

Expanded celebration



The Commercial Review

Pictured is the 1975 Jay County High School football team, the first in Patriot history. That group won its first game over Bluffton — Friday’s homecoming opponent — and beat Winchester 24-0 in the inaugural homecoming game on the way to an 8-2 record. Former JCHS coach Tom Bruin and several of his players from the 1975 squad are expected to be on hand for Friday night’s homecoming parade and football game against the Tigers.

Jay County High School has a variety of special plans in story for its 50th anniversary homecoming on Friday

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Schools across the country celebrate homecoming each fall. Parades are held, kings and queens crowned, football games played. Fifty years ago, local students were celebrating together for the first time.

Jay County Junior-Senior High School will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its first homecoming this weekend with a wide variety of special activities in addition to the usual celebration.

“It’s bigger than football,” said JCHS athletics director Alex Griffin. “To me, it’s about just another opportunity for our community to come together ...”

Friday’s festivities will include welcoming back former JCHS football coach Tom Bruin, inaugural homecoming queen Chris (Evans) Abernathy and members of the Class of 1976. A celebrity chef will present cooking demonstrations with food to sample during the pre-game tailgate and a military helicop-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

One of the decorative displays in at Jay County Junior-Senior High School this week features letter jackets from the eight schools that preceded Jay County High School. On top, from left, are the Portland Panthers, Pennville Bulldogs, Redkey Wolves and Dunkirk Speedcats. Bottom row are the Madison Tomcats, Poling Yellowjackets, Gray Redbirds and Bryant Owls.

ter will deliver the game ball for the Patriots as they take on the Class 2A No. 7 Bluffton Tigers.

First as Patriots
The first homecoming in the history of Jay County High School was Saturday, Oct. 18, 1975.

That year marked the opening of the new school, as the remaining five high schools in the county — Portland, Dunkirk, Redkey, Pennville and Bryant — merged into one. (Poling, Gray and Madison had all closed in the previous 12 years.) Unlike the projected

forecast of sunny skies and a high in the 80s for Friday, the first homecoming was a dreary affair. “Inclement weather kept all but the most loyal of supporters home for the first homecoming,” The Commercial Review reported. For the team, though,

it was a success, with Ron Allen scoring on a pair of 2-yard runs in the second quarter. Dave Fullenkamp added a 15-yard scoring scamper in the third quarter and Duane Sautbine caught a 24-yard pass from Randy Weisel as the Patriots beat Winchester 24-0. “The defense gets the credit for this one,” Bruin told CR sports editor Russ Carson after the game. “it was a real team effort, a team defense.” The win improved Jay County to 6-2 on the season.

Queen to crown
Abernathy remembers being 17, standing on the track at Harold E. Schutz Memorial Stadium, the first girl in the school’s history to be crowned homecoming queen. “I was so blessed to be able to be crowned the homecoming queen at the new school,” said Abernathy, who was also a Miss Jay County Fair Queen. “The girls with me were all great candidates, wonderful people.” See **Celebration** page 5

Council looks at plans for possible upgrades to pool

Initial estimate for work comes in at \$1.7 million

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Upgrades to Fort Recovery Ambassador Pool won’t be cheap. But they could extend its life by a few decades. Fort Recovery Village Council heard updates on the pool renovation project at its meeting Monday. Fort Recovery received a \$450,000 contribution toward renovating Ambassador Pool from Ohio’s capital budget bill in 2024. Recently, village officials have been working with commercial pool service company Buddenbaum & Moore of Noblesville to determine the pool’s needs.

Assistant village administrator Aaron Rengers explained he recently met with the company to discuss details about the pool, which is more than 40 years old. He said Buddenbaum & Moore recommended replacing the stainless steel gutter system, filters, pumps and heater, installing a pool liner, adding a zero-entry sloping entrance and converting the kiddie pool into a splash pad.

Rengers said a high-end estimate for the renovations came to \$1.7 million, \$400,000 of which would cover the splash pad addition. (That estimate doesn’t include costs for electrical work or improvements to the concession, restroom and storage building. Village administrator Randy Diller suggested some of the work on the structure could be done in-house.)

Rengers believes the village could secure up to \$950,000 in additional grants for the project. “But that’s still a lot of uncovered money there,” he said.

Plans are for Buddenbaum & Moore to return with updated figures for renovation costs as well as provide estimates for a new pool. Rengers advocated for creating a committee to seek community input and make decisions on next steps.

Mayor Dave Kaup asked if the firm pinpointed where the leak is coming from. (The village loses an estimated 340,000 gallons of water monthly while in operation.) Rengers said the leak seems to be coming from the gutter system and possibly the body of the pool as well.

“We’ve got to figure out, what makes sense,” said Diller. “You know, it’s a 40-year-old pool, (a Buddenbaum & Moore representative) said he thinks the structure itself will last another 15, 20, 25 years ...” See **Pool** page 5

Energy secretary blasts moratoriums

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Local bans on wind, solar and other energy projects are giving Indiana a bad reputation, Indiana’s top energy official said Tuesday. She plans to reward those open for business.

“These local moratoriums are setting our energy policy,” said Energy and Natural Resources Secretary Suzanne Jaworowski said. “And not only that, it’s creating a reputation ... where industry doesn’t want to come.”

She spoke at the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute’s annual luncheon.

Jaworowski knocked communi-

Jaworoski says she plans to reward communities that are open for business

ties that “string” companies along for months or years, costing them significant sums of money for development work, before rejecting their projects. “That’s disgraceful. Personally, I think that those companies should start suing those communities and get serious about it,” she said.

Indiana lacks a statewide siting statute. Jaworowski said she’s taking action “until the Legislature can do something about it.” She described collaborating with the Indiana Economic Development Corp. on a map of local governments that have signed resolutions proclaiming their willingness to host energy or

industrial developments. Communities can still include specific installation types they don’t want, Jaworowski said.

“We’ll court all these industries,” she told the room.

“We’re putting out a carrot and saying, ... sites that want to be open to what the federal government (and) what the president is saying — that we need AI data centers, and we need energy development — we’re creating our own little group and incentivizing that,” she said. “We feel like this is part of America250,” Jaworowski continued, referring to President Donald Trump’s semiquincentennial initiative. See **Blasts** page 2

Deaths

David Johnson, 84, Portland
Nancy Lopez, 74, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 degrees Tuesday. The low was 55. Tonight’s low will be in the upper 50s. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high in the mid 80s. Highs are projected to stay in the 80s through at least Tuesday. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Jay County High School homecoming parade will begin at 5 p.m. Friday. (Line-up starts at 4 p.m.) The route will run from Jay County Fairgrounds west on Votaw Street, then south on Meridian Street to East Jay Middle School. The homecoming football game against Bluffton will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of next week’s Portland Board of Aviation meeting.

Saturday — Photos from Jay County High School’s homecoming festivities.

Tuesday — Details from Monday’s Jay County Commissioners meeting.



Obituaries

David Johnson
Nov. 8, 1940-Sept. 17, 2025
David L. Johnson, age 84, of Portland passed away Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2025, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

He was born in Portland on Nov. 8, 1940, the son of Runo and Laura (Teeters) Johnson. He was married on June 15, 1962, to Mary Butcher and she passed away on April 19, 2024.

David had worked for International Harvester for 30 years. He was a 1958 Portland High School graduate and vice president of Cleveland Browns Backers Club.

Surviving are one son, Shawn Johnson (fiancé: Laura O'Brien) of Portland; two daughters, Cindy Bessesen (husband: Tim) of Portland and Jackie Spice (husband: David)



Johnson

of Berne; sister Ruth McLaughlin of Portland; and three grandchildren, Tyler Spice, Layla O'Brien and Lynx Johnson.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Paul Johnson.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, Sept. 19, at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Earl Doll presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Heart Fund.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Nancy Lopez
Oct. 8, 1950-Sept. 15, 2025
Nancy Alene (Jenny) Lopez, AKA Jiggs, Miss Jenney and N Lo, age 74, of Portland, Indiana, passed away on Monday, Sept. 15, at 1:17 p.m. at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Indiana.

She was born in Portland on Oct. 8, 1950, the daughter of Herb and Lena (Schwartz) Jenney. She was married to George Lopez on August 20, 1983, who survives.

Nancy attended Portland High School graduating in 1968 and was very proud to be a Portland Panther and even more proud to be a member of the class of '68. Nancy attended Ball State University and received her degree in teaching in 1971. A proud Cardinal, she attended her senior year with David Leterman. Nancy taught school in Sturgis, Michigan, after graduation for 12 years before returning to Portland to teach at Jay County High School.

Nancy taught at Jay County High School for 32 years, retiring in 2015. Nancy loved teaching, loved her kids and loved the



Lopez

lasting friendships with her fellow teachers.

Nancy fought three battles with cancer. The first when she was in college, the second in 2014 as a teacher at Jay County High School, leading the football team onto the field. Unfortunately, the last battle, which started in 2024, was lost this week.

Surviving are her husband George; sister Judy Busby (husband: Ron) from Illinois; nieces Katherine and Melissa from Illinois; nephews Alfonso and Tony from Cincinnati, and Matthew and BJ from Illinois.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Herb and Lena (Schwartz) Jenney.

Nancy was a proud member of Tri Kappa Sorority and active till the end. She was also a supporter of Jay County Humane Society and Jay County Cancer Society. Nancy was a great animal lover and her pets were more than that. Auggie, Dit, Dot, Topsy, Quincy, Jake, Spike, Roy

and Buddy were the dogs she treasured. Kitty Twitty, Bogie and Tater Tot were the cats she adored.

Services will be held on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. Entombment will be in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Friday, Sept. 26, from 3 to 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Humane Society, Jay County Cancer Society or Secret Family Christmas Charity of Jay County.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

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

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

CR almanac				
Friday 9/19	Saturday 9/20	Sunday 9/21	Monday 9/22	Tuesday 9/23
88/59	86/61	83/63	79/61	80/58
Another day of sun is in the forecast for Friday when the low may hit 59 at night.	Saturday's weather looks like a slight chance of rain under partly cloudy skies.	There's a slight chance of showers or thunderstorms Sunday. The high may reach 83 degrees.	Monday's forecast shows a 50% chance of showers with 10 to 15 mph winds.	Mostly cloudy skies on Tuesday with a chance of rain.

Lotteries	
Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$81 million	Daily Three: 7-3-2 Daily Four: 2-2-9-4 Quick Draw: 10-12-16-20-22-27-32-33-34-38-40-42-46-48-53-56-60-71-73-77
Mega Millions 10-14-34-40-43 Mega Ball: 5 Estimated jackpot: \$423 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 4-9-1 Pick 4: 4-5-4-2 Pick 5: 6-8-1-3-9 Evening Pick 3: 2-5-3 Pick 4: 5-3-8-9 Pick 5: 0-3-6-9-0 Rolling Cash: 12-15-19-29-39 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 4-0-8 Daily Four: 3-3-2-1 Quick Draw: 1-3-5-9-13-16-20-30-38-43-48-56-57-59-61-64-68-69-75-76 Evening	

Markets	
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.17 Oct. corn4.12 Dec. corn4.27	Dec. beans10.43 Wheat 4.83
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.21 Oct./Nov. corn4.11 Dec. corn4.31	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.00 Late Sept. corn3.96 Beans10.02 Late Sept. beans10.02 Wheat4.78
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.06 Oct. corn4.03 Beans9.99	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.11 Oct. corn4.01 Beans9.84 Oct. beans9.84 Wheat4.63

Today in history	
<p>In 1635, Emperor Ferdinand II declared war on France, launching the Thirty Years' War.</p> <p>In 1905, actress Greta Garbo was born in Stockholm, Sweden.</p> <p>In 1934, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) joined the League of Nations. A few years later, it was expelled for actions made against Finland.</p> <p>In 1998, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and</p>	<p>Numbers (ICANN) was founded by the United States Department of Commerce. The now non-profit group maintains Domain Name Systems online.</p> <p>In 2020, Fort Recovery High School football team crushed Anna in a 24-7 homecoming victory. The Indians churned out 223 yards, averaging 6.6 yards per carry and ran for all three of their touchdowns.</p> <p>— The CR</p>

Citizen's calendar	
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St., Dunkirk.	Tuesday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, cabin, Morgan Park, 50 Mooney St. Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council public hearing, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Reimbursement program launched

By **LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The state wants Hoosier employers to train and promote current employees — and it's willing to pay.

Leaders unveiled Power Up Indiana, an upskilling reimbursement initiative, at a Tuesday news conference.

“Growth doesn’t have to come from somewhere else. It’s already here, inside the businesses here in Indiana,” Commerce Secretary David Adams said. “Your next supervisor, your next innovator, that next leader — they’re probably already working in your business. What they need is a chance to be developed, trained and advanced.”

“That’s why we built Power Up Indiana,” he continued. “It’s not just another incentive program, but a long-term growth strategy for all Hoosiers.”

Businesses can earn reimbursement of \$5,000 per employee trained — and up to \$50,000 annually — if they meet training and pay requirements. Adams told reporters that \$10 mil-

lion was available for training incentives.

Eligible upskilling includes technical training resulting in industry-recognized credentials, cross-training or reskilling, leadership development, or registered apprenticeships, according to the program manual. Worker pay must rise by at least 25% once training is completed.

Felony arrests

Drug possession
A Portland man was arrested Monday for drug possession.

David L. Jacks, 46, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended license.

He was released on a \$4,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Drunk driving
A Ridgeville man was arrested Monday for drunk driving.

Douglas J. Penticuff, 48, 2901 W. 800 North, is charged in Jay Superi-

or Court with three Level 6 felonies for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15% or more and being a habitual traffic violator.

He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$30,000 bond.

Methamphetamine
A Portland woman was arrested Tuesday for possession of methamphetamine.

Kristin E. Derringer, 44, 940 W. Main St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 5 felony for the alleged crime, a Level 6 felony for maintain-

ing a common nuisance and two Class B misdemeanors for possession of marijuana and possession of paraphernalia.

She was released from Jay County Jail on a \$14,500 bond.

Visiting nuisance
A Montpelier man was arrested Tuesday for visiting a common nuisance.

Kurt E. Banter, 43, 11261 W. 900 North, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

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

Blasts ...

Continued from page 1

“If you’re a patriotic community, and you want to stand up and show some unity, show some support for what the country needs to do right now, this is Indiana’s way of showing that.”

She said the state will include a “siting center” at its Global Nuclear Energy Economic Summit in November, held with Purdue University. It’ll promote the local governments that have signed resolutions and been pre-evaluated for hosting small modular nuclear reactors.

Jaworowski further dismissed “misinformation” about Indiana’s supply of energy and natural resources.

“Indiana has plenty of energy now. We will have plenty of energy in the future, and the same is true for water,” she said. “... Our utilities are poised to serve. They are working together with all these large load demands. They will grow together.”

To “anti-folks” blaming rising electricity costs on data centers and nuclear reactor projects, Jaworowski noted that the state doesn’t “have

any mega data centers” or active nuclear.

She pointed instead to coal-powered plant closures, inflation, and a resurgence in manufacturing.

SERVICES

Today

Smith, Judith: 11 a.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Friday

McBride, Margaret: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Johnson, David: Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Smith, Tillman: 1 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Saturday, Sept. 27

Lopez, Nancy: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS

120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

We are growing!

Sprunger & Sprunger Attorneys at Law seeks a **FULL-TIME FAMILY & CRIMINAL LEGAL ASSISTANT**. Duties include managing case files, drafting pleadings, maintaining calendars, discovery, trial prep, and receptionist work. Must be organized and detail oriented.

SPRUNGER & SPRUNGER

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Send resume and cover letter to mitch@sprungersas.com with subject line: Legal Assistant – Family & Criminal Law

GREAT SELECTION

of newspaper roll ends

FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Publishers of

The Commercial Review
Portland, Indiana

The News-Gazette
Winchester, Indiana

The News and Sun
Dunkirk, Indiana

The News Times
Hartford City, Indiana

309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8141

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Daughter won't leave side after breakup

By JANN BLACKSTONE
Tribune News Service

Q. My 5-year-old daughter is so traumatized by her mom's and my breakup that she will not leave my side. She tells me she is afraid I won't come back. When it is time to return to her mother's home, I ask her if she wants to go to mommy's, and she clings to me. When it's time to go to school, I ask her if she wants to go to school and she cries. Her mother disgusts me, but I keep my feelings to myself. She is convinced that I am trying to sway our child. I'm not forcing her to do anything. She doesn't want to go. I just want my child to

Ex-Etiquette



be happy. What's good etiquette?
A. The immediate suggestion of most would be to say that this child needs counseling, but never having talked to her or witnessed the behavior you are describing, I have no idea if that is the answer. More than that, I look to you and mom to provide the stability she needs.
Children follow our lead.

It doesn't sound like you are leading.
It sounds as if you are so consumed with "disgust" and not upsetting your child that you're letting her make decisions that she doesn't have the emotional or intellectual capability to make. She's 5. She's frightened. Her parents have broken up, live in two different places and when she leaves one, she isn't sure she'll ever see that parent again.
So, she's crying and clingy. And rather than guiding her and reassuring her that you both love her, you're asking her what she wants to do. She doesn't know. She's waiting for you and mom to guide her.
Breaking up with children is more than simply going your separate ways. You need a plan. Yes, a breakup plan. It doesn't matter how much you detest each other. Animosity and disorganization will devastate your children.
The plan consists of how you talk to each other, how you talk about each other, when you will reach out to each other for help, how you will successfully exchange your child, where they will sleep, how you will both discipline your child, what is the bedtime ritual, how will you compare notes and keep things consistent, how you will problem solve in

the name of your child, how and when you will date others—the list is really no different apart than it is when you are together (except the dating part). The difference is how you execute these decisions—and if you are asking your child for direction instead of your co-parent, you're not giving your child anything but more confusion.
My suggestion at this juncture is that you start helping your child by both you and mom looking into some individual counseling and co-parenting help and together design a plan for how you will successfully raise your child together.
As your attitude changes, if you don't see rapid improvement in your child, there is more here than I can analyze from afar—but I am confident in saying it starts with you and your co-parenting relationship with her mother. Put your child first. That's Good Ex-etiquette For Parents Rule No. 1.
.....
Jann Blackstone is a child custody mediator and the author of "The Bonus Family Handbook: The Definitive Guide to Co-parenting and Creating Stronger Families. She can be reached at bonusfamilies.com or jann@bonusfamilies.com.

Husband insists on intimacy on his terms

DEAR ABBY: I am frustrated with my husband. We have been together 18 years. When it gets close to my menstrual cycle, he gets into an angry panic for us to be intimate because he travels for work and is home only four nights a week. If we're not able to, he pouts, then becomes angry and distant, and peppers me for updates to determine how soon we can resume intimacy.
Regardless of how I feel at my time of the month, my feelings are ignored. He claims I "don't make time for him" even though he's out most evenings volunteering and doesn't return until after 11 p.m. My day starts at 6:30 a.m., and I can't stay up that late and function the next day. Is it right for him to be angry with me over something my body does naturally? Is it my duty to make sure he's satisfied before my cycle comes? — BLAMED IN CANADA

Dear Abby



DEAR BLAMED: You appear to be married to an ignorant bully. It is NOT right for your husband to be angry over something your body does naturally. Is it your "duty" to make sure he is satisfied, whether you are tired or concerned about an early wake-up call, even if he makes a habit of being out of the house until nearly midnight? Mmmm, I don't think so. If this is your husband's method of foreplay, he could use some lessons. This is why I strongly suggest the two of you hash this out and reach a

compromise with the help of a licensed marriage and family therapist.
P.S. Sex in marriage is supposed to be consensual, a loving act of communication, not submission to domination.
.....
DEAR ABBY: I lost my husband to cancer five months ago. When I listen to sad music or watch a sad movie, I think of him and cry. He was a good man who had a lot of friends who cared about him. He also loved life.
I spent all my time taking care of him until the day he died. I did everything for him while he was home and stayed by his side. When he died, I held his hand and kissed him goodbye. Will I ever find another husband to spend my life with? What should I do now? — LOST FOR NOW IN TEXAS
DEAR LOST: Please accept my sympathy for the loss of

your beloved husband. The void he has left is palpable. Your chances of finding another mate depend upon whether you are prepared to take as good care of yourself as you did the man you lost. By that, I mean keeping yourself busy enough that you don't have time to be depressed.
Maintain your physical health by getting out of the house and exercising (walking) at least half an hour each day. Rebuild your social life so you aren't sitting alone at home listening to sad music and brooding. Volunteer in your community. All of these things will expose you to other people and help you be your best self. While I can't guarantee it will get you a mate, it will improve the odds.
.....
DEAR ABBY: My fitness center has three rows of treadmills and

ellipticals. One woman usually selects the front row. Like many in the gym, she wears tight leggings, which is fine. However, hers are stretched so thin across her buttocks that the fabric is semi-transparent. Although this is unsightly, it is not a huge deal to me, and I simply don't look her way.
I wonder, though, if folks would generally prefer that someone gently mention tricky issues like this to them. It reminds me of seeing someone with toilet paper stuck on a shoe or a skirt hem stuck in the waistline. — LOOKING THE OTHER WAY
DEAR LOOKING: I'm glad you asked before trying to be helpful. In a case like this, it would be better to keep looking the other way rather than address your fellow gym rat. I don't know what the dress code may be at your gym, but if you have a question about it, you should ask the manager.

Community Calendar

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

Today
STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and tell is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.
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.
SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.
EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.
UNDERSTANDING YOUR SUICIDE GRIEF — Meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month. The support group serves to help individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. To register, contact

Stephanie Patterson at (260) 251-3259.
ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.
INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third 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.
PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.
FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1.

urday of each month at Webster Depot, 132 W. Railroad St.
PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. To learn more information, please call (260) 251-3259.
CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon Friday, Sept. 19, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL MUSEUM — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Friday and Saturday of each month at Webster Depot, 132 W. Railroad St.
MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Friday
DUNKIRK HISTORICAL MUSEUM — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Friday and Sat-

BATH REMODEL

Safety. Style. Stress-Free Installation.

CALL NOW
866.937.1159

SPECIAL OFFER
Waiving All Installation Costs!

Add'l terms apply. Offer subject to change and vary by dealer. Expires 6/29/25.

Clothing Boutique
ADVERTISING SPECIALS

Run a 4x4 ad once a week in
The Commercial Review, The News-Gazette and The News Times
.....
Or run a 4x4 ad once a week in the publication(s) of your choice:
The Commercial Review - \$275
The News-Gazette - \$250
The News Times - \$210
The News and Sun - \$210

Call (260) 726-8141
or email ads@thecr.com

GRAPHIC PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

Ads must run in October.
Rate does not apply to special sections.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

PART-TIME
JOB OPPORTUNITY
Inserters
Hours vary each week
Apply at

The Graphic Printing Company • The Commercial Review
309 West Main Street • Portland, IN 47371
Office Hours: 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday - Friday
NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

Equal Opportunity Employer

Student reading skills are in crisis

The Dallas Morning News

Tribune News Service

Ask a high school student about the last book they read, and you may be disappointed to learn they never cracked open *The Catcher in the Rye* or trudged through Shakespeare. Instead, they turned to AI for a tidy summary and analysis, good enough to ace the required essay without ever turning a page.

The reality is that students are doing worse in reading, if they are reading at all. American high school seniors just recorded their worst reading scores since 1992 on the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as the nation's report card. The results show that today's average score is 10 points

Guest Editorial

lower than the first 12th-grade reading assessment in 1992.

These losses could be attributed to any variety of factors: endless scrolling on social media, increases in screen time or the pandemic's impact on learning. But whatever the causes, the consequences are clear.

Students today are graduating with dangerously weak reading skills, at a moment when communication and critical thinking

have never been more essential. In an era where perfectly curated algorithms reinforce the content we want to see and short TikTok videos have fried our attention spans, critical thinking, the very kind reading encourages, is becoming a casualty of the digital age.

And the problem is bigger than test scores. A recent study found that the number of Americans who read for pleasure has plummeted 40% over the last two decades.

Whether it's a magazine, a book or even this newspaper, reading for pleasure is one of the last defenses against intellectual stagnation. As reading declines, so does our willingness and ability

to confront new ideas, leaving us isolated inside ideological bubbles we may never leave.

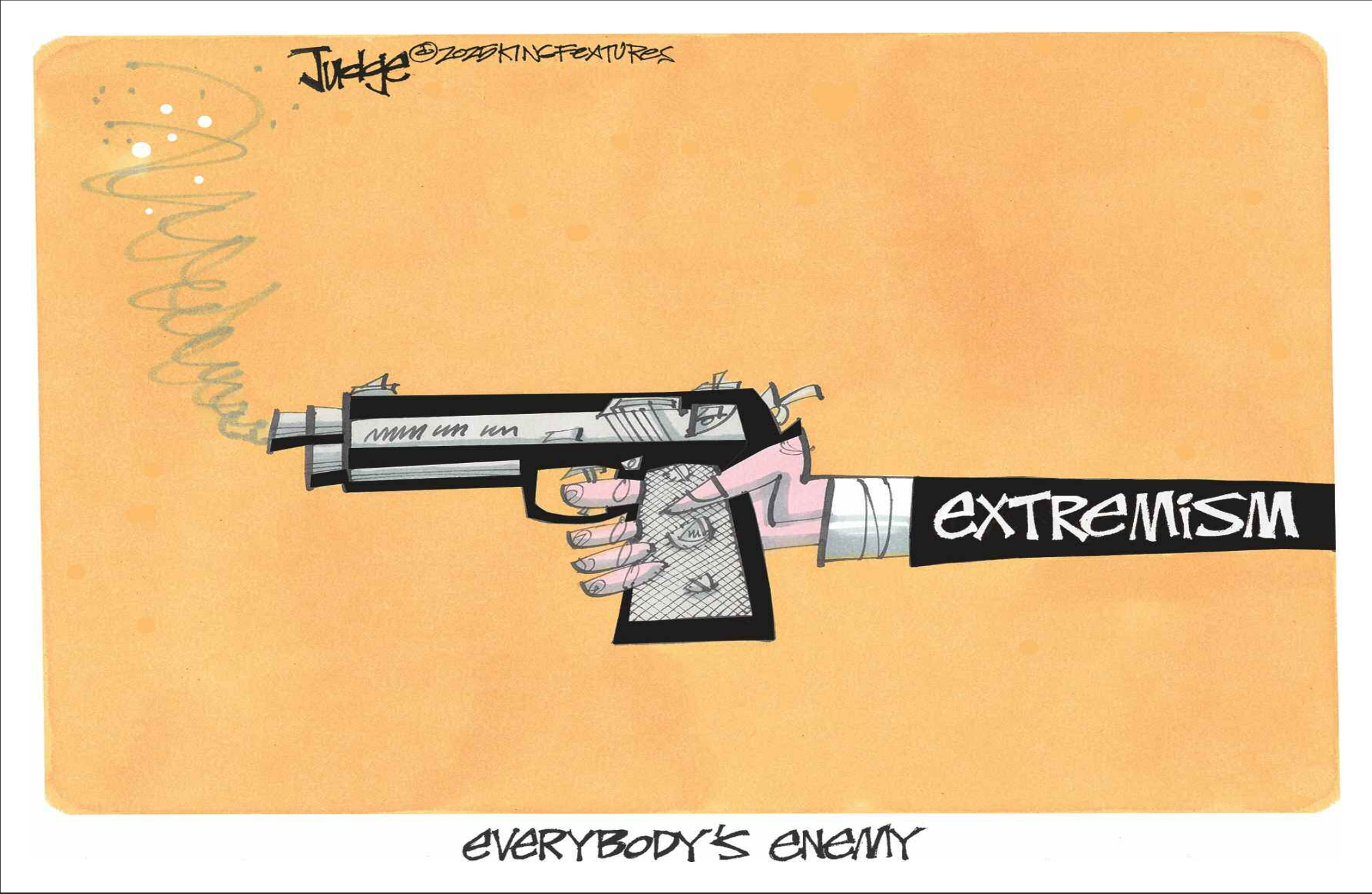
At the same time, Texas lawmakers have decided that students no longer need to pass the English II assessment to graduate high school. This is the first time in a decade the state is easing graduation testing requirements — precisely when students need more structure and support to develop strong literary skills, not less.

Some educators are looking for ways to combat AI and technology in classrooms. More universities are reinstating blue books and oral exams, rethinking how assignments are structured. The Wall Street Journal reported that

sales of blue books at Texas A&M University were up more than 30% for the 2024-25 school year.

These types of assessments are the right call, but higher education can't solve this alone. K-12 schools need to double down on literacy instruction, parents need to model reading at home, and lawmakers should be investing in programs that encourage sustained reading, rather than lowering the bar.

The reading crisis is a reflection of what we prioritize in schools, what we celebrate in our culture and how we choose to spend our free time. Reading must demand our attention if we hope to raise thoughtful and informed citizens.



Columnist isn't trying to change minds

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

Readers frequently offer advice on my columns, with a common theme of helping me be more persuasive. I appreciate the comments, but I should make clear that these columns are not designed to be persuasive.

Neither economics professors nor economic columnists are in the mind-changing business, at least, not through the arts of persuasive rhetoric. I respect my students and readers too much to try to change their minds in a lecture or 750-word column.

As an economics professor, my job is to equip students with the tools of the trade and show how to use them. The conclusions they draw are their own.

Consider the minimum wage, a topic of fierce debate.

I teach students to analyze the topic by building a simple labor market model. We start with how workers and businesses make decisions, assuming both are rational actors pursuing their own interests.

This creates a supply-and-demand model that determines wages and jobs. A minimum wage interferes with these market decisions. Our model shows who wins (workers earning more) and who loses (businesses paying more and some workers losing jobs).

Then we test this against real data. What actually happens?

Michael J. Hicks



Job losses? Wage gains? More automation? Higher prices? Sometimes even more people entering the job market.

As a professor, my job is to do research that accurately predicts these changes and teach students to understand the models (mathematics) and empirics (statistical work) that draw these conclusions. The point is to highlight trade-offs of differing policy choices.

However, that doesn't mean I'm expecting a particular opinion.

A long body of research on the minimum wage suggests it has very little effect in hurting business or helping workers. Some students will understand it doesn't really affect businesses, but still oppose a minimum wage increase because they're philosophically opposed to government intervention in free markets. Other students will accept that a minimum wage may leave some workers worse off, even unemployed, but still support a minimum wage

increase. Both are perfectly defensible positions.

My job as a professor is to arm students with intellectual tools to solve those problems, while taking seriously differing views on the actual policy. My goal is to have students who can pass the ideological Turing Test, which means they can learn to defend any side of an issue so well that no one can discern their actual opinion.

I do the same thing in my columns. People who read newspaper columns are intelligent and interested in learning. They are also generous with their time. I have too much respect for that to be merely persuasive.

My goal in these columns is to make accurate predictions of policy effects and explain briefly how those predictions are made. Most are built from years of my own research and decades of work by those who went before me. If you change your mind because of what I write, it should be as a consequence of my being right, not my being rhetorically persuasive.

Many of my columns appeal to considerations beyond dollars and cents because economics isn't about money. Economics is the study of people in market exchange, and the foundational institutions, like our Constitution, are economic docu-

ments as much as they are political philosophy.

I do criticize policies, sometimes quite harshly. But, I don't criticize policies because I disagree with them. Nobody, and I mean nobody, should care about my opinion. I criticize policies because they do not, or cannot, achieve their goals.

Tariffs are a good example. One (of several) stated goals of President Trump's tariffs is to return manufacturing production and employment; however, U.S. manufacturing output peaked in 2024. Tariffs have already reduced factory production and will continue to keep it lower than it would have been.

These tariffs won't increase factory employment, but instead reduce it. Faced with bizarre uncertainty and higher costs on imported inputs, American factories are cutting domestic employment. It is the surest way to remain competitive.

There are literally hundreds of examples of these outcomes, here and worldwide for a century or longer. Folks who trust the president on tariffs won't be dissuaded by my rhetoric — these are folks who have proven to be wholly innocent of economic ideas. But, some of them will lose jobs, know people who lose jobs, experience higher prices and learn that I was right.

If I change anyone's mind, that is how it'll happen.

Of course, that is why Trump fired Erika McEntarfer, the Bureau of Labor Statistics commissioner. Data is going to change a lot of minds in the year ahead, and so too will personal experience.

One thing I find funny is the critique that I am partisan in my assessments. I do criticize those in power more than those who are not, but that is because the folks in power are the ones who change policy. When you win elections and change policy, you should expect praise and criticism — depending on the policy.

Recently, Democrats haven't been good at winning elections, so they face fewer critiques. At the same time, Republicans have been awfully bad at governing — earning far more criticism than space allows. If you think that's a partisan assessment, that's fine. I'm not trying to change your mind. I'm trying to do something much more challenging. I am trying to be right on the facts and analysis.

.....
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. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 152—NUMBER 98
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and six holidays (New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

"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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days — \$3; Monthly auto-pay — \$10; 13 weeks — \$32; six months — \$60; one year — \$108.
City (walking — where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$12; 13 weeks — \$37; six months — \$70; one year — \$125.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay — \$13; 13 weeks — \$45; six months — \$76; one year — \$144.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay — \$14; 13 weeks — \$51; six months — \$83; one year — \$156.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

Celebration ...

Continued from page 1

Now a resident of Eden Prairie, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis, she is coming back as part of the 50th anniversary celebration and will ride in Friday evening's homecoming parade. (Other members of the inaugural class will be behind her.) During halftime, she will crown a 2026 senior — candidates are Paisley Fugiett, Faith Faulkner, Emma Hatzell, Lilly Johnson, Elizabeth Barnett, Lauren Fisher and Finley Hatzell — as this year's queen.

After graduating from JCHS, Abernathy attended trade school and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in graphic design from Purdue University. She worked in advertising, developed educational tools for churches and helped schools and other organizations with fundraising projects.

"I'm just so blessed to be able to call Jay County my forever home," she said. "It'll always be home."

Bruin coming back

Bruin, 86, who now lives in Muncie, will return to the stadium where he led the Patriots for their first 17 seasons.

The first win in the history of the JCHS football program came against Friday's homecoming opponent — Bluffton — by a 7-0 score. The inaugural team won its final five games, including shutouts of South Adams, Winchester and Eastbrook, to finish 8-2.

Bruin had winning records in each of his first 15 seasons, with his best coming in 1981 when they won their first eight games including shutouts of Bellmont, Blackford and Yorktown. They beat Bluffton 40-28 to improve to 8-0 before falling 31-0 to Delta in the second-to-last game. They closed the year with another shutout, beating Mississinewa 30-0.

He went 106-59 at Jay County, the only coach in the school's history with a winning record.

Celebrity cook-out

Between the parade and the homecoming game, chef Fer-

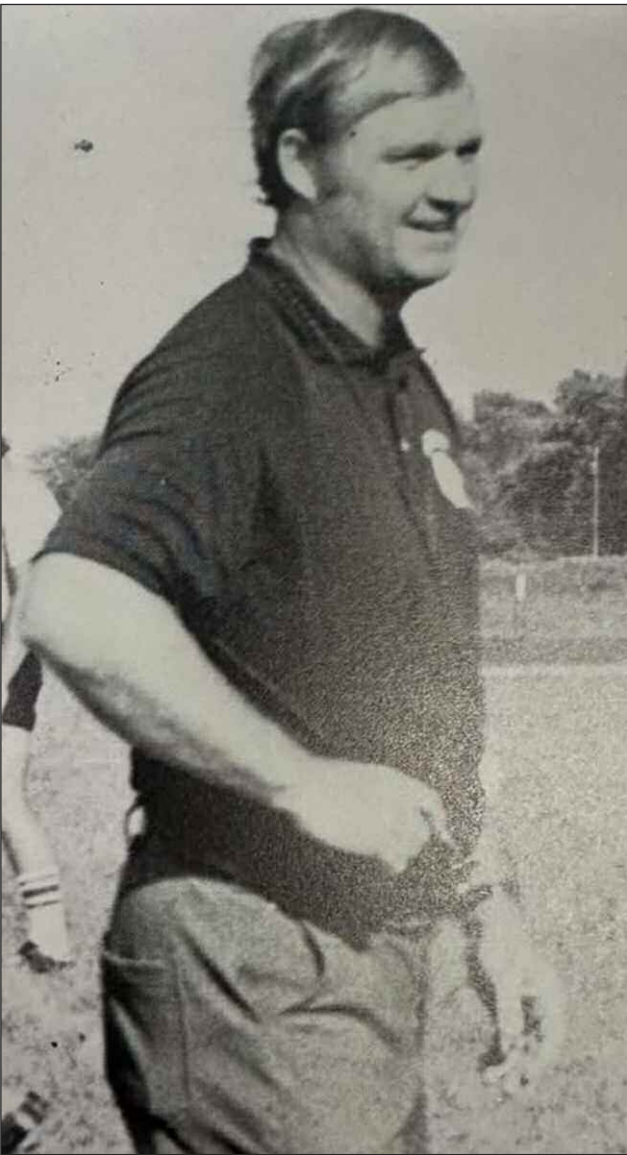


Photo provided

nanda Tapia will headline the tailgate.

Born in Chile and now based in Boston, Tapia runs the private chef firm Ferncooks. She has a line of hot sauces called Tapi Papi.

She competed on the Food Network show "Chopped," winning her competition in 2019. She returned to the show for a "Chopped Champions" tournament featuring 15 previous victors, advancing to the finals and ultimately finishing in second place. She also appeared on the show "Beat Bobby Flay."

Tapia will present cooking demonstrations from 6 to 7:30 p.m. before the game. Free samples of her braised short

ribs, Johnny cakes and apple-serrano salsa will be offered.

Air delivery

Superintendent Jeremy Gulley announced during Monday's Jay School Board meeting that a Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter will deliver the game ball for Friday's action.

"That's not something I see very often at a football game," Gulley said, chuckling.

The school's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program arranged for the special delivery.

The helicopter will land in the practice field area west of the field before the game. A military vehicle will drive the ball to the stadium, where

JROTC students will then take it to present to Bruin.

Ready to celebrate

Students spent last weekend decorating the hallways of Jay County High School with memories of decades past.

There are photos showing different aspects of life from each decade since the school opened in 1975. Windows along the guidance office have letter jackets representing the previous high schools and their mascots — the Panthers, Speedcats, Wolves, Bulldogs, Owls, Tomcats, Yellowjackets and Redbirds.

"As kids have prepared the floats and the hallways, they've gotten old yearbooks out and they've looked through history talking about consolidation,"

said 2008 JCHS graduate Zach Keller, now a teacher at the school and a student council advisor. "It's been fun to share the history with them and for them to explore on their own."

They've hunted through the yearbooks, finding photos of their parents and grandparents from those high school days.

And in the lead-up to Friday's festivities, they've gotten insight into the importance of their high school years.

"Our Class of 2026, they see everybody else coming in from 50 years ago," said Jessica Lloyd, another student council advisor. "This matters. Your time capsule matters. Everything you do does get remembered. That's a nice thing to see and realize."



The Commercial Review

Among those who will be back to help Jay County High School celebrate the 50th anniversary of its first homecoming will be former coach Tom Bruin (left) and 1975 homecoming queen Chris Evans (right). Bruin led the Patriots for their first 17 seasons and is the only coach in the school's history with a winning record. Evans, now Abernathy, who lives in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, was also crowned Miss Jay County Fair Queen.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Carnival grin

Five-year-old Addison Stewart reacts as she receives goodies Saturday evening during the Jay County Cancer Society Cruise, Car Show and Carnival at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Pool ...

Continued from page 1

A new liner is guaranteed for about 15 years, he added.

"Does it really make sense for us to look at a \$2 million project at this point?" asked Diller. "Now, if it lasts for 30 years? Probably not a bad investment."

Following an executive session Monday, council also authorized Diller to create an assistant fiscal officer and utilities clerk position.

Council hired former assistant fiscal officer and grant administrator Jennifer Schoonover as fiscal officer trainee last month, with plans for her to take over fiscal officer Roberta Staugler's position after her retirement June 1. The new job description for the assistant fiscal officer's role includes utilities clerk duties. Plans are for Schoonover to continue grant administration, with her assistant to handle clerical utilities work.

Also Monday, council approved an ordinance setting services and consent for annexing 15.89 acres along Ohio 119 on the east edge of the village. The move is the first step in the process, with approval from Mercer County Commissioners as well as a final approval from the village also required.

The owners of the property, Nathan and Alison Ruhenkamp, hope to build a home on the land, with the village to extend utilities.

In other business, council members Lucas Knapke, Scott Pearson, Greg

Schmitz, Al Post and Cliff Wendel, absent Erik Fiely:

- Discussed a letter from a Fort Recovery native expressing interest in serving as a police officer for the village. Although the department currently has two officers, council members questioned whether the village could feasibly offer another position, pointing to additional training jobs created to prepare for Staugler and Diller's retirements next year. Although council members took no action on the matter, they talked about reviewing the request again at the beginning of 2026.
- Authorized renewing the village's four real estate tax levies next year. (An income tax levy, which would increase the village's income tax from 1% to 1.5%, will be on the ballot in November. If it's passed, the village won't collect on its real estate tax levies — they generate more than \$294,000 annually — starting in 2026.)
- Learned about plans to drill a fourth test well this week. Issues have cropped up with finding a suitable third well for the village to use after upgrading its water plant. Diller noted if this test well isn't successful, the village will look at other options.
- Heard Rengers and Diller will attend another Fort Recovery School Board meeting in October to discuss creating a Community Reinvestment Area in the village.
- Paid a \$8,085 claim from PMG Consulting for work completed on the water plant study.

OCTOBER
Specials

The CR

Run a 2x2 ad
in every edition of
The Commercial Review
in October

\$350

Run a 4x4 ad
once a week in
The Commercial Review
in October

\$300

Run a 2x2 ad
once a week in
The Commercial Review
in October

\$130

Promotion begins
Oct. 1 (or at time of
purchase thereafter)
and concludes Oct. 31

Rate does not apply
to special sections

GRAPHIC
PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

Contact Lindsey at
L.Cochran@thecr.com
or (260) 726-8141



Great Food, No Bull!
1204 W. Votaw Portland
(260) 726-9647

(260) 726-9345
115 E. Main St.
Portland, IN
www.portins.com

Dunkirk • Redkey • Albany
Open 24 Hours

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home

The Teeter Family

221 N. Meridian St
Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-7171

M. J. S. Mortuaries
SINCE 1886
A Century-long tradition of service
Owner - Director
Michael J. Shannon
Locally owned and operated

D.W. JONES CHAPEL Dunkirk 765-768-6012	JONES CHAPEL Redkey 765-369-2016
MIDDLETON CHAPEL Ridgeville 765-657-2288	MILLER CHAPEL Farmland 765-468-6390

Used Auto and Truck Parts
www.williamsautopartsinc.com

1127 S. Detroit Ave.
Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8001

All inventory online

Praise & Worship

Swiss Village, Inc.

Independent Duplex Homes
Independent Living Apartments
Residential & Assisted Living
Short Term Rehabilitation
Healthcare & Dementia Care
Therapy Services

Berne, IN • 260.589.3173 • www.swissvillage.org

"Where the MEMBERS are the OWNERS"

(765) 768-6554
18919 N. Highway 167 N
Dunkirk, IN

Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Josh Arthur
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
asburyministries.org

Bellefountain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

Christ Chapel
2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville
190 W. Main St., Pennville
David Davidson
(260) 202-9718
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Mark Acree
(260) 251-0987
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccfrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Kids vision and teen ministries: 6 p.m. Wednesday
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. Carol McKay
(304) 617-0101
Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

Hopewell of Life Ministries
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor Community Church
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist
County roads 600 East and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 223-2961
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland Church of Christ
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.
Services: 10:20 a.m.
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wednesday
portlandcoc.com

Portland First Church of Nazarene
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Fred Stevens
(765) 369-2676
redkeynaz.org
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
3984 N. 550 West, Portland
Pastor Mike Heckman
(615) 517-1017
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Bible study: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Sugar Grove Church
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

The Church at Westchester
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

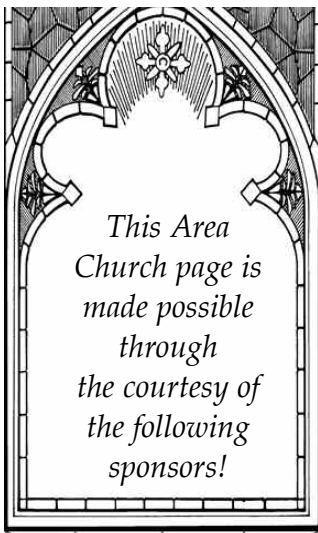
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris Kruchkow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



Williamson, Spencer & Penrod Funeral Homes, Inc.
Todd & Rob Penrod
"Serving As We Would Be Served"
From 2 Convenient Locations
PORTLAND (260) 726-7111
PENNVILLE (260) 731-8811

We're your Convenience Store and a whole lot more!

Albany Hardware
209 W. State St.
Albany, IN 47320
765-789-4284

WINDOW REPAIR & SCREEN REPAIR	PIPE INSULATION	PAINT BIRD SEED
-------------------------------	-----------------	-----------------

Behind every project is a **True Value**
Portland True Value
Shop Local
Save Time • Save Money
(260) 726-6263
1100 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN

Arm's Auto Body
260.726.7343
Mike Blowers, Owner
801 N. Wayne Street - Portland, IN
Quality Work Since 1969
All Makes & Models
All Insurance Companies

Hours: M-F 8 to 5

Glassique Beauty Salon

(765) 768-7375

Candi Hatzell 206 S. Main St. Dunkirk, IN

MAY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC

LIFE • HEALTH
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
MEDICARE
SUPPLEMENTS
DENTAL & VISION
JEFF HALL
MATT FRANKS
your hometown agents
(260) 729-5200

Rose Morgan, CPA

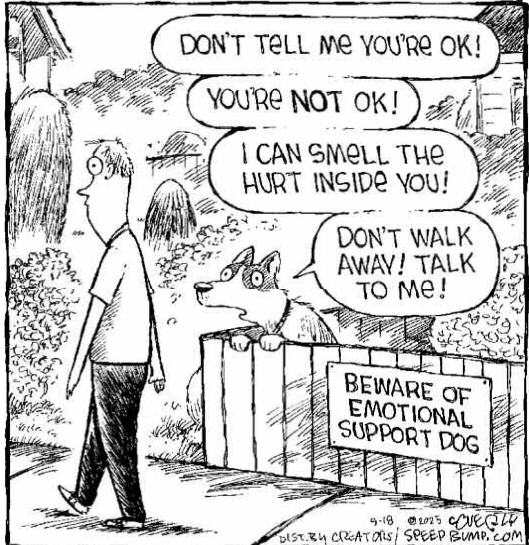
Income Tax Preparation
Accounting/Bookkeeping
Payroll & Payroll Taxes
202 South Main Street
Dunkirk, IN 47336
Ph. 765-768-6716

R. DAVIS & SONS
CONCRETE • EXCAVATING

Complete Septic Systems
Backhoe • Dozer
Hauling • Trenching
Drain Cleaning

3042 West 400 North, Portland
p 260.726.2230

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The philosophical approach

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 8 4
♥ Q J 8 7
♦ J 9 6 4
♣ J 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 7 5 2
♥ 5
♦ A K Q 10 3
♣ 6

EAST
♠ K 6 3
♥ 4 3
♦ 8 7 2
♣ Q 10 9 5 4

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ A K 10 9 6 2
♦ 5
♣ A K 8 7 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ 1♠ 2♥ Pass
6♥
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

There is only a razor-thin edge between good play and perfect play. For example, consider this deal from a duplicate game where most of the North-South pairs got to six hearts and went down one. West led the K-A of diamonds, declarer ruffed the second round.

The unsuccessful declarers drew two rounds of trump and played

the A-K of clubs. After West showed out, South had to go down, since he could not ruff all three of his club losers with only two trumps remaining in dummy.

Several declarers made the slam by adopting a slightly better line of play. They realized that the only real threat to the slam was a 5-1 club division, and they took a small but simple step to cater to that possibility. They drew only one round of trump before playing the A-K of clubs, and when West could not ruff, South was able to trump three clubs in dummy.

It is true that by adopting this method of play, the successful declarers ran the risk of either opponent ruffing the second club lead. But they reasoned that if one opponent actually had a singleton club and two trumps, the slam could not be made by any line of play, so nothing could be gained by drawing a second round of trump.

The best a declarer can do in such situations is to guard against whatever he can do something about and not worry about distributions of the cards that he cannot protect against. One has to be philosophical in matters of this sort.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

9-18

CRYPTOQUIP

GPWF CHQPF DVK BWUU IKDIUK
GPD WTK QTKWF JWVX DJ FPK
KWXF KTVCDXF WCKTHBWV
XFWFK? CWHVK-HWBX!

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN FRATERNITY MEMBERS HAVE TO DRESS FOR VARIOUS FORMAL EVENTS, SHOULD THEY WEAR BRO TIES?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals C

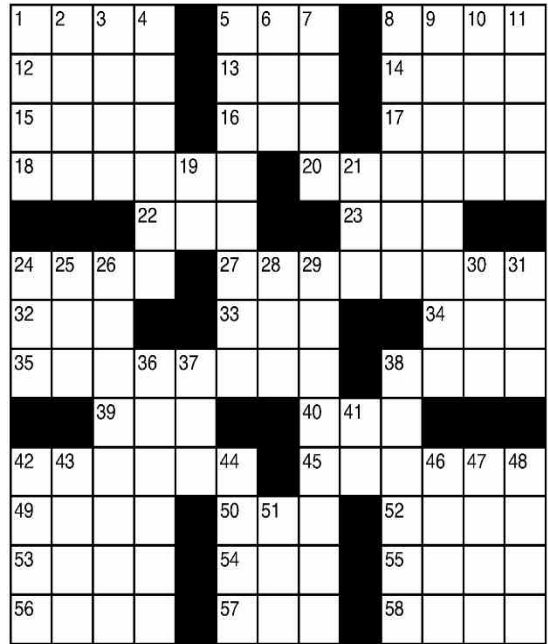
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Manual reader
 - 5 "So frustrating!"
 - 8 Composer Stravinsky
 - 12 Viral video, e.g.
 - 13 Sound of surprise
 - 14 Pop letters
 - 15 Greek fellow
 - 17 Landed
 - 18 Crafty
 - 20 Tolerates
 - 22 — Aviv
 - 23 Highland hat
 - 24 Marshy areas
 - 27 Meringue ingredient
 - 32 Family card game
 - 33 Year in Spain
 - 34 Prohibit
 - 35 Like a rainbow
 - 38 Faxed
- DOWN**
- 1 Diamond arbiters
 - 2 Meeting, in slang
 - 3 Qatar's ruler
 - 4 Puts back to zero
 - 5 Decorative foil
 - 6 "Caught ya!"
 - 7 Broad-cast
 - 8 Hebrew prophet
 - 9 Source of wealth
 - 10 Garfield's pal
 - 11 "Phooey!"
 - 19 You and I
 - 21 "Incidentally," in a text
- 24 Tampa Bay NFLer**
- 25 Lennon's partner**
- 26 Bach's — Variations**
- 28 Wilde-beest**
- 29 Pond dweller**
- 30 Can material**
- 31 Tel. number add-on**
- 36 Pizza toppings**
- 37 — Dawn Chong**
- 38 Know-how**
- 41 Choice word?**
- 42 Short cuts**
- 43 Vicinity**
- 44 Calendar squares**
- 46 Song-writer Laura**
- 47 Average marks**
- 48 Old U.S. gas brand**
- 51 Devilish laugh**

Solution time: 24 mins.



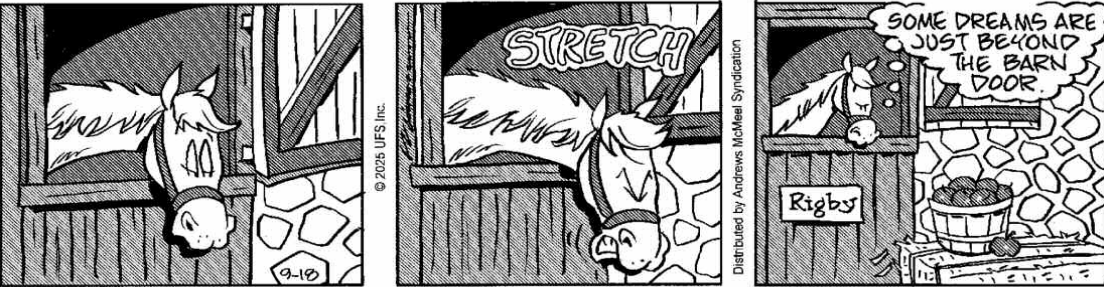
Yesterday's answer 9-18



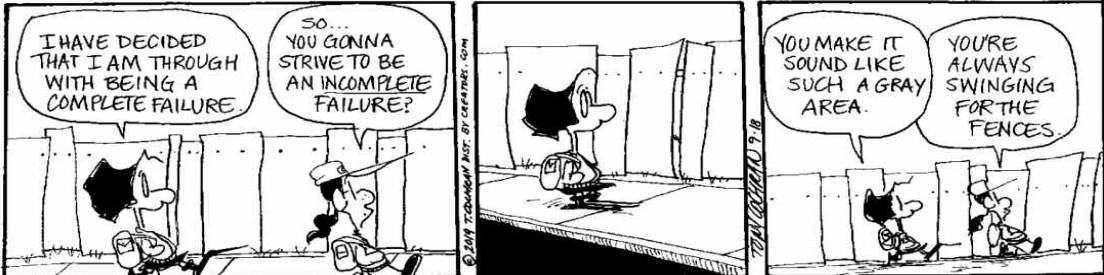
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W,
Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

Wendel's
Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry
Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying,
Residential &
Commercial
Dave Wendel
Ph. 260-726-4520
Cell 260-729-2797

**Bricker's Flowers
& More**
414 N. Meridian St. Portland
Call or text to order 260-703-0304
Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday
9:30-3:00 Saturday

**TRIPLE A
WOODWORKING**
Kitchens,
Bathrooms,
Interior Trim,
Windows,
Doors, Siding,
Decks, Drywall,
and Painting
(260)-227-0875

**Little JJ's
Tree Service**
Tree Trimming, Removal,
Stump Grinding.
Firewood available
765-509-1956

**Dave's
Heating & Cooling**
Furnace,
Air Conditioner
Geothermal
Sales & Service
260-726-2138
Now accepting
MC/Disc/Visa

BAIL BONDS
Travis Weaver
260-726-3189
across street
from Jail

E and E Construction
Amish Crew
BARN RESTORATION
Specializing in
metal roofs, decks & more
FREE Estimates
260-301-1777

**THE
CLASSIFIEDS**
Find it - Buy It,
Sell It!
(260) 726-8141

00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141
ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge....
\$12.40

1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/word
12 insertions. \$1.52/word
26 insertions. \$1.77/word
Includes

Online.....FREE
Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch
No borders or logos
allowed on Classified
Page
Card of Thanks Up to
100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100
words.... \$13.00

Advertising Deadline is
12:00 p.m. the day prior
to publication.

Pre-Payment required
for: Rummage sales,
business opportunities,
jobs wanted, boats and
sporting equipment,
wanted to rent, motor-
ized vehicles, real estate
and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure
to check your ad the first
day it appears. We can-
not be responsible for
more than one days
incorrect copy. We try
hard not to make mis-
takes, but they do hap-
pen, and we may not
know unless you call to
tell us. Call before 12:00
pm for corrections. The
Commercial Review, 309
W Main, Portland, Inda-
na 260-726-8141.

50 RUMMAGE SALES

**PREMER FAMILY YARD
SALE** Friday-Saturday-
Sunday. October 3 -
October 5, 2025; 9:00am
to 4:00pm. 760 S. Wash-
ington Street, Pennville,
Indiana. Lots of books-
record albums-Hot
Wheels-Beanie babies-
Norman Rockwell plates,
and bells. 25th Anniver-
sary memorabilia-1 patio
set (6 chairs and table)-
some furniture-tools-
saws-snowblower-yard
tools-gas grill (with LP
Tank) and much more.
Everything must go

60 SERVICES

**J. L. CONSTRUCTION
& ROOFING LLC.** Amish
crew. Custom built
homes, new garages,
pole barns, interior/ exterior
remodeling, drywall,
windows, doors, siding,
roofing, foundations.
260-726-5062, leave
message.

**GOODHEW'S ALL SEA-
SON** Construction- Spec-
ializing in standing
seam metal roofs. When
Quality Counts, Count
On US. A company you
can trust. Member of the
BBB. New Installation
and repairs. Call Rodney
Thornbury, owner 765-
509-0191

**SEAMSTRESS NAN
HOMEMADE** Sewing
and Alterations, Quilts,
Baby Blankets, Applique,
Zippers, Hemming,
Memory T-Shirt, Prom
Orders, Wedding & Prom
Gowns. 260.766.9334

The Commercial Review

Newspaper Delivery

Comments or

Problems?

Call our

Circulation

Hotline

260-251-9588

After 4:00 p.m.

Leave Message Please.

Carrier Delivery

Deadlines

Tuesday - Friday:

6:00 p.m.

Saturday Morning:

8:00 a.m.

The Commercial Review

309 West Main St.,

Portland.

Front Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Circulation Department

Hours:

10:00 am - 4:00 p.m.

Spark ...

Continued from page 10
“I was just going up and following the ball no matter what,” Kunkler said. “That stretch was big, just to get something to go off of and create a run.”
Adams Central (9-7, 0-2 ACAC) managed to regain a 19-18 advantage, but a Schwieterman kill got the ball back to the Patriots’ side. Lani Muhlenkamp then carried JCHS to a win in the set, serving up three of her match-high four aces in a 6-0 run.
Jay County picked up right where they left off in the second set with a 7-1 start to the third.
Kunkler was also a key

part to that third, opening with a block of Brotherton. A service error by Kayla Jetmore gave the Jets their sole point of the run. Kunkler and Schwieterman then bounced back with three kills from the former and two aces by the latter.
The Patriots let Adams Central get within three points twice throughout the set, but never allowed the momentum to fully shift in the Jets’ favor.
Control of the first set went back and forth, but Jay County’s middle blockers provided trouble for Adams Central’s attackers despite only getting one block. The young Jets

ended with 10 of their 21 attacking errors in the first set while trying to hit around blockers.
“That was a lot of what we worked on last night,” Dillon said about the production she got out of her middles. “Saturday, we blocked so many balls out of bounds. We tell them all the time, ‘We’ve got to press. You have to turn your hands in.’ But easier said than done, right?”
“So last night we ran a drill that worked on a lot of different things. A lot of out of system stuff, a lot of defense and a lot of blocking that outside ball and transitioning to be a big

hitter and I think it helped.
The Patriots now hold a half game lead over South Adams, which is 2-0, in the ACAC standings. Heritage is also still perfect in conference play with one victory. Jay County will face the final three teams in the two coming weeks and will look to continue the strong start against the other title contenders.
“I think if we can keep our spark, then we can keep our consistency,” Dillon said. “One thing that we’ve been talking about is building off of that person who is having a really great night.”

LeFevre ...

Continued from page 10
The highlight of his round was an eagle on the par-5 eighth hole. LeFevre also made the birdies on the first, third, 13th and 14th holes which included two par-5s and two par-4s. He supported the highlights with six pars, five bogeys and two double-bogeys.
Caleb Smith provided the second-best score for Fort Recovery at 87 strokes. He

had a strong back nine, making three birdies to shoot a 39. Andrew Rehmert provided a 90 for the third score, while Luke Fortkamp carded a 92 to round out the team score. Garrett Diller shot a 94 that didn’t impact the team’s final.
The Tribe will still continue the regular season with a match at Newton today and the MAC Tournament on Saturday.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys soccer vs. Belmont – 5 p.m.; Boys tennis at Winchester – 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Southern Wells – 5:30 p.m.; Volleyball at Connorsville – 6 p.m.; JV boys soccer vs. Belmont – 6:30 p.m. Fort Recovery — Girls golf at Fort Loramie – 4 p.m.; Boys golf at Newton – 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Coldwater – 5:30 p.m.; Middle school volleyball at Coldwater – 5 p.m.; Middle school football vs. St. John’s – 5:30 p.m.
Friday
Jay County — Football vs. Bluffton – 7:30 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
6 a.m. — Track and Field: World Athletics Championship (USA) 7:15 p.m. — MLB: Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds (FOX) 7:30 p.m. — College football: Rice at Charlotte (ESPN) 8:15 p.m. — NFL: Miami Dolphins at Buffalo Bills (ABC)
Friday
7 a.m. — Track and Field: World Athletics Championships (USA) 6:40 p.m. — MLB: Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana)

7:30 p.m. — College football: Tulsa at Oklahoma State (ESPN) 9 p.m. — College football: Iowa at Rutgers (FOX) 9 p.m. — Horse racing: America’s Day at the Races (FS1)

Local notes

Tryouts set
The Jay County Winter Swim Club will host new swimmer tryouts at the high school swimming pool on Sept. 25 at 5:30 p.m. A parent meeting for swimmers will also be held on Sept. 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the pool area.

Pull announced

The Monroe Lions will host its annual Truck/Tractor Pull on Sept. 20 at the Swiss Heritage Village pulling track. The event is set to begin at 6:30. Admission costs \$10 for those 12 and older and free for all 11 and younger. Raffle tickets will be on sale, while concessions are also available.

Chamber to host

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host its golf outing on Sept. 19 at 9 a.m. Participation costs \$250 per team with

lunch included. A \$20 team mulligan golf ball can be purchased as well. Sponsorships can be purchased as well. A lunch sponsorship will cost \$500, while a gold sponsorship will go for \$450. Hole sponsorships cost \$100 for members and \$150 for non-members. The deadline to register is Sept. 12. For more info, call (260) 726-4481 or email amanda@jaycountychamber.com. To have an event listed in “Sports on tap”, email details to sports@thecr.com

90 SALE CALENDAR

LAND AUCTION
MONDAY OCTOBER 13TH, 2025
TIME 5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: 1 Mile North of New Mt Pleasant on Como Rd, Portland, IN
REAL ESTATE
95.67 Acres In Section 16, Jefferson Twp, Jay County Indiana. Practically all tillable with Frontage on Como Rd. Property does have a Windmill, Lease and Payment will stay with the Farm. Wooded area not Included. Taxes to be prorated day of Closing. Possession upon Harvest of 2025 Crops. Drive by's are Welcome or Phone Auctioneers for More Information. Auction Held On-Site.
OWNERS: Denney Family Properties, LLC
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

LAND AUCTION
MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH, 2025
TIME 5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: CR 200 S AND CR 300 E. PORTLAND, IN
REAL ESTATE
74 +/- Acres in Section 35, Wayne Twp, Jay County Indiana with 67 Acres Tillable, balance being Wooded and Road Frontage. Farm has Frontage on CR's 200 S and 300 E.
Typography: Level. Possession: Upon Closing or Harvest of 2025 Crops. Taxes: To be Prorated the Day of Closing. Very Desirable Farm in a Great Location. Drive by's are Welcome or Phone Auctioneers for More Information. Auction Held On-Site.
OWNER: Gary D and Kimbra L Weesner
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 103 S Washington Street, Montpelier IN
Saturday Morning
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025
10:00 A.M.
REAL ESTATE
1 story home built in 1950 with 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and 1478 square feet of living area. Home has a gas forced air furnace, central air, gas fireplace, gas water heater, and a detached 1 car garage. For more information or a private showing con-

90 SALE CALENDAR

tact Loy Real Estate, Kim Loy Broker 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160
HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - GUNS
3 pc. Queen size bedroom suit with Sleep Number mattress; Whirlpool refrigerator; Smith Bros. 3 cushion sofa; (2) leather recliners; Longaberger baskets; McCoy owl cookie jar; Diamond Arms 12ga single shot; Stevens 22 lever action single shot octagon barrel; baseball gloves; canning jars; Coke bottles; and many other items not listed.
TRAILER - TOOLS
2 wheel 5' x 6' trailer; Troy Bilt 24i snowblower; Viper Earthquake roto tiller; Craftsman router; McCulloch Power Mack 320 chain saw; ; buzz saw blade; 2 man saw; levels; oil cans; pry bars; pliers; screwdrivers; and other items not listed.
JEAN LANDIS
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
Thursday Afternoon
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025
5:00 P.M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
Berne 2 cushion sofa; Berne 3 cushion sofa; 3 pc. full size bedroom suit with 4 drawer dresser and 4 drawer bookshelf; GE upright freezer; Avanti dorm size refrigerator; (2) Lazy Boy rocker/recliner; 1/24 SCALE DIE CAST CARS: LARGE SELECTION TO INCLUDE Dale Earnhardt, Michael Waltrip, Dale Jarrett, Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Jamie McMurray to name a few; Hummel figurines; Jim Davis paperweight; Nativity blow molds; and other items not listed.
GARDEN TRACTOR-TOOLS
Allis Chalmers 712 garden tractor with snow thrower and roto tiller; Sears Craftsman 12i band saw; Black & Decker Deluxe Power-Shop radial arm saw; Craftsman 12i wood lathe; Craftsman 10i table saw; hand saws; furniture clamps; vise grips; and many other items not listed.
WILLIAM BOND STANLEY, DECEASED
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
Wednesday Afternoon
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
5:00 P.M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
Oak table with 2 extra boards and 6 chairs, VERY NICE; Oak flat-door cupboard, VERY NICE; gun cabinet; vanity with bench; wood rocker; Oak coffee table; jewelry; jewelry boxes; hunting knives; pocket knives; swords; spurs; pickle jar; parlor lamp; belt buckles; large set of Gone With The Wind plates; over 5 large totes of Hot Wheels, accordion; Sears 8 track AM/FM vehicle player; FM radio converter; Cobra CB; and other items not listed.
SUV-BOAT & TRAILER-TOOLS
2020 Chevrolet Equinox with 67,000 miles, VIN # 3GNAXEJEV1LS630513 ; 14' Starcraft boat with 19hp Evinrude motor, cover, fish finder and includes a 14' Texas Royal trailer; Brute 7000 watt generator; Snapper riding lawn mower with 28i cut; Century battery charger; Craftsman sockets; Black & Decker circular saw; air impact; air ratchet; tarps; and other items not listed.
ELDON L. COST
ESTATE
By Elaine Stump and Beverly Paxson
Shelby County Probate Court
Case # 2025 EST 151
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Jay County Fairgrounds Women's Building Monday evening
OCTOBER 6, 2025
at 6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE
Parcel is located on 50 E just south of 200 S. Property consists of 8.48 acres of woods and has a driveway that runs from 50E back to the woods. This would be a good recreational site. 20% nonrefundable deposit day of sale with balance due at closing. Owner will provide Owners Title Insurance and General Warranty Deed. Buyer will assume taxes due and payable in May 2026 and thereafter. Any statements made day of sale take precedence over previously written or oral matter. Owner confirmation day of sale.
For more information contact Loy Real Estate 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160.
RON & DELAYNE MYERS

90 SALE CALENDAR

Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 20th, 2025
TIME 9:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 2641 E 1100 S. Montpelier IN.
TRACTORS - CRAWLER
1968 JD 4020 D. w/ Quad-shift, Front weights, 4900 hours. 1967 JD 2510 w/ Front weights, 6800 hours. Case 1030 Tractor w/ 3600 hours. New Holland GT-122A Lawn Tractor w/ deck and blade. Wheelhorse 14HP Garden Tractor. JD 450-B Crawler Loader. TRUCKS-MOTORCYCLES-FARM EQUIPMENT
. 1968 Chevy C50 Single Axel Dump Truck. 2000 Chevy S10 ZR2 4x4 93,000 Miles. 1985 Chevy C30 Utility Truck w/ Boom Lift and Snow Plow. 2021 Harley Davidson 1200 Model 48 w/ 2300 Miles. 2009 Kawasaki KLX 250 S Dirt Bike w/ 708 Miles. JD 55-A 3 Bottom Plow. Oliver 565 4 Bottom Plow. JD 7' Cycle Bar Mower. JD 4 Row Cultivator. New Idea 2 Row wide Picker. . JD 24T Square Baler. Kelly 18i Backhoe Bucket. 30 Ton Hyd Press. Lincoln 225 Welder. . Merry Mac Shredder Chipper. Rabbit Cages.
TOYS-ANTIQUES
JD, Oliver, Massey Ferguson, AC, Massey Harris Toy Tractors. . (2) 110 lb Anvils w/ Stands. Corn Sheller. Misc Slate. (4) Steel Wheels. Radio Flyer Wagon.
OWNER: James M Robins.
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY SEPT. 27TH, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 1499 N 100 W. PORTLAND, IN
RTV-TRACTOR-MOWERS - MOTOR HOME-GOLF CART.
Kubota BX2680 4WD Tractor w/ LA 344 Loader 29.3 Hours. Ferris 61i 27HP Zero Turn Commercial Mower w/ Suspension 2020 Hours. 2004 Conдор Motor Home w/ 2 Slide Outs, Built-in Generator, Sleeps 4, 20,875 Miles. 2022 EZ-GO Gas Lifted Golf Cart w/ Rear Seat, Street Legal. Paddle Boat. Flat Bottom Boat Trailer.
GUN -CROSSBOW
Savage 30.6 Model

90 SALE CALENDAR

110E Bolt Action. H&R Model 923 22 Cal 9 Shot Revolver. North Midlen Co. Black Powder Pistol. Ten Point XR-40 Crossbow w/ Scope and Crank. Gun Sight Stand. Small Combination and Gun Safe. ANTIQUES-HOUSEHOLD -MISC
Authentic Signed Paintings Including West Point Painting. 6 pc Cherry California King Size Bedroom Suite Including Blanket Chest. 5 pc California King Walnut Bedroom Suite. Leather Power Love Seat and Chair. GE Washer and Dryer. Gaming Table. Golf Clubs. Pop-up Canopy. Cornhole Game. (8) 8' Poly Folding Tables. (34) Padded Folding Chairs. High Quality Auction with Large Selection of Modern Items
OWNER: Gary L Morgan
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.
AL'S ODD JOBS
Repairs-Cleaning-Assembly-Carpentry-Painting-Pet Sitting and many other services. CALL FOR A FREE QUOTE. 260-251-0636
130 MISC. FOR SALE

SCRATCH PADS ARE BACK various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.
PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

FALL MARKET
Menchhofer Farms
5679 Wabash Rd., Coldwater, OH
419-942-1502
Open Thursday-Sunday 1pm-7pm

Visit Us At: thecr.com

190 FARMERS COLUMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Airtway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com
FOR RENT COUNTRY HOME BETWEEN Dunkirk & Redkey. 2BR/1 bath, suitable for 2 people. No pets/No smokers. Rent negotiable. 765-760-0272

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS
WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Wednesday Afternoon

SEPTEMBER 24, 2025

5:00 P.M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS – OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS

Oak table with 2 extra boards and 6 chairs, VERY NICE; Oak flatdoor cupboard, VERY NICE; gun cabinet; 4 drawer dresser; full size bed; vanity with bench; LG flatscreen TV; Magnavox VCR; card table with 4 chairs; Intec heaters; night stand; hospital table; lamps; bedding; file cabinet; Eureka sweeper; hall table; end tables; wood rocker; Oak coffee table; jewelry; jewelry boxes; hunting knives; pocket knives; swords; spurs; pickle jar; parlor lamp; belt buckles; large set of Gone With The Wind plates; Sony boom box; scales; 1/46 die cast cars and trucks; bar stool; over 5 large totes of Hot Wheels, NIB; Houstonian yearbooks; car models; Wahl clippers; Corelle dishes; Corning Ware; marble eggs; figurines; accordion; cookware; baking pans; flatware; utensils; hand mixer; crystal figurines; lady head planter; M & M dispenser; Brass Presidential coins; few old coins; lantern; minnow bucket; office chair; jardiniere; plasticware; beer stein; DVD's; VHS tapes; metal shelf; cement bird bath; cement goose and deer; park benches; Eden Pure heater; coolers; metal stool; fan; patio umbrella; Sears 8 track AM/FM vehicle player; FM radio converter; Cobra CB; sleeping bag; dog cage; pet carrier; wheelchair; Christmas lights; and other items not listed.

SUV – BOAT & TRAILER – TOOLS

2020 Chevrolet Equinox with 67,000 miles, VIN # 3GNAXEJEV1LS630513; 14' Starcraft boat with 19hp Evinrude motor, cover, fish finder and includes a 14' Texas Royal trailer; Brute 7000 watt generator; Snapper riding lawn mower with 28" cut; Troy Bilt 21" push mower with bagger; Montgomery Ward snowblower; 12 gallon shop vac; Troy Bilt roto tiller; push mowers; Poulan P3314 chain saw; weed eaters; 6' aluminum step ladder; aluminum extension ladder; Ryobi 6" bench grinder; Century battery charger; Craftsman sockets; Black & Decker circular saw; air impact; air ratchet; Craftsman vise; wrenches; pliers; fishing poles; Craftsman lawn mower lift; screwdrivers; creeper; indexes; saws; drills; drill bits; floor jack; wheelbarrow; drop cords; rakes; shovels; gas cans; hose & reel; saw horses; broadcaster; sledge hammer; tarps; and other items not listed.

ELDON L. COST ESTATE

By Elaine Stump and Beverly Paxson

Shelby County Probate Court Case # 2025 EST 151

LOY AUCTION AC31600027, AUCTIONEERS

Gary Loy AU 01031608

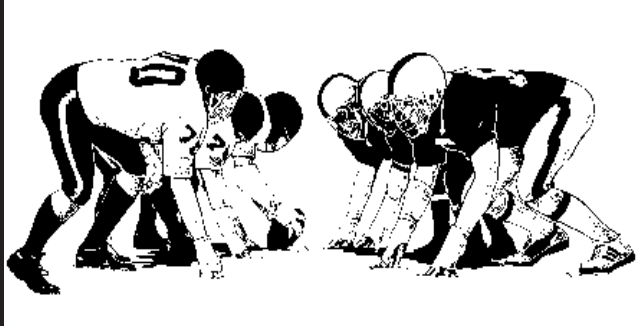
Aaron Loy AU11200112

Travis Theurer AU11200131

Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

CR 9-18-2025

Jay County Patriots



Bluffton Tigers

2025 HOMECOMING

FRIDAY, September 19th

PARADE DOWNTOWN
PORTLAND

5:00 p.m.

GAME
TIME **7:30 p.m.**

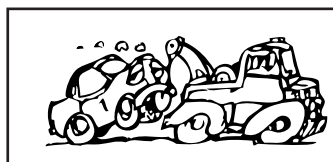
Harold Schutz Stadium

 **PERFORMANCE TOOL**
INCORPORATED
103 Performance Dr., Portland, IN
(260) 726-6572

 **REDKEY VETERINARY CLINIC**
Telephone: (765) 369-2526
St. Road 67 East
Doctor's hours
by appointment
1 (800) 417-1301

GOOD LUCK
Jay County Patriots!
From all of us at Dr. Georges
112 N. Ship St. • Portland • (260) 726-4710

 **george family**
DENTISTRY

 **Barnett's**
"23 1/2 hrs"
Towing & Recovery
2467 E. 200 N • Portland, IN **260-726-2036**

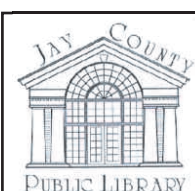
 **ALL CIRCUIT**
No Job Too Small - 24 Hour Service
• Emergency Call-outs
• Free Estimates
• Standby Generators
• Residential - Commercial
• Industrial - Agricultural
Counter Sales During Office Hours M-F 8-4 pm
5510 N. US 27 • Bryant, IN 47326 • (260) 997-8336
www.allcircuitelectrical.com

 **Trust Display Craft**
To Look Your Best
260-726-4535
www.displaycraft.com

Jay County Solid Waste District
5948 W. SR 67 Portland, IN 47371
(260) 729-5071

Williamson, Spencer & Penrod
Funeral Homes
Pennville & Portland
260-726-7111 731-8811
Top Quality • Real Compassion • Personal Attention • Exceptional Service

 **POET**
HUMAN + NATURE
See the world differently.
866.718.2676
POET.COM/Portland

 **Jay County Public Library**
315 North Ship Street
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259

The CR
Your Daily Newspaper
www.thecr.com


Baird-Freeman Funeral Home
David W. Teeter
221 North Meridian Street Portland, Indiana 47371
Phone (260) 726-7171
www.bairdfreeman.com • bairdfreeman@yahoo.com

 **iTalk**
they hear you
Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition
260-251-3259

 **ELITE**
EYE CARE, PC
Dr. Abby Small
1111 N. Meridian St.
P.O. Box 1268
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-4210


 **DUNKIRK**
EST. 1883
Dunkirk Mayor
Jack Robbins
Glass Capital of Indiana

 **BEST ONE**
Tire & Auto Care
210 S. Meridian St. Portland, IN
260-726-9321

 **WJCC**
WEST JAY COMMUNITY CENTER
765-768-1544
125 Hoover St. • Dunkirk

 **Carrier**
turn to the experts
DAVE'S
HEATING & COOLING LLC
1238 W. Water St. Portland, IN
(260) 726-2138

LOY
REAL ESTATE & AUCTION
101 West Main Street • Portland, IN
260-726-2700
www.loyrealestateauction.com • loyrealestate@comcast.net

 **Dunn Family Dental Care PC**
Dr. Thomas E. Dunn II
110 W. North St., Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8007
"WE'RE LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR SMILE!"

 **JAY COUNTY**
Visitor & Tourism Bureau
Good Luck Patriots
118 S. Meridian St. Portland, IN
www.visitjaycounty.com

 **HOPKINS REPAIR LLC**
AUTO & LIGHT TRUCK REPAIR
AC / BRAKES / DIAGNOSTICS / COOLING / SUSPENSION / TUNE UPS / ETC.
Mon-Fri 7am-4:00pm
Saturday by appt.
Call Scott Hopkins
260.251.0459
Portland, IN

The CR
Your Daily Newspaper
www.thecr.com

The Jay County Fair


 **WINGS and RINGS**
1204 W. Votaw St., Portland
(260) 726-9647
Open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily
buffalowingsandrings.com

 **CITADEL**
SUPPLY
Farm, Hardware, Auto Construction Supply and MORE!
9096 HWY 67 WEST • REDKEY, IN 47373
765-369-4110
STORE HOURS: M-F 8:00 am - 7:00 pm,
SAT 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, CLOSED SUNDAY

(765) 768-7375
Classique
Beauty Salon
206 S. Main St. • Dunkirk, IN 47336
Candi Hatzell


 **Adaptive Physical**
"WE BELIEVE IN EVERYONE'S RIGHT TO LIVE WITHOUT PAIN AND DISCOMFORT."
www.adaptiveservices.com
888.252.3767
111 W. NORTH ST. PORTLAND, IN 47371
155 EAST WASHINGTON STREET WINCHESTER, IN 47384
ADAPTIVE IN ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL THERAPY ADAPTIVE SERVICES

 **AMX MOTORSPORTS**
Sales • Parts • Service
1015 N. Meridian 260-766-4227 Portland, IN
www.amxmotorsports.com

 **Jack Houck Real Estate**
We enjoy helping people with their Real Estate Needs.
Sherri Finnerty
Real Estate Broker
1415 W. Votaw St. Cell (260) 726-0759
Portland, IN 47371 sherrifinnerty10@gmail.com

 **PATRIOT FITNESS**
CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINERS
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPY
Hawkins Galleria
105 North Meridian, Portland
24 Hour Access Fitness Center **260-726-2409**

 **Jamar**
BRAND SOURCE
TV, Appliance & Bedding Inc.
Hwy. 67 West
1250 West Votaw
Portland, Indiana 47371
260-726-7809
1-800-569-3944

 **Renegade Customs**
730 S. Meridian St. Portland, IN
(260) 726-7555


 **Williams**
Auto Parts
1127 S. Detroit Avenue
Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8001 • (800) 669-5762
www.williamsautopartsinc.com

Portland Veterinary Clinic
1407 W. Votaw St. • Portland • 260-726-7370
"Small Animal and Pet Care"

City of Portland
Portland, Indiana


 **TIRE CENTER**
"Where Tires Are Not A Sideline"
260-726-8947
421 N. Meridian Portland, IN
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

 **Grube Auctioneering, LLC**
Fort Recovery, Ohio
grubeauctioneering@gmail.com
419-305-9202
LAKESHORE REALTORS®

Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Assoc.
1010 N Morton St. Portland, IN 47371
260-466-2047
 

SHAWVER
AUCTIONEERING & REAL ESTATE
Pete D. Shawver Lic#AU19700040
Zane Shawver • Lic.#AU10500168 260-729-2229

 **MOSER**
ENGINEERING
102 Performance Dr. • Portland (260) 726-6689

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value.
Portland True Value Hardware & Lumber
1100 N. Meridian St. 260.726.6263 Portland, IN 47371

Reece LeFevre finished as Sectional medalist, see story below

Sports

Jay boys soccer will host Belmont today, see Sports on tap



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Paisley Fugiett (7) sets a ball as middle blockers Maria Hemmelgarn (12) and Mya Kunkler run to the net. The two middles combined for 10 kills and eight blocks to help lead the Patriots past Adams Central 25-16, 25-20, 25-18.

Catching a spark

Kunkler puts block on Jets' offense to strike flame

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

The first set was a slow burn for the Patriots.

The Jets started the second strong, but Mya Kunkler's height and ability to predict the path of the shot sparked a run.

In the third, the senior middle blocker contributed four of the first seven points to establish a strong lead.

Kunkler played a key role in the Jay County High School volleyball team's 25-16, 25-20, 25-18 victory over the Adams Central Jets on Tuesday.

"I was really happy with tonight," said JCHS coach Amy Dillon. "When I got home Saturday, I looked over everything and it wasn't a terrible day. We just don't play our best volleyball on Saturdays sometimes, but tonight we had our spark back."

That spark finally ignited into a flame midway through the second set.

The Patriots (10-6, 3-0 Allen County Athletic Conference) trailed 15-10 before an attack error by Jillian Brotherton gave them the ball back.

Kunkler then recorded back-to-back blocks — two of seven for her — as she met a ball at the net after the Jets' back line returned a serve from Elizabeth Barnett and she stuffed Brotherton.

Jay County proceeded to rip off four more points, including kills from Hallie Schwieterman, who had a match-high 10, and Ella Rigby, who got to see the outside a little bit for the first time in a match.

See **Spark** page 8

Review preview

Friday - 7 p.m.

Jay County Patriots

Portland, 1-3, (0-2 ACAC)
Coach: Eddie Fields, first year (fifth overall)
Conference: Allen County

Last week vs. Adams Central: The Patriots held the Jets scoreless through the first quarter, but gave up three touchdowns in the second quarter in the 40-0 defeat. Jay County never got the ball moving as they finished with 162 yards on 47 plays, while ACHS only needed 35 plays to garner 362 yards and six touchdowns.

Season leaders: Passing — Nick Laux — 28-of-51 for 360 yards and four touchdowns. Rushing — Leighton Brown — 40 carries for 203 yards and two touchdowns. Receiving — Brady Jetmore — nine catches for 187 yards and two touchdowns.

VS.

Bluffton Tigers

Bluffton, 4-0, (2-0 ACAC)
Coach: Brent Kunkel, 9th year
Conference: Allen County

Last week at Woodlan: The Tigers had a big second quarter in their 42-7 victory over the Warriors. Star quarterback Axton Beste had complete control of the game, slinging four touchdowns on 13-of-15 throwing with 203 yards. He also ran in his own score.

Season leaders: Passing — Axton Beste — 48-of-68 for 697 yards and 13 touchdowns. Rushing — Cooper Craig — 34 carries for 274 yards and two touchdowns. Receiving — Aaron Streveler — 15 catches for 264 yards and eight touchdowns. Defense — Griffin Morgan — 48 tackles and two interceptions.

Last season: the Patriots scored a touchdown in the final eight minutes to give them a chance against the Class 2A No. 9 Tigers, but they couldn't force a 3-and-out to get a final chance and gave up a 58-yard touchdown to be put out of reach 34-25. Sean Bailey tossed two touchdowns and ran in one more to lead the Patriots' offense. Bluffton had three scores in the air from Axton Beste and two more came from the ground.

Game notes: This is the 13th matchup between the Patriots and the Tigers. Adams Central has won the previous three games and just took a 7-6 advantage in the series over Jay County ... Bluffton has started the season 4-0 for the third consecutive season ... Jay County has a 38.15 Sagarin rating, which is 243rd overall and 51st in Class 3A. Bluffton's 69.2 rating is 75th overall and 7th in Class 2A ... John Harrell projects that Jay County to lose 38-17.

Patriots take down Adams Central 4-1

One of the four blips on the Patriots' record came at the hands of an Allen County Athletic Conference foe. The second time they faced a conference opponent, the Patriots came out on top.

The Jay County High School boys tennis team picked up a 4-1 conference victory over the Adams Central Jets on Tuesday.

Both doubles teams needed three sets to pull out wins. Kadyn Carpenter and Alex Miller beat Mason Fruechte and Brody Ischg 4-6, 6-4, 6-0 at the No. 1 doubles position, while Gabe Overton and Brock Wasson won the No. 2 doubles match 6-3, 4-6, 6-0.

Paul Dirksen picked up a point at the No. 1 singles position by defeating Logan Heiman 6-2, 6-3.

Clark Wellman had the other win over Braxton Gerber 6-1, 6-

Local Roundup

4 in the No. 3 singles match. Henry Dirksen suffered the sole loss for JCHS (10-4, 1-1 ACAC) to Zach Frank 6-2, 7-5 in the No. 2 singles match.

Tribe slips

CELINA, Ohio — Fort Recovery's girls golf team dropped its second Midwest Athletic Conference match of the season 202-205 on Tuesday against the New Bremen Cardinals at Mercer County Elks.

Alli Trego of New Bremen earned match medalist honors with a 46, while Mallory Evers and Olivia Knapke came in

with the second and third-best scores of the day for the Indians (11-2, 6-2 MAC). Evers shot a 48, while Knapke carded a 49.

Georgia Wenning finished with 51 strokes for the third FRHS score. Macy Kaffenberger tied Evvie Briner with a 57 to score for the first time in a varsity match.

Cora Pearson shot a 60 that didn't impact the final.

The Tribe's hopes of a second consecutive conference title now solely rests in Saturday's MAC tournament.

Jay falls

Despite Erin Aker setting a new career mark and the team shooting a season low, the Jay County girls golf team fell to the Southern Wells Raiders 202-206 at Portland Golf Club on Tuesday.

Aker shaved five strokes off of her previous best to shoot a

45. Her best round came about with one par and seven bogeys. She was one stroke off of the match medalist.

Taven Bentley and Alexa Ridenour both provided 53s for the Patriots (2-11, 1-5 ACAC). They combined for two pars and four bogeys.

Elizabeth Brunswick carded a 55 to round out the team score. Reny Lingo shot a 56 that didn't impact the team final.

Minster wins

MINSTER, Ohio — The Fort Recovery volleyball team is still searching for its first MAC win after falling to the Minster Wildcats 25-21, 25-20, 25-12 on Tuesday.

The Wildcats (7-7, 2-2 MAC) tallied 22 kills in the match and also dropped in eight aces. MHS also had two blocks, meaning the remaining 43 points came on various attack,

service and ball handling errors by the Tribe (3-7, 0-4 MAC).

Fort Recovery's next opportunity at a MAC win will come today against the Division VI No. 6 Coldwater Cavaliers.

Devils score

Jay County's boys soccer team couldn't handle the Richmond Red Devils in a 6-1 loss on Tuesday.

The Red Devils (9-2) scored two early goals. JCHS (4-5-1) cut into the lead as Brody Collins assisted Jaxson DeHoff for a score halfway through the first period.

The flood gates completely opened as Richmond poured in four more goals to secure the victory.

Peyton Yowell allowed six goals while making four saves.

The Patriots will face the Belmont Braves tonight.

LeFevre tops sectional meet

SIDNEY, Ohio — The Tribe won't be moving onto the district this year, but one Indian will.

Reece LeFevre claimed match medalist honors for the 11th time this season to punch his individual bid to the district tournament after the Fort Recovery High School boys golf team fell five strokes short at the OHSAA Division III Southwest Sectional golf meet at Shelby Oaks Golf Club on Tuesday morning.

The Tribe finished sixth at the meet with a 344, while only the top

four teams — Lehman Catholic (313), Botkins (327), Russia (333) and Emmanuel Christian Academy (339) — advanced to the district tournament.

LeFevre earned match medalist honors by shooting a three-over-par 75. The score earned him a spot at the district meet at Pipestone Golf Club on Sept. 29 along with Triston Woolley (78) of Jackson Center, Troy Christian's Gabe Barhorst (82) and Cannon Hazelbaker (82) of Jackson Center.

See **LeFevre** page 8

Harvest

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

CONTACT LINDSEY AT L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141

Our harvest **SPECIAL SECTION** will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), and The News Times (Hartford City)

- full-page color — \$625
- full-page B&W — \$525
- 1/2-page color — \$500
- 1/2-page B&W — \$400
- 1/4-page color — \$350
- 1/4-page B&W — \$300
- Big business card (3x3.5) — \$125
- Business card (2x2) — \$80

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

THE DEADLINE IS OCT. 15