TO HELP LOCAL & MILITARY CHARITIES

Raise red flags to prevent violence

KPC News Service

“Red flags missed” was the headline of a recent Associated Press story about the July 4 parade shooting in Highland Park, Illinois.

The purpose of a flag being red is that it’s supposed to stand out and be easy to see.

However, in the aftermath of another public mass shooting, we often realize after the fact how colorblind we are to the signs.

The alleged shooter, Robert Crimo III, had contact with police twice in 2019 — once after he tried to commit suicide and a second time after he allegedly threatened to “kill everyone” in his family.

Authorities did seize 16 knives,

Hoosier Editorial

a sword and a dagger from Crimo’s home.

But that’s as far as it went.

Illinois, like Indiana, has a “red flag law,” a firearms provision that allows police or prosecutors to seek a court order to confiscate weaponry from a person who presents a reasonable risk of using their firearms to perpetrate violence on themselves or others. Such an action can also raise a

flag in background check systems that can prevent, or at least slow down, an attempt by that person to purchase firearms from a dealer at a later time.

But in Crimo’s case, no one officially raised and waved the flag.

Crimo went and legally purchased five firearms.

Then he allegedly used one of those semi-automatic rifles to open fire from a rooftop overlooking the Independence Day parade, spraying around 80 rounds into the crowd, killing seven, wounding dozens others and terrifying hundreds.

The incident once again shows how incredibly porous America’s background check system is — some might think upfront that

someone who had police called for a suicide response is a person we might not want to sell a gun to — but it also shows the main weakness of red flag laws, being that, if no one raises the flag, they don’t do anything.

That’s not uncommon. Indiana has had its red flag law for years, but in our past reporting, local judges have only had a handful of those matters come before their benches.

In the wake of another “Hindsight is 20/20” moment, Highland Park should be a rallying event to normalize more frequent utilization of red flag laws.

Families should more often reach out to authorities if/when they see someone in their house-

hold exhibiting dangerous signs. Police should more often take the necessary steps to lodge a red flag request in cases when they cross paths with someone who is going through a crisis.

Individuals do have due process rights to make their case before a judge to regain possession of their weapons or clear their record. It’s a process that should play out, especially because not doing so can sometimes turn out to be a matter of life and death for that individual or innocents in the community.

Red flags are only effective if they’re used.

So use them.

Doing so might help prevent future tragedy.

Primary race is virtually pointless

By NOLAN FINLEY

The Detroit News

Tribune News Service

If it seems as if Michigan Republicans are just going through the motions of a gubernatorial primary campaign, listlessly ticking off the days until Aug. 2 when they can officially anoint a sacrificial lamb to face Gretchen Whitmer in the fall, that’s because that’s what’s happening.

By traditional measures, what the five Republicans left in the race are doing this summer barely qualifies as a political campaign.

“None of them have any statewide organization. None have spent any money on field operations. None have spent any money on voter outreach. It’s a primary unlike any I’ve ever seen before.”

That’s from John Yob, perhaps Michigan’s most die-hard Republican and noted campaign strategist. Early in the season, he backed first James Craig, then Perry Johnson, both of whom got wiped out by petition signature troubles.

Yob sees little reason for hope in the remaining GOP contenders — Tudor Dixon, Kevin Rinke, Garrett Soldano, Ryan Kelly and the Rev. Ralph Rebandt.

“It was always going to take someone a cut above to be competitive with Gretchen Whitmer,” Yob says. “I don’t know whether any of these candidates can give her a run for her money.”

Keeping the general election race competitive is vital for Republicans, particularly since they’ve picked such disastrous candidates to run for attorney general and secretary of state. If the entire top of the GOP ticket collapses, it could wipe out Republicans in congressional and legislative races as well.

And yet many Republicans are sitting out the race.

“The typical Republican is not engaged,” says William Nowling, a public relations executive and one-time communications director of the state party. “What an abomination. Even when we were running against an incumbent we always were able to get somebody. We’ve got nobody now. I’ve been in this business 30 years and I’ve never heard of these people.”

What’s not happening on the trail that normally happens in organized, professional campaigns? Check your mailbox and voicemail.

Nolan Finley



Keeping the general election race competitive is vital for Republicans, particularly since they’ve picked such disastrous candidates to run for attorney general and secretary of state.

“I’ve had an absentee ballot for three weeks, and I haven’t received a phone call, a text or a mailer from any of the gubernatorial candidates,” says Dennis Lennox, a northern Michigan GOP activist and commentator. “It’s campaign malpractice not to be chasing absentee voters.”

It’s also a sign of empty war chests. Businessman Rinke has pledged \$5 million to his own campaign, but is slow in spending it. Dixon has the backing of the wealthy DeVos family, but again, there’s little evidence yet she’s awash in their cash.

Big Republican donors “are frozen,” says former GOP Congresswoman Candice Miller, now drain commissioner for Macomb County. “There’s not much movement there. No one has any money except for Rinke. It really is an odd election cycle.”

Lurking out there still is Donald Trump, who, with the election three weeks away, has not revealed his favorite. He’s said to like Dixon, but doesn’t like the DeVoses. And he doesn’t like to lose.

GOP co-Chair Meshawn Maddock told our Kaitlyn Buss she talked to Trump last week, and “he’s not ready to endorse.”

I doubt even Trump could light a fire under this dismal race.



Policy should be built in Midwest

By CARRIE BOOTH WALLING

Chicago Tribune

Tribune News Service

American cities and states are laboratories of innovation and democracy. In an increasingly globalized world, they also help redefine how we think about U.S. diplomacy.

The COVID-19 pandemic showed that local governments — city, state, county — are at the center of addressing complex global threats that ignore national borders. Our communities face other challenges, from terrorism to climate change, that require innovation and global collaboration. That collaboration that should begin at home.

U.S. Reps. Ted Lieu, Gregory Meeks and Joe Wilson and U.S. Sens. Chris Murphy and John Cornyn introduced legislation to establish a permanent Office of City and State Diplomacy within the State Department. The office would create ties between the State Department and mayors and governors engaged internationally. Congress should pass the City and State Diplomacy Act to strengthen coordination among all levels of government on U.S. foreign policy priorities.

A recent report by the Truman Center recommends ways for the State Department to connect and coordinate with local governments and for local governments to build their capacity for diplomacy. Congressional delegations across the Midwest should support this initiative. Strong international relationships are key to the revival and future growth of Midwestern communities.

A stronger U.S. foreign policy is one that draws on the diverse talents of our nation, including local leaders from a variety of demographic, geographic and socioeconomic backgrounds. To endure, U.S. foreign policy should represent the interests of all Americans. This means it should be built beyond Washington by engaging citizens and their elected officials from Cincinnati and Chicago to Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

Connecting Midwestern urban and rural communities and state and local officials with State Department personnel deepens understanding of U.S. foreign policy by demonstrating how American global leadership benefits American communities. Strategic

investments to build our diplomacy from the bottom up increases political, economic and cultural opportunities for communities such as Gary and Albion, Michigan, while decreasing threats to our security.

Mayors and governors already represent their localities in multinational policy networks, international trade forums and cultural exchange programs. Nearly 100 Midwestern mayors are members of the bipartisan Climate Mayors network upholding the Paris climate accord through climate policy. Chicago and Pittsburgh are building and investing in urban resilience as part of the continent-spanning Resilient Cities Network. One of the busiest international crossings in North America, Detroit’s Ambassador Bridge, is in the Midwest. The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative boasts more than 120 cities on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border leveraging freshwater resources for economic renewal. Even smaller communities such as Rockford and Troy, Michigan, are engaging the world by participating in global markets and welcoming immigrant talent. American cities and states are engaging with their counterparts around the world because it adds value to the lives of their populations through trade and investment, job creation, foreign students and international tourism.

In the process, state and local leaders have developed new expertise and shared their own lessons learned with communities overseas experiencing similar challenges. Cities such as Detroit and Indianapolis have a long history of global innovation and economic leadership. Mayors and governors are first responders to national security priorities such as COVID-19, countering violent extremism, building democratic resilience and integrating refugees into their host communities. Midwestern lead-

Carrie Booth Walling



ers can bring local ingenuity to global issues. It makes sense for the State Department to work alongside city and state officials to clarify the benefits, motives and risks of international exchange and support those efforts. Right now, each municipality is on its own.

Los Angeles, New York, Houston and Atlanta have full-time international affairs staffs. But many Midwestern communities have yet to prioritize a dedicated team or strategy for international engagement. An Office of City and State Diplomacy would strengthen the capacity of city and local governments, large and small, to build their bandwidth and connections, and amplify the benefits for their communities.

People, ideas and goods travel rapidly through interconnected transportation, communication technologies and the global economy. Contemporary security threats disregard national boundaries. Foreign ministries across Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas have departments to support subnational diplomacy by assigning personnel to local communities and offering significant funding to boost international engagement and exchange. The federal government must similarly value and support this kind of diplomacy just to keep pace with our global competitors.

Broad bipartisan support for an Office of City and State Diplomacy is preferable to executive action. It would create a permanent, more institutionalized, representative and legitimate office that is appropriately funded — all of which will add to its effectiveness. But if Congress fails to act, the administration must. The potential return on investment for American diplomacy and Midwestern communities is just too high.

If we truly believe that all politics are local, then our foreign policy should be as well.

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Walling is a security fellow with the Truman National Security Project and served on the Truman Center’s City and State Diplomacy Task Force. She is a political science professor and the faculty director of the Gerald R. Ford Institute for Public Service at Albion College.

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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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2022 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



The Commercial Review/Amy Schwartz

While Christian music group Cain performed Thursday in front of the grandstand during the Jay County Fair, a Touch of Mexico was the featured attraction at the Farmers Building, there was a full day of horse and pony competition at the Outdoor Arena and ground entertainment included a BMX bike show.

Pictured, clockwise from upper left:

Addie Steveson, 1, looks at young animals in the FFA petting zoo.

Emily Manor makes a turn while competing during the contesting portion of the 4-H horse and pony show at the Outdoor Arena.

Members of Indianapolis' Mariachi Sol Jalisciense perform at Thursday evening's "A Touch of Mexico" event in the Farmers Building.

A performer with BMX Bike Show flies through the air after driving up the ramp in the area between the Optimist stand and the Bubp building.

Lindy Mercer keeps her eyes on the judge while showing during the swine portion of the Jay County 4-H large animal supreme showmanship competition Thursday evening. In the background is Eli Dirksen. Mercer, who was representing the dairy barn, went on to win the title.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Mercer ...

Continued from page 1
She performed well in the first event there, generally keeping her pig in front of the judge and headed in the direction she was attempting to drive it.

She was confident in the cattle species because of their simi-

larities to dairy, and she has shown dairy goats in the past.

Her biggest challenge?

"The sheep, 100%," Mercer said. "Sheep are very different. You don't show a sheep with a halter. And I think that makes a lot of people

nervous. It makes it pretty scary. ...

"The absolute best thing to do is stay calm. They can sense when you're scared, when you're nervous, when you're angry. And in those situations, they'll just get worse. So, just stay as calm as possible."

Mercer has shown dairy cattle at the Jay County 4-H Fair for 10 years and has also been in photography for a decade. She showed dairy goats and dairy beef for one year each.

A 2022 Jay County High School graduate, she was involved in

FFA, student council and National Honor Society.

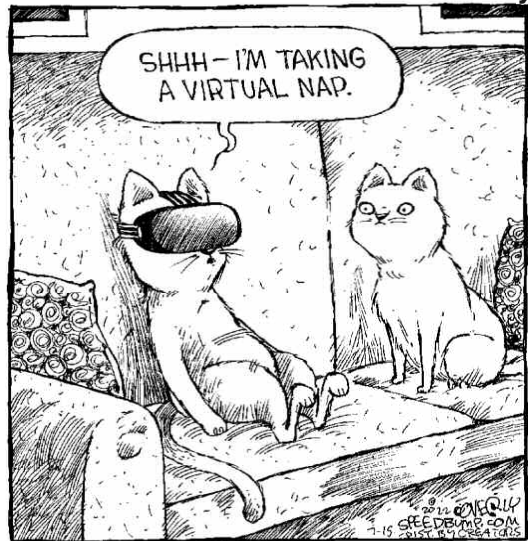
She plans to attend Ball State University in the fall to study journalism and photography.

Confidence and preparation were key to Mercer's win.

"I went out with every

species and even though I wasn't super familiar with it, I tried my best," she said. "Before this contest, I had talked to other 4-H members who were familiar with them and so I took what they said into consideration and I just gave it my best shot."

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



Peanuts



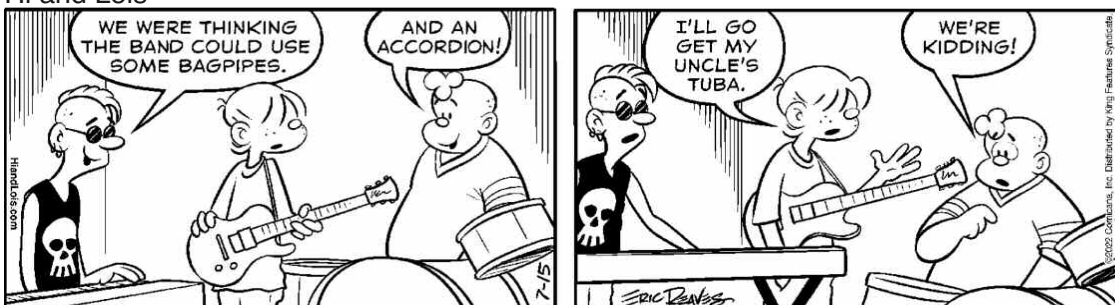
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



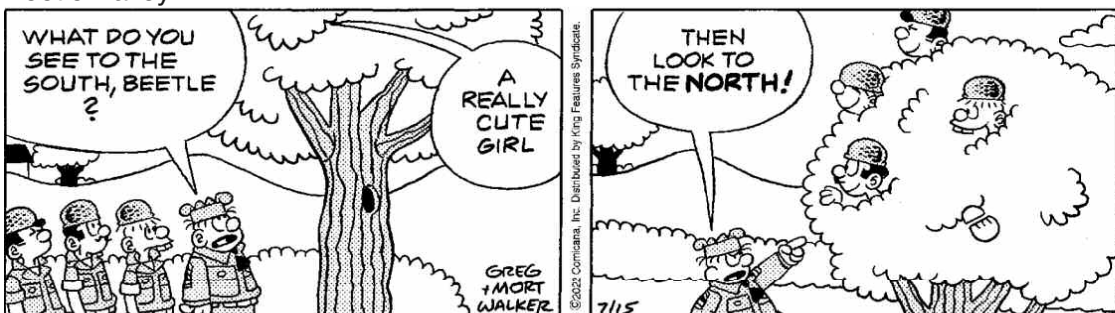
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Little JJ's Tree Service advertisement.

Boorman's Auto Sales & Service advertisement.

Wendel's Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning advertisement.

Dave's Heating & Cooling advertisement.

Bail Bonds advertisement for Travis Weaver.

Rod Penrod, Licensed Agent advertisement.

Bricker's Flowers & More advertisement.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Boys, don't you think that clubhouse would be better in the BACKyard?

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play

North: A 8 5, A 4 3 2, A 9, A K Q 3. West: 6 4 3, 10 9 8, 8 7 5 4, J 8 6. East: 9, K Q J 7 5, K Q 10 6 3, 7 4. South: K Q J 10 7 2, 6, J 2, 10 9 5 2. West: 9, 8 7 5, J 8 6. East: K Q, K Q 10, 7 4. South: 7, J 2, 10 9 5 2.

This is a double-dummy problem. The contract is Seven Spades, and West leads the ten of hearts. You may look at all four hands in attempting to find the solution. How would you play the hand?

It might appear that you must have to lose a diamond eventually, but obviously the diamond loser can be avoided; if it couldn't, this hand would not be presented here as a problem.

As usual when you have all the remaining tricks but one, the first thought to pop into your head should be the possibility of a squeeze. For the squeeze to be successful, one opponent or the other must have two (or three) suits to guard. Since you must assume the

clubs will break favorably, the two suits one of the defenders will have to guard are hearts and diamonds. This presupposes that the hearts are divided 5-3 or 6-2, so that only one of the defenders can guard that suit. You therefore win the heart lead with the ace, ruff a heart and play four rounds of trump to produce this position:

Tomorrow: Cutting the Gordian knot.

CRYPTOQUIP

Y S T V G D Z U N N O M S C S W Q T J V W K D N M U S W D D Z ' R U S R D - O S F D R S K M S D R D N W K G T S C T J V

R S M S J T D Z: "Y W M M S J F S W K S."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE WOMAN JUST UNDERWENT A COMPLETE NOSE JOB. SHE MIGHT BE RECOVERATING IN THE NEO-NASAL WARD.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Comic Hedberg, 37 Suitor, 4 Fishing Shakespeare villain, 8 Choir voice, 12 New Deal agcy., 13 "Zounds!" coach Andy, 15 Boring types, 17 Tear, 18 Bad habit, 19 Woodland walks, 20 Computer problem, 22 Swedish auto, 24 Spartan queen, 25 Dijon products, 29 Tokyo's historic name, 30 Quick looks, 31 Hasten, 32 Sends on, as an email, 34 Kick back, 35 Bee's home. DOWN 4 Fuzzy fruit, 5 Shrek, for one, 6 Young fellow, 7 Sheeran and Harris, 8 Mexican shout of joy, 9 Onion relative, 10 Fork part, 11 Probability, 16 Kudrow of "Friends", 19 Millinery, 20 Staff symbol. Solution time: 25 mins.

Crossword grid with letters.

Yesterday's answer 7-15

Crossword grid with numbers.

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Sports



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Opening leg

Kynlee Homan swims the backstroke leg of the 200-yard medley relay in the 8-and-younger girls division for the Jay County Summer Swim Team during Monday's victory over Marion and Yorktown at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. The team will close its season in the Wabash Valley Conference Championships, which begin at 9 a.m. Saturday at Berne Pool.

Phoenix matches Pacers' offer to Ayton

By **BEN GOLLIVER**
The Washington Post

The Phoenix Suns matched the Indiana Pacers' maximum offer sheet to restricted free agent center Deandre Ayton, a person with knowledge of the decision confirmed Thursday, in a move that could complicate the Western Conference power's hopes of trading for Brooklyn Nets star Kevin Durant.

Indiana, which is constructing a young core around guards Tyrese Haliburton and Bennedict Mathurin, signed Ayton to a four-year, \$133 million offer sheet, ESPN first reported. Though the Suns had two days to decide whether to match Indiana's offer, they moved quickly to retain Ayton, the Athletic first reported.

After losing veteran center JaVale McGee to the Dallas Mavericks in free agency earlier this month, Phoenix was motivated to retain Ayton as it seeks to keep its championship window open with all-star guards Chris Paul and Devin Booker. Per league rules, Phoenix will not be able to trade Ayton until Jan. 15.

As the No. 1 pick in the 2018 draft, the 23-year-old Ayton was this summer's highest-profile restricted free agent.

See **Ayton** page 7

Cincinnati gives Yankees trouble

By **RANDY MILLER**

nj.com
Tribune News Service

The Yankees were bound to go through some struggles sooner or later.

It's happening with the All-Star break approaching.

The Yankees lost a game and a series to a National League weakling Thursday night at Yankee Stadium, falling 7-6 in 10 innings to the Cincinnati Reds.

If not for a late rally the night before, the Yankees could have been swept by a last-place ballclub that is 21 games under .500. The Yankees' 62-27 record still is best in the majors, but the Aaron Boone bunch has dropped four of five and seven of its last 13.

This qualifies as a first slump of the season.

The Reds pulled out the game by scoring three in the 10th off Yankees lefty Lucas Luetge. Matt

Carpenter hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th, but the Yankees wound up a run short, the game ending with Reds reliever Dauri Moreta retiring DJ LeMahieu on a flyout to center with the tying run and winning runs on base.

"I liked our chances going into extra innings, especially with how this team handles big situations," Yankees center fielder Aaron Judge said. "We gave us an

opportunity to win the game, but we just fell a little short. The Reds battled their butts off this whole series. Their record may show something different, but they've got a lot of good ballplayers over there that battle at-bats, put the ball in play. They have some good quality with high velocity.

"You never want to lose a series, but sometimes you've got to tip your cap."

See **Trouble** page 7

Calling all sports fans

The Commercial Review is looking for part-time **SPORTS STRINGERS**

to assist with coverage of local high school athletics.

If you love sports, enjoy attending games and events in-person and have strong writing skills, this is an excellent opportunity for you.

As a sports stringer you will

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Required skills

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