

Grant awarded for food help

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

With the status of federal food benefits in limbo, more local help is on the way.

The Portland Foundation announced Monday in a news release that it is awarding a \$50,000 grant to United Way of Jay County to help address food insecurity while Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are unavailable.

“The Portland Founda-

United Way of Jay County will get \$50,000 over four weeks

tion is happy to be able to assist the community in its time of need,” said foundation executive director Doug Inman in a news release. “The generosity of the countless donors who have given to the Foundation over the past seventy-four years allows us to award this grant.”

The foundation will distribute \$12,500 per week for four weeks if the federal government shutdown, which has now stretched for more than a month, continues. The funding will be used to acquire food, which will then be

distributed to food pantries in the community.

United Way of Jay County issued a news release later Monday thanking The Portland Foundation and requesting donations from the community. Any funds collected will go to Second Harvest Food Bank to purchase food for Jay County food pantries and extra food tailgate distributions, if needed.

Donations can be made at unitedwayjaycounty.org, by dropping off checks at the United Way office in John Jay Center for Learning or sending checks to United Way of Jay County, P.O. Box 204, Portland, IN 47371. (“FOOD” should be indicated in the memo line.) For more information, call (260) 729-7010.

SNAP benefits, previously known as food stamps, were cut off Saturday. (The federal government had warned that states would not later be reimbursed if they did so.)

See **Grant** page 2

Division launched

US Aggregates unifies its industrial mineral operations at Portland and Cloverdale locations under Utilimin brand

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

US Aggregates has launched a new industrial minerals division.

One of the sites involved is in Portland.

US Aggregates announced the launch of Utilimin, which brings its industrial minerals sites in Portland and Cloverdale together under a unified brand.

“The launch of Utilimin reflects US Aggregates’ commitment to innovation and customer success,” said US Aggregates president Caleb Brown in a news release. “Utilimin’s products are reliable, versatile and built to perform. They are engineered to help manufacturers, builders and innovators maintain consistency, reduce downtime and meet their needs.”

In 2021, Portland Board of Zoning Appeals granted US Aggregates a special exception to allow mining on about 108 acres of property between county road 100 South and Tyson Road, just east of county road 200 West. It was part of a months-long process during which the company faced vocal opposition from residents in the area who cited concerns about potential damage from blasting, home values, dust and traffic. The company agreed to various stipulations, including providing compensation for adjacent homeowners loss of home value attributed to the quarry and setting allowed

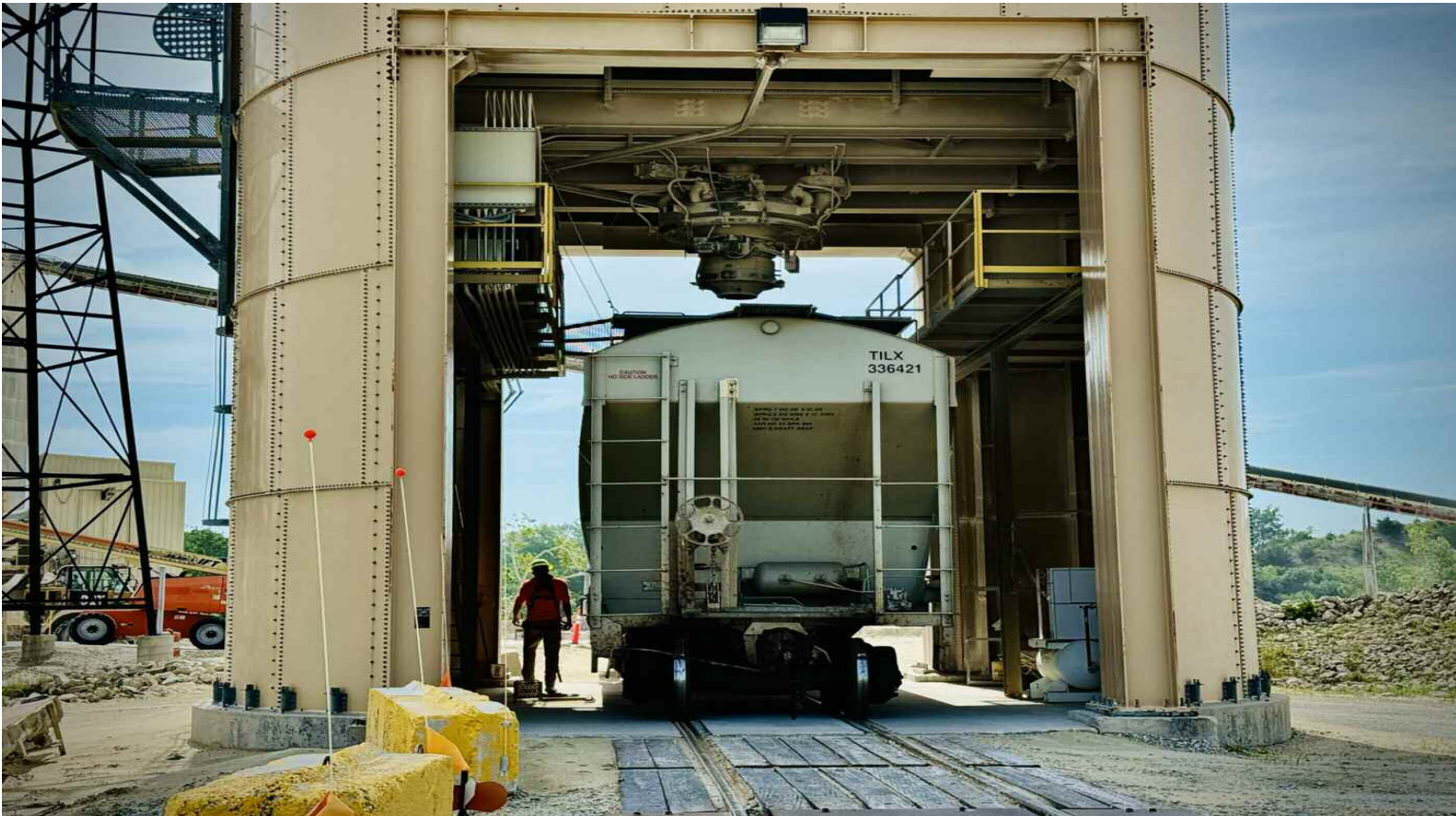


Photo provided

US Aggregates recently announced the launch of Utilimin, its new industrial minerals division that will bring its sites in Portland and Cloverdale under a single brand. The Portland site (pictured above) utilizes rail, which allows it to ship its industrial minerals across the U.S.

hours for operation and blasting before receiving approvals from Portland Plan Commission and Portland City Council.

At that time, the company said it planned to invest more than \$10 million to expand the quarry and that the new site would add another 30 years of operation.

“I really feel like this is just a normal progression of the vision that we casted when we were going through the rezoning,” said business development manager Eric Reynolds during an interview Friday. “I feel like this is the culmination of all of that.”

“It shows that the company is committed and focused on keeping this location going for now and for many years,” he added.

The company had initially planned to move quickly into the 108 acres, but that process slowed a bit as it opened up a “wedge piece” of property. Reynolds said that is likely a 5-to-7-year process.

See **Division** page 2

Trump issues warning

By MARIA PAULA MIJARES TORRES
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

President Donald Trump threatened possible U.S. military action against Islamist militants in Nigeria if the country’s government doesn’t halt the groups’ “killing of Christians.”

President cautions that U.S. may respond with military action in Nigeria

In a post Saturday on Truth Social, Trump said he’s instructing the Pentagon “to prepare for possible action” and threatened an immediate cutoff in aid to Nigeria, an OPEC member that’s Africa’s most populous country.

Trump said on Friday he was designating Nigeria a Country of Particular Concern because of worries about the safety of Christians in the country. Republican Senator Ted Cruz has been pushing for Con-

gress to designate Nigeria as a violator of religious freedom.

Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu rejected Trump’s characterization of the country as religiously intolerant in a lengthy post on X. The U.S. president is disregarding “the consistent and sincere efforts of the government to safeguard freedom of religion and beliefs for all Nigerians,” Tinubu said on the social media site.

Tinubu has been under pressure this year from a

rising Islamist insurgency in northeastern Nigeria, including attacks on dozens of fortified army bases. Nigeria’s roughly 230 million people are split between Christians and Muslims, and attacks have targeted both communities.

The militants, who emerged from the insurgency known as Boko Haram, have waged bombings, kidnappings and raids on towns and villages since 2009, displacing hundreds of thousands of people and disrupting daily life.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Cool treat

Scarlett Eastman, 4, Portland, picks out some candy from the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition stop during Friday’s Jay County Chamber of Commerce Merchant Trick-or-Treat in Portland. Eastman was dressed as Elsa from the Disney movie “Frozen.”

Deaths

Christina Hicks, 41, Portland
Stephen Moore, 65, Redkey
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 54 degrees Sunday. The low was 34.
Tonight’s low will be in the upper 40s with winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Expect mostly sunny skies Wednesday with a high in the upper 60s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Town of Pennville is flushing fire hydrants this week. Residents should be aware that water may be discolored while flushing is underway.

Coming up

Wednesday — Details from this week’s Portland City Council meeting.
Thursday — Preview of the FRHS football team’s regional quarterfinal.
Friday — A look at the history of the Delta Theta Tau craft show.

7 18122 00780 6

Obituaries

Christina Hicks
Dec. 16, 1983-Oct. 30, 2025

Christina A. Hicks, age 41, of Portland passed away on Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

She was born in Indianapolis on Dec. 16, 1983, the daughter of Edward and Judith (Armantrout) Hicks.

Christina had worked for Walmart, Crowne, FCC and Tyson. She was a 2003 Jay County High School graduate and participated in basketball, softball, track and cross country. She coached T-ball and was an avid Indiana University and Indianapolis Colts fan.

Surviving are her parents Edward and Judith Hicks of Portland; one brother, Edward Hicks of Portland; one sister, Amanda Fisher-Hicks of Win-



chester; nieces and nephew Blake Iliff, Alivia Iliff, Abigail Fisher and Addison Fisher; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services will be Friday, Nov. 7, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Flint Redwine presiding. Burial will follow in the Antioch Cemetery.

Visitation will be Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be directed to the family.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Stephen Moore
Jan. 21, 1960-Oct. 29, 2025

Stephen Randall Moore, loving husband, father, papaw and a pillar of his community, passed away Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2025, at the age of 65, surrounded by love in the comfort of his home.

Steve was born in Portland on Jan. 21, 1960, a son of the late Rev. Myrl L Moore and Madonna (Straley) Moore. He was a 1978

graduate of Jay County High School.

Steve was employed by Pride-mark Construction Company and a member of the Indiana Construction Union. Steve embodied determination and passion pursuing various technical fields and mastering skills such as taxidermy, arrowhead making, blacksmithing, riding and repairing dirt bikes and four-wheelers, and many other hobbies. Steve was an avid outdoorsman and loved hunting, fishing, trapping and off-road-ing.

Steve taught all of his kids and grandkids the love and skills needed for all of these hobbies and the love for nature. Steve's love for family, nature, faith and helping others had a profound impact on those who knew him. Steve was devoted to his family and faith, reading his Bible daily.

He was the loving husband of Alesia Gail (Beaty) Moore, “Chicky” to Steve, who he happi-

ly married Dec. 22, 1979. He is also survived by his son Nathan Moore (Ashley Storie); two daughters, Brandy Daniels (Josh Hammers) and Mandy Bonvillian (Nick Bonvillian); brother Wayne Moore (Judy); two sisters, Brenda (Moore) Edmonds and Judy (Moore) Retter (Barry Retter); seven grandkids, Jordan (Allyssa), Ashten (Macy), Abbi, Tristan (Gracie), Teegan, Marlee and Grayson; two great-grand-kids, Jonah and Ellie; another precious great-grandson on the way; and several special nieces and nephews. Steve also leaves behind to cherish his memory a vast network of extended family, friends and coworkers. Among those are special sister-in-law, Billie Hammond; special sister-in-law, Jenny Moore; and special uncle Bob and aunt Alisha Miller.

He was preceded in death by parents the Rev. Myrl and Madonna (Straley) Moore; brother Terry Moore; a very special aunt Arline Straley; nephew

Timothy Edmonds; and brother-in-law Kirby Edmonds.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 29, 2025, from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Redkey Church of the Nazarene.

In lieu of flowers, Steve requested donations be made to Freedom Hunt Inc., an Indiana organization for special needs kids to learn hunting, fishing and camping. Please donate at freedomhunt.com or 2527 N. County Road 925 East, Logansport, IN 46945.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries-Redkey Chapel.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Wednesday 11/5	Thursday 11/6	Friday 11/7	Saturday 11/8	Sunday 11/9
68/32 Mostly sunny skies are expected Wednesday when the low may hit freezing.	59/45 Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high around 59 degrees.	63/41 Rain is in the forecast for Friday when there's an 80% chance of showers.	52/40 Saturday looks to be mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain.	46/27 Sunday's weather shows chilly temperatures and possible showers.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$358 million	14-15-19-20-27-35-38-39-40-43-47-49-67-69-80 Cash 5: 1-11-15-18-41 Estimated jackpot: \$115,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$714 million	
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 1-2-5 Daily Four: 4-7-1-8 Quick Draw: 7-9-12-19-21-24-25-27-32-34-37-39-50-51-57-59-64-67-69-75 Evening Daily Three: 0-4-1 Daily Four: 9-7-8-8 Quick Draw: 1-3-4-7-12-	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 3-1-5 Pick 4: 4-2-0-1 Pick 5: 5-6-1-7-7 Evening Pick 3: 5-5-1 Pick 4: 9-4-2-2 Pick 5: 8-6-2-0-4 Rolling Cash 5: 12-17-19-26-28 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.30 Dec. corn4.40 Jan. corn4.48	Dec. beans11.16 Wheat4.96
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.32 Nov./Dev. corn4.47 Jan. corn4.50	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.22 Dec. corn4.30 Beans10.89 Late Nov. beans.....10.94 Wheat5.31
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.27 Dec. corn4.32 Beans11.11	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.17 Dec. corn4.22 Beans10.72 Nov. beans10.82 Wheat4.86

Today in history

In 1884 , Democrat Grover Cleveland defeated Republican James G. Blaine in the U.S. presidential election. Cleveland became the first Democrat to be elected president following the Civil War.	In 2021 , Doug Inman, executive director of The Portland Foundation, presented Jay County Council and Jay County Commissioners with a plan to purchase the former Judge Haynes Elementary School building to make it a child care facility. He asked that the county contribute \$975,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds toward the child care project.
In 1924 , a woman was elected to lead a U.S. state for the first time when she won the Wyoming gubernatorial race.	
In 1972 , Opal Imel, owner of Imel Brothers Grocery Store of Portland, died at the age of 71.	—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Today 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Pennville	Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. — Salamonia Town Council, School-house Community Center. Thursday 5:15 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St.
---	---

Grant ...

Continued from page 1

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine signed an executive order Friday to provide emergency funding to address food insecurity.

Indiana’s State Budget Committee last week rejected a push to use state surplus funding to help low-income Hoosiers and food banks.

But on Friday, two U.S. District Judges made rulings that could reinstate those benefits. Judge John McConnell in Rhode Island ordered the U.S. Department of Agriculture to distribute contingency money “as soon as possible” for November SNAP benefits. 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-down.

Both judges set a Monday deadline for the Trump administration to report to the courts regarding how they would address SNAP benefits.

Still, benefits that would typically have been received on the first of the month have so far been cut off. It remains unclear whether they will be reinstated or whether they will be provided in full. The USDA said Friday that SNAP benefits could be delayed or only partially funded because contingency money will not cover a full month.

The local response to the pause in SNAP benefits included Firehouse BBQ of Dunkirk offering 50 free meals for pickup once a week beginning Sunday. The Block-Bites Truck offered 20% off Saturday, the first day that benefits were unavailable.

Second Harvest Food Bank also announced plans to activate its emergency response plan to increase food distributions in its service area — Jay, Blackford, Randolph, Delaware, Grant, Henry, Madison and Wabash counties. A special distribution was held Friday in Jay County and the regular monthly distribution is set for 10

a.m. to noon Wednesday at Jay County Fairgrounds.

According to the food bank, the cut-off affects \$261,711 in monthly benefits to 1,452 Jay County residents.

The full Second Harvest food distribution schedule and details about other assistance are available at cure-hunger.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 Dunkirk Church of the Nazarene, 226 E. Center St., Dunkirk

Second Harvest is asking for donations via curehunger.org/donate and volunteers via curehunger.org/get-involved/volunteer.

Capsule Reports

Crash flips car

Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000 after a Portland woman crashed into a parked car and flipped her vehicle along Meridian Street about 9:55 p.m. Oct. 28.

Christine F. Brown, 30, was driving a 2019 GMC Acadia north on the street when she hit a parked 2011 Honda Accord.

Her car rolled onto its top, trapping Brown inside.

Brown was transported to IU Health Jay and administered a blood and alcohol test with results pending. Her vehicle was towed.

Drive thru accident

A Russiaville woman was transported to the hospital after striking the car in front of her in the McDonald’s drive thru line in Portland about 5:15 p.m. Oct. 26.

Beverly Batchelor, 71, was driving her 2022 Jeep Cherokee in the drive thru at 618 N. Meridian St. when she accelerated forward, hitting a 2014

Cadillac XTS in front of her. The Cadillac — it was driven by 72-year-old Rhonda Gillespy of Portland — moved forward and struck a 2017 Dodge Durango driven by 22-year-old Brice Fox of Dunkirk. Batchelor began backing up her vehicle, causing her to hit a 2014 Chevrolet Impala Limited driven by 40-year-old Kerri Nichols. She accelerated quickly again and hit the Cadillac in front of her a second time, causing it to move forward and strike the Durango again.

Witnesses told police Batchelor’s vehicle continued accelerating with her tires spinning while sitting still and attached to the back of the Cadillac.

Batchelor complained of head pain and appeared ill, according to a Portland police report.

Jay Emergency Medical Service transported Batchelor to IU Health Jay. Damage is estimated between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

Batchelor’s vehicle and Gillespy’s vehicle were towed.

SERVICES

Thursday

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

Friday

Hicks, Christina: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday, Nov. 29

Moore, Stephen: 2 p.m., Redkey Church of the Nazarene, 801 W. High St., Redkey.

Service listings provided by

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

Division ...

Continued from page 1

Utilimin will specialize in precision-ground calcium from the Cloverdale site and dolomitic carbonates from Portland. Materials are available in multiple sizes, packaging formats and delivery modes.

US Aggregates had been involved with Utilimin through its Cloverdale site for years before recently buying out a minority owner to make the product line a new division of the company unified with the Portland location. The company’s goal is to have a more focused presence in the industrial mineral market and offer a wider variety of products.

Reynolds said many locations have the materials for construction aggregates, but that industrial minerals are more specialized and are not as widely available. While there may be an increase in production at the Portland plant, Reynolds said, the Utilimin brand is a move that provides long-term stability.

“We’re fortunate that we have it at this location,” he said. “It makes this location viable.”

“It’s definitely a higher-value product than maybe

Minerals are used in products including fertilizers and glass

what you would think for your construction aggregate,” he added.

Industrial minerals are used in a variety of applications, including instant-set cement, caulking, tapes, glues, putty and cast polymer items such as shower stalls and toilets. They can also be found in agricultural products such as fertilizers.

And US Aggregates, a subsidiary of The Heritage Group, is a supplier of materials for glass manufacturing, including the Ardagh Group facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester.

“You’re not going to see our product on the shelf,” said Reynolds. “But what that product goes into touches so many things.

“There’s just so many different applications.”

OneDayBarn.com \$10,000 OFF

Custom Built Pole Barns Any Size Any Style On Your Lot

Custom built by Amish Craftsmen in Indiana. Pole barn, barndo-mimium, garage, man cave... **Built in just one day or you don't pay.** Call us today for a quote on your build.

\$10,000 OFF Save \$10,000 with this coupon only valid until Dec. 1st 2025 317-597-8482

ELITE
EYE CARE, PC
Abby E. Small, O.D.

We are having a Frame Show.

November 7th from 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Discounts Available All Day:
Office Hours: 8:00 AM–5:00

1111 N. Meridian St. • Portland, IN 47371
260-726-4210

Sin City brings no luck

By **CHRIS SCHANZ**
The Commercial Review

I have bad luck in Las Vegas. I'm not talking about gambling, either. When I visited Sin City last year for a trade show, I missed Baby Schanz cutting her first teeth.

I was devastated that I missed such a tremendous milestone. It also pained me that I wasn't able to support my spouse as she navigated this era of our daughter's life without me.

This year, the work trip didn't go off without a hitch, but rather with two disasters.

First, Baby Schanz started to develop sores and blisters on her mouth — a symptom of what later became hand, foot and mouth disease — the day before I was to fly West.

She had an awful day. I swear she spent more time crying than she did anything else. Even her nap time wasn't effective because she was constantly interrupted by her irritability.

That first day, a Saturday, our daughter just could not get comfortable at night. She couldn't stay in her crib. She would not sleep and cried the entire time we had her in our bed, a place she ends up quite often when she's unable to sleep alone.

It seemed she only wanted to be held. I took her out on the couch — where we seem to end up far more than I'd prefer — hoping that if I had her in my arms she'd fall asleep.

But she just couldn't get comfortable enough to sleep.

We later ended up back in our bed and she still didn't sleep immediately.

I got probably an hour of sleep total before my 4:30 a.m. wake-up alarm sounded, and I had to make the 116-mile drive to Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

It tugged at my heartstrings that I had to fly a thousand miles away for work and leave my wife to deal with the worst illness our daugh-

Parental Ponderings



ter has experienced in her short life.

Chrissy's mother came to stay with her to help out around the house and with our daughter. It was the plan all along when I learned I had to embark on a work trip.

Believe it or not, the hand, foot and mouth disease was not the worst thing that happened while I was gone.

Shortly after the trade show opened on that Tuesday, I got a call from my wife. I stepped away from our booth to answer it, and all I could hear was her crying hysterically.

My mother-in-law was carrying Baby Schanz down the stairs to the basement and missed the last step or two. Our basement is unfinished with a poured concrete floor, although there is some interlocking foam flooring to create a bit of padding.

I'm told my mother-in-law landed on her knees and then rolled over to her right shoulder, the side she was holding my daughter.

My wife, who was at work at the time, was rushing home while she was on the phone with me.

Through tears on both ends of the phone call, I incessantly told her to call an ambulance, but she was reluctant to do so. I instructed her to call my brother John, who is a firefighter. Again, she was still hesitant to do so.

I took matters into my own hands. I hung up on my wife and called John. He answered, and luckily, just happened to be on the fire truck returning to the station. Even more miraculously, they weren't too far from my house. Through tears of my own, I told

him what happened, and he and his colleagues rushed over in a matter of minutes.

At this point, I excused myself from the booth after telling our vice president, Jason — whom I've known for more than 35 years and is like a brother — what was happening.

I brought up the feed from our security camera to watch as my brother and the other firefighters arrived. All the while, Jason stayed by me to provide comfort.

Boy, did I feel helpless. I was three time zones away and there was nothing I could do. Countless thoughts ran through my head, including catching the next flight home, as I wasn't supposed to leave for another 24 hours.

Not 10 minutes later, I got a call from my brother with a report of the situation: my daughter was fine, but my mother-in-law was banged up because of her fall.

Disaster (mostly) averted.

Once Chrissy got home, my sister-in-law came over to stay with my daughter as my wife took her mother to the ER.

X-rays came back negative, so she just got some medication for the pain.

I was able to breathe a little easier; thankful for my quick thinking to call my brother, as well as having Jason nearby for support as the sit-rep continued to improve.

Nearly a month later, my daughter's affliction is behind her. My mother-in-law is mostly in the clear, too.

I've now been to this Las Vegas trade show three times. Each of the last two iterations, something has gone wrong at home.

Lady Luck just isn't on my side, and I don't even have to gamble.

Chris Schanz is a former CR Sports Editor who probably shouldn't travel for work any longer. Send excuses to get out of these trips christopher.schanz@gmail.com.

'Gifts' do more harm than good

Dear Abby



but for now I want it to stop. Am I right? — GIFT RIFT IN THE WEST

DEAR GIFT RIFT: You are not wrong. Your sister appears to be "a little off-center." I agree with you that one day in the not-too-distant future, your children will be discerning enough to notice the "gifts" your sister brings are soiled or broken and selected without regard to their interests or taste. A way to avoid the problem would be not to invite her to visit around birthday or holiday time, or intercept her inappropriate gifts before the kids see them.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeane 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

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

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship

Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

SMART RECOVERY — A

group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month at Jay County Cancer Society's office, 227 N. Meridian St., Portland. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

inogen

Portable Oxygen Concentrators

Leave the tanks at home and convert the air around you into medical-grade oxygen.

CALL US NOW AT

1-877-930-3271

54625315 EPL USA | Re: Only © 2024 Inogen, Inc. 859 West Drive, Suite 200, Gaithersburg, MD 20878
Inogen® is a trademark of Inogen, Inc. The usage of any Inogen, Inc. trademark is strictly forbidden without the prior consent of Inogen, Inc. All other trademarks are trademarks of their respective owners or holders.

Two Sided Quality Mattresses... Affordably Priced!

I'M FLIPPABLE

Made in Muncie

Mattress Sets starting at **\$399**

Affordably priced everyday!

Making quality mattresses for over 69 years

Holder Bedding

1815 N Granville Ave, Muncie

765-747-8103

Open M-F 9:00a-5:30p;
Saturdays 10:00a-3:00p
www.holderbedding.net

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.

SonriseAviation is looking for an

AIRCRAFT MECHANIC

We provide all aircraft specific training needed.

APPLICANT MUST HAVE THE FOLLOWING SKILLS:

- Knowledge of piston engines and systems
- Ability to read and interpret maintenance manuals
- Must be able to work independently and as part of a team.
- Good Communication and organizational skills.
- Extensive mechanical experience

• • • • •

We provide:

- Simple IRA with 3% matching
- Medical benefits with Blue Cross Blue Shield
- Paid Vacation and Sick Leave

FULL TIME POSITION.
Pay based on experience.
Training can lead to a career in Aviation with an Airframe and Powerplant License.
we are part of a DOT drug testing program.

Please contact Harold Tavzel: 260-729-1577 or send a resume to Sonriseaviation@outlook.com

TRUSTED RELIABLE SAFE

The NBA scandal was predictable

The Dallas Morning News
Tribune News Service

Everyone saw this coming except the NBA. It seemed obvious to us: An industry built on winning money instead of earning it will attract those willing to break the rules to make a buck.

And yet, when news broke last week about FBI arrests, including a current NBA head coach and player, those who have promoted the marriage of sports and gambling said they were shocked and disappointed.

“I was deeply disturbed,” NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said. “There’s nothing more important to the league and its fans than the integrity of the competition. And so I had a pit in my stomach, it was very upsetting.”

Guest Editorial

Silver has been the matchmaker between bookies and sports. His leadership has brought more leagues to the betting table. And while he has insisted that everything should be above board, he has made statements that sound like punting responsibility for enforcement to others. In 2014, he called on Congress to legalize sports betting nationwide “subject to strict regulatory requirements and technological safeguards.”

Let’s face it: Congress is the last place we should go looking for ethical clarity and problem-solving.

Despite apologists minimizing the story, last week’s news was, indeed, extraordinary. Pro sports has had gambling controversies before — the 1919 Chicago White Sox, Pete Rose, etc. — but we’re not aware of any time an active head coach was arrested for something like this.

And yet, it was as predictable as the Cowboys playing on Thanksgiving. Gambling invites bad behavior.

Sports betting can be innocent fun for some, but it’s an existential threat for modern sports and their fans. As former Louisiana State University researcher Robert Mann wrote

in these pages last year, sports gambling has become epidemic on college campuses. A 2023 report from the NCAA found that 67% of students on campus are gamblers. Betting is particularly high among young men who are more likely to take risks.

“This industry’s huge profits,” Mann wrote, “depend upon the irresponsibility and recklessness of those using the platforms.”

This is particularly salient here in Dallas where one of our local teams is now owned by a family that has benefited from those kinds of profits. That team is likely to be asking the city for tax abatements in the near future to build an arena here, and possibly, if the Legis-

lature is as gettable as Silver, a casino.

The lesson here isn’t just about betting. It’s about wisdom. Reaping and sowing. Collectively, we’ve reached the point where we make foolish decisions and then act surprised when they produce negative results. We’re doing the same thing with marijuana right now, and with violence. We flood our corner stores, public spaces, internet feeds and gaming consoles with pot and guns and then expect to live in a sober, safe society.

In gambling terms, we are the amateurs betting big before the flop and then hoping for a good card on the river. And there are always canny operators waiting to take advantage of dupes like that.



Programs must prepare for real opportunity

By HANNAH KISTLER, SHAWN DOUGHERTY and CHRISTINA CLAIBORNE
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Across the country, career and technical education is reshaping ideas of what high school should be, and momentum continues to build. Enrollment is rising, states are investing heavily and politicians on both sides of the aisle see CTE as a practical way to prepare students for good jobs in a changing economy, without requiring them to take on more education debt than necessary. As a result, states are now incorporating CTE measures into their accountability systems, signaling that success after high school isn’t measured solely by test scores or four-year college enrollment.

Guest Opinion

like other “evidence-based” initiatives, how a program is structured matters much more than whether or not it is offered.

The danger of low-quality CTE is that it risks giving a false sense of progress. Labeling courses “career-ready” doesn’t make them so. Worse, inequities creep in if students are steered into career tracks with weaker labor market returns. And we’ve seen this film before: In the 1960s, federal vocational education bills promised to reduce inequality but by the 1980s, it was clear that the system had too often reinforced tracking, essentially segregating some students from rigorous academic coursework. Without high standards and greater accountability, low-quality CTE risks repeating that history.

So, what distinguishes CTE programs that truly pay off from those that don’t? By studying models that have demonstrated success, we can identify the features that should be scaled across more schools. A new EdResearch for Action brief does exactly this, looking across the existing research to identify clear lessons about what makes CTE programs high-quality.

The strongest CTE programs offer structured, sequenced pathways, not a few disconnected electives. Students who take at least three aligned courses in a single

career area consistently fare better than those who take stand-alone courses. Benefits accrue to these students in the form of higher graduation rates, as well as either higher college enrollment or stronger earnings. High-quality programs also make work-based learning a core feature rather than an afterthought. Well-designed internships, apprenticeships and employer-linked projects give students the kind of hands-on experience that builds both confidence and skills.

Just as important are partnerships with employers and with colleges. Industry partners ensure students are learning on up-to-date equipment and tackling relevant problems; higher education partners create early-credit opportunities and smooth transitions into degree programs. The most effective programs also recruit teachers with real-world experience, valuing practical expertise as much as traditional certification.

Finally, equity must be a design principle, not an afterthought. Schools should make sure CTE courses fit within students’ schedules, expand access to underrepresented groups, and track participation and outcomes to identify gaps. After all, the promise of CTE is not simply to prepare some students for good jobs but to ensure every student can connect learning to opportunity.

Nebraska is taking a bold approach in rural communities with its reVISION initiative. Rather than leaving small districts to build programs in isolation, the state requires each district to conduct a data-driven

needs assessment and supports regional collaboration through reVISION Action Grants. Districts then pool resources, staff and industry partnerships to design stronger, more equitable programs.

The result: regional CTE hubs, mobile labs and virtual courses that bring specialized programs like cybersecurity to even the most remote towns. By embedding collaboration and workforce alignment into state policy, Nebraska shows how geography doesn’t have to limit opportunity.

Washington state is rethinking who can teach CTE through its Business & Industry (B&I) pathway, which allows skilled professionals with substantial industry experience to get certified without a bachelor’s degree. Candidates complete a streamlined pedagogy program, making it easier for industry experts to transition into classrooms. This approach maintains instructional training requirements and expands and diversifies the CTE teacher pipeline so that students learn from educators who know both their craft and how to teach it.

Ultimately, high-quality CTE is tied to real-world experiences that are hard to measure, vary across states, and available data provide only a partial picture. The federal government has a key role to play in tracking the results of these programs. Yet the latest proposal from the federal government would scale back what little we already collect, making it even harder to identify high-quality programs.

If Washington is serious about preparing students for

good jobs, it should strengthen, not shrink, its role in collecting and sharing useful data. We lack the equivalent of a “Nation’s Report Card” for career readiness: common, rigorous measures that show which programs align with labor-market needs and promote economic opportunity. Without stronger data and federal leadership, CTE risks becoming a black box: highly visible in name but opaque in impact.

To deliver on the promise of CTE, we cannot settle for programs that look good on paper but fail to prepare students for real opportunity. Every student needs access to a rigorous program connected to postsecondary education and local workforce needs. That’s not the case today, but it can be, if leaders prioritize quality and equity in every CTE investment they make.

.....

Kistler is an assistant professor at the University of Albany’s School of Education.

Dougherty is a professor of education & policy at Boston College’s Lynch School of Education & Human Development, the chair of the Measurement, Evaluation, Statistics, and Assessment Department, and the director of the Catholic Education Research Initiative.

Claiborne is a research project director for the Annenberg Institute at Brown University, where she leads the EdResearch for Action brief creation process.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

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

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 151–NUMBER 131
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

www.thecr.com

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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days – \$3; Monthly auto-pay – \$10; 13 weeks – \$32; six months – \$60; one year – \$108.
City (walking – where available): Monthly auto-pay – \$12; 13 weeks – \$38; six months – \$72; one year – \$129.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay – \$13; 13 weeks – \$46; six months – \$78; one year – \$148.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay – \$15; 13 weeks – \$53; six months – \$86; one year – \$161.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

Open house scheduled for Inman

The Portland Foundation will hold an open house from 3 to 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6, at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland, to celebrate executive director Doug Inman's 30 years of service.

The event will include light refreshments. Friends and supporters are encouraged to celebrate with a donation of \$30 or more to the Doug Inman Freedom Fund, which is used to support Honor Flight Northeast Indiana.

Gifts can be made at portlandfoundation.org.

Training offered

ServSafe training will be available at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland.

The next session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25.

The certification course is open to all food service employees and emphasizes safe food- and beverage-handling practices to minimize the risk of food-borne illnesses.

For more information, or to register, call (260) 729-5525.

Facility opens

IU Health has opened a new medical tower at its facility in Fishers.

The tower is the final part of a \$300 million

Business roundup

expansion at the Fishers location and houses mammography, breast surgery and special care nursery services as well as an outpatient OB-GYN suite and labor and delivery unit.

“Our team is proud to open this new medical tower, a centerpiece of our hospital expansion and a reflection of our commitment to the Fishers community,” said regional vice president and chief operations officer Soula Banich, Current Publishing reported.

Hospital honored

Healthgrades recently honored The Orthopedic Hospital (Fort Wayne) as being among the country's 100 best for orthopedic surgery.

The hospital, part of Lutheran Health Network, also received an Orthopedic Surgery Excellence Award. It was honored as a five-star facility for hip fracture treatment, spinal fusion surgery, total hip replacement and outpatient total knee replacement.

“Healthgrades' specialty awards identify the

nation's top-performing hospitals in key service areas, helping consumers find high quality care tailored to their specific needs,” said Dr. Alana Biggers, medical advisor at Healthgrades.

“We're proud to recognize The Orthopedic Hospital for its consistently superior outcomes in key service areas, including spinal fusion surgery and total knee and hip replacement.”

Expansion planned

Eli Lilly announced last week that it will upgrade its manufacturing facility in Puerto Rico.

The Indianapolis-based company said it plans to spend \$1.2 billion to improve its facility. It is part of a company-wide plan to increase domestic manufacturing capabilities.

“Our continued investments in capacity, infrastructure, advanced technologies and highly specialized jobs will further cement the site's significance in Lilly's global manufacturing network,” Edgardo Hernandez, who leads Lilly's manufacturing operations, said in a news release.

Plans call for the upgrades to become operational in 2028.

The Puerto Rico site will begin production of orforglipron, Lilly's first

oral GLP-1 weight loss medication.

Award presented

The Indiana Bankers Association recently presented Kristin Pruitt with its Woman of the Year award.

Pruitt, president of Lake City Bank in Warsaw, has served as chair of the Boys and Girls Club in her community and is on the board of Riley Children's Foundation. Her other board memberships include Community Investment Fund of Indiana, Northern Indiana Regional Development Authority and Community Foundation of St. Joseph County.

“Kristin is an exceptional leader and her work at Lake City Bank has truly been impactful. She's been a terrific partner and mentor to everyone at the bank and leads by example,” said David M. Findlay, chairman and CEO of Lake City Bank, in a news release. “Kristin's engagement and dedication to our communities is a further testament of her leadership. The Lake City Bank team is happy to see her honored with this well-deserved recognition.”

Funds donated

CVS Pharmacy and CVS Health recently announced more than \$5

million in funding to address food insecurity.

The company announced that its customers have donated more than \$3 million this year to help local food banks and that it has committed more than \$2 million in additional funding.

“Food insecurity is a complex issue that looks different in every community — there's no one-size-fits-all solution,” said Jenny McColloch, CVS Health vice president of sustainability and community impact, in a news release. “Thanks to our customers, we're able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of people in America through our in-store fundraising campaign. Beyond that, we continue to support organizations that are working every day to increase access to nutritious food — investing in local solutions that meet people where they are and help address the unique needs of each community.”

All donated funding goes to local food banks in the Feeding America network.

Awards set

Indiana Chamber of Commerce will host its annual awards dinner at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 5, at the JW Marriott Indianapolis.

Daymond John, founder of FUBU and a longtime star of “Shark Tank,” will be the featured speaker.

Individual tickets are \$195. For more information, visit indianachamber.com.

Courses scheduled

Indiana Chamber of Commerce has several programs coming up.

“Train the trainer” courses for lockout/tagout is set for 8 a.m. to noon and for permit required confined space from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., both Wednesday, Nov. 12. Another session for forklift safety will be held from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13.

General Occupational Safety and Health Administration courses will be held beginning Tuesday, Jan. 20.

Also, the Indiana Safety and Health Conference & Expo will be held from Feb. 23 through 25. It will feature a variety of speakers as well as more than 60 educational sessions.

The courses and expo will be held at the Indiana Chamber of Commerce Conference Center in Indianapolis.

For more information, visit indianachamber.com.

Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@thecr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

China soybean deal lifts U.S. farmers

By ERIN AILWORTH, GERSON FREITAS JR. and ILENA PENG
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

China's commitment to buy at least 87 million tons of U.S. soybeans through the next several years provides long-sought relief to farmers, while at the same time highlighting the limitations of America's reliance on the trading partner for its exports.



James Sam, left, and Creighton Hougum, both of Faribault, Minnesota, walk alongside other Farmfest attendees past soybean plants and corn in August in Morgan, Minnesota. Last week, the Trump administration announced that China has agreed to buy at least 87 million tons of U.S. soybeans over the next three-plus years.

social media post that “farmers should immediately go out and buy more land and larger tractors.”

The outcome was welcome news for farmers — a key voting

bloc for Trump and the Republican Party — who have been grappling with overflowing silos, with profits being squeezed by higher input costs and falling prices. Beijing has

shunned U.S. beans so far this export season, using the commodity as a bargaining chip in its trade war with Washington.

“I don't think I can stress enough how important this is to farmers because we've been waiting and waiting and waiting, and this is a glimmer of hope — so don't dash my hopes again,” said Pam Johnson, an Iowa farmer.

Yet even as the agreement restores some optimism, analysts warn that the base numbers merely return trade to previous levels.

A commitment of 12 million tons for the current season is a “fairly sizable reduction from a historical standpoint,” said Brian Grete, a senior grain and livestock analyst at Comstock. In the longer term, purchases of 25 million tons a year would be “basically getting back to normal,” he added.

Last year, the U.S. exported about 27 million tons to China, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture data. Farmers reaped bigger rewards in the outcome of the trade war during Trump's first term — after the so-called Phase One agreement

in 2020, shipments to China rebounded to 34.2 million.

China, the world's largest buyer of the oilseed mostly used to make pig and chicken feed, has drastically reduced its reliance on U.S. crop supplies since Trump's first trade war, leaning more on top producer Brazil to meet its needs. At the same time, China's appetite for U.S. soybeans may be tempered as the world's second-largest economy struggles to regain growth momentum, limiting demand for animal feed and food.

The American Soybean Association noted that the commitments this time around are framed as minimums, and expressed hopes for growth in purchases beyond those levels.

“This is a meaningful step forward to reestablishing a stable, long-term trading relationship that delivers results for farm families and future generations,” Caleb Ragland, president of the ASA, said in a statement.

Nebraska farmer Andrew Philips said he was cautiously optimistic, also hoping China follows through with more to come.

Find a

Local Business!

Fortkamp Foam

3216 Wabash Road

Fort Recovery, OH 45846

419-852-1390

Fortkampfoam.com

Hopkins Repair, LLC

Auto & light truck repair

Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm

Call Scott Hopkins

260-251-0459

Baird Freeman Funeral Home

221 N. Meridian St.

Portland, IN

260-726-7171

All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning

(260)726-4822

24 hr Emergency Service

Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas

Vormohr Family Dentistry

1413 W. Votaw St.,

Portland

260-726-7822

Ohio Valley Gas

129 E. Main St.,

Portland

260-726-8114

www.ovgc.com

All Circuit Electrical, LLC

5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN

260-997-8336

www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition

100 N. Meridian St.,

Portland, IN 47371

260-251-3259

Email: jcdpcccontact@gmail.com

Williams Auto Parts, Inc.

1127 Detroit Ave.

Portland, IN

8-5:00 Mon-Fri,

Closed Sat & Sun.

Used auto parts since 1951

(260) 726-8001

www.williamsautoparts.com

Display Craft Signs

630 E. Votaw St.

Portland, IN

260-726-4535

Dunn Family Dental Care

110 W. North St.

Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8007

Home Idea Center

901 Industrial Dr.

Ft. Recovery, OH

419-375-4951

www.ehomeidea.com

This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50.

Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included

SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

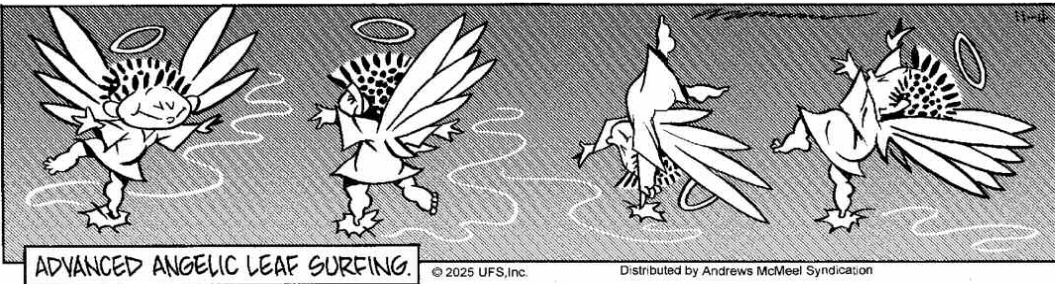
By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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

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

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

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

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

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

Contract
Bridge

By Steve Becker

A tale of two tricks

North dealer.
Neither side vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 5 3
♥ J 9
♦ K 10 3
♣ K Q J 10 6
WEST
♠ J 8 4
♥ K 7 3 2
♦ 6 4 2
♣ 7 4 2
EAST
♠ Q 9 6 2
♥ 10 8 5 4
♦ A J 9 8
♣ A
SOUTH
♠ K 10 7
♥ A Q 6
♦ Q 7 5
♣ 9 8 5 3

The bidding:
North ♠ East ♠ South ♠ West ♠
1 ♠ 1 ♦ 1 NT Pass
Pass 1 ♦ 1 NT Pass
2 NT Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — six of diamonds.
Most contracts, particularly those where the outcome is uncertain at the start, are won or lost in the early stages of the play. This is largely because the lines of battle are usually drawn by the play to the first two or three tricks. The later plays merely reflect the early preparations.

Consider this deal where West led a diamond against three notrump, and South was immediately faced with a crucial test. Had he played the three or the ten from dummy,

he would have gone down.
After the play of the three, for example, East's eight would have forced the queen and established a tenace over dummy's K-10. This would have proved fatal when West eventually gained the lead with the king of hearts and returned a diamond.
To defuse the potential threat posed by East's diamonds, South should play dummy's king at trick one! This forces East to win the trick in order to prevent declarer from later scoring a second diamond trick. More importantly, the presence of the ten in dummy then stops East from returning a diamond at trick two. East is therefore forced to shift to another suit, so let's assume he leads a heart.
Once again South must be careful. He should reject the tempting finesse because he can assure the contract by winning the heart with the ace and leading a club. East takes the club ace, but the battle is over. South already has eight tricks established and cannot be stopped from scoring his ninth trick in hearts.

Note that if declarer plays low on East's heart return at trick two, he goes down. West can win and lead a second diamond, and the contract eventually fails. The first two tricks tell the tale.

Tomorrow: The hidden power of a pass.
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

11-4

CRYPTOQUIP

HT ZWAZDW YHVGIVV GXDHTAFMHX
JIDSIFWV JWFP AZWMDP XMY
QAMWVSDP, H'Y VXP SQXS'V

GAMYAF GXMYAF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SCI-FI FILM ABOUT A CYBERNAUT DESTROYING ALL HIGHLY DANGEROUS MICROBES: "THE GERMINATOR."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals P

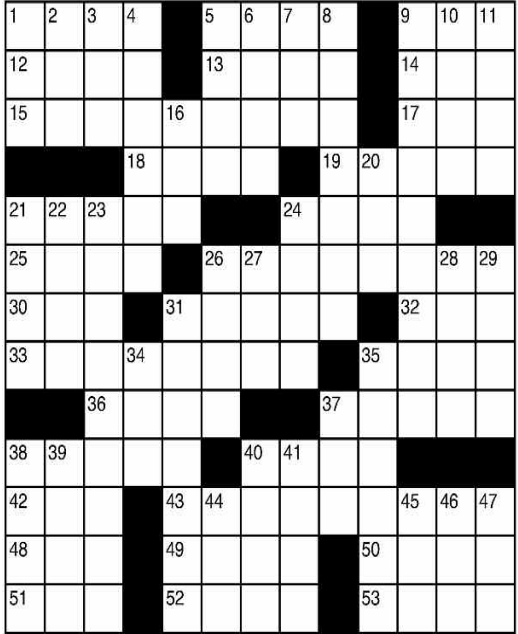
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 37 Nitwits | DOWN | 20 Business mag |
| 1 Tibetan monk | 38 Muslim legal expert | 1 Long. crosser | 21 Idle or Clapton |
| 5 Pretzel topper | 40 Violinist Hilary | 2 Director DuVernay | 22 Film composer |
| 9 Short do | 42 "The Great-est" | 3 Karaoke prop, for short | 23 Oysters and crabs, e.g. |
| 12 Eager | 43 Kin of three-card monte | 4 Hand-some guy | 24 Glazier's sheet |
| 13 "Garfield" dog | 48 Ones with power | 5 London neighborhood | 26 Bikini tops |
| 14 Lyric poem | 49 Eliminates a squeak | 6 Mideast gulf | 27 PC linkup |
| 15 Hard or soft Tex-Mex item | 50 They give a hoot | 7 Like Abner or Wayne | 28 Send forth |
| 17 Bumped into | 51 Slangy denial | 8 Effective surprise | 29 Dines |
| 18 Inert gas | 52 "Finding —" | 9 Stunning | 31 "Crying" singer |
| 19 Sign of autumn? | 53 Bicycle part | 10 Baltic Sea feeder | 34 Youngster |
| 21 Commercial cow | | 11 Alpha follower | 35 Hand drums |
| 24 Brooches | | 16 Observe | 37 FedEx rival |
| 25 Stadium cheers | | | 38 Primary |
| 26 Boils quickly, as vegetables | | | 39 Forearm bone |
| 30 Land in la mer | | | 40 Steerer's place |
| 31 Borneo denizen | | | 41 To boot |
| 32 Big bird of Australia | | | 44 Hasten |
| 33 Jazz saxophone legend | | | 45 Shock partner |
| 35 Radar dot | | | 46 Org. with a style manual |
| 36 High tennis shots | | | 47 Record book suffix |

Solution time: 22 mins.



Yesterday's answer 11-4



00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141
ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge....
\$12.40
1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/word
12 insertions. \$1.52/word
26 insertions. \$1.77/word
Includes
Online.....FREE
Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch
No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page
Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication.
Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.
40 NOTICES

COMMUNITY THANKS-GIVING DINNER. Plan now to attend November 27, 2025, 1:00 pm. Asbury UM Church. All Jay County welcome. No charge for the meal.

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

60 SERVICES

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

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

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

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 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!
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

King's Tree Service
765-881-1611
FREE EST. FULLY INSURED
TREE TRIMMING-TOPPING-
REMOVAL-STUMP GRINDING
Firewood 4 Sell
Bucket Truck & BobCat
Services Avail.
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Andy King
765-881-1611

Visit Us At:
thecr.com

SUBSCRIBE
TO THE
COMMERCIAL
REVIEW
up to
49% off
Newsstand prices
Subscribe at
thecr.com
or call
260-726-8141

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

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

Timeout ...

Continued from page 8
The Indians gave up 15 kills in the set, including six to Buschur, who led the match with 11 put downs. The Tribe in general struggled against St. Henry's hitters and servers, giving up 33 kills — Fort Recovery only had 15 — and 17 aces.
“Even if our block’s up, they just hit through either way,” said Kayla Gaerke, Fort Recovery’s freshman libero. “They come up with the ‘boom.’ ... It’s not easy, but we should have made changes sooner. But in the end they’re a great team and came out with it.
The only points FRHS earned in the second set came on kills from Muhlenkamp and Alexis Grisez and a center line violation by setter Addy Homan.
The third set started better for the Indians, but they couldn’t last as it gave up an 11-0 run and a 5-0 run, split up only when Morgan Baumer

rolled her ankle to fall over the center line.
St. Henry’s runs killed the Indians as they couldn’t find an answer to switch the momentum.
“It’s really hard,” Guggenbiller said. “We didn’t do the best at it as the set went on, but we did do a lot of it throughout the year. That’s going to be an area that we focus on in the offseason.”
While the Tribe didn’t have its best showing on Saturday, it is an experience they can learn and grow from as the entire roster is set to return for 2026.
“I saw a quote the other day and told the girls, ‘Just because you don’t get what you want the first time, doesn’t mean you give less the second time and hope you get it in return,’” Guggenbiller said. “Now that means, we’ve gotta give more. These girls are ready to go back at it in the offseason.”



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS freshman setter Kayden Ranly tips the ball over the net while St. Henry’s Kylie Bollenbacher gets her fingertips on it during her block attempt. The Tribe got blocked six times in the 25-17, 25-3, 25-9 regional loss to the second-ranked team.

Rookie tight end’s TD stuns Bengals

By SEAN HAMMOND
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

CINCINNATI — Caleb Williams connected with rookie tight end Colston Loveland over the middle of the field in the waning seconds of Sunday’s game. It looked as if Loveland had enough yardage to get the Chicago Bears into field-goal range.
But Loveland wasn’t done. Loveland bounced off a would-be tackler and took it to

Loveland’s late score lifts Chicago after a furious Cincinnati rally

the house for a 58-yard touchdown with 17 seconds to play, and the Bears beat the Cincinnati Bengals 47-42 on Sunday at Paycor Stadium in Cincinnati. Bengals quarterback Joe

Flacco had one last heave for the end zone that Bears cornerback Nahshon Wright intercepted.
All of this came after the Bengals recovered an onside

kick with less than two minutes remaining and drove down the field for what looked like the winning touchdown with 54 seconds to play. Flacco connected with wide receiver Andrei Iosivas, and the Bears had blown a 14-point lead in the final minutes.
The Bears offense took over with 50 seconds remaining. After a pair of incompletions, Williams picked up a first down with a scramble near

midfield. That’s when he connected with Loveland for the winning score.
The offense totaled 576 yards, including 283 rushing yards. Rookie running back Kyle Monangai ran for 176 yards on 26 carries. It marked the most yardage since Ben Johnson took over as coach and the first time the Bears totaled more than 500 yards since Oct. 9, 2016, against the Indianapolis Colts.

Deny ...

Continued from page 8
With their ninth championship and third in six years, the Dodgers made an argument for their 2020s teams to be considered a dynasty. Dave Roberts, their manager since 2016, boosted the probability he will gain induction to the Hall of Fame.
Bo Bichette put Toronto ahead in the third with a three-run homer off Ohtani, the two-way star pitching on three days’ rest after taking the loss in Game 3.
Los Angeles closed to 3-2 on sacrifice flies from Teoscar Hernández in the

fourth off Max Scherzer and Tommy Edman in the sixth against Chris Bassitt.
Andrés Giménez restored Toronto’s two-run lead with an RBI double in the sixth off Glasnow, who relieved after getting the final three outs on three pitches to save Game 6 on Friday.
Max Muncy’s eighth-inning homer off star rookie Trey Yesavage cut the Dodgers’ deficit to one run, and Rojas, inserted into the slumping Dodgers’ lineup in Game 6 to provide some energy, homered on a full-count slider from Jeff Hoffman.

Toronto put two on with one out in the bottom half against Snell, and Los Angeles turned to Yamamoto.
He hit Kirk on a hand with a pitch, loading the bases and prompting the Dodgers to play the infield in and the outfield shallow. Daulton Varsho grounded to second, where Rojas stumbled but managed to throw home for a forceout as catcher Smith kept his foot on the plate.
Ernie Clement then flied out to Andy Pages, who made a jumping, backhand catch on the center-field warning track

as he crashed into left fielder Kiké Hernández.
Seranthony Domínguez walked Betts with one out in the 10th and Muncy singled for his third hit. Hernández walked, loading the bases. Pages grounded to shortstop, where Giménez threw home for a forceout. Guerrero fielded a grounder to the right side and threw to pitcher Seranthony Domínguez covering first, just beating Hernández in a call upheld in a video review.
The epic night matched the Marlins’ 3-2 win over Cleveland in 1997 as the second-longest Series

Game 7, behind only the Washington Senators’ 4-3 victory against the New York Giants in 1924.
The memorable matchup included the World Series’ first pinch-hit grand slam, the first complete game in a decade, an 18-inning Game 3 featuring Ohtani reaching base nine times, six outs on the bases and Freddie Freeman becoming the first to hit two walk-off homers, the first back-to-back homers opening a game, a 22-year-old striking out a rookie record with 12 just six weeks after his debut and the first game-ending double play

in which an outfielder had a putout or assist.
Visiting teams had won four straight Game 7s dating to 2014 after home teams won nine in a row from 1982 to 2011.
Emotions were high, with benches and bullpens clearing when Giménez was hit on the right hand by a 96.4 mph fastball from Dodgers reliever Justin Wroblewski in the fourth. No punches were thrown.
Ohtani was given extended time after ending the top of the first on base and making the final out of the third, causing the between-innings break to reach 4-1/2 minutes.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls basketball scrimmage at Huntington North — 6 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
4 p.m. — Women’s college basketball: Tennessee at N.C. State (ESPN2)
5:30 p.m. — Women’s college basketball:

Louisville at UConn (ESPN)
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Evansville at Purdue (BTN)
7 p.m. — College football: Miami (OH) at Ohio (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — NHL: Carolina Hurricanes at New York Rangers (TNT)
8 p.m. — NBA: Orlando Magic at Atlanta Hawks (NBC); Charlotte Hornets at New Orleans Pelicans (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Robert Mor-

ris at Iowa (BTN)
8:45 p.m. — College basketball: Texas at Duke (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — NHL: Tampa Bay Lightning at Colorado Avalanche (TNT)
10:45 p.m. — College basketball: Hawai’i at Oregon (BTN)
Wednesday
11:30 a.m. — Horse racing: Melbourne Cup Carnival (FS1)

6 p.m. — College basketball: Rider at Rutgers (BTN)
7 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Cleveland Cavaliers (FOX)
7 p.m. — College football: Northern Illinois at Toledo (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Minnesota Timberwolves at New York Knicks (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Washington Capitals (TNT)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Alabama A&M

at Indiana (BTN)
8 p.m. — College volleyball: Minnesota at Wisconsin (FS1)
8:30 p.m. — NBA: New Orleans Pelicans at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)
10 p.m. — NBA: San Antonio Spurs at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)
.....
To have an event listed in “Sports on tap”, email details to sports@thecr.com

ADVERTISEMENT in The Commercial Review CLASSIFIED ADS 726-8141

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
Saturday Morning NOVEMBER 8, 2025 9:30 A.M.
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; 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 iRetroï 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:

90 SALE CALENDAR

Ricker was the Indiana State Fire Marshal for several years and he and his wife recently moved to Northern Indiana. Dan was a long-time 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 CON-STABLE and
DAN & LINDA RAMER
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

✓ **Out The CR**
Classifieds
www.thecr.com

110 HELP WANTED

HIRING PART-TIME INSERTER Hours vary each week. Apply at The Graphic Printing Company. The Commercial Review 309 West Main Street, Portland, IN 47371 Office Hours: 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday - Friday or email business@thecr.com. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. Equal opportunity employer.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

SCRATCH PADS ARE BACK various bundles sizes and XL pads. \$1.25 plus tax. Pick up at The Commercial Review Tuesday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.

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

190 FARMERS COLUMN

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

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

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

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMMERCIAL REVIEW up to **49% off**
Newsstand prices
Subscribe at **thecr.com** or call **260-726-8141**

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2025 TERM
In the Matter of the Estate of KATHRYN SUE BATES, Deceased
No. 38C01-2510-EU-000026
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Kimberly Sue Lloyd was, on the 22nd day of October, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kathryn Sue Bates deceased, who died on December 19, 2022.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 22nd day of October, 2025.
HINKLE, RACSTER, SCHEMENAUR & LANDER
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorney
Melissa Elliott
Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana
CR 10-28,11-4-2025-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2025 TERM
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: No. 38C01-2510-EU-000027
Kipp Bradley Horine
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Jessica L. Horine and Wesley A. Schemenaur was, on the 22nd day of October, 2025, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kipp Bradley Horine deceased, who died on July 5th, 2019.
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 22nd day of October, 2025.
HINKLE, RACSTER, SCHEMENAUR & LANDER
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorney
Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana
CR 10-28,11-4-2025-HSPAXLP

Visit Us At:
thecr.com

Timely timeout

St. Henry takes over regional after first-set timeout stopped FRHS run

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

CLAYTON, Ohio — The Tribe just went on a 6-0 run to tie up the first set against the second-ranked team in the state.

Tricia Rosenbeck promptly called a timeout to stop the bleeding and get her team on track.

After the talk, things were never the same as the Indians got outscored by their neighbors to the east 63-17.

Fort Recovery High School's volleyball team couldn't keep up with No. 2 St. Henry after a well-placed timeout in the first set in a 25-17, 25-3, 25-9 loss in Saturday's OHSAA Division VI Regional 24 final hosted by Northmont.

The loss brought the Tribe's season to an end, while its Midwest Athletic Conference rival will move on to play Independence in the state semifinal.

"St. Henry is obviously a fantastic team," said FRHS coach Travis Guggenbiller. "But I'm still just so proud of my team. We have nothing to hang our heads on. We worked our butts off, we earned this spot here today."

"I would have liked to see a better reaction to how the game went, but on the first set, I thought we put up a really good fight and kind of let the serve get the best of us from there. But, still proud of my team's growth that we made this year."

The Indians (14-13) didn't have the best start to the first set, but stayed within striking distance of St. Henry (22-5).

Down 12-6 FRHS put together its best run of the day. It started with Bridget Homan attacking the ball off of a St. Henry block-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

er and out of bounds for a kill. Brynn Willmann and Kenna Dues blocked Molly Wendel for a second point before Kayla Gaerke dropped in an ace.

Homan then recorded her fourth and fifth kills — she led Fort Recovery with six — sandwiching a Willmann kill.

Rosenbeck, the SHHS coach,

then called a timeout to stop the 6-0 run that tied the match at 12-12.

"We just talked about how we were going to have to compete," Rosenbeck said. "It's going to go point-for-point. We said when we string together points, we can't let them go on a run. We're not going to play

this roller coaster game all night. We decided not to and played our game the rest of the way."

Out of the timeout, St. Henry produced its own run of five points to take the lead. Another 6-0 run gave SHHS complete control of the set at 23-15 before a kill by Karlee Buschur and a

Cameron Muhlenkamp ended the set.

The Tribe then suffered its worst set of the season as it only managed three points. (Its previous worst was a pair of nine-point sets from matches against Marion Local and Versailles.)

See **Timeout** page 7

Portland's Largest Selection of

FRESH CUT

QUALITY MEAT

AWARD WINNING MEATS

While supplies last, no rain checks

Fisher Gift Cards available for purchase! They can be used at either Portland or Muncie locations and never expire.

(80-85% lean)	Fresh Hamburger	\$4⁷⁹	lb
(1 lb pkgs)	Frozen Hamburger	\$4⁴⁹	lb
Boneless	Rump Roasts	\$6⁹⁹	lb
Fisher's Stuffed	Pork Chops	\$4⁶⁹	lb
Bone In Country Style	Ribs	\$3³⁹	lb
Fisher	Ham Chunks	\$2⁶⁹	lb

Mustard Potato Salad**\$2.99/lb**

Mini Colby Cheese**\$5.99/lb**

****Order your Fresh turkey by 11/15 \$3.69/lb (14-22 lb approx range)**
-antibiotic free, all natural, from St. Mary's, OH

From Fisher's Smokehouse

Bologna**\$.39/lb**

Spicy Mozzarella Smoked Brats**\$.39/lb**

Roast Beef**\$10.69/lb**

***while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register**

300 W. Walnut St., Portland, IN

(260) 726-7355

Monday - Friday 8 am-5 pm • Saturday 8 am-1 pm • Closed Sunday

Call your order in today!

Freezer bundles are also available. They offer the perfect mix of our most popular cuts of meat in quantities small enough to not crowd your freezer or cramp your budget.

Save time and energy with call ahead ordering and have your order ready to go when you arrive.

www.fishermeats.com

Dodgers deny Blue Jays in World Series

By **RONALD BLUM**
The Press Democrat, Santa Rosa, Calif.
Tribune News Service

TORONTO — Will Smith homered in the 11th inning after Miguel Rojas connected for a tying drive in the ninth, and the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 5-4 in Game 7 Saturday night to become the first team in a quarter century to win consecutive World Series titles.

Los Angeles overcame 3-0 and 4-2 deficits and escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth to become the first repeat champion since the 1998-2000 New York Yankees, and the first from the National League since the 1975 and '76 Cincinnati Reds.

Smith hit a 2-0 slider off Shane Bieber into the Blue Jays' bullpen in left, giving the Dodgers their first lead of the night.

LA won title in 11 innings on Will Smith homer

"You dream of those moments, you know, extra innings, put your team ahead — I'll remember that forever," Smith said.

Yoshinobu Yamamoto, who threw 96 pitches in the Dodgers' win Friday, escaped a bases-loaded jam in the ninth and threw 43 pitches over 2-2/3 innings for his third win of the Series.

He gave up a leadoff double in the 11th to Vladimir Guerrero Jr., who was sacrificed to third. Addison Barger walked and Alejandro Kirk hit a broken-bat grounder to shortstop

Mookie Betts, who started a title-winning 6-4-3 double play that ended baseball's 150th major league season, the first that began and ended outside the United States.

Los Angeles used all four of its postseason starting pitchers, with Yamamoto joined by Shohei Ohtani, Tyler Glasnow and Blake Snell.

"We've got a special group of guys, man," Smith said. "We just never gave up. ... Oh man, that was a fight, for seven games."

See **Deny** page 7

Steelers defense steps up to take down Colts

By **JOE RUTTER**
The Tribune-Review, Greensburg
Tribune News Service

A Jekyll-and-Hyde first half of the NFL season concluded with the Pittsburgh Steelers holding a two-game lead for first place in the AFC North.

That fact was nearly as surprising as the result Sunday at Acrisure Stadium.

The good side of the Steelers was on display in a 27-20 victory over the Indianapolis Colts, the team with the league's best record. The defense forced five turnovers — the Steelers had six takeaways overall — and the offense turned those gifts into 24 points.

It stopped a run of bad performances in which the Steelers' defense hemorrhaged points and yards while losing back-to-back games against Cincinnati and Green Bay, the latter a prime-time letdown at home.

"It's a fine line between drinking wine and squashing grapes in this business," coach Mike Tomlin said.

The Steelers will take a 5-3 record into the second half of the season. They are the only team with a winning record in

the division, with Baltimore stumbling to a 3-5 record, Cincinnati losing a last-second heartbreaker to Chicago on Sunday to fall to 3-6 and Cleveland bringing up the rear at 2-6.

The victory against Indianapolis came a week after the

Steelers blew a 16-7 halftime lead and gave up 28 second-half points to the Packers, prompting defensive captain Cameron Heyward to question the way the team responded to adversity.

"I think from everybody's standpoint there was fight from the entire group," Heyward said after the Steelers held the Colts 14 points below their season average. "Collectively, we all have to be responsible, and we all have to play with a lot of energy. I loved the energy I saw today."

The key for the Steelers will be carrying the momentum over into the second half, starting next Sunday when they play the Los Angeles Chargers on the road. The Steelers still have two games remaining with Baltimore and one apiece against Cincinnati and Cleveland.