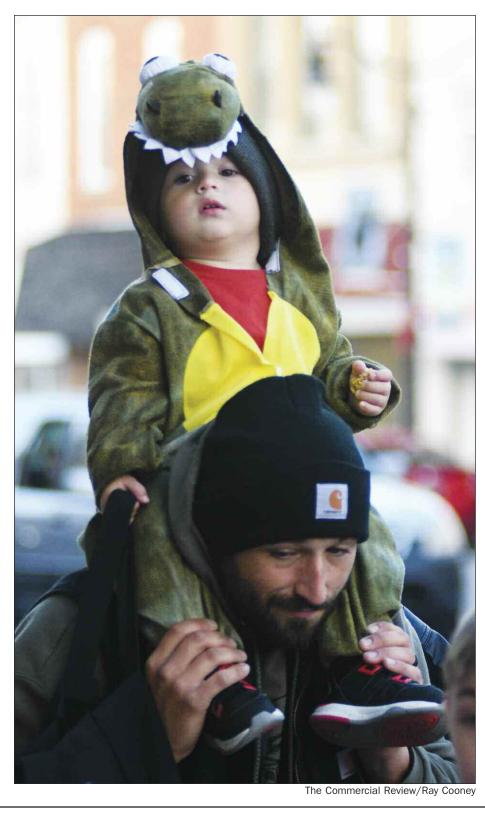
The Commercial Review

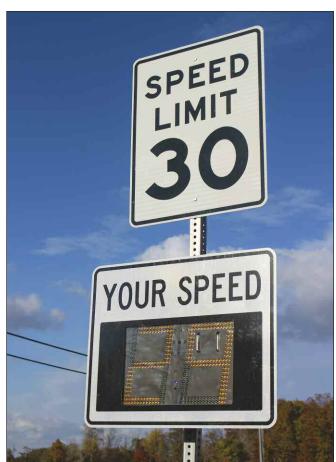
Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com



Shoulder ride

Two-year-old Alden Zaugg of Portland rides on dad Lane shoulders Zaugg's Friday night while trickor-treating at the corner of Meridian and streets Main downtown Portland. Local businesses and organizations lined the streets and Brick Alley to take part in the Jay County Chamber of Commerce Merchant Trick or Treat.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Portland Police Department installed radar speed signs this week on Blaine Pike and Seventh Street. Pictured above, the sign along Blaine Pike near its intersection with county road 150 South records a truck's speed as it enters Portland.

Slow down

New signs encourage drivers to adjust speed

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review Slow down.

That's the message Portland Police Department hopes to get across with the new radar speed signs mounted this week on Blaine Pike and Seventh Street.

The radars display drivers' speeds as they drive into the city.

"I've seen them in other communities," said Portland Police Chief Dustin Mock. "(This is) something that I have been wanting to do for a while."

Portland Police Department shared a post about the new signs on Facebook.

having Drivers reminder in real-time helps them to self-correct, the post says, avoiding stops and fines. Data from the signs will help police focus their resources to prevent future crashes and injuries.

The equipment comes from Radarsign of Marietta, Georgia. Portland Police Department's two radar speed signs, priced at \$3,000 each, include an 11-inch LED display that logs traffic volume, average speeds and other information.

The devices are also portable, meaning city employees can move them around Portland as needed.

As of Thursday, Seventh Street's radar sits just west of Green Park Cemetery, and Blaine Pike's sits just northeast

of county road 150 South. We've watched the area since we've installed them," Mock said. "We've seen a drastic reduction

in speed already.' See **Slow** page 2

Judges issue SNAP rulings

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

A pair of federal judges ruled that emergency funding must be used to keep food aid flowing.

If, when and how that will happen is still in question.

Local businesses and nonprofits have plans to help in the interim.

U.S. District Judge John McConnell in Rhode Island announced that he would order the U.S. Department of Agriculture to distribute contingency money "as soon as possible" for November Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits. U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani in Massachusetts rejected the Trump administration's stance that it is legally banned from using alternative funding sources for the program during the ongoing government shut-

Local businesses offering meals, discounts to help

Before Friday's rulings, SNAP benefits were expected to be cut off beginning today, with states left to decide whether they would step in to fill the gap. (The federal government had warned that states would not later be reimbursed if they did so.)

Indiana's State Budget Committee rejected a push this week to use state surplus funding to help low-income Hoosiers and food banks. On Thursday, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, a Republican, signed an executive order directing the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to provide up to \$25 million to help those who would be impacted by the suspension of federal SNAP bene-

Locally, some business owners were stepping in to provide assistance. Firehouse BBQ and Blues announced it will be offering 50 free meals of pulled chicken, green beans, buns and BBQ sauce for pickup each Sunday at its locations, including 126 E. Commerce St., Dunkirk. The meals will be available from noon to 1 p.m. on Sundays until SNAP benefits are reinstated. The Block-Bites Truck, a local food truck, planned to offer a 20% discount on all products today.

See **SNAP** page 2

Postmaster retires

The Commercial Review

After more than 39 years at Portland Post Office, postmaster Paul Keen has

Postal workers celebrated Keen's retirement Friday morning.

Keen, 65, has served as Portland postmaster since 2014. He's also worked in other capacities at the Portland branch, including as the officer in charge.

"It's pretty much like family, I've been here so long," said Keen, a 1978 Jay County High School gradu-

Keen's career in postal work came with a transition to technology. He talked about the change in switching from manual service to using computers on a day-to-day basis. seven days a week.

Keen leaves position after 39 years of service

Detailed carrier and package tracking has also become heavily integrat-

Postmasters coordinate administrative and management services for the U.S. Postal Service offices, delegating work among employees. His job, he added, is a responsibility stretching 24 hours a day,

What's kept him at the post office for nearly four decades?

"Probably the people," he said, referencing the large group gathered Friday morning at the post office for his retirement party. During a short speech he gave while surrounded by coworkers, he told the team they've become like brothers and sisters to him.

It's a mutual feeling. Portland Post Office clerk Carrie Fairchild described him as a friend and father figure.

"I've enjoyed working with him more so than any postmaster I've ever had," said Fairchild, who also spent time at post offices in Bryant and Montpelier.

See **Retires** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Greg Wellman and Paul Keen laugh together Friday morning at Portland Post Office. Keen celebrated his retirement this week after working for the office for more than 39 years. He and Wellman — another former Portland Post Office worker who retired last year — attended Bloomfield Elementary School around the same time.

Deaths

Lana Johnson, Greenfield Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 54 degrees on Halloween. The low was 35.

The high will be in the mid 50s today under partly cloudy skies. Expect similar conditions Sunday, with the high then climbing into the upper 50s Monday.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

Fellowship Baptist Church of rural Portland will host its Family Fall Festival from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday. It will include hayrides, games, food, activities and a truck-or-treat. The event is free and open to the public. The church is located at 289 S. 200 West, Portland.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the FRHS volleyball team's regional title match.

Wednesday — Details from next week's Portland City Council meeting.

Thursday — Coverage of next week's Jay County Development Corporation meeting.



Retrospect

Ogden committed to BSU

local diver was focusing on her future.

The Nov. 1, 2000, edition of The Commercial Review featured a story about Jay County High School senior Dawn Ogden committing to extend her athletic career as a diver at Ball State Uni-

Ogden, who transferred to JCHS during the summer before her junior season, had wanted to be a Cardinal athlete since she was 10 or 11 years old. She was also looking toward loftier goals.

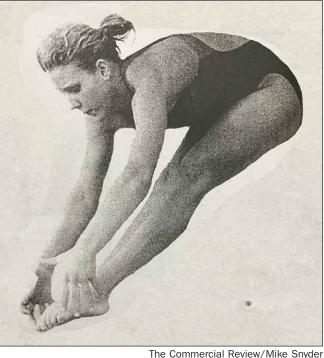
"If I do (diving) exclusively, hopefully more will come out of it than just college," said Ogden, who was a threesport state qualifier in diving, gymnastics and track the previous year. "That's my goal, maybe the 2004 or 2008 Olympics. I kind of feel dumb saying that, but ... it's always been my goal to be in the Olympics. I haven't hit my

Twenty-five years ago this week, a peak yet, so I can get a lot better. I've got a mission just to go out and work as hard as I can to get better."

> Ogden was considering running track in addition to diving at Ball State, where she planned to study exercise science.

> She had plans to continue competing in both gymnastics and diving during her senior season with the Patriots, as well as track in the spring. She was a three-time state qualifier in diving, finishing 28th in 1998, 20th in 1999 and 11th in 2000. In gymnastics, she was 10th in the state all-around competition as a junior, including a seventh-place finish on the uneven parallel bars.

> "I'm really excited about (the scholarship), and it does make my hard work worth a lot more than what I thought it was," said Ogden. "All these practices ... I've been really tired at times. It just seems like it's all paying off."



Dawn Ogden dives during her junior season at Jay County High School. Ogden committed to dive at Ball State University on Oct. 29, 2000. She signed her national letter of intent about a week later. As a junior at JCHS after transferring from Muncie Southside, Ogden reached the state finals diving, in gymnastics and track.

CR almanac

Tuesday

	9			
56/37	59/33	62/46	66/36	56/40
Mostly cloudy skies on Sunday when the high will be in the low to mid 50s.	Monday's weather looks like sunny skies with the high reaching 59 degrees.	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday when the low will be around 46.	Partly cloudy skies are expected Wednesday when the low may hit 36.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Thursday when the high may hif 56.

Lotteries

Monday

Hoosier

Sunday

Midday Daily Three: 7-5-3 Daily Four: 0-6-4-1 Quick Draw: 2-6-15-18-22-32-34-35-38-41-42-44-56-59-61-62-68-69-70-

Ohio Midday Pick 4: 1-0-0-7 Pick 5: 3-4-8-7-1

Pick 3: 0-6-4

Wednesday

11/5

Thursday

Powerball Estimated

jackpot: \$400 million

Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$754 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	Wheat4.89
Corn4.30	ADM
Dec. corn4.40	Montpelier
	Corn4.19
POET Biorefining	Nov. corn4.22
Portland	Beans10.78
Corn4.26	Nov. beans10.78
Oct./Nov. corn4.31	Wheat5.24
Nov./Dec. corn4.46	
	Heartland
The Andersons	St. Anthony
Richland Township	Corn4.17

Today in history

In 1512, Michelangelo's fresco on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican was open to the public for the first

Corn4.22

Nov. corn4.24

Beans10.95

Nov. beans11.00

time. In 1611, "The Tempest" by William Shakepublicly for the first time.

In 1755, an earthquake in Lisbon, Portugal, killed an estimated 30,000 and destroyed more than 9,000 buildings.

In 1765, the Stamp Act went into effect. It City Council approved a marked the first effort bonus structure — it by the British Parlia- would pay \$1,000 after ment to raise revenue by the first year, \$1,500 directly taxing American colonial commercial and \$2,500 after the third and legal papers.

Library of Congress attract exp building opened. The police officers. facility had previously

5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council

chambers, fire station,

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recov-

ery Village Council, vil-

3:45 p.m. — Jay County

Commissioners execu-

tive session, courthouse,

120 N. Court St., Port-

4 p.m. — Jay County

lage hall, 201 S. Main St.

1616 N. Meridian St.

Monday

Tuesday

Citizen's calendar

tion.

been housed in the U.S. Capitol's Congressional Reading Room. Since then, two more buildings have been added to the Library of Congress complex.

Nov. corn4.17

Beans10.60

Nov. beans10.60

Wheat4.79

In 1972, the Dunkirk speare was performed High School boys basketball team opened its season with an 83-71 victory over Pennville. All five Speedcats scored in double figures, with Cliff Dunnington, Paul Hart and Kim Younkin all totaling 18 points.

In 2021, Portland after the second year year — for "lateral In 1897, the new transfers" in an effort to experienced

Development Corpora-

Resource Center, 118 S.

7 p.m. — Pennville

7 p.m. — Salamonia

5:15 p.m. — Portland

Board of Works, fire sta-

tion, 1616 N. Meridian St.

Town Council, School-

house Community Cen-

Thursday

Town Council, town hall,

105 N. Washington St.

Meridian St., Portland.

—The CR

Community

Obituaries

Lana Johnson

Sept. 6, 1945-Oct. 22, 2025

Lana Kay (Armstrong) Johnson, 80, passed away at her home in Greenfield on Oct. 22, 2025.

She was born on Sept. 6, 1945, in Blackford County to the late Gail and Mary M. Armstrong. Lana married her lifelong love, Keith E. Johnson, on Aug. 30, 1964, and together they had one son, Scott Keith Johnson.

Both Keith and Scott preceded Lana in death, and she is now joyfully reunited with them.

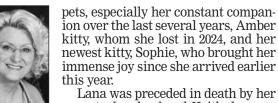
Lana graduated from Redkey High School in 1964, and she was honored to serve as the Redkey Tomato Queen with grace and elegance in 1962. Professionally, Lana worked at Indiana Glass and later at American Electric Power (AEP), where she formed many lasting friendships.

Lana and Keith joyrelocated fully to Punta Gorda, Florida, where she remained over 20 years until recently returning to Indiana to be closer to family and friends. During her time in Florida, Lana worked for the Punta Gorda

School System, retiring in 2019. Lana cherished her many friend-

ships from throughout her years in Redkey, Punta Gorda and Greenfield. Lana lived her life to the fullest and would encourage others to "use the fancy dishes, take the special vacation and wear the nice outfit with the good jewelry." She loved to travel, collecting unique jewelry from her various adventures.

Lana had a deep passion for her



Johnson

Lana was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Keith; her son Scott; her siblings Sharon Grayson and Jim Armstrong; and several

extended family members. She is survived by several nieces and nephews; sisters- and brothersin-law; and many very dear friends.

Lana will be remembered for her strength, independence, kindness and thoughtfulness as a loving aunt and friend.

Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025, at Hillcrest Cemetery in Redkey.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries – Redkey Chapel

Retires

Continued from page 1 Former postal worker friend, attended Bloomfield Elementary School with Keen. They both served in Jay County post offices until Wellman's retirement in 2024. He recalled Jay County residents popping into the post office simply to chat with Keen. Not because he was postmaster, Wellman explained, but because he was a "people person."

"He cares about other people to a fault," Well-Greg Wellman, a longtime man said, recalling various times Keen had taken heat for others. "But he makes a great boss. He was always protecting us all the time.

Keen plans to spend his retirement starting his "Hoosier Handyman" business and doing small construction jobs. An area landlord, he's built multiple houses, including his

Berne postmaster Cynthia Reinhart will take over Keen's role. She currently serves as president of Indiana's chapter of United Postmasters and Managers of America and has also worked in various capacities at Decatur Post Office in her hometown.

Eaton postmaster Kip VanSkyock, who worked for Dunkirk and Portland branches as a carrier as well as a local supervisor for several years, said work with you."

Keen's knowledge of the postal world has helped many folks over the years. He knows his job well, VanSkyock said, adding that Portland Post Office has been lucky to have him in charge.

"You don't find many people who spend 39 and a half years in one place, especially these days," he said, addressing Keen in a speech Friday morning. "It has been an honor to

Continued from page 1 Portland Street and Parks Department superintendent Matt Shauver said he would like to see the signs rotated on a few different streets, pointing out that if radar signs are placed in one spot too long, drivers

may start ignoring them. Other locations could include along Boundary Pike, Wayne Street and Charles Street. Comparing the cost and toll of

injuries and crashes to the cost of the signs, Mock said he felt the signs were worth the investment.

"Traffic safety is one of our core responsibilities," Mock said. "Smart tools like these radar street signs are what help us determine where we can patrol, where we can make scheduled adjustments if

Firehouse co-owner Nick Arbogast explained that he first saw the idea via 5 Arch Brewing Co. of Centerville and he and business partner Dustin Garvin jumped on board, as did several other restaurants.

"We loved the idea, love helping people in need," said Arbogast, emphasizing a commitment to community. "We wanted to give back to the people that are always supporting us in our communities.

He's hopeful others in Jay County will join the effort.

"Coming together in times of need is essential to have a thriving communi-ty," he said. "I really hope that we don't have to turn anybody away. My goal is to get other people on board so that way there's more resources.'

Second Harvest Food Bank responded to the impending loss of funding, saying more than 50,000 residents in its service area. That includes \$261,711 in benefits to 1,452 Jay County residents, 7.2% of the county's population. "This shutdown is more

than a political stalemate. It's a crisis for families who depend on SNAP to put food on the table," said Bekah Clawson, Second Harvest president & CEO, in a news release. "We're seeing food insecurity already record highs, and with benefits suspended, families are suddenly left without We will do everything we can to respond, but this is a

moment that requires all of

us to step up." The release said Second Harvest is activating its emergency response plan to increase food distributions in its service area, which includes Jay, Blackford, Randolph, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Madison and Wabash counties. There was already a special distribution Friday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Another tailgate food distribution will be held from 10 a.m. to

The distribution schedule and other options for

noon Wednesday at Jay

County Fairgrounds.

the most basic resources, assistance are available at Dunkirk Church of the curehunger.org/get-help. Resources listed in Jay County include:

•Trinity ArchBridge Church Food Pantry — 3:30 to 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 323 S. Meridian St., Portland

Asbury United Methodist Church Senior Safety Net — 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at 204 E. Arch St., Portland

•Dunkirk Community Food Pantry — 3 to 6 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at not cover a full month.

Nazarene, 226 E. Center St., Dunkirk

Second Harvest also asked for donations via curehunger.org/donate and volunteers via hunger.org/getinvolved/volunteer.

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) is funded in November, the organization said.

Even with the court orders, the USDA said Friday that SNAP benefits could be delayed or onlypartially funded because contingency money will

30TH ANNUAL ELECTION DAY

Spaghetti Supper



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Meal includes: Spaghetti, Bread Sticks, Salad, Dessert

Tuesday, Nov. 4th 4-7 P.M.

All meals \$10.00

Drive-thru OR Dine-in All proceeds To Friends in Need Fund

SERVICES

Ford, Debra: I p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 402 N.

Murphy, Ann: 2 p.m., Zechar Bailey Funeral Home, 1499 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio. Johnson, Lana: 2:30 p.m. Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey.

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

Saturday

Ship St., Portland. Thursday

Animals come out of costumes on holiday

By RICK KOGAN

Chicago Tribune Tribune News Service

CHICAGO — No matter what vou may think (or have heard), dogs and cats can't talk.

Neither can snakes or guinea pigs or any other species of animals that people consider pets. So it is impossible for any of them to tell you what they think of the increasingly popular habit of people dressing them up in costumes for Halloween

This is some of what Maureen Schulman saw on Saturday when she served as one of the judges for the 38th Annual Doggy and Kitty Halloween Party and Costume Parade held in the park to the east of Chicago's Museum of Contemporary

"Three hundred and fifty dogs, and two pairs of cats, dressed to the nines," she said. "There was a Louvre jewel thief with the owner wearing a hat with the museum on top, and her dog, dressed as a thief, dripping in jewels. There was a 'Bark to the Future' complete with a little DeLorean car, a Trader Joe's crew member, and Oscar the Grouch, complete with trash can. A lot of good costumes. Four people dressed as the rapper Pitbull, accompanied by their rescue pit bull

People love dressing up with their animals because, remembers one man who came

Parade in Chicago draws hundreds of pets

let's face it, how often does one get to take one's pet to a party? The atmosphere was so festive that hundreds of pet-less onlookers stood on the museum's sculpture garden balcony and perimeter to cheer on the participants."

She was a judge for the contest, as I had been in years past, and her enthusiasm took me even further back in time because my relationship with costumed pets started decades ago at the bygone Parkview Pet Store. Without any argument, that is where our city's pet costume contests began in the early 1970s. The store was owned by Donna Dunlap, who told me Sunday, "At first we just thought it would be fun and the sort of event that would appeal to kids, so we scheduled it for after school on Halloween day."

The first year, about 15 contestants turned up on a gloomy, chilly Tuesday and, Dunlap remembers, "only three of them were children." But she

with a Mason jar with a goldfish inside and a dog collar and leash around the neck of the jar, and tried to convince her that his entry was an Afghan hound who was dressed as a goldfish.

"Over the years, the event grew," Dunlap said. "We closed part of the street, had a portable stage, sound system and a crowd of hundreds of people cheering their favorite costumes.

For a number of years, I was among the judges, along with such other folks as the late actor Ron Dean, theater producer Jane Sahlins, columnist Mike Royko and many other theaterfolk (Dunlap was deeply tied to the local theater scene).

"Most of the contestants were dogs," said Dunlap. "But there were also cats and gerbils, an occasional iguana, now and then a bird, lots of turtles, once a tarantula. One year, a horse van pulled up, the door was opened, and out trotted a horse dressed as Michael Jack-

favorite. The woman who and owners could be close to owned the horse became a regular, and brought the horse every Halloween after that from a fairly distant suburb. One year, my own personal favorite, she came as a carefully detailed yellow cab."

It was always a great time, a colorful, silly day.

But, as Dunlap told me, "Now and then someone chastised me for degrading dogs by placing them on the stage in costumes. For the record, no one ever spoke to me curtly as to how I was demeaning iguanas. I do not claim to have any clue as to how a snail feels when he is rolling around in a race car pretending he is Mario Andretti. I do know, however, that dogs thrive on learning new things and are eager to experience group activities. I have never seen a dog rip off his costume and eat it. I respect any venture that allows a dog and an owner to join in learning a shared task and to also provide entertainment and camaraderie for a community of neighbors. I see no downside to this.'

Longtime dog owner and trainer Jennifer Boznos agrees, saying, "Donna brought people, and their dogs, together. Parkview was more than a pet store. It was a gathering place for neighborhood pet owners. The best part about the Halloween costume contest was son. An immediate crowd that it was pure fun. The dogs

each other and laugh and admire each other. Today it's all defense and 'Don't let your dog get close to mine! He's not friendly!' In this dog age of ultra reactivity and anxiety medication, we need more Parkview Halloween costume contests.

Parkview closed in the late 1990s. The Halloween pet costume parties stopped. But there is no stopping the trend. The National Retail Federation's annual survey, conducted by Prosper Insights & Analytics, shows that projections for 2025 Halloween spending were more than \$13 billion. Of that, some \$860 million is expected to be spent on pet costumes, with the most popular being pumpkin, hot dog, bat, ghost and bumble-

In the early 1990s, I had a German shepherd named Deadline. The stores had run out of the skeleton costumes I wanted to buy for him to wear to the Parkview contest, so I had to sadly settle for a pair of bright red horns that I affixed to his head and a red cape strapped to his back. He growled and snapped at the lens of a WLS-Ch. 7 camera that was shoved in his face on contest day. That video clip was picked up by other ABC stations around the country. It was his 15 minutes of fame and one of my fondest Halloween memories.

Neighbor passes judgment on seniors

DEAR ABBY: My neighbor is 80. She's my political opposite. She's known me since I was 13. Her husband died 10 or so years ago. All she does all day is stay inside her house (even when it's sunny) and watch TV news. I try to be nice to her because she's alone and probably depressed, but sometimes I want to curse her to high heaven.

I borrowed \$40 from her and told her I'd give it back the next day. Well, I didn't get paid until two days later. I saw her in the driveway the next day, and she angrily asked, "Where's my money?" I told her the story and got it back to her prompt-

We want to check on elderly folks, but sometimes they're nasty and cranky, and I just want to leave her alone. My mom died at 89, and she was NEVER like that. What gives with some of these older people? -NEIGHBOR IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR NEIGHBOR: I'll give vou **your neighbor. You asked to bor-** three of us. At the time, I was bury in 24 hours. When the money she insisted on an answer as the wasn't forthcoming, she became lunch was in a few days. I responded **annoyed and concerned. Stop** that I was "unavailable for the fore-

Dear Abby



one of them reacted when you didn't keep your word, and you will have fewer problems with them.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a middle-aged adult with a dilemma about a friend who lacks social awareness. I had told her in the past that I had a probwith a mutual friend. "Michelle," whom I found toxic and disrespectful of my family. She responded that it was my issue, not Michelle's, so I distanced myself from both of them for a few months.

blaming all seniors for the way seeable future," and for them to

How do I sever this relationship with these clueless women of luxury? If I keep saying I'm unavailable, they'll ask when I WILL be available. To make matters worse, they like to get together for traditional holiday luncheons and dinners with their spouses. I feel drained of energy after I've been in their company. Please help. — PULLING AWAY IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR PULLING AWAY: You have two choices regarding how to handle this. The first is to continue being "busy," and when asked when you will be available, tell them you don't know. The other would be to bite the bullet and tell them that you no longer enjoy those get-togethers and don't want to participate in them anymore.

DEAR READERS: Time really Later, she suddenly texted me for flies! Daylight saving ends at 2 a clue about "what gives" with a lunch she wanted to have with the a.m. Sunday for most folks. If vou are one of them, don't forget row \$40 from a retired senior, ing my mother-in-law and didn't to turn your clocks back one promising to return the money respond immediately. The next day, hour tonight at bedtime. And while you're at it, be sure to put fresh batteries in your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors. - LOVE, ABBY

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Community Calendar

Sudoku

4

3

8

news@thecr.com.

Today

5

3

6

4

2

5

9

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

Community Calendar as a.m. at Zion Evangelical space is available. To sub- Lutheran Church, 218 E. mit an item, email High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

ROAD RIDERS FOR

6

4

6

Notices will appear in MOUS — Will meet at 10 JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIcall (260) 766-2006.

7

Level: Advanced **Friday's Solution**

6

3

2

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

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

ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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,

Monday

589-1121.

PORTLAND BREAK-FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restau-

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

CAREGIVER PORT GROUP meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800)

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.

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It's time to focus on constituents

Indiana Gov. Mike Braun has called a special session of the Indiana Legislature in order to consider the idea of redistricting, out of cycle, in order to game the system in an effort to shift the two Democratic congressional districts in Indiana to attempt to swing them Republican.

As a lifelong Republican, I would certainly like to see more Republican seats held by our party, but is this the right and ethical way to do so? Would it actually have the potential to backfire? And what do the constituents of Indiana think we

Ethically, my partisan view has always been that my party

Letters to the Editor

respect our system of government and that we'd take the high road, tell the truth and respect the voters to affirm or deny our platform. Also, I think most vote for a party because they believe in the underlying principles of the platform. That's true conser-

However, our state elected officials represent the wants and needs of their state, not blindly does things the right way, that we following the whims of the presi-

dent. This action would go against our process and redraw districts already confirmed by the Indiana Republican party at large. It is clearly a violation of the process and is disingenuous, at best.

Secondly, this has the potential to backfire. Looking at Andre Carson's seat in the 7th District, he claimed over 68% of the votes in his district in 2024. The plan would be to try to divide his district and push it to three Republican districts. This means that, in effect, you are pushing a big number of Democratic votes into Republican districts. This could backfire, allowing those districts to be in play, especially if the Democrats would run moderate candidates in areas that would be

made up of many moderate, suburban Republican voters.

Finally, what do the people say? In a poll published by the Indianapolis Star on Oct. 14, only 21% voters agreed we should redraw our districts to offset Democratic efforts to do the same. And 69% said there is no need to spend the time and money (estimated to be over \$500,000) in that effort. The same poll cites that only 29% of Hoosier voters viewed the legislature favorably.

The last session of the legislature produced Senate Enrolled Act 1. This law was widely unpopular, and our elected officials heard significant pushback from local officials but still followed the mandate of our governor and passed the bill. This law has had a *member of Jay County Council*.

tremendous impact on local units of government, and it only gets worse as time goes on.

Further, from my estimation, after studying the facts in front of us, it will cost a vast majority of Jay County residents a significant increase in total taxes going

It's time for our elected officials to listen to their voters, follow the advice of former Gov. Mitch Daniels and do the right thing - not only say no to redistricting, but while you're there go ahead and fix what you have broken in SEA 1 and serve your constituents.

Bryan Alexander

Portland

forward.

Editor's note: Alexander is a

Serve the people, stand up to power

How many of our Indiana legislators will stand strong?

We don't know. But we're

going to find out.

For months, President Donald Trump and other Republicans at the federal level have been pushing some state legislatures, including Indiana's, to redraw congressional districts ahead of the 2026 election cycle. This is an effort to preserve the GOP's narrow majority in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The first such redistricting took place in Republican-leaning Texas. Missouri and North Carolina followed suit.

Now, Democrat-leaning California has joined them with Proposition 50, a ballot issue to redraw Congressional districts.

To be clear, all of this is ridiculous, regardless of

Redistricting is a process we go through every 10 years, after the census is completed. It's done that way to ensure voter representation and to make adjustments based on population shifts.

It should not be done in an attempt to hold on to

We were thrilled on Oct. 22 when Molly Swigart, spokeswoman for the Indicaucus, put out a state right thing.

"The votes aren't there for redistricting," she said. Nonetheless, five days later Indiana Gov. Mike Braun called for a special session to handle redistricting and some tax

By the end of that same day, four more Republicans, including State Sen. Scott Alexander, who represents Randolph and Delaware counties, issued statements supporting redistricting.

"In light of recent events, including the federal government shutdown, and after much thought and consideration, I have decided I will be supporting efforts to redistrict Indiana's congressional districts," Alexander said.

This week, we reached out to other state legislators who represent the voters in our coverage area.

J.D. Prescott, who in August said he opposed redistricting, now says he will support it, provided the maps are fair. He cited other states setting a precedent and said that counting people living in the country illegally gave some states more representation than they should have received. (The U.S. latter.—R.C.

Editorial

Census counts all residents - citizens and noncitizens — living in the country at the time of the census, according to census.gov. That is not new.)

To say we're disappointed in these stances from Prescott and Alexander is an understatement.

At the same time, we are hopeful that those who have not articulated a clear stance on the issue will come down against redistricting.

State Rep. Matt Lehman (R-Berne) and State Sen. Holdman headed and well-respected.

Those qualities give us a

can and Democrat, red and blue, conservative and liberal. This is about integri-

ana Senate Republican must stand up and do the

when there is pressure.

Those are the times when it is even more important to stand strong. Those are the moments that test whether our principles are real or easily

above, it seems especially callous for national elected redistricting and state legislators to be considering it when we are in the midst of a month-long federal government shutdown that affecting Americans, Hoosiers. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, formerly known as food stamps, are projected to run out today.

The though, is poignant.

Are they in office to protect their power, and that of the president?

The Commercial Review is published daily except

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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

1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

to edit for content and clarity.

This isn't about Republi-

Sometimes in life, one

Sometimes it's difficult. That's especially true

bent when it truly matters. Beyond everything

juxtaposition,

Or are they there to serve the people?

We hope they choose the

Markle), who did not respond to our question, could be particularly important in this discussion because of their length of service and leadership roles in the Indiana Statehouse. Both are level-

glimmer of hope.

It's even more difficult when that pressure is coming from the president.

officials to be pushing everyday including

State-level politicians have an important choice



Recognize that this is a bad deal

A COLD SIVAP

By JOHN KRULL

Donald Trump now is teaching

Indiana Republicans a hard lesson about what it means to serve a president who cares only about himself.

Trump and his vice president, and tongs to Hoosier lawmakers in the GOP caucuses to get them to call a special session to conjure up new, gerrymandered maps for the state's nine congressional districts. The president and his unquestioning minions think that rigging the maps might allow Republicans to hold onto the U.S. House of Representatives in next

year's midterm elections. That's important because Trump and — more important — his subordinates fear the congressional investigations into misconduct in the executive branch should Democrats regain control of the House. The president may be somewhat immunized, courtesy of a recent U.S. Supreme Court decision, from prosecution and punishment for malfeasance, but his aides do not enjoy the same protection.

Hoosier Republicans, though, have been reluctant to sign onto Trump's quest to stack the deck.

For at least four good reasons. The first is that the Indiana Constitution has a prohibition against redistricting in the middle of the decade-long census period. Savvy GOP lawmakers — yes, they do still exist — know that any plan they come up with will face an immediate challenge in court, a challenge that has a better-than-even chance

of prevailing. If it does, these Hoosier Republican legislators, many of whom will be on the ballot themselves next year, will have risked alienating the electorate with nothing to show **John** Krull



for their efforts but the legal bills racked up in an ill-advised fight.

Indiana voters won't be able to vent their anger on Trump, who his clickbaity talk of a third term aside — will not grace a ballot again.

But the Hoosier lawmakers will be right there, like a pinata waiting for angry taxpayers to take a whack at. And those voters likely will be

angry. Poll after poll indicates that Hoosiers — whether they be independents, Democrats and even, yes, Republicans — do not want the Indiana General Assembly to rewrite the rules and redraw the maps simply to help Donald Trump steal an election. Indiana voters are smart enough to realize that such redistricting trickery is an attempt to thwart rather than implement their will and will read it as an insult.

Then there's also the possibility that, even if the courts do okay these new maps, they don't work the way they're supposed to.

At present, Republicans control seven of Indiana's nine U.S. House seats.

Overall, Hoosiers offer Republican candidates 55% to 60% of their support, depending upon turnout and other factors. In the seven GOP districts, Republican candidates captured an average of 62% of the vote.

So, there are some GOP votes that could be shifted to try to offset the 68% U.S. Rep. Andre Caron, D-Indiana, and the 53% U.S. Rep. Frank Mrvan, D-Indiana, rolled up in cen-

tral and northwestern Indiana. respectively. Political professionals skilled at

this sort of thing tell me it's possible to draw maps that result in an 8-1 or even 9-0 Republican congressional delegation. But they also tell me that the mar-

gin for error involved is much smaller than they're comfortable with.

If there's any miscalculation, instead of ending up with nine or even eight Republicans going to Congress, the result could be that only six, five or even four of them win.

Particularly if the electorate is disaffected by blatant political chi-The last reason Hoosier Republi-

cans have been slow to climb aboard this particular Trump train is probably the most important. There's nothing in it for them. What the president asks is for

Indiana GOP lawmakers to run all the risks and bear all the costs of creating new maps and possibly enraging voters — and he's offering them nothing in return, other than the possibility that he might not punish them for not doing his bid-

Even the Republican legislators who aren't the sharpest knives in the drawer — and, yes, there are those, too — are smart enough to recognize a bad deal when they see one. Donald Trump once published a

book — there's no evidence that he actually read, much less wrote any of it — called "The Art of the Deal."

To his credit, though, he never claimed it was a good deal. For anyone but him, that is.

Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouse-File.com, a news website powered by

Franklin College journalism stu-

The Commercial Review a



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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2025

VOLUME 151–NUMBER 130

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114 CRYPTOQUIP

H CEOD DT WGEQ ZTKG LGX

BEVDY EATPD EVDTO BGNSKEO.

APD HISTOID OGGS DI LOTC

DWG VIQGX SGDERXZ

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I JUST GOT A REALLY STRONG FEELING THAT I'VE VISITED THIS HAUNTED HOUSE BEFORE IT'S DIJA BOO.

Today's Cryptoquip Chie: Sicquals D.

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

They're the leaders

1) Killed in 1533 by Pizarro, Atahualpa was the leader of what people?

2) Who coached the Indiana Pacers from 1997 through 2000?

1) The Incas 2) Larry Bird

11-3 CRYPTOQUIP

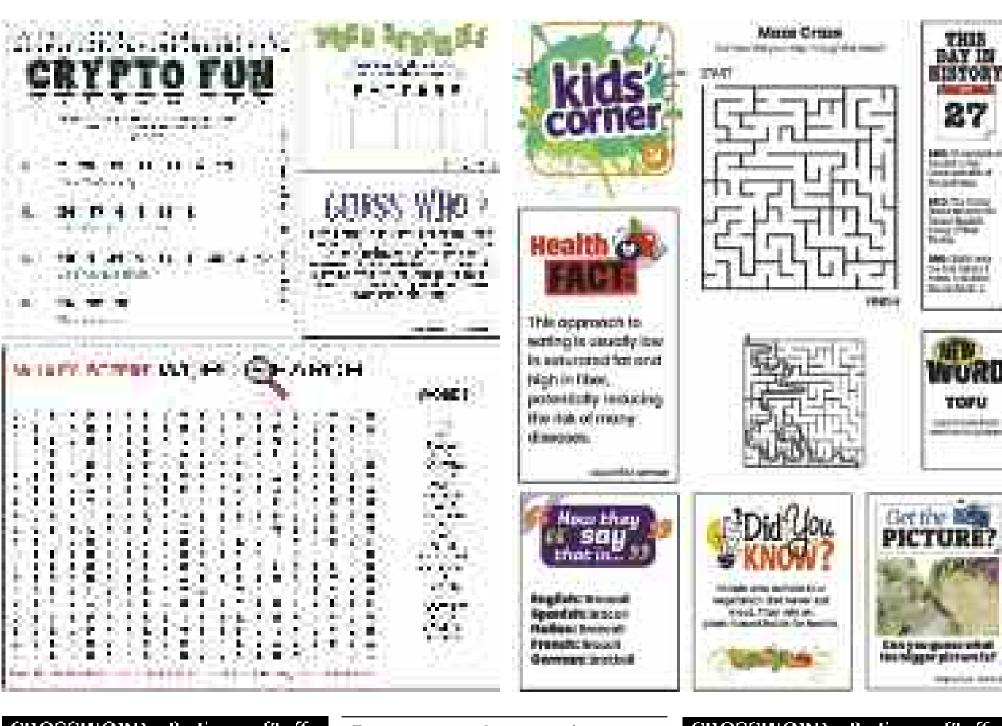
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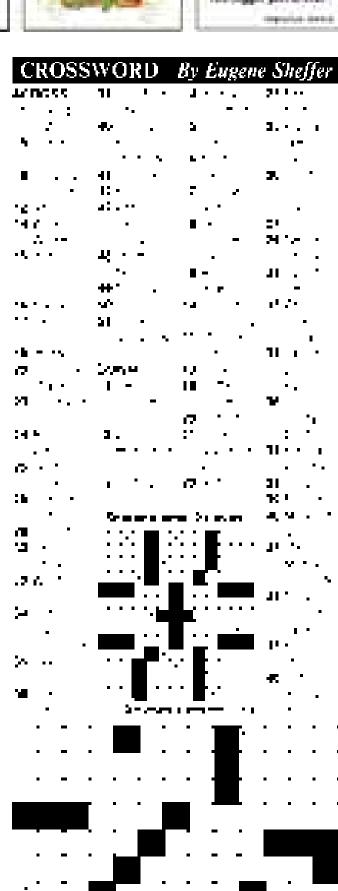
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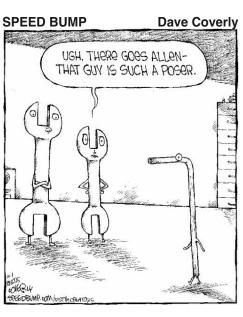
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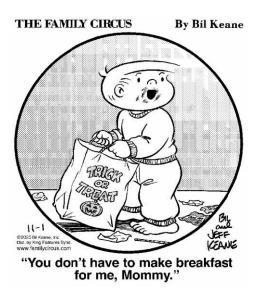


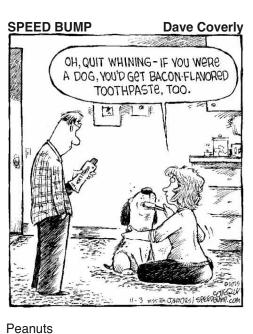


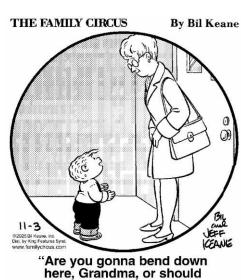












I just hug your legs?'











SOUNDS

LIKEA

PLAN

YES, MA'AM, I'M ALL
READY FOR THE TEST

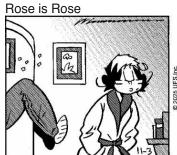
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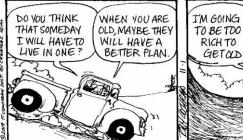






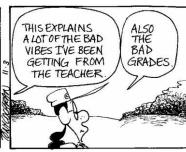


















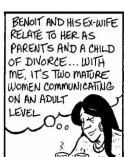














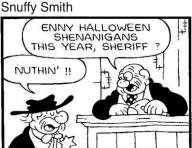






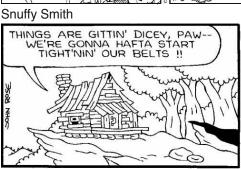
























Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

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90 SALE CALENDAR

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS AUCTION

Evening Optimists of Portland, Saturday, November 1st, 10:00am-?. Smitley's Auction House, 119 E Main, Portland. Door prizes every hour. Items in Auction: Miscellaneous, personal, household items, gift certificates and food items. All new! Proceeds to fund Optimist projects and Christmas families. Sandwiches, pies, drinks to purchase. Lacey Smitley will be the auctioneer. AU10600051



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

90 SALE CALENDAR

LAND AUCTION MONDAY DECEMBER 1st, 2025 5:00 P.M. LOCATED: CR 100 N. 6.5 MILES E OF HWY 27. PORTLAND, IN **REAL ESTATE** 96.6 Acres in Section 16, Noble Twp. Jay County, Indiana. Tract 1: 76 +/- Acres

with frontage on County Road 100 N. Tract 2: 20 +/- Acres Wooded with Access via a 25' Lane from County Road 100 N Wooded Acreage in Classified

with 68 Acres Tillable

Forest. Tract 3: Combination of Tracts

1 and 2. Note: Tillable Acreage does have some tile but not systematically drained. More acreage can be made tillable. Very desirable Farm in a great location! OWNERS:

Jeffrey V & Agnes M Smith. Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-

EERING AND REAL

ESTATE AC31800004 **AUCTIONEERS** Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587

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 semiautomatic pistol; Hi-Point Model C9 - 9mm luger semi-automatic pistol, LARGE SELEC-TION 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 asher: Delco tool car 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 GLAS-GOW Loy Auction

AC#31600027 Auctioneers

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jav County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland,

Saturday Morning NOVEMBER 8, 2025 9:30 A.M.

ANTIQUES - OLD & **COLLECTORS ITEMS-**MODERN HOUSE-**HOLD GOODS-TOOLS** Ashley large dining table with 5 chairs and 1 bench; L shaped sofa; leather chair with ottoman; GE Profile dryer; stove and double

oven combo; oriental design floor rugs; fire dog statue; mantel clock; ; fire extinguisher lamp:

John Deere pedal tractor; pedal fire truck; several Longaberger baskets; Hartford City HS ìRetroî yearbooks; large selection of Art pottery; candle molds; large tent; three shade awning:

fireman collectibles and accessories; Brandon Holtz mens golf club set; patio heater; fishing lures: tackle boxes: pocket knives; hammers: wrenches: tool boxes; shepherd's

hooks; and other items not listed. **AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** Ricker was the Indiana State Fire Marshal for several years and he and his wife recently moved to Northern Indiana. Dan was a longtime attorney in Piqua Ohio and have sold their home and are moving. Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day. Visit auc-

STABLE and DAN & LINDA RAMER Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112

tion zip for photos.

RICKEY & PATTY CON-

Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY NOVEM-BER 1st, 2025

TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 7928 W 600 S. Redkey, IN TRACTORS - VEHI-**CLES - BULLDOZER** JD 5300 MFWD w/ JD 540 Loader 4,000 Hours. Agco Aliss 8785 Tractor w/ CHA. 2016

Chevy Equinox LT w/ 23,900 Miles. 2011 Cadillac Escalade w/ 84,300 Miles, Ditch Witch 330 Trencher w/ Front Blade.

FARM EQUIPMENT -SHOP EQUIPMENT Rhino 1,000 7' Power Angle 3pt Blade. International 3pt 4 Bottom Plow. Parker 165 Bushel Hopper Wagon, Metal Fence Posts. Suitcase Fuel Tank. Reddy

Weights. 500 Gallon Heater. Paint Sprayer. Wheelbarrow. Lawn Sweeper, Lawn Roller, Shop, Hand, and Lawn and Garden Tools. ANTIQUES - HOUSE-

HOLD Horse Drawn Buggy. Lard Press. Feed Cart. Vanity w/ Stool. Old Cameras. 2 Drawer Marble Top Table. (2) Horse Saddles, Chair w/ Ottoman, Indiana Glassware. Cast Iron Skillets. Portable Type Writer. Christmas Decorations. And Other Alike Items. OWNER: Ernest F Fugiett, Deceased, by Edna

Louise Fugiett Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-**EERING AND REAL**

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Notice of Petition for Change of Name STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE Jay County Circuit COURT IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:

CAUSE NO. 38C01-2510-MI-25 Leah Tinsman Petitioner NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Leah Tinsman whose mailing address is: Dunkirk IN 47336 and if different, my residence address is: in the Jay County, Indiana, hereby gives notice that Leah Tinsman has filed a petition in the Court requesting that her name be changed to Leah Fields. Notice is further given that the hearing will be held on said Petition on December 2, 2025 at 10:00 am.

Leah Tinsman, Petitioner Date Clerk CR 10-18,25,11-1-2025- HSPAXLP

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LAND AUCTION LOCATED: CR 100 N, 6.5 MILES E

OF HWY 27. PORTLAND, IN **MONDAY** DECEMBER 1ST, 2025

5:00 P.M.

REAL ESTATE

96.6 Acres in Section 16, Noble Twp. Jay County, Indiana.

Tract 1: 76 +/- Acres with 68 Acres Tillable with frontage on County Road 100 N.

Tract 2: 20 +/- Acres Wooded with Access via a 25' Lane from County Road 100 N. Wooded Acreage in Classified Forest.

Tract 3: Combination of Tracts 1 and 2. Note: Tillable Acreage does have some tile but not systematically drained. More acreage can be made

tillable. Very desirable Farm in a great location! NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more

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

OWNERS: Jeffrey V & Agnes M Smith

STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL

ESTATE

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More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com CRNG 11-1,15NG 11-4,18 NT 11-5,19, RB 11-11,25-2025

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning

NOVEMBER 8, 2025

REAL ESTATE ANTIQUES - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS - TOOLS

Ashley large dining table with 5 chairs and 1 bench; L shaped sofa; leather chair

with ottoman; recliners; Willet Wildwood solid Cherry full size bedroom suit; sleeper sofa; end and coffee tables; Oak roll top desk with chair; Frigidaire refrigerator; GE Profile dryer; stove and double oven combo; Welbilt microwave; high top table with 4 matching chairs; bookcase; Victorian table; 2 pc. china hutch; dining room table with extra leaf and 4 chairs; oriental design floor rugs; Oak drophead secretary; sofa; loveseat; electric sofa recliner; Vizio flatscreen TV; grandfather clock; bookshelves; Samsung TV; Kenmore dishwasher; (2) dressers with handkerchief drawers and mirror; glass top table with 3 stools; Sharp TV; Champ eliptical; several parlor lamps; pictures; fire dog statue; mantel clock; lava lamp; fire extinguisher lamp; Pro Form treadmill; metal file cabinets; fans; pitcher & bowl with stand; electric skillet; glass top coffee table; chest of drawers; pictures; paintings; TV stand; Oak coffee table; wall clock; treadmill; luggage; desk; mirrors; pictures; metal high top table with 2 bar chairs; table with 6 chairs; Evolution bicycle; porcelain sink; food processor; desk; luggage; skillets; John Deere pedal tractor; pedal fire truck; several Longaberger baskets; dolls; Fiesta pitcher and glasses; glove molds; Shawnee Puss N Boots set; Czech porcelain urns; wooden Noah's Ark with animals, artist signed; Poland Art Glass; large amount of costume jewelry; Carnival Swing vase; Art Glass swans; Westmoreland; Fenton; Nippon; several quilt tops; Lenox angels; linens; quilts; bisquit jars; Hartford City HS "Retro" yearbooks; glass animals; RS Prussia; RS Germany; ladies gloves; hook rugs; bedspreads; commode; jewelry cabinet; Roseville; IH metal sign; hand blown margarita set; History of Pharmacy prints; Fontanini Christmas Village; Bavaria; Weller pot; Limoges; large selection of Art pottery; candle molds; large tent; three shade awning; kitchen stool; milk can; Carnival Glass; glass baskets; tea pots; toaster; power cooker; Jim Beam 1957 Bel Air and Corvette decanters; fireman collectibles and accessories; CD's; file cabinets; Pelican cases; drying rack; office chairs; Coleman lanterns; hall tree; records; bird cage; quilt stand; Homer Laughlin set of dishes; lighthouses; Christmas decorations; Halloween blow molds; infrared heater; LL Bean life vest; LL Bean foot waders; LL Bean cot; kids pool; Brandon Holtz mens golf club set; patio heater; metal shelving units; foldable camping chairs; plastic chests; Snap On 2000 PSI pressure washer; fiberglass step ladder; rake; shovels; circular saw; leaf blower; assorted hand and garden tools; fence posts; Stanley Fat Max tool cases; fishing lures; tackle boxes; pocket knives; hammers; wrenches; tool boxes; shepherd's hooks; and other

items not listed. AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is a very clean auction with a wide range of nice items. Ricker was the Indiana State Fire Marshal for several years and he and his wife recently moved to Northern Indiana. Dan was a longtime attorney in Piqua Ohio and have sold their home and are moving. Please note that we will

be running 2 rings a portion of the day. Visit auction zip for photos. RICKEY & PATTY CONSTABLE and DAN & LINDA RAMER

LOY AUCTION AC#31600027 **AUCTIONEERS**

Gary Loy AU 01031608 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Travis Theurer AU 11200131 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

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www.thecr.com Page 8 **The Commercial Review**

FR cruises past Lions

No. 10 Indians score win in tourney opener

By ANDREW BALKO The Commercial Review

CINCINNATI — The last time Wes Wenning was repping purple in the OHSAA football playoffs, he was helping lift up the state championship trophy.

Ten years later, he picked up right where he left off, leading the Indians to a fast victory over the

The 10th-ranked but 12th-seeded Fort Recovery High School football team ran out to a quick 20 points en route to a 34-8 victory over the No. 5 seed Cincinnati College Preparatory Academy Lions in the OHSAA Division VII Regional 28 opener at Finneytown Secondary Campus on

The victory earns the Indians (6-5) a matchup with No. 4 seed Eastern on Nov. 7.

"We started fast and started physical, and really proud of the way we came out," Wenning said. "We handled that business in the first half as we expected. The kids executed the game plan.
"Overall, I would like to have

seen us play clean in the second half and like to see us finish more offensively and defensively. But allin-all, a week 11 victory and very satisfied."

The last time Wenning participated in an OHSAA playoff football game as an Indian, he worked as a wide receiver on the state champion team in 2015. In just his first year coaching the Indians, he got them back into the playoffs as the final seed and led them to a vic-

"It's tremendous momentum for our guys," Wenning said. "To make it through this brutal schedule that we have, fighting every week to squeak out making it to week 11 and then taking care of business and having a 12th week, it's just tremendous momentum for the

The Tribe got off to a strong start, eating up 7 minutes, 40 seconds, with a 14-play, 50-yard drive for an opening score.

FRHS faced an early fourth-and-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School backup quarterback Braylon Dilworth throws a pass during the Tribe's 34-8 victory over the fifth-seeded Cincinnati College Preparatory Lions on Friday. The Indians built a 27-0 lead at halftime of the OHSAA Division VII Regional 28 opener on Friday, allowing the second- and third-string units to play a majority of the third and all the fourth quarter.

3, but Alex Gaerke found Brody Barga for a 10-yard pass to keep the drive alive. The Indians continued to march down the field before Breaker Jutte punched in a 1-vard rush for a score.

After a three-and-out by the Lions (8-3), Gaerke and Jutte took immediate advantage with a 48yard touchdown pass to go up 14-0.

"First of all there's a size advantage," the 6-foot, 5-inch Jutte said. "So just giving me the ball let me blow through those

"Then on that big pass play, they just overplayed a little bit and I got wide open. That was pretty huge for us.

On the following kickoff, none of the Lions came in to grab the ball while Isaac Roessner raced in to recover it for Fort Recovery at the 18-yard line.

'My responsibility on kickoff is to be the first one down the field," Roessner said. "Watching film this week, I'd seen in a past game against Stivers, they did the same thing where they kind of just let the ball go and let the other team pick it up and recover it. I saw that happening and thought, 'OK, this is my opportu-

Six plays later, Jutte got a boost from Ray Grube to score his third touchdown of the first quarter. (The following 2-point attempt failed, giving FRHS a 20-0 lead.)

After another three-and-out for the Lions, Gaerke found Reece Wendel for a 51-yard touchdown.

Gaerke scored the final touchdown for Fort Recovery with a 40yard keeper with 9:38 remaining in the third period.

While the Lions ended with more yards from scrimmage they had 232 to Fort Recovery's 217 they only scored in the fourth quarter after the game had long since been decided. Along with keeping CCPA away from the end zone, the Tribe defense forced five turnovers, including four intercep-

Box score

No. 10 Fort Recovery Indians (6-5) at Cincinnati College Prep Lions

> Regional 28 Opening round

CC Prep

20 7 7 0 — 34 0 0 0 8 — 8

First Quarter FR - Breaker Jutte 1 run (Alex

Gaerke kick), 4:20. Jutte 48 pass from Gaerke (Gaerke kick), 2:37 FR — Jutte 6 run (pass fail), 0:22.

Second Ouarter Reece Wendel 51 pass from Gaerke (Gaerke kick), 9:52.

Third Quarter FR — Gaerke 40 run (Gaerke

kick), 9:07. **Fourth Ouarter**

CCP — Jermaine Ramsey 1 run (Marian Robertson run), 7:53.

Team Statistics

icum otation				
	FR	CCP		
Rushes - yds	36-88	14-35		
Comp-Att-Int	7-12-1	20-35-4		
Passing yds	129	197		
Total Plays	48	49		
Total Offense	217	232		
Punt ret - yds	1-1	1-32		
Kickoff ret - yds	2-45	3-30		
Sacks - yds lost	0-0	0-0		
Ints - yds	4-56	1-5		
Fumbles - lost	3-2	2-1		
Penalties - yds	6-65	8-70		

Rushing — Fort Recovery — Alex Gaerke 5-38, Reece Wendel 10-28, Breaker Jutte 6-25, Brody Hart 3-4, Brady Evers 3-2, Braylon Rammel 2-0, Troy Post 1-(-2), Braylon Dilworth 5-(-3), Isaac Roessner 1-(-4). Cincinnati College Prep — Jermaine Ramsey 3-19, Marian Robertson 6-16, Eries Evans 1-0, Kemmarion McCray 4-0.

Passing — Fort Recovery Gaerke 5-10-1 108, Dilworth 2-2-0 21. Cincinnati College Prep — McCray 20-33-3 197, Evans 0-2-1

Receiving — Fort Recovery — Wendel 1-51, Jutte 2-49, Brody Barga 2-20, Post 1-11, Roessner 1-(-2). Cincinnati College Prep — Kendrick Napier 8-119, Mario Meatchem 4-32. Sir Michael Miller 4-29, Martavion Evans 1-11, Ramik Bell 2-4, Deon Campbell 1-

Box score

No. 6 Mississinewa Indians (10-1) at Jay County Patriots (4-7)

Class 3A Sectional 28

22 7 0 — 36 0 0 7 — 7 Miss

M — Ah'lijah Monday 1 run (Seth Yoder kick), 4:32.

Second Quarter M — Jacob Schwartz 1 run (Kallen Quaderer run), 10:13.

— Monday 7 run (Yoder kick), 7:07. 1 — Quaderer 20 pass from Schwartz (Yoder kick), 1:50.

Third Quarter Levi Crandall 85 kickoff

return (Yoder kick), 11:45. **Fourth Quarter**

Laux 14 pass from Fugiett (Jacoby Penrod kick), 3:49.

Team Statistics					
	M	JC			
Rushes - yds	23-147	21-34			
Comp-Att-Int	7-11-0	9-16-1			
Passing yds	87	78			
Total Plays	34	37			
Total Offense	234	112			
Punt ret - yds	2-32	0-0			
Kickoff ret - yds	1-85	5-81			
Sacks - yds lost	0-0	1-2			
Punts - yds	1-42	5-170			
Ints - yds	1-10	0-0			
Fumbles - lost	2-0	0-0			
Penalties - yds	3-35	6-55			

Individual Statistics Rushing — Mississinewa — Ah'li-

jah Monday 13-104, Levi Crandall 6-34, Jacob Schwartz 2-5, Brody Hammond 2-4. Jay County — Nick Laux 5-14, Garrett Bennett 10-13, Brady Jetmore 1-5, Leighton Brown 3-2, Bryan Fields 1-2 Carter Fugiett 1-(-2).

Passing — Mississinewa — Jacob Schwartz 7-11-0 87. Jay County — Nick Laux 8-14-1 64, Carter Fugiett 1-2-0 14.

Receiving — Mississinewa — Kallen Quaderer 5-55, Merrick Mobley 1-18, Levin Crandall 1-10,
Da Vion Speikes 1-6. Jay County
— Carter Fugiett 4-44, Aiden
Phillips 2-10, Nick Laux 1-14, Grant Wendel 1-4.

Trick play TD gives seniors a proper send-off

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

There weren't many moments the Patriots will be eager to recall.

The sixth-ranked team in the state took care of business, rolling out to a fourtouchdown lead in the first half and punctuating their victory with a kickoff return for a TD to start the second and trigger a running clock.

Still, there was an opportunity to make one more memory.

A reverse wide receiver pass resulted in Carter Fugiett connecting with Nick Laux for a 14-yard touchdown to close their careers.

While there were plenty of tears after the Jay County High School football team's season ended with a 36-7 Class 3A Sectional 28 semifinal loss to the Mississinewa Indians, the seniors were left with something to grin about.

"It was awesome," said Fugiett, who split double coverage for a 33-yard reception from Laux earlier in the drive. "You know, coach put all of us seniors in for our last moment of our high school career — of not only our high school



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Nick Laux of Jay County High School 36-7 sectional loss Friday to Mississinewa.

in general. I mean, it was awesome getting in there with my buds that I've known forever. And being able to complete that pass

down of the game was awesome.'

The game was long over

catches a touchdown pass from senior classmate Carter Fugiett in the fourth quarter of the Patriots'

career, but playing football to Nick for the only touch-

when the Patriots (4-7) faced fourth-and-7 with the 4:45 remaining. They decided to have some fun.

Laux, the team's senior quarterback, took the snap and pitched the ball to his left to Grant Wendel, who ran right and then pitched the ball again to Fugiett. Instead of running the reverse, Fugiett pulled up to pass and had Laux wide open heading for the end zone. Two weeks after running in the game-winning 2-point conversion in a thrilling comeback victory over Heritage, he could only think one thing.

"Don't drop it,"

He didn't, hauling in the pass as he crossed the goal line on the final offensive play of his career.

"We wanted our seniors to go out with a good moment," said Jay County coach Eddie Fields. "It was a moment that we thought we could show the kids that we love 'em and wanted to send them out with something positive and fun."

The memorable moment came after Mississinewa (10-1) completely controlled the game, scoring on each of its first four possessions before Seth

ball on the 14-yard line and Yoder was wide right on a 39-yard field goal attempt to end the first half. Its defense forced four threeand-outs and ended the other Patriot possession with an interception.

Already up 29-0 — Ah'lijah Monday had two of the Indians' TDs and 104 yards on 13 carries — they got an 85-yard kickoff return from Levi Crandall to open the second half and start the running clock.

Jay County managed just 112 yards of total offense, averaging 1.6 yards per carry on the ground.

"For us, that was a good game, start to finish," said Mississinewa coach Jeremy Lochner, whose team advances to play Bishop Luers in the sectional championship for the second straight season. The Knights, who won last season's sectional final on the way to the state championship game, rolled to a 45-12 victory over Norwell in its semifinal game Friday. "We struggled starting off games. And this was a game that we finally came out, played like we could, took care of business."

Sports on tap

Local schedule **Today**Fort Recovery — Volleyball regional

final vs. St. Henry at Northmont – 12 p.m. Tuesday

Jay County — Girls basketball scrim-

TV schedule

mage at Huntington North - 6 p.m.

Today 11 a.m. — Premier League soccer:

Burnley at Arsenal FC (USA) 12 p.m. — College football: Vanderbilt at Texas (ABC): Penn State at Ohio State (FOX); Rutgers at Illinois (NBC); Miami at

SMU (ESPN); West Virginia at Houston

(FS1); Army at Air Force (CBS); Navy at North Texas (ESPN2)

1 p.m. — College football: Arizona State at Iowa State (TNT)

2 p.m. — Horse racing: Breeders' Cup Championships (USA)

3:30 p.m. — College football: Geogrgia at Florida (ABC); Indiana at Maryland (CBS); Michigan State at Minnesota (BTN); Notre Dame at Boston College (ESPN); Texas Tech at Kansas State (FOX); Fresno State at Boise State (FS1) 3:30 p.m. — Horse racing: Breeders'

Cup Championships (NBC) 3:45 p.m. — College football: Virginia at Cal (ESPN2)

4 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Liverpool FC at Aston Villa (USA) 7 p.m. — College football: South Carolina at Ole Miss (ESPN): Purdue at Michigan (BTN); Arizona at Colorado (FS1) 7 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors

at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana) 7 p.m. — Horse racing: Breeders' Cup Championships (USA)

7:30 p.m. — College football: Oklahoma at Tennessee (ABC); USC at Nebraska (NBC); Washington State at Oregon State (CBS); Georgia Tech at N.C. State (ESPN2)

- MLB World Series: Los Ange 8 p.m. les Dodgers at Toronto Blue Jays (FOX) 10:15 p.m. — College football: Cincinnati at Utah (ESPN)

8:30 a.m. — New York Marathon

West Ham United at Newcastle United (USA) 11:30 a.m. — Horse racing: America's

9 a.m. — Premier League soccer

Day at the Races (FS1) 12 p.m. — College volleyball: Wiscon

sin at Ohio State (BTN) 1 p.m. - NFL: Indianapolis Colts at Pittsburgh Steelers (CBS); Minnesota Vikings at Detroit Lions (FOX)

1 p.m. — College volleyball: Kentucky at Texas (ESPN) 1:40 p.m. — Figure Skating Grand Prix (NBC)

3 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series Cham-

2 p.m. — College volleyball: Oregon at les FC (FS1) Nebraska (BTN) 3 p.m. — College volleyball: Texas A&M at Tennessee (ESPN)

pionship (NBC) 3 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Kansas City

Current at San Diego Wave (ESPN) 4 p.m. — College volleyball: Indiana at

Penn State (BTN) 4:25 p.m. — NFL: Kansas City Chiefs

at Buffalo Bills (CBS)

5 p.m. — NHRA: Nevada Nationals 5 p.m. — NWSL soccer: North Caroli-

na Courage at Gotham FC (ESPN) 8:20 p.m. — NFL: Seattle Seahawks at Washington Commanders (NBC) 8:30 p.m. — MLS: Austin at Los Ange-

Sunderland at Everton (USA)

Monday
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer:

lanova at BYU (TNT)

10:30 p.m. — College basketball:

6:30 p.m. — College basketball:

7 p.m. - NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at

7 p.m. - College basketball: Flori

8:15 p.m. — NFL: Arizona Cardinals

8:30 p.m. — College basketball:

9:30 p.m. — College basketball: Vil-

Oakland at Michigan (FS1); Jackson

Quinnipiac at St. John's (FS1); Coppin

State at Maryland (BTN)

at Dallas Cowboys (ABC)

State at Illinois (BTN)

da at Arizona (TNT)

Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)

Eastern Washington at UCLA (BTN) 10:30 p.m. — MLS: Seattle

Sounders at Minnesota United (FS1)