

Ready for 40



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Joan and Galan Gray of Keystone explain their homemade board game, “Pegs and Jokers,” to a woman visiting the 2023 Delts’ Holiday Crafts and Gift Show. The annual event is celebrating 40 years. It is scheduled fro 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Delta Theta Tau craft show will celebrate four decades on Saturday at junior-senior high

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review
Forty years. That’s how long the Xi chapter of Delta Theta Tau has been hosting its annual craft show. The Delts’ Holiday Crafts and Gifts Show marks its 40th year. Xi chapter of Delta Theta Tau organizes the Delts’ Holiday Crafts and Gifts Show each November, with this year’s event running from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. Delta Theta Tau president Debbie Funk and vice president Sharon Beeler both remember how the local philanthropic organization’s craft show first started — roughly 50 years ago, sorority members

began by selling their own handmade items out of Asbury United Methodist Church and, later, Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. “We decided we weren’t making enough money, and we chose to try this,” Funk recalled. The philanthropic sorority moved its craft show to the high school 41 years ago, offering space and tables for vendors to sell their wares. Delta Theta Tau has offered space for as many as 160 vendors each year. Although that total dipped in 2021 following the coronavirus pandemic, the total vendor count has stayed above 100 vendors each year. In 2024, Delta Theta Tau hosted 118 vendors. Vendors come from all over

Indiana, as well as some from Ohio and Michigan. Funk recalled one year when a vendor traveled all the way from Florida — they were related to an Indiana resident. “We have them from all over, and we have a lot of people from all over come too,” Funk said. Craft show organizers posted on Facebook that the show had filled its spaces for vendors as of Oct. 31. Plans are to honor vendors Saturday who have been coming to the show for the longest amount of time. Delta Theta Tau chapters Zeta Chi of Dunkirk and Zeta Alpha of Redkey also volunteer their time, with Zeta Alpha members helping Xi chapter with the sorority’s bake sale and Zeta Chi mem-

bers running the coat and baggage check. Other community members pitch in as needed. Jay County High School athletes and student council members set up spaces for vendors the Friday prior and also coordinate setup efforts before the show Saturday. “That’s very much appreciated by us and by the vendors,” said Funk. “It’s just one of those things where you just can’t do it all ... it’s a big show, and we have a lot of people who help us.” Various other local organizations, including Tri Kappa chapter Beta Theta of Portland and Youth Service Bureau, also offer their assistance. “It’s a hard couple days,” said Beeler. See 40 page 2

Cale joins Arts Place team

Blackford native will lead ceramics program

Katie Cale is fired up for her new role as ceramics specialist at Arts Place. A graduate of Blackford High School, Cale earned her bachelor’s degree in art from Ball State University. She will oversee the ceramics departments at both the Jay County Campus of Arts Place in Portland and Blackford County Arts Center in Hartford City. Cale will also handle all kiln firings, including the electric and industrial gas kilns. To welcome Cale, Arts Place is offering several hands-on workshops: “Make a Mug,” “Make a Ceramic Christmas Tree,” “Make a Christmas Ornament,” “Make a Charcuterie Board” and “Tick Tock: Make a Ceramic Clock.” Program fees range from \$10 for the ornament class to \$20 for the Christmas tree class. The remaining programs cost \$15 each. “Make a Mug” sessions will be held in Blackford County from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 12 and from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10. In Jay County, sessions are scheduled for 4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 10 and 6 to 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8. The “Make a Ceramic Christmas Tree” program will be offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Nov. 10 in Jay County and Nov. 12 in Blackford County. The “Make a Christmas Ornament” program will take place from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Nov. 24 in Jay County and Nov. 19 in Blackford County. See Cale page 2

Patriotic presentation

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review
Jessamyn Harter grew up with Iwo Jima as a part of her everyday life. Her grandfather was a proud Marine who had served during the World War II battle. He had a map of the island on his wall. Still, the importance of her grandfather’s service and that of those who stood alongside him did not come into focus until years later. “At a young age, I didn’t realize what it truly meant,” said Harter, a New York resident. “He was very humble ... He really didn’t want credit for a lot. He was very quiet about it.” It was while working on a project as a graphic design major at Syracuse University — she lived with her grandparents while attending college — that she discovered the depth of her grandfather’s story.

Harter will speak Sunday at Museum of the Soldier

Harter will share the details of her grandfather Cpl. Marty Connor’s service in World War II and his efforts to encourage healing decades after the war during Museum of the Soldier’s 250th Marine Corps birthday celebration at 2 p.m. Sunday. “I thought the story was fantastic when I read it,” said Jim Waechter of Museum of the Soldier, 510 E. Arch St., Portland. “She had such compelling stories about Iwo Jima. ...” “It was just a fascinating story, and her personality is such that I thought she’d do a great program.” He added that he felt Harter’s story of her grandfather’s service connects to the Jay County community, as Portland native John Jaqua also served on Iwo Jima. Connor enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in October 1943 at the age of 17 and was on board USS Deuel as it left Hawaii for Iwo Jima on Jan. 27, 1945. His battalion helped capture the island from the Japanese. See Patriotic page 2



Photo provided

During a trip to Iwo Jima earlier this year, Jessamyn Harter took pictures and other items from her grandfather Cpl. Marty Connor. Harter will be the guest speaker at 2 p.m. Sunday for Museum of the Soldier’s 250th Marine Corps birthday celebration. Connor served on Iwo Jima, returned for the first unofficial reunion in 1970 and spent decades working to return artifacts taken during World War II.

Inside

Page 3 — Free photo sessions planned at Jay County Public Library.

Page 4 — Economist Morton Marcus comments on inequity of growth.

Page 8 — A preview of the Jay County High School girls basketball season.

Weather

The high temperature was 67 degrees Wednesday in Jay County. The low was 38.

Expect a low in the upper 30s tonight. Skies will be mostly sunny Saturday with a slight chance of showers in the afternoon and a high in the mid 50s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

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

Coming up

Saturday — Coverage of the FRHS football team’s regional quarterfinal.

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

Wednesday — Coverage of next week’s Dunkirk City Council meeting

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40 ...

Capsule Reports

Continued from page 1

Despite months-long planning and long hours the day of the craft show, Delta Theta Tau members continue to host the event annually, with chairman Linda Ashman leading the effort for 38 years. It's the Delts' largest fundraiser.

Delta Theta Tau raises \$30,000 to \$35,000 annually to give back to the community, with the bulk of that amount coming from the craft show. Dollars go toward various local efforts, including scholarships for graduating high school seniors, Youth For Christ, Secret Families of

Jay County, Jay County Cancer Society, the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner, Jay County Historical Society, The Life Center of Jay County and Jay County Humane Society.

"It means we can give a lot of money back into the community," Funk said.

Delta Theta Tau started its first chapter in Muncie in 1903. It began expanding, first across Indiana and later the country. Its Portland chapter, Xi, started in 1915.

It's become a tradition, too, for Delts' family members to become

involved. Funk's daughters and granddaughters are now sorority members, noted Beeler.

"To me, it's really special that it's generational," she said.

Admission to the Delts' Holiday Crafts and Gifts Show on Saturday is \$3. Visitors who are 12 or younger are admitted for free.

Funk said the sorority is always looking for folks to help out with fundraising efforts.

"It's just all in helping other people, because honestly, it comes back around," Funk said. "People that we've helped, help us do things too."

School bus struck

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 after a Fort Recovery man turned his vehicle into a Jay School Corporation bus at the intersection of county road 275 South and Southtown Place about 7:21 a.m. Thursday.

Anthony J. Brockman, 33, was stopped on Southtown Place preparing to turn east onto county road 275 South. He told police he couldn't see because of frost on his windshield.

He began turning east and struck a 2020 IC Bus PB105 driven by 57-year-old Gilbert Alicea of Portland.

Alicea had stopped at the intersection and was waiting for Brockman to turn before he turned the bus onto Southtown Place.

CR almanac				
Saturday 11/8	Sunday 11/9	Monday 11/10	Tuesday 11/11	Wednesday 11/12
 57/36 Mostly cloudy skies on Saturday, when the high will be around 57 degrees.	 39/25 There's a 50% chance of rain on Sunday when the low may hit 25 degrees.	 37/25 Mostly sunny, with a slight chance of rain. Otherwise, the low may hit the 20s.	 41/35 Tuesday's weather looks to be cloudy when the low may hit 35.	 56/32 Mostly sunny skies on Wednesday when the high will be around 56.

Lotteries	
Powerball 9-17-29-61-66 Power Ball: 26 Power Play: 5 Estimated jackpot: \$467 million	Daily Four: 8-7-3-7 Quick Draw: 3-12-14-17-27-30-31-32-33-40-41-43-47-50-60-63-73-75-76-78 Cash 5: 6-13-16-35-42 Estimated jackpot: \$132,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$843 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 0-5-7 Pick 4: 1-9-6-9 Pick 5: 1-5-6-7-7 Evening Pick 3: 4-4-8 Pick 4: 4-4-0-4 Pick 5: 8-8-3-1-8 Rolling Cash: 5-16-20-35-39 Estimated jackpot: \$150,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 0-2-6 Daily Four: 0-3-4-8 Quick Draw: 1-7-13-16-26-28-29-36-38-43-50-53-54-56-60-67-69-74-75-78 Evening Daily Three: 1-2-8	

Markets	
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.39 Dec. corn4.46	Wheat 4.94
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.38 Nov./Dec. corn4.46 Jan. corn4.51	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.26 Dec. corn4.31 Beans10.85 Dec. beans10.97 Wheat4.94
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.26 Dec. corn4.31 Beans10.99 Dec. beans11.05	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.21 Dec. corn4.26 Beans10.60 Dec. beans10.70 Wheat4.84

Today in history

In 1991, Magic Johnson announced his retirement from basketball because he was HIV positive. He returned to the sport to play for the Dream Team in the 1992 Summer Olympics and to the NBA for part of the 1995-96 season.

In 2000, the presidential election ended in a virtual tie with Democrat Al Gore leading Republican George Bush by less than 600,000 votes out of more than 104 million cast and the Electoral College count hinging on disputed ballots in Florida. It took until a Dec. 12 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court to deny

a Florida recount and thus make Bush the winner in the Electoral College, 271-266.

In 2016, Jay County Hospital proposed a two-year agreement to Jay County Commissioners that would allow the hospital to take over management of Jay Emergency Medical Service, which at that time had been struggling financially. Commissioners and Jay County Council later approved the agreement. About a year later, the hospital announced final details for its plan to become part of the IU Health network.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar	
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory	Board, living facility, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Tuesday 6 p.m. — Ridgeville Town Council, fire station, 302 N. Walnut St.	
Wednesday 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	

Patriotic ...

Continued from page 1

He was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the American Theater Victory Medal.

He was involved in the first unofficial Iwo Jima reunion in February 1970, 25 years after the battle. There, he met Japanese naval captain Tsunezo Wachi, who explained that many of his countrymen had nothing by which to remember their ancestors who lost their lives in the battle.

"To those left behind, even a small object was like having a soul returned home to them," Harter said.

During World War II, it was common for soldiers to take items — bayonets, swords, prayer coins, flags, journals — from the bodies of their fallen battlefield enemies.

Connor had such a journal and photographs from his time on the island. When he returned home, he sent the items to Wachi in Japan in hopes they could be reunited with the families of the deceased.

The journal made its way to the fallen Japanese soldier's widow.

She wept upon receiving it.

Over the decades that followed, Connor worked with Wachi and Masataka Shiokawa, the son of a

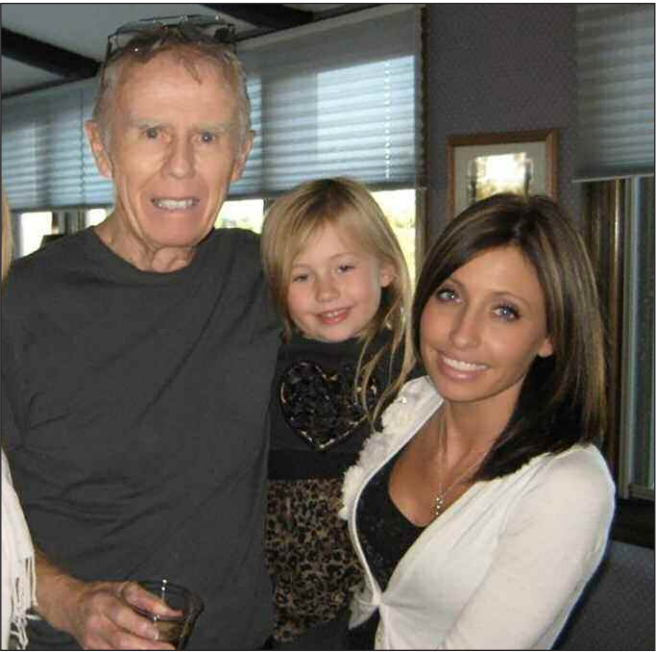


Photo provided

"Pint-Size Patriot" Jessamyn Harter (right) is pictured with her grandfather Cpl. Marty Connor and her daughter Peyton Rose. Through her podcast, Harter interviews World War II veterans and shares their stories. Connor died in 2020.

Japanese soldier killed in battle at Okinawa, to gather and return artifacts taken by American soldiers to their rightful owners in Japan. Their story is chronicled in the book "In Blood, Flowers Bloom: A World War II Story of Valor and Forgiveness Across Generations" by Samantha Bresnahan.

A graphic design volunteer with Iwo Jima Association of America, Harter had the opportunity earli-

er this year to visit the island and climb Mount Suribachi where her grandfather stood for the reunion ceremony 55 years ago.

"Just an incredible experience to even stand on such hallowed ground," said Harter. "So many lives were lost."

Bresnahan's book will be available for purchase during Sunday's event, which will also feature introductions of all

Marines in attendance. There will also be an exhibit of 125 years of U.S. Marine uniforms and equipment.

In addition to her work with the Iwo Jima Association and Honor Flight, Harter hosts the Pint-Size Patriot Podcast in which she interviews World War II veterans. She said she feels it's important to share the stories of her grandfather, who died in 2020, and all of those who served in World War II.

The National World War II Museum estimates that about 66,000 — less than 0.5% of the about 16.4 million Americans who served in World War II — were still living as of 2024. That includes 873 in Indiana.

"I think a lot of people forget that freedom isn't free," said Harter, who will also speak at 5:30 p.m. Monday at the American Legion Post in St. Henry, Ohio. "It's because of these veterans, these World War II veterans who we owe everything to, because they sacrificed ...

"We would not be the country we are without them, and I just think people forget. It isn't talked about enough, the World War II veterans. We get so stuck in the everyday ... that we don't realize we're passing by, we're losing so many World War II veterans."

Cale ...

Continued from page 1

The "Make a Charcuterie Board" class will be offered the same days at each location from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

"Tick Tock: Make a Ceramic Clock" will be held from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Dec. 10 in Blackford County and from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Dec. 8 in Jay County.

Arts Place will also host private ceramic parties and offer monthly open studio sessions and Fire for Hire classes with Cale.

Under Cale's direction, Arts Place plans to expand its ceramics offerings in 2026 with new classes in wheel throwing and surface design.

Anyone interested in signing up for classes or events can visit myart-splace.org.

SERVICES	
Today	
Hicks , Christina: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.	
Loper , John: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.	
Saturday, Nov. 8	
Chittum-Lucas , June: 1 p.m., Redkey First Christian Church, 4 S. Union St., Redkey.	
Saturday, Nov. 29	
Moore , Stephen: 2 p.m., Redkey Church of the Nazarene, 801 W. High St., Redkey.	
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Father tells relatives he’s been cut off

DEAR ABBY: My father and I have had a contentious relationship since I was a teenager. Despite being raised in his house, my values are different from his, and he takes it personally. I left home as soon as I was old enough and have lived the way I want since then.

After a couple of years of not seeing each other, my father asked if we could be in more regular contact. We tried that, and it went badly. Every conversation ended in a fight. When I told him we needed a family counselor to help us find common ground, he absolutely refused. Now he’s telling our relatives that I cut off contact with him and am keeping him from my kids. This isn’t true. I wanted us to work with a mediator to find a healthier way of talking with each other. I am no longer sure it is realistic.

He is involving my siblings, aunts and cousins and making

Dear Abby



them choose sides. How do I protect the relationships I have with the rest of my family if he keeps acting like a jerk? For what it’s worth: My life is pretty boring. I’m 30 and married, and I have a college degree and a solid job. We live in a house in a nice neighborhood and watch our kids play soccer on the weekends. — MY OWN MAN IN MISSOURI

DEAR OWN MAN: How has that isolation plan of your father’s been working? Do you have good relationships with the rest of your family? If you haven’t

already, give your relatives chapter and verse about your father’s controlling behavior. Make it clear to them that you would like to have a relationship with your dad, but unless he is willing to accept professional mediation, you cannot have one. You have all the ingredients for a happy life. It will be yours if you can resist your father’s coercion.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My mother passed away recently, and my brother, who lives nearby, is clearing out her house. He asked me if there was anything I wanted from the house, and I told him I wanted the photographs of my children when they were young, which I had sent to my mother over the years, as I live overseas. I suggested he send them to my daughter in New York, as she will be coming to visit me in a

few months and can bring them.

My brother mailed the pictures, and my daughter opened the package. Upon seeing the pictures, she decided she wanted to keep the ones she is in and to pass to her sister (also in New York) the ones she is in. She claims they are hers. I say they are not. She was only meant to be a messenger to bring them to me. I offered to make copies or to scan them and email them to her. She is now not speaking to me. Who is right, and what should I do? — PICTURE-LESS IN ISRAEL

DEAR PICTURE-LESS: You are right. As you stated, the pictures could have been copied for your daughters if they wished. Their daughter is no longer speaking to you over this tells me there may be other family issues between you and your daughters. If I were you, I’d

take this into consideration when drafting my will.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My son-in-law says I am lazy and antisocial because I use the drive-up grocery option. I told him that when I use the drive-up, I do less impulse buying and save time and money. Am I wrong? — INSULTED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR INSULTED: Of course you are not wrong. What you are doing works for you, and you shouldn’t be criticized for it. Ask yourself why your passive-aggressive son-in-law feels the need to put you down. Is there something else going on in your relationship with him ... or in his head?

.....

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

Library to host free photo sessions

The library is offering free professional photos next week.

Families are invited to sign up for the event at Jay County Public Library from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13. Families may select a 15-minute time slot and choose from three different backdrops. Digital downloads will be available following photo sessions via email. Space is limited, and registration is required.

Self-serve photo props and backdrops will be available in the children’s section of the library from 4 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13, through 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 15, during the library’s regular hours. For more information, call (260) 726-7890.

Lunch and learn series

Seniors have the opportunity to learn more about home brewing next month.

Taking Note

Josh Gibson, a Jay County High School teacher and beekeeper, will present “Buzz, Brew and Bloom Crafting” during John Jay Center for Learning’s Lunch and Learn series Thursday, Dec. 4. The event starts with lunch at 11:30 a.m. with Gibson’s presentation to follow.

Reservations are \$5 for seniors 55 years old and older.

Returning to fairgrounds

Christmas Nights of Lights will return to Indiana State Fair-

grounds in Indianapolis from Nov. 7 through 31.

The event will feature more than 1 million lights synchronized to holiday music. New this year are three large Christmas trees that will be lit with color-changing lights.

“This event continues to be a favorite for families across Indiana,” says LeRoy Lewis III, director of community and media engagement for the fairgrounds, in a news release. “We’re excited to add new elements this year that make the show even more memorable.”

Other features include a 180-foot-long Cosmic Wall of Lights and life-sized Nativity.

Christmas Nights of Lights will be open from 6 to 10 p.m. daily. Tickets are \$38 for a car with up to eight passengers.

Community Calendar

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

Today

PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. To learn more information, please call (260) 251-3259.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call

(260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

Sunday

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

Monday

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

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

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at noon the second Monday of each month at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St, Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m.

each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

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

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

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

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

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

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio.

Tuesday

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

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

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

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

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

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday’s Solution

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

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.

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State growth masks uneven gains

By MORTON J. MARCUS

One thing most workers expect is growth in income over a five-year period.

If 2% inflation is to be considered normal, then we think our income should grow at least by 2%. In truth, we expect good income growth, with “good” being defined as better than our neighbors.

This column is on the aggregate level of states and Hoosier counties. We’ll look at total personal income, which has three components:

1. Earnings, which are basically wages and salaries, less what we and our employers pay as contributions for government social insurance programs (such as Social Security and Medicare).
2. Property income (dividends, interest and rent, including the

Morton J. Marcus



rental equivalent of our homes, if we own them).

3. Personal current transfer receipts (government benefits, mainly Social Security and Medicare payments).

Indiana’s personal income grew from 2018 through 2023 (encompassing the COVID-19 years). But how much? The data available for the counties sums to \$2 billion less than the latest state level numbers.

If we go by the older data, Indiana’s growth was 34.2%; if we follow the data released

before the government shut-down in October, our growth was 34.9%. The difference is critical because the national growth rate was 34.6%. Our bully boosters love seeing us grow faster than the nation, but our anxious analysts lament growing slower. The depressed doubters among us just plough ahead, indifferent to the data.

Boone County led a group of eight counties with personal income growth rates in excess of 40% from 2018 to 2023. Although Marion County had the 11th-highest growth rate, it increased its leadership in personal income from 15.8% of the state total to 16.4%, capturing 18% of the state’s \$107 billion personal income growth.

Marion County and its seven adjacent counties captured 46% of the state’s earnings by place of residence. The center of the

state extended its dominance of the state’s growth. Only Shelby County at 27%, fell below the state average growth rate for this component of personal income growth.

The eight Indianapolis counties had 42% of the state’s growth in dividends, interest and rent. Of our 92 counties, only 34 saw this component increasing its share of personal income.

Transfer payments constituted 24% of the increase in personal income, increasing in importance in all but 3 Indiana counties (Parke, Daviess, and Randolph). The eight Indianapolis counties accounted for 23% of the increase in transfer payments.

In summary, earnings accounted for 59% of the increase in the state’s personal income, property income repre-

sented 17% of that increase and transfer payments accounted for 24%. This pattern is largely a result of an aging population which is working less, reducing past savings, and increasingly dependent on Social Security and Medicare.

As I wrote in a book 20 years ago, the answer lies in making the working population more productive by increasing its education, specifically in the primary and secondary grades. Increasing the years of schooling, adding layers of certification, without increasing the education, won’t work.

But our legislature and Congress never have learned to read the writing on the wall.

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

Washington ignores looming emergency

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

In its final report of the fiscal year, the U.S. Treasury Department delivered some unfortunate news. The government spent a little over \$7 trillion in 2025 and raised just \$5.2 trillion in taxes. To cover the gap, it borrowed \$1.8 trillion, equivalent to more than a quarter of public spending and 6% of gross domestic product. “Unsustainable” is too mild a word.

Washington, preoccupied aptly enough with the latest government shut-down, has mostly looked away from this looming crisis. Before much longer, that option will no longer be available.

The Congressional Budget Office recently projected federal debt over the coming decades — assuming that current laws remain in place — and then asked what would change, given all-too-plausible variations around its customary baseline. It found that the ratio of debt to GDP, already at a post-war high of roughly 100%, is on track to exceed 150% over the next few decades. If the path of future interest rates is higher than assumed — increasing by 5 basis points a year — the debt ratio will exceed 200%. And if, instead of conforming to current law, revenue and spending maintain their historical averages (discretionary outlays of 7% of GDP and revenue equal to roughly 17% of GDP), the debt ratio will exceed 225% in 2050. (By 2055, it’s literally off the chart.)

Every signal is flashing red. Three of the main federal trust funds are close to insolvent. The Highway Trust Fund, financed with the tax on gas, will be empty by 2028. The Social Security retirement fund and the Medicare hospital-insurance fund, financed by income taxes, are both on course to run out in 2032. When the funds are depleted, the rules require the government to cut highway spending by 46%, Social Security retirement payments by 24% and Medicare payments by 12%.

Granted, if recent experience is any guide, Congress will simply waive those rules and let the debt keep on growing. In which case, sooner or later, lenders will question whether they’ll be repaid

Guest Opinion

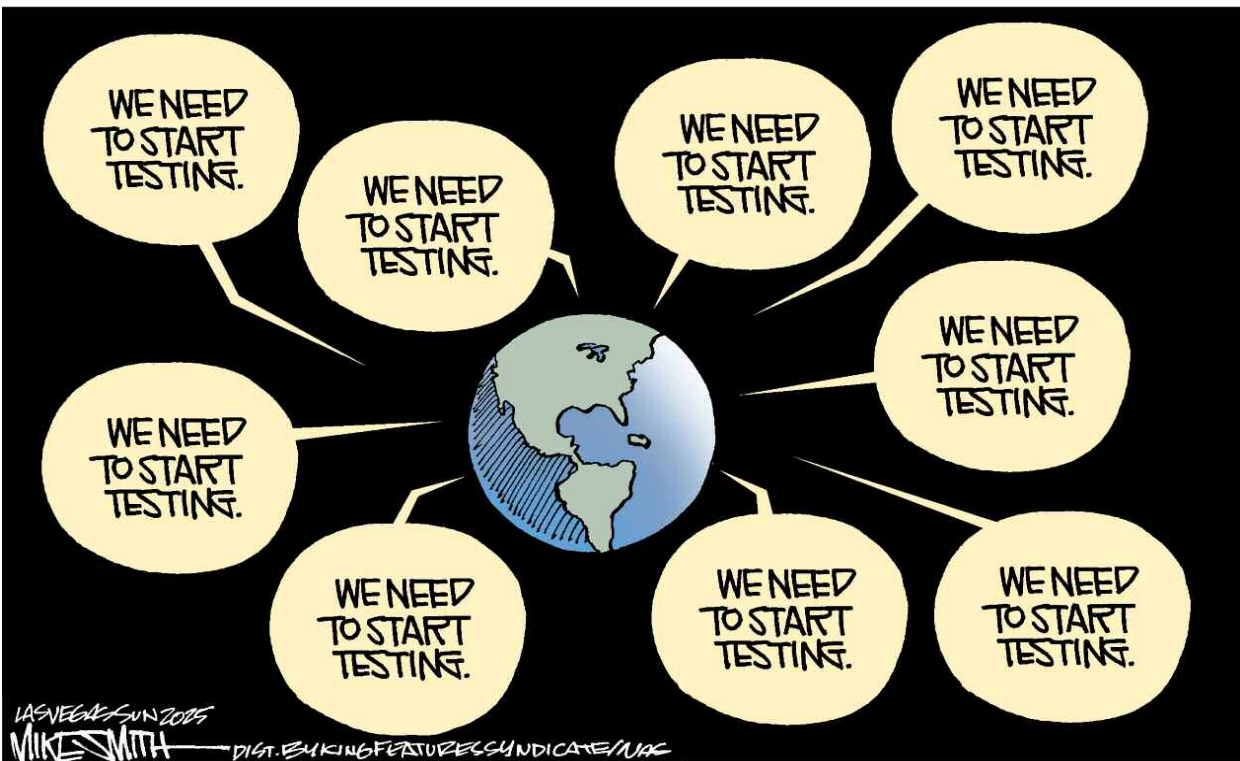
The budget gap is already so big that there’s no simple solution. ... And just stabilizing the debt isn’t good enough.

in full, and demand much higher interest rates to cover the risk. There’s already foreseeable pressure on future interest rates because of demographic stress (the ratio of dependents to workers is going up) and the need for extra investment in defense and clean energy. Add to that a sudden risk premium, and the economy finally hits the fiscal wall.

The budget gap is already so big that there’s no simple solution. Merely stabilizing the debt at 100% of GDP, never mind reducing it, would require cutting the deficit from \$1.8 trillion to roughly \$1.3 trillion — meaning tax increases and/or spending cuts to the tune of \$500 billion a year (equivalent to a 10% tax increase across the board). And just stabilizing the debt isn’t good enough: Even at 100% of GDP, that would leave no fiscal space to deal with recessions and other emergencies.

Every year’s delay in addressing the problem makes it harder to solve. The White House and Congress must wake up to the gravity of the situation and start to think seriously about the mix of spending restraint and higher taxes that will be necessary to address it. Come to think of it, strike “seriously.” Giving the matter even a moment’s thought would be progress.

REACTIONS TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE U.S. RESTARTS TESTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS



Our media habits are broken

By KELLIE WALENCIAK

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

My father had a simple ritual. At 6 a.m., he would read the New York Post and Daily News cover to cover. At 6 p.m., he tuned into the evening news — an hour of straightforward reporting, not commentary.

He formed his own opinions, and then he moved on. The news didn’t dominate company picnics or poker nights with the neighbors. A staunch Republican, he didn’t shun his Democratic relatives in Scranton. He stayed informed without being consumed.

That balance feels almost quaint today.

Instead of a daily digest, Americans now live inside a 24/7 outrage machine. We spend an average of two hours and 24 minutes on social media every day, check our phones 159 times a day and will collectively log 4 trillion hours online this year. Nearly half of us say we now watch more user-generated content than TV or streaming. Information is available and, quite frankly, unavoidable.

The results are corrosive. Every story is framed as existential, and every disagreement is a loyalty test. Unlike my father’s poker table, where the stakes were bragging rights and a few bucks, today’s debates play out before an invisible audience of strangers in all caps and fury.

In the 1970s and ’80s, Dad didn’t have to choose between competing realities. Everyone argued from the same facts. Today, news is no longer a shared resource but a marketplace of outrage: 24-hour cable channels fighting for loyalty and algorithms on Facebook, X and TikTok feeding us headlines designed to reinforce what we already believe. It feels like information, but it’s really affirmation. And the more affirmation we consume, the less empathy we extend.

Kellie Walenciak



That distortion has real-world costs. Utah Gov. Spencer Cox urged Americans to “log off, turn off, touch grass. Hug a family member.” He said it after conservative activist Charlie Kirk was assassinated and the U.S. recorded its 45th school shooting of the year. The juxtaposition was hard to miss: Online talk of civil war collides with headlines of real violence. And yet, in the communities where we actually live, most Americans behave very differently than our feeds would suggest.

At a Mets game I attended this summer, thousands of fans of every background and political persuasion stood together to sing “Take Me Out to the Ball Game.” In my neighborhood, many are MAGA supporters. We don’t pretend otherwise, but our daily conversations are about work, tennis, children, and who’s bringing dessert to the holiday party. When my husband had COVID-19, one of those neighbors — a Donald Trump voter — was the first to text and check in. When my mother-in-law was sick, another ran down to sit with her while we were out. These are not the actions of enemies on the brink of civil war.

That disconnect — between the civility of daily life and the hostility of digital life — tells us more about warped incentives than it does about the character of the country. Social media platforms don’t profit when we feel at ease with one another. They profit when we fight.

Of course, none of this is an argument for ignorance. Democracy requires informed citizens, and there are moments when it is irresponsible to look away. But being informed is not the same thing as being consumed. And right now, we are confusing one for the other.

So what’s the alternative? I call it the 6 o’clock rule — my father’s discipline, adapted for a digital age:

Time-box your news. Get what you need once or twice a day. No alerts. No midnight doomscroll.

Cross-check. Read one outlet you’re inclined to agree with, one you’re not and one that gives you just the facts.

No comments. Learn; don’t perform. Resist the temptation to treat every headline as a personal referendum.

Skip the algorithm. Buy a local newspaper. Algorithms reward outrage. A print paper, or even its website, forces you outside your echo chamber.

Model it for your kids. Children learn media habits by imitation. Set shared house rules (no screens at meals, charge phones outside bedrooms) and narrate your own cross-checking so they can copy it.

It sounds small, but it’s not. After a month of following this rule, my screen time was down by a third. I still knew what mattered, but I also got back into reading for fun, started biking and, ironically, felt more informed and more hopeful.

Democracy depends on informed citizens, not exhausted ones. We need the discipline to step back if we want a country that looks more like our neighborhoods than our newsfeeds. The 6 o’clock rule is a good place to start.

Walenciak is the chief of global marketing and communications for Televerde.

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

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Composting key to good spring

Starting in the fall can reap big benefits

By SONO MOTOYAMA
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Tribune News Service

PITTSBURGH — If you have a vegetable garden, you might have tried composting. But if you're like me, you may have ended up with a slimy mess — or maybe a pile that just sat there and didn't decompose.

Succeeding at composting can not only benefit your veggies and other plants, but also cut down on your household waste. Yard waste, food scraps and other organic materials make up 34% of municipal waste sent to landfills in Pennsylvania, according to the state Department of Environmental Protection.

Compost is an excellent soil amendment because it is not only filled with nutrients for your plants, but is also bacteria-rich, making it like adding a probiotic to your garden bed.

Fall is an ideal time to start a compost pile, or to try your hand again at composting. There is an abundance of dry leaves as well as organic material from spent garden plants to put into your compost. And with a little tending, you will have it ready in time for your spring plantings.

The basics of composting are not difficult, but even experts say it is a learning process.

Make a good start

In my past attempts at composting, I made a mistake from the very beginning by choosing a plastic composter.

Some experts say that the enclosed plastic containers tend to trap too much moisture, and you sometimes get a sodden mess.

The organic material can start to smell and flies will begin to



Tribune News Service/Dreamstime/Elena Elisseeva

Succeeding at composting can not only benefit your veggies and other plants, but also cut down on your household waste. The fall is a good time to start the composting process, with plenty of dry leaves and spent garden plants available.

swarm. Neophytes may throw up their hands and conclude that they don't have the knack.

As an alternative to plastic bins, you can simply make a 3-by-3-foot pile, or create a three-sided bin made of heat-treated wooden pallets. This structure allows air to circulate and the open side enables easy access for turning the pile.

The next step is to add the right materials. A good place to start is a pile of dry leaves or a bale of straw.

Think about "repurposing" your neighbors' dry leaves if they put them out with the trash. Then alternate a layer of dry brown material with green material, like kitchen scraps, making a sort of "lasagna." If you have a hose nearby, wet the pile down as you go.

An approximate ratio of two or three 5-gallon buckets of brown material to one bucket of vegetable scraps will give you a good mix of carbon to nitrogen.

Don't add animal waste, bones, dairy products, weeds with seeds, treated grass clippings or sawdust, because of concerns about disease, chemicals or attracting rodents and other animal pests.

You can finish the pile with a layer of finished compost if it's available. It's like adding a probiotic to the pile, helping it to break down the newer organic material with beneficial bacteria.

If you notice after a while that your compost is too wet, you probably need to add more brown material. If the pile is not decomposing at all, you have too much brown material — wood chips or sawdust.

And — in another mistake that I've made — you do have to turn the pile occasionally with a shovel or pitchfork. If you turn it consistently, you can have finished compost in as little as a month.

Still, you needn't devote all of your spare time to your compost to have good results. Even a pile tended to every few weeks can yield a fertile bonanza.

Pro composting tips

There may be times when you need to ditch your compost and start again.

If it smells bad, with a strong ammonia smell, that means there's not enough oxygen in the system.

Likely, the bacteria in the pile will not be beneficial to plants. What you want to encourage is oxygen-loving bacteria.

If you've created a monstrosity, throw it out and start again. Even expert composters have gone through this experience, I've been assured.

Another thing that has confounded me about composting is that if you're constantly adding new material to the pile and turn-

ing it, you will never have that black gold finished compost that you're searching for.

Community gardens often address this by having three wooden bins: one that gardeners actively add to, another that is regularly turned but no new material is added, and a final pile that is finished compost.

To get that final pile, use a homemade sifter made of chicken wire or half-inch hardware cloth stapled to a square of 2-by-4s.

Another pro tip: Use a pair of hand pruners to cut down stalks or other larger pieces of garden waste into 6-inch pieces, which will speed the breakdown of the material.

Using all your senses

Finished compost should be dark and slightly moist, like a wrung-out sponge. It should smell earthy.

Speaking of smells, think about using all of your senses when making compost, like a chef creating a recipe.

How does it smell? What does it look like as it's breaking down? Do you see insects like millipedes, spiders and pill bugs? (This is a good sign, indicating that there is a thriving food chain, including beneficial microbes.) Is the pile hot? (Even in the wintertime, a compost pile may steam.)

By observing, you'll develop a second sense of what your compost needs. You may even want to keep date-stamped photos of your compost to keep track of the stages.

In the spring, add compost to the bottom of holes where you're transplanting seedlings. You can also use it as "top dressing," placing it around the base of a plant.

If this all sounds too complicated, however, there is a simpler, intermediate step.

Create a ring of chicken wire, about a hug's width in diameter, and simply deposit dry leaves in the fall. The leaves will naturally break down and can be used as mulch for your garden, or as a compost starter in the spring.

Composting will benefit not only your plants but the whole tiny ecosystem of insects, worms and microbes in your garden.

Job outlook for ag graduates is strong

By NYSSA LILOVICH
Purdue Ag News

A new report released by Purdue University's College of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) projects that employment opportunities will remain strong for new college graduates with degrees in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment (FARNRE).

The Employment Opportunities for College Graduates in Food, Agriculture, Renewable Natural Resources and the Environment report for 2025-30 forecasts about 104,766 job openings annually across four broad job clusters: business and management;

Report forecasts more than 100,000 annual job openings

science and engineering; food and biomaterials production; and education, communication and governmental services. The estimate was developed using Bureau of Labor Statistics data and web-scraped data on FARNRE position announcements.

"Agriculture offers outstanding career opportunities for those committed to ensuring a safe, nutritious and affordable food supply," said Bernie Engel, the

Glenn W. Sample Dean of Agriculture at Purdue. "It's a field where passion meets purpose, and the future looks exceptionally bright. As this report shows, today's agricultural careers are powered by innovation — from data analytics and automation to sustainable engineering and precision technologies."

Employer demand for graduates with FARNRE-aligned skills is expected to dramatically exceed the

number of available FARNRE majors. Of the 104,766 projected annual openings, graduates earning FARNRE degrees will make up 48% (50,057) of the supply, while allied disciplines will contribute 25% (25,802). The remaining 27% (28,907) of hires will come from other fields.

"Across the board, employers are looking for graduates who can integrate data, technology and leadership into decision-making," said Christine Wilson, senior associate dean and director of academic programs in Purdue's College of Agriculture and lead author of the report. "These trends reinforce the value of agricultural business, food and science education and degrees

in preparing students for meaningful, high-impact careers."

The breakdown of available jobs in the four major clusters is as follows:

- Business and management (41%) — Includes finance, risk management, supply chain, e-commerce, consulting and data analytics roles across the food and agriculture value chain
- Science and engineering (21%) — Encompasses agronomy, plant and animal sciences, biological and agricultural engineering, food science, automation, and water and soil systems
- Food and biomaterials production (19%) — Covers production management, precision agriculture, biomaterials, bioenergy and

environmental management

- Education, communication and governmental services (19%) — Includes ag educators, communicators, policy specialists and data analysts in local, state and national organizations and government roles

"The future of agriculture depends on building a workforce of professionals from every discipline and background — rural, urban and suburban — who bring technical expertise and global awareness to the complex challenges of feeding a growing world," said Jay Akridge, co-author and Trustees Chair Professor of Teaching and Learning Excellence and professor of agricultural economics at Purdue.



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SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly

I TOLD HER THERE AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH, AIN'T NO VALLEY LOW ENOUGH, AIN'T NO RIVER WIDE ENOUGH TO KEEP ME FROM HER.

BUT THERE IS A STALKING LAW STRICT ENOUGH, IT TURNS OUT.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

11-7

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“He’s not here, but I’m the BOY of the house.”

Peanuts

WHAT’S THAT?

~~~~~

I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL

MAYBE SOMEDAY OUR TEAM WILL HAVE A REGULAR WHIRLPOOL

Rose is Rose

IT’S MY MORNING COFFEE. I CHOOSE TO DELAY MY RESPONSE...

TO PEEKABOO’S ANTICS.

Agnes

AGNES... WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?

I AM THE AMAZING AGNESSINA! MENTALIST TO THE STARS! THIS IS MY MENTALIST GARB.

I CAN BEND THINGS USING ONLY THE POWER OF MY MIND! ANYONE GOT A SPOON? I AM HIGHLY EXPERIENCED WITH SPOON TWISTERY! SPOONS?

GOOD THING NO ONE HAD ANY... WOULD HAVE BEEN A TOTAL SPOON GRAVEYARD.

Hi and Lois

DO YOU HAVE AN EXTRA RAKE?

UH... YEAH.

I LOVE THIS TIME OF YEAR!

IF CHIP FALLS FOR HER... HE’LL TURN OVER A NEW LEAF.

Between Friends

I CAN’T WAIT TO GET TO FRANCE TO SEE BENOIT! I REALLY MISS HIM

IT’S TOUGH BEING IN SEPARATE COUNTRIES AND TOUGH HAVING YOUR TIME BOUND BY RUNNING YOUR OWN BUSINESS

THANK GOODNESS I’VE FINALLY GOT A FOUR-WEEK BREATHER BETWEEN CLIENTS

UM...THERE’S JUST ONE LAST-MINUTE ITEM BEFORE WE WRAP UP... SPEAKING OF WHICH—

Blondie

DOCTOR, LET’S SCRUTINIZE THESE FAST-FOOD INGREDIENTS UNDER A MICROSCOPE!

YIKES! YUCKY!

SOMETIMES I FEEL BETTER NOT KNOWING THE INGREDIENTS

I HEAR YA, BRO!

GIVE ME ANOTHER ‘IGNORANCE IS BLISS’ SPECIAL!!

ROGER THAT!!

Snuffy Smith

BREAKIN’ NEWS !!

ELMER THOMAS BROKE HIS LAIG... LUREN JENKS BROKE A PROMISE... CLARENCE BARLOW WENT BROKE GOIN’ FER BROKE, AN’ DOC PRITCHART’S PARKIN’ BRAKE BROKE !!

Beetle Bailey

I WANT TO APOLOGIZE IN ADVANCE IF WE LET ANY CURSE WORDS SLIP OUT, CHAPLAIN

OH, I’VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE

DON’T BE SO SURE

Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Double-dummy problem

NORTH  
♠ A K Q J  
♥ A 8 7 6 5  
♦ A 2  
♣ A 2

WEST  
♥ K Q J 10 9  
♦ K Q J 10  
♣ K Q J 10

EAST  
♥ 4 3 2  
♦ 9 8 7 6 5  
♣ 9 8 7 6 5

SOUTH  
♠ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2  
♥ —  
♦ 4 3  
♣ 4 3

Contract — Seven Spades.  
Opening lead — king of hearts.

Devotees of double-dummy problems will enjoy trying to solve this one in which declarer must make seven spades against best defense by East-West. As usual in double-dummy problems, declarer is permitted to look at all four hands. The task might seem impossible, but it can be done.

Declarer ruffs the heart lead, cashes the A-K-Q-J of trump and ruffs another heart. He then plays the ten of spades, and West, who cannot afford to discard a heart, discards a diamond. (The outcome is the same if he parts with a club.) Dummy also discards a diamond, and let’s say East discards a heart. Declarer next leads a diamond to the ace, cashes the ace of hearts, discarding a club, and ruffs a heart to produce this position:

North  
♥ 8  
♠ A 2

West  
♥ Q  
♣ K Q

East  
♦ 9  
♣ 9 8

South  
♥ 9  
♦ 4  
♣ 4

South now plays the spade nine, forcing West to discard a club. Declarer discards the now-useless heart from dummy, whereupon East finds himself in serious trouble. If he discards his diamond, South scores the last two tricks with the four of diamonds and ace of clubs, while if East discards a club, dummy takes the last two tricks with the A-2 of clubs.

Tomorrow: All roads lead to Rome.  
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11-7 CRYPTOQUIP

G NEG VF NEP LGM BXPB  
BLCNNGVM B JHIIPP REHZ  
IHX ZBNXHVR’ JBX R REHCTU  
LP JBTTPU B ZPXFVGM THN.  
Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: UNIVERSITY WHERE PEOPLE STUDY HOW TO CONTEMPLATE THEIR BELLYBUTTONS: THE NAVAL ACADEMY.  
Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: I equals F

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 37 — Lancelot  
1 Agt.’s take  
4 Future flower  
7 Class  
12 Swiss canton  
13 Chemical suffix  
14 Now, in Mexico City  
15 Favorite  
16 Branches  
18 “— Little Teapot”  
19 Waikiki parties  
20 Swim meet assignment  
22 Hwy.  
23 Tennis champ Arthur  
27 Solidify  
29 Porch chair  
31 Sheep’s cry  
34 Idaho’s capital  
35 Of serfs and vassals

DOWN 24 Enjoy the Alps  
2 Espresso foam  
3 Giant  
4 H.S. lab class  
5 Open up, as a flag  
6 Make lean  
7 Scrooge cries  
8 “Ah, I see!”  
9 Menagerie  
10 Leftover bit  
11 Airline to Sweden  
17 Litigant oath  
21 Quaint  
23 Future oak

Solution time: 25 mins.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N | I | B | T | O | U | R | C | U | E | S |
| A | C | U | I | R | M | A | E | T | A | L |
| B | U | S | S | T | O | P | S | R | A | V |
| L | O | L | S | E | E | T | H | E | D |   |
| W | H | I | N | E | D | S | I | A |   |   |
| I | O | N | S | U | R | N | I | C | E | R |
| S | T | E | P | B | U | D | N | O | N | O |
| C | E | S | A | R | M | I | O | L | O | O |
| T | I | C | P | R | O | U | S | T |   |   |
| T | A | X | I | C | A | B | A | D | M |   |
| E | L | B | E | S | S | Y | L | L | A | B |
| S | O | O | N | T | O | O | L | U | R | L |
| T | E | X | T | E | B | A | Y | S | N | O |

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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.

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# Nets secure their 1st win against the Pacers

By C.J. HOLMES  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

And there it is. The Nets are no longer winless.

Brooklyn finally broke through Wednesday night inside Gainbridge Fieldhouse. It wasn't always pretty, things got tight late and they lost their leading scorer along the way, but Jordi Fernández's group outlasted the Indiana Pacers for a 112-103 victory, their first of the 2025-26 season.

It was hardly flawless, but it marked the first time all season the Nets maintained defensive discipline and poise when it mattered most. Every player had a hand in it on both ends.

"I think it was a team effort, and I'm really proud of the whole group," Fernández said. "Being part of this win, it's really special... I'm very, very, very happy for the group. Winning like this gives you energy."

Brooklyn entered the night without four of its five rookies, but its veterans were healthy aside from Haywood Highsmith, and a new starting lineup of Terance Mann, Cam Thomas, Michael Porter Jr., Noah Clowney and Nic Claxton set the tone early, holding the severely short-handed Pacers to 29.6% shooting in the first quarter — the Nets' best defensive period of the season.

Back from a one-game

absence, Porter started hot, going 3-for-3 from the field and 2-for-2 from beyond the arc as the Nets built a 15-6 lead. Indiana answered with a 7-0 run while Brooklyn missed its next seven shots, but the Nets regrouped to take a 25-18 lead at the end of the first quarter, their first time holding an advantage after one this season.

However, while the opening quarter brought a few small wins for Brooklyn, it also delivered a potentially costly blow. Moments after missing a midrange jumper, Thomas limped off the court with 6:25 left and was ruled out for the remainder of the game. The Nets later diagnosed it as left hamstring tightness. The 24-year-old missed 59 games last season because of injuries to the same hamstring.

To make matters worse, the Pacers opened the second quarter on an 8-0 run to reclaim the lead. The period turned into a back-and-forth battle, but Indiana closed strong with an 11-4 burst over the final 3:33 to take a 59-54 advantage into halftime. The Pacers shot a scorching 64% in the quarter, led by 10 points from Ben Sheppard and eight from Jay Huff, while Mann kept Brooklyn close with 11 points. Porter had already poured in 20 of his game-high 32 points by the break.

The second half opened

with a bit of chaos. Porter forced a turnover in the backcourt, and after officials awarded Brooklyn possession, he buried another 3-pointer. The sequence sent Pacers coach Rick Carlisle into a fury that led to his ejection.

Brooklyn briefly pulled ahead in the third quarter, but any momentum it built was undone by Huff and Pascal Siakam, who combined for 15 points in the period. Clowney went 4-for-5 from the field, yet the Nets still entered the fourth trailing by three.

"When he plays like this, he looks like a grown man at 21," Fernández said of Clowney. "He's a complete player... His ceiling is, we don't even know."

A 32-20 fourth-quarter run sealed Brooklyn's first win of the season, with Claxton, Tyrese Martin and Jalen Wilson leading the charge. The Nets clamped down defensively, holding Indiana to 33.3% shooting and forcing four turnovers, converting 18 total giveaways into 23 points.

Clowney added 17 points and four rebounds in his second straight start, while Claxton posted his team-leading third double-double of the season with 18 points, 10 rebounds and six assists. Porter notched his third 30-point outing in seven games as a Net.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Ready to pick

Fort Recovery High School's Ian McCain positions himself to intercept a pass intended for Sir Michael Miller of Cincinnati College Prep in the regional opener. The Tribe will take on fourth-seeded Eastern tonight in the quarterfinal.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Fort Recovery — Football regional quarterfinal at Eastern — 7 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Girls wrestling invitational at Monroe Central — 8:30 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling in tournament at Community Lanes — 8 a.m.; Girls bowling in tournament at Community Lanes — 8 a.m.; Girls basketball scrimmage vs. Russia — 10 a.m.

## TV schedule

**Today**  
9:30 a.m. — College basketball: Brazilian Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
1:30 p.m. — College basketball: Brazilian Grand Prix (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — College basketball: Georgetown at

Maryland (FS1)  
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Purdue Fort Wayne at Ohio State (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at Orlando Magic (NBC)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Kansas at North Carolina (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — College football: Harvard at Columbia (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — College football: Houston at UCF (FS1)  
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Northern Illinois at Wisconsin (BTN)  
9 p.m. — College football: Tulane at Memphis (ESPN); Northwestern at USC (FOX)  
11:30 p.m. — Horse racing: Melbourne Cup Carnival - Champions Day (FS1)

**Saturday**  
9 a.m. — Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix (ESPN2)

10 a.m. — MotoGP: Portugal Grand Prix (FS1)  
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Everton at Fulham (USA)  
12 p.m. — College football: Georgia at Mississippi State (ESPN); Indiana at Penn State (FOX); BYU at Texas Tech (ABC); Colorado at West Virginia (TNT); James Madison at Marshall (ESPN2)  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Alabama at St. John's (FS1)  
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Sunderland at Arsenal FC (NBC)  
1 p.m. — College football: Ohio State at Purdue (BTN)  
2 p.m. — Horse racing: America's Day at the Races (FS1)  
2:30 p.m. — College football: Maryland at Rutgers (FS1)  
3 p.m. — College football: Eastern Washington at Montana (NBC)  
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Chelsea at Wolverhampton Wanderers (NBC)

3:30 p.m. — College football: Texas A&M at Missouri (ABC); Oregon at Iowa (CBS); Syracuse at Miami (ESPN); Kansas at Arizona (ESPN2); Iowa State at TCU (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — College football: Washington at Wisconsin (BTN)  
6 p.m. — College football: Air Force at San Jose State (FS1)  
6 p.m. — College hockey: Michigan Tech at Northern Michigan (FOX)  
7 p.m. — College football: Cal at Louisville (ESPN2); Wake Forest at Virginia (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Arkansas at Michigan State (FOX)  
7:30 p.m. — College football: LSU at Alabama (ABC); Navy at Notre Dame (NBC); Nebraska at UCLA (FOX)  
9 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Denver Nuggets (FDSN Indiana)  
9:30 p.m. — College football: UNLV at Colorado State (FS1)

10:30 p.m. — NBA: Phoenix Suns at Los Angeles Clippers (ESPN)  
10:30 p.m. — College basketball: Oklahoma at Gonzaga (ESPN2)

## Local notes

**Tournament announced**  
Secret Families Christmas Charity of Jay County will host a golf tournament at 10 a.m. on Nov. 15 at Portland Golf Club on Nov. 15.  
Entering a team costs \$260, or a business can sponsor a hole for \$50.  
Registration begins at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start to follow. Lunch will be provided.  
The deadline to register a team is Nov. 8.  
For more information contact Don Hall by emailing don@gowithethevolve.com or calling (765) 744-2247.  
.....  
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap", email details to sports@theocr.com

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## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp 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 iRetrofi 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 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

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN  
Thursday Afternoon  
NOVEMBER 13, 2025  
4:30 P.M.  
HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS-TOOLS  
GE washer & dryer; GE side by side refrigerator; Kelvinator small upright freezer; cedar chest; occasional stand; marble top stand; large assortment of Pink Depression Glass; sugar bucket; Dept. 56 Snow Village; Bud Light sign; Pfaltzgraff set of dishes; GARFIELD: alarm clock, mirrors, figurines, plush toys, poster, and caricature to name a few; ; plant stands; bicycle; small yard trailer; yard sweeper; fishing poles; golf clubs; wheelbarrow; hose reel; weed trimmer; shovels; rakes; hand saws; and other items not listed.  
GAIL COMPTON, DECEASED  
Loy Auction  
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## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**  
STATE OF INDIANA ) IN THE  
JAY CIRCUIT COURT  
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:  
2025 TERM  
Cause Number:  
38C01-2510-PL-00008  
DAVID WILHELM  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
KELLY JONES  
Defendant.  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
This summons is to the Defendant above named and to any other persons who may be concerned. You are notified that you have been sued in the Jay Circuit Court, Jay County, Indiana, in the case set forth in the caption above, by the person named above as Plaintiff. This summons by publication is specifically directed to the Defendant named above and all others who may claim any lien on or interest in the Real Estate described below.  
The named Plaintiff is represented by Joshua A. Atkinson and Natalie P. Williamson, 940 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371. The nature of this suit against you is to quiet title in Plaintiff to the Real Estate described below against the named Defendants and the world and the Real Estate is located in Jay County Indiana: Lot numbered Seventy-four (74) in South Portland Addition to the Town, now City of Portland, Indiana  
An answer or other response in writing to the complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney within thirty (30) days after the last notice is published and if you fail to do so, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded by the Plaintiff.  
If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer or response.  
Dated: October 14, 2025.  
Melissa Eliott  
Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court  
CR 10-2431,11-7-2025-HSPALXP

## 260 PUBLIC AUCTION

## PUBLIC AUCTION

Located in the Women's Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Thursday Afternoon  
**NOVEMBER 13, 2025**  
4:30 P.M.  
**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**  
**OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - TOOLS**  
GE washer & dryer; GE side by side refrigerator; Kelvinator small upright freezer; Oak dining room table with 6 chairs; 3 pc. full size bedroom suit; 4 pc. queen size bedroom suit; Oak 4 drawer chest; Oak buffet; 5 drawer chest; Oak small flip top desk; 4 drawer chest; cedar chest; occasional stand; marble top stand; Cherry dropleaf table; corner cabinet; 1 drawer stand; swivel rocker; Oak washstand; Oak occasional stand; glider rocker; corner stand; bar stools; metal patio chairs; large assortment of Pink Depression Glass; sugar bucket; Cambridge Glass plates, goblets, cups & saucers, and other accessories; Roseville; kerosene lamp; 6 gallon crock; pickle jar; Sunbeam 4 slice toaster; copper pans; Ninja blender; cookware; NuWave air fryer; Fry Daddy; Cuisinart chopper; plasticware; utensils; cookbooks; books; step stool; flat irons; quilt rack; pictures and frames; Dept. 56 Snow Village; sewing machine; pitcher & bowl with stand; oil lamps; porcelain coffee pot; cups & saucers; Denim Days figurines; Bud Light sign; Pfaltzgraff set of dishes; GARFIELD: alarm clock, mirrors, figurines, plush toys, poster, and caricature to name a few; animated Santa; Cincinnati Reds items; nativity set; tins; wood blocks; Holiday carousel; GENERAL TELEPHONE MEMORABILIA: plate, key chains, clock, glasses and pencils to name a few; sofa table; luggage; wood shelf; tea pots; large assortment of Christmas decorations; jewelry; sewing machine; outdoor figurines; folding chairs; planters; plant stands; bicycle; small yard trailer; yard sweeper; fishing poles; golf clubs; wheelbarrow; hose reel; weed trimmer; shovels; rakes; hand saws; and other items not listed.  
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Travis Theurer-AU11200131  
Aaron Loy-AU11200112  
Kaden Khayyata-AU12400069  
CR 11-7-2025

2025-26 Jay County girls basketball preview

**2024-25 season**  
After losing four starters to graduation, the Patriots had their first losing season since 2013-14. Jay County finished 10-13 with a 4-2 record in the Allen County Athletic Conference to finish third behind Bluffton and Woodlan. Outside of the conference, the Patriots won their first two games against South Side and Hamilton Heights, beat their neighbors to the south (Winchester) and west (Blackford) and sectional foe New Castle. Jay County fell to Delta in the sectional opener 59-38. JCHS suffered two four-game losing streaks, which were split by four consecutive wins.

Pictured is the 2025-26 Jay County High School girls basketball team. The front row from left are Alivia Schwieterman, Natalie May and Araitz Lekue Magro. Middle row are Claudia Dirksen, Karsyn Schwieterman, Elizabeth Brunswick, Hallie Schwieterman and Raylah Newton. Back row are Kendall Schemenaur, Allie McAbee, Kaylah Kaigler and Charlee Peters.



| Girls basketball   |                   |        |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Date               | Opponent          | Time   |
| Tuesday, Nov. 11   | South Side        | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Nov. 14    | Connersville      | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Nov. 15  | Hamilton Heights  | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Nov. 21    | Bellmont          | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Nov. 22  | Winchester        | 6 p.m. |
| Friday, Nov. 28    | Woodlan           | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 2    | Northeastern      | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 6   | Fort Recovery     | 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 9    | Muncie Central    | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 12    | Adams Central     | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 16   | Blackford         | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 18  | New Castle        | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 20  | South Adams       | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 30   | Yorktown          | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 6    | Concordia         | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 9     | Bluffton          | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 10  | Pendleton Heights | 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 13   | ACAC Tournament   | TBA    |
| Tuesday, Jan. 20   | Norwell           | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 22  | Delta             | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 24  | Southern Wells    | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 27   | Heritage          | 7 p.m. |
| Home games in bold |                   |        |

|                                                                                           |                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Top returners</b><br><b>Hallie Schwieterman</b><br>18.9 ppg, 5.5 rpg, 3.8 spg, 2.4 apg | <b>Key departures</b><br><b>Natalie Carreno</b><br>5.1 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 1.5 spg, 0.8 apg | <b>Projected lineup</b><br>Hallie Schwieterman – Point guard<br>Natalie May – Guard<br>Araitz Lekue Magro – Guard<br>Karsyn Schwieterman – G/F<br>Raylah Newton – Forward<br>Elizabeth Brunswick – Forward<br>Claudia Dirksen – Forward<br>Kendall Schemenaur – Forward<br>Charlee Peters – Center |
| <b>Elizabeth Brunswick</b><br>7.3 ppg, 5.0 rpg, 2.2 apg, 1.7 spg                          | <b>Amelia Heath</b><br>4.7 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 0.3 apg, 0.2 spg                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Raylah Newton</b><br>3.4 ppg, 2.5 rpg, 0.9 spg, 0.4 apg                                | <b>Alexis Sibray</b><br>4.6 ppg, 3.3 rpg, 0.9 spg, 0.4 apg                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Natalie May</b><br>1.8 ppg, 1.7 rpg, 0.5 spg, 0.4 apg                                  | <b>Gabi Petro</b><br>2.4 ppg, 3.7 rpg, 2.1 apg, 1.3 spg                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

**Coach Sherri McIntire says**  
“I’m super excited about this team this year. These kids have come in, worked hard and have great attitudes. They have basically done whatever we have asked as a coaching staff. I think they are going to be a very competitive team and fun to watch. They’re going to get the ball up and down the floor and get some offense out of our defense. This group is going to be really capable of doing that. We had a great summer, which I feel has led to a good first two weeks of practices.”

**Games to watch**  
**Friday, Nov. 28, at Woodlan**  
The Warriors were one of the two Allen County Athletic Conference teams to beat Jay County last year. If the Patriots can beat WHS, it would set them up nicely in the ACAC.

**Saturday, Dec. 6, vs. Fort Recovery**  
The game between the Patriots and Indians if often entertaining, and with FRHS losing two of its top scorers, Jay County may have an edge this year.

**Tuesday, Dec. 30, vs. Yorktown**  
Last season, the Tigers beat JCHS by 13. If they want to advance to a sectional championship game, they will need to make some improvements on Yorktown.

- Fast facts**
- The Patriots return 69.6% of their points from the 2024-25 season, including their two leading scorers, Hallie Schwieterman (434 points) and Elizabeth Brunswick (169).
  - This will be Sherri McIntire’s third year at the helm of the Jay County program. She is 32-16 (10-2 Allen County Athletic Conference).
  - The Patriots’ sectional dry spell continued as they fell to Delta in the opener 59-38. Despite making the sectional final twice in the last five years, JCHS hasn’t claimed a title since the 2006 season.



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