

The Commercial Review

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Sparkling interest



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Jen Leininger, John Pryor and Dave Riggs drive a 1920 Frick Eclipse steam engine Thursday down a path on the eastern portion of Jay County Fairgrounds. Jen's husband, Matt Leininger, and Riggs both own the 11-ton steam engine that has been visiting the Tri-State Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show since 2016. Leininger and Riggs have been attending shows in Indiana nearly all their lives, having met at one nearly 40 years ago.

Friends keep Frick engine firing away at Tri-State show

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A procession of golf carts made its way toward the northeast end of Jay County Fairgrounds.

Carts traveling from all directions met Thursday evening at the dimly lit pull track. Drivers parked their carts and turned off their headlights.

The spark show would begin soon.

A few minutes later, steam whooshed through a set of pipes and into the air. A 1920 Frick Eclipse propelled forward.

Burning ashes erupted from the steam engine's smoke stack, lighting up the track and the faces of its cheering audience as it chugged along.

Watching others experience the show for the first time keeps the magic alive for steam engine co-owner Matt Leininger. The 1920 Frick Eclipse he co-owns with Dave Riggs is one of two mobile steam engines at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show this year.

Leininger, 52, and

Riggs, 53, have been attending tractor and engine shows since their childhood. They've been friends for nearly all their lives, having met at the Tipton Mid-America Threshing and Antiques Show more than 40 years ago. They co-own several other antique pieces, including a few tractors and a 1917 Port Huron engine.

"We joke we have more community property together than most married couples," Leininger smiled. "He's like a brother (to me)."

The history behind their steam engine stems further back than their friendship or their lifespans.

Riggs explained a family in Greenville, Tennessee, purchased the Frick Eclipse in 1921 to use with its saw mill. (It would've been worth about \$3,000 at that time.) The family used the steam engine "til it was about wore out," he said.

See Sparking page 5

Sparks shoot out of a 1920 Frick Eclipse's smoke stack Thursday night. Every evening at the Tri-State Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show, the steam engine arrives at the pull track on the fairgrounds. Operators toss sawdust into the furnace, causing sparks to light on fire and spew out the top.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Former trustee gets 21 months in prison

Miller pleaded guilty to wire fraud in 2021

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

FORT WAYNE — A former local elected official has been sentenced to nearly two years in prison for wire fraud.

Katina Miller, 50, a former Bearcreek Township Trustee, was sentenced Thursday by United States District Court Judge Holly A. Brady to 21 months in prison.

She was also ordered to pay \$86,755.39 in restitution. Following her time in prison, she will have two years of supervised release.

Miller, now of Montpelier, had pleaded guilty to one count of wire fraud in February 2021. In a press release at that time, acting U.S. Attorney Gary T. Bell said she admitted to "devising a scheme to divert money for her benefit." Her sentencing hearing had been delayed repeatedly in the interim.

She had been charged with two counts of wire fraud in January 2021.

Court documents filed in connection with the case alleged that Miller embezzled the \$86,755.39 in township funds over a four-year period from 2015 through 2018. The accusations against her included using township bank accounts to pay for personal expenses via debit cards, ATM withdrawals and checks made out to herself.

"As the Trustee, Miller was responsible for the financial processes of the Township," a Department of Justice press release said Thursday. "Miller violated her fiduciary responsibility to the citizens of Bearcreek Township by converting public money for her own personal benefit."

A Democrat, Miller was uncontested for trustee in the 2014 general election. She lost in the 2018 primary to Crystal Laux, who continues to serve as Bearcreek Township Trustee.

Questions about the township's finances surfaced soon after Laux took office.

See Trustee page 2

Ukraine nuclear plant cut off energy grid

By JOHN HUDSON
The Washington Post

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine's largest nuclear power plant was cut off from the country's electricity grid, setting off a mass power outage in the adjacent area after fires damaged its last functioning transmission line, Ukraine's nuclear power company said Thursday.

Emergency backup systems kicked in and helped sustain crucial operations, but the incident heightened fears of a disaster at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant (ZNPP),

which is also the largest atomic energy plant in Europe and is located in an area occupied by invading Russian forces.

Fighting in the vicinity of the plant has led to acute wor-

ries of a potential catastrophe and to urgent calls from many world leaders for U.N. nuclear experts to be allowed to visit the site.

Russian and Ukrainian offi-

cials traded blame for shelling at the plant, which they said had resulted in the disconnection from the power grid — the first time it has ever been cut off.

In a dramatic speech on Thursday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said the backup systems had already narrowly prevented a radioactive calamity.

"Today, for the first time in history, the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant stopped," Zelensky said. "The emergency protection of the power units worked, after the last working line of the plant's power return to the Ukrainian power system was damaged by Russian shelling."

See Plant page 5

Incident causes mass power outages after fire damages transmission line

Deaths

Peggy Fleming, 94, Redkey
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 83 degrees Thursday. The low was 61.

Tonight's low will be in the low 60s again. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with a high of 83.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Chris Snow and Marcie Vormohr both filed Thursday to run for Jay School Board. Snow, the incumbent in District 1, will run in District 5 against Ron Laux after having moved from his previous district. Vormohr, Snow's aunt, will run against Mike Foreman and Chad Bricker for the District 1 seat.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS football game against Huntington North.

Tuesday — Photos from weekend events including Win of the Wabash.



Truth revealed after couple lives together

DEAR ABBY: I'm having a hard time deciding what to do about my engagement to my fiancé. We met at our old job. Before we got together, he was with someone else, and while he says he didn't leave her for me, I am sure I helped.

Dear Abby



Since the move, he has become very verbally abusive, and I have developed anxiety and panic attacks. I have also developed a fear of driving. He tells me I need to quit being stupid and to grow up. He doesn't like to talk about problems. He likes to pretend they never happened. If I try to discuss things that upset me, there is always an argument and

I'm always in the wrong. When I work late or if I'm not home, he gets upset, drinks and breaks stuff.

He proposed a year into our relationship when things were OK. I'm trying to do anything I can to make this not miserable, but it's not enough. What do you think I should do? — NOT REALLY HAPPY IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NOT REALLY HAPPY: When problems can't be discussed, they also can't be resolved. I think it's time to calmly evaluate the status quo and decide if you really want to spend the rest of your life with an insecure, domineering,

abusive partner who has a drinking problem. If the answer is no, make other living arrangements. Pack your belongings, inform him the romance is over (do this only when he is sober AND you have a witness) and leave.

If you have any reason to think this charmer may become violent, first call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-799-7233 to put together a safe escape plan. Believe me, you can do better than this.

DEAR ABBY: Whenever I'm out early for a medical

or dental appointment, early church services, etc., I usually stop at a fast-food drive-through and bring home breakfast. My neighbor is a single mother who works at home due to the pandemic, and I buy something for her and her son and leave it on her porch. I remember times when I was still working and a co-worker would bring in breakfast treats, and how much I enjoyed them.

My wife has told me to stop because, she says, my neighbor will think I'm a "dirty old man." My neighbor and I hardly ever speak except to say hello, and I never give her another thought. What do

you think? — PASSING IT ON IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PASSING: When you pick up those breakfasts, do you bring something home for your wife as well? If the answer is no, your wife may be insecure about the attention you are paying to this neighbor. From my perspective, what you have been doing is a kindness.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pittsburgh doctor connects practice with yoga

By ANYA SOSTEK Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Tribune News Service

PITTSBURGH — Dr. Natalie Gentile stands in an exercise studio in Pittsburgh's Strip District, leading a workout class as soothing music plays and images of Pittsburgh flow on a massive screen.

"Inhale, up dog, tops of the feet flat," she says, confidently shepherding the students through yoga poses and strength exercises. The class this month was part of a series of pop-up events promoting a wellness center that Gentile plans to open in Pittsburgh early next year.

The wellness center will be located in the same building as a new office of Gentile's medical practice, Direct Care Physicians of Pittsburgh, representing the seamless connection that Gentile hopes to draw between wellness and primary care medicine.

Often in primary care medicine, a doctor tells patients who are pre-diabetic or have other

Wellness center located in same building as medical office

health risks that they need to make lifestyle changes, such as exercising more or eating more healthfully — and that's where it ends. Without more encouragement or tools, the patients often have difficulty following through, Gentile said.

"What I found myself doing with patients, I found myself getting on the floor with them doing planks, talking about cooking tofu," she said. "It was just how I practiced medicine."

She plans to expand that in-office advice with the new wellness center. She is calling it

Rebel Wellness, a nod to her complicated relationship with the "wellness" industry.

"I've been involved in the wellness industry knowing or not knowing it for the majority of my life — always into fitness, playing sports, diet, what we were eating in our home, what I should and should not be eating was always on my mind," she said. "I struggled with disordered eating for many years."

With her patients, she finds herself continually debunking myths about wellness. Some patients come to her with an all-

or-nothing mentality about diet and exercise, she said, believing that if they are not adhering to restrictive diets or highly regimented exercise routines, it's not worth trying at all. Others come in with the attitude that their body is broken, looking for solutions in supplements and medications. And some just have the mentality that certain foods or certain body types are bad or shameful.

"We called it Rebel Wellness because it's rebelling against the typical norm that we see in the wellness industry," she said.

With the new studio, she hopes to spread that mindset not just to her patients but also to the community at large. In addition to fitness classes such as yoga, strength training and group fitness, Rebel Wellness also will have two seats in every class reserved for people who pay whatever they can afford — part of Gentile's effort to remove barriers for people to access fitness. It also will host cooking and

nutrition classes in a teaching kitchen and other workshops such as mindfulness groups. The facility will have offices for three different types of therapists, she said.

Gentile, who is board certified in lifestyle medicine and teaches at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, also will continue some of her efforts to expand access to wellness medicine. She leads the Highland Park chapter of "Walk with a Doc," which meets at the Highland Park fountain the first Friday of each month at 10 a.m. She also recently started a YouTube channel focused on plant-based food tips and recipes and at-home workouts.

She hopes all the medical wellness knowledge will culminate into Rebel Wellness. "I always thought I'd have a wellness center," she said. "I wanted something that really got back to the basics of what I was teaching my patients and I wanted the space to do it."

Community Calendar

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

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. MISSISSINEWA CHAPTER OF DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Jay County Historical Museum in Portland and travel to Fort Recovery for a historical tour and Fort Recovery State Museum visit. Members and guests are invited. Attendees should bring a lunch. Call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678. 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. 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.

Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844. THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273. A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107. ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000. NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland.

Tuesday BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome. JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay

Sudoku puzzle grid with instructions and Thursday's Solution.

Advertisement for ERIE Metal Roofs, featuring a 60% off installation offer and contact information.

Advertisement for DIRECTV, highlighting channel offerings and live sports in 4K HDR.

Advertisement for 'The Nelons' concert, featuring a live performance on Saturday, August 27, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Health care needs deeper changes

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Tribune News Service

They began as debt collectors, trying to get people burdened by medical costs to pay up. But the conversations they had

Guest Editorial

persuaded them to do something else — something better. Through listening to people explain their struggles, Craig Antico and Jerry Ashton “would understand and have better insights into the struggles people were challenged with,” said the CEO of the nonprofit they founded, RIP Medical Debt.

The Occupy Wall Street movement helped change Ashton. In 2011, activists from the group urged him to help relieve Americans of their debt, not pursue them for it.

“As a bill collector collecting millions of dollars in medical-associated bills in my career, now all of a sudden I’m reformed,” Ashton said. “I’m a predatory giver.”

Since he and Antico founded the organization in 2014, it’s bought \$6.7 billion of medical debt and paid it off for 3.6 million people. Buying \$100 in debt costs about \$1. Most buyers then try to collect the debt, making more profit the more people they can badger into paying. RIP Medical Debt does the opposite.

According to Kaiser Health News, over half of Americans have gone into medical or dental debt in the last five years. Some in debt don’t get treatment they need because they don’t want to fall further behind. Many suffer chronic illnesses that will need regular treatment for the rest of their lives. And many people can’t afford health insurance and have to hope they don’t get sick or injured. All this has been a problem for many years, but the pandemic made it much worse.

The effects of medical debt on credit scores go even farther. People may not be able to get apartments or car loans. Without places to live and way to get around, they can’t get jobs. Their debt keeps increasing, and their ability to ever escape it disappears, simply because they had the bad luck of getting sick or having a child or other dependent get seriously ill.

Health care is a basic need. Faced with the choice of serious disability (or even dying) and going into debt, anyone will take the risk. No one can blame them.

Groups like RIP Medical Debt do a great service to millions of Americans, but they can’t help everyone who needs relief. And even those they help have to suffer the financial effects and the stress and anxiety of years of being in debt.

This points, yet again, to the need for deep changes in the American health care system. We can’t rely on people like Craig Antico and Jerry Ashton to change their lives in a way that changes other peoples’ lives. We need a system that doesn’t require such people, though we’re fortunate to have them now.



Legislation won't limit inflation

By **MICHAEL J. HICKS**

Inflation came to a standstill last month. The primary causes of that welcomed outcome were tightened monetary policy and an increase in the supply of petroleum. Nevertheless, Congress passed, and the president signed the Inflation Reduction Act. While this legislation may do many things, one thing it will not do is reduce inflation. Indeed, the most we can hope for is that the new law won't make inflation worse.

Republicans showered the legislation with criticism, noting that it won't reduce, and may even contribute to inflation. They are right. However, a little over a week ago, Indiana's legislature passed, and the governor signed a stimulus bill they claimed would help reduce the effects of inflation. Like the Inflation Reduction Act, it will not. The best we can hope for is that this new stimulus will only worsen inflation modestly.

Democrats showered the legislation with criticism, noting that it won't reduce, and may even contribute to inflation. They are right. This episode offers the spectacle of two political parties offering similarly effective bills, telling the same untruths about inflation and making the same complaints about their opponents. An observer must conclude one of two things. The elected leaders who make these claims are either ignorant or think that you, the voter, are ignorant. Though, in fairness, for some, both statements are surely true.

This sort of frivolous hypocrisy rightfully angers and frustrates many citizens. It corrodes trust in our Republic and weakens our ability to respond to actual challenges. I suppose we have a few more months of performative anti-inflation politics. The only useful lesson in all this is in reminding us why “Profiles in Courage” was such a slender volume. It also raises the question of what could we do better to prevent

Michael J. Hicks



inflation and future price-level shocks.

Inflation is always, everywhere a monetary phenomenon. It is the occurrence of too much money chasing too few goods, leading to higher prices in general. Another way to think about it is that it represents the loss of value of currency. It isn't a higher price for one thing, but higher prices across the board because money is worth less than before. Other things can look like inflation, such as a supply shock or a petroleum embargo. But at its essence, inflation is about too much money.

The worst of this bout of inflation is likely behind us, but inflation will come again. One way we could better keep inflation in check is to be better at predicting it. In another 100 years, economists will have about as much data on inflation as weather forecasters in 1950 had about hurricanes. Some economists, notably Larry Summers, got this one right, as did many in the Federal Reserve.

So, one lesson might be to listen to more than just the consensus forecasts, perhaps weighting them by risk. More dire predictions might be given more weight. One problem with this is that as bad as inflation might be, overreacting to inflation can be worse to the economy than underreacting. There's no low-cost, low-risk solution in the policy response to inflation, and there never will be.

A better goal would be to boost worker productivity, which would lessen inflationary pressures. The low growth of the U.S. economy from 2009 to 2020 helped set the stage for today's inflation. These include the Tax Cut and Jobs Act from the Trump Admin-

istration, which I supported in this column.

Increasing productivity means that an economy can produce goods more cheaply, which mitigates inflation. Improving productivity won't stop inflation; it will simply dampen its effects. Productivity is simply the value of goods produced in a region, per worker. That GDP-per-worker tells us how “good” our economy and workforce is, with a couple of caveats. GDP-per-worker varies by industry, so capital-intensive industries like manufacturing, logistics and agriculture should be very productive on a per-worker basis. Industries with little physical capital, such as personal services, are far less productive on a per-worker basis. So, Indiana's workers, a disproportionate share of whom work in factories, warehouses and farms, should be more productive than the average American.

Unfortunately, we are not. The average Hoosier worker produced 16.6% less per year than did the average American. The productivity gap is large, with Hoosiers producing roughly \$9.10 per hour less in goods and services than the average American (based on a standard 40-hour week). This gap has grown modestly for more than a decade, indicating a long-term problem in the Indiana economy.

The Hoosier economy should be far more productive than it is. That we aren't is a result of several public policy mistakes that leave Hoosiers poorer and more susceptible to inflation than the average American.

Having failed to soften the blow of inflation through state policy, we must look to federal policy to do so. Ultimately our federal debt is a very large inflationary risk. Our debt is the sum of all previous federal deficits, or how much more we spend each year on a federal budget than we collect in taxes. Our debt has grown to enormous levels; it now sits at 137% of our GDP. Despite what you may hear from political can-

didates, this debt is a wholly bipartisan endeavor.

Biden has only had one budget year so far of data, but he added \$2.7 trillion to the national debt. Trump added \$5.9 trillion, Obama added \$8.7 trillion, Bush added \$1.9 trillion. From 1950 to 2020, Republican presidents averaged an inflation-adjusted annual increase to the debt of \$433 billion, while Democrats added \$302 billion on average over the same time. The biggest increase in the deficit occurred during 2020 and 2021 as we recovered from the recent pandemic, with the all-time record going to Trump, followed by Biden.

Ironically, both parties have been equally unreliable with tax rates, as with spending. It is this data that is most surprising to many readers. During the Trump presidency, our federal government collected 10.4% of GDP in taxes, up from 9.9% under Obama, who was down 10.5% from Bush's tax collections. Clinton's average taxes were 11.6% of GDP, while the elder Bush collected an average of 10.4%. The idea of high-tax, high-spending Democrats and fiscally prudent Republicans is empirically without justification.

The combination of too-high spending and too-low tax rates has left the U.S. with a large debt that slowly adds to the risk of inflation in later years. This could be fixed in Congress at any time. All it requires is some capacity for honest arithmetic, the ability to explain difficult fiscal challenges to voters, a bit of integrity, and a tiny snippet of moral courage. In other words, addressing our biggest inflationary risk requires the character traits that were conspicuously absent during our current bout of inflation.

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

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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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Sparking ...

Continued from page 1
When they tried to move it, the engine got stuck in a creek bed and left to the elements.

An Indiana resident who grew up in the area recalled the engine sitting in that spot. Nearly 50 years later, he returned to Tennessee and persuaded the family to sell him the engine. It sat on his property for about 20 years before he sold it to Riggs, a Marion resident.

Renovating the steam engine took Riggs about nine years.

"It was missing a lot of parts," he recalled, pointing out the canopy and its beams had been completely replaced. All of its pipes also needed replaced, along with repairs to its boiler.

He noted Tennessee's water heavily consists of clay. The boiler had accumulated mounds of hard clay inside it over the years, and the renovation process required a chisel and hammer to remove most of the buildup.

The Frick Eclipse has changed hands a few times since then. Riggs traded it to a friend, who died several years ago, and then his friend's daughter had possession of it for 13 years. Riggs and Leininger decided to buy the steam engine back in 2014. It cost around \$20,000. After some paint restoration and a boiler inspection, the Frick Eclipse started making appearances in shows across Indiana.

The 11-ton steam engine sits at 9.5 feet tall. It can haul about 50,000 pounds — almost double its weight. When the cast iron boiler is warm, it takes at least an hour to prepare for driving. (If the weather is cold, it can take anywhere from three to four hours.) The steam engine often makes trips around the fairgrounds, popping and hiss-



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

The 1920 Frick Eclipse owned by Matt Leininger and Dave Riggs is making its sixth appearance at the Tri-State Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show. Pictured above is the engine's name printed on a portion of the machine. At right is the driver's view of the steam engine while taking it around Jay County Fairgrounds.



ing at onlookers as it travels down a path. An occasional loud whistle signals its presence.

Before starting the engine for a short trip around the grounds Thursday, Riggs tossed a couple extra logs into the furnace to increase the steam pressure. He stepped up onto the platform next to the steering wheel and pulled a few levers.

John Pryor, Leininger's cousin, stood behind him, indicating directions to turn.

Turn left. Turn right. Don't forget to use the crank. Now straighten it out.

The steam engine bounced along a stone path at the fairgrounds, its wheels jostling from various rocks disrupting its path.

"It's amazing these ... things still work," said Pryor, one of the

group helping operate the steam engine at the show this year.

Riggs started visiting engine and tractor shows with his grandfather, Charles Cantrell, about 50 years ago. He lamented the fact Cantrell never got to see his 1920 Frick Eclipse in action, having died a few years before Riggs finished restorations.

Leininger attended the Tipton Mid-America Threshing and Antiques Show with his father as a child. They made an appearance at local shows annually until the family moved to Connecticut. He returned to Tipton at 18 years old and took ownership of the family farm that was founded in 1869.

Leininger met his future wife, Jen, in 2011. They hit it off after she mustered the courage to ask if she could ride a steam engine

he was operating at the Tipton show. Jen Leininger now helps operate the steam engine at the events they attend, which include shows in Rushville and Tipton, the Howard County Fair and Tri-State events in Jay County.

Both Leininger and Riggs appreciate the past connected to steam engines.

"They give people a glimpse into the past of what their grandparents endured ... for what we have nowadays," Riggs said.

Leininger enjoys the friendships, like with Riggs, he's made over the years with the hobby. The genuine moments he experiences also make it worthwhile.

"Seeing little kids smile at

spark shows, that's pretty fun," he said.

Following the spark show Thursday, the Frick Eclipse began its departure for the evening. A few helpers shone flashlights in front and to the sides of the steam engine as it traveled.

Its front right wheel suddenly overcame a bigger rock, causing it to wiggle in a different direction. The mechanism slowed as Jen Leininger turned the steering wheel and Riggs made a few adjustments.

Within a few seconds, the steam engine started chugging along again, making its way back to a spot in the eastern corner of the fairgrounds.

Plant ...

Continued from page 1
"Diesel generators were immediately activated to provide energy to the plant itself, to support it after the shutdown," Zelensky contin-

ued. "The world must understand what a threat this is: If the diesel generators hadn't turned on, if the automation and our staff of the plant had not reacted after the black-

out, then we would already be forced to overcome the consequences of the radiation accident. Russia has put Ukraine and all Europeans in a situation one step away

from a radiation disaster."

Zelensky and other officials warned repeatedly in recent weeks that a disconnection of power and transmission lines could lead to

an extremely dangerous situation by disrupting the plant's normal operation and making it difficult to cool the reactors.

"The actions of the invaders caused a com-

plete disconnection of the ZNPP from the power grid — for the first time in the history of the plant," Ukraine's nuclear energy company, Energoatom, said in a statement.

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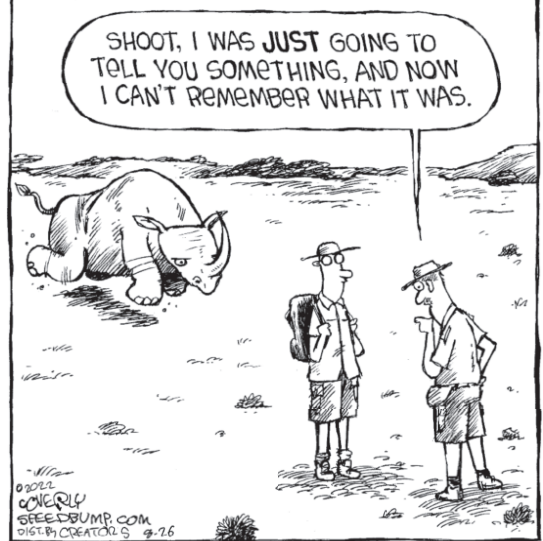
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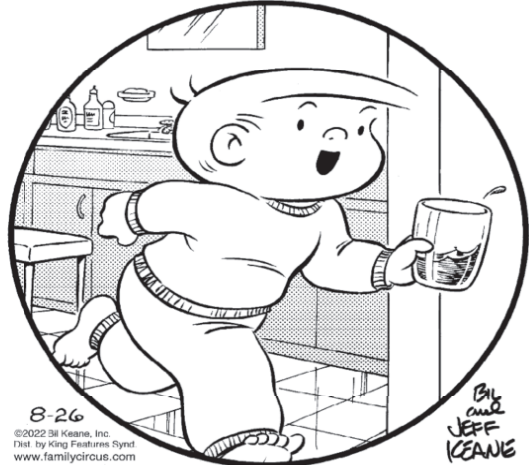
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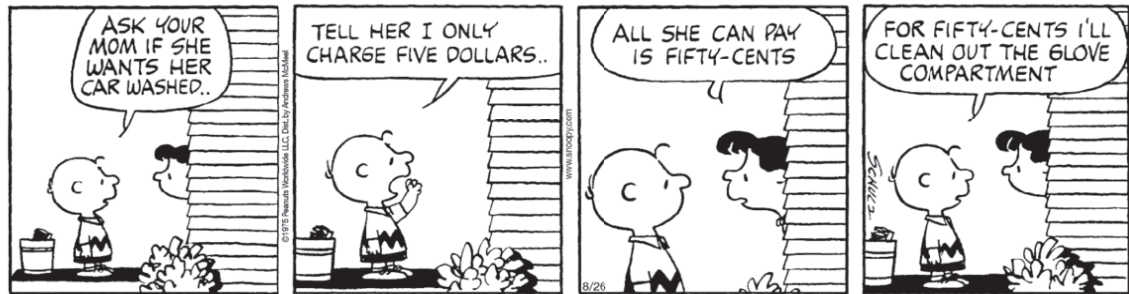
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



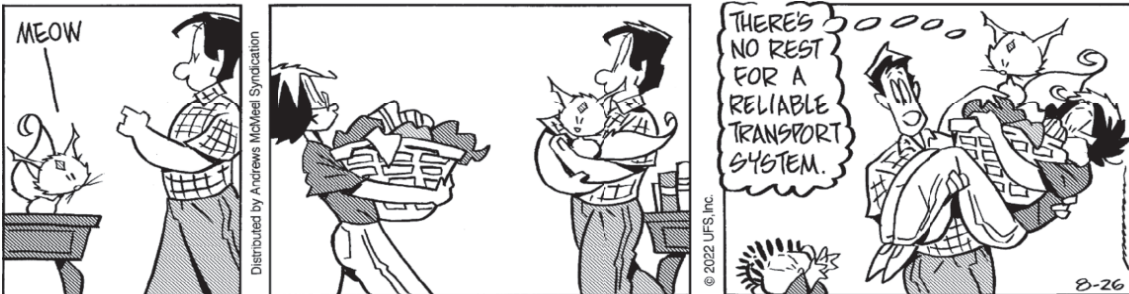
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



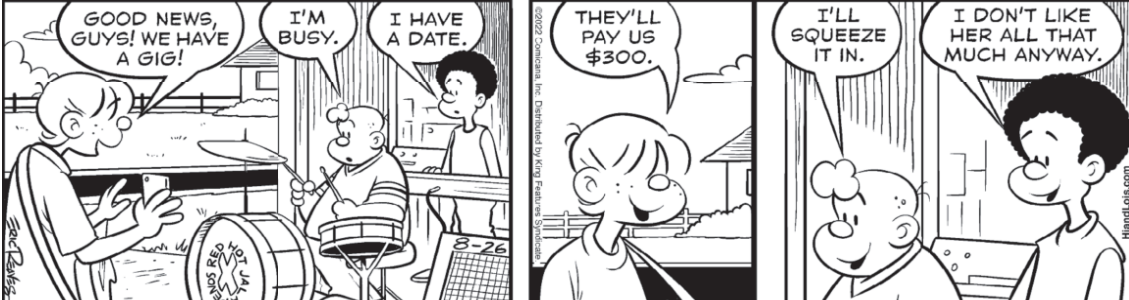
Rose is Rose



Agnes



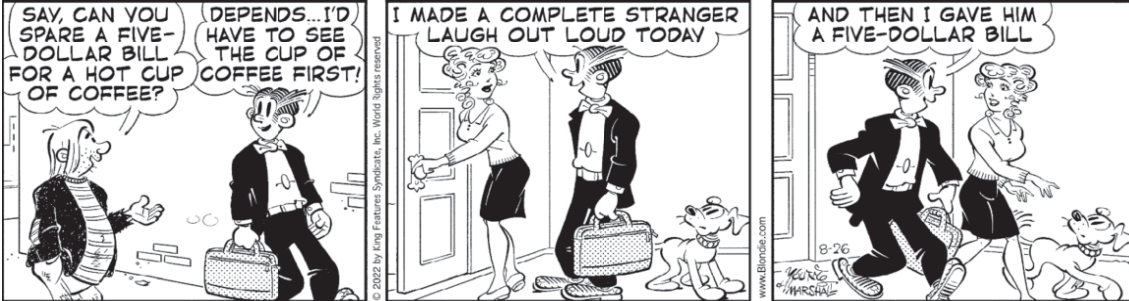
Hi and Lois



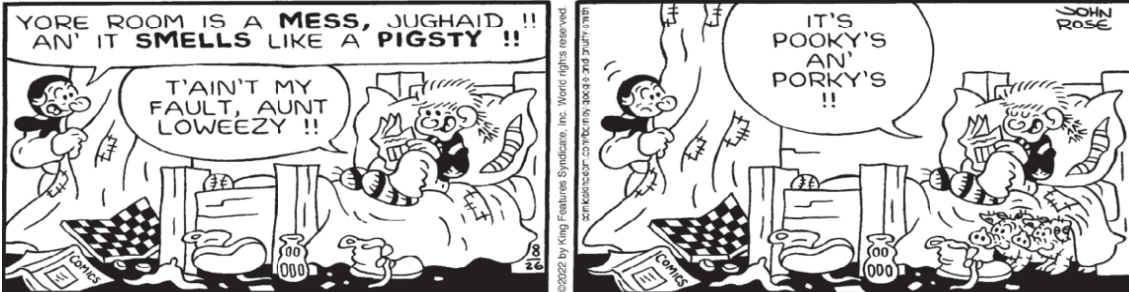
Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play

1. You are East, defending against Three Notrump, South having opened one notrump, raised by North to three. Your partner leads the four of spades. You cover dummy's five with the seven, and declarer wins with the queen. South leads the jack of diamonds, which you win with the queen. What would you play next? ... Tomorrow: An unexpected development.

CRYPTOQUIP

SD QGA MWVSL NLLVW EVQEWV YCWW RCLF KVAQ YCLHWVZZ, IWQQFZGMNCLH CLZVMDZ. CD'Z S LQ-RWVS KQLV. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD SOMEONE CALL AN ERRAND RUNNER FOR A FILM SET'S CHIEF ELECTRICIAN? THE GAFFER GOFER. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Be 1 Persian Gulf emirate 6 Little lie 9 Chances, for short 12 Winner's gesture 13 "All bets — off" 14 Haw preceder 15 The-saurus compiler 16 Bache's "Coffee —" 18 Deserves 20 Legal document 21 Salonga of "Miss Saigon" 23 Commotion 24 Deli array 25 Arsenal supply 27 Wear down 29 "Othello" character 31 Indian instruments 35 Mea — 37 Coin aperture

Solution time: 25 mins.



Yesterday's answer 8-26

00 CLASSIFIEDS

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30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

ATTENTION! LOST A PET Or found one? The jay county humane society can serve as an information center. 260-726-6339

40 NOTICES

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50 RUMMAGE SALES

BARN SALE 3167 E 200 S Thurs, Fri 9-6 & Sat. 9-2 Prims, Antiques, and lots more.

ZANE'S ANNUAL BARN SALE

840 W 100 N, Portland. August 20th thru August 27th. Opening at 7am on the first day. 8am-4pm the rest of the week. Antiques, Furniture, Primitives, Shop and Hand Tools, Household, Guns, Knives, Ammunition, 20HP Reid Engine on trailer (with title), Longaberger, Boyds Bears, Precious Moments, Simply Tailored Boutique Trailer will be here Saturday only at 9am. We have something for everyone. No early sales.

ESTATE SALE Antiques, Haverly/McCoy pottery, hand & power tools, old-time canoe, 10ft. kayak. Friday 9am-?? 128 E 3rd St. Portland.

YARD SALE 908 WEST WATER 9am-7pm Now thru Saturday 27th. Glassware, Furniture, Lots of misc. bargains.

GARAGE SALE 808 & 932 E 400 N Thur, Fri, Sat 9am-5pm Lots of misc.

104 MANGOLD DRIVE Thur 25th - Fri 26th 8am-6pm. Sat 27th 8-3. Radial arm saw, Men and Women sizes small to 2x. Some plus sized Women's, Craft items, Scooter frames, New bread maker, Dorm sized microwave, DVD's, Luggage set, Lots of misc items.

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READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Sports

FRHS spikers roll in home opener

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians had a lot more fun in their home opener.

The Fort Recovery High School volleyball team, which fell in three sets to St. Marys in its first match of the season Tuesday, bounced back on its home court Thursday to dominate the visiting National Trail Blazers 25-16, 25-13, 25-21.

Teigan Fortkamp served National Trail off the court, racking up 10 aces. She also had six kills and three digs for the Indians (1-1).

Faith Wendel and Kennedy Muhlenkamp totaled 15 assists apiece with many of them going to Mara Pearson, who led the way with a dozen kills. Wendel, Muhlenkamp and Pearson all followed Fortkamp with a pair of aces apiece, and Pearson also had three digs.

Fort Recovery gets the weekend off before hosting Jay County at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

FR boys golf falls

CELINA, Ohio — Fort Recovery's boys golf team fell 164-178 Thursday to the Coldwater Cavaliers at Mercer County Elks Golf Club, dropping to 1-3 in the Midwest Athletic Conference.

Isaac LeFevre posted the low score of 41 for the Indians, who are 3-4 overall. The senior had three pars in his first four holes and finished with four in all.

Ben Giere and Keegan Bruggeman of Coldwater shared match medalist honors as they both shot 40.

Alex Dues followed LeFevre for the Indians with three pars in his round of 44. Eli Lennartz added a 45, including a birdie on the 150-yard, par-3 second hole, and Keegan Muhlenkamp rounded out the team score with a 48.

FR girls golf loses

The visiting Coldwater Cavaliers were too much for the Fort Recovery girls golf team as it fell 184-223 Thursday at Portland Golf Club.

Eva Kahlig led the Indians, who slipped to 2-6 overall and 1-3 in the Midwest Athletic Conference. She shot a 52.

Ella Westgerdes followed with a 53, and Emma Will and Marissa Schoen each shot 59 to round out the team score.

Scores of 64 from Brynn Stammen and 66 from Ella Schoen did not factor into the team total.

JCH spikers drop 2

DECATUR — Jay County's junior high volleyball teams both fell Thursday to host St. Joseph's — the eighth graders by a 25-8, 25-24 score and the seventh graders 25-7, 25-11.

Brenna Schmiesing's five points, two blocks and one kill led the eighth grade Patriots. Ella Rigby had four points and two assists, and Isabelle Vasquez scored three points.

In the seventh grade match, Amelia Heath finished with three kills for Jay County. Emalyn Homan had two points, both on aces.

See **Roundup** page 7

'22 turn around



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County flips results for 2-1 win over Eagles after losing two one-goal games to Delta last year

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

In three straight games, Jay County and Delta have been separated by one goal.

Twice last season, it was the Eagles who came out on top.

The Patriots turned things around Thursday.

Jay County High School's

boys soccer team fought off a late push that included a series of corner kicks in the final four minutes to hold off the visiting Delta Eagles 2-1.

"It was a good game, a good win," said sophomore Dylan Marentes, who assisted on both Patriot goals. "It felt really nice since we lost to them

last year. ... It's a good feeling."

JCHS fell 5-4 to the Eagles during the 2021 regular season and 2-1 in extra time in the opening round of the sectional tournament.

"I feel like they gave their all," said Patriot coach Bobby Ruiz. "And that's what we've been asking. And that's what we've been pushing for. ... They pulled it out. ... They left everything on the field."

Jay County (3-1) held on to its one-goal lead for the final 23-plus minutes, with the Eagles (2-2) especially coming hard at the goal in the final six.

See **Turn** page 7

Ryan is pleased with Colts camp

By **GEORGE BREMER**

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)

Tribune News Service

WESTFIELD — Matt Ryan tried to recall his first NFL training camp Thursday.

As a rookie with the Atlanta Falcons in 2008, the quarterback — selected third overall out of Boston College — was tasked with helping the franchise climb out of the hole created by Michael Vick's dog-fighting scandal and former head coach Bobby Petrino's brief and disastrous tenure.

The task wasn't nearly as big for his 15th training camp — and first with the Indianapolis Colts — that ended Thursday at Grand Park.

But there were similarities between the two summers.

"Probably of all the camps, (this one was) probably the most similar (to the first) — just being in a new spot and adjusting to new things," Ryan said. "Whole new (coaching) staff, entirely new players so there's probably some similarities to it. From a personal standpoint, I think I'm much further along."

The 37-year-old spent most of the past month in Westfield mastering a new offensive scheme, getting on the same page with head coach Frank Reich and offensive coordinator Marcus Brady and helping to bring along a young and inexperienced group of wide receivers.

Ryan is quick to make corrections on the field in real time. If a rep goes awry, he'll talk with the intended receiver and diagnose what went wrong.

Maybe the timing was a little off. Maybe there's a nuance in the route that can make the play easier for both the passer and the receiver. Whatever the fix, the wide receivers don't have to wait for film study later in the day. They get

instant feedback, live on the field.

It's as though the Colts hired an assistant receivers coach alongside a starting quarterback.

"He's so good in that way, and it's great for Marcus and I and the whole staff just to collaborate with him — make sure that we're all saying it and teaching it the same way," Reich said. "It's been good work in that way."

The receivers say Ryan is demanding, but it only makes them better.

Michael Pittman Jr. — who enjoyed a breakout season in 2021 and is poised to have an even bigger year — admitted early in training camp he was working hard to make sure he was at the spot the quarterback needed him to be.

To help build chemistry and get on the same page with the passer, Pittman's been spending as much time as possible around Ryan in meetings and during meals. Any chance he has to talk with the quarterback, he's taking.

"It's all just trust," Pittman said. "I mean, Matt is such a great player, and he's going to make that play either way, but it just helps him make it easier and quicker for him if I'm just on his timing. So I've just been working on that, and I feel like it's turning out good."

Unofficially, Pittman led Indianapolis receivers with 41 catches during 11-on-11 drills through training camp's 16 practices. No other receiver broke 20 receptions.

Ryan was 130-of-171 in full-team work, with 10 touchdowns and three interceptions. He was 24-of-31 over the final three practices and felt the offense grow together.

He also believes there's plenty of growth yet to come.

"I feel like as we continue to go, I continue to get more comfortable," Ryan said.

See **Pleased** page 7

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