

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Windows in Geneva's downtown district have been painted in celebration of the town's sesquicentennial anniversary. Pictured, windows at the former location of M&M Market on Line Street display a red cardinal, which served as Geneva High School's mascot.

Celebrating 150

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

GENEVA — "Land of the Limberlost."

That's what reads on the welcome sign as drivers enter Geneva.

The Limberlost Swamp and Indiana author Gene Stratton-Porter played a significant role in its past. But the town just north of Bryant also boasts a few other snippets of history.

Plans are to celebrate Geneva's history with the community Friday and Saturday in honor of its sesquicentennial (150th) anniversary.

Geneva was established as a railroad station 1872, when The Pennsylvania Railroad wound its way

Geneva sesquicentennial celebration is set for Friday and Saturday

through the southern-most area of Adams County. According to information from Indiana Historical Bureau's website, the town of Geneva was officially incorporated two years later.

"Originally, there was no Geneva," explained Randy Lehman, who served as the Limberlost State Historic Site man-

ager for about 18 years and is still involved in other community efforts. Two former settlements, Buffalo and Alexander, had previously occupied the space before consolidating into the town's present name.

"Nobody knows for sure why they called it Geneva," he said.

See Celebrating page 6

Raises would total \$1.2 million

County is looking at increases ranging up to 52%

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

County officials have been discussing raises for months.

The estimated price tag comes in at just over \$1.2 million.

Jay County Council reviewed suggestions Wednesday from Jay County Personnel Committee and decided to give one department head an instant raise and a 6% increase next year.

Council has been considering a 6% raise for all county employees. Jay County Personnel Committee has been reviewing salaries for Jay County Sheriff's Office, Jay County Highway Department and Jay Emergency Medical Service, and has made higher raise suggestions for several positions in those departments.

County auditor Emily Franks shared her estimated figures, calculating the suggested raises at just over \$1.2 million.

Council member Mike Rockwell asked if there is room in the budget for it. Council president Jeanne Houchins asked Franks where it would put the county financially with the current proposed budget for 2023.

She noted the county would be spending about \$1.5 million more than it is bringing in, meaning it would need to pull from cash reserves in order to afford it. Looking forward to 2024, it would need to look elsewhere to account for the extra \$1.5 million.

See Raises page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Students return

Today marked the first day of the 2022-23 school year for Jay School Corporation students.

Pictured above, Redkey Elementary School sixth grader Aubree Shannon waves to friends after getting off the bus this morning.

At right, Chloe Lewellen hugs her brother, Jase Lewellen, as they walk to the front doors of Bloomfield Elementary School.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Students improve, still lag behind

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Nearly one in five Hoosier third graders this past spring did not master foundational reading skills, according to new standardized test results released Wednesday.

While Indiana's younger students have improved, the test results still lag behind pre-pandemic reading fluency.

New data reveals 81.6% out of the 65,000 third graders at public and private schools in Indiana passed the 2022 Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination, also called the IREAD-3 test.

That's less than a 0.5% increase from the last academic year, and 5.7% behind the results from the 2018-2019 school year, which is the last data set available prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Indiana schools did not

give standardized tests in 2019-2020 due to the pandemic.

The literacy rate is a significant drop from Indiana's high of 91.4% in 2012-13.

"We know that students first learn to read, and then they read to learn," Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner said in a statement. "Data shows a direct link between reading by the end of third grade and future learning."

In total, more than 14,000 Hoosier third grade students — more than 18% of those in the state — will need additional support to build their reading skills to meet grade-level reading standards, according to state officials. A student who does not pass the IREAD-3 test typically must receive remediation, or risk being retained in third grade.

See Students page 5

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 80 degrees Wednesday. The low was 64.

Tonight's low will be 53. Skies will be sunny Friday with a high

in the mid 70s. There is a chance of showers Saturday, but the forecast is otherwise clear through the middle of next week. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

A dedication ceremony for the new veteran banners in downtown Portland is scheduled for 4 p.m. Sunday at Freedom Park.

Coming up

Friday — Old gas station is back in operation under new ownership.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay School Board meeting.



CR almanac

Friday 8/12	Saturday 8/13	Sunday 8/14	Monday 8/15	Tuesday 8/16
76/54	79/60	80/62	80/59	78/57
Sunny skies are in the forecast for Friday with highs in the upper 70s. Mostly clear at night.	Mostly sunny skies are on the horizon for Saturday with a 40% chance of thunderstorms late.	There's a 30% chance of showers before 2 p.m. Partly cloudy at night, with a low around 62.	Monday has a mostly sunny forecast, with the high temperature reaching about 80 degrees.	Sunny skies are expected Tuesday with a high of 78 degrees. Mostly clear at night.

Lotteries

Powerball 29-44-59-61-68 Power Ball: 19 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$48 million	59-62-64-67-74-75-77 Cash 5: 7-24-32-34-40 Hoosier Lotto: 7-11-25-29-39-41 Estimated jackpot: \$17 million
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$65 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 0-7-4 Pick 4: 2-4-4-6 Pick 5: 0-3-8-3-4 Evening Pick 3: 0-6-1 Pick 4: 3-0-8-3 Pick 5: 2-1-4-8-3 Rolling Cash: 5-10-20-36-39 Classic Lotto: 4-13-25-26-37-44 Kicker: 4-3-7-0-3-1 Estimated jackpot: \$33.5 million
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 5-0-5 Daily Four: 2-6-4-7 Quick Draw: 6-9-12-14-16-21-24-25-29-33-37-39-40-41-44-50-67-70-75-76 Evening Daily Three: 4-1-2 Daily Four: 5-9-6-3 Quick Draw: 2-4-15-20-25-30-31-32-44-47-48-50-53-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.97 Sept. corn6.98 Wheat6.59	Wheat 7.67 Sept. wheat..... 7.67
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.96 Late Sept. corn6.37 Oct. corn6.07	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.83 Late Aug. corn6.78 Beans15.15 Late Aug. beans15.15 Wheat7.87
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.78 Sept. corn5.98 Beans15.09 Sept. beans14.19	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.78 Oct. corn5.89 Beans15.09 Oct. beans13.96 Wheat7.78

Today in history

In 1911, Duke Paoa Kahinu Mokoe Hulikohola Kahanamoku broke the 100-yard freestyle world record by 4.6 seconds during an AAU swim meet. Officials doubted the record set by Kahanamoku — he used a combination of an Australian crawl and a flutter kick — and did not recognize it until years later.

In 1921, author Alex Haley was born in Ithaca, New York. Haley is best known for his book "Roots," which chronicled his family history from Gambia to the slaved-holding South.

In 1929, Babe Ruth hit his 500th career home run. He became the first to reach that milestone.

In 1934, the first group of prisoners arrived at Alcatraz Federal Penitentiary. The island prison was in use for 29 years, housing inmates including Al Capone and George "Machine Gun" Kelly.

In 1943, Pervez Musharraf, who served as president of Pakistan from 2001 through 2008, was born in New Delhi, India. He took power in a 1999 coup.

In 1956, artist Jackson Pollock, a leader of Abstract Expression-

ism, died in an auto accident.

In 1964, the Beatles' first movie, "A Hard Day's Night," had its U.S. premiere in New York City.

In 1972, a demolition derby was the featured entertainment in front of the grand stand during the 100th Jay County Fair.

In 1984, Carl Lewis joined Alvin Kraenzlein and Jesse Owens as the third athlete to win four gold medals at a single Olympics.

In 1992, the Mall of America opened in Bloomington, Minnesota.

In 1994, the Major League Baseball Players Association started a strike that led to the cancellation of the World Series.

In 2014, comedian and actor Robin Williams died. His death was ruled a suicide. He starred in the TV show "Mork and Mindy" and the movie "Good Will Hunting."

In 2021, 20-year-old Shelby N. Hiestand of rural Portland was found guilty of the January 2020 murder of Shea Briar, 31, Portland. A Jay Circuit Court jury needed less than three hours of deliberation to reach its verdict.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St., Fort Recovery, Ohio. 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. 5 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 1331 Indiana 67, Portland. Thursday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, fire station, 400 W. Railroad St.
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Raises ...

Continued from page 1
The personnel committee suggested between 12% and 27% raises for employees depending on their position at the sheriff's office, as well as a 52% raise for the chief deputy position, which would bump to \$81,150 from the current \$53,372.80. "That's one heck of a raise," Rockwell said, referencing the chief deputy pay.

The personnel committee Wednesday noted first deputies in Jay County receive 75% of the pay their superiors make, and that the suggested raise for the chief deputy — the position is currently occupied by Ben Schwartz — would put him at a similar level compared to the sheriff's pay, which is around \$108,000. Council member Ray Newton, who is also the Republican nominee for sheriff in the November election, pointed out the current pay does not account for overtime.

"Investigators can make more than the chief deputy by working overtime, and it has been done," he said.

Newton added that the county has been losing officers to other law enforcement agencies because of low pay.

"(If) you're going to keep good, educated, dedicated people, you've got to pay them," Champ said. "And if you don't, you're not going to keep them. Period."

Other raises the personnel committee has suggested to council are:

- Between 6% and 31% raises for positions at Jay County Highway Department
- Between 6% and 21% raises for employees at Jay Emergency Medical Service

"I've just got one comment on (these) pay raises," Champ said at the end of the meeting. "I know it's a lot of money, and I know it's a tough decision. So I'm sure we'll make the right decision. But my question is, can we afford not to do

so? 'Cause we're losing good employees."

"(We) obviously have to do something," said Rockwell.

"We have to try," Newton added.

Council gave Franks the OK to request department heads make cuts to their budgets in order to help accommodate the raises.

It also bumped the Jay County Emergency Management director's pay to \$45,000 for the rest of 2022 and agreed to tack on a 6% raise starting in January. The position is being taken over by deputy director Samantha Rhodehamel Aug. 22.

Also Wednesday, council heard from Jay County Country Living director Melissa Blankley, who shared updates on the situation at the residential center. She noted there are more paying residents at the facility compared to six months ago. It has also received a facelift thanks to help from volunteers.

She noted that in March county officials gave the residential center six months to turn its finances around. She added that she had been hired to help through a transition time and that she would like to return in some extent to healthcare in the future, although she still plans to be involved with the facility.

Several council members voiced their approval with the direction the facility is headed.

Blankley asked for a timeline moving forward with Jay County Country Living. (Council discussed last month having a joint session with Jay County Commissioners to review the matter,

JCDC urges participation in internet speed test by visiting pcrd.purdue.edu/speedtest

although a meeting has not been scheduled yet.)

Also, council heard from Jay County Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards, who explained pathway committees for the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP) have been meeting this month. He urged participation in a speed test being conducted by the e-connectivity pathway committee. Its goal is to build a map of where internet service is available and to identify areas in need of broadband.

In other business, council members Faron Parr, Matt Minnich, Harold Towell, Houchins, Champ, Rockwell and Newton:

- Were informed about letters of interest from lawyers to take over county attorney Bill Hinkle's job following his retirement at the end of the year. Those who expressed interest are attorneys Wes Schemenaur, Greg LeMaster and Josh Atkinson.
- Reviewed the estimated property tax caps for Jay County in 2023. Jay County's estimated impact is \$295,140.
- Made the following additional appropriations: \$10,000 for equipment repairs at Jay County Surveyor's Office; \$2,000 to East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center; and \$792.80 for firearms equipment at Jay County Sheriff's Office.
- Transferred \$15,000 in the sheriff's budget for compensation, \$800 in Jay County Coroner's Office budget for wages and \$500 for gas, oil and lube at Jay County Courthouse.

Panel discusses charging stations

By DOUG ROSS
The Times (Munster)
Tribune News Service
MICHIGAN CITY — Electric vehicles are all the rage, but the infrastructure for public charging still needs work. That's improv-

ing. John Douglas, customer service director for Crawfordsville Electric Light & Power, said he planned to drive his company's Chevy Bolt to the Drive Clean Indiana annual conference Tuesday, but the car has a range of 230 miles, and Blue Chip Casino and Hotel was 280 miles away. There wasn't easy access to a charging station along the way.

Douglas was on a panel discussing the impending installation of 61 electric vehicle charging stations across Indiana.

"This is ironic, but it's really appropriate that we're doing this thing," he said.

The charging stations are being put in by a group of eight Indiana utilities, including NIPSCO, through a grant from the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust. Some will be operational by next spring with others ready by the end of 2023, said Shawn Seals, senior environmental planner for the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

Deciding where to place the stations wasn't easy. The group wanted them to be within 50 miles of each other, but they also wanted them to be along the busiest routes. In Northwest Indiana, stations will be placed in Michigan City, Chesterton, Portage, Merrillville, Gary, Hammond and Lowell.

"When you look at the map, you will see some gaps," Drive Clean Indiana Executive Director Carl Lisek said. "No map is ever going to be perfect." The absence of a charging station near I-65 in Lafayette stands out.

Kevin Kirkham, manager of business development for NIPSCO, said the group looked at places along interstates. "Where on that exit are you going to put that charging station?" the group wondered.

The ideal location would be somewhere to kill 20 minutes, with public restrooms — ideally open 24/7 — and a place to eat or shop. The host also would have to be willing to give up some parking spaces for the chargers.

"Meijer stores are going to be a very high frequency of the 61 stations," Kirkham said.

There's one other factor to consider, Douglas said: "How close is three-phase power? How much infrastructure is near the site?" The charging stations require a lot of power. "It's enough power to serve a small manufacturing facility," he said.

Lisek said it's important to make sure there is adequate public infrastructure for charging electric vehicles. Electric vehicles on display at the conference included a converted Ford F250 work truck, a Tesla passenger car and an all-electric garbage truck.

Most charging will be done at home or, in the case of a fleet, at work overnight during off-peak hours, Kirkham said. That helps balance the load for utilities gearing up to meet increased demand.

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission designated CenturyLink as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier within its service area for universal service purposes. CenturyLink's basic local service rates for residential voice lines are \$22.72-\$27.50 per month and business services are \$35.00-\$38.00 per month. Specific rates will be provided upon request.

CenturyLink participates in the Lifeline program, which makes residential telephone or qualifying broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers may qualify for Lifeline discounts of \$5.25/month for voice or bundled voice service or \$9.25/month for qualifying broadband or broadband bundles. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or qualifying broadband service per household, which can be either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be at least 25 Mbps download and 3 Mbps upload to qualify.

CenturyLink also participates in the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), which provides eligible households with a discount on broadband service. The ACP provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands.

For both programs, a household is defined as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Services are not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in these programs. Consumers who willfully make false statements to obtain these discounts can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from these programs.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, visit <https://www.centurylink.com/aboutus/community/community-development/lifeline.html> for additional information about applying for these programs or call 1-800-201-4099 with questions.



Did you know ...
If you subscribe to the print edition of The CR, online access is included.
If you need your log-in information, call us at (260) 726-8141.

2022 Gas Boom Days

Saturday August 13th 10 am – 6 pm

10:30 Parade Line Up
11:00 Parade
1:00-4:00 Kiddie Water Ball
1:00-3:00 Greg Rhodes
3:00 Corn Hole Tournament (\$100 Prize)
4:00-6:00 Cook and Belle

Merchant Silent Auction – Games!
50/50 - Cake Walk – Vendors!
Redkey City Jail!

Shopping – Food – Dunk Tank!
FUN! – FUN! – FUN!

Sunday August 14th 8 am – 4 pm

7:30-10:30 RFD AYCE Pancake and Sausage
8:00-4:00 Redkey Merchant's Car Show
9:00 Gas Boom 5K
10:30 Town-Wide Church Service
12:00 Beard ... Hat ... Mullet Contest
3:00 Raffle -50/50 – Auction Winners

Contact us for vendor & sponsorship opportunities
Message the Gas Boom Days FB page or text or call Mark 260-729-8040. Find out the most up to date information on our redkey Gas Boom Days Facebook page



Photo provided

Shelter donation

Representatives from the Little Salamonina Cemetery Association recently donated \$15,000 to Jay County Humane Society's new animal shelter campaign. Pictured presenting a check to humane society treasurer Mindy Weaver (center) are Sandy Ireland-Lyons and Janet Bantz of Little Salamonina Cemetery Association.

Jealousy, guilt impact love life

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I've been in a "friend with benefits" relationship for more than a year now. I'm 57 and he's 79. I was raised a Christian and wanted to save myself for marriage. This is the first time I have loved someone and been the FWB. I'm jealous of his last girlfriend and what they had together. She wanted to get married, and he didn't.

A woman at my church says I ought to just remain friends with him and pray God will send me a man who will love and marry me. This is a retirement town. There aren't many available men my age. I feel guilty because I went against my Christian faith. I'd appreciate your advice. — IN LIMBO IN ARIZONA

DEAR IN LIMBO: Why are you wasting your time being jealous of his ex-girlfriend? They are history. The odds of you changing this man's mind on the subject of marriage are not good, but you knew that from the beginning. The guilt you're carrying may be the price you pay for whatever pleasure this relationship brings you.

Since pickings are so slim in your community, please note that I'm not telling you to end it. However, if the situation becomes increasingly painful, that's what you should do. Because you are deeply religious, this may be a subject to discuss with your religious adviser.

DEAR ABBY: Five years ago, our son was arrested for child porn. At the time, he was responsible for running our family business. When he was sent to prison for two years, we realized he had been running it into the ground, plus stealing as much as he could. We have not spoken since. Our

grandson is now being married, and he wants us to attend. We haven't spoken to our grandson or his father since all this happened. Must we attend this wedding? — BAD BLOOD IN FLORIDA

DEAR BAD BLOOD: It would be unfair to shun your grandson for the sins of his father. MUST you attend the wedding? No. SHOULD you go? I think so. When you do, be cordial to your son. You do not have to see him often or at all after that, but keep in mind there may be other family celebrations in the future.

DEAR ABBY: I have a best friend of 15 years. (We even got matching tattoos.) However, I feel like I'm always put on the back burner. I'm easygoing, so maybe she feels she doesn't need to be a good friend in return? I understand we all have busy lives, but there are 24 hours in a day and seven days in a week. It doesn't take but a minute to send a text to ask how I'm doing. Am I being unrealistic for wanting a friendship that goes both ways? — LOST IN A FRIENDSHIP

DEAR LOST: It is only unrealistic if you have spoken to your longtime friend about how you feel (15 years late) and she's unwilling to expend a little more effort in your direction. I recommend you have that long-overdue conversation with her and let her know what your needs are.

Contest accepting dog photos

INDIANAPOLIS — Hoosier dog owners may now submit pictures of their furry friends to a state contest. Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC) and Indiana's first dog Henry are looking for adorable dogs in destinations across the state through Visit Indiana Cutest Dog Photo Contest.

A different winner will be selected each week for one year, according to a press release from Visit Indiana.

Winning pooches will receive a note from Henry, an exclusive dog bandana and recognition on Visit Indiana social channels.

Pet owners can upload a photo or video of their dog to Instagram, tag @VisitIndiana and use the hashtag

Taking Note

#DogsINIndiana. Entries must include the location where the photo was taken, the press release states.

For more information, go to VisitIndiana.com/dogs or follow Visit Indiana on social media at @VisitIndiana.

Dean's list

NORTH MANCHESTER — Two Portland natives were recently

named to the dean's list at Manchester University. Sierra Caster, a biology-history major, and Kendal Garlinger, a biology-chemistry major, both made the list in spring. They joined 344 other students on the list.

In order to be named to the dean's list, students must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher and complete at least 12 credit hours that semester.

Classes offered

John Jay Center for Learning is offering free classes for adults to receive a High School Equivalency diploma.

Classes are available from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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.

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, at Pizza Hut in Portland.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY POST 211 — Will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 11, at the post at 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The

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

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

Don't Miss
OUT!
ON SPECIAL Advertising OPPORTUNITIES

We have a busy schedule of special sections and pages coming up.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss them.

Tri-State Gas Engine Show
Tuesday, August 24 (ad deadline Aug. 17)

Fall Home Improvement
Friday, September 17 (ad deadline Sept. 10)

Harvest
Friday, October 22 (ad deadline Oct. 15)

Expanded Thanksgiving Edition
Wednesday, November 24 (ad deadline Nov. 17)

The Commercial Review
260-726-8141 • ads@thecr.com

We should embrace Ronald's view

To the editor:
Since Jack Ronald passed earlier this year, I have reflected on Jack's impact on our community. Jack was the descendant of some of our favorite sons. I assumed that his personal history had a great impact on his commitment to Jay County and his worldview.

During the recent period as our country has seemed to become more polarized, I've realized that early in life I came to understand that the key to our continued success was being able to back up a couple of steps to a place where most agree. Three steps back requires that a super majority of our citizens believe in the concept that democracy is the root of our greatness. Two back, that the same agree that our form of a representative democracy rooted in our Constitution is the best form of government. From there, we get to a shared civic

Letters to the Editor

responsibility of what is good and right. Then we get to argue about how we reach those goals.

I had always seen Jack as a "liberal," almost a dirty word to many these days and certainly to me in my youth. However, the terms we use to describe political bias certainly change over time.

Given my age, it occurred to me that, as I grew up, many of those that were able to influence me such as teachers, youth church leaders, etc., could have been described often as "hippies." They had almost a rebellious streak based on the concept that we had lost our way, that our

path had taken us off track to achieving the promise of our founders of a free society for the people. We needed to focus on what was good; the things you did in life should reflect that mantra.

Certainly, many of the policies that would have been embraced by the strictest interpretation of those ideals were far left of what I believed. But, when it came to Jay County, those were intertwined with small town common sense and decency.

I'm not going to claim that I knew Jack on a very personal level. My experience was many did not. I believe that was part of his discipline. Getting to know him as an adult and having multiple interactions with him, he often surprised me. On many issues, this "liberal" was quite conservative, especially when it came to ideas surrounding personal freedoms.

Jack believed, to his core, in a

free press, on its responsibility to hold those in power accountable. I argued with him that the role of his paper was to be a cheerleader for our community. He politely disagreed.

His view resulted in welcoming the community to freely offer their opinions in the pages of The CR. He often included syndicated columnist that offered views often not shared by a majority of his readership. He did so because he believed that conversations with those you disagree with result in the best chance of a free and open society. This was reflected in his tireless work to train journalists in newly freed countries after the fall of the Soviet Union. He was spreading the hope and promise of our Constitution in the belief that this was a key for others to share in our blessing.

Most importantly, I watched him feel people out by listening. If he judged you principled, even

if he strongly disagreed with you, he respected your opinion and wouldn't mind offering some views counter to yours.

I wanted to share these thoughts about Jack, to honor him in my own small way and to reflect on his influence on not only our little corner of the world but perhaps to generations of free press journalists he worked to instruct and mentor.

In a time when we have experienced so much dissent and division, I think we should embrace his view. We're all Americans. Hopefully, we all consider our country and our Constitution a gift that we received from the sacrifices of many before us and we should embrace that idea that, if we can humble ourselves and take two steps back, we can regain a better sense of who we are and who we can be.

Bryan Alexander
Portland

State disregarded realities of today

By MORTON J. MARCUS

The righteous men and women of the Indiana General Assembly, enabled by a lame duck Governor, have done it again.

They disregarded the testimony and advice of medical professionals, knowledgeable social observers and the business community. They forgot Hoosier history.

Do you recall the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 2015?

Our legislature passed that act legalizing discrimination on any claims of religious belief. And our then-Gov. Mike Pence signed it into law.

What happened? A national outcry blasted even normally deaf Hoosier ears. Business groups foreswore traveling to Indiana. Our own businesses were in an uproar of indignation. We became philosophical pariahs. The legislature was forced to rescind the law.

Now, our political leaders have banned abortion. Now, one of the foundation firms of Indiana, Eli Lilly & Co., has identified the economic disadvantages such an act means for retention and recruitment of employees. Now, organizations are considering alternative states for conferences. Now Hoosiers are ashamed.

This is the administration that wanted to boost Indiana as a destination. They propose to spend millions luring people here. They will get their wish — in reverse.

Hoosiers will find good reason to go elsewhere, not just to seek abortions from facilities out-of-state but out of revulsion from a state that openly attacks human freedom.

The advances of technology and management have reduced the shackles of geography that hobbled corporate business and bureaucratic government. COVID allowed us to learn about remote employment.

Today, millions can work where they please. They can "commute" electronically. You don't have to live in Indiana, shop in Indiana, pay Indiana taxes to work for an "Indiana" company.

Economists talk about footloose companies, those capable of locating where they pleased because they are not tied to a source of supply or a configuration of buyers, firms not burdened by high transportation costs.

What does it cost to trans-

Eye on the Pie



The disregard by our general assembly for the realities of business and working today ... means Indiana communities will find it harder to attract talent, entrepreneurs and firms to this state.

mit an idea, a memo, a spreadsheet, an image, a permit in today's electronic world?

We now have a portion of the workforce that is footloose — workers who choose where to live with slight regard for where their work is aggregated.

The disregard by our general assembly for the realities of business and working today, as well as a disregard for the strongly held opinions of most Hoosiers and most Americans, means Indiana communities will find it harder to attract talent, entrepreneurs and firms to this state.

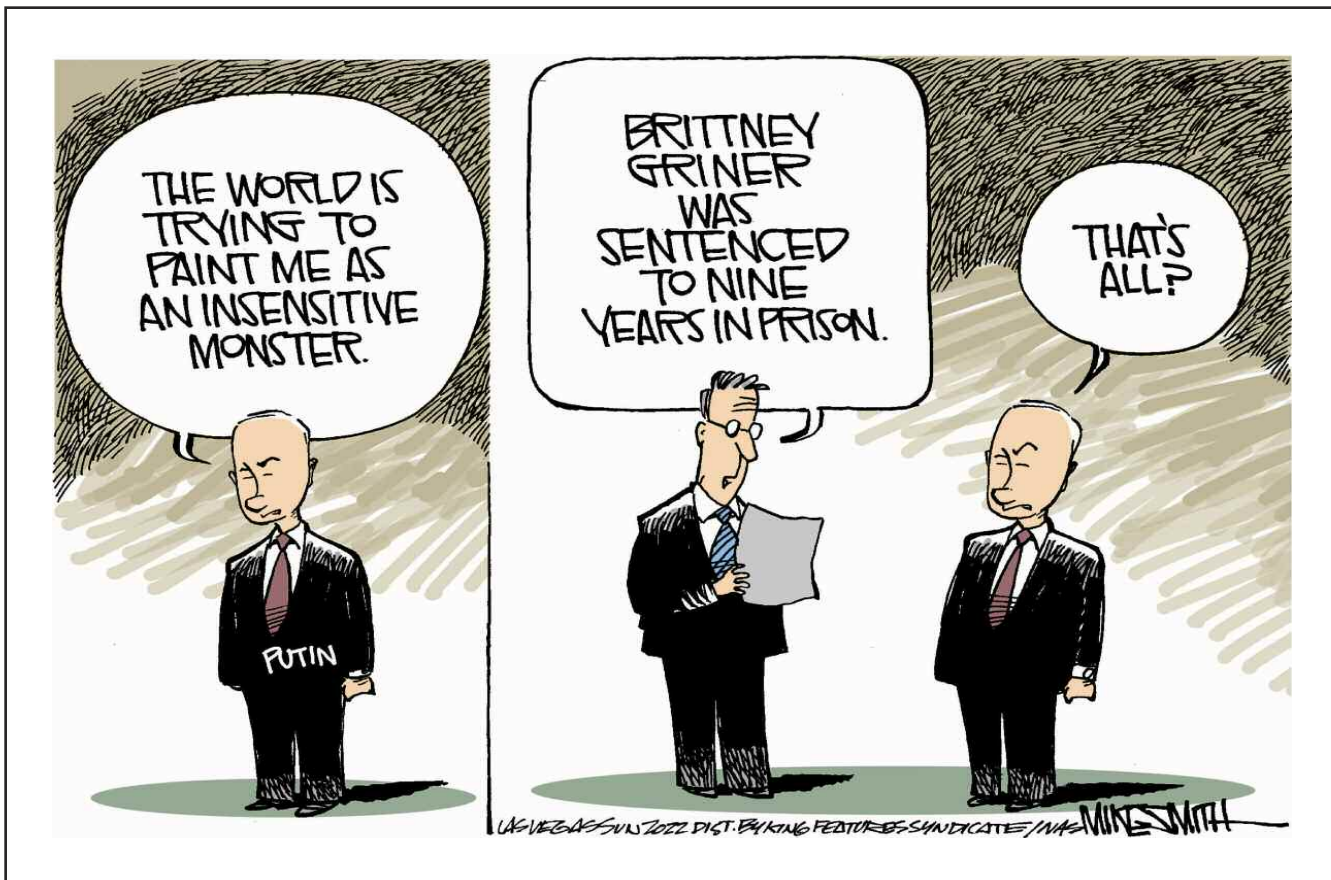
How will the state respond?

Will it increase monetary inducements to buy their way out of widespread disdain?

Maybe, it won't be long before they authorize local option abortions. Counties or cities might be empowered to offer Abortion Ban-free Zones — jurisdictions where abortions are legal in order to restore Indiana as a decent place to locate a household or a business.

It's how the righteous South handled Prohibition after repeal.

.....
Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.



Allow teachers to teach

By DANIEL B. COUPLAND

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

The pandemic-related chaos of the last two years exposed a decadeslong scandal in American education: Bureaucrats from the education establishment have failed those communities they claim to serve. When students were forced to remain home during the COVID-19 lockdowns and online instruction was streamed into their homes, many parents — who send their children to school to learn math, history, literature, science, art and more — were understandably aghast by what they heard and saw. They witnessed weak, content-free instruction. Last year, parents unrolled their children from traditional public schools in record numbers — marking the largest decline in a century.

Most Americans know by now that K-12 teachers are underpaid, overworked and underappreciated, but few acknowledge the fact that they are also overregulated. Even now, teachers are hamstrung by rigid, top-down mandates from government administrators and policymakers far removed from local schools and communities. This omnipresent oversight from bloated, multilevel educational bureaucracies, along with an unhealthy and oppressive overemphasis on testing, has made the central work of teachers — educating students — nearly impossible. No wonder many educators are leaving the profession in what amounts to a crippling exodus, robbing many students of the excellent teachers they deserve.

Many within the education establishment deflect criticism of their radical agenda by using students and teachers as shields. They claim to be acting on behalf of schools, but don't be fooled: Their highest priority is protecting their own positions of power and influence as they push the

newest, half-baked educational fads alongside ideological agendas. The education establishment does many things poorly. But what it is very good at is protecting itself.

But most educators don't choose to become teachers so that they can serve as laboratory technicians for educational experimentation and foot soldiers for ideologues. They accept the low pay, long hours and difficult work that come with the profession because they recognize the lasting impact of learning on their own lives and want the same for future generations of students.

So, what's the solution? Freedom.

Local school leaders — who are accessible and accountable to the communities they serve — should be free to hire, train, cultivate and retain the kind of people they need to do the difficult work in schools.

While the demand for teachers continues to grow, the pool of applicants needs to expand beyond the alarming status quo. Currently, the education establishment controls the supply of potential teachers through unproven, irrelevant and unnecessary certification requirements — essentially acting like a modern-day medieval guild.

Teachers should be free to teach. Under the direction of local school leaders, educators need space to cultivate the intellectual and moral growth of their students without the heavy hand of a distant, self-serving education establishment.

Teachers should be free to use their natural and developed gifts to



Daniel B. Coupland

teach a robust curriculum in science, literature, mathematics, the arts, history, physical education and civics. This is the kind of schooling experience that students deserve, parents desire and society demands. Most importantly, it's precisely the type of education that can provide students the best chance to attain the knowledge and skills they'll need to embark on a life of learning.

We at Hillsdale College believe that a classical education returns honor and dignity to the teacher by asking teachers to serve as role models for the kind of human beings that students should ultimately become. For this reason, we focus on who teachers are, not just what they can do.

Hillsdale doesn't offer majors in "education" because we want all of our undergraduates to have the experience of being grounded in at least one academic field of study. We choose not to offer a typical certification program because the standards for these programs reflect the same agenda of the education establishment. Instead, we offer our students an optional minor in classical education that includes a small selection of content-rich courses in education that any undergraduate may take.

The field of education has been hijacked by a self-serving establishment obsessed with experimentation and indoctrination. We can do better. Working together, we must reignite and reinvigorate the field of education. To fix what's wrong with education in America today, we need to focus on what is best for students and their families, and we need to empower good and smart local educators to do their difficult and noble work.

.....
Coupland is dean of the Graduate School of Classical Education, chairman of the education department and a professor of education at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

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Bolton was target of a murder plot

By **SABRINA WILLMER, JENNIFER JACOBS and GOLNAR MOTEVALLI**

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service
WASHINGTON — Former national security adviser John Bolton was the target of an Iranian murder-for-hire plot, according to charges filed by the United States against a member of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The alleged scheme by Shahrām Poursafi was likely meant to avenge the killing of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani, commander of the IRGC's elite Quds force, according to a statement Wednesday by the Justice Department. The U.S. claims Poursafi, who it says is abroad, tried to pay \$300,000 to have Bolton murdered.

The charges come as Washington and Tehran remain deadlocked over the 2015 nuclear deal the Trump administration abandoned four years ago. That move triggered a crisis in relations that contributed to the U.S. decision to kill Soleimani, the country's most powerful military figure, in a January 2020 drone strike in Iraq. Like former President Donald Trump, Bolton is an adamant foe of the deal.

In a statement, he thanked the Justice Department, the FBI and the Secret Service for their efforts.

"While much cannot be said publicly right now, one point is indisputable: Iran's rulers are liars, terrorists and enemies of the United States," he said. "Their radical, anti-American objectives are unchanged, their commitments are worthless and their global threat is growing."

Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani rejected the charges as "baseless" and "driven by political goals and motivations."

"The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly warns against any action taken against any Iranian citizen under the pretext of these ridiculous accusations," Kanaani said in a statement.

In an interview with Bloomberg, Bolton said he had been aware of the threat to his life since 2020, warned by the

FBI, and that he has learned that it was "very, very, very specific." He said he has been attended by the Secret Service since Dec. 1.

Trump cut off his protection the day he resigned, Sept. 10, 2019, after they fell out over how to handle adversaries like Iran and North Korea. National security advisers normally get a few months of coverage after they depart, Bolton said, but the agents showed up that very day and "took the bells and whistles off my house and started saying goodbye."

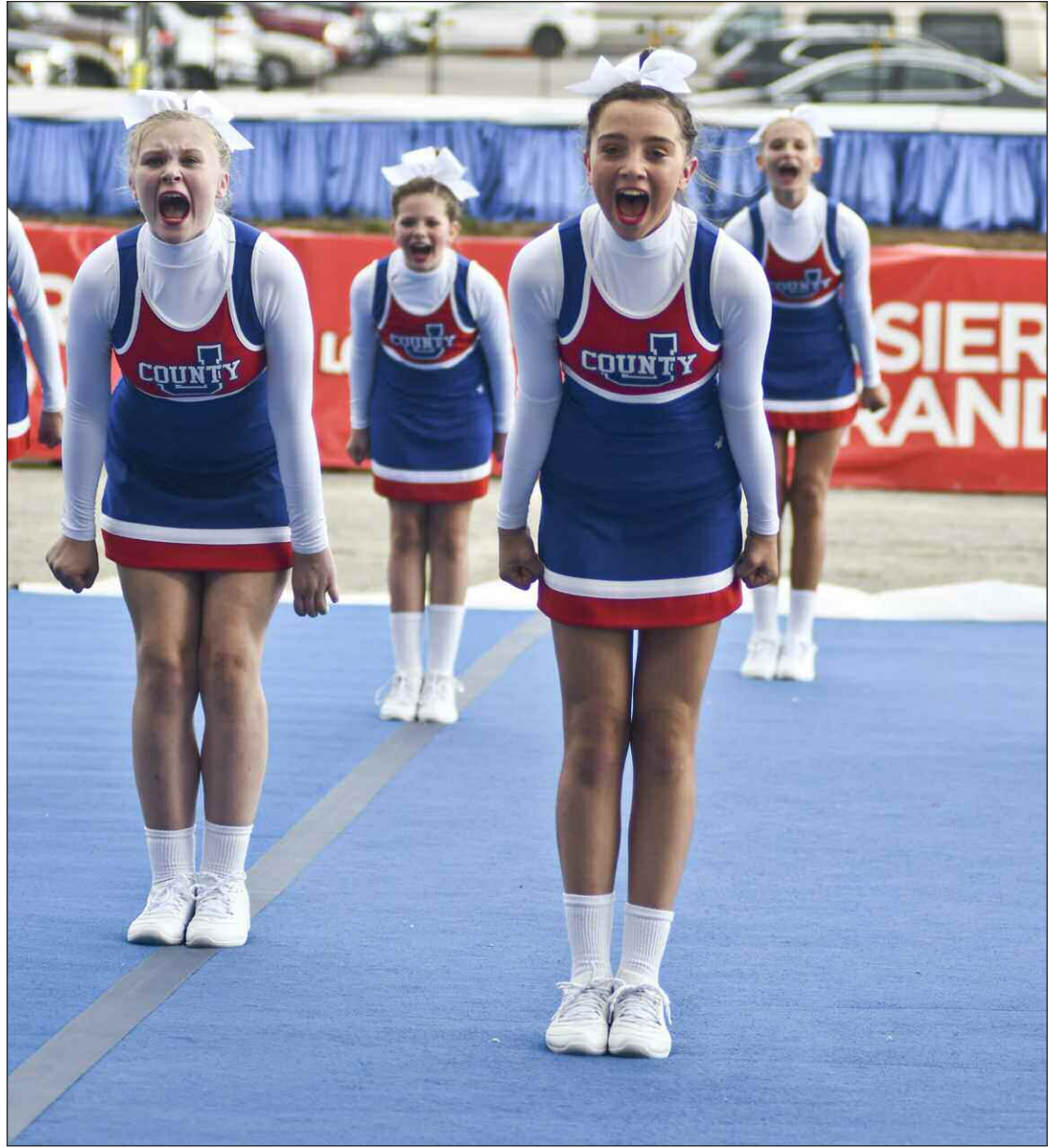
He said he hadn't spoken to Trump since the day before his resignation.

A Trump-era decision to designate the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps a terrorist organization has at times plagued efforts by the administration of President Joe Biden to revive the nuclear talks. The two governments are currently deciding whether to accept a European Union-drafted text to restore the deal, which would ease sanctions on Iran's economy in exchange for strict caps on its atomic activities.

The plot against Bolton allegedly started in October when Poursafi asked a U.S. resident, who was serving as a confidential source for the U.S., to take pictures of Bolton, claiming they were for a book he was writing. A month later he offered to pay the source \$250,000 — which was raised to \$300,000 as they bargained — to "eliminate" Bolton, according to the U.S. That same month, Poursafi allegedly told the source his "group" would require video confirmation of Bolton's death.

In January, Poursafi mentioned to the source that he reported to only one person, although there was a chain of command, the Justice Department alleges. He expressed regret that the planned murder wouldn't come in time for the anniversary of Soleimani's death, according to the U.S. The government says Poursafi later mentioned he had a second hit job lined up.

If convicted, he could face as many as 25 years in prison.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Spirited squad

Jay County Junior High School cheerleaders, including Peyton Carpenter (foreground right) and Trinity Glassford (left) yell Saturday during the Indiana State Fair competition. The Patriots went on to a third-place finish.

Average drops below \$4

By **ALEX LONGLEY and CHUNZI XU**

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

U.S. average retail gasoline prices fell below \$4 a gallon to the lowest level since early March, according to data from AAA.

Prices were at \$3.99 figures released Thursday showed, continuing a downward trend for

almost two months. Costs have fallen with cheaper oil and relatively weak demand. By one measure, fuel consumption has recently been lower than it was during the summer of 2020 when the country was in the throes of the pandemic.

So far this summer, a slump in the crude price and underwhelming demand for the fuel have helped drag U.S. retail gas

prices lower. On Wednesday, figures showed that the surge in the consumer price index decelerated last month, cooling from a 9% increase in June when fuel prices hit multiple record highs. Rampant inflation has been squeezing American households for months, and the steady run of declines in the fuel price is likely to start to ease some of that pressure.

Students ...

Continued from page 1
Jenner emphasized that includes low income, Black, Hispanic, special education and English learner students — who had "persistent learning gaps" even prior to the pandemic.

Black and Hispanic students increased pass rates by 2.1% and 1%, respectively, but their overall proficiency rates remain significantly below their grade level peers.

Roughly 64% of Black

students and English language learners passed the multiple-choice IREAD exam in 2022 — 10% fewer than in 2019.

White students achieved above-average pass rates at about 87%, according to test scores.

Reading proficiency additionally declined overall for third grade students receiving free or reduced-price meals, as well as those receiving special education.

Schools were also allowed to test second grade students with the IREAD-3 assessment for the first this spring. Statewide, nearly 400 elementary schools across the state opted in, with more than 20,000 second grade students participating. Of those students who were tested, 62% either passed the assessment or are on track to pass next year.

Lynn Schemel, director

of assessment at the Indiana Department of Education, said students who lack foundational reading skills — including a strong vocabulary and basic phonetics — are "even less likely to graduate on time" or may never receive their high school diploma.

"Students who are poor readers at the end of third grade are likely to remain poor readers throughout their life," she said.

State education officials said new education initiatives are coming together to help schools across the state make sure that students become strong readers. They pointed to the launch of a new instructional coaching program for kindergarten through second grade teachers that already has 54 schools participating in the program.

The state education

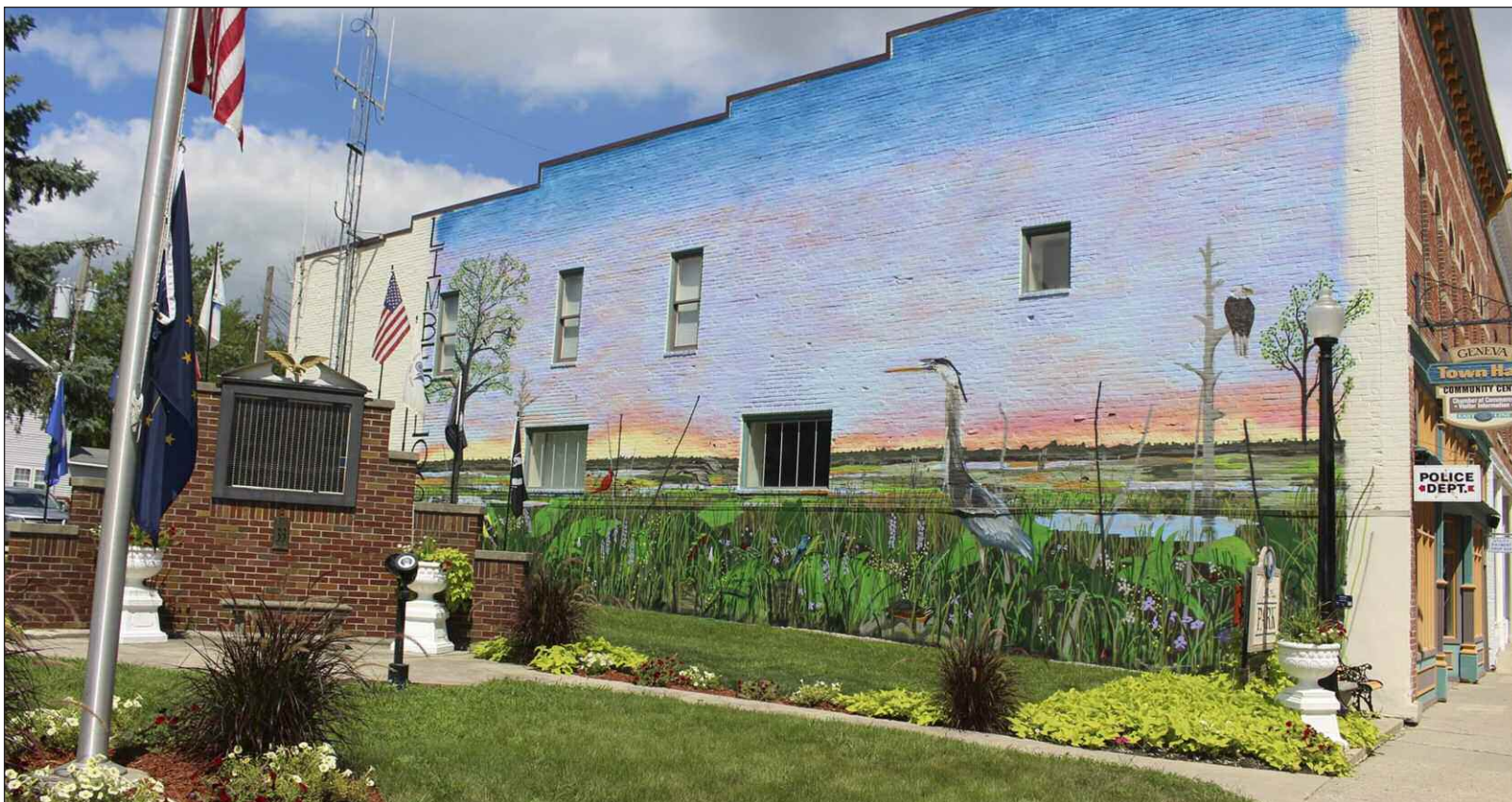
department is also sending more than \$150 million to schools through a state-funded grant program that intends to help bolster student learning outside of the regular classroom. Separate microgrants to help parents access tutoring for their students will become available this fall.

Jenner said the department will announce another major literacy initiative next week.

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Limberlost Swamp was the subject of many writings from Gene Stratton-Porter, one of Geneva's most famous former residents, and is depicted on the west side of Geneva Town Hall in a mural by native Zach Medler.

The town will celebrate its 150th anniversary with events and activities Friday and Saturday, including a kickoff at 10:30 a.m. Friday at the Ceylon Covered Bridge on Adams County Road 950 South and tours of Stratton-Porter's Limberlost Cabin from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

Celebrating ...

Continued from page 1

One rumor says the railroad company called it Geneva because of its Swiss heritage in Berne just north. Another rumor suggests the name was chosen to avoid picking between "Buffalo" or "Alexander."

"It's really hard to say for sure," Lehman said.

Like many communities, the railroad system had a significant impact on Geneva. Timber and oil became its hot commodities in the late 1800s, leading up to a devastating fire that destroyed much of the town in 1895, according to information on Geneva's downtown historic district sign at the intersection of Line and High streets. Because of the destruction, the board of trustees banned wooden buildings and mandated brick, stone or iron structures along a portion of Line Street.

According to Geneva's downtown historic district sign, 24 new brick businesses were constructed along Line Street by the end of that year. They now make up Geneva's downtown district, which was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in

2002. One of those structures — it's known as the Pyle building for its previous owner, H.W. Pyle — was renovated in 2004 and now houses Geneva Town Hall and Geneva Police Department.

Geneva was the birthplace of Bob Brown, a famous leatherworker who made pieces for early Hollywood western films. The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City recognized him in 2001 with a lifetime achievement award.

Popular author Gene Stratton-Porter is perhaps the most well-known former Geneva resident, known for her writing, photos and illustrations, many of which were inspired by Limberlost Swamp. Stratton-Porter, whose full first name is Geneva, moved to the town in 1888, according to Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites' webpage. Her family built Limberlost Cabin — it's now known as Limberlost State Historic Site — in 1895 and lived there for about 18 years.

Limberlost Swamp once covered 13,000 acres. According to the state museum website, the swamp got its name from when a hunter colloquially known as

"Limber Jim" got lost in it, resulting in cries around town, "Limber's lost!"

Stratton-Porter's family lived in the area until 1913, when it moved to Sylvan Lake in Rome City. Limberlost Swamp was drained that year for farming.

"(It's) one of the reasons she left here, she lost her outdoor study area," said Lehman.

In the 1990s, rural Bryant farmer Ken Brunswick spearheaded the Limberlost Swamp Remembered project for Friends of the Limberlost. The effort included developing seven restored wetlands across 428 acres of the former Limberlost Swamp and, in '97, created Loblolly Marsh Wetland Preserve in northern Jay County.

Another notable landmark in Geneva, the Ceylon Covered Bridge has been sitting over the Wabash River on Adams County road 950 South at Limberlost County Park since 1879. Also known as Baker bridge, it's the only covered bridge still spanning the Wabash River; according to the Town of Geneva's website,

Laura Schwartz, librarian at Adams County Public Library's

Geneva branch, pointed out the library will host a presentation on Geneva's history at 3 p.m. Friday. Geneva native Rich Briggs will be speaking.

In celebration of the town's sesquicentennial, Geneva has planned two full days of activities for the community, including a golf outing, chili cook-off, live music and fireworks.

The celebration begins at 10:30 a.m. Friday with a presentation at Ceylon Covered Bridge, located on Adams County road 950 South at Limberlost County Park. Friday's events will officially kick off during an opening ceremony at 5 p.m. located on the main stage at the corner of High and Line streets, with live music to follow and fireworks slated for 10 p.m.

Officials will exhume a 50-year-old time capsule at 10 a.m. Saturday at Memorial Park, next to Geneva Town Hall, with the opening set for 11 a.m. at Limberlost Construction, 515 E. Line St., and burial of a new time capsule is set for 4 p.m. Nearly 9 hours of live music will begin at 2:30 p.m. Saturday.

Limberlost State Historic Site

will also be offering free events Saturday, including guided tours of the Limberlost Cabin from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For a more detailed list of scheduled activities and performances, visit townofgeneva.org.

Geneva Chamber of Commerce president Mary Fields explained her office started planning for the event about 15 months ago.

"First of all, we had to get our finances in order," she said.

Support for the celebration quickly poured in from local businesses and individuals. From there, committees formed to begin planning.

"It was overwhelming," Fields said. "The community really stepped up."

She encouraged visitors to attend the history presentation. Fields referenced symbols of Geneva's past, such as the former Geneva High School's cardinal mascot, blue herons from the lakes, oil wells, Porter's cabin and Limberlost Swamp.

"There's just so much history in this small little town," she said. "I think people are very excited."



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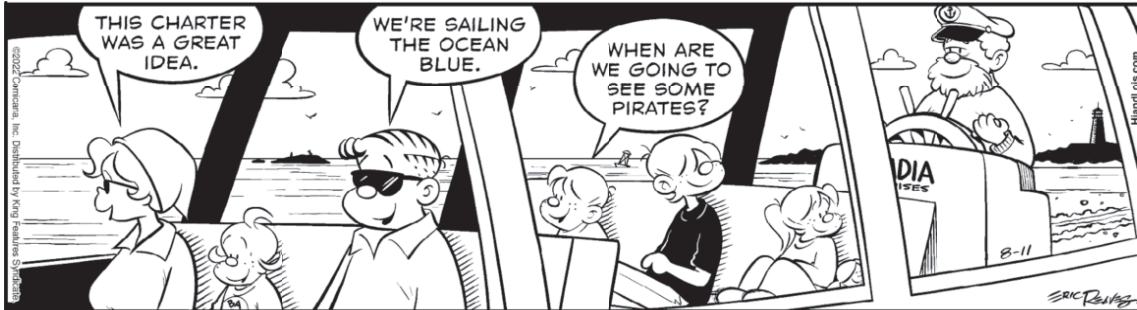
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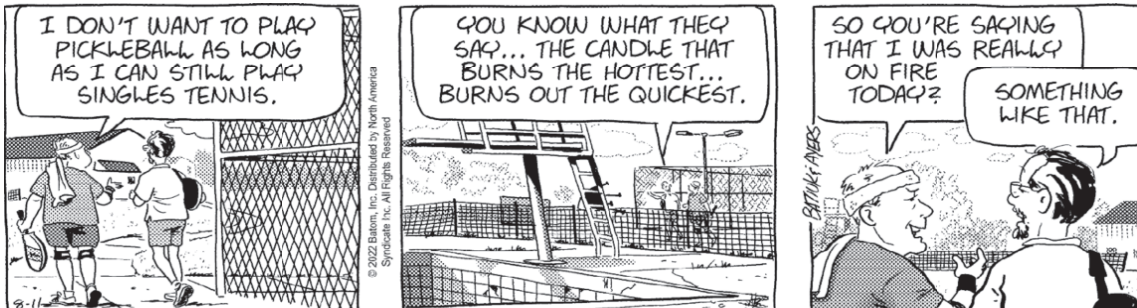
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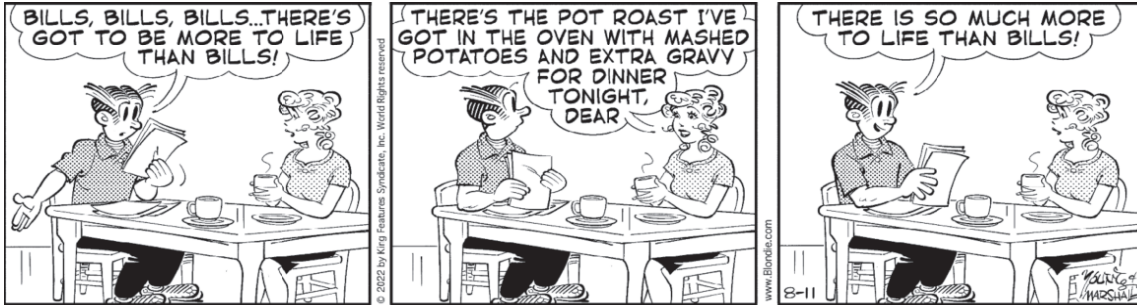
Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The art of slam bidding

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH: A J 8 2, K 10 3, K Q 10 6 4, A 4. WEST: 7 4 3, 7 2, 9 5 2, K Q 9 8 6. EAST: Q 10 9 6, 8 6 4, A 7 3, J 5 3. SOUTH: K 5, A Q J 9 5, J 8, A 10 7 2.

The bidding: South West North East. 1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass. 2♥ Pass 2♠ Pass. 2NT Pass 4♥ Pass. 4NT Pass 5♣ Pass. Opening lead — king of clubs.

Consider the present case where North-South arrived at six hearts. South opened one heart, and North, knowing that a game was already virtually certain and also that slam was a distinct possibility, responded with two diamonds. It was the first of three bids made by North that were specifically designed to describe both his high-card values and distribution. After South rebid his hearts, North continued the piecemeal description of his hand by bidding two spades. One effect of North's first two bids was that he indicated longer diamonds than spades, since he had bid diamonds first. After South's two-notrump bid, North completed the picture of his hand by jumping to four hearts. This strongly suggested a 4-3-5-1 pattern and greater high-card values than a three-heart bid would have indicated. South needed no further prodding. Recognizing that North had a very good hand with at most one club, he employed Blackwood, found out an ace was missing and signed off at six hearts. After winning the opening club lead with the ace, he led the diamond jack at trick two, and there was nothing the defenders could do to stop the slam.

Point count, whether based on high cards or distributional values, does not necessarily provide the best guide to reaching the optimum contract. Good judgment and long experience are much more reliable guidelines than the arithmetical calculation of the worth of the combined hands. This is especially true in slam bidding.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

8-11

CRYPTOQUIP

OC LY OYIAXYOL XDPORLBOAY SDKD XLPD OY L SDIBDKY LCKORLY YLBOAY, BGLB XOFGB ZD FLXZOLY LXZODY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN A BUNGLING RAPTORIAL BIRD OF PREY FLIES REALLY UNSKILLFULLY, WOULD YOU SAY IT'S HAWKWARD?

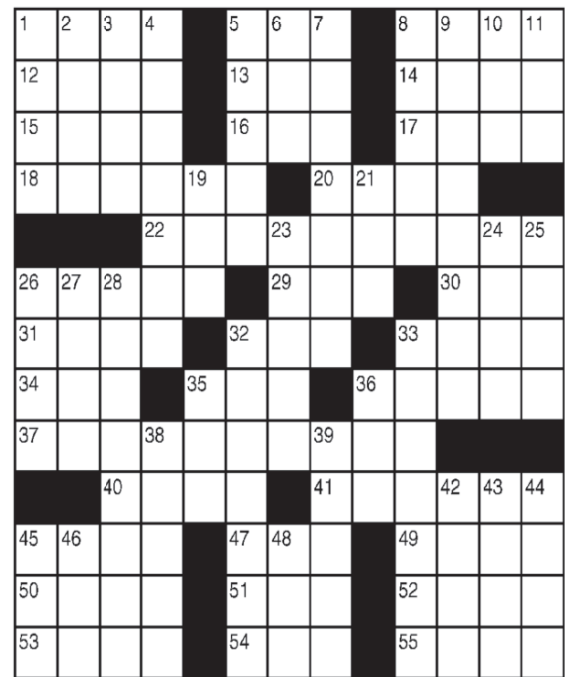
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals I

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS: 1 Pickle holders, 5 Klutz, 8 Pre-weekend yell, 12 Layered cookie, 13 School org., 14 Nozzle site, 15 Complaint, 16 Mahal preceptor, 17 Memory method, 18 Jungle trek, 20 Apple product, 22 "Lunch break is over!", 26 Sports bar fixture, 29 "Mangia!", 30 Avril follower, 31 Marsh plant, 32 "Blue Bloods" ailer. 33 Nov. honorees, 34 401(k) alter-native, 35 Notable time terms, 36 Trig secutive, 40 Puerto —, 41 Small apes, 45 Help a hood, 47 Fanatic, 49 Aswan's river, 50 Roster, 51 Compass dir., 52 Radiate, 53 —-bitty. 54 Carried out, 55 Lushes, 21 Soup cooker, 23 Skewered entree, 24 Assess, 25 Smooch, 26 Chicago paper, briefly, 27 Actress, 28 "American Idol" host, 32 Sang softly, 33 Minnesota footballers, 35 Catchall abbr., 36 Learning ctr., 38 Poker pot, 39 Played a part, 42 Actor O'Shea, 43 Conspiracy, 44 Stitches, 45 Boxing legend, 46 Morsel, 48 Numerical prefix.



Yesterday's answer 8-11



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Blackmon excited to be Colts' 'eraser'

By **GEORGE BREMER**

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service

WESTFIELD — It probably shouldn't have come as a surprise Julian Blackmon was the first player to intercept Matt Ryan in 11-on-11 drills this summer.

The way it happened might have ranked a little higher on the shock scale. After a miscommunication with wide receiver Ashton Dulin, the veteran quarterback sailed a pass into a spot he expected the target to be.

Blackmon sprinted across the field initially in preparation to clean up a possible reception. But he made a quick adjustment to the overthrow and then a diving catch for the interception Monday afternoon.

In that moment, it was difficult to remember the 23-year-old is rehabbing a major injury to his left leg for the second time in three offseasons.

As a rookie coming out of Utah in 2020, Blackmon was recovering from a torn ACL suffered in the Pac-12 championship game. He rebounded quickly enough to make 14 starts and record 42 tackles, two interceptions and a forced fumble.

Last year, his season ended after just six games when he tore his Achilles' tendon at the end of a routine practice. It can



Tribune News Service/Indianapolis Star/Jenna Watson

Indianapolis Colts free safety Julian Blackmon (32) looks for cheers after his team picked up a Baltimore fumble Oct. 11, 2021, during the second half of Colts against Baltimore at M&T Bank Stadium for Monday Night Football.

take a full year for a player to return to the field from that injury, and many say they don't really feel like themselves for an additional year after that.

Less than 10 months after tearing his Achilles', Blackmon is playing a critical position in the Indianapolis Colts' new defensive scheme and looking very much in top form.

"I've been trying to show everybody I'm not really scared to use my

left (leg) anymore," he said after Wednesday's 90-minute practice. "Now that I'm getting warm and putting my feet into the ground, I just want to show my range — the ability's still there. And it's only gonna go up from here, as long as I stick to the treatment and follow what everybody's telling me to do."

The Colts are counting on it.

New coordinator Gus Bradley's defense relies a lot on single-high safety

looks. It's a dangerous way to live in the NFL and requires a player with a specific set of skills to make the scheme work.

Earl Thomas became a superstar playing free safety for the Seattle Seahawks' famed "Legion of Boom" defense Bradley helped to install and served as its first coordinator.

In a seven-year span between 2011-17, Thomas made six Pro Bowl appearances, was named

first-team All-Pro three times and finished third in the NFL Defensive Player of the Year race in 2013.

Blackmon clearly has a long way to go to match those accolades, but his raw ability suggests he can be special in this role.

"The big thing with that spot in our defense is to cover a lot of grass both laterally and downhill and be that guy that can be a sure tackler," Bradley said. "He's working on all of his angles

right now and leverage angles and things like that. But he made a great play covering a lot of ground (on Monday's interception) — very, very happy that we have him."

Not every player is mentally capable of handling such a high-wire act.

Many, many things can go wrong, and there are any number of ways the blame could be placed at Blackmon's feet.

In addition to the physical requirements of the position, Blackmon and rookie strong safety Nick Cross — who will usually be lined up much closer to the line of scrimmage — must communicate clearly and concisely with their teammates.

It's been common to hear Blackmon's voice barking out instructions as he surveys the landscape in front of him during training camp practices, and that responsibility adds to pressure of his position.

But he welcomes the challenge.

"I mean, that's what I love to do," Blackmon said of being asked to cover a lot of ground. "I feel like I take it upon myself to erase. That's what we call my position, specifically, is 'The Eraser.' So if we make a mistake, I'll be there to fix it."

Dream ...

Continued from page 10
"Building a stadium in a place where you really honestly are not supposed to build a stadium, it looked incredible. Guys said the surface was awesome."

"The field looked unbelievable," Schwindel said. "Watching homers go out into the corn, it is just something special you don't really see that often. It's going to be a great opportunity to play in that

game, and it's going to be a lot of fun."

For the Reds, the 7:15 p.m. game, which will be televised on FOX, will come a day after the end of a three-game series on the road against the New

York Mets. The Reds and Cubs will have an off day Aug. 12 and then resume their series Saturday and Sunday at Great American Ball Park in Cincinnati.

"We play the Cubs a lot," Farmer said, "and we're very

familiar with them. I think it's just another ballgame for us, and I think the only difference is that we're traveling on a day we're going to play, rather than the night before, and we have to prepare our bodies for that."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Volleyball scrimmage at Mississinewa — 6 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football scrimmage vs. Richmond — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Mississinewa Valley — 4 p.m.

TV sports

Today
1 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
3 p.m. — Major League Baseball:

St. Louis Cardinals at Colorado Rockies (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
5 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NFL preseason football: New York Giants at New England Patriots (CBS)
7 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
7:15 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds (FOX)
7:30 p.m. — NFL preseason football: Tennessee Titans at Baltimore Ravens (ABC)

Friday
1 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
1 p.m. — Tennis: Canadian Open — Quarterfinals (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
5 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
6 p.m. — NFL preseason football: Atlanta Falcons at Detroit Lions (FOX)
7 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)
7 p.m. — WNBA basketball: Washington Mystics at Indiana Fever (Bally Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — NFL preseason football:

New York Jets at Philadelphia Eagles (NBC)
8:30 p.m. — NFL preseason football: Green Bay Packers at San Francisco 49ers (ABC)
9 p.m. — Baseball: Little League World Series (ESPN)

Local notes

Tickets on sale
Fort Recovery Local Schools season tickets are on sale.
Tickets are on sale from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 3:30 p.m. in the high school office.
All sports tickets for junior high and high school are \$50 for students and

\$150 for adults. Junior high passes are \$10 for students and \$25 for adults, and football season tickets are \$15 for students and \$25 for adults.
Senior passes, which are for Fort Recovery residents 65 and older, are \$30.

Tryouts scheduled
Jay County Baseball Club will hold tryout sessions Saturday at Jay County High School's Don E. Selvey Memorial Field.
The baseball club will offer teams for players 12 and younger with a six-tournament guarantee. Tryout times are as follows:
10 a.m. — 8-and-younger
Noon — 9 and 10 year olds
2 p.m. — 11 and 12 year olds

For more information, visit the Jay County Baseball Club Facebook page.

WJCC soccer registration open
Registration is open for the West Jay Community Center fall soccer program for third through eighth graders.
Forms are available at the community center or online at thewjc.wix.com/wjcc. The fee is \$45.

Registration is open until Aug. 19, with a clinic and skills assessment to follow Aug. 20. Games will be held on Saturdays from Sept. 10 through Oct. 15 at West Jay Elementary School.

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To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

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8:30 a.m.
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Bring your items to sale location anytime Tuesday, August 16th through Friday, August 19th 7:00am to 6:00pm.
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250 PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice
Alcohol & Tobacco Commission
LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
The Alcohol Beverage Board of Jay County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 11:00 am on August 23, 2022 at the Court House, Auditorium, in the city of Portland in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:
RC3802050 Beer Wine & Liquor
- Fraternal Club RENEWAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES 928 320 N. MERIDIAN ST. Portland IN
D/B/A F.O.E. #928
DL3820719 Beer Wine & Liquor
- Drug Store RENEWAL
HOOK-SUPERX, LLC 802 N. MERIDIAN ST. Portland IN
D/B/A CVS PHARMACY #6624 LINDA M CIMBRON 45 BRIDGE STREET Warren, Secretary
THOMAS S MOFFATT 29 HOMESTEAD CIRCLE Kingston, President
MELAIN LUKER 45 SUSAN DRIVE Cranston, Secretary
KIMBERLY DESOUSA 28 LARCHWOOD DR Cumberland, Secretary
DL3826101 Beer Wine & Liquor
- Drug Store RENEWAL
HOOK-SUPERX LLC 1130 SOUTH MAIN STREET Dunkirk IN
D/B/A CVS PHARMACY #6632 LINDA M CIMBRON 45 BRIDGE STREET Warren, Secretary
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MELAIN LUKER 45 SUSAN DRIVE Cranston, Secretary
KIMBERLY DESOUSA 28 LARCHWOOD DR Cumberland, Secretary
DL3828109 Beer & Wine Dealer
- Grocery Store RENEWAL
MAC'S CONVENIENCE STORES LLC 325 NORTH MERIDIAN Portland IN
D/B/A CIRCLE K #4702207
DEBRA ANN GOOLDY 7290 S ARTESIAN DRIVE Columbus, Secretary
DARRELL JAY DAVIS 11081 W GRANDVIEW DR Columbus, President
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Sports

Indians eighth in invite at Elks

CELINA, Ohio — In what they knew would be a rebuilding year, the Indians got a look Tuesday at where they will need to be in order to be competitive against area rivals.

The Fort Recovery High School girls golf team finished last out of eight teams at the Gary Broering Invitational at Mercer County Elks Country Club, posting a score of 502.

Fort Loramie's 386 was by far the low score of the tournament, besting runner-up Coldwater by 20 strokes. Wapakoneta was third at 432.

The Indians, who graduated their entire starting lineup from last season, were 31 strokes behind seventh-place Celina.

Sophomore Emma Will, a first-year golfer, paced Fort Recovery, shooting 59 on the back nine for a 123 total.

Coldwater's Jordan Hemmelgarn was the tournament medalist with an 85.

Brynn Stammen followed Will for the Indians with a 124. Eva Kahlig shot 127 and Ella Westgerdes posted a 128.

A 135 from Ella Schoen and a 143 from Marissa Schoen did not factor in the team score.

It was the first 18-hole tournament of the season for the Indians, who have a few days off before playing their first home match at 4:30 p.m. Monday against Parkway at Portland Golf Club.

Living the dream



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Jose M. Osorio

Yankees players walk in the outfield for their team photo Aug. 12, 2021, before the Field of Dreams game against the White Sox in Dyersville, Iowa. The field will play host to the Cincinnati Reds and Chicago Cubs tonight.

Reds, Cubs meet in Iowa tonight

By DAVID JABLONSKI

Springfield News-Sun
Tribune News Service

Kyle Farmer grew up watching "Field of Dreams," a movie that premiered in May 1989, about 15 months before he was born. On Aug. 11, he'll get to experience the diamond in Dyersville, Iowa, where the movie was filmed when the Cincinnati Reds play in the second MLB at Field of Dreams game.

"It was actually on TV two

nights ago," Farmer said Wednesday, "and I watched the whole thing. It's an incredible movie, and I'm looking forward to being out there."

Major League Baseball held a Zoom conference call with Farmer, the Reds shortstop, and Chicago Cubs first baseman Frank Schwindel on Wednesday to promote the game.

A year ago, the Chicago White Sox beat the New York Yankees 9-8 in the first MLB at

Field of Dreams event. It was the first official big-league game held in Iowa. Kevin Costner, the star of the movie, attended the game at the Lansing Family Farm, which became a popular tourist attraction after the movie was filmed there. Major League Baseball constructed an 8,000-seat stadium for the game.

The Reds-Cubs game at the Field of Dreams site was announced last August.

"Wearing the 1919 uniforms

and walking out of the corn after everybody watching it last year," Farmer said, "I think everybody's pretty excited."

MLB Network analyst Harold Reynolds, a former big-league infielder, asked the players specifically about the infield dirt.

"I talked to a few guys," Farmer said, "and they said they've done an incredible job with it."

See **Dream** page 9

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CAMPING EXHIBITORS
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