

The Commercial Review

Plans in works for airport emergencies

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Local emergency responders are working on formalizing a plan for potential incidents at Portland Municipal Airport. Portland firefighter Zach Hudson presented information to the city’s aviation board Wednesday regarding work toward creating a plan and providing training to familiarize emergency responders with the airport. Hudson said he, Fire Chief Mike Weitzel and Jay County Emergency Management Agency director Samantha Rhodehamel have been working toward creating a standard operating procedure for emergency responses at the airport. He suggested that the new apron expansion, which is nearing completion, could be used as a staging site for emergency responders in the case of a mass casualty incident. He added that the goal is to

Training is in the works for responders in February

have a written document ready by mid-February, as plans are in place to have a training session open to all emergency response agencies in the county on Feb. 21 at the Sonrise Aviation hangar. Hudson said discussions have included installing signs to direct emergency responders, adding that they would be especially helpful if there was a serious incident that required assistance from other counties. Aviation board members



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Work is nearing completion on the 57,700-square-foot apron expansion project at Portland Municipal Airport. Portland firefighter Zach Hudson visited Portland Board of Aviation on Wednesday to share details about work toward creating a formal plan for emergency responses at the airport. He suggested that the area of the apron expansion could be used for staging emergency responders.

Faron Parr, Clyde Bray, Caleb Lutes and John Ferguson expressed support for the efforts and agreed that the expanded apron area would make sense for staging.

“If you need any help from us, just let us know,” said Parr, the board’s president. Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman & Seufert reported that the

\$965,497 apron expansion project, which is being handled by Kwest Group, is going well and should be complete in the next few weeks. See **Emergencies** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Almost complete

Muhlenkamp Building Corporation was putting on the final touches to the Jay County Junior-Senior High School rehabilitation project following the September 2024 tornado. Pictured, Blake Collins moves a set of lockers back into place in the Instructional Media Center (library) at the school. Collins was working with Jeff Knapschaefer, Gabe Muhlenkamp, Cody McFarland and Owen Muhlenkamp. Junior high students are expected to be back in their regular classrooms for the first time in more than a year when they return from fall break on Monday.

State Senate GOP says redistricting votes ‘aren’t there’

Trump and Braun have been pushing for special session to redraw map

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Republican leaders in the Indiana Senate say they don’t currently have the votes needed to pursue a mid-decade redraw of the state’s congressional map — a setback for Gov. Mike Braun and national Republicans who have been pushing for new lines ahead of the 2026 midterm election cycle. “The votes aren’t there for redistricting,” said Molly Swigart, spokeswoman for the Indiana Senate Republican caucus, in a statement Wednesday. The comment, first reported by Politico, underscores a weeks-long impasse that’s attracted

national attention. President Donald Trump and other top GOP officials have eyed Indiana as a potential opportunity to pick up one or two additional Republican seats in the U.S. House. They hope to maintain control after the midterms. The Indiana Capital Chronicle has tracked public statements from lawmakers on the proposal. So far, five Senate Republicans have come out in favor of a mid-cycle redistricting plan, while three have said they oppose it. The remaining members of the 40-strong caucus are either undecided or have not made definitive statements. Braun, who has publicly supported redrawing the congressional map, countered Wednesday by saying he is still in talks with lawmakers. “I am still having positive conversations with members of the legislature,” Braun said in a post on X. “I am confident the majority of Indiana Statehouse Republicans will support efforts to ensure fair representation in congress for every Hoosier.” See **Senate** page 2

War widens against suspected traffickers

Forces struck boat allegedly smuggling narcotics off coast of Colombia

By KATE LINTHICUM, PATRICK J. MCDONNELL and ANA CEBALLOS
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

MEXICO CITY — The United States has widened its military campaign against alleged drug traffickers in Latin America, announcing on Wednesday

that its forces had struck a boat purportedly smuggling narcotics off the Pacific coast of Colombia. It was the eighth alleged drug vessel bombed by the U.S. in recent weeks, and the first attacked in the Pacific Ocean. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said the airstrike killed two people, bringing the death toll in the attacks to 34. He said the vessel was “known by our intelligence” to be carrying narcotics, but did not provide evidence of those claims. In a short video clip posted on X by Hegseth, a small boat carrying some kind of cargo is seen speeding through waves before a massive explosion hits, leaving the vessel drifting on the water in flames. See **Widens** page 2

In review

Jay County Conservation Club will host its Fall Festival beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday. The event will include games, snacks, trail walking, music and hayrides, followed by an outdoor movie at 7 p.m. The conservation club is located at 6243 S. 325 West, Portland.

Weather

The temperature stayed between 44 and 49 degrees Wednesday in Jay County. Tonight’s low will be in the lower 30s. Expect frost Saturday morning followed by mostly sunny skies with a high in the upper 50s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park. The district’s ReUse Center also has a variety of boxes, bottles, coffee containers and other items available for free.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from the Jay County football team’s sectional game at Belmont.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday’s Jay County Commissioners meeting.

Wednesday — Details from Monday’s Jay School Board meeting.



Emergencies ...

Continued from page 1

It will add 57,700 square feet to the apron, where aircraft are parked, loaded, unloaded, refueled, boarded and maintained.

Board members approved a \$688,000.62 pay request from Kwest Group for the project for work completed between Sept. 6 and Oct. 11, with 5% retainage held back. They also approved reimbursement requests totaling \$336,527.67 and \$314,064.43 for two Federal Aviation Administration grants that are being used to fund the project. In both cases, the grants are paid 95% by the FAA, with Indiana

Department of Transportation and the city each responsible for 2.5%.

Clearwaters also shared a draft of the airport's five-year capital improvement plan. It calls for 4,000 feet of runway pavement to be rehabilitated and the replacement of the airport's automated weather observing station in 2026. (Construction of a 10-unit T-hangar is also in the plan if state funds are available, though Clearwaters said he does not expect that to be the case.) Future projects include design of the existing apron reconstruction in 2027,

construction of the apron in 2028, design of a wildlife control and security fence in 2029 and construction of the fence in 2030 and '31.

He plans to return with a final draft for approval next month. It is due to the FAA by Dec. 1.

Clearwaters noted that information presented at the Aviation Indiana Conference earlier this month indicated that up to \$100,000 in state funding per airport will be available on a 75/25 matching basis. He said the program will be funded with \$5 million per year.

In other business, the board:

- Responding to a question from Portland clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips, confirmed that it plans to leave the current hangar rent at \$100 per month with no increase for 2026. Phillips asked because rental contracts need to be sent out in the next month.
- Learned the following from airport manager Hal Tavzel's report, which Parr read in his absence:
 - The airport sold 7,772 gallons of fuel in September for \$35,255.76, up from 6,652 gallons last year.
 - Carl Isch of Geneva

recently received his commercial pilot's license at the airport.

—Sparling Corporation will be at the airport in the next few weeks to clean the fuel tanks.

—Repairs may be needed to some deteriorating pavement in front of hangars as well as upgrades to the terminal involving paint, carpet, counter and ceiling.

•Approved the following: the annual financial report, which notes that the airport received \$76,748 in federal grant funding for fiscal year 2025, which ended Sept. 30, and the payment of \$1,665.05 in claims.

CR almanac

Saturday 10/25	Sunday 10/26	Monday 10/27	Tuesday 10/28	Wednesday 10/29
 59/39 Mostly sunny skies are expected Saturday with a low in the upper 30s.	 58/41 Sunday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a high around 58 degrees.	 59/42 Monday looks to be mostly cloudy, with a low around 42 at night.	 60/43 Tuesday's weather looks like a 40% chance of rain throughout the day.	 56/40 There's a 75% chance of showers on Wednesday with the low dipping to 40.

Lotteries

Powerball 18-37-52-54-60 Power Ball: 12 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$344 million	Daily Four: 5-7-3-8 Quick Draw: 1-4-15-17-21-26-29-31-32-36-37-49-52-55-57-60-61-64-67-77 Cash 5: 1-5-14-22-42 Estimated jackpot: \$191,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$680 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 2-6-4 Pick 4: 1-4-5-2 Pick 5: 6-9-1-5-8 Evening Pick 3: 3-5-1 Pick 4: 1-3-2-9 Pick 5: 2-7-7-1-6 Rolling Cash: 4-9-21-22-28 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 5-3-0 Daily Four: 0-3-1-6 Quick Draw: 6-14-16-19-27-28-31-33-34-36-40-42-43-50-53-58-70-75-77-79 Evening Daily Three: 7-4-1	

Markets	
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.17 Nov. corn.....4.17	Wheat 4.65
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.19 Nov. corn.....4.24 Dec. corn.....4.34	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.11 Nov. corn.....4.14 Beans10.15 Nov. beans10.20 Wheat4.99
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.14 Nov. corn4.16 Beans10.19 Nov. beans10.20	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.09 Nov. corn.....4.09 Beans10.00 Nov. beans10.00 Wheat4.54

Today in history

In 1861, the first transcontinental telegram arrived via telegraph, bringing an end to the need for the Pony Express. The telegraph became the new way to transmit messages from coast to coast.

In 1917, more than 600,000 Italians surrendered at the Battle of Caporetto during World War I.

In 1926, escape artist Harry Houdini performed for the last time at Garrick Theater in Detroit, Michigan.

In 1929, stockholders traded more than \$12.89 million in shares, causing the infamous stock market crash of 1929, also known as “Black Thursday.” In related history, nearly eight decades later on the same day in 2008, stocks worldwide had recordbreaking steep declines, earning the day the name “Bloody Friday.”

In 1940, the United States Fair Labor Standards Act enacted the 40-hour work week. It has become the industry standard in today's world.

— The CR

Citizen's calendar	
Today 8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 9 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission executive session, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St.	3:45 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, district office, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board special meeting, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	

Senate ...

Continued from page 1

The Republican governor spoke at a mental health summit Wednesday afternoon in Indianapolis but did not take questions from the media after his remarks.

The Statehouse's GOP supermajorities drew the current congressional map in 2021, using 2020 census data. District boundaries aren't due for updates until after the 2030 census.

Republicans hold seven of the seats. Democrats have two.

Republicans still split

Calls for redistricting have divided the state GOP caucus in recent months.

Sen. Liz Brown, the Senate's assistant majority floor leader and Judiciary Committee chair, reiterated her support on social media Wednesday.

“I was the first Senator to publicly support redistricting back in August,” she wrote. “@GovBraun, call us into session! Let's get this done!”

The development drew an immediate response from Indiana's Democratic leaders, who reiterated their opposition to early redistricting.

House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta, a Democrat from Fort Wayne, said Wednesday that lawmakers should focus on other priorities.

“Nobody is asking for redistricting. Instead, Hoosiers are asking their elected leaders to fix their high utility bills, property taxes and absurd health care costs,” GiaQuinta

said. “House Democrats have received massive amounts of calls against redistricting, and I'm sure the Senate Republicans have, too. I'll continue to monitor the possibility of redistricting until we end the 2026 legislative session in March.”

In the Indiana General Assembly, a constitutional majority is required to pass a bill. That means at least 26 votes in the Senate and at least 51 votes in the House. Republicans currently hold 40 seats in the Senate and 67 seats in the House.

Voting rights advocates praised holdout GOP senators.

“Hoosiers do not want mid-decade redistricting. Thank you to the state senators who are listening and refusing to vote for it,” Common Cause Indiana Executive Director Julia Vaughn said Wednesday. “Now, let's wave the checkered flag and end this talk about mid decade redistricting. Time to make it clear — no special session, no mid-decade redistricting, and no more bullying by the federal government on a policy Hoosiers oppose.”

Pushback continues

Several conservative commentators and social media influencers reacted negatively to the latest news on Wednesday.

One national strategist, Rogan O'Handley, wrote, “We want NAMES Who are the RINO holdouts in Indiana who don't want to redistrict to save this country They're about to be real famous.”

He also speculated former Vice

President and Indiana native Mike Pence is pulling strings against early redistricting.

The setback comes after weeks of speculation in the Statehouse, fueled by a series of meetings between Hoosier GOP leaders and top figures in Trump's orbit, including Vice President J.D. Vance.

The president has been personally engaged in lobbying Indiana Senate Republicans, including joining a private call with members of the Senate GOP caucus as recently as Friday to push for the remap.

House Speaker Todd Huston and Senate President Pro Tempore Rodric Bray, both Republicans, have refused to publicly say where they stand.

Indiana's GOP legislative leaders have met at least three times with Vance in recent months. Bray described the latest conversation as “productive,” though he stopped short of confirming whether Senate Republicans were united behind an early redraw.

If a special session is not called, the next regularly scheduled legislative session will kick off in January. Candidate filing for the 2026 primary opens Jan. 7.

Multiple polls — including one released in August and one earlier this month — have found that the majority of Hoosiers oppose early redistricting.

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This story was edited for length. For the full version, visit indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Widens ...

Continued from page 1

The attack drew swift rebuke from U.S. lawmakers who have criticized the Trump administration's campaign of secretive strikes.

“Another illegal military strike on a boat, this time in the Pacific, broadening the Administration's deadly campaign to another ocean,” said Sen. Adam Schiff, a

Democrat from California. “Once again, there is no detail on who was killed or why.”

The latest attack comes amid escalating tensions between President Trump and Colombian President Gustavo Petro, and some observers speculated that it was designed in part to punish Petro for defying Trump.

Capsule Reports

District budget set

Jay County Council approved Jay County Solid Waste Management District's 2026 budget on Wednesday.

The budget sits at \$295,373, approximately \$17,450 less than the current year's budget.

Council members Matt Minnich, Harold Towell, Randy May, Faron Parr and Bryan Alexander, absent Cindy Bracy and Michael Brewster, approved the budget unanimously.

SERVICES

Today
Campbell, Ruth: 11 a.m., The Church at Westchester, 4487 E. 400 North, Portland.

Saturday
Mosser, Ronnie: 1 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Service listings provided by
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progressiveofficeproducts.com


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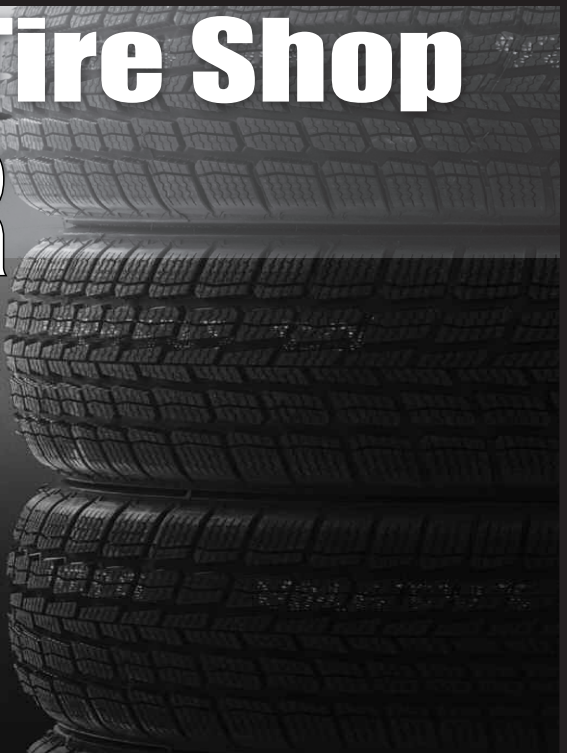




Photo provided

Trustworthy students

East Elementary School recently recognized second graders for showcasing trustworthiness. Pictured, front row from left, are Avery Jutte, Quinn Alt, Lucy Edmundson and Spencer Tapley. In the second row are Russell Vogel, Porter Huntsman and Max Chenoweth.

Sister ceases family contact

DEAR ABBY: A few years ago, my uncle made a controversial comment about a social issue in my mom's family group text. The issue was important enough to my sister that she requested discussion about it cease because she didn't agree with what they were saying. When the discussion continued, she decided to cut Mom's family out of her life, taking a cue from my brother-in-law, who had made a similar decision about his own family.

My wife and I bought a house and decided to throw our first party there, inviting both sides of my family. My sister still refuses to be anywhere near Mom's family. She said she wouldn't be coming, even though I also invited Dad's family, with whom she gets along well.

Although my political and social views align with my sister's, I am also family-oriented, so this has been tough on me and my parents. I'm sad that Mom's family may never see my sister again because one or two bad apples spoiled the barrel for her. I wish this could be resolved before it's too late. Do you think that's

Dear Abby



possible? — FAMILY-ORIENTED IN ILLINOIS

DEAR FAMILY-ORIENTED: I don't know why the offensive conversation didn't stop when your sister asked. Clearly, the comments your uncle made were so deeply offensive to her that she no longer wishes to have any contact with him. Is this "fixable"? Only if one of them is willing to give, and from what you have written, that doesn't seem likely. From now on, if you want a family gathering, be prepared to host one without Sis.

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 Dear-Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today
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.

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.

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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will

meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

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
JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

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.

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.

Jay County Highway Department Mechanic Position

Jay County Highway Department is seeking someone to fill a Mechanic Position. Candidate must be 18 years of age or older, possess a High School Diploma or GED, and an Indiana Driver's License plus Class B CDL w/air brake endorsement. Candidate must have the ability to meet all County hiring requirements including the passage of a medical exam and drug test.

- Must have a working knowledge of trucks, vehicles and equipment and be able to complete related maintenance and safety measures including preventive maintenance
- Must have the ability to operate a variety of machinery, equipment, and tools
- Must have the ability to occasionally work extended hours, evenings, and/or weekends
- Must have the ability to occasionally serve on-call and respond to emergencies from an off-duty status
- Must be able to comply with all employer and Department policies, procedures, and rules
- Must have the ability to effectively communicate with co-workers and other county departments

Interested candidates may pick up an application at the Jay County Highway Department located at 1035 E 200 N, Portland, IN 47371 Mon-Thur 6:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Application Deadline will be October 29, 2025.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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.

Reader dislikes plan for voting centers

To the editor:
I would like to comment on the change to vote centers.

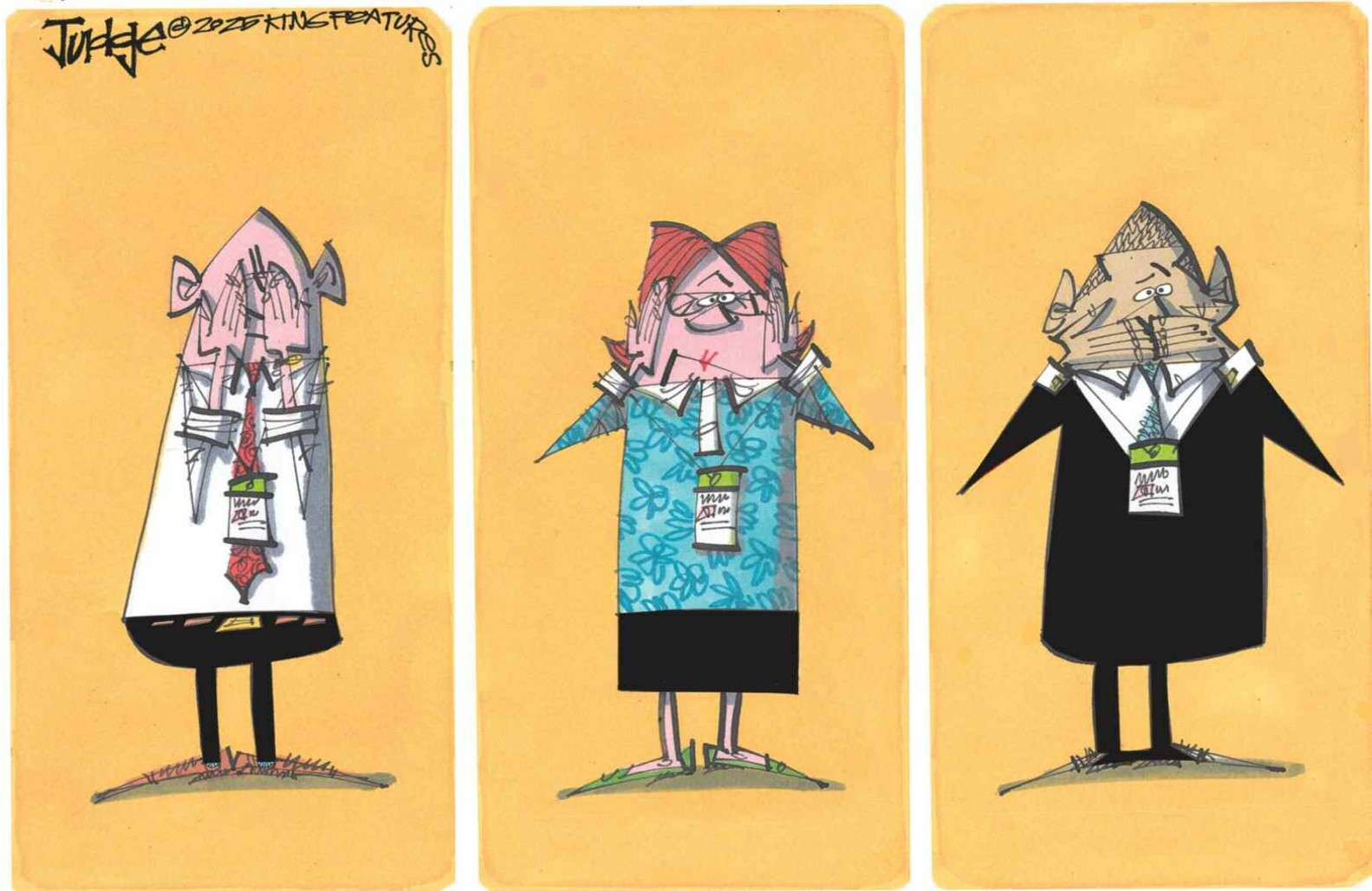
The Commercial Review said there are 10,908 active voters in Jay County. With two vote centers, each one could potentially need to process approximately 5,000 voters if all voters showed up to vote. Assuming a 12-hour voting window, that would mean 425 voters would need to be processed per hour.

The north end of the county has no center. This seems like a voter suppression plan to me which will produce long lines and much less voting. This is exactly what should not be done.

Rhonda Goss Bryant

Letters to the Editor

THE PENTAGON ISSUES NEW PRESS RULES:



Use the censors' names

By **STEPHANIE R. TOLIVER**
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Banned Books Week is over, but the fight it highlights continues every other week of the year. This year's theme was Censorship is So 1984: Read for Your Rights, invoking George Orwell's famous novel to warn against the dangers of banning books.

It was a powerful rallying cry. But now that the week has ended, we need to face two uncomfortable truths: first, censorship isn't a relic of 1984. It's alive and well in 2025. And second, censorship doesn't just happen on its own. There are people doing it, and we can't fight what we refuse to name — not just for one week, but every week of the year.

Orwell understood this. In "1984," the nightmare of totalitarianism has many faces. There's Big Brother, the ever-present symbol of state control. There's O'Brien, who personally tortures Winston Smith until he betrays everything he believes. The horror of Orwell's world is embodied by specific people wielding immense power. The novel works because it shows us that oppression requires oppressors. Fascism doesn't maintain itself. People maintain it.

So why, in 2025, when book banning has reached levels not seen in decades, do we talk about censorship as if it's a weather pattern — something that just happens? Why do we avoid naming the school board members, the politicians, the activists, and the organizations actively working to remove books from libraries and classrooms?

Research shows that there is power in naming. It's why authoritarian regimes work so hard to hide the machinery of their control. It's why journalism matters. When we name the people behind harmful actions, we make accountability possible. We turn abstract problems into concrete ones that can be addressed, challenged, and changed.

Right now, across the country, individuals like Jennifer Petersen are attending school board meetings with lists of books to ban. Organizations like Moms for Liberty and MassResistance are coordinating challenges to remove books about racism, LGBTQ+ experiences, and sexual health from school libraries. Elected officials like Governor Kim Reynolds

Stephanie R. Toliver



and Representative Donna Schabille are passing laws that threaten librarians with criminal charges. These aren't shadowy forces. They're our neighbors, our officials, our fellow citizens. And many of them are quite proud of their work.

Yet much of the resistance to book banning remains frustratingly vague. For instance, the official Banned Books Week website states that "pressure groups and government entities that include elected officials, board members, and administrators initiated 72% of demands to censor books in school and public libraries." Those groups, entities and officials remain hidden behind their titles. And it's impossible to effectively oppose what we refuse to clearly identify.

Some might argue that naming names is divisive because it personalizes fights that should remain about principles. But censorship is personal. It's personal to the teenager who can't find a book that reflects their experience. It's personal to the author whose work is labeled obscene. It's personal to the librarian threatened with prosecution. It's personal to the Black girl whose teacher is scared to teach a book about her experiences in the world. The people banning books have made it personal. Our response should match that reality.

Others might rightfully worry about harassment or escalation against those we name. But there's an important distinction: accountability flows upward toward power, while harassment punches down toward the vulnerable. Documenting which elected officials vote to ban books, which well-funded organizations coordinate censorship campaigns, and which activists organize at public meetings is democratic transparency, especially when these same individuals already operate publicly and proudly. It's not the same as targeting a private citizen for their personal beliefs.

... accountability flows upward toward power, while harassment punches down toward the vulnerable.

In fact, the book banners aren't hiding. Many proudly post photos of the books they've successfully removed. They celebrate their victories at conferences and in press releases. They run for office on platforms of "protecting children" by limiting what they can read. If they're willing to put their names on their work, why shouldn't we?

Beyond Banned Books Week, we should absolutely read for our rights. We should celebrate challenged authors and defend intellectual freedom. But we should also do something more: we should name the censors. We should document which school board members vote to remove books and why. We should identify which organizations are training parents to file mass challenges. We should track which politicians are turning book banning into a campaign strategy.

Orwell gave us Winston Smith to help us understand the victim's experience of totalitarianism. But he also gave us Big Brother and O'Brien so we'd understand that oppression has authors. The Ministry of Truth doesn't run itself.

The fight for intellectual freedom is against specific actions by specific people. We don't have to accept a model where power hides behind abstractions. In 2025, censorship isn't a dystopian metaphor. It's a coordinated effort by identifiable people with names, faces, and power. The censors are here, they're visible, and they're counting on us not to name them. Banned Books Week may be over, but the work must continue — 52 weeks a year.

.....

Toliver is a Public Voices Fellow and a member of the OpEd Alumni Project sponsored by the University of Illinois.

Rocky road led us here

By **MORTON J. MARCUS**

The trend noted frequently in this column continues, unabated.

Indiana continues to outperform most of its neighbors, which is like being the smartest dummy in the classroom. Our record in the growth of our economy is at the level of cheerful mediocrity. And we are without leadership to see any improvement.

However, before we can move forward, we have to understand where we are. In 2005, Indiana ranked 15th among the states in the nation in Real private sector Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Real means we've taken inflation into account. Private sector means we're leaving out government spending by the Feds, the States and Localities.

By 2024, we sank to 18th place, behind leapfrogging Arizona, Colorado and Tennessee. Why? Some will say all of those states have mountains. If only we had mountains, we too would have red hot private sector GDP growth. What can we do to grow mountains?

As is, our growth rate in the private sector, where we know all ingenuity and energy resides, was 38% over the intervening years, 27th in the nation. That was greater than the growth rates of all four of our contiguous states.

This period of time, 2005 to 2024, was one of unbalanced growth in America. Only 16 states and the District of Columbia increased their shares in private sector GDP. Indiana ranked 39th with Ohio, Michigan and Illinois at the very bottom of the barrel. Just as Indiana went from 2% of the nation's private sector GDP to 1.8%, that trio of neighbors went from 11.7% of the nation's output to 9.5%.

Eye on the Pie



We've heard much over the years of Indiana's excellent competitive position in taxation, energy costs, constrained union activity and a host of other factors important to business. Yet if you look back over the quarterly data from 2005 to the first half of this year, you'll find we had declines in our private sector Real GDP 30% of the time while the U.S. suffered negative quarters in just 13% of those 81 quarters.

Must be those rankings by business magazines don't take performance into account. If they did, they might notice that our share of the nation's growth in private sector output was just 1.5%. Yes, despite starting with 2% of the output, we managed to produce only 1.5% of the added output of the nation. It is hardly a tribute to boldness, entrepreneurial achievement and an outstanding work ethic.

Now we face a reconsideration and potential restructuring of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, as if it was to blame for our steady decline in national importance.

What about the private sector where a few large firms dominate progress in our major urban areas?

Could fewer new sports facilities and more attention to business be helpful?

.....

Marcus is an economist formerly at the IU Kelley School of Business. Contact him via email at mortonjmarcus@gmail.com.

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.

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VOLUME 151—NUMBER 124
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2025

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

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***Researchers
are studying
drought-
resistant
properties***

Increased drought tolerance can result from many factors: some high-performing varieties might have better photosynthetic rates, while others might



Where scientists using traditional methods might be able to measure 100 plants in a day,

Gabriel Castrillo, associate professor of plant microbiome at the University of Nottingham, will study the microbial interactions that take place in the plants and soil. Hannah Schneider, head of genetics and physiology of root development

“Bayer is one of the largest

"We're fortunate to collaborate with some of the world's leading experts in plant science," Tuinstra said. "They're not only top-caliber researchers, they're also people who have the same goal we do: to understand how to future-proof the crops we rely on for food and feed."

Biodiesel has long been considered a promising renewable fuel, but its reliance on edible crops—like soybean, palm oil and rapeseed—has raised concerns about competition with global food supplies. Okolie and his collaborators turned their attention to second- and third-generation feedstocks such as

"I've heard people talk about how large language models use a lot of energy, but you can use the improved sustainable energy yield from its research applications to offset the amount of energy used by AI," Okolie said. "In my area of research, we call it 'closing the loop.'"

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Knicks beat East favorite Cavaliers in opener

By KRISTIAN WINFIELD

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — Kenny Atkinson had seen enough. His Cleveland Cavaliers had forced a stop on the first action, but these Knicks are no longer a one-trick pony.

Donovan Mitchell missed a layup with under 11 minutes to go in a one-possession game at Madison Square Garden, and the Knicks immediately turned defense into chaos. A long rebound led to a leak-out for Jordan Clarkson — a pump fake, a reset, then a loose ball bouncing toward the paint.

Karl-Anthony Towns was first to it. He snatched the ball before any Cavalier could react and zipped a pass to a trailing Miles McBride, whose trailing 3 splashed through to put New York up six and tilt the momentum firmly their way.

Atkinson stormed off the sideline, barking for a timeout — the universal signal of a coach fed up with his team's effort. Two minutes later, he was pacing again, helplessly signaling for another timeout as the Knicks' lead grew to 11.

Both teams entered Wednesday's season opener banged up. The Knicks were without Mitchell Robinson (ankle, load man-



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/AI Bello

agement) and Josh Hart (lumbar spasms). The Cavaliers were missing starting point guard Darius Garland, sixth man De'Andre Hunter and forward Max Strus.

Yet it was the Knicks — with a new head coach, a reshaped identity and a retooled offense — who looked like the team with continuity. The Cavaliers, by contrast, played disjointed, relying almost exclusively on a 21-point third-quarter explosion from

Mitchell to stay within striking distance.

New York, however, never flinched.

The Knicks closed strong for a 119-111 win over the same Cavaliers team that NBA general managers overwhelmingly picked to win the Eastern Conference in this year's preseason poll. Only a third of those same GMs tabbed the Knicks.

It was a striking reversal from a year ago, when the Boston Celtics ran the

Knicks off the floor in a blowout season opener — a reality check for a team with championship aspirations. Those Knicks were still finding chemistry after blockbuster trades for Towns and Mikal Bridges.

These Knicks, under Mike Brown, looked connected from the jump.

Brown wasn't sure how his group would respond in its first true test against a 64-win opponent, but he was clear about what mattered: sacrifice, connection,

competitive spirit and belief — in each other and in the process.

"I want them to continue to believe no matter what happens, as long as we're doing those things, because it's our standard," Brown said before tipoff. "I want them to continue to believe in the process and each other as we go along, and if somebody goes a little too far left or a little too far right, including me, we expect everybody to hold each other accountable.

"That's our standard. That's what I want to see, and if we do that while we're learning with the understanding that this is gonna be a process, then I'm OK with it."

The Knicks followed his script to perfection.

Mitchell finished with a game-high 31 points but was held to just two in the final quarter after scorching New York for 29 through 3. Brunson captained the Knicks with 23 points, four rebounds and five assists, while all four starters not named Ariel Hukporti — who filled in admirably at center for the injured Robinson — scored in double figures.

OG Anunoby put up 24 points and 14 rebounds, Bridges poured in 16, and Towns posted 19 points and 11 rebounds.

For a team still adjusting to a new system and missing key contributors, it was the kind of opening statement that resonates long past one night in October.

The Knicks have their next test on Friday against the Boston Celtics, who, like the Cavs and Knicks, have their own fair share of injuries with Jayson Tatum out for an extended period of time.

If the season opener was any indication, the Knicks are up to the challenge.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Football sectional quarterfinal at Belmont — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football vs. Minster — 7 p.m.

Saturday

Jay County — Cross country regional at Huntington North — 10:30 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Cross country regional at Troy — 10 a.m.; Volleyball district championship vs. Houston at Fairmount — 10 a.m.; JV football at Minster — 10 a.m.

TV schedule

Today

5 a.m. — Amateur golf: Asia-Pacific Amateur

Championship (ESPN2)

3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Leeds United at West Ham United (USA)
6 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Slim Jim 200 (FS1)
7 p.m. — College football: North Texas at Charlotte (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Cal at Virginia Tech (ESPN)
8 p.m. — MLB World Series: Los Angeles Dodgers at Tornado Blue Jays (FOX)
8 p.m. — NBA: San Antonio Spurs at New Orleans Pelicans (CBS)
8 p.m. — MLS: Inter Miami at Nashville SC (FS1)
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Washington Wizards at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Montana at Sacramento State (ESPN2)

Saturday

3 a.m. — MotoGP: Malaysia Grand Prix (FS1)
4 a.m. — Amateur golf: Asia-Pacific Amateur Championship (ESPN2)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Newcastle United at Fulham (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Ole Miss at Oklahoma (ABC); Northwestern at Nebraska (FS1); Rutgers at Purdue (BTN); UCLA at Indiana (FOX); Syracuse at Georgia Tech (ESPN); Kansas State at Kansas (TNT); South Florida at Memphis (ESPN2)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester United at Brighton & Hove Albion (NBC)
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Brentford at Liverpool FC (USA)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Alabama at South Carolina (ABC); Missouri at Vanderbilt

(ESPN); Illinois at Washington (BTN); Minnesota at Iowa (CBS); BYU at Iowa State (FOX); San Diego State at Fresno State (FS1)
4 p.m. — College football: Baylor at Cincinnati (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — College football: Wisconsin at Oregon (FS1); Stanford at Miami (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Texas A&M at LSU (ABC); Michigan at Michigan State (NBC)
8 p.m. — MLB World Series: Los Angeles Dodgers at Toronto Blue Jays (FOX)
8 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Memphis Grizzlies (FDSN Indiana)
8 p.m. — College football: Houston at Arizona State (ESPN2)
10:15 p.m. — College football: Colorado at Utah (ESPN)

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.

90 SALE CALENDAR

LARRY MOSER ONLINE ONLY

PERSONAL PROPERTY ESTATE AUCTION
Melsmitleyauctions.com
Bidding Opens: October 13, 2025

Ends: October 26, 2025 with a soft close at 6:00 PM

Location: 7851 W. 400 N., Pennville, IN 47369
Preview dates: Oct. 22, 2025 - 4:00-7:00 PM, & Oct. 25, 2025 - 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

or by appointment.

TRUCK-TRACTOR-SKID LOADER-EQUIPMENT-TRAILERS

2022 Dodge Ram 2500 Laramie (4x4, Diesel; 10,3xx mi, 1 owner);

2015 Sure-Trac Tilt Trailer; 2018 Force 6.5x12 Utility Trailer w/ramp; JD

709 rotary cutter, 7'; 2011 JD 318D Skid loader, (3) hay wagons,

(1 w/hoist); JD 5115M Tractor w/H310 loader

FIREARMS-AMMO

J Stevens Shot 22 cal; Sears Roebuck/ Ted Williams Model 340

Lever Action 22 Cal; Ardesa 54 Cal. Muzzle-

loader; Winchester Model 1890 22 cal (reconditioned); Ardesa

Spain 50 Cal Black Powder Muzzleloading

Pistol; Various ammo and more not listed.

HOUSEHOLD-TOOLS-COLLECTIBLES

Toy farm equip.; Rocker; Dresser; Gun Cabinet; Collectibles; Primitives;

Crocks; Arrowheads; Stereoscope w/ cards; Pins/Award Geneva;

Vint. Scout Patches; Portland & Geneva Yearbooks; Lg. Trading

Post Sign; Older Baseball Cards; Adv. Cans; Deer Horns; (3) Lg

portable barn fans; Saddles (1-Oliver); Horse equip; Ladders; Old

Comics, and much more not listed!

Larry Moser, Deceased (Jennifer Gray, Representative)

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119 E Main St. Portland, IN

Laci Smitley - AU10600051

260-729-2281 - Cell

Ryan Davidson AU10600063 260-726-

5076

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: 2773 W 75 S, Portland, IN

Saturday Morning

NOVEMBER 1, 2025 10:00 A.M.

GUNS

Cascade .300 PRC bolt action rifle with scope;

Weatherby 30.06 bolt action rifle with scope;

KelTec Sub 2000 - 22 mag; MAC 12 gauge

semi-automatic shotgun; Savage Model 340 -

30/30 bolt action rifle; Hi-Point Model 1095 -

10 mm semi-automatic rifle; H & R 1871 - 12

gauge pump shotgun; Glock .40 caliber semi-

automatic pistol; Hi-Point Model C9 - 9mm

luger semi-automatic pistol, LARGE SELECTION OF AMMO TO

INCLUDE: 5.56, .22, .22 MAG, 9mm, .45 12

gauge and slugs; pocket knives; and other items

not listed.

TOOLS - OLD ITEMS

Stihl RB830 power washer; Delco tool cart

on wheels; Dewalt metal saw; Bosch wood saw;

Polaris 330 Magnum 4 x 4 (non-running); saw

horses; furniture clamps; augers; pulleys; grinder;

U Haul metal sign; Miller Beer sign; ox yoke;

Daisy butter churns; fishing poles; wood tote;

oil cans; corn jobber; and many other items

not listed.

OWNER: DAVID GLASGOW

Loy Auction

AC#31600027 Auctioneers

Gary Loy AU01031608

Travis Theurer AU11200131

Aaron Loy AU11200112

Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: Auburn Street, Dunkirk, IN.

Tuesday Evening

OCTOBER 28, 2025 6:00 P.M.

REAL ESTATE

This parcel of land consists of 3.408 acres of bare land located in Dunkirk Indiana. This property is zoned residential. This property would make a nice investment for further development or a nice building site. Terms of Sale are 20%

90 SALE CALENDAR

down day of auction and balance due at closing.

Seller to provide Title Insurance and Warranty Deed.

Seller to pay the November 2025 tax installment and Buyer to assume taxes due and payable of May 2026 and thereafter. Any statements day of sale take precedence over previously written or oral matter. Seller confirmation day of sale.

For more information contact Gary Loy Auctioneer 260-726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker (260) 726-2700

RKM LLC

Loy Auction

AC#31600027 Auctioneers

Gary Loy AU01031608

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN

Saturday Morning

OCTOBER 25, 2025 9:30 A.M.

ANTIQUES - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS-MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Oak dry sink; Oak pie safe with screen doors;

railroad cart coffee table; The Smithsonian Collection by Lexington Casual

wicker sofa, chair and ottoman; Chief Paints double sided sign;

Pennzoil double sided sign;; Pan American World Airways toy plane;

old ball gloves; Ansel Toney kite, never flown;

Model T jack; Sterling Silver necklaces and rings; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF COSTUME

JEWELRY TO INCLUDE RINGS, BRACELETS, NECKLACES, AND EARRINGS; ; Pete

Brewster cards and pictures, autographed by Pete; and other items

note listed.

TOOLS

UC Body Co tool cabinet; Shop Series 101 table saw; Craftsman 4

drawer tool box; 2 pc. metal tool chest; ; Snap On wrenches; channel

locks; Craftsman router; machinist cabinet;

machinists tools; metal shelves; propane tanks; and other items not listed.

90 SALE CALENDAR

AUCTIONEERS NOTE:

Many of these items have been stored in

totes so pictures will be uploaded to Auction Zip

by 10/22. Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day.

EDITH DICKEY &

JOHNSON FAMILY Loy Auction

AC#31600027 Auctioneers

Gary Loy AU01031608

Travis Theurer AU11200131

Aaron Loy AU11200112

Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION

LOCATION: 4372 W 500 N Portland IN 47371

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25, 2025

9:00 AM

PICKUP TRUCK-TRAILERS-TRACTOR-MINI EXCAVATOR

2004 Dodge Ram 3500 4wd, 4 Door, Dually,

Long Bed, 167,000 Miles: 2024 (24') Interstate Cargo Trailer:

Kubota KX71-3 Mini Excavator 4000 Hrs.: Club Car Electric Golf

Cart: King Kutter 6'Tiller: Assorted Excavator

Buckets 12" Bucket, (2) 24" Buckets, 36" Bucket:

1972 custom Chevy Pickup Truck No Title:.

Jeep 4x4 Suv. CONSTRUCTION-SHOP-MISC. ITEMS

(5) Sets of X Brace Heavy Duty Scaffolding: (3) Sets of 5' Scaffold-

ing: (11) Pcs. Scaffolding with Walking Plank: (2) 40' FiberglassExt. Ladders: 28' Alum. Ext. Ladder: Champion Blower

& Forge Co. Forge: N.C. Anvil: Craftsman 2700 Psi Pressure Washer:

Makita Battery Operated Wheel Barrow with Dump Bed: Kolbalt Tile

Saw: Air Framing Guns: Assorted Hand Tools.

HOUSEHOLD

Speed Queen Washer: Amana Dryer: (2) Wardrobes: Misc.

Household Items OWNERS: LEVI & ANGELA STAUFFER

HILL AUCTION

CHARLIE HILL #AU10700054

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FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT

COUNTY OF JAY, SS: 2025 TERM

Cause Number: 38C01-2508-JP-11 38C01-2508-JP-12

IN RE: THE PATERNITY OF TYLER MORRIS and JAXSON MORRIS

BRADLEY MORRIS Plaintiff,

vs. KELLY JONES Defendant.

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION This summons is to the Defendant above named and to any other persons who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Jay Circuit Court, Jay County, Indiana, in the case set forth in the caption above, by the person named above as Plaintiff. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the Defendant named above and all others who may claim any lien on or interest in the Real Estate described below.

The named Plaintiff is represented by Joshua A. Atkinson and Natalie P. Williamson, 940 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371. The nature of this suit against you is to quiet title in Plaintiff to the Real Estate described below against the named Defendants and the world and the Real Estate is located in Jay County Indiana: Lot numbered Seventy-four (74) in South Portland Addition to the Town, now City of Portland, Indiana

An answer or other response in writing to the complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney within thirty (30) days after the last notice is published and if you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded by the Plaintiff.

If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or response. Dated: October 14, 2025. Melissa Elliott Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court CR 10-24-31,11-7-2025- HSPAXLXP

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2025 boys soccer All-GPC team

Graphic Printing Company Player of the Year Maddox Huffman

Delta High School senior

Maddox Huffman was selected as the 2025 Graphic Printing Company Player of the Year for boys soccer.

“It means a lot,” Huffman said. “My sophomore year I didn’t even get a start, so it feels great to get the honor of that.”

While Huffman didn’t get a single start in his sophomore season, he set the school record of 26 goals in a single year as a junior.

While he only scored 20 times during his senior campaign — Huffman also had two assists — he helped the team to a more successful season. The Eagles earned their highest finish in the Hoosier Heritage Conference as a 5-2 record put them second. He also headed in the go-ahead goal to lift Delta over Oak Hill, securing DHS its third boys soccer sectional crown.

“It’s been special because last year I broke the record, but we still fell short of a sectional,” Huffman said. “So I was trying to go for that. We made a really strong argument in the conference. Didn’t quite get there but it really pushed us towards a sectional, being able to work as a team and get that win.”

Huffman’s offensive output has led Delta to a 25-10 record over the past two seasons.

“He’s been tremendous,” said DHS coach Tony Pierce. “He’s had 50 plus goals for us and we wouldn’t be where we were without all those goals. We wouldn’t have won the games that we’ve won. He’s hit clutch goals for us at key times, so that’s well deserved for him.”



All-Graphic Printing Company first team

Forwards

Eduin Garcia Velasquez (Union City sophomore) — 43 goals, 15 assists
Jacoby Penrod (Jay County freshman) — 17 goals, eight assists

Midfielders

Elias Mueller (Jay County junior) — seven goals, two assists
Cooper Pierce (Delta junior) — 14 goals, 13 assists
Gabe Peters (Wapahani junior) — 15 goals, four assists
Senad Selimovic (Delta junior) — 11 goals, 17 assists

Defenders

Keller Bartlett (Delta sophomore) — two goals, one assist
Fernando Rafael Jose (Union City senior) — nine goals, 10 assists
Waylen Stewart (Delta senior) — three goals, two assists

Goalkeeper

Elijah Bell (Delta senior) — 126 saves, 15 goals allowed

Honorable mention

Maverick McDaniel, senior, Blackford
Jed Vanator, junior, Delta
Blake Collins, junior, Jay County
Jeferson Solorzano, freshman, Union City
Kaleb Keihn, senior, Wapahani

NFL owners put to rest concerns over Tom Brady’s role with Fox and Raiders

By VINCENT BONSIGNORE

Las Vegas Review-Journal
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — The concern over Tom Brady’s roles as the lead analyst on Fox’s NFL coverage and a Raiders minority owner seems to have dissipated.

At least to those who matter most — NFL owners. It was a non-topic at their fall meetings this week.

“You guys have written about that already,” Jets owner Woody Johnson said.

When asked about the potential conflict of interest of someone holding an ownership stake in a team and being a game analyst — in which access to players and coaches and information are core parts of the role — Johnson brushed it off.

“I don’t have any concerns,” he said. “I want to win next week. That’s what I’m really focused on.”

That sentiment is shared by NFL commissioner Roger Goodell, who has pointed to the restrictions for Brady that guard against potential issues.

For instance, unlike other broadcasters, Brady is not allowed to step foot in team facilities or attend practices. The access he gets to players and coaches is limited to virtual meetings as opposed to the face-to-face meetings other analysts are allowed.

Owners put those guardrails in place when Brady was approved as a Raiders minority owner in October 2024. He was in his first season as

‘I’ve been careful with everything I’ve said since the season started. I’ve been in pure ‘coachspeak’ mode since this season has started. It’s just business as usual. I like Tom, and we have a really good relationship’
— Ben Johnson, Chicago Bears coach

Fox’s lead analyst, and there was concern within the league that he could use information he gleaned during his preparation to help the Raiders.

With the protections in place, Goodell said there shouldn’t be any issues.

“Where’s the conflict?” Goodell told Alex Sherman of CNBC.com in September. “He’s not hanging around in the facilities. We don’t allow that.”

Information overload
Raiders owner Mark Davis said he understood why fellow owners would put restrictions on Brady. But at this point, he thinks it’s a nonissue.

As Davis pointed out this week, the information that coaches and players share in production meetings isn’t exactly the type that would harm a team. They are typically guarded in those settings.

“Is the information even real?” Davis said. “It’s cat and mouse. It’s smoke and mirrors.”

That was backed up this season by

Bears coach Ben Johnson when he dealt with Brady before his team played the Cowboys. The game preceded by one week the Bears’ game against the Raiders.

Johnson said he wasn’t worried because he controlled what he revealed.

“I’ve been careful with everything I’ve said since the season started,” he said. “I’ve been in pure ‘coachspeak’ mode since this season has started. It’s just business as usual. I like Tom, and we have a really good relationship.”

Davis also pointed out that plenty of game analysts have ties with other teams. For instance, former Cowboys quarterbacks Troy Aikman (ABC, ESPN) and Tony Romo (CBS) also are lead analysts.

“Anybody can sit there and call up their friend on the teams and ask what’s going on,” Davis said. “And there’s so much disinformation that teams give to the announcers.”



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

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