Saturday, September 27, 2025

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371 www.thecr.com $1

Sheriff's office has launched app

Information including bookings is available via smartphones

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Jay County Sheriff's Office has gone mobile.

The department launched a free smartphone application this month.

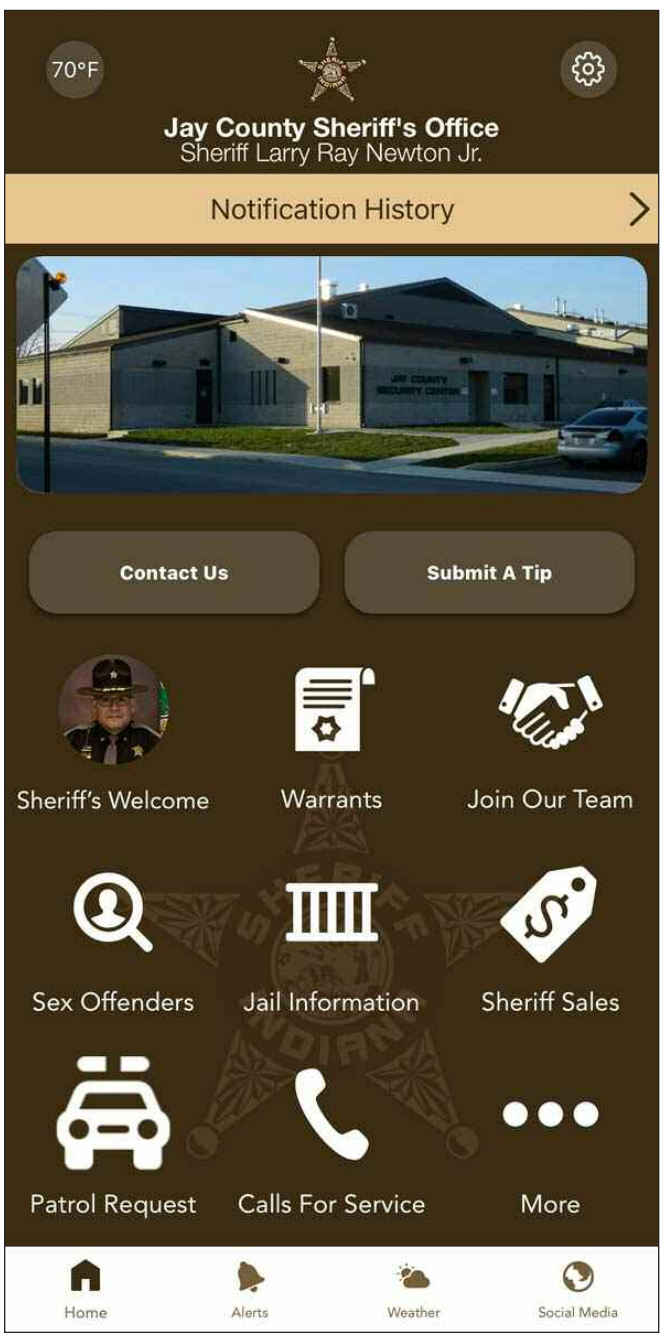
"Probably one of the biggest reasons why we're doing it is to get the information out to the public as far as everything," said Sheriff Ray Newton.

Newton said the sheriff's office frequently receives calls asking if family members or loved ones are at the jail. That information is now available on smartphones at the swipe of a finger, a feature that Newton believes will be a time saver for all.

"It's a lot better, it's easier, instead of calling (us), (they) can just look at their app and see if (they're) looking for someone that's in jail, or any recent bookings," he said.

Users may hop onto the app for various information, including recent jail bookings, a list of current inmates with charges and bonds, sheriff's sales, a map with the names and addresses of registered sex offenders in Jay County, calls for service made to the department and opioid and addiction resources.

See **App** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

FR royalty

Fort Recovery High School crowned its homecoming queen and king Friday before the football team's game against the New Bremen Cardinals. Pictured are queen Olivia Knapke and king Gabe Acheson. For more on the game, see page 10.

Unemployment drops to 3.7%

Jay County's rate decreased for the first time since April

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

After three straight months of increases, the local unemployment rate dipped in August.

Jay County had an unemployment rate of 3.7% last month, according to estimates the Indiana Department of Workforce Development released this week.

Jay County's rate went down by 0.3 percentage points, dropping back below 4%. The rate was the same as in August 2024.

Unemployment in Jay County went up by a total of 1.3 percentage points in May, June and July. It had been as low as 2.7% in April.

The trend was the same across the region, with counties seeing dips ranging from 0.2 percentage points to 0.5 percentage points.

Indiana's unemployment rate was down overall at 3.8%, a decrease of 0.4 percentage points from July. It was 0.6 percentage points lower than in August 2024.

See **Unemployment** page 2

Shutdown = layoffs

Memo tells agencies to prepare if a deal is not reached

By JENNIFER SHUTT
States Newsroom

WASHINGTON — The White House has sent guidance to departments and agencies, telling them that if a shutdown begins Wednesday, they're expected to institute mass firings and layoffs.

The two-page memo, shared with States Newsroom by a Trump administration official, says any programs that received funding in the "big, beautiful" law will "continue uninterrupted."

But the vast majority of federal departments and agencies need Congress to approve an annual funding bill or a stopgap spending bill before the start of the new fiscal year to keep running.

The memo says the employees who run those programs may receive a Reduction in Force notice if lawmakers don't broker an agreement before the Oct. 1 deadline.

Those reductions will apply to programs, projects, or activities that are "not consistent with the President's priorities," according to the memo.

"RIF notices will be in addition to any furlough notices provided due to the lapse in appropriation," the memo states. "RIF notices should be issued to all employees working on the relevant (programs, projects, or activities), regardless of whether the employee is excepted or furloughed during the lapse in appropriations."

Once lawmakers reach a deal and the government reopens, the memo says agencies should rework their reduction in force plans "to retain the minimal number of employees necessary to carry out statutory functions."

Urging compromise

Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York, wrote in a statement the memo represents "an attempt at intimidation."

See **Layoffs** page 2

The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Dinner on the bridge

Local residents chat Thursday evening on the green bridge connecting Hudson Family Park and Weiler-Wilson Park in Portland. Jay County locals hosted a community dinner on the bridge, inviting residents to picnic or grab a meal from nearby food trucks and converse with others at tables set up along the bridge.

Deaths

Joseph Dues, 75, rural Portland

Thad Eley, 56, Markle

Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature was 76 degrees Friday in Jay County.

Skies will be sunny today with a high in the lower 80s. Expect sunny skies again Sunday and Monday, with highs climbing into the mid 80s and upper 80s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

It's a busy weekend of activity with Jay County Historical Society's Heritage Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and Sunday and the Portland Main Street Fall Festival from 3 to 7 p.m. Jay County Civic Theatre's production of Legally Blonde runs at 7 p.m. tonight and 2 p.m. Sunday at Arts Place.

Coming up

Tuesday — Photos from this weekend's events, including the Jay County Heritage Festival.

Wednesday — Coverage of FRHS senior Reece LeFevre in the regional golf tournament.

App ...

Continued from page 1

The app also allows users to make deposits to inmates' commissary accounts, submit tips for ongoing investigations and send compliments or complaints for the department, among other services.

"It's also made the application process much easier," added chief deputy Ben Schwartz.

By tapping "Join Our Team," individuals can apply for positions at the sheriff's office or jail. Those applications are sent directly to the corresponding email, which Schwartz said streamlines the process.

Jay County Sheriff's Office announced its app was available to download Sept. 11. Newton pointed out other sheriff's offices around Indiana, including departments in Blackford, Adams and Wells counties, are beginning to use apps to make information readily available to the public. He said Jay County Sheriff's Office has been considering the app — it is developed by thesheriffapp.com, a subsidiary of computer company OCV — for a few years but needed to figure out a way to pay for it.

Ultimately, Newton pulled the trigger on the app this year. The department paid the $15,000 startup cost out of the jail's commissary fund, which accrues money from merchandise sales to inmates. It will also have an annual cost of about $5,000.

"This is a plus for everyone," Newton said.

Newton talked about a few technological changes in the works for the sheriff's office, including using the in-app notification system instead of mass notification system Rave Alert, which has an annual $12,000 service. He also mentioned the department is working with Craig Frazee of Dynamic Business Solutions to establish a new website. (Its previous site was operated through Emerald Business Solutions, a business owned by former sheriff's office deputy Derek Bogenschutz.)

A few sections of the new app are still under maintenance, said Newton, although he shared hopes to have it fully in service by the end of September. Schwartz noted tips from the "Submit A Tip" section of the app as of last week had already led to two arrests.

Smartphone users can visit their device's app store to download the free app labeled as Jay County Sheriff's Office IN.

"I just encourage the public to take advantage of this app," said Newton. "It's just something that I think it's going to — the public's going to love it, they'll know what exactly is going on within the sheriff's office."

CR almanac

Sunday 9/28	Monday 9/29	Tuesday 9/30	Wednesday 10/1	Thursday 10/2
86/55	86/55	83/55	81/50	77/50
Sunny skies on Sunday with highs climbing to the mid 80s.	Sunny skies are expected Monday when the high will be around 86 degrees.	Tuesday's weather looks like mostly sunny skies with a high around 83.	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Wednesday when the low may hit 50 late.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Thursday when the high will be around 77.

Lotteries

Hoosier
Midday
Daily Three: 0-9-8
Daily Four: 7-0-6-7
Quick Draw: 5-7-9-11-14-17-18-26-27-28-29-31-32-33-38-46-49-52-60-73

Ohio
Midday
Pick 3: 6-5-7
Pick 4: 6-9-4-1
Pick 5: 1-8-3-1-2

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: $145 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: $474 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn....4.20
Oct. corn....4.13

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn....4.20
Oct./Nov. corn....4.10
Dec. corn....4.30

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn....4.05
Oct. corn....4.02
Beans....9.59
Dec. beans....10.11
Wheat....4.81

ADM Montpelier
Corn....3.97
Oct. corn....3.97
Beans....9.67
Oct. beans....9.67
Wheat....4.76

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn....4.20
Oct. corn....4.05
Beans....9.51
Oct. beans....9.76
Wheat....4.61

Today in history

In 1066, the Norman conquest of England began when William, Duke of Normandy, set sail with his Army for the southeastern coast of England.

In 1514, explorer Juan Ponce de Leon was granted a contract by Spain to settle the Bimini, an island in the Bahamas, and Florida.

In 1540, Pope Paul III approved the Jesuit order that was founded by St. Ignatius of Loyola.

In 1590, Pope Urban VII completed the shortest papacy in history, dying 12 days after being elected.

In 1777, the Continental Congress held a session in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, after fleeing Philadelphia.

In 1912, "Memphis Blues," which is considered the first blues song, was published by W.C. Handy.

In 1954, The Tonight Show premiered with host Steve Allen.

In 1962, Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" was published. It was one of the most influential books of the modern environmental movement.

In 1964, the Warren Commission released its findings after months of investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

In 1972, Portland Park Board decided to defer plans for major repairs at the Portland youth center until 1973. Contractor Paul Baldauf told the board it would take that time to determine the exact reason cracks had developed in the foundation and south wall of the building.

In 2020, Jay County Commissioners approved a rule to suspend the email accounts of Jay County government employees within a month if they did not complete their required cybersecurity training.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday

5:15 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.

5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Oct. 6

5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Oct. 7

4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Obituaries

Joseph Dues

May 17, 1950-Sept. 25, 2025

Joseph Henry Dues, age 75, of rural Portland passed away with his family at his side on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025, at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton.

Dues

He was born on May 17, 1950, in Celina, Ohio, to the late Cletus and Martha (Grieshop) Dues.

In addition to his parents, Joe was preceded in death by his first wife, Sharon (Rammel) Dues, whom he married on July 29, 1972, and who passed away on Nov. 29, 2012; his grandson, Allen Dues; his brother Ted Dues; his father-in-law, Fred Rammel; and his in-law, Beck Rammel.

Joe is survived by his wife, Katie (Waymire) Hummel Dues, whom he married on Aug. 10, 2024; his children, Shelly (Jeff) Vaughn of Fort Recovery, Joe (Gail) Dues of Portland, Pamela (Pete) Reinhart of New Bremen, Timothy (Casey) Dues of New Bremen and Benjamin (Jamie) Dues of Portland; Kate's children, Chad Hummel and fiancé Cindy Webster of California and Holly (Michael) Gower of Fort Recovery; his 18 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; his siblings, Ken (Jeanette) Dues of Fort Recovery, Sue (Mike) May of Fort Recovery, Fred (Marge) Dues of Coldwater, Freda (Hank) Lochtefeld of Celina, Frank (Beck) Dues of Fort Recovery and Danny Dues of Union City; his sister-in-law, Bev Dues of Coldwater; his mother-in-law, Delma Rammel of Fort Recovery; his in-laws, Larry (Ginny) Rammel of Greenville, Janice (Herb) Grieshop of Celina, Dave Rammel of Fort Recovery, Marge (Fred) Dues of Coldwater, Tom (Sandy) Rammel of Coldwater, Jane (Paul) Kaverman of Geneva, Rick (Phyllis) Rammel of Coldwater, Steve Rammel and fiancé Lisa Bricher of Coldwater, and Randy (Angie) Rammel of Fort Recovery; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Joe was a 1969 graduate of Coldwater High School. He spent many years as a part-owner of F&J Farm Service before purchasing a dairy farm in Jay County, where he farmed and raised his family for the next 25 years. His strong work ethic led him to continue his career at C&L Fab, Pax Machine and, eventually, Fort Recovery Industries, from which he retired in 2013.

A man of faith, Joe was a devoted member of Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, where he served as an usher for many years. He was also active in the community as a member of the Fort Recovery Knights of Columbus, a volunteer fireman in Salamonia and a past member of the Fort Recovery Ambassadors.

Joe had a deep love for the outdoors — fishing, hunting and camping were among his favorite activities, especially when shared with his family. His family was his pride and joy. He loved hosting large family gatherings at the farm, always cooking enough to feed an army. In recent years, he found joy in traveling and especially cherished winters spent in Florida with Kate. Joe was a proud member of the "Berry Boys" and was a charter member of the "He Man Woman Haters Club."

A skilled woodworker, Joe crafted many items that will be treasured by his loved ones for generations. He believed in the value of hard work and passed that belief on to his children and grandchildren. A gentle teacher, he gave others the space to grow, always leading with patience and kindness.

Though he was a mountain of a man, Joe was truly a teddy bear at heart — strong, kind and full of love.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2025, at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Guests may visit with Joe's family on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025, from 2 to 7 p.m. and again on Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home. A Knights of Columbus prayer service will be held at 6:45 p.m. on Tuesday.

As the kind man Joe was, the family requests that in lieu of flowers and sympathy gifts, that you pass forward an act of kindness in memory of Joe. Memorial contributions may also be given to the Gardens at St. Henry, 522 Western Ave St Henry, OH 45883, or the Center for Neurological Development, P.O. Box 117, Burkettsville, OH 45310.

Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockmanboeckmanfh.com.

Thad Eley

Sept. 11, 1968-Sept. 6, 2025

Thad M. Eley Sr., 56, of Markle passed away on Saturday morning, Sept. 6, 2025, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Eley

He was born on Sept. 11, 1968, in Portland, Indiana, to Richard and Joann (Sutton) Eley.

Survivors include his father, Richard Eley of Portland; two sons, Deven Franks and Thad M. Eley Jr.; and his stepchildren Amber Snider, Robert Snider, David Harper and Jeri Harper; along with his brother Todd (Shawna) Eley.

Thad is also survived by his grandson, Drayse Eley; and stepgrandchildren Braxton, Neveah, Logan and Liam; his nieces and nephews Evan Eley, Clayton Eley, Madison Eley, Draven Eley and Ashley Franklin.

Thad is preceded in death by his mother, Joann Eley; and grandparents Martin and Ruth (Evans) Eley and Frank and Dorothy (Shull) Sutton.

Private family services will be held.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton.

Friends may share online condolences with the family at thomarich.com.

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

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

Unemployment ...

Continued from page 1

Union County continued its run of low unemployment, posting the state's lowest rate at 2.8% in August. Wells and Boone counties were next at 3%.

Struggles continued in Howard County, which had the only rate in Indiana higher than 5%. It came in at 6.2%. Lake County (5%) was next, followed by Grant County (4.7%) and then Delaware County.

Area unemployment rates are as follows:

Adams County: 3.8%, down 0.2 percentage point, tied for 27th-highest

Blackford County: 4.2%, down 0.5 percentage points, tied for 11th-highest

Delaware County: 4.6%, down 0.4 percentage points, tied for fourth-highest

Grant County: 4.7%, down 0.4 percentage points, third-highest

Henry County: 3.8%, down 0.3 percentage points, tied for 27th-highest

Jay County: 3.7%, down 0.3 percentage points, tied for 46th-lowest

Randolph County: 3.8%, down 0.4 percentage points, tied for 27th-highest

Wayne County: 4.1%, down 0.4 percentage points, tied for 13th-highest

Layoffs ...

Continued from page 1

"Donald Trump has been firing federal workers since day one—not to govern, but to scare. This is nothing new and has nothing to do with funding the government," Schumer wrote. "These unnecessary firings will either be overturned in court or the administration will end up hiring the workers back, just like they did as recently as today."

American Federation of Government Employees National President Everett Kelley wrote in a statement the memo shows that White House budget director Russ Vought intends "to pursue another DOGE-like round of illegal mass firings in the event of a shutdown, adding to the chaos."

"The truth is simple: Republicans cannot fund the government without Democratic votes. That means the only path forward is compromise," Kelley wrote.

ANNA (Crouch) SHEETS
from Jay County (Dunkirk, Pennville HS) is celebrating her birthday on
September 28th.
Anyone wanting to say Happy Birthday can email
annasheetscontact@gmail.com
or write to
3196 Country Park Drive Toddville, IA, 52341.

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATER
Supporting 2026 Hartford City Hometown Days
Saturday, October 4th
Blackford County 4H Fairgrounds
310 E Park Ave, Hartford City
DRESS UP THEME
"I Love The 80's To Death"
TICKETS
$45/ticket or 2 for $80
Dinner @ 6pm
Baked Steak, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Roll, and Non-Alcoholic Drink
Show @ 7pm
Cash Bar available during meal and at intermission
Tickets available at the Purdue Extension Blackford County Office (124 N Jefferson St in Hartford City) or by emailing Melanie Piercy at piercy0@purdue.edu

SERVICES

Saturday

Snow, Margaret: 10 a.m., Grace Bible Church, 6626 S. 150 West, Berne.

Wilson, Patricia: 11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church, 201 E. Franklin St., Winchester.

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

Crouch, Fran: 2 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Tuesday

Weagant, Mike: 11 a.m., Springhill Cemetery, Fort Recovery.

Stewart, Linda: 1 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Wednesday

Dues, Joseph: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS
120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

Ex wants another chance

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I was with the same man for 36 years, but I divorced him three years ago because of his gambling problems. We came to this country 27 years ago, and ever since then I have been working and providing for us. He never paid any bills. He was very controlling and pretty much did whatever he pleased. I guess I was so busy trying to make a better life for our son, I didn't realize how bad it was.

Our son is now 33. There is no relationship between them. He refuses to talk to his father. We were divorced but still living together, and he was giving me only $500 a month (he's a truck driver). When I got breast cancer two years ago, he was so mean to me after my first chemo that I had to tell him to leave. We weren't in contact for almost a year until he saw me one day in a store (I had no hair and had gained 45 pounds). He looked shocked and started crying. Since then, we are talking, and he wants to come back. My son is against it. He thinks his dad just wants a safe haven. We are from the same hometown, and it's hard not to have people gossip. I survived cancer, but this is confusing, and I don't know what to do. Deep down, I know he will never change, but … — STAY OR GO IN FLORIDA

DEAR STAY OR GO: Your ex-husband abandoned you while you were in treatment for cancer. Please, for your own sake, LISTEN TO YOUR SON. He is giving you good advice. Rather than preoccupy yourself with what people from your old hometown might say, live in the here and now. Remind yourself why you divorced your husband. He was controlling, was a problem gambler, didn't contribute financially and did whatever he pleased without regard to you. Cherish and nurture relationships that are MUTUAL, and you will be much happier.

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DEAR ABBY: Do you have advice for what to wear to a job interview when the interview is in an office, but the work is mostly going to be outdoors? I have gotten a callback for a job related to the research I did for my master's degree. It requires some physical activity in what could be harsh weather conditions. This is something I am prepared for, but the interviewer might not expect that, as I'm a petite woman and don't meet the stereotype for the field. Should I show up in office clothes or the things I would actually wear on the job? I want to show that I know what will be expected, but I also want to be respectful. For what it's worth, I asked my mentor and couldn't get a straight answer. — DRESSING FOR SUCCESS

DEAR DRESSING: If it were me, I would wear slacks and a shirt, making sure they were clean and pressed, and sturdy shoes. It would show you know what would work in the field, but be tidy enough to make a good impression in the office. I do not think office attire would be appropriate for the interview, and this would be more practical.

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

Bingo features 'Scooby-Doo' theme

Taking Note

Grab some Scooby snacks and a Bingo card.

Jay County Public Library is hosting a "Scooby-Doo" themed bingo night. Families are invited to the library's community room Oct. 9 to join for bingo and try for a variety of themed prizes, included "Scooby-Doo" blanket, checkers or a 500-piece puzzle. Participants may snack on Shaggy's subs, Scooby snacks and groovy juice. Sessions are from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. or 6 to 7 p.m. Space is limited. To register, call (260) 726-7890 or visit the library.

Also, Interactive STREAM Studio, an event for third through sixth grade students to learn about science, technology, reading, engineering, art and math through hands-on experiences, begins next month at the library. It will be held the first or second Wednesday of each month from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Register with Jay County Purdue Extension Office by Oct. 1.

Pumpkin painting

Fort Recovery Friends of the Library will host pumpkin painting events Oct. 4, Oct. 6 and Oct. 7. Registration is open for children to sign up for painting sessions by visiting fortrecoverylibrary.org or calling (419)375-2869. The cost is $2 per pumpkin or free for Friends of the Library members. Materials are provided.

The library will begin its story time season at 10:30 a.m. Oct. 3, with subsequent story times to be hold most Friday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Tuesday evenings at 6:15 p.m. Parents or guardians may attend with babies through preschool-aged children to participate in reading, activities, songs or crafts. No registration is required.

Health screenings

Health screenings will be available next month in Portland.

Local residents can learn about their risks for cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and other chronic conditions with health screenings Oct. 6 at Lions Club Civic Center, 307 E. 100 North, Portland.

Screenings check for plaque buildup in arteries, cholesterol levels, kidney and thyroid functions and more.

Call (877) 237-1287 or visit lifelinescreening.com to set up an appointment. Pre-registration is required.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

THE LIFE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy, as well as help with the needs of the family. The center is located at 1209 S. Shank St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday

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

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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

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

Thursday

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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

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.

Friday's Solution

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

Thanks for helping to celebrate courage

Letters to the Editor

To the editor:

On behalf of the planning committee for the 2025 Jay County-Cancer Society's Cancer Cruise-In: Celebration of Courage, we want to extend our deepest gratitude to our community for the incredible support shown during this year's event.

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise over $20,000 in sponsorships and donations. These contributions go directly to the Jay County Cancer Society, and we are proud to share that every dollar raised in Jay County stays in Jay County — supporting local cancer patients and their families right here at home.

This event was not only about raising funds — it was about celebrating survivors, supporting those in the midst of their fight, and honoring the memory of loved ones lost. From the inspiring Survivor Cruise-In, to the lively Car Show, to the joy of families gathering at the carnival, the evening was a powerful reminder of what we can achieve when we come together.

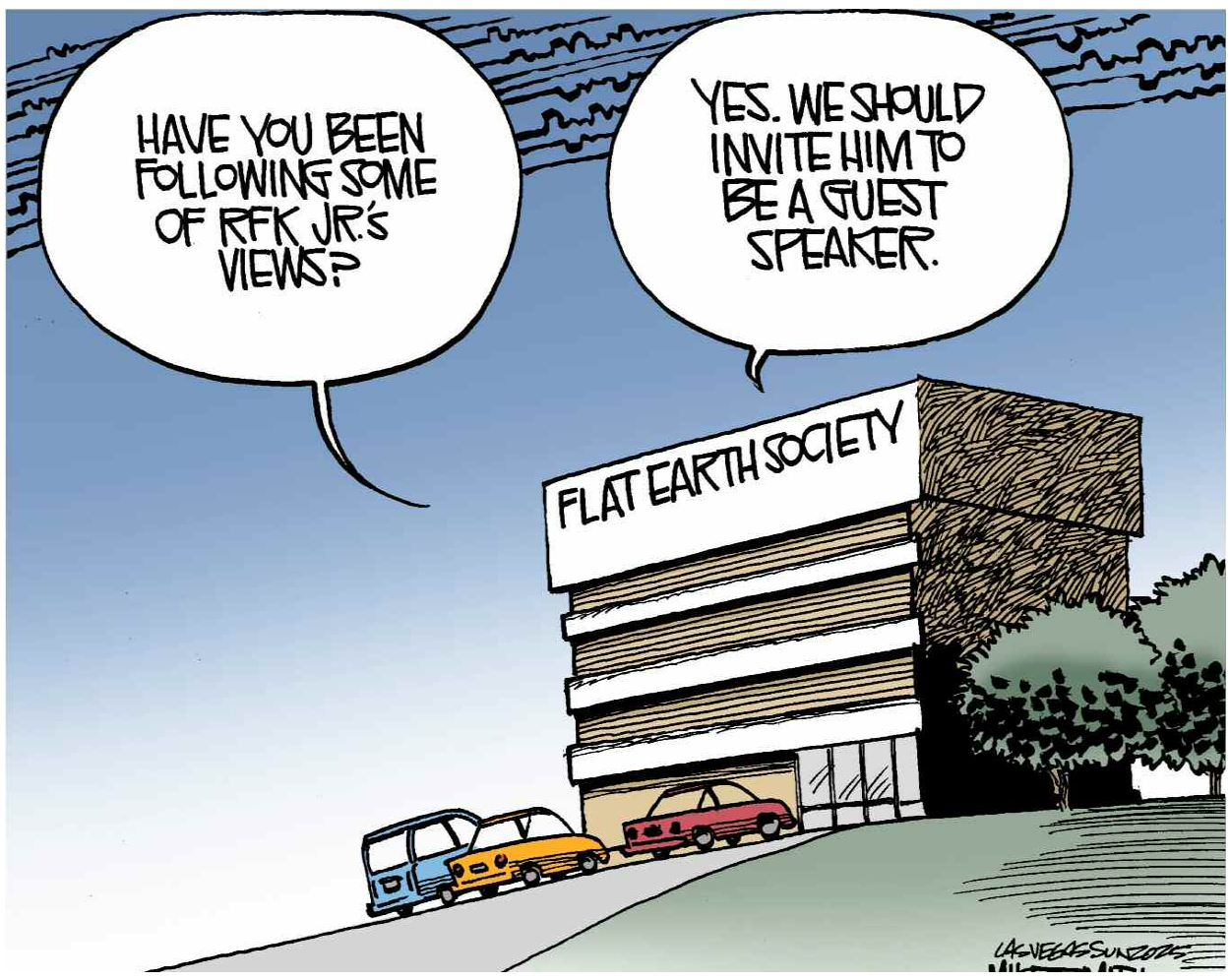
We are humbled by the outpouring of kindness, commitment and community spirit. Whether you gave your time, shared your resources, sponsored, donated or simply showed up to cheer and celebrate, you made a difference.

Together, we are stronger. Together, we celebrate courage.

With gratitude,

Tisha Gierhart

Jay County Cancer Society's Cruise-In: Celebration of Courage



Some of this life's ironies are tragic

By JOHN KRULL
TheStatehouseFile.com

John Krull

Life has its ironies.

Long ago, a group of angry men burned a cross on my grandfather's lawn.

They wore masks. They wanted to intimidate my grandfather, who served as the principal of both the white high school and the segregated Black high school in the small Indiana town where he lived.

I don't know why the men in masks did what they did.

I've heard stories. One account says the cross-burners were mad because my grandfather had disciplined a member of the basketball team. Another suggests something he had done to benefit the Black school enraged them.

I tried talking with my grandfather about it near the end of his life. It was at a time when he was trying to prepare me for the responsibilities that would settle upon my shoulders when he died.

Because of those circumstances, our discussions were franker than a man in his late 70s and a man-child in his late teens might otherwise share.

But Grandpa wouldn't go anywhere near that night when the cross burned in his yard.

It wasn't that he was scared. My grandfather was not a man who frightened easily, and the cross-burning was 30 years in the past when we talked about it.

My guess—and it is only a guess—is that he felt betrayed by the act. He knew that among that mob were men he considered neighbors, even friends, people whose children he'd taught and cared for.

That remained a source of pain for him to the end.

It scarred my mother, too.

That night left her with a lasting sense of violation—and an abiding anger toward those who try to frighten others into silence or obedience.

That, too, stayed with her until she died.

Again, life has its ironies.

Some 40 years after that mob burned the cross in Grandpa's lawn, I—my grandfather's firstborn grandchild and my mother's eldest child—became the executive director of what was then the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, now the American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana.

Among the people we represented during my tenure were the KKK and other white supremacist groups. Those groups then were going from Indiana town to Indiana town to hold public rallies in the hope that some public official would attempt to deny them the right to peaceably assemble.

They then would use the publicity resulting from the suit to recruit new members.

I met with those folks from time to time.

Did I like them?

No.

Did I agree with them?

No.

But that was beside the point.

I don't claim to be a constitutional scholar, but I'd read the First Amendment closely enough to know that it didn't have an asterisk. I knew that its guarantees of free speech didn't just apply to people I liked or I agreed with.

I also was savvy enough to realize that allowing even the most noxious speech to be suppressed would allow unscrupulous people in power to establish a precedent—and a justification for shutting down expression they didn't like.

So, I defended the rights of people whose views I detested.

I defended the spiritual heirs of the men who terrorized my grandfather, grandmother, mother and aunt.

I did so because I thought it was the right thing.

I still do.

We're seeing now what happens when we tinker with speech codes and notions of hate speech. Unscrupulous people in power use those terms and that tinkering to shut down expression, even relatively innocuous expression, they just don't like.

They're using the murder of conservative activist Charlie Kirk as a justification for silencing criticism of his views.

Before he was brutally cut down, Kirk made use of his First Amendment rights more skillfully than any other figure of his generation. A college dropout, he built a media and political empire with a following in the millions.

The foundation of that empire was his willingness to criticize people in power, especially when they were Democrats and progressives.

That's why he opposed speech codes and said there was no such thing as "hate speech." His admirers call him a martyr in the cause of free speech.

Now, many of those same admirers want to shut up anyone who disagrees with him or them in homage to Kirk. They're willing to use the power of government to do it.

Yeah, life has its ironies.

Some of them are tragic.

••••••••••

Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students.

What would Salk say if he saw us now?

By LAURA DAVIS and TIARDUS GREIDANUS
South Florida Sun Sentinel
Tribune News Service

Guest Opinion

The cheers that greeted State Surgeon General Joseph Ladopo's announcement that Florida would become the first state to end vaccine mandates reminded us of a moment captured on film 70 years ago when Dr. Thomas Francis announced to a waiting nation that Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine had been found to be "safe, effective and potent."

Julius Youngner, the Salk Lab's senior scientist, remembered that spring day in Ann Arbor, Michigan: "Kids ran out into the streets, factory whistles went off, church bells tolled, people were crying. It was as if a war had ended." Salk's team needed no reminders that the disease they'd battled for six years injured and killed tens of thousands of children every year. Their lab at the University of Pittsburgh was in the former morgue of the city's Municipal Hospital; the polio ward was located just a few stories above.

In 2013, we were asked to produce and direct a documentary, "A Shot to Save the World," about Salk's remarkable achievement. We interviewed over three dozen people who knew Salk, including all the surviving members of his lab, adults who as children had participated in the trials and two of his sons, Drs. Peter and Jonathan Salk. The film premiered on the Smithsonian Channel on Oct. 24, World Polio Day, and was rereleased on Paramount+ during Operation Warp Speed.

Salk's story inspired our latest film: "Virulent: The Vaccine War" about vaccine hesitancy, which we began filming two months before COVID-19 struck. We are not scientists. We are not doctors. But as storytellers, we could not help wondering: How did we get here?

Today's war, waged by Ladopo and members of the Trump administration, most prominently HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., is against public health and proven science. Ladopo, a Harvard Medical School graduate, knows better. So does Mehmet Oz, the celebrity doctor who oversees Medicaid and Medicare, who told Fox News, "Parents love their kids more than anybody else, so why not let [them] play an active role in this?" conflating parental love with expertise in infectious disease transmission. Watching this, we asked ourselves a second question: What would Jonas Salk make of today's dangerous assault on vaccines?

By the early 1950s, rolling polio epidemics claimed 50,000 children a year. It came every summer, like a biblical plague. It killed some children and paralyzed and maimed others, leaving vivid reminders, young victims in wheelchairs, leg braces and iron lungs.

In 1952, Salk began testing his experimental vaccine on children who already had polio to see if it would boost their antibodies. His theory proved correct, and he moved on to testing the vaccine in healthy children. He also tested it on himself and his sons. The national field trial that followed was the largest in medical history. Contrary to claims by those who oppose vaccine mandates, Salk's vaccine was thoroughly tested. Over 1.6 million children participated in a double-blind, placebo-controlled study. (Salk struggled with the decision to give 200,000 children a placebo in the middle of what he knew was a yearly polio epidemic.)

On April 12, 1955, after Francis announced the results of the trial, America celebrated and Salk became a national hero. He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Freedom. President Eisenhower invited him to the White House and broke down. "I just don't have the words to thank you," said Eisenhower, by then a grandfather. Within a generation, the disease was eradicated in the United States. (But Salk never forgot the children in the placebo group who helped prove the vaccine worked; 16 died from polio during the trial and 36 were permanently paralyzed.) Salk refused to profit from his vaccine, famously telling newsman Edward R. Murrow, "There is no patent. Could you patent the sun?" His vaccine was science's gift to the people.

Sadly, times have changed. After Ladopo's announcement in which he compared vaccine mandates to slavery, Gov. Ron DeSantis unironically declared, "I don't think any state has ever come close to what Florida has done." DeSantis was referring to the liberty argument often put forth by anti-vaxxers. With freedom of choice trumping science, we can only hope that the number of children who succumb to preventable infectious diseases doesn't revert to numbers not seen in decades.

Arthur Caplan, an NYU medical ethicist, says that the liberty argument breaks down given that vaccines are proven to prevent the spread of disease. "I should help protect my vulnerable neighbors. You can't have a flourishing society unless you have community interests that get advanced by citizens," he said. "If we don't do that, it's up to you to build your own roads, raise your own army. That kind of libertarianism is just wrong, and that's where you have to call out the ethics." Jonas Salk would have agreed.

••••••••••

Davis and Greidanus produce and direct documentaries about science and medicine.

The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

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

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.

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VOLUME 151–NUMBER 105
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

www.thecr.com

"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.

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9-27 CRYPTOQUIP

QDBBNQHMW JND IAVA NM R ENB-YAUAY DMHUAVQHEJ VNIHMW EARK, KHWOE JND VATAHUA R QTDYYAV-QOHB?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WEIRD, OVERWHELMING FEELING THAT YOU'VE ALREADY VISITED CHINA OR CAMBODIA BEFORE: ASIA VU.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals P

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

MLB achievements

1) What two Major League Baseball players hit over .400 in 1922?

2) Who was the most recent Major League Baseball pitcher to win back-to-back Cy Young awards?

1) George Sisler and Ty Cobb
2) Jacob deGrom (2018 and 2019)

9-29 CRYPTOQUIP

PTZW-FSISUZSN LIHMO UKATW U WGFSUWSVHVD DFATB AL IATN BFSGHZWAFHM NADZ: "PTFUZZHM KUFO."

Saturday's Cryptoquip: SUPPOSING YOU WERE ON A TOP-LEVEL UNIVERSITY ROWING TEAM, MIGHT YOU RECEIVE A SCULLER-SHIP?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals J

CRYPTO FUN

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Solve the code to discover words related to friendship. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 5 = N)

A. 10 14 18 23 17 5 13 14 5
Clue: Person to spend time with

B. 17 2 2 9 10 3 13 14 5
Clue: Feeling of fondness

C. 7 14 10 13 17 15
Clue: With people

D. 10 14 5 2 13 26 17 5 3 9
Clue: Listens to secrets

Answers: A. companion B. affection C. social D. confidante

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to friendship.

NSIIVET

Answer: Invites

GUESS WHO?

I am an actress born in California on September 27, 2002. I began my acting career at age 8, appearing in episodes of a soap opera and "CSI: New York." Later, I was cast in the comedy series "Richie Rich." My fame grew when I took on the roles of a macabre daughter in a TV series as well as in the sequel to a famous ghost movie.

Answer: Jenna Ortega

kids' corner

Craft FACT:

This small spool or cylinder holds thread used in sewing machines.

Answer: Bobbin

What's the Difference?

Find the four differences between the two pictures.

Answers: Missing clips on table 2. Missing ornament on plant in back 3. Pin cushion on table 4. Extra measuring tape

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

SEP 23

1846: Three astronomers collaborate on the discovery of Neptune.

1905: Norway and Sweden sign the Karlstad Treaty, peacefully dissolving the union between the two countries.

2004: Hurricane Jeanne strikes Haiti and causes chaos.

NEW WORD

BASTE

temporarily join fabric together with large stitches

FRIENDSHIP WORD SEARCH

D V O T K D S L N U F V A L P U V N O D
O Y G C O M P A N I O N S H I P F P Y V
H S U I B I L H H T R O F M O C S H U P
U E L F T D K C Y O B S N A E E T K Y K
H O V F R N Y Y F M H F H M I A G D T U
N S O O B O K M N A E H V R P S L P I I
G O L S L B O I R C P O O M M T S U R T
U V I A S M T I N V E M E M F O C R T O
O S T T U E N U N D E R S T A N D I N G
Y S H S A G N K A M N D P Y N O M R A H
D S K L L C H R R F E E T C E P S E R B
B E D O C A I T E P F T S I F O E D C U
Y N G Y D A T N E H V E O S V G H I N S
F E V A T M Y N U R T M C S E E C G U U
C V K L V H D O O M T E Y T S E N O H P
F I S T L A D F E M M H G L I I G B G P
G G D Y B R S A I C U O C O R O B R K O
M R D L L V R M N T M O C A T E N F K R
M O E S I M M P V K N F C D K Y Y H H T
L F B D Y P U V O N O I T C E N N O C L

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

AFFECTION
BOND
CARING
COMFORT
COMMUNICATION
COMPANIONSHIP
CONNECTION
DEPENDABLE
EMPATHY
FORGIVENESS
FUN
HARMONY
HONESTY
KINDNESS
LAUGHTER
LOVE
LOYALTY
MEMORIES
RESPECT
SHARING
SUPPORT
TOGETHERNESS
TRUST
UNDERSTANDING

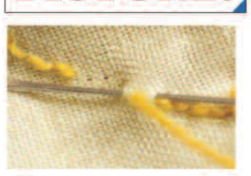
How they say that in...

English: Thread
Spanish: Hilo
Italian: Filo
French: Fil
German: Faden

Did You KNOW?

The first records of sewing indicate people used bone needles and animal parts for thread. Sewing certainly has changed a lot in modern times.

Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Needle and thread

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Accord maker
6 In tatters
12 "The Bathers" painter
13 Too
14 In the thick of
15 — Harris, Joe Biden's Vice President
16 Villa d'—
17 Hosp. areas
19 Actor Beatty
20 Couch
22 Danson of "Cheers"
24 Genesis vessel
27 Bar bills
29 Mideast gulf
32 2016 Ben Affleck action thriller
35 Skiing legend Lindsey
36 Forum wear
37 "What was I thinking?"
38 Poetic contraction
40 Easy targets
42 Winter bug
44 Trucker with a handle
46 Thus
50 Parish leader
52 Secretary of State after Albright
54 Turkey's capital
55 Made level
56 Trifling
57 Brother of Moses

DOWN
1 Shortens a jacket, say
2 Taking action
3 Protuberances
4 Insult
5 Discovery at a dig
6 Video-streaming brand
7 Sailor's cry
8 Jewel
9 Pop's pop
10 "Legally Blonde" role
11 Couple
12 "Norma —"
18 Last car
21 Non-Rx
23 "Mangia!"
24 Off-roader (Abbr.)
25 Plato's P
26 Bluegrass State
28 Edible pod
30 Rock producer Brian
31 To the — degree
33 Blackbird
34 Snooze
39 Disdain
41 Waste conduit
42 Dorm alternative
43 Comedian Jay
45 Boast
47 Gambling city
48 Hidden valley
49 Vintage
51 — chi
53 Eggs

Solution time: 26 mins.

T	E	D		Z	O	R	A		S	H	A	W
A	R	A		O	P	E	L		C	A	R	O
D	R	Y	S	D	A	L	E		O	T	T	O
A	S	S	A	I	L		K	S	U			
			G	A	S		S	T	R	U	M	S
A	Z	T	E	C		N	E	E		N	A	E
M	O	O	S		A	H	I		F	I	R	E
E	N	E		I	L	L		S	I	T	A	R
R	E	S	I	D	E		U	T	E			
			D	E	R		S	A	L	T	E	D
J	A	V	A		T	E	A	S	D	A	L	E
E	A	C	H		L	V	I	I		T	A	B
T	A	R	O		Y	E	N	S		E	L	S

Yesterday's answer 9-27

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12							13					
14							15					
16					17	18				19		
			20	21				22	23			
24	25	26		27			28		29		30	31
32			33					34				
35					36					37		
		38		39		40			41			
42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54							55					
56							57					

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A 20-point investment

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 10 6 3
♥ A J 5 2
♦ 10 3
♣ Q J 9

WEST
♠ K 8 5 4 2
♥ Q 10 7 4
♦ 5
♣ 8 7 6

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

SOUTH
♠ A
♥ 8
♦ A K 7 6 4 2
♣ A K 10 5 3

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♣	Pass	6 ♣	

Opening lead — eight of clubs.

The natural instinct for self-preservation has its equivalent at the bridge table. Consider this deal where South is in six clubs and West leads a trump. Declarer sees that his only potential losers are in the diamond suit, and that all he has to do to make the slam is to ruff one or two diamonds in dummy.

But if South gets careless, he goes down. If he wins the club lead and attempts to cash the A-K of diamonds, West ruffs the second diamond and returns a trump, and the slam goes down the drain. Declarer can ruff one diamond in dummy, but not two, and must concede a diamond trick to East to hold himself to down one.

However, if declarer exercises his natural instinct to survive, he cashes the ace of diamonds at trick two and leads the deuce of diamonds at trick three! The defense is helpless against this play. East can win dummy's ten with jack and return a trump, but declarer is now in full control. He ruffs a low diamond with dummy's last trump, establishing the suit, and scores the rest of the tricks.

It's true that declarer will lose a trick by adopting this line of play if the opposing diamonds are divided 3-2. North might even rebuke his partner for so blithely tossing away a trick.

But the fact remains that South will collect 1,370 points by deliberately giving away a 20-point trick, and at the same time will nullify the possibility of losing 100. The trick he gives away is simply a matter of self-preservation.

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 3
♥ Q 6
♦ J 9 8 7 4 2
♣ J 7 4

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

EAST
♠ 8 2
♥ A K 10 9 8 4 2
♦ —
♣ 10 9 5 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q J 9 7 5 4
♥ —
♦ K Q 5 3
♣ K 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♦	3 ♥
4 ♠	Pass(!)	Pass	Pass

Opening lead — three of hearts.

It is impossible to fathom some of the strange things that happen in world championship play. Perhaps it is unfair to single out some of the dreadful bids and plays that were made under the pressure of competing at the highest levels of the game, when on most occasions the participants rarely make a mistake.

But a reporter's job is to report, so if at times we relate what is bad rather than what is beautiful, it is not because we like to be critical, but because it seems right to point out that even players of the highest caliber err occasionally.

Take this case where lightning struck twice in the same deal. The hand occurred in the 1975 world championship match between the United States and Italy. The Italian South's one-club bid at the first table was artificial and indicated at least 16 points. North's one-diamond response showed a relatively weak hand. East's three-heart bid was preemptive, and South's four-spade bid meant just what it said.

Why West failed to bid five hearts is difficult to explain. West led a heart, and South made four spades, +420, losing only a spade, a diamond and a club.

At the second table, with a U.S. pair now holding the North-South cards, the bidding went:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Dble	Pass	2 ♠
3 ♠(!)	Pass	Pass	4 ♥
Pass (!!)	Pass	Pass	

Why South bid only three spades and then, amazingly, passed four hearts is also difficult to explain. Whatever the reason, he paid a heavy penalty for it. The Italian East finished with an overtrick at four hearts (450 points) after South led the ace and another spade. So, Italy made a game with the North-South cards at one table and a game with the East-West cards at the other to gain 870 points on the deal.

Tomorrow: The old misdirection play.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Treaty
5 Bathroom, to a Brit
8 Massage target
12 Nevada neighbor
13 Suffix with cash
14 Close
15 Burrowing critter
16 Bahamas city
18 "Nonsense!"
20 Flamenco cheer
21 Rum cake
23 Cato's 1200
24 Place for choppers
28 Mother of Helios
31 In the manner of
32 Nasser's successor
34 Tolkien ogre
35 Wedding invitation letters
37 Travel, sci-fi style
39 Work unit
41 Pianist Peter
42 One-dimensional
45 Japanese warriors
49 Sore loser
51 Attic buildup
52 Curved molding
53 Curly's bro
54 Kazan of filmdom
55 Separate
56 Group of whales
57 "Woman in Gold" actor Reynolds

DOWN
1 Shoe style
2 Yours (Fr.)
3 Young cow
4 TV crime show about an enforcement org.
5 Rescue vessel
6 Not 'neath
7 Nabisco cookie
8 Phase
9 Tot's train
10 Throw hard
11 Diminutive suffix
17 Stately tree
19 Indy circuits
22 Elizabeth of cosmetics
24 Guffaw syllable
25 Golfer Ernie
26 Purple shade
27 Gifted
29 Mess up
30 Play segment
33 Actress Hatcher
36 Car radio button
38 Think about
40 Hiatus
42 Wall St. deals
43 Shakespeare villain
44 Cavort
46 Seventh month
47 India's continent
48 Jazz great Getz
50 Aussie hopper

Solution time: 21 mins.

	H	O	N	D	A		R	A	G	G	E	D
R	E	N	O	I	R		O	V	E	R	L	Y
A	M	I	D	S	T		K	A	M	A	L	A
E	S	T	E		I	C	U	S		N	E	D
			S	O	F	A		T	E	D		
A	R	K		T	A	B	S		A	D	E	N
T	H	E	A	C	C	O	U	N	T	A	N	T
V	O	N	N		T	O	G	A		D	O	H
		T	I	S		S	A	P	S			
F	L	U		C	B	E	R		E	R	G	O
R	E	C	T	O	R		P	O	W	E	L	L
A	N	K	A	R	A		E	V	E	N	E	D
T	O	Y	I	N	G		A	A	R	O	N	

Saturday's answer 9-29

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16			17				
18				19			20					
			21			22		23				
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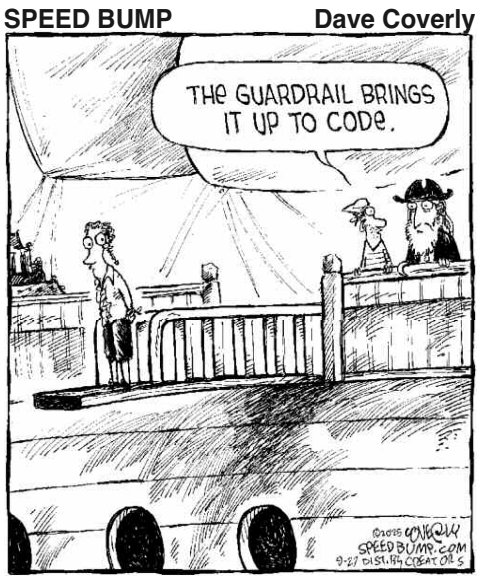
52					53				54			
55					56				57			

SPEED BUMP — Dave Coverly

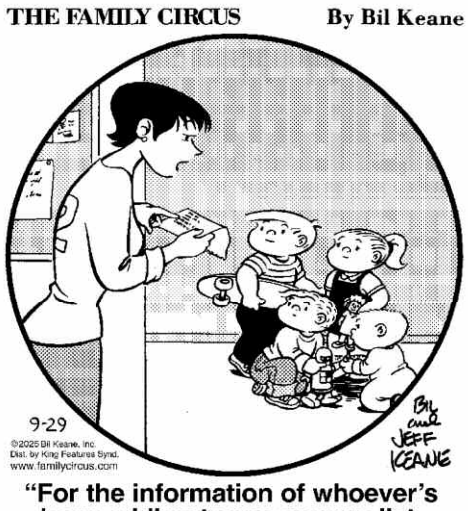


THE FAMILY CIRCUS — By Bil Keane

"I had a no-hitter going—till the bottom half of the second."

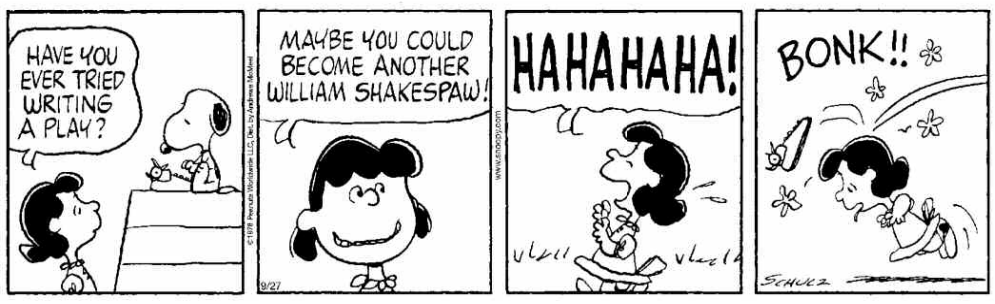
SPEED BUMP — Dave Coverly

THE FAMILY CIRCUS — By Bil Keane



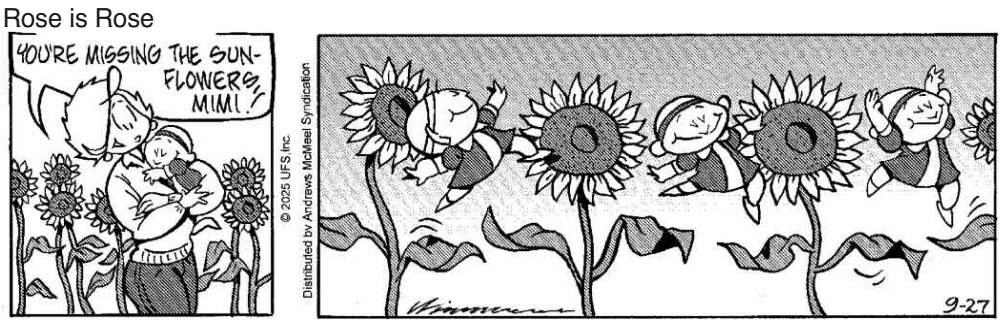
"For the information of whoever's been adding to my grocery list, there's no 'k' in 'chocolate.'"

Peanuts



Peanuts

Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose

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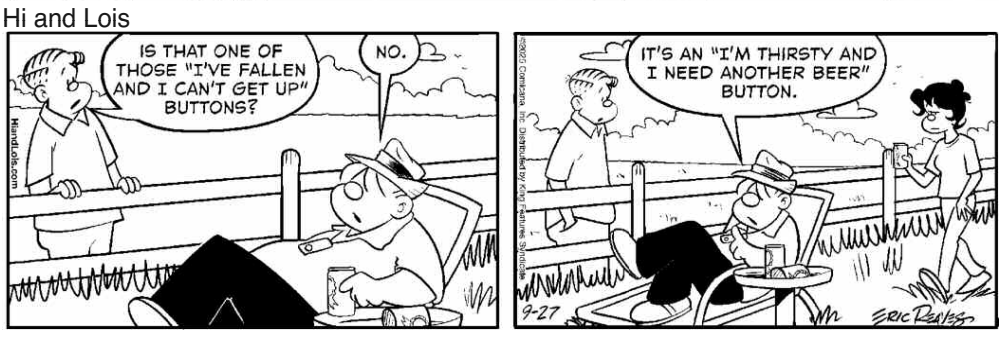
Agnes

Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois

Between Friends

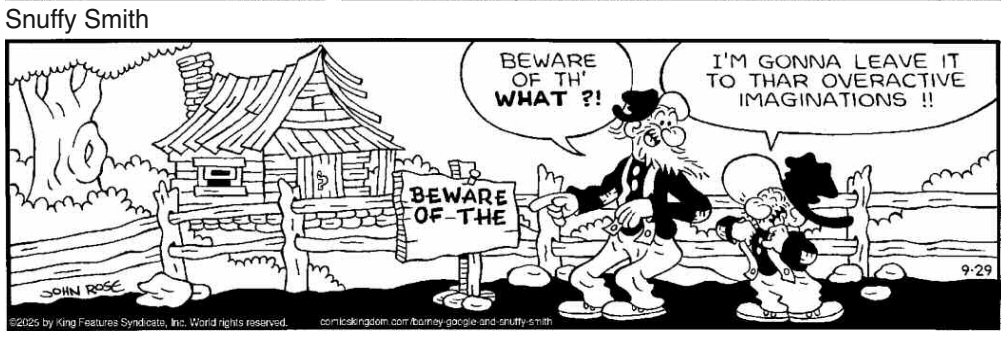
Between Friends

Blondie

Blondie

Snuffy Smith

Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey

Beetle Bailey

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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.

90 SALE CALENDAR

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.
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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 contact 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 24î snowblower; Viper Earthquake roto tiller; Craftsman router; McCullouch 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
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AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 224 W 500 N Bryant, IN
Saturday Morning
OCTOBER 11, 2025
10:00 A.M.
REAL ESTATE
PARCEL #1: This parcel consists of a 2 story home, barn, pond, and approximately 6 acres. The 2 story home has 3 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms and 1932 square feet of living area. Home has gas forced air with central air and an attached 3 car garage. The barn is 28' x 40ëwith a loft.
PARCEL #2: 20 Acres of tillable land that is in the set aside program. It is in this program until September 2032. The owner receives $4,603.00 per year. If this parcel sells separately from parcel #1 there will be a deeded 60' easement given on the east side of parcel #1.
PARCEL #3 Combination of Parcel #1 and #2. House, barn, pond, and 26 acres.
For more information or private showing contact Loy Real Estate 260-726-2700 or Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160.
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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
Loy Auction
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Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY OCTOBER 11th, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 3430 W SR 67. Portland, IN
VEHICLES-TRAILERS-MOTORCYCLE
2008 Buick Lacrosse CX 99,200 miles. 2003 Chevrolet Impala 120,000 miles. (2) 45' Semi Van Storage Trailers. (2) 40' Semi Van Storage Trailers. Kawasaki KZ 200 Motorcycle.
GUNS - BAYONETS - KNIVES - ANTIQUES
German F-R Furt Luger 9mm w/ Clip and Holster Serial #4635. Japanese Military Rifle Model 44 Cavalry Carbine. 1945 US Bayonet. German and Japanese Bayonets. Japanese Samurai Sword. RZM-M-7 German Knife and other German Knives. US Backpack Duffle Bag and Flags. . Victorian Love Seat. (2) Victorian Chairs. Marble 2 Drawer Dresser w/ Glove Drawers. Signed Paintings. Gone with the Wind Style Lamp. Longaberger Baskets. Ammo Box. Die Cast Miniatures.
APPLIANCE-FURNITURE-TOOLS-MISC
Maytag Washer and Dryer. Kenmore Washer and Dryer. 6 Gun Cabinet. 3 Cushion Sofas. Bose Radio w/ CD Player. Leather Living Room Chair. Lazy Boy Power Recliner w/ Massage. . Craftsman 10î Table Saw. Craftsman 12î Band Saw.21î Snow Blower. Pipe, Wood, and other Clamps. Dato Glaze. Lawn, Garden, Shop Tools.
Large Auction: Several Items Not Mentioned. Possibly 2 Rings.
OWNER: Portland Odd Fellows Lodge: Nancy Wishon and Others.
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
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AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY OCTOBER 18th, 2025
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 2782 S. 700 W.
Portland, IN
Please Access Location from the West due to Bridge out on 700 W.
TRACTORS-SKID LOADER-DUMP TRUCK
Kubota M 135 GX Tractor w/ LA 2254 Self Leveling Loader, 200 Hours. Ford 3415 Tractor w/ 2346 QT Loader, 506 Hours. Kubota SVL 65-2 Track Skid Loader w/ 95 Hours. 1996 GMC Single Axel Dump Truck, 350 FI, 350 Engine, PTO 62,000 Miles. 2013 Polaris Sportsman 500 HO ATV. Quick Attach Stump Grinder. Misc Harley Davidson Parts including Tanks, Frame, Fenders, Misc. Power Mate and Tote-Mig Welder. Buck and Cross Cut Saws and Other Primitive Tools. Shop, hand, and Power Tools. GUNS-KNIVES COINS-JEWELRY
Colt Mark IV 45 Cal Pistol w/ Mag. Smith & Wesson Model 28 357 Highway Patrolman 6 Shot Revolver. Glock Model 23 40 Cal Pistol w/ Mag. Henry 12 Gauge Side by Side w/ Rabbit Ears. Large Lot of Ammo. Drum Magazines. Case XX 75th Anniversary 3 Knife Set. 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1935, Peace Dollars, Approximately 50. 1885, 1896, 1884, 1890 1921 Morgan Dollars, . Signed Marilyn Monroe Painting. 1965 Modern Scenes Retro Paintings. National Cash Register. Large Collection of Collectible Barbie Dolls. . 1939 10K Gold Pennville Class Ring. 10K Gold Bracelet. 14K Mens Wedding Band.
OWNER: Name Withheld for Security Reasons
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
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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 61î 27HP Zero Turn Commercial Mower w/ Suspension 2020 Hours. 2004 Condor 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 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.
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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

LOCATED: CR 200 S AND CR 300 E.
PORTLAND, IN

MONDAY OCTOBER 20TH, 2025

5:00 P.M.
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.

NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

TERMS: Cash with 10% Down at the Auction, balance upon closing. Final Sale Not Subject to Buyer Obtaining Financing.

OWNERS: Gary D and Kimbra L Weesner

STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD
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AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Pete D. Shawver Lic# AU19700040 260-726-5587
Zane Shawver Lic# AU10500168 260-729-2229
More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com
CR 9-27,10-11 NG/RB 9-23,10-7
NT 9-24,10-8-2025

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Closing surge

Patriots proud of finishing flourish in draw with Yorktown

By ETHAN OSKROBA
The Commercial Review

Sometimes, proficiency isn't rewarded with positive outcomes.

Such was the case for Jay County on Thursday. After a tough break, the Patriots couldn't produce a concrete result to break the tie late in the match, but their offensive onslaught in the game's final stages gave plenty of reason for optimism.

The Jay County High School girls soccer team had to settle for a 1-1 draw in a clash with the visiting Yorktown Tigers.

"The girls played with a lot of heart tonight, I felt like," said Jay County coach Kendra Muhlenkamp. "When (Yorktown) scored because of a handball in the box, we played the best 20 minutes of soccer that we've played in a while."

Throughout the second half, but especially in the final 19 minutes after Yorktown (7-5-1) evened the score at 1-1, Jay County (7-4-1) played inspired soccer, owning the vast majority of the possession and generating a slew of chances.

That finishing flurry was queued up by the desire to rally back after an instance of ill fortune, when Patriot defender Emma Hatzell was whistled for a handball in the box with 19:21 remaining in the match, resulting in a penalty kick.

Harper Mitchell stepped up to the penalty spot and steered the ball into the right side of the goal as Jay County goalkeeper Maleah Parsons lurched the wrong way.

"I'm not sure if the ref was in the right location for it to be called a handball," Muhlenkamp said. "But regardless, it happened, they made their shot."

Aside of the penalty, Jay County's suffocating defense didn't give up many dangerous chances to the Tigers. Parsons was capable when called upon, logging three saves, but the Patriots largely suppressed a Yorktown offense that initiated a bevy of counter-attacking chances throughout the match.

It was a significant turnaround for a defensive unit that was benched toward the end of Tuesday's 7-0 loss to Delta due to communication issues.

"Today, I felt like they had a little fire under them," Muhlenkamp said. "They had a desire to want to be out there the entirety of the game."

Not only did the defensive unit play well enough to stay on the field, but they even contributed to the offensive effort. Especially during the closing stages, when the squad was firing on all cylinders, the midfielders often shifted the ball back to the defenders, trusting the back line to ignite the attack.

The Commercial Review/Ethan Oskroba

Raylin Hummer of the Jay County High School girls soccer team pushes the ball up the field in Thursday's 1-1 draw as Yorktown's Kylie Patton comes over in defense. Yorktown tied the match in the second half on a PK after a handball in the box.

One standout in that regard was junior Araitz Lekue Magro, who used her prior experience to aid her versatility.

"I used to play in another position when I was young," Lekue Magro said. "So that may help too. At the time, going up, through the field."

Though the defense held firm throughout the contest, the Patriot offense had a hard time generating consistent looks throughout much of the match.

"Yorktown's defense was really tough, and their pressure was tough, so it was hard to get an open look," Muhlenkamp said. "Even shooting a ball from long, it was hard to get an open look, so I applaud them for that, but I'm proud of my girls for getting a ball in the net."

The Patriots got that ball in the net late in the opening half. With the score tied 1-1, Aixa Lopez knifed through the Tiger defense and sliced a cutback cross to London Lloyd in front of goal. While Lloyd's shot was saved, the rebound caromed to the feet of Avery Snow, who calmly guided the ball inside the left post to put Jay County in front.

"I saw that the ball ricocheted off the goalie," Snow said. "And coach always says to crash, and since the ball's coming to me I just thought I had a good angle to shoot and make the goal, and it just happened to go in."

While the lone Patriot goal was the highlight of Snow's day, the freshman showcased her ability and versatility throughout the match, shifting between forward and an attacking midfield partnership with the dangerous Lopez. While the precocious Snow credited mixing things up in practice and getting to know her teammates for her strong play, Muhlenkamp touted the youngster's innate abilities.

"Something you can't really teach soccer players too well — it's something they have to learn for themselves — is positioning and getting in the open windows, and Avery's got a natural feel for that," Muhlenkamp said.

While Snow's goal didn't ice out the Tigers, the Patriots left the conflict with a sectional foe with high hopes for the upcoming postseason.

"This is a team that I feel like if we play again, definitely get the outcome we want … If we play that last 20 minutes for 80 minutes, I think we'll give everyone a run for their money in the sectional," Muhlenkamp said.

FRHS spikers get back in the win column

Local Roundup

NEW KNOXVILLE, Ohio — The Tribe has had a tough go of it this season.

Combine a young lineup with a tough Midwest Athletic Conference and you get a recipe for disaster.

But the Indians finally broke through with their first conference win.

Fort Recovery High School's volleyball team picked up its first MAC win 25-19, 25-20, 25-23 over the New Knoxville Rangers on Thursday.

The Tribe (5-10, 1-5 MAC) put down 28 balls in the victory, including 17 from Cameron Muhlenkamp. Brynn Willmann added seven kills, while Alexis Grisez and Bridget Homan each had three and Kenna Dues added two. Kayden Ranly assisted the attackers 24 times.

Willmann excelled behind the service line, dropping six balls in for aces. In total, the Rangers (7-8, 2-4 MAC) failed to return 15 of Fort Recovery's serves.

Homan led the defensive effort at the net with five of the Indians' nine blocks.

Four Indians had double digit digs. Homan and Ranly led with 13 digs apiece, while Kayla Gaerke and Dues each had 12.

Second in ACAC

BERNE — The Jay County boys tennis team picked up its second Allen County Athletic Conference victory on Thursday with a 3-2 win over the South Adams Starfires.

The victory locked up second place in the conference for the Patriots (12-5, 2-1 ACAC). Bluffton claimed the conference title after beating JCHS, South Adams and Adams Central.

Clark Wellman won a pivotal No. 3 singles match for Jay County over Griffin Hill 6-2, 3-6, 7-5 to decide the match. He trailed 5-4 in the third set with the match on the line before ripping off three straight games.

Kadyn Carpenter and Alex Miller handled the No. 1 doubles match 6-0, 6-1 over Ben Dubach and Eli Habegger, while Gabe Overton and Brock Wasson picked up a 6-1, 6-2 victory over William Faust and James Lehman in the No. 2 doubles contest.

Paul Dirksen and Henry Dirksen dropped the No. 1 and 2 singles matches to Kade Sprunger and Cole Hyman. Paul Dirksen fell to Sprunger 6-3, 6-1, while Hyman defeated Henry Dirksen 6-4, 6-3.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Cross country at New Haven Invite – 9 a.m.; Boys tennis at Eastern Hancock – 9 a.m.; Volleyball in ACAC Tournament at Heritage – 9 a.m.; Boys soccer at Connersville – 2 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. Heritage – 3 p.m.; JV boys soccer at Connersville – 11:30 a.m.; JV girls soccer vs. Heritage – 2 p.m.

Fort Recovery — JV football at New Bremen – 10 a.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Mississinawa Valley – 10 a.m.

Monday

Jay County — Boys tennis vs. Bellmont – 5 p.m.; JV football vs. Woodlan – 6 p.m.; Junior high football at Heritage – 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys golf at district tournament – 10:40 a.m.; Volleyball at Spencerville – 5:30 p.m.; Freshman football vs. New Bremen – 5 p.m.

Tuesday

Jay County — Boys soccer vs. Blackford – 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Blackford – 5 p.m.; Volleyball at Southern Wells – 6 p.m.; Junior high volleyball at Southern Wells – 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Freshman volleyball vs. Marion Local – 6 p.m.; Middle school volleyball at Versailles – 5 p.m.

TV schedule

Today

2 a.m. — MotoGP: Japanese Grand Prix (FS1)
7 a.m. — Golf: Ryder Cup (NBC)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Brentford at Manchester United (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester City at Burnley (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Notre Dame at Arkansas (ABC); Rutgers at Minnesota (BTN); USC at Illinois (FOX); Georgia Tech at Wake Forest (ESPN); Louisville at Pitt (ESPN2); Cincinnati at Kansas (TNT); UCF at Kansas State (FS1)
12 p.m. — Serie A soccer: Juventus at Atalanta (CBS)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Nottingham Forest at Sunderland (USA)
2:20 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Chicago Cubs (FDSN Indiana)
3:30 p.m. — College football: LSU at Ole Miss (ABC); Auburn at Texas A&M (ESPN); UCLA at Northwestern (BTN); Ohio State at Washington (CBS); Baylor at Oklahoma State (ESPN2); Utah at West Virginia (FOX)
3:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Tottenham Hotspur at Wolverhampton Wanderers (USA)
4:10 p.m. — College football: Hawai'i at Air Force (FS1)
7 p.m. — College football: Airzona at Iowa State (ESPN); Memphis at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2)
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (FOX)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Alabama at Georgia (ABC); Oregon at Penn State (NBC); Appalachian State at Boise State (FS1)
10:15 p.m. — College football: BYU at Colorado (ESPN); Idaho at Montana (ESPN2)

Sunday

1 a.m. — MotoGP: Japanese Grand Prix (FS1)
9 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Aston Villa at Fulham (USA)
11:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Newcastle United at Arsenal FC (USA)
12 p.m. — College volleyball: UCLA at Penn State (BTN)
12 p.m. — Golf: Ryder Cup (NBC)
1 p.m. — NFL: Tennessee Titans at Houston Texans (CBS)
1 p.m. — College volleyball: Arizona at Kansas (ESPN)
1 p.m. — Horse racing: America's Day at the Races (FS1)
2 p.m. — College volleyball: Illinois at Purdue (BTN)
3 p.m. — College volleyball: SMU at Pitt (ESPN)
3 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Hollywood Casino 400 (USA)
3 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Indiana Fever (ABC)
3 p.m. — NHRA: NHRA Midwest Nationals (FS1)
3:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Milwaukee Brewers (FDSN Indiana)
4:05 p.m. — NFL: Indianapolis Colts at Los Angeles Rams (FOX)
4:25 p.m. — NFL: Chicago Bears at Las Vegas Raiders (CBS)
7 p.m. — U20 World Cup soccer: Brazil at Mexico (FS1)
8 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Phoenix Mercury (ESPN)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Green Bay Packers at Dallas Cowboys (NBC)

Monday

3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Everton at West Ham United (USA)
6 p.m. — College soccer: Ohio State at UCLA (BTN)
7 p.m. — U20 World Cup soccer: United States at New Caledonia (FS1)
7:15 p.m. — NFL: New York Jets at Miami Dolphins (ESPN)
8 p.m. — College soccer: Northwestern at Washington (BTN)
8:15 p.m. — NFL: Cincinnati Bengals at Denver Broncos (ABC)

Tuesday

7 p.m. — U20 World Cup soccer: Chile at Japan (FS1)
8 p.m. — NHL: Vegas Golden Knights at Colorado Avalanche (TNT)

Local notes

Cooper to host

Cooper Farms will host its 18th Annual Turkey Trot 5K benefitting EverHeart Hospice on Nov. 1.

The race will begin at Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant at 1 Cooper Farms Drive, St. Henry, OH. Registration is at 9 a.m. with the race beginning at 10 a.m.

There will be age groups from 9-and-younger to 60-and-older. Awards will be handed out to the top female and male from each age group.

Refreshments and a to-go turkey meal will be provided for all runners.

For more information on registering, visit speedy-feet.com and search "Cooper Farms Turkey Trot 5K" or email Tonya Huber at tonyah@cooperfarms.com.

. . . . . .

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

Defense ...

Continued from page 10

Jetmore did not have an emotional hangover from his touchdown, as he came right back out onto the field for his defensive duties. Five plays later, he leaped up to snag a pass from Clear intended for Liam Hertig.

The pickoff set up a 12-play, 52-yard drive that ended with Laux punching the ball in with a 14-yard keeper.

Jetmore came back and intercepted one final ball on the right sideline on a deep pass again intended for Hertig.

The three turnovers helped hold WHS to only 28 offensive plays, while Jay County had 61.

The Patriots secondary and linebackers locked in for Woodlan's final full drive, forcing a turnover on downs with four incompletions. (The Warriors got the ball back with 27.6 seconds remaining but elected to kneel out the clock.)

Jay County started a little slow on offense as it opened with a wing-T formation, but spread out in the second quarter to move the offense better. Despite finally getting the ball moving, Woodlan's Hertig stripped the ball from Garrett Bennett at the 2-yard line and took the ball all the way to the house for its lone score.

After the Warriors' score, Jay County came back on a 12-play drive that included nine rushes by Leighton Brown — he led the team with 128 yards on 30 carries — before Laux scored on an 11-yard keeper.

"Both of those packages are important and will help us win football games eventually against good teams," Fields said. "When we were in (the T wing), they just over packed it and we tried to throw it out of there and couldn't protect it.

"So we had to get into our regular stuff so we could protect and throw it. But Leighton Brown ran the ball hard tonight in both those packages."

The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS quarterback Nick Laux breaks through the line to score an 11-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter of Friday's 21-7 beating of the Woodlan Warriors. Laux scored twice to give Jay County its second victory on the season and first for coach Eddie Fields in the Allen County Athletic Conference.

Box score

Jay County Patriots (2-4, 1-3 ACAC) at Woodlan Warriors (1-5, 0-4 ACAC)

Jay Co.	0	6	8	7	—21
Woodlan	0	7	0	0	— 7

First Quarter
No scoring

Second Quarter
W — Liam Hertig 98 strip recovery (Evan Kock kick), 6:54.
JC — Nick Laux 11 run (kick fail), :49.1.

Third Quarter
JC — Brady Jetmore 9 pass from Laux (Laux run), 4:13.

Fourth Quarter
JC — Laux 14 run (Jacoby Penrod kick), 7:29.

Team Statistics

	JC	W
Rushes - yds	50-99	16-36
Comp-Att-Int	6-11-0	3-12-2
Passing yds	49	12
Total Plays	61	28
Total Offense	148	48
Punt ret - yds	0-0	1-17
Kickoff ret - yds	2-35	0-0
Sacks - yds lost	0-0	1-8
Ints - yds	2-7	0-0
Fumbles - lost	1-0	2-2
Penalties - yds	7-65	3-20

Individual Statistics

Rushing — Jay County — Leighton Brown 30-138, Nick Laux 15-53, Brady Jetmore 1-2, Bryan Fields 1-2, Garrett Bennett 3-(-96). Woodlan — Noah Ames 5-30, Ashtin Jacquay 9-13, Griffin Clear 2-(-7).
Passing — Jay County — Nick Laux 6-11-0 49. Woodlan — Griffin Clear 3-12-2 12.
Receiving — Jay County — Brady Jetmore 3-25, Aiden Phillips 2-16, Benson Barnett 1-8. Woodlan — James Goldin 1-9, Ashtin Jacquay 2-3.

Fuel ...

Continued from page 10

Though the Indians were 3-2 heading into Friday night, their wins had come against teams with a combined record of 1-14. So beating a 4-1 New Bremen squad that was ranked among the best in Ohio was a statement.

"It tells the rest of the MAC that we're here," said senior Anthony Roessner.

"We started that MAC schedule against Coldwater, against St. Henry," added first-year FRHS coach Wes Wenning. "And we were right there — 14-7 at halftime with Coldwater, 6-6 halftime with St. Henry. These guys, their spirit was never broke throughout those games. … To see that pay off in a big-time manner, in a big-time fashion, in front of this homecoming crowd, against a program like New Bremen — state champion coaches and players and culture — it's huge."

Fort Recovery (4-2, 2-2 MAC) built a 20-7 lead, but left the door open for the Cardinals when they had to punt with 9 minutes, 17 seconds, left in the game. The visitors drove to pull themselves within a touchdown, but it wasn't easy. The Indians forced three negative plays as the scoring drive took more than eight minutes off the clock.

So even when New Bremen successfully executed an onside kick, it was in desperation mode. A sack on the opening play of the ensuing drive put them behind the 8-ball further, and then three consecutive incompletions allowed the Indians to go to victory formation.

"We made a furious rally there, but we didn't play well enough throughout the course of the game," said New Bremen coach Chris Schmidt, whose team rode running back Jacob Kelly to the tune of 36 carries for 157 yards. "And so then you're trying to rely on making those types of plays at the end there. And we got a chance, an opportunity, but couldn't capitalize, didn't execute."

The Fort Recovery offense lived off of long plays.

The first looked broken, as Alex Gaerke sent a pitch right to Reece Wendel with a crowd of defenders waiting. But the senior running back reversed course, found a gap up the middle and exploded through and outran Cardinal cornerback Joel Lozier for a 40-yard TD run to put the first points on the board with 2:36 left in the opening quarter.

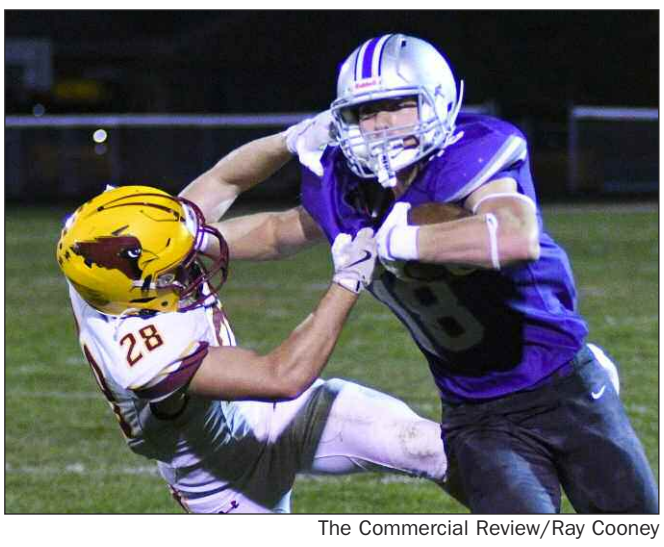
After New Bremen (4-2, 2-2 MAC) pulled even on a Jacob Kelly 33-yard run, the Indians struck through the air. Gaerke (8-of-10 for 127 yards) stepped back and pump-faked a short out route, causing Lozier to bite hard, and then launched a bomb to a wide open Colson Post. The 77-yard connection took the ball to the 5-yard line, with Breaker Jutte plowing into the end zone two plays later.

The FRHS lead was still 14-7 early in the third quarter when New Bremen faced a third-and-28. Schmidt called an out route, only to have Anthony Roessner step in front of it for an interception.

"Watching film last night, I knew that guy, he lines up inside, and I knew he was coming back out," said Roessner. "I read it and I just jumped it. I don't know. It was just pure adrenaline."

The ensuing four-play drive resulted in an 8-yard TD run by Wendel for a two-score lead that proved to be enough to hold off the Cardinals for the victory.

Up next is a date with Division VII No. 1 Marion Local, which rallied from two scores down Friday to eke out a 20-19 win over Versailles and extend its winning streak to 70 games.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Fort Recovery junior Breaker Jutte stiff-arms Charles Nelson of New Bremen during the second half Friday. Jutte scored on a 2-yard TD run in the second quarter and helped lead a pass rush that put consistent pressure on Cardinal quarterback Gavin Dicke.

Box score

New Bremen Cardinals (4-2, 2-2 MAC) at Fort Recovery Indians (4-2, 2-2 MAC)

N. Bremen	7	0	0	6	—13
FRHS	7	7	6	0	—20

First Quarter
FR — Reece Wendel 40 run (Alex Gaerke kick), 2:36.
NB — Jacob Kelly 33 run (Aidan Eastham kick), :19.

Second Quarter
FR — Breaker Jutte 2 run (Gaerke kick), 6:05.

Third Quarter
FR — Wendel 8 run (kick failed), 6:34.

Fourth Quarter
NB — Aaron Wuebker 1 run (kick failed), :58.

Team Statistics

	NB	FR
Rushes - yds	50-163	22-139
Comp-Att-Int	12-23-2	8-10-2
Passing yds	79	127
Total Plays	73	32
Total Offense	242	266
Punt ret - yds	0-0	0-0
Kickoff ret - yds	4-66	2-27
Sacks - yds lost	4-20	0-0
Punts - yds	0-0	3-78
Ints - yds	0-0	2-0
Fumbles - lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties - yds	6-42	4-40

Individual Statistics

Rushing — New Bremen — Jacob Kelly 36-157, Aaron Wuebker 3-6, Gavin Dicke 11-0. Fort Recovery — Reece Wendel 10-79, Alex Gaerke 6-23, Breaker Jutte 4-18, Isaac Roessner 2-17.
Passing — New Bremen — Gavin Dicke 12-23-2 79. Fort Recovery — Alex Gaerke 8-10-0 127.
Receiving — New Bremen — Aaron Wuebker 3-35, Ryan Dwenger 2-30, Jacob Kelly 2-2, Joel Lozier 1-10, Brock Schumm 1-6, Levi Grevenkamp 1-6, Gaving Quellhorst 1-4. Fort Recovery — Reece Wendel 3-14, Colson Post 2-89, Troy Post 2-17, Breaker Jutte 1-7.

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Patriot girls soccer and the YHS Tigers drew 1-1, see story page 8

Sports

JCHS volleyball plays in the ACAC tournament today, see Sports on tap

Defense dominates

Jay forces 3 turnovers to beat Warriors

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

WOODBURN — The Patriots had some offensive blunders.

At one point, the Warriors stripped the ball and took it 98 yards to take a lead.

Later, the Patriots were forced to punt after a 20-yard completion on fourth-and-10 was called back for a holding penalty.

While the offense had some hiccups, the defense was always there to cover for the mistake.

The Jay County High School football team's defense created a trio of turnovers and only allowed the Woodlan Warriors 48 yards of offense as the Patriots picked up their first Allen County Athletic Conference win of the season 21-7 on Friday night.

Along with it being JCHS coach Eddie Fields' first ACAC victory, it snapped a four-game losing streak for the Patriots (2-4, 1-3 ACAC).

"My best friend always says, 'Hey, winning is the best deodorant,'" Fields said. "It's going to make everything feel better. I've told our kids that they've been a little frustrated, all of us have, the coaches as well, I'm sure the community as well, but when you win you can celebrate a little bit. … They played a great game."

Jay County entered the second half down 7-6, but forced the Warriors (1-5, 0-4 ACAC) to go three-and-out on the first possession of the third quarter. JCHS got the ball moving well, but were forced to punt after a 20-yard reception by Aiden Phillips was called back for holding to force a fourth-and-20.

Jay County stopped Ashtin Jacquay one yard behind the line of scrimmage before the Patriots blew up the next play to force a fumble.

JCHS defensive coordinator Tim Millspaugh credited Aiden Phillips for getting the play started and putting pressure on WHS quarterback Griffin Clear for multiple downs leading up to the fumble.

"I pinched, (which is when) the guard goes down, I'm hitting him and shooting up to the running back," Phillips said.

Once the ball was loose, Blake Bonifas came in to secure the ball for the Patriots 13 yards away from the end zone.

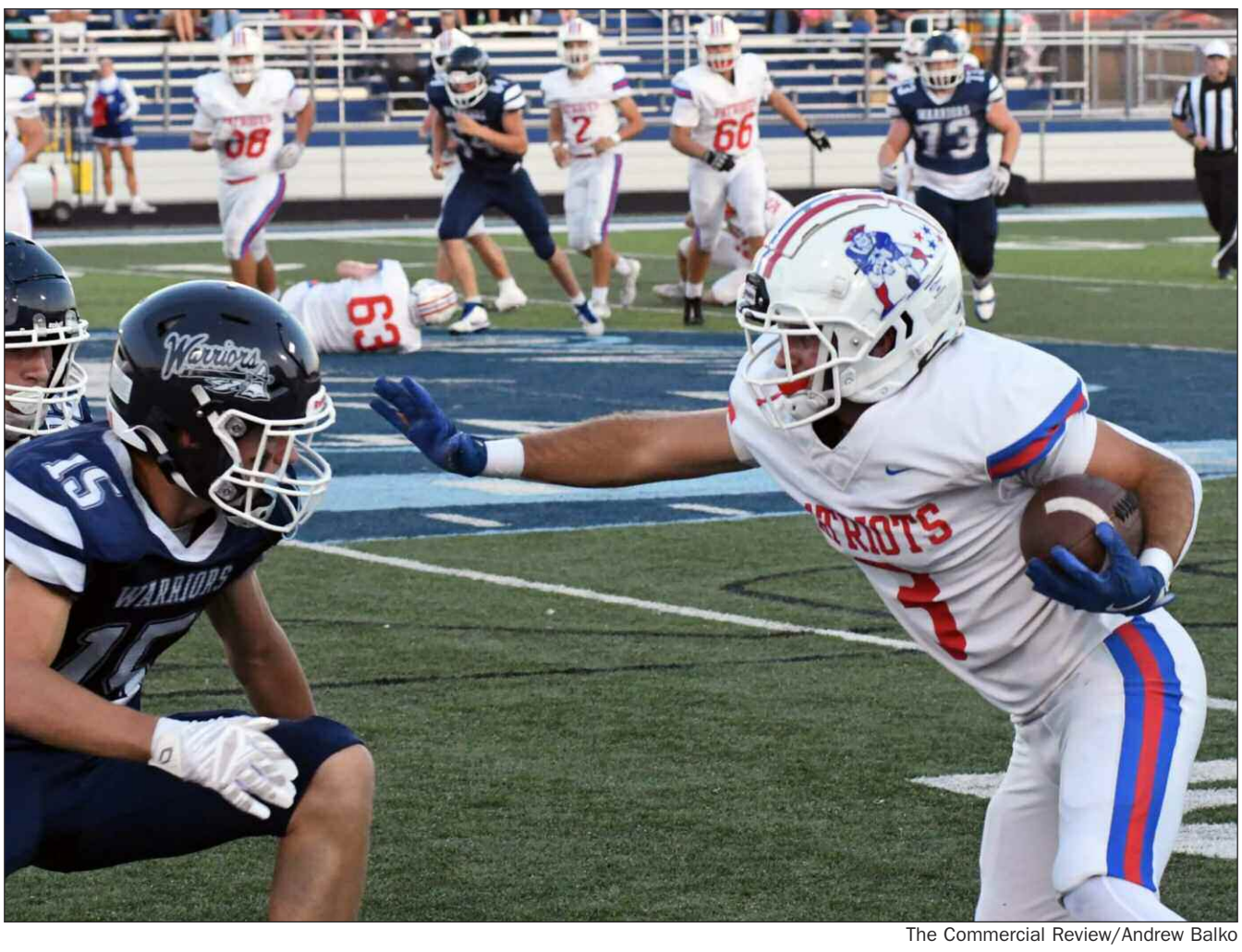
"They started double-teaming me at the end," Bonifas said. "So I was kinda preparing to bull rush through both the guard and the tackle. But the tackle dropped to me and I just jumped to his inside and ripped under him, heading for the quarterback. The ball went loose out of his arm and I just picked it up."

A pair of rushes by quarterback Nick Laux — he finished with 53 yards on the ground and another 48 in the air — got Jay to the 9-yard line. He connected with Brady Jetmore on the next play and rushed in the 2-point conversion to go ahead of Woodlan 14-7.

"They didn't have any outside linebacker or anything, just a single receiver on my side," Jetmore said. "I know Nick's going to get the ball to me on a slant. We work on it so much in practice …

"It's just momentum. We know we can beat this team. After that fumble recovery, getting a touchdown and getting that lead, it just pumped everybody up."

See **Defense** page 2



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School senior Brady Jetmore prepares to stiff arm Woodlan's Liam Hertig during the Patriots 21-7 victory on Friday. Jetmore scored the go-ahead touchdown for JCHS and added two interceptions to help seal the deal.

Doubters fuel FRHS victory

No. 10 Tribe makes its statement by topping No. 4 Cardinals

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — A lot of factors play into winning football.

For the Indians on Friday night, there were a couple of long offensive plays to get a pair of touchdowns on the board.

There was an interception that resulted in another TD.

There was a defensive effort that, while allowing a touchdown, forced the visitors to burn off most of what was left on the clock.

Perhaps most all, there was the "nobody believes in us" attitude.

The 10th-ranked Fort Recovery High School football team didn't ignore the projections and predictions. Rather, they used them as fuel that powered a 20-13 homecoming victory over the Division VII No. 4 New Bremen Cardinals.

"It was huge," said FRHS junior Breaker Jutte. "Before the game, all over … it was everyone doubting us, saying New Bremen's gonna kick our butts. We used that coming into this game."

See **Fuel** page 2

The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Anthony Roessner of Fort Recovery High School steps in front of a Gavin Dicke pass for an interception early in the second half of the Indians' 20-13 victory Friday. It was the second pick of the game for FRHS and led to a Reece Wendel touchdown run.

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