

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Stutzman shares

Marlin Stutzman, a candidate for the 2024 Republican nomination in Indiana's 3rd District, answers a question from Rex Journey on Monday at John Jay Center for Learning. Stutzman shared his platform and fielded questions from Jay County Republicans.

## County repeals hiring freeze

*Decision contingent on council approval*

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

Say goodbye to the hiring freeze.

Jay County Commissioners repealed the county's eliminating salary ordinance Monday. The decision requires joint approval from Jay County Council, which meets tonight.

The ordinance enacted in December required department heads to inform the county's personnel committee — it's made up of the commissioners president and council president and vice president — as soon as they were notified of a full-time employee's departure. The committee would review the position within five business days, meet with the department head and alert council about the position. (If council did not OK the department head to fill the position, the money allocated for it would be removed from the budget 60 days after the date of termination.)

"With the turnover rate, we really couldn't have that many personnel committee meetings," explained commissioners president Chad Aker.

He noted the personnel committee recommended allowing department heads to fill positions if already funded for the year. If departments would like to hire a new position, they still need to make a request to county officials.

Jay County highway superintendent Eric Butcher explained his department is contemplating switching to a four-day, 10-hour work week throughout the year.

See County page 2

## Dunkirk projects move forward

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

DUNKIRK — Projects are moving forward for a walking trail, improvements to the wastewater treatment plant and repairs to the police department roof.

Dunkirk City Council on Monday approved the various expenditures, including funding to pave the walking trails on the east side of Dunkirk City Park.

Mayor Jack Robbins told council the trails have been cut and filled with stone on the east side of the park. The next step is to have the trail paved, he said, presenting a quote of \$35,090 from Brooks Construction of Fort Wayne.

Council members Jesse

### Council approves path paving, roof and wastewater plant work

Bivens, Bryan Jessup, Tom Johnson, Christy Curts and Kevin Hamilton unanimously approved awarding the contract to Brooks.

They also approved having two new pumps in stalled at the wastewater treatment plant by Covalen of Indianapolis at a cost of \$35,620.

Robbins explained that when changes were made to the wastewater treatment plant in 2012 it was modified to no longer recirculate water. That modification, along with a leak that has since been fixed, had contributed to the plant using more than 100,000 gallons of water daily. He noted that the city has been get-

ting cited by Indiana Department of Environmental Management for the water use at both the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant.

The pumps to be installed will recirculate the water and thus greatly reduce usage.

Also approved Monday was a total of \$29,700 in repairs at Dunkirk Police Department. The city hired Goodhew's Roofing & Metals, Ridgeville, to repair and cap a wall and to install a new roof.

Robbins said the building currently has three leaks. Johnson indicated it has been about 20 years since the current roof was put on the building.

See Projects page 2

## FR preps for new year

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — There's only one week left until classes start.

Summer maintenance projects at the schools are nearly complete.

Fort Recovery School Board heard from superintendent Tony Stahl on Monday about maintenance projects finished or wrapping up in school buildings.

Construction on the sidewalk located along the east side of the elementary and middle school building has been completed, along with repaving and resealing the building's south parking lot that lets out onto Sharpsburg Road. (Plans were for the parking lot to be painted Tuesday.) Landscaping is expected to take place this week.

New concrete bases have been poured in front of several high school entrances and exits. The elementary and middle school gymnasium's roof has been resealed and repaired, and the high school's gymnasium also has new lights. Both gym floors were resurfaced.

Stahl added that the district has also updated its servers, purchased several new staff laptops

and new technology for students in three grade levels, installed six new Epson projectors and 17 audio systems in classrooms and installed new speakers at the high school football field. The district's new school bus arrived Friday.

Stahl thanked the maintenance staff for their work through the summer.

"It is a huge thing that they do because we turn the whole district over in a couple of short months getting ready for the next year," he said.

Also Monday, school administrators noted meet the teacher night for all students set for Aug. 21. Fort Recovery Middle School principal Holly Gann pointed out the middle school will host an open building from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Aug. 21, with a parent meeting set for 6:30 p.m. Aug. 21. Classes start the next day.

In other business, school board members Anne Guggenbiller, Sean Kahlig, Jake Knapke, Don Wendel and Nick Wehrkamp:

•Hired from Fort Recovery High School principal Ryan Steinbrunner that science and math teachers have received new curriculum for the 2023-24 school year.

•OK'd Amy Bihn, Denise Bruns and Brad Evers as van drivers, Larry Hart as a substitute bus driver and Jerry Byram, Kristi Thobe and Hart as teaching substitutes.

•Approved a one-year contract with Steve Neal as a non-teaching employee, a supplemental contract with Val Muhlenkamp as a high school girls assistant basketball coach and a supplemental contract with Brian Reichert as National Honor Society adviser.

•Hired or renewed agreements with volunteer indoor track coach Beth Pearson and volunteer girls assistant golf coaches Amy Bihn and Jeff Vaughn.

•Gave permission to Stahl to employ substitute teachers as needed for the 2023-24 school year. Substitutes at Fort Recovery make \$100 per day in the classroom.

•Selected Stahl as Fort Recovery Local Schools' representative for the Mercer/Auglaize Benefit Trust.

•Adopted bus routes for the upcoming school year.

•Accepted \$600 from Tom Galdeen Memorial for baseball and \$60 from The Blackburn Giving Fund for FFA.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Candy toss

Firefighter Drew Lloyd tosses candy out to parade-goers along High Street in Redkey during the town's Gas Boom Days parade Saturday.

### Deaths

Mildred Hall, 96, Portland  
James Sargent Jr., 64, Dunkirk  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Monday. The low was 59.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 50s. Expect mostly sunny skies early Thursday followed by clouds and a 50% chance of showers in the afternoon.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

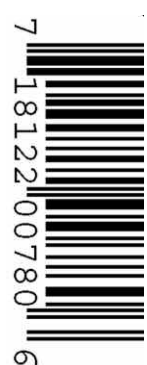
Registration for Arts Place's fall MusicWorks classes at the Jay County Campus and Blackford County Arts Center are underway. Online registration is available at myartsplace.org. (Classes will begin Sept. 5.)

For more information, or assistance with registering, call (260) 726-4809.

### Coming up

Thursday — Results from the JCHS boys tennis match against Alexandria.

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Redkey Town Council meeting.



# Projects ...

Continued from page 1  
Also Monday, council approved ordinances to increase the city's water and sewer rates each by 3% beginning Jan. 1. It also approved the city's 2024 salary ordinance with 4% raises for employees.  
In other business, council:  
•Was presented with information regarding regulations in place in other municipalities regarding required street repairs after roads are cut for utility work. The topic has been brought up frequently as gas lines are being replaced in the city with more work

planned for next year. Schemenaur referenced Muncie, which has a policy of complete repaving being required if four or more cuts are made in a single block.  
•Heard the following from Robbins:  
—Rock and Kathy Fuqua have requested a Downtown Revitalization loan for work they are doing on the former pet store at 128 S. Main St., adjacent to the police department. Council plans to review the request at its next meeting.  
—The sidewalk along Highland Avenue from West

Jay Elementary School to Dunkirk City Park is substantially complete. A walkthrough will be held Thursday to determine if any additional work needs to be completed. A project to put a new roof on the office at the sewage treatment plant is also complete.  
—A project to put a new roof on the office at the sewage treatment plant is also complete.  
—Work on retention basins and sewer lines as part of a \$600,000 stormwater project on the south side of the city is underway.

•Received a packet of information from Schemenaur regarding golf cart rules in various surrounding communities. Council members last month began a conversation about the possibility of implementing a golf cart permitting system after they expressed concerns about safety.  
•Briefly discussed a request from Donald and Kathy Miskinis to vacate an alley between their properties at 350 W. Pleasant St. and 349 W. Washington St. There are water and sewer lines along the alley, which will require the city to have an ease-

ment in case of the need for repairs. Schemenaur said he would start the paperwork for the process of vacating the alley.  
•Approved a series of water bill adjustments for residents who experienced leaks. Also approved was a payment plan Chyanne McCowan and her father Randy after a leak in the house resulted in a water bill of nearly \$3,000. Council also agreed to split the cost with Wilburn Neal for hiring a contractor to fix a water issue.  
•Approved payment of claims totaling \$862,596.54.

## CR almanac

Thursday 8/17	Friday 8/18	Saturday 8/19	Sunday 8/20	Monday 8/21
<b>80/56</b>	<b>77/54</b>	<b>81/60</b>	<b>89/65</b>	<b>92/64</b>
There's a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms after 2 p.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Sunny skies are expected Friday with a high of 77 degrees. Otherwise, clear.	Saturday's forecast is sunny with a high of 81 degrees. Mostly clear late.	Another day of sunny skies is expected Sunday, when the high will be 89.	Monday looks to be sunny with blistering temperatures in the low 90s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 32-34-37-39-47 Power Ball: 3 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$236 million	Daily Four: 0-8-7-0 Quick Draw: 1-4-7-21-22-29-30-36-37-45-52-55-62-65-69-72-74-75-76-77 Cash 5: 10-11-15-38-45 Estimated jackpot: \$80,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$55 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 2-4-9 Pick 4: 9-6-7-5 Pick 5: 7-2-2-5-5 Evening Pick 3: 8-8-5 Pick 4: 2-6-4-2 Pick 5: 6-4-8-6-3 Rolling Cash: 8-9-25-33-34 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 7-7-3 Daily Four: 5-5-8-3 Quick Draw: 1-3-4-13-17-22-29-30-32-37-40-41-43-50-55-60-64-67-70-71 Evening Daily Three: 9-2-9	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....5.39 Oct. corn .....4.59 Wheat .....5.60	Aug. beans.....12.64 Wheat ..... 5.41
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....5.47 Sept. corn .....5.47 Mid Sept. corn .....5.17	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....5.15 Late Aug. corn .....5.02 Beans .....13.48 Late Aug. beans .....13.43 Wheat .....5.45
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....5.17 Sept. corn .....4.54 Beans .....13.54	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.97 Oct. corn .....4.33 Beans .....13.38 Oct. beans .....12.58 Wheat .....5.44

## Today in history

In 2003, Jay County High School junior varsity cheerleaders — Caitlin Dunn, Kristin Brown, Larissa Butcher, Lacey Thornburg, Mandy Theurer, Kortney Taylor, Kelsey Bone, Kayla Cline, Sarah Ullom, Joyce Bumbalough and Jessica Howell — won the Indiana State Fair cheerleading championship. It was the second consecutive title for most of the squad after having won the junior high championship for East Jay Middle School the previous year.  
In 2021, Portland City Council approved a rezoning request from U.S. Aggregates for 108 acres of land situated between Tyson Road and county road 75 South, east of county road 200 West. The company had been pushing for the rezoning for about six months in order to allow it to expand its quarry operation.  
In 2022, Portland Board of Works officially awarded a contract for the city's Meridian Street storm sewer project to Watson Excavating of Redkey. The board had selected Watson, the low bidder, in June but had to wait for federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to be released before moving forward on the \$2.42 project.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	S. Mooney St. 6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
<b>Thursday</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200	<b>Monday</b> 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.

## Obituaries

### James Sargent Jr.

Sept. 28, 1958-Aug. 10, 2023  
James Joseph Sargent Jr., a devoted husband, loving father, cherished grandfather and a pillar of his community, peacefully passed away on Thursday morning, Aug. 10, 2023, at his residence of 32 years, surrounded by the warmth of love, family and friends.



Sargent

Born on Sept. 28, 1958, James was a lifelong resident of Dunkirk, Indiana, where he touched the lives of countless individuals through his unwavering compassion, zest for life and dedication to those he held dear.

James was a beloved husband to Babbette Yvonne (Howell) Sargent, sharing a partnership built on love, commitment and countless shared experiences. He was a caring father to James Joshua Sargent, Michael Shawn Sargent and the late Joseph Christopher Sargent. His nurturing spirit extended to his role as a grandfather, bringing joy and wisdom to Trevor, Keaira, Mykayla, Josalynne and Mya. He delighted in the presence of his great-grandchildren Tequila Rose, Greyson (Taylor) and Melody, who were a source of immense pride and happiness.

James was a dedicated sibling to his sisters Rita Saucedo, Diana (Sargent) Morales, Deborah Vanscyoc and Betty (Peanut) Miller; and brothers John Sargent and Alan Sargent. His family bond was unbreakable and extended to numerous nieces and nephews who held a special place in his heart.

A devoted son, James was preceded in death by his parents, James Joseph Sargent Sr. and Anita (Ferguson) Sargent. His brother, Alan

Sargent, also awaited his reunion in the afterlife.

In his professional life, James contributed his skills to the former Indiana Glass Company in Dunkirk, Indiana, until its closure in 2002. A dedicated member of his community, he served as a first responder and firefighter with the Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Department, leaving an indelible mark on the safety and well-being of his neighbors.

James was renowned for his zest for life and affinity for the outdoors. He found solace in the simple pleasures, whether tinkering with cars, crafting sandrails, cruising on his Harley Davidson, fishing, camping, nurturing his garden, hosting vibrant parties or seeking thrills at amusement parks. His vibrant spirit drew friends and family from near and far, forming bonds that would last a lifetime.

A celebration of James Joseph Sargent Jr.'s life will be held at a later date, allowing his loved ones to come together and honor his memory in a manner that befits his vibrant spirit. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made in James's honor to the National Council on Aging (NCOA) via act.ncoa.org/a/donate.

James' legacy lives on in the hearts of those fortunate enough to know him, and his absence will be deeply felt by all whose lives he touched.

### Mildred Hall

April 21, 1927-Aug. 14, 2023  
Mildred "Millie" Hall, age 96, a resident of Portland, passed away on Monday, Aug. 14, 2023 at Persimmon Ridge in Portland.

Millie was born April 21, 1927, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Fred and Bertha (Stults) Grile. She

worked for Jay Garment in Portland for 17 years, retiring in 1989.

Millie found solace and fellowship at the Evangelical Methodist Church in Portland, Indiana. Her faith was important to her, and she found comfort in the community of worship.

Millie married Robert "Bob" Hall on April 1, 1946, and he passed away on July 31, 1996.

Survivors include:  
Daughter-in-law — Kathy Hall, Portland, Indiana

Seven grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren

Several nieces and nephews  
Millie was preceded in death by two children, Rick and Michael Hall; as well as one granddaughter and three great-grandsons.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Pastor Steve Arnold will officiate and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant.

Memorials may be directed towards Evangelical Methodist Church in Portland.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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

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

## County ...

Continued from page 1  
(Currently the department operates on a four-day work week for about five months during warm weather.)

County attorney Wes Schemenaur pointed out that such a change would require commissioners' approval and an update to the county policy handbook. He cautioned commissioners if Butcher's department switched to a four-day work week, other departments may also come forward with similar requests.

Commissioners agreed to forward the request to Jay County Personnel Committee for consideration.

Butcher also pointed out 104 miles of chip and seal work has been completed this year, along with six road conversions from stone to hard surface. (Aker later noted all roads in Wayne Township have been converted from stone to hard surface.)

Sheriff Ray Newton reminded commissioners that public safety employees need new radios. The cost for a new system alone, without an antenna, is priced at \$600,000. The total cost could be \$900,000, he added.

Aker pointed out different radio companies have given the county different information for what it needs moving forward, saying it seems as if a purchasing agent is needed to find out the specifications.

Commissioners also forwarded their 2024 budget to Jay County Council. Commissioners approved about 3.3 million, about a \$350,000 increase from the current year's budget. That doesn't include funds for the drainage board (\$12,900), economic development income tax (\$635,000), county cumulative capital devel-

opment (\$500,000), lease payments (\$732,000) or infrastructure (\$140,250), which were also approved by commissioners Monday.

Council starts its budgeting process with a budget review meeting at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 6.

In other business, commissioners:

•Agreed to move forward with drafting an ordinance restricting trucks from a number of county roads. Traffic has increased on some roads because of the closure of Indiana 26 closure on the east side of Portland for a bridge replacement project. Newton suggested including portions of the following roads in the ordinance: county roads 100 East, 300 East, 600 East, 700 East, 100 North, 200 North, 300 North, 100 South, 200 South, 400 South, Division Road and State Line Road.

•OK'd upgrading to a new county email server through Matrix Integration for \$31,410.80. County auditor Emily Franks noted the money will come out of the recorder's budget.

•Heard an inmate attempting to escape law enforcement caused more than \$1,500 in damage to a transport van used by Jay County Sheriff's Office. Newton pointed out the van is not designed for law enforcement and said he has applied for a grant to get a properly outfitted van.

•Learned nine new home permits were issued between January and June, along with 24 commercial use permits. Approximately 177 other permits or applications were issued.

•Agreed to keep its contribution to Upper Wabash River Basin Commission at \$500. Commission chair Doug Sundling and Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District represen-

tative Rick Imel requested the county increase its annual contribution to \$2,000 — the county used to pay \$1,000 each year and decreased the amount for 2023 — and shared information about the commission's work since 2002, which has included receiving grants and working toward improving water quality and encouraging better farm management practices for the watershed, according to Sundling.

Journay argued the work does not impact more than a few farmers in Jay County and suggested commissioners keep their contribution at \$500.

•OK'd Jay County Health Department to apply for a bioterrorism grant it receives annually.

•OK'd Jay County assessor Robin Alberson to purchase a \$4,694.80 copier from Four U Office Supplies of Celina, Ohio.

•OK'd \$15,478.13 in state allocated money to be distributed through Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition to different programs and paid several of those claims, which were \$1,289.82 for A Better Life

Brianna's Hope, \$1,289.82 for Dunkirk Farmer's Market/Living in Joy, \$1,289.82 for Youth Service Bureau and \$11,608.37 for Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition.

•Paid a \$829 claim from Indiana Bond Bank for administration fees to participate in its fuel budget program.

## SERVICES

### Today

**Vore, Jerry:** 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

### Thursday

**Hall, Mildred:** 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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# Photography contest set for Aug. 22

Honeywell Arts and Entertainment will be accepting entries for its annual photography show this month.

Photographers may enter their work from 11 a.m. to noon and from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Aug. 22 in the Clark Gallery at the Honeywell Center, 275 W. Market St., Wabash. The show has three categories: altered images, color and black and white

## Taking Note

(including sepia tones). Participants may enter as many as three pieces. Judging will begin at 7 p.m. Aug. 22. Photographers of all

ages and experience levels are encouraged to enter. Winners will have their pieces on display in the gallery from Aug. 24 through Sept. 24.

Detailed guidelines and entry forms may be found online at honeywellarts.org.

## Invasive species

Jay County residents have the opportunity to learn how they can han-

dle invasive plants.

Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District will host an event regarding invasive species at 7 p.m. Aug. 29 at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

The county is forming a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area, a partnership of property owners, conservation organizations,

park departments, municipalities and others working to identify and address invasive species threats. For more information, call (260) 726-4888.

## Auction items

Fort Recovery's One-of-a-Kind Auction is looking for items.

The annual auction will be held at Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School on Oct. 22. This

year's theme is "'Tis the Season to Sparkle!" Committee members encourage anyone who has a "one of a kind" item, or an item that is special or interesting, to donate it to the auction. Donations may be handled by texting or calling chairman Mary Diller at (419) 852-3374 or Nancy Knapke at (419) 852-6110. Items may be dropped off at Be You Boutique.

# Man unnerved by stepdaughter's lack of attire

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to my second wife for 10 years. Most everything is fine, but we have one area of conflict. It is regarding her daughter, my stepdaughter, who has grown from a cute little 9-year-old into a beautiful 19-year-old. The problem is her attire around the house. She routinely wears a sports bra and panties around the house (around me). I find it distracting, to say the least. I have discussed it with her mother, but she sees nothing wrong with it, probably because she dresses pretty much the same way. I can't get my wife to understand that what might be OK for her is inappropriate for her daughter. What should I do? By the way, I have never said or done anything inappropriate, but I find myself taking a look at her more

## Dear Abby



often than I should. Help! — STEPDAD WHO SEES IN TEXAS  
DEAR STEPDAD: If you haven't told your wife DIRECTLY that a beautiful young woman parading around in her underwear and a sports bra is arousing, and you would prefer her daughter dress more modestly around you, you should. And out of respect for you, your wife should explain those facts to

her daughter and remind her that she's no longer a child, and she should cover up.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 52-year-old woman. I am single and have no children, but I'm a loving aunt to many. I had an older sister who died before my older brother and I were born. She was born with special needs and lived for only 10 months. My parents never kept it a secret. Knowing I had an older sister makes me want to find a big sister figure. I sometimes fantasize that a particular beloved TV actress is my sister. She did a Cameo video for my 50th birthday, and I have met her wonderful husband twice at fan conventions. I told him I thought his wife was a beautiful angel. I am not gay, but I love her. Am I weird? —

## FANGIRL IN WISCONSIN

DEAR FANGIRL: It isn't weird to feel an attachment to a celebrity. However, it's important to be able to distinguish between reality and fantasy. You "see" this person on a regular basis, but you do not have an actual relationship with her. Close friends often consider themselves to be "sisters" and use the term when addressing each other. You might find what you are reaching out for closer to home if you step back and look for it.

DEAR ABBY: I'm living with a man who has four children. We've been together 22 years. He claims the house will be mine upon his demise. How do I ask him to show me his will to see if what he says

is true? I don't want to have to fight his children in court, because they have the money to do it and I don't. I work for what I have and a lot of the things in the house I have bought. Please tell me how I can approach this. — CONCERNED AND WORRIED

DEAR CONCERNED: Tell your partner you are worried about your future should something happen to him. Then tell him you would like a copy of his will to ensure it is up to date and to keep in a safe, secure place so there will be no misunderstandings if he predeceases you. After all these years together, your concerns are legitimate, and if he is on the level, he should want to be sure you have peace of mind and are protected.

# Four ways to help child's anxiety

By DEEDEE STIEPAN

Mayo Clinic News Network  
Tribune News Service

Heading back to school after a long summer break can be an exciting time for kids and caregivers. But for some students, the anxiousness of heading back to school may be fueled by fears or worry. In this Mayo Clinic Minute, Dr. Stephen Whiteside, a Mayo Clinic child psychologist, offers four tips on how to help kids overcome back-to-school anxiety.

Many of the things parents and caregivers can do to help kids with back-to-school worries are fairly straightforward.

"The first one is staying calm and warm. Realizing that when kids are nervous and worry, they often express that through acting up, being more irritable. Kids usually take those emotions out on their

parents because that's the safe place to do so," said Whiteside.

Some kids might feel overwhelmed at the thought of interacting and reconnecting with peers, which is why Whiteside suggests parents make efforts to book play dates for kids to reconnect before the new school year.

"Reconnecting with some of the kids they know through school but don't see so much during the summer can be helpful," said Whiteside.

The main thing to avoid is avoidance.

"... deciding that this is too hard for my child, they can't do it. We need to not do this, whether it's go to school, or we need to avoid certain things because it's just too overwhelming for my child — it runs the risk of allowing things to get worse over time," he said.

Finally, making sure kids get good, structured sleep, are eating well, limiting screen time and emphasizing physical activities can help kids feel better.

"When we feel better, fears and worries are easier to manage," said Whiteside.

One sign of back-to-school anxiety that parents and caregivers may look out for is their student asking a lot of questions about what may or may not happen. Whiteside says making a plan can help easy that worry.

"Making it clear that it's perfectly normal to feel nervous about change and a combination of nervous and excited to go back to school. And that we can handle that together by just making a plan and following that where we take some steps to prepare."

# Community Calendar

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

## 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.

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.

A BETTER LIFE — BRI-

ANNA'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

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

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.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library. The public is welcome.

MISSISSINAWA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Will meet Thursday, Aug. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jay County Historical Society. Kathy Selman will

provide the meeting program. To ask questions, call Regent Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Susan Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## Tuesday's Solution

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

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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**GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS**

# Chicago trips opened up the world

To the editor: This column is being reprinted from Aug. 13, 2008. Jack was a traveler all of his life, including his trips to Belarus, Afghanistan, Myanmar and a variety of other spots to teach journalists in places where freedom of the press had not previously existed. It's easy to imagine that the trips of his youth led him down that path.

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

When did we start treating our children like hothouse plants? And was that decision related to a more dangerous environment or simply fear that the environment had become more dangerous? Those questions have been on my mind for weeks, and I still don't have the answers. All I know is, it changed. From my childhood to my approaching decrepitude, it changed. And I don't think kids are better off for that change. Step into my time machine and zip back with me to about 1963 or 1964. I was a paperboy in

## Back in the Saddle



those days, instead of a publisher. And for a kid of 15 years old or so, I was making pretty good money, thanks to some generous Christmas tips. My big brother Steve was living in Evanston, Illinois, in those days. He was working for United Press International and getting his master's degree in journalism at Northwestern. His wife, Beth, was teaching elementary school. They lived in an apartment on the top floor of an old house. I loved Chicago in those days, having stopped there on family vacations several times while my sister Linda was working at a summer camp for handicapped children in the area.

So, obviously, I wanted to visit Chicago on my own. That may have seemed obvious in the early to mid 60s. It's far from obvious to parents today. Here's how it worked. On what we used to call "Teachers' Institute" weekend, now known as Fall Break, I would get a good substitute for my paper route — my buddy Don Starr as I recall. Then, on Thursday morning, I'd say goodbye to my parents, walk down North Street to Vernie Schmidt's garage, and wait for the ABC Busline behemoth to roll into town. I'd take the ABC to Fort Wayne, disembarking about two or three blocks from the train station, then I'd walk to the train station with my bag. From there, it was the train to Chicago — an aging, flea-ridden, claptrap piece of work in the era before Amtrak. The train would arrive at Union Station about 2 p.m. I would take a short cab ride to the Loop, stopping at Marshall

Field, the department store giant. Marshall Field had lockers where you could check a bag, so that's what I did. Today, those lockers are probably long gone; they pose too great a threat for potential terrorism. After checking my bag, I would spend the next several hours hanging out. On the Loop. In Chicago. I'd go to movies that hadn't yet made it to the Hines or maybe never would. I window shopped. I girl-watched. I walked. I soaked up everything that was possible to soak up. Then, about 5 or 6 p.m., I'd get my bag out of the locker. It had only cost me a quarter to check it. Then I'd take the El north to Evanston. Once there, I'd walk about four blocks to the old house where Steve and Beth had their apartment. OK, I admit that even by 1963 or 1964 standards, that's kind of an unusual excursion.

It took amazing amounts of trust on the part of my parents, so much so that it's virtually impossible imagining a high school kid in 2008 making the same trek. Is Chicago more dangerous? Probably not. Were my parents derelict in allowing me that freedom? Of course not. But would parents today hesitate before signing off on such a trip? You bet they would. I would too. So, what has changed? If the world was dangerous then and continues to be dangerous now, what has changed in our perceptions? And, ultimately, what will be the cost for our own children of this new culture of security and protection? As I said, I still don't have the answers. But I do know the world has changed, and I don't think it has changed for the better. Those Chicago trips opened up the world to me.

# Have a great school year

By KEITH GAMBILL  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

As students head back to school, I'm feeling a sense of excitement and pride for the educational journey that lies ahead. Indiana's public schools are the foundation of our society, and they provide a nurturing environment where our students can grow, learn and thrive.

Our dedicated public school educators work tirelessly to provide an unparalleled educational experience for every child, regardless of their background, ZIP code or circumstances. They're not just conveyors of knowledge; they're the architects of inspiration. They ignite the flames of curiosity, encouraging our students to ask questions, challenge assumptions and explore the world around them. By cultivating critical thinking and problem-solving skills, our educators equip our children with the tools they need to succeed.

Beyond academics, our public schools are vibrant communities that celebrate diversity and promote inclusivity. In the classroom, students from various backgrounds come together, learning side-by-side, fostering empathy and developing a deeper understanding of one another. These interactions lay the foundation for a future where compassion and cooperation transcend social barriers, creating a more united Indiana.

It's essential to recognize that education goes beyond the classroom. Our schools play a pivotal role in nurturing the physical and emotional well-being of our students. School-based programs ensure that children have access to nutritious meals, mental health support and a safe haven where they can flourish.

While we celebrate the greatness of Indiana's public schools, we must also acknowledge the importance of continuous improvement. We're committed to collaborating with policymakers, parents and community members to make our schools even better. This includes investing in better working conditions and professional development for our educa-

Keith Gambill



tors and providing modern infrastructure for all students.

Supporting public education is an investment in our state's economic prosperity. A strong public education system attracts businesses to our communities, bolstering our workforce and fostering innovation. A well-educated populace is the cornerstone of economic growth and social progress.

As we embark on this new school year, let's not overlook the challenges our educators have faced and continue to overcome. From adapting to an ever-expanding workload to navigating the evolving landscape of public education, they have demonstrated unwavering dedication.

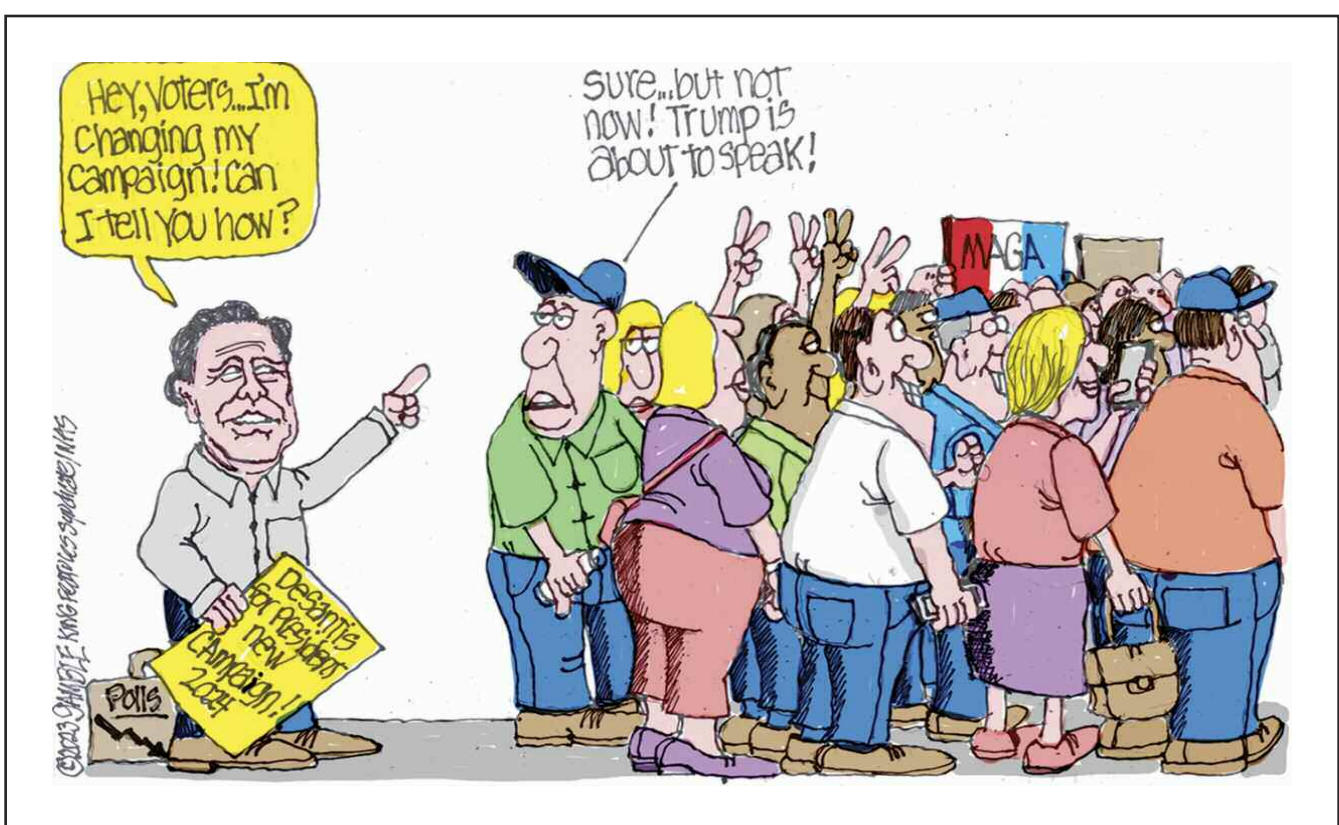
As a community, let's support our educators and public schools in every way we can. Whether it is through advocating for fair compensation, adequate funding, engaging in volunteer opportunities or even subbing for your local school, every effort counts. Let us recognize that an investment in education is an investment in the future of Indiana.

The start of a new school year is a time of hope, enthusiasm and anticipation. It symbolizes the endless possibilities that lie ahead for our children, our communities and our state. Together, let us celebrate the greatness of Indiana's public schools and reaffirm our commitment to providing our students with the best possible education.

I wish every student, teacher, parent and community member an enriching and fulfilling school year.

Gambill is president of the Indiana State Teachers Association. He is a middle school music and drama teacher in Evansville.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.



# Old days of Big Ten are missed

Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

"We want the Big Ten championship and we're gonna win it as a team," said University of Michigan coach Bo Schembechler, just prior to the start of the 1983 football season. "They can throw out all those great backs, and great quarterbacks, and great defensive players, throughout the country and in this conference, but there's gonna be one team that's gonna play solely as a team."

Schembechler's mantra was, "The team. The team. The team," and his famous motivational speech is now part of Wolverine lore. Between 1969 and 1978, Schembechler had a famous rivalry with his old mentor, Ohio State University coach Woody Hayes, a philosopher-coach himself and a man who loathed The School Up North with such intensity that he refused to stop for gas in Michigan. He'd rather have walked down the freeway.

You have to wonder what those two late warriors would make of the state of their beloved Big Ten today.

The Big Ten championship that was so central to Schembechler now has become almost an afterthought as the College Football Playoffs have become far more significant. In their era, the Big Ten was true to its name and its members. Aside from Northwestern University, they were land-grant universities of the Midwest, sprawling, publicly funded campuses that offered a strong, affordable education for their state's youths and fielded football teams that commanded alumni loyalty from graduation day to grave.

Teams traveled by bus through cornfields and up and down Interstates 65, 70 and 75. Fans in station wagons followed. Games were almost always at noon on a Saturday and almost never at night or on a different day. The league had wrapped up

## Guest Editorial

before Thanksgiving, and (not inconspicuously) finals weeks at most schools.

Everyone pretty much played everyone else, meaning that the league season had the same built-in equity you find in European soccer leagues. The schools would warm up with two or three games against non-conference rivals and settle in to the Big Ten meat of the season.

Nirvana was the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day, when the winning team flew out of a Midwestern winter to sunny Los Angeles and a storied team from the PAC-10. Sitting at home watching on TV, most Big Ten fans swallowed their partisan pride and supported the league's representative.

That's because for many Midwesterners, the Big Ten defined the region better than anything else.

And for all their flaws and failings, both Schembechler and Hayes unquestionably bought into the idea that athletes were also students, and that their involvement in football meant an opportunity for further education.

Now? The Universities of Oregon and Washington have announced their intention to join the Big Ten. Along with the University of Southern California and UCLA, that brings the number of teams in the Big Ten to a whopping 18. Most Midwesterners now could not even tell you that number; they knew when the Big Ten had 10.

That old culminating game against the PAC-10? Close to toast,

given that what is now the PAC-12 appears to be imploding. Local rivalries? Surely diffused, at least to some extent, by all these teams. Even the Big Game, Ohio State versus Michigan, might now happen three times, if both teams advance to the Big Ten Championship (never used to be a thing) and then the expanded playoffs. League equity? Challenged by who plays whom.

And the student-athletes? A lot more time on planes, a lot more of a life like a professional. And the geographic root of the Big Ten, notwithstanding its administrative headquarters in Rosemont, has been blown up. This league is no longer of the great football schools of the Midwest. It is a national entity made for television, not for tailgaters.

On Saturday, ESPN reported that the University of Washington's President Ana Mari Cauce had said that the school's decision was "not just about dollars and cents" but rooted in myriad factors, one being that the proposed TV rights deal between the PAC-12 and Apple did not provide the long-term stability the school was seeking.

Say what? Compare that kind of talk to Schembechler's "The team, the team, the team," and you have a sense of what has happened to Big Ten football.

The Big Ten is, by many accounts, winning at the powerhouse conference competition, as its rivals flail, turning the country into a great battle between the South's SEC and the rest of the nation. That's a geographic rivalry with which America is all too familiar.

But here in the capital city of the Midwest, forgive us for lamenting the era when it was all about the Midwestern team, the Midwestern team, the Midwestern team.

# The Commercial Review



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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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We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to [letters@thecr.com](mailto:letters@thecr.com). They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

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# Eighty qualify for Indiana State Fair

Eighty projects from the Jay County Fair qualified to advance to the state fair level.

Results from the Jay County 4-H projects, which were on display in the Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall during the fair, are as follows:

**Achievement**  
Intermediate  
Champion: Madi Paxson

Advanced  
Champion: Ty Paxson

Grand champion: Ty Paxson  
Reserve grand champion: Madi Paxson

**Aquatic science**  
Grand champion: Bailey Muhlenkamp

**Arts and crafts**  
Beginner  
Champion: Ayva Pitman (state fair)

Reserve champion: Folton Parr (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Nixon Haque (state fair)

Intermediate  
Champion: Madi Paxson  
Reserve champion: Keisha Adair

Advanced  
Champion: Makinsey Murphy (state fair)

Reserve champion: Kelsey Braun (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Adrianna Aker, Joseph Kunk, Ty Paxson

Grand champions: Ayva Pitman  
Reserve grand champion: Makinsey Murphy

**Beekeeping**  
Two honey products  
Champion: Kinze Homan (state fair)

Reserve champion: Khloe Homan (state fair)

**Cake decorating**  
Beginner  
Champion: Emma Malyska (state fair)

Reserve champion: Riley Clifton  
Blue ribbon: Aria Barnett

Intermediate  
Champion: Abby Fifer (state fair)

Reserve champion: Madi Paxson  
Blue ribbon: Alison McGraw

Advanced  
Champion: Katlin Schoenlein (state fair)

Reserve champion: Austin Schoenlein  
Red ribbon: Makinsey Murphy

Grand champion: Katlin Schoenlein  
Reserve grand champion: Abby Fifer

**Collections**  
Beginner  
Champion: Kyler Morehous

Blue ribbon: Tyler Armstrong, Danielle Somers, Nicholas Somers

Intermediate  
Champion: Jayme Harker

Reserve champion: Keisha Adair  
Blue ribbon: Camden Buckland

Advanced  
Champion: Dominic Steveson

Reserve champion: Cayden Buckland

Grand champion: Dominic Steveson  
Reserve grand champion: Kyler Morehous

**Computer**  
Beginner  
Blue ribbon: Claire Skirvin

Intermediate  
White ribbon: Keisha Adair

Advanced  
Blue ribbon: David Keen

**Construction and architectural replica**  
Beginner  
Champion: Kyler Morehous (state fair)

Reserve champion: Tuck Hemmelgarn

Blue ribbon: Emmett Betz, Rylen Carpenter, Urijah Carpenter, Alexa Jones, Benton Langenkamp, Alyssa Schwieterman, Alexis Tipton

Intermediate  
Champion: Andrew Suman

Reserve champion: Mavrick Reier  
Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair, McKayla Jones, Alivya Schwieterman, Allie Westfall

Advanced  
Champion: Ty Paxson

Reserve champion: Dustin Muhlenkamp  
Blue ribbon: Isaac Homan

Grand champion: Kyler Morehous  
Reserve grand champion: Ty Paxson

**Consumer clothing**  
Beginner  
Champion: Aubreyana McClain (state fair)

Red ribbon: Ayva Pitman

Intermediate  
Champion: Alison McGraw (state fair)

Red ribbon: Keisha Adair

Advanced  
Champion: Rachel Heitkamp (state fair)

Grand champion: Rachel Heitkamp  
Reserve grand champion: Alison McGraw

**Create with a mix**  
Level B  
Champion: Audrey Hambrock

Level C  
Champion: Mavrick Reier

Level D  
Champion: Madison Reier

Grand champion: Audrey Hambrock  
Reserve grand champion: Mavrick Reier

**Crops**  
Hay and forages  
Division 1  
Champion: Benton Langenkamp

Reserve champion: Kinze Homan  
Blue ribbon: Khloe Homan

Division 2  
Champion: Duston Muhlenkamp

Reserve champion: Ty Paxson  
Blue ribbon: Kelsey Frantz

Advanced  
Champion: Raine Keen (state fair)

**Creative writing**  
Beginner  
Champion: Jonathan Haque (state fair)

Reserve champion: Natalie Goldman

Advanced  
Champion: Raine Keen (state fair)

**Crops**  
Hay and forages  
Division 1  
Champion: Benton Langenkamp

Reserve champion: Kinze Homan  
Blue ribbon: Khloe Homan

Division 2  
Champion: Duston Muhlenkamp

Reserve champion: Ty Paxson  
Blue ribbon: Kelsey Frantz

Soybeans  
Division 4  
Champion: Duston Muhlenkamp

Grand champion: Duston Muhlenkamp  
Reserve grand champion: Ty Paxson

**Dog poster or display**  
Beginner  
Champion: Jackie Tipton (state fair)

Intermediate  
Champion: Allison Tipton (state fair)

Grand champion: Jackie Tipton  
Reserve grand champion: Allison Tipton

**Electric**  
Level 1  
Champion: Jacob Brick-er (state fair)

Reserve champion: Bailey Muhlenkamp  
Red ribbon: Claire Skirvin

Level 2  
Champion: Adriane Theurer (state fair)

Reserve champion: Jonathan Haque  
Blue ribbon: Ryan Grile

Level 3  
Champion: Ty Paxson (state fair)

Reserve champion: Reserve champion  
Red ribbon: Aubrie Weitzel

Level 4  
Red ribbon: Joshua Starr

Advanced  
Champion: Chase Ninde  
Red ribbon: Ty Paxson

Grand champion: Chase Ninde  
Reserve grand champion: Tyler Armstrong

**Fashion Revue (junior)**  
Champion: Evelyn Carter

Reserve champion: Natalie May  
Blue ribbon: Riley Clifton, Ayva Pitman

**Fashion revue (consumer clothing)**  
Beginner  
Champion: Aubreyana McClain (state fair)

Reserve champion: Ayva Pitman

Intermediate  
Champion: Alison McGraw (state fair)

Advanced  
Champion: Rachel Heitkamp (state fair)

Grand champion: Rachel Heitkamp  
Reserve grand champion: Alison McGraw

**Fashion revue (sewing)**  
Dress up  
Champion: Courtney Harris (state fair)

Free choice  
Champion: Rachel Heitkamp (state fair)

Suit or coat  
Champion: Danielle May (state fair)

Grand champion: Courtney Harris  
Reserve grand champion: Danielle May

**Fine arts**  
Beginner  
Champion: Benton Langenkamp

Reserve champion: Abby Fifer  
Blue ribbon: Skye Kennedy, Julia Wagner

Intermediate  
Champion: Madi Paxson  
Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair, Alison McGraw

Advanced  
Champion: Ty Paxson (state fair)

Grand champion: Madi Paxson  
Reserve grand champion: Ty Paxson

**Floriculture**  
Level A  
Blue ribbon: Jaycee Hall

Level B  
Champion: Gabi Miller (state fair)

Blue ribbon: Ayva Pitman

Level C  
Champion: Keisha Adair (state fair)

Level D  
Champion: Makinsey Murphy (state fair)

Grand champion: Makinsey Murphy  
Reserve grand champion: Gabi Miller

**Foods (baked)**  
Level A  
Champion: Aubreyana McClain (state fair)

Reserve champion: Ryan Grile (state fair)

Blue ribbon: Owen Clemens, Riley Clifton, Bailey Muhlenkamp

Level B  
Champion: Brenna Rowles

Reserve champion: Grant Clifton (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Levi Gar-inger, Gabi Miller, Aubrie Weitzel

Level C  
Champion: Maisey Keller (state fair)

Reserve champion: Isaac Hawbaker (state fair)

Blue ribbon: Kelsey Muhlenkamp, Milee Richard

Level D  
Champion: Laci McGinnis (state fair)

Reserve champion: Raven Dale (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Courtney Harris

Red ribbon: Raine Keen

Grand champion: Maisey Keller  
Reserve grand champion: Brenna Rowles

**Foods preserved**  
Level A  
Champion: Nixon Haque (state fair)

Reserve champion: Jonathan Haque (state fair)

Level B  
Champion: Gabi Miller (state fair)

Blue ribbon: Levin Gar-inger

Level C  
Champion: Maisey Keller (state fair)

Reserve champion: Keisha Adair (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Ava May

Level D  
Blue ribbon: Raven Dale

**Forestry**  
Beginner  
Red ribbon: Elizabeth Calvary

**Garden collection**  
3 plate  
Champion: Sophia Calvary

**Garden education**  
Level A  
Blue ribbon: Sophia Calvary (state fair)

**Gift wrapping**  
Beginner  
Blue ribbon: Aubreyana McClain, Charlotte Muhlenkamp, Ayva Pitman, Hadley Younts

Advanced  
Blue ribbon: Jordyn Hutzler

**Health**  
Beginner  
Champion: Jonathan Haque (state fair)

Intermediate  
Champion: Erin Aker (state fair)

Grand champion: Erin Aker  
Reserve grand champion: Jonathan Haque

**Herb**  
Catnip  
Blue ribbon: Jonathan Haque

Basil  
Blue ribbon: Clair Skirvin

**Lego**  
Beginner  
Champion: Ethan Fifer

Reserve champion: Owen Clemens  
Blue ribbon: Rylen Carpenter, Urijah Carpenter, Maddix Hampson, Skye Kennedy, Carter May

Red ribbon: Wyatt Coleman

Intermediate  
Champion: Ava May

Reserve champion: Jayme Harker

Advanced  
Champion: Ty Paxson

Grand champion: Ty Paxson  
Reserve grand champion: Ava May

**Model craft**  
Advanced  
Blue ribbon: Madeline Hudson

**Photography**  
Black and white  
Blue ribbon: Leah Steed

Color prints  
Beginner  
Champion: Ayva Pitman (state fair)

Reserve champion: Claire Skirvin (state fair)  
Blue ribbon: Elizabeth Calvary, Natalie Goldman, Ryan Grile, Jaycee Hall, Trinity Marcum, Leah Steed

Intermediate  
Champion: Ava May

Blue ribbon: Audrey Hambrock

Advanced  
Champion: Makinsey Murphy (state fair)

Black and white salon  
Intermediate  
Champion: Madi Paxson (state fair)

Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair, Mavrick Reier

Advanced  
Champion: Raven Dale (state fair)

Reserve champion: Laci McGinnis  
Blue ribbon: Makinsey Murphy, Madison Reier, Breanne Siegrist

Color salon  
Beginner  
Blue ribbon: Lina Lingo

Intermediate  
Champion: Alison McGraw (state fair)

Reserve champion: Erin Aker, Madi Paxson  
Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair, Brianna Faller, Adria Roessner

Advanced  
Champion: Raven Dale (state fair)

Reserve champion: Breanne Siegrist  
Blue ribbon: Karyssa Denney, Laci McGinnis, Makinsey Murphy, Madison Reier

Creative-experimental  
digital salon  
Intermediate  
Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair

**Poultry poster or display**  
Beginner  
Champion: Claire Skirvin (state fair)

**Rabbit poster or display**  
Beginner  
Champion: Payson Rickard (state fair)

**Reading**  
Grades 6-8  
Champion: Ava May

**Recycling our environment**  
Division 3  
Champion: Kenzie Clayton

**Scrapbooking**  
Beginner  
Blue ribbon: Sophia Calvary, Jackie Tipton

Intermediate  
Champion: Keisha Adair  
Reserve champion: Allison Tipton

Advanced  
Champion: Abby Johnson

**Sewing construction non-wearable**  
Grade 4  
Champion: Nixon Haque (state fair)

Reserve champion: Jonathan Haque  
Blue ribbon: Aria Barnett

Grade 5  
Champion: Brenna Rowles (state fair)

**Sewing construction wearable**  
Grade 3  
Champion: Riley Clifton (state fair)

Grade 5  
Champion: Aubrie Weitzel (state fair)

Grade 7  
Champion: Evelyn Carter (state fair)

Reserve champion: Natalie May

Dress up  
Champion: Courtney Harris (state fair)

Free choice  
Champion: Rachel Heitkamp (state fair)

Suit or coat  
Champion: Danielle May (state fair)

**Shooting sports education**  
Beginner  
Champion: Allie Rowles (state fair)

Reserve champion: Abbie Rowles

Intermediate  
Champion: Madi Paxson (state fair)

Reserve champion: Gracie Rowles  
Blue ribbon: Jake Davis

Advanced  
Champion: Ty Paxson (state fair)

**Single vegetable**  
Broccoli  
Red ribbon: Keisha Adair

Green onions  
Blue ribbon: Alexa Jones

Carrots  
Red ribbon: Gabi Miller

Peas  
Champion: Gabi Miller

Bell peppers  
Red ribbon: Gabi Miller

Grand champion: Gabi Miller

**Small animal**  
Level 2  
Champion: Gracie Rowles

Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair

**Soil and water science**  
Beginner  
Champion: Andrew Suman (state fair)

Intermediate  
Champion: Cody Jacobs (state fair)

Reserve champion: Caleb Sibray

Advanced  
Champion: Laci McGinnis

Reserve champion: Alexis Sibray

Grand champion: Andrew Suman  
Reserve grand champion: Cody Jacobs

**Sport fishing**  
Intermediate  
Champion: Natalie May (state fair)

Advanced  
Champion: Danielle May (state fair)

Grand champion: Danielle May  
Reserve grand champion: Natalie May

**Tomato plate**  
Red ribbon: Gabi Miller

**Veterinary science**  
Beginner  
Blue ribbon: Ivy Alt, Nixon Haque

**Weather and climate science**  
Intermediate  
Champion: Alison McGraw (state fair)

**Welding**  
Junior  
Champion: Benton Langenkamp

Reserve champion: Kent Siegrist  
Blue ribbon: Evelyn Carter, Porter Clamme

Senior  
Champion: Isaac Roessner

Blue ribbon: Keisha Adair

**Woodworking**  
Level A  
Champion: Ethan Fifer (state fair)

Reserve champion: Ryan Grile  
Blue ribbon: Bryce Rickard

Level B  
Champion: Logan Fifer (state fair)

Reserve champion: Tyler Armstrong  
Blue ribbon: Grant Clifton, Ayva Pitman

Level C  
Champion: William Hawbaker (state fair)

Reserve champion: Cody Jacobs

Level D  
Champion: Joseph Kunk (state fair)

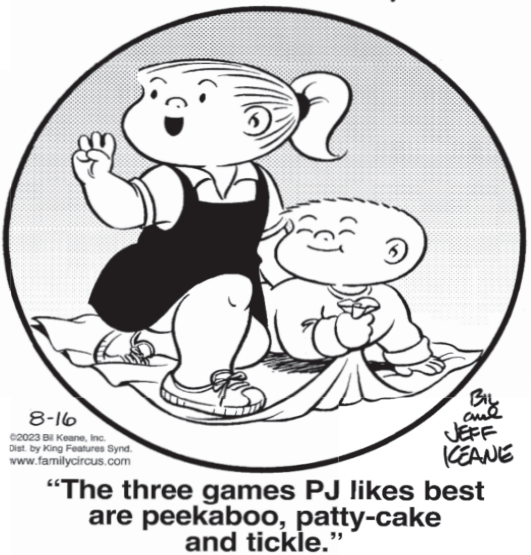
Grand champion: Logan Fifer

Reserve grand champion: Joseph Kunk

**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**The slam-double convention**

North dealer.  
North-South vulnerable.  
**NORTH**  
♠ A 10 9 6  
♥ 7 3  
♦ K J  
♣ A Q 10 6 2

**EAST**  
♠ 7 4 2  
♥ A K 8 6 5 2  
♦ 9 7 3 2  
♣ —

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q J 8 5 3  
♥ Q  
♦ A 8 6 4  
♣ K 7

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ 2 ♥ 2 ♠ 4 ♥  
4 ♠ Pass 4 NT Pass  
5 ♥ Pass 6 ♠ Pass  
Pass Dble

Opening lead — five of clubs.

When a small slam is bid, the difference between making it and losing it ranges roughly from 1,000 to 1,500 points depending mostly on vulnerability. Slams are therefore deemed worthy of the closest possible attention by both sides.

Consistent with the importance of slam hands, several special defensive weapons have been developed through the years to increase the chance of defeating an enemy slam. One of the most important of these understandings is that when a defender not on lead doubles a slam voluntarily reached by the opposition, he is asking partner to lead, or sometimes not to lead, a specific suit.

The advantage of this convention can be seen in the accompanying deal. South makes the slam if West leads a heart, the suit East has bid. But East's double forbids the normal heart lead and calls instead for an unusual lead.

In this case, it is not difficult for West, holding six cards in the suit North opened, to deduce that East's reason for forbidding a heart lead is that he can ruff a club. So West leads a club, and East ruffs and cashes a heart to put the contract down one — 200 points. With a heart lead, South would score 1,660 points at Chicago or duplicate scoring.

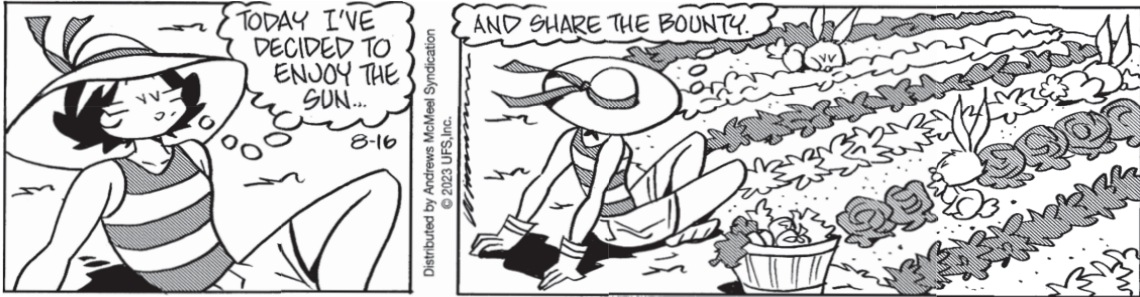
It must be granted that on some occasions, declarer might make the doubled slam despite the opening lead (if North or South were void in hearts in the actual deal, for example). But this occasional small loss is a very cheap price to pay for bringing about the defeat of some slams that would otherwise succeed.

Tomorrow: Hidden asset.  
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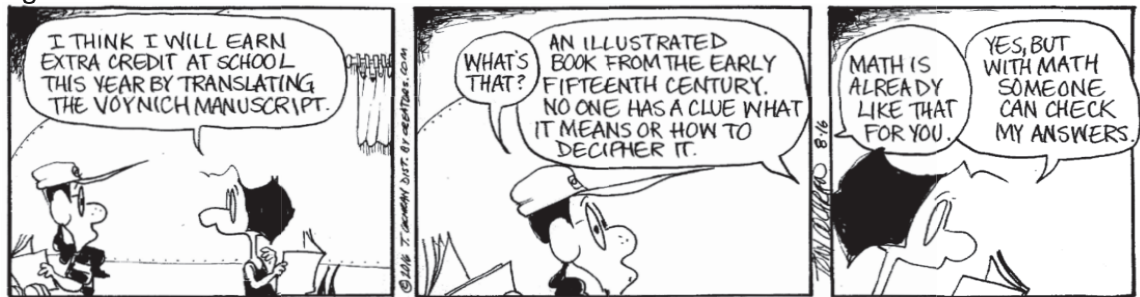
**Peanuts**



**Rose is Rose**



**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



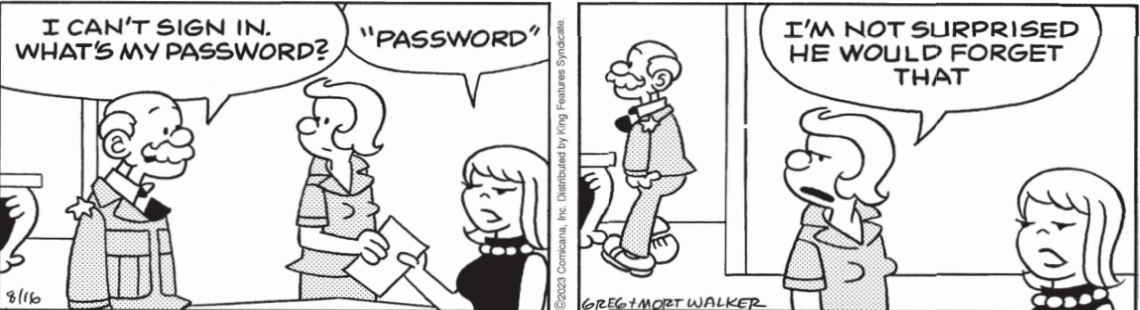
**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**8-16 CRYPTOQUIP**

GLMR KLM FLVDFL BIHFHNP  
FNAM KB NAMPHBDNKM KLM  
CMZUMDNKM ZHKVKNHBR,  
LM GNZ N CMNFBR BI LBUM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINGER/ACTRESS STREISAND SHOULD OPEN A HAIR-CUTTING SALON AND CALL IT "THE BARBRA SHOP."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals H

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Suitable
  - 4 Sail support
  - 8 Metal boxes
  - 12 Itinerary word
  - 13 Within (Pref.)
  - 14 "Super-food" berry
  - 15 Night school subj.
  - 16 Agatha Christie books
  - 18 Chocolate source
  - 20 "— who?"
  - 21 Wuss
  - 24 T-shirt size
  - 28 Napa businesses
  - 32 "The Lion King" lion
  - 33 Enzyme suffix
  - 34 Squelched
  - 36 Cat doc
  - 37 Thick chunk
  - 39 Stipends
  - 41 Seine city
  - 43 "Fight Club" actor
- DOWN**
- 44 Belly
  - 46 Garlicky mayo
  - 50 Ale producers
  - 55 Bit of wit
  - 56 Poodle's name, perhaps
  - 57 Vow
  - 58 Computer key
  - 59 Verne's traveler
  - 60 Village People hit
  - 61 To the — degree
  - 1 Life stories
  - 5 Whatever amount
  - 6 Map lines (Abbr.)
  - 7 Youngsters
  - 8 Fictional jungle swinger
  - 9 Here, to Henri
  - 10 Scott's denial
  - 11 Venus, to Serena
  - 17 Slithery fish
  - 19 Shock partner
  - 22 Farrow and Hamm
  - 23 Pansy part
  - 25 Sitarist Shankar
  - 26 Jubilation
  - 27 Comestibles
  - 28 Stinging insect
  - 29 Madonna's "La — Bonita"
  - 30 Close
  - 31 Only
  - 35 Boris' cartoon partner
  - 38 Hotshot
  - 40 Mar-seilles monarch
  - 42 Basketball star Bird
  - 45 Helen of —
  - 47 Store sign
  - 48 Craving
  - 49 Foot fraction
  - 50 Favorite pal, in texts
  - 51 2016 Olympics city
  - 52 D followers
  - 53 "— the Walrus"
  - 54 Catchall abbr.

Solution time: 23 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 8-16

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13					14		
15			16				17			
18			19			20				
			21		22	23		24		25
28	29	30					31		32	
33			34					35		36
37			38			39			40	
41			42			43				
			44		45			46		47
50	51	52					53	54		55
56						57				58
59						60				61

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# Former Colts QB hired by Tennessee

By NICK O'MALLEY  
masslive.com  
Tribune News Service

Peyton Manning is going back to school — to help teach classes. On Monday, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville announced that the Hall of Fame quarterback will be working alongside faculty with a unique title: “professor of practice.”

Manning, who graduated from Tennessee in 1997, will be joining the College of Communication and Information (CCI) as a “featured expert” and will participate in select classes starting in the fall 2023 semester, working alongside the school’s faculty.

“Manning will partner with CCI faculty and teach a variety of topics that align with the college’s curriculum including sports reporting, video production and performance, leadership and communication, and public speaking,” the school said in the announcement.

After a legendary college career with the Volunteers, Manning went on to become one of the greatest quarterbacks in NFL history. Manning is a 14-time Pro Bowler, seven-time All-Pro and five-time MVP. Manning spent 14

seasons with the Indianapolis Colts and four with the Denver Broncos, winning a Super Bowl with each franchise.

Manning clashed with the New England Patriots numerous times over the course of his career, with his ongoing rivalry with quarterback Tom Brady going down as the stuff of legend.

However, the No. 1 pick of the 1999 NFL Draft out of Tennessee says he still holds onto his college roots.

“My time as a student in the College of Communication and Information was a foundational experience during which I learned critical skills and messaging techniques that I continue to put to use almost daily,” Manning said in the announcement. “I look forward to working with the college’s talented faculty, and directly with students in an effort to ensure they are well prepared for their future careers.”

Since retiring, Manning has gone on to thrive in multiple media enterprises. He founded the company “Omaha Productions” in 2020 and also works as a broadcaster for the Monday Night Football “Manningcast” alongside his brother Eli.

# Former Buckeye signs with Pats

By DOUG KYED  
Boston Herald  
Tribune News Service

The Patriots are signing free-agent running back Ezekiel Elliott to a one-year contract worth up to \$6 million, a source confirmed to the Boston Herald on Monday.

Elliott took a visit with the Patriots late last month. Their depth has been tested behind starter Rhamondre Stevenson as Ty Montgomery and Pierre Strong have missed training camp practices. The team has needed dependable depth since letting Damien Harris walk in free agency. The Patriots replaced Harris with running back James Robinson but released him during the spring.

Elliott joins Stevenson, Montgomery, Strong, Kevin Harris, J.J. Taylor and C.J. Marable in the Patriots’ running back room. The Patriots don’t have an open spot on their roster and also are expected to sign free-agent linebacker Carson Wells, so corresponding moves are needed. It’s possible that the Patriots could release a running back to make room for Elliott.

## Elliot joins New England after being cut by Cowboys

The eighth-year veteran has been a free agent since the Dallas Cowboys cut him March 15. The two-time All-Pro and three-time Pro Bowl selection will serve as valuable, experienced depth to create a two-headed monster with Stevenson in the Patriots’ backfield.

Strong, Harris and Taylor struggled to gain yards in the Patriots’ preseason opener Thursday against the Houston Texans, but they were running behind an inexperienced offensive line.

The Patriots leaned on Stevenson hard last season, giving him 210 carries for 1,040 yards with five touchdowns to go along with 69 catches for 421 yards with another score. They typically like to split their workload more at the position. It was unsurprising to see the Patriots limit Stevenson’s workload early in training camp given his impor-

tance to the team. Elliott, 28, carried the ball 231 times for 876 yards with 12 touchdowns in 15 games with the Cowboys while sharing time with Tony Pollard last season. Elliott can serve as a three-down back and is considered one of the better pass protectors among NFL running backs.

The Ohio State product is one year removed from his last 1,000-yard campaign. He has 8,262 yards and 68 touchdowns on 1,881 career carries. He’s also added 305 career receptions for 2,336 yards with 12 touchdowns.

Elliott tweeted shortly after signing, “One Five, all the way live! @Patriots.”

Elliott wore No. 15 in college with the Buckeyes. Punter Corliss Waitman currently wears No. 15 with the Patriots, but other specialists double up on numbers with current

offensive and defensive stars. Stevenson and kicker Chad Ryland currently share No. 38. Punter Bryce Baringer and outside linebacker Matt Judon share No. 9. Players can double up on numbers during training camp, but that’s not allowed during the regular season.

The Patriots will travel to Green Bay for joint practices and a preseason game with the Packers this week. They then head straight to Tennessee for joint practices and a preseason game with the Titans.

It’s unclear when Elliott will be integrated into the offense. The Patriots are scheduled to leave for Green Bay on Tuesday.

The Patriots hosted free-agent running backs Leonard Fournette and Darrell Henderson on workouts last month before Elliott’s visit. The Patriots have nearly a month before the regular season starts to get Elliott acclimated into their new offensive system headed by offensive coordinator Bill O’Brien.

The deal was first reported by NFL Media.

# MAC ...

Continued from page 8  
Despite his struggles on the green, Muhlenkamp never shot more than 1-over par. He found his only par on the 344-yard, par-4 17th hole. He was in some serious danger of going over a bogey on his final hole of the day.

His drive didn’t quite land where he wanted on the 12th hole. Frustration was starting to take over.

“It was crazy,” Muhlenkamp said. “I’m playing really bad. ... “All of a sudden, I was 107 yards out, I take the eight iron,

and He blesses me well enough to where I can put the ball within 4 feet, and make the birdie putt.”

Nate Jutte and Reece LeFevre rounded out the Indians’ score with a 42 and 44, respectively. Both had pars on

holes No. 11, 13 and 16. Eli Lennartz and Matthew Romer both shot 47s, not factoring into the team’s final score.

Fort Recovery’s JV team beat Parkway 223-233. Sage Wendel shot the low of 49.

“Our guys have been playing well and we are seeing a lot of progress from our JV guys,” Sanders said. “We do expect the guys to continue performing at a high level and getting better and better as the year goes on.”

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Boys tennis vs. Norwell — 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Heritage — 6 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Delta — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Versailles — 4:30 p.m.; Girls golf at Versailles at Stillwater Valley Golf Course — 4:30 p.m.; Middle School football scrimmage vs. Versailles — 5 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**  
6 a.m. — Women’s World Cup: Eng-

land vs. Australia (FOX)  
9 a.m. — USL: Championship: Rio Grande Valley vs. San Antonio (FOX)  
1 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)  
6:30 p.m. — MLB: Cleveland Guardians at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

**Thursday**  
1 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)  
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Detroit Tigers at Cleveland Guardians (FOX)  
7:30 p.m. — NFL: Cleveland Browns at Philadelphia Eagles (CBS)

9 p.m. — Camping World SRX Series: Lucas Oil Speedway (ESPN)

## Local notes

**Adams Memorial Hospital 5K**  
The Worthman Fitness Center and the Diabetes Education Team of Adams Memorial Hospital will host the “Catch Your Breath ... while you Dash for Diabetes 5K Run/Walk” on Sept. 9 in cooperation with Adams County Parks and Recreation.  
Pre-registration is open for \$20 through Friday, Sept 1 at which point the entry fee will be raised to \$25.

Participants may also sign up at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 9 at the Adams Memorial Hospital under the Cancer Institute terrace.

For more visit [adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://adamscounty5kchallenge.com) or contact Macy Jauregui at (206) 724-2145 ext. 11036.

**Hunt applications**  
Beginning Aug. 20, hunters can apply for a variety of reserved hunts by visiting on [IN.gov/reservedhunt](http://IN.gov/reservedhunt). Applications for the following hunts can only be applied for online. They include waterfowl and deer hunts in fish and wildlife areas, deer hunts on

state park property, November game bird area hunts, Indiana private land access hunts, and December game bird area hunts.  
Applications are due Sept. 24 by 11:59 p.m.

**JC season tickets**  
Season tickets are available for the 2023-24 Jay County high school season. Tickets may be purchased during the school’s office hours from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Patriots Passes and Senior Patriot Passes that provide admission to all high school and junior high events will

be available. They cost \$105 and \$60 respectively.

Also available are super tickets. High school adult super tickets cost \$80, junior high super tickets come out to \$60 and senior super tickets are \$45.

A pre-paid sports pass that is good for 12 regular season events may be purchased for \$50 as well.

Boys basketball and football season passes will cost \$50 and \$25 respectively.

To have an event listed in “Sports on tap,” email details to [sports@theocr.com](mailto:sports@theocr.com).

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# Sports

## Indians pick up MAC win

**By ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial review

The Indians lost their first match by three strokes. They fell by seven in their second. Third time was the charm for the Indians. Fort Recovery High School's boys golf team picked up their first win of the season as they defeated Midwest Athletic Conference foe Parkway Panthers 167-203 Monday at Portland Golf Club.

"We came out with a victory for both the varsity and JV," coach Dean Sanders said. "Real happy with how well they played. Obviously the rainy night was a little bit of a factor but yet, the guys still shot very well." It had rained in Portland earlier in the day and it started to drizzle a handful of times while the players were out on the course, but that didn't stop Alex Dues from having his best match of the young season.

Dues was slated as Sanders' No. 6 on Monday. He started the match on the 498-yard, par-5 12th hole, but didn't come out of the gates cleanly.

"Started off a little rough," Dues said. "I got a double bogey on the first hole. Then right after that I started heating up a little."

Dues followed up the rough start with a bogey. He then proceeded to rip off four pars in a row on holes No. 14, 15, 16 and 17.

Dues attributes the suc-

cess to some mechanical changes Sanders has worked on in practice with him.

"I'm just really slowing down my swing and staying balanced the whole time," Dues said.

After adding another bogey on the 18th hole, he did some math to find out that if he parred out he would finish under 40.

The 10th hole went perfectly for Dues. He drove his ball around 200 yards smack-dab down the middle of the fairway. He hit his iron to place the ball onto the green where he left a putt short before he tapped in for par.

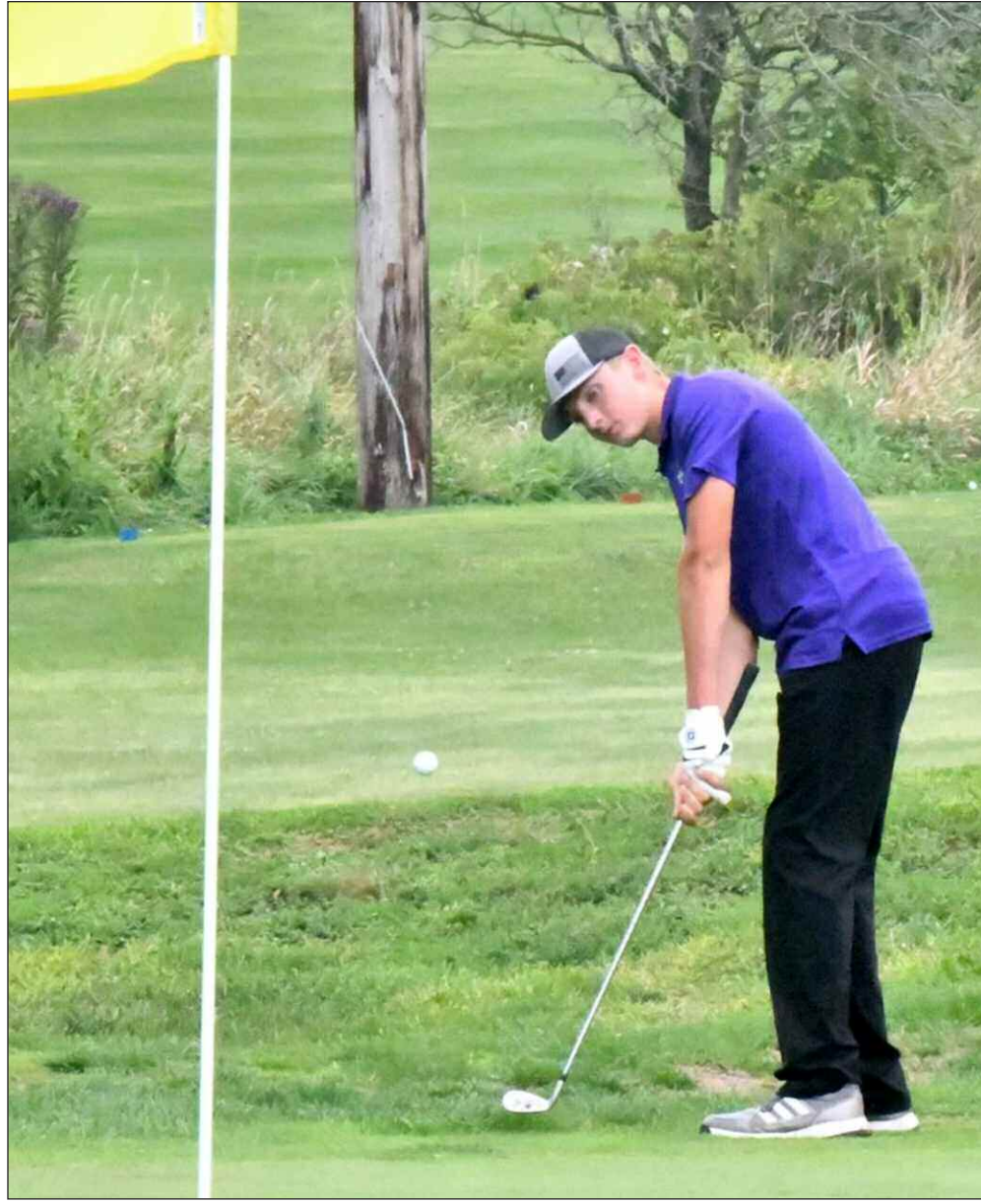
The 11th wasn't so kind to him.

His first shot came off the tee left and into the fairway of the 10th hole. His second shot brought him back a couple of yards off the green to keep his hopes alive for a par.

He duffed his chip, leaving his ball too far from the hole to guarantee a par.

Dues played a line on the right and his ball broke well, but it didn't have the legs to make it to the hole. He tapped his ball in for a bogey to end his match at 40.

Although he didn't break 40, the score was enough to make him the match medalist. It was also his best score on the season. In the Mercer County Meet, he shot a 97 (48.5 strokes per nine holes) and finished with 47 against Mississinawa Valley.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School junior Keegan Muhlenkamp chips onto the green of hole No. 15 at Portland Golf Club during Monday's win over the Parkway Panthers. Muhlenkamp bogeyed the hole en route to a 41, the Indian's second best score in the match.

"Alex is one of our veteran golfers," Sanders said. "We knew he was due for a good round. A little bit of struggles earlier in the season, but yet we knew at some point he'd break through with this score. We expect Alex to keep shooting at that level."

Parkway's No. 5, Mason Schumm had the team-low of 49 for the Panthers.

Keegan Muhlenkamp had the Indians' (1-2, 1-0 MAC) next-best score with a 41. Muhlenkamp had been struggling throughout the day on the greens.

"I can't say I was on every hole in regulation, but if I wasn't, I was close," Muhlenkamp said.

"I would put a good chip to it, get it within 10 feet and miss the putt every time for a bogey."

See MAC page 7

## FRHS falls to Panthers

CELINA, Ohio — The Indians are still looking for their first win.

The Fort Recovery High School girls golf team fell to the Parkway Panthers 193-217 in their first Midwest Athletic Conference matchup on Monday at Celina Lynx Golf Club.

Olivia Knapke and Emma Will tied for the team's best score of 53.

Knapke shot for par twice in the match on the par-4 first hole and the par-5 sixth. She also had a bogey on the seventh.

Will added one par on the par-3, third hole. She also shot for bogey four times on the holes No. 1, 2, 4 and 7. The score was Will's best of the year, shaving two strokes off of her previous best.

Sarah Sheppard from Parkway was the match medalist, shooting for par five times and netting a birdie on the sixth hole.

Senior Marissa Schoen shot three bogeys en route to a 55. Her bogeys came on the second, third and seventh holes.

Eva Kahlig rounded out the Indians' (0-3, 0-1 MAC) team score with a 56 — her best on the season. Kahlig shot back-to-back bogeys on the sixth and seventh hole.

Brynn Stammen (62) and Ella Schoen (64) also competed but their scores did not affect the final. Ella Schoen recorded the only other par for the Indians, when she finished the first hole in four strokes.

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