

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Talking trash



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

A couch sits along an alley on the west side of Portland on Wednesday morning. In the background right are several mattresses, and another couch was sitting along the alley to the west. Portland City Council again on Tuesday discussed the issue of large items being disposed of along streets and alleys. The city offers free drop off of such items at the street department once a quarter. Residents can also purchase a permit at city hall to have such items picked up.

Council discusses large-item issue

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Talking trash is becoming a regular occurrence for Portland City Council.

Council members on Tuesday had another lengthy discussion about the pick-up of large trash items in the city.

They also held the public hearing on the city's 2024 budget and approved several ordinance changes.

Trash has been on the council's radar since its Aug. 7 meeting, during which George McGinnis of Jay County Solid Waste Management District expressed concern about large furniture items being left in Portland alleys and, often, he said, ending up at the solid waste district's recycling trailers. At council's second August meeting, Mayor John Boggs

announced plans to pick up large trash items this fall (Oct. 23 through 27) while warning that once the process is complete the city's code enforcement officers will be writing citations for those not in compliance.

The city's current trash collection ordinance that was approved last year allows large items to be dropped off at the street department four times a year, free of charge. Those who need to have such items disposed of outside of those days can purchase a permit at city hall to have them picked up. (For example, a permit for disposal of a mattress is \$15.)

Council member Dave Golden started the latest discussion Tuesday by asking street department superintendent Tom Leonard and city employee Bubba Swoveland their opinion on the

topic. Tom said his concern is the cost of disposing of the items.

Council members and those in attendance, including mayoral candidates Randy Geesaman and Jeff Westlake, brought up various ideas for how to handle large trash items.

"It goes back to, again, having a little pride in ourselves and wanting to do better," said council member Matt Goldsworthy. "It's a small number of people who choose not to."

Council ultimately made no changes to current plans, with Boggs again indicating the decision to leave any changes to the city's ordinance up to the next administration and council in 2024.

In other business, council:
•Heard Golden ask if the city could make a permanent policy

to have all communication be bilingual in English and Spanish, noting that more than 7% of the city's population is Hispanic. (He said that number was less than 1% in 2000.) City attorney Wes Schemenaur suggested discussing details and cost but said such a policy could be put in place through ordinance or resolution.

•Approved \$15,000 toward an Arts Place concert series in Hudson Family Park for 2024. The Portland Foundation previously committed \$7,500 toward the series, and Arts Place also seeks sponsors for the concerts. The next free concert at the park this year will feature New Frontiers, a Journey tribute band, at 7 p.m. Sept. 14.

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For additional city council news, see Friday's newspaper.

New water park rules OK'd

Policy will require bags to be searched in 2024

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Portland Water Park will have some new rules next year.

Portland Park Board approved a new water park policy during a meeting Tuesday. It also looked at the water park's finances and repair needs.

Board president Brian Ison shared a list of items he compiled for the new policy, which draws influence from rules at Marion Splash House.

All children younger than 13 visiting Portland Water Park must be accompanied by an adult. Drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vapes and weapons are not allowed, and neither are glass containers, chewing gum, sunflower seeds or animals. Outside coolers and food are allowed outside of the pool deck, the policy says.

Bags will be searched before entering the park. If pool visitors refuse to comply, they won't be allowed inside.

The policy also stipulates Portland Water Park may close because of low attendance, bad weather or other issues. Refunds or rain checks will not be offered because of inclement weather. (Following a suggestion from parks department employee Matt Shauver, the pool's water temperature must measure at least 65 degrees in order to open.)

See Rules page 2

JCDC will ask council for more funding

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Ask for full funding.

That's the decision Jay County Development Corporation's board of directors came to in the face of a potential budget deficit for 2024.

Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation (JCDC), told board members he asked to have a business meeting this month — the organization typically holds business meetings in even-numbered months and informational sessions during odd-numbered months — in order to be able to discuss various items related to the organization that had been put on the back burner while it was working out its contract with county officials. He listed the 2024 budget, strategic planning, marketing, the organization's funding request and the upcoming Launch Jay! business pitch competition as topics he wanted to cover.

During the meeting that

Board members say they believe commissioners are trying to push out the organization

stretched just over an hour, the board never got past that first topic.

Richards explained to the board that based on projected funding from the county and other sources, JCDC would likely have a budget deficit in 2024, regardless of whether employees received raises or not. (He estimated a \$12,000 deficit with no raises. The number would increase to about \$16,000 with 3% employee raises) He asked for guidance on how to move forward, with options including using cash reserves to cover the deficit in 2024, reducing expenses

and fundraising in an attempt to cover the gap.

That request immediately launched into a discussion about the county's reduction in funding for the organization. The county had contributed \$210,000 to JCDC in 2022. That amount was cut to \$146,000 this year. In budget talks thus far, county support of \$130,000 has been proposed for 2024. (The county's budget will not be finalized until October.)

JCDC board member Mark Leavell asked about the reason for the further reduction, with county commissioners president

Chad Aker responding that it was the number that was settled on considering that the county has taken on hiring a community developer, which used to be a JCDC position. (In August, commissioners approved a two-year contract with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District for those services with Nate Kimball assigned as community coordinator.) Aker later noted that there was funding in previous years' budgets that was not used when the community development position with JCDC was vacant.

Board members discussed the various options on how to handle the projected 2024 budget deficit, generally agreeing that they could not find reductions needed to balance the budget and that JCDC should not be a fundraising organization. Several noted that while the organization does have the reserves to cover the deficit next year, that is not a sustainable model long-term.

Josh Atkinson expressed his

opinion that the situation is one the board is likely to encounter again.

"I believe that the commissioners are going to continue to cut our budget," he said. "I believe that we are going to slowly be pushed out. All of this money is going to be funneled out of our county."

Acknowledging that during the August JCDC meeting he had advocated for the organization and the county to "play nice," Bryan Alexander concurred with Atkinson's assessment.

"I agree that this is a pattern of destruction that's only going to be solved at the ballot box," he said. "The next election is do or die for this organization."

The north and south commissioner seats, currently held by Rex Journay and Brian McGalliard, are up for election next year. (Alexander lost a bid for the Republican nomination for the middle district commissioner seat to Aker in 2022.)

See JCDC page 2

Deaths

Lois Ford, 95, Dunkirk
Norma Cash, 94, Portland
Fred Pries, 70, Winchester
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 90 degrees Tuesday. The low was 72.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 50s. Expect highs in the upper 60s Friday under mostly cloudy skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Dunkirk City Council has scheduled an executive session for 6 p.m. Monday. The regular Dunkirk Board of Works meeting will shift to 5 p.m. Council will hold its regular meeting, as scheduled, at 7 p.m. All three meetings will be at the city building, 131 S. Main St.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS football game against Adams Central.



Rules ...

Continued from page 1
During discussion, board members also talked about a rule that all bags brought to the water park must be transparent but ultimately decided against implementing that rule.

Reviewing the water park's revenue and expenses, park board members compared profit and loss ratios for the current year against previous years. This year's losses came in at \$94,416.50, compared to \$49,560.97 in 2020.

Street and parks department superintendent Tom Leonhard pointed out a chunk of expenses will be removed from next year's budget because of the pool's change to liquid chlorine, noting

the old chemicals cost around \$26,000 and this year's price for liquid chlorine came in at \$13,900. (Plans are to sell the old chemicals to Jay County High School for use in its pool.)

Leonhard added water park wages also came in at \$18,941 more than anticipated because the budget was set before the payroll ordinance was put in place. Income from admission and rental fees significantly decreased this year as well.

Board member Shauna Runkle questioned if Jay County Summer Swim Team members paid for their summer passes per usual, noting the water park sold 170 passes this year.

Ison suggested the board could

look at offering fewer open hours, operating with less staff — at least eight lifeguards need to be manning the pool per law — or increasing admission fees again. Park board member Michael Brewster suggested setting a minimum number of pool visitors needed to keep the water park open after a certain time each day.

The motor in the pool's main filtration pump is out, explained Shauver, noting he couldn't get a price estimate for the repair cost without opening the machine. He shared plans to transport the pump to Indianapolis to find out what the cost will be.

Shauver also noted the pool has been prepared for winter

with the exception of the concession stand. He pointed out some tiles that have popped off and explained Blakely's should make the repairs sometime this fall.

In other business, park board members John McFarland, Jennifer Weitzel, Ison, Brewster and Runkle:

- Heard the rubber surface under the "swing of faith" handicapped swing at Hudson Family Park is cracked. Shauver noted that after various shipping delays because of the coronavirus pandemic, the repair product has arrived. Plans are to repair portions of the playground soon, likely this weekend, he said.
- Learned the new water foun-

tain for Hudson Family Park is expected to be delivered in four to six weeks. Donated by The Goodrich Foundation in honor of John and Saron Goodrich, it will include a conventional drinking fountain, a water bottle filler and a fountain at ground level for pets.

- Were informed it will cost \$800 to purchase and install two cameras from NuWave Technology to face the registers at Portland Water Park.

- Heard Coppersmith Electric is finishing up installing electrical wiring from Hudson Family Park Amphitheater to the east gazebo.

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For additional park board news, see Friday's newspaper.

CR almanac

Friday 9/8	Saturday 9/9	Sunday 9/10	Monday 9/11	Tuesday 9/12
69/57	74/55	75/54	77/56	74/54
Mostly cloudy skies are expected Thursday with a high of a balmy 69 degrees.	Mostly sunny and clear on Saturday with a low around 55 degrees at night.	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Sunday, when the high will be 75.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Monday, with a high of 77.	There's a chance of showers Tuesday under partly sunny skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$461 million	Evening Daily Three: 1-0-3 Daily Four: 2-2-5-4 Quick Draw: 2-4-8-9-19-21-22-24-26-29-36-45-48-57-60-62-63-69-70-73
Mega Millions 3-43-50-51-65 Mega Ball: 13 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$122 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 2-5-9 Pick 4: 7-8-9-9 Pick 5: 1-4-2-3-3 Evening Pick 3: 1-9-3 Pick 4: 3-1-6-7 Pick 5: 8-6-2-4-2 Rolling Cash: 2-5-18-28-31
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 0-5-2 Daily Four: 9-8-6-2 Quick Draw: 3-4-7-16-18-22-30-39-41-43-45-46-51-58-62-63-65-66-71-75	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.86 Late Sept. corn5.31 Wheat5.22	Sept. beans13.63 Wheat5.26
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.91 Late Sept. corn5.36 Oct. corn4.81	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.32 Late Sept. corn5.12 Beans14.14 Late Sept. beans14.09 Wheat5.65
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.26 Sept. corn4.96 Beans13.27	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.26 Late Sept. corn4.41 Beans13.55 Late Sept. beans13.20 Wheat5.27

Today in history

In 1191, at the Battle of Arsuf, the Muslim army of Saladin attacked the Crusaders of Richard I, delaying his march to Jerusalem.

In 1533, Queen Elizabeth I was born in Greenwich near London. She served as queen from 1558 to 1603.

In 1630, Trimountaine, Massachusetts, was renamed Boston.

In 1901, the Boxer Rebellion, an attempt to drive all foreigners out of China, came to an end.

In 1936, musician Buddy Holly was born Charles Hardin Holley in Lubbock, Texas. Holly, who was famous for songs such as "Peggy Sue" and died in a plane crash along with fellow musicians Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson in 1959, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1986.

In 1963, the Pro Football Hall of Fame opened in Canton, Ohio.

In 1972, Jay School Board established policies regarding student rights, discipline and expulsion. Among the rules were a prohibition of student smoking "during and immediately before or immediately after school hours."

In 1979, cable sports network ESPN debuted.

In 2005, Hosni Mubarak won Egypt's first multi-candidate presidential election.

In 2021, Portland City Council heard no comments during its public hearing on its 2022 budget that was proposed at \$8.3 million. It marked a 25.2% increase from the previous year, with the bulk of that jump coming for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the fire department.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 10 a.m. — Dunkirk Police Pension Board, city building 131 S. Main St. 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, Mayor's office, city hall,	321 N. Meridian St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay Classroom Teachers' Association and Jay School Corporation public hearing, General Shanks, 414 Floral Ave., Portland.
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Obituaries

Lois Ford

July 21, 1928-Sept. 4, 2023
Lois W. Ford, age 95, a resident of Dunkirk, passed away on Monday, Sept. 4, 2023, at The Waters of Dunkirk in the company of her daughter Jill and daughter-in-law Jill Ford.

Lois was born on July 21, 1928, in Dunkirk, the daughter of Charles Basil "Bill" and Charlotte "Lottie" B. Morgan. She graduated from Dunkirk High School in 1946 and retired as vice president of Citizens First State Bank in Dunkirk after 30 years of service. She also owned and operated Lois' Antique Shop in Dunkirk.



Ford

Lois volunteered for many years at the Dunkirk Food Pantry. She was a member of Plymouth United Church of Christ in Dunkirk and Dunkirk Order of the Eastern Star where she served as a past Worthy Matron.

Lois married Harry Ford on June 19, 1949, and he passed away on July 21, 2003. She often mentioned after retirement that she missed her people at the bank, and she loved playing euchre and poker.

Survivors include:
Her children — Phil Ford (wife: Jill), Dunkirk, Indiana, Jill Starr (husband: Paul), Redkey, Indiana, Nancy Robbins (husband: Alan), Dunkirk, Indiana, and Bob Ford (wife: Tammy), Redkey, Indiana

Two sisters-in-law — Lucille Morgan, Dunkirk, Indiana, and Shirley Young, Hartford City, Indiana

Twelve grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren

Visitation will be held on Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St., Redkey, Indiana. Funeral services will follow at 3 p.m. on Saturday at the church. Pastor Randy Davis will officiate and burial will follow at Dunkirk I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Dunkirk, Indiana.

Memorials may be directed to The Tippecanoe Watershed Foundation or Dunkirk Elks Lodge 1776.

The family would like to thank the staff at The Waters of Dunkirk and Heart to Heart Hospice for the care given to their mother.

Arrangements are entrusted to Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Norma Cash

Nov. 29, 1928-Sept. 5, 2023
Norma Cash, age 94, of Portland

JCDC ...

Continued from page 1
Several board members also questioned county commissioners signing the two-year, \$200,000 contract with the regional planning district after at the last JCDC meeting Aker and McGalliard said they could not commit to a funding amount for JCDC until the 2024 budget process is complete.

Leavell asked if JCDC could visit Jay County Council and ask for its funding to be increased from the amount currently

being proposed in order to avoid a budget deficit.

Council members Cindy Bracy and Faron Parr, who both serve on the JCDC board, said that is still possible as the budget will not be finalized until next month. (Council's next meeting was Wednesday. See Friday's paper for details.)

The board agreed to visit council to request the funding.

On the issue of raises, Leavell said he feels 6% doesn't make sense given the budget situation but also that no increase would be unfair given that raises for between 2% and 7% are being considered for county employees. He proposed a 3% increase for JCDC employees.

The JCDC board unanimously approved a 3% wage increase for employees. A budget will be prepared reflecting that increase for the board to consider for approval at its October meeting.

Also Tuesday, the board agreed to purchase a com-

Fred Pries

June 15, 1953-Sept. 4, 2023
Fred A. Pries, 70, of Winchester, passed away peacefully at his home on Monday, Sept. 4, 2023.

He was born on June 15, 1953, in Wabash, Indiana, to Richard C. Pries and Carlene (Elser-Landis) Bland.

Fred always greeted others with a smile and firm handshake. He was an honest man of faith and full of integrity. He had a gift for attention to detail and exquisite penmanship. He was described as a gentleman with class, loved by many.

Fred was a 1971 graduate of Southwood High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and insurance from Ball State University in 1975. He owned and operated his own insur-

ance business (Fred Pries and Leslie Jones Insurance and Financial Services) for over 40 years.

He was an active member of the East Street Church, serving on both deacon and elder boards, as well as treasurer for 25 years. He was a member of the Winchester Kiwanis Club, Randolph Historical Society, NRA, NAIFA and NAHU. Fred was elected and served on the Randolph Central School Board for over 20 years. Fred had been named Citizen of the Year in a community he was proud to call home.

He spent hours caring for his yard and detailing his cars. He enjoyed learning about history and keeping up with news and politics. Most of all, his greatest joy was found spending time with his friends, family and grandchildren.

Fred is survived by his wife of 47 years, Cindy Pries; two children, Brandon Pries of Indianapolis and Leslie Jones (Justin) of Winchester; three grandchildren, Rowan, Luke and Laney Jones; mother Carlene Bland of Wabash; brother Mike Pries of Berne; sister-in-law Sandy Pries of Lagro; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Fred was preceded in death by his father, Richard Pries; two brothers, Ron Pries and David Pries; and grandparents, Clarence and Irene Pries.

Friends and family may call from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday at East Street Church.

A service to celebrate Fred's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023, at the East Street Church with Pastor Rob Butler officiating. Burial will follow at Fountain Park Cemetery in Winchester.

Memorials may be made in Fred's memory to the East Street Church, 128 N. East St. Winchester, IN 47394.

Walker Funeral Home in Winchester is entrusted with the arrangements.

Condolences may be shared with the family at walkerswinchester.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.



Pries

FRIENDSHIP
PLEA MARKET

Friendship, Indiana
Sept. 9-17
Open daily 9:00 a.m.

S.E. Indiana, 1 mi. east of town on St. Rd. #62
www.friendshippleamarket.com
(812) 667-5645

Now Available

Museum of the Soldier
Chicken Supper Tickets

For Friday, September 15th
4:30pm - 7pm

Tickets can be picked up at these locations:
WPGW Radio, Valentine Feed & Seed, Progressive Del Toro Office Supply, F and M Bank in Portland, and Fisher Meats in Portland.

SERVICES

Today
Hostetler, Patricia
Hostetler: 2 p.m., Green Park Cemetery.

Saturday
Pries, Fred: 11 a.m., East Street Church, 128 N. East St., Winchester.
Ford, Phil: 3 p.m., Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St., Redkey.

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

Vaccines are important for your health

By CHANTEL WILLMANN

Vaccines prevent serious or life-threatening diseases, in adults and children, by boosting their immune system. According to the World Health Organization, there are vaccines to prevent more than 20 life-threatening diseases and prevent 3.5 million to 5 million deaths each year.

Why are vaccines important for children?

Vaccines help provide immunity to children before they are exposed to life-threatening illnesses such as diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, influenza and measles. Getting your child

Your Health Matters



immunized on schedule is the best way to effectively protect your child. Vaccines work differently but they all help build the body's immune system against infection. Most take a few weeks to fully develop protection, but the protection can last a lifetime. There are some vaccines such as tetanus or seasonal flu vaccine that require a

booster, or additional doses, to build full protection. Talk to your healthcare provider about the recommended vaccines and to schedule your children's vaccines.

Should adults get vaccinated?

It is important for adults to also get vaccinated. Vaccinations are one of the safest way to help prevent against acquiring and spreading serious diseases, which could result in health problems, which could then lead to missing work, medical bills, not being able to care for your loved ones or even death.

Everyone should make sure to be up to date on routine vaccines including: COVID-19, flu, and TDAP (tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough). There are other vaccines that are important, especially as you get older, including the pneumococcal and shingles vaccines. Other vaccines may be recommended based on your health conditions, job and life events and travel. Check with your healthcare provider for recommended vaccinations.

Are there side effects to vaccinations?

Like medications, vaccines can have some side effects. Most side effects are mild and go away in a few days.

They include fever, tiredness, and body aches as well as redness, swelling and tenderness at the site of the vaccines. Serious, long-term side effects are extremely rare.

Are vaccines safe?

Vaccines are safe and effective. They are formulated using only ingredients needed to be safe and effective. Extensive testing is performed in laboratories before being

licensed and utilized in the public. Agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Institute of Health and other federal agencies continually monitor for safety of all vaccines.

It is important for children and adults to stay current on vaccines. Talk to your healthcare provider to set up a schedule to get vaccinated.

Chantel Willmann is a family medicine nurse practitioner at IU Health Blackford.

Teens build relationship amid challenges

DEAR ABBY: I'm in a relationship with someone younger. I'm 17, and he's 15. When I first met him, I was told he was a junior. We were close friends and have been through so much together, good and bad, and we've now been in a six-month relationship.

We don't have bad intentions because we are waiting for marriage before having sex. I have struggled with depression and anxiety, but he makes me happier than I have ever been. He's the man I have been asking God for. He treats me like a princess. I have no doubt in my mind that he could be The One.

The problem is, his parents don't like the age difference. My parents don't have a problem with it because their age gap is the same. They are also

Dear Abby



very strict, and they will agree only if his parents agree. His parents have a bigger age gap but still are iffy about us. What I don't understand is why I can't be happy with him without our parents thinking we're going to have sex without thinking about consequences.

When we are together, we forget about the age gap. How do I make our parents understand? Must we break up for the sake of our parents when I could fall

into another depression? I don't want to go back to where I was. I can't lose him. Please help. — HAPPY GIRL NOW

DEAR GIRL: You don't have to lose this boyfriend, but you may have to postpone him. In the meantime, it's important that you receive help for your depression and anxiety because it's unfair to your boyfriend to make your happiness his responsibility. Your happiness should not be dependent on another person.

If your parents are unaware of your mental health struggles, tell them so they can assist you in getting professional help if necessary. If they cannot do that, talk about it with a counselor at your school.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend, "Eli," and I bought a beautiful white Labrador puppy, "Sasha," two years ago. I live with him and my future father-in-law, "Harry," at his father's house. Eli's father is basically a man-child. Harry feeds Sasha table scraps, and even though we have asked him to stop, he doesn't. He laughs and says the food won't hurt her. I think he is being very disrespectful.

The extra food is making Sasha gain weight. We are worried about her health, but Harry doesn't care. We don't have enough money to move out yet. Harry is home a lot during the day when my boyfriend and I are working. We pay all of Sasha's vet and food bills. I'm not sure what to do about this. I

would appreciate any advice you can give me. — PET PROJECT IN NEW YORK

DEAR PET PROJECT: If possible, start asking friends or relatives if they would be willing to have Sasha stay with them during the day while you and Eli are working. Obesity isn't healthy for canines or humans, and regardless of Harry's motivation, he should not be stuffing your puppy after you have asked him not to.

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

Community Calendar

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

Thursday

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

Friday

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. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260)

251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

LOCALS MARKET — Is held from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday from June through October on East Main Street in Portland. For more information, contact The Flower Nook at (260) 726-7166.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

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

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

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m.

on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnan-

cy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian 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.

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. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will

be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

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.

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Ads must run in September
Rate does not apply to special sections

RESTAURANT
Food & Drink

MENU

Reach out to customers in Blackford, Jay and Randolph counties

4x4 ad once a week in
The Commercial Review, The News-Gazette, The News Times and The News and Sun throughout September

\$415 (85% off regular price)

Or run a **4x4 ad once a week in** the publication(s) of your choice:
The Commercial Review — \$275
The News-Gazette — \$250
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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

Economic data is all fun and games

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Economists are a fun-loving set of our fellow citizens.

I am one of their numbers. We should have a special day annually set aside for us during which we would all wear red clown noses.

Take for example one of our favorite funnies: Real Gross Domestic Product (Real GDP). This sidesplitter is the value of all economic output in a set period of time (a quarter or a full year), adjusted for inflation.

The world is ready to act every time an estimate is released. GDP is a fantastic concept. It leaves out what most of us do routinely (clean ourselves and our homes, shop, prepare

Eye on the Pie



meals, attend to the welfare of others who may or may not live with us, etc.). Then GDP is turned around to include the rental value of owner-occupied homes, a delightful statistical fantasy.

However, let's make it real. What is real? Adjustment for price changes.

We collect pricing data, which is a barrel of laughs, to bring

current numbers to a common level that indicates actual change, as if prices make what we know about the world ... fictional.

Yes, it's good to know about the actual output of an industry, say manufacturing of tires or brewing beer. But adjusting for prices alone, won't tell you much if quality is changing.

Prices are important in and of themselves. How much we actually pay for tires depends on so many factors of demand and supply, we can hardly separate them. Consumers will pay more for what they believe is a better tire. Firms making and selling beer will price the brew according to the costs they

incur and information they have about consumer preferences.

The good folks at the Bureau of Economic Analysis who give us these data assert, "changes in real GDP provide a comprehensive measure of economic growth that is free of the effects of price change."

I love that statement: "free of the effects of price change."

Ah yes, data scrubbed clean of changes in consumer income and preferences and in the costs of production which are embedded in prices. We want only the number of cans of beer sold; changes in quality will be considered (warm vs. cold), if we can find a set of assumptions

and data that help differentiate warm from cold beer.

Thus my fellow economists are busy separating the real world from the nominal world. Real equals material. Nominal, well, that's something else.

Are economists just like STEM advocates? Are they having trouble dealing with messy reality?

STEMers seek to hide away in a dehumanized, material world. They tell us they are the future, and our children should follow them.

Pied Pipers of the 21st Century?

.....

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Someone needs to have difficult talk

Journal-Advocate
(Sterling, Colorado)

Tribune News Service

Lawmakers who serve their constituents for years on end are to be applauded, to a large extent, for their dedication to public service.

But eventually the question must be asked: When is it time to exit the stage?

As The Hill reported, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) appeared to freeze up while taking questions in Kentucky Wednesday, the second time in recent weeks that he paused while talking to reporters.

A reporter asked McConnell, 81, for his thoughts about running for reelection in 2026.

The Senate GOP leader twice asked the reporter to repeat the question, then responded "that's a," before freezing and looking ahead for roughly 30 seconds, according to a video posted on X by MSNBC.

At one point during the freeze-up, an aide walked up to McConnell and asked "did you hear the question, senator, running for reelection in 2026?" To which McConnell replied with a word that was inaudible.

"Alright, I'm sorry you all, we're gonna need a minute," the aide said.

President Biden said Wednesday that he plans to call McConnell.

"I just heard, literally, coming out. And Mitch is a friend, as you know, not a joke," Biden said during remarks at the White House on the Hurricane Idalia response. "We have disagreements politically, but he's a good friend."

"So, I'm going to try to get in touch with him later this afternoon. I don't know enough to know," Biden added.

McConnell, 81, and Biden, 80, served in the Senate together for more than two decades before Biden left to be vice president in 2009.

Pleasantries aside, that would have to be an awkward conversation, as Biden is no stranger to "sandbag" moments. If he is, as Biden says, a friend, he'd suggest that McConnell take some time off, perhaps do a retirement test-run.

Biden, or someone, should have the same conversation with California Sen. Dianne Feinstein, who had to be

Guest Editorial

Lawmakers need to be in, if not fighting shape, at least able to withstand the grind of Congress.

prompted during a vote on a defense appropriations bill last month.

The 90-year-old Democrat appeared confused, according to reports. Instead of giving her vote, she began a speech in support of the measure.

About 15 seconds in, an aide whispered in her ear. Committee chair Patty Murray, D-Washington, then told Feinstein: "Just say aye." "Aye," Feinstein said.

There's a difference between ageism — the assumption that a person can't or shouldn't do a job because of their age, and glossing over moments of confusion and incapacitation. That can happen at any age. If McConnell was 30 years younger and froze multiple times, it would still be cause for concern.

Is he OK? Is Feinstein? While aides do their best to save face as the cameras roll, is anyone taking a step back to ask "what's going on here?"

Constituents have to be worried as well, and not just for the well-being of their representatives on Capitol Hill. Lawmakers need to be in, if not fighting shape, at least able to withstand the grind of Congress. And voters should feel secure that their elected officials are voicing their votes, and not just repeating what another lawmaker tells them to say.

We hope McConnell and Feinstein are in good health, and that there is someone with their, and the people's, best interest at heart willing to have a difficult conversation.



Respect could help with shortage

By JERALD MCNAIR
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

How many of us have seen a school bus come to a stop and activate its warning lights and stop arm, and yet a driver proceeds to pass the bus anyway? Imagine the fear that the bus driver must feel, as he or she is tasked with the responsibility of transporting children to and from school every day.

Last week, a child was killed and 23 others were injured in a bus accident in Clark County, Ohio, when a driver of a vehicle heading in the opposite direction veered into the bus driver's lane. It was the first day of school for the students; unfortunately, it's a day that those children and the families will never forget.

Moments like this remind us of the importance of those who oversee our children. In addition to family members, bus drivers are often the first people children see in the morning — during children's best and worst moments. If a child has had a disagreement with a family member, they board the school bus with all kinds of emotions. Bus drivers must drive safely, manage the behavior of the students and minimize conflicts.

School districts across the country are experiencing a shortage of bus drivers, whose essential role has never been more evident.

As a school administrator, I have had some challenges related to the busing of students but thankfully not many. I attribute this to the quality of the relationship the bus company has forged with the school district and the district's emphasis to our students on the importance of respecting their bus driver. Nevertheless, it is a persistent worry that parents and educational leaders have.

Jerald McNair



It's often said that you never truly appreciate something until it's gone. The supply of drivers continues to dwindle. Since the pandemic, it has decreased dramatically. Low pay, concerns about COVID-19, a lack of respect and competition from the private sector, which often pays more, are responsible for the shortage.

While many of us can't do anything about bus drivers' pay, we can respect the rules of the road. That includes stopping and being patient when the driver activates the stop arm, allowing children to cross the street safely, slowing down when a school bus passes by and just being mindful of the complexities of driving a school bus.

Lest we forget the fact that school buses are generally the safest vehicles on the road for children. In fact, research shows they are safer on the bus than in the car with their parents.

Yet, we don't value bus drivers enough. Why is that? Is it symptomatic of a larger societal problem in how we fail to appreciate certain workers?

During the so-called great resignation, caused in large part by the pandemic, workers were quitting their jobs in record numbers. In August 2021, more than 4 million people quit their jobs, Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows. The transportation industry was one of the hardest-hit industries, and school bus drivers fall

under that category. While schools are back in session and operating normally, for all intents and purposes, the lack of bus drivers can cause significant challenges to student safety, students' attendance (and therefore the quality of their education) and anxiety for parents, students and educators.

Perhaps this can change if we do the obvious: Respect the important job bus drivers have. We all cherish our children and love them unconditionally. We should show it by abiding by the rules of the road.

Teaching our youths the importance of behaving correctly on the school bus is also our responsibility. After learning about the horrific school bus accident in Ohio, I met with many of my students to talk about it. I not only wanted to reassure them that they were safe but also remind them that they are responsible for listening to and respecting their bus driver.

Certainly, adults can learn a thing or two about that. States across the country have costly fines when drivers illegally pass a school bus driver. In certain states, jail time is a given.

Regrettably, punishment must be meted out for some of us to follow the rules and take care of our most precious investment: our children.

American writer James Baldwin once said: "Children have never been good at listening to their elders, but they have never failed to imitate them." When we model to our youths how to behave appropriately, they will imitate us.

.....

McNair, who has a doctorate in education and a graduate degree in public policy, is a school administrator in South Holland, School District 151, in Illinois.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Joe Boggs
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
asburyministries.org

Banner Christian Assembly of God
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Michael Burk
(260) 726-4282
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefontain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist
Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

Christ Chapel
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
Quentin Elsea
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside)
1209 S. Shank St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville
190 W. Main St., Pennville
Gary Newton
(765) 669-1070
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fcctrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpccportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. David Porath
(419) 678-2071
Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

Hopewell of Life Ministries
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor United Methodist
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
John Retter
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist
County roads 600 East and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 755-6354
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland First Church of Nazarene
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Chuck Hollandbeck
(765) 369-2676
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
County roads 400 North and 550 West
Rev. Mike Heckman
(260) 731-4733
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

Sugar Grove United Methodist
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

The Church at Westchester
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
(260) 729-2554
Services: 9 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
Hispanic: 1 p.m.
portlandtrinity.com

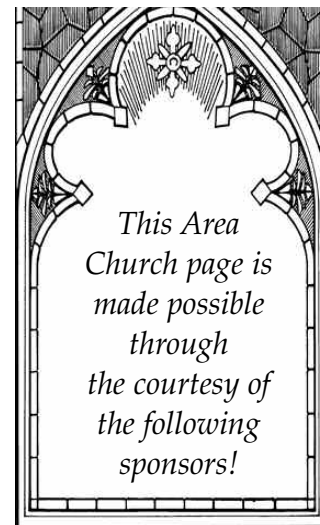
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



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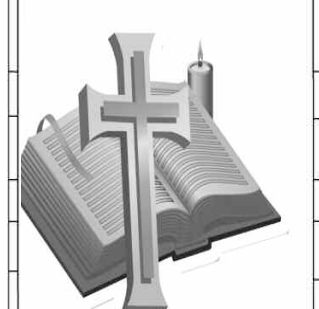
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Jay Co. sweeps Tigers

Spikers need only three sets to earn their first Allen County Athletic Conference win of the season

Bella Denton only had one block in the Patriots' first Allen County Athletic Conference matchup, but it was a big one.

Denton's block was the final point in the Jay County High School volleyball

team's 25-17, 25-19, 27-25 sweep of the Bluffton Tigers on Tuesday.

To go with her match-ending block, Denton constantly attacked the ball to earn a team-high 11 kills. Mya Kukler added nine kills.

Supporting the middle hitters was Sophie Saxman with 22 assists.

Maggie Dillon tallied five digs to lead the Patriots (3-3, 1-0 ACAC). Dillon, Lani Muhlenkamp and Brenna Haines combined for 13 aces during the match. Haines had the most with six.

The junior varsity also swept the Tigers 25-16, 25-11.

Jay County dominated Bluffton when Kayla Jetmore was serving the ball. She served up a team-high eight aces and 17 points. She also had three digs.

The top attackers were Kendel Rowels and Maria Hemmelgarn with three kills apiece. Rowels also had the only block.

Paisley Fugiett and Ella Rigby both had five assists in the match.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Bella Denton (7) and Laila Waddell (14) of Jay County High School rise above the net in an attempt to block Allie Koby's (14) hit during the Patriots' 25-17, 25-19, 27-25 victory over Bluffton on Tuesday. Jay County's only block came from Denton and it was the final blow to cap off the three-set sweep of the Tigers.

Defense stifles

SELMA — Jay County's girls soccer team smothered the Wapahani Raiders on defense in the Patriots' 4-0 victory on Tuesday.

Jay County (2-4-1, 1-3 Allen County Athletic Conference) outshot the Raiders 41-4 because of a strong presence by the midfielders and defense.

The Patriots took the ball away 141 times in the match to limit Wapahani's shots on goal. Aixa

Lopez had the most with 19 steals, 11 of which came in the second half.

Lopez also had Jay County's only assist in the match. She set up Jenna Dues for her first goal of the match at the 29:45 mark in the second half. Dues also scored unassisted eight and a half minutes later.

Jay County's first-half goals were scored by Lopez and Morgan DeHoff. Lopez opened the scoring for the Patriots 13

minutes into the game while DeHoff's goal came with 3:24 left in the half. Angel Clairday saved all four shots the Raiders took.

Golfers struggle

YORKTOWN — The Jay County girls golf team finished third in a tri-meet against Yorktown and Wes-Del on Tuesday at The Players Club at Woodland Trails. The Patriots shot 263 as

a team while Wes-Del topped Yorktown 223-228.

Maddy Snow shot the low for the Patriots (2-9, 1-5 ACAC), coming in at 57 strokes. Snow's lone bogey came on the 354-yard, par-4 16th hole.

Yorktown's Kayleigh Agugliaro and Wes-Del's Jane Armington were co-match medalists, each shooting 40.

Brooklynn Bright had the next best score for Jay County with a 66.

The No. 3 score came from Meah Devoe with a 68.

Both Whitney McIntire and Brooklyn Zimmerman shot 72s to round out the Patriots' score.

Patriots sweep

The Jay County Junior High volleyball team swept Bluffton-Harrison Middle School 25-19, 25-19 on Tuesday.

Kenady Lyons' four kills spearheaded the Patriots' offense. She also

had two aces, a dig and an assist.

Just under half of Jay County's points were scored on aces (23). Emalyn Homan had the most with six. Peyton Schoelein had five, Brenna Ruble added four and Amelia Heath had three. Gabi Petro tied Lyons with two aces while Avery Lykins added one.

Homan assisted teammates three times, the most of any Patriot. Health also had two.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys tennis vs. Bluffton — 5 p.m.; Girls golf at Delta — 5 p.m.; Girls soccer vs. Oak Hill — 5:30 p.m.; Volleyball at Woodlan — 6 p.m.; Boys soccer at Yorktown — 5:30 p.m.; Junior High cross country at Bluffton — 5:30 p.m.; Junior High volleyball vs. RJ Baskett — 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls golf at Minster at Arrowhead — 4 p.m.; Boys golf vs. Minster — 4 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Versailles — 5 p.m.; Middle School football at Minster — 5 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football vs. Adams Central — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football vs. Minster — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today
Thursday
7 p.m. — Tennis: U.S. Open (ESPN)

8 p.m. — High school football: Lake Belton at Red Oak (ESPN2)
8:20 p.m. — NFL football: Detroit Lions at Kansas City Chiefs (NBC)

Friday
1 p.m. — Tennis: U.S. Open (ESPN)
4 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Kansas (FS1)
5 p.m. — NCAA football: Indiana State at Indiana (BTN)
5:30 p.m. — NCAA football: Illinois at Kansas State (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Chicago Sky (ION)
7 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Kansas Lottery 200 (FS1)
8 p.m. — High school football: Bishop Gorman at Centennial (ESPNU)
8 p.m. — WNBA: Las Vegas Aces at Phoenix Mercury (ION)

Local notes

Skater clinics and Bootcamp begin

The Cornfed Roller Derby will host a clinic on Thursday, Sept. 7 from 9 to 11 p.m. and on Monday, Sept. 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Gibson Arena in Muncie to recruit skaters and officials.

For a \$5 fee, those 18-and-older may participate in the clinic to learn skating fundamentals and roller derby gameplay. No experience is required.

Participants need quad skates, a helmet, knee pads, elbow pads, wrist guards and a mouth guard. Equipment will be available to borrow but participants must bring their own mouth guard.

On Mondays from Sept. 14 through Sept. 28 at 7-9 p.m., participants can attend a New Skater Bootcamp. Participation costs \$20 for all five dates and will provide the opportunity to expand and polish their knowledge of roller derby.

The same equipment guidelines apply.

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 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.

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.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Sale to be held in the Montpelier Civic Center, 339 South Main Street, Montpelier IN Thursday Evening SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 6:00 P.M.
203 ACRES IN HARRISON TOWNSHIP - BLACKFORD COUNTY INDIANA
TRACT 1 - 40 acres located in Section 20 at the corner of CR 300 E and 500 N. There are 38.79 acres of mostly level tillable land with 1.21 acres of roadway.
TRACT 2 - 67.54 acres located in Section 32 on CR 400 E. There are 30.97 acres of tillable land along with 31.5 acres of Classified Fitch and balance in ditch and roadway.
TRACT 3 - 95.832 acres located in Section 29 with an address of 3402 N 400 E. There are 62.32 acres of slightly sloping tillable

90 SALE CALENDAR

land, 27.58 acres in woods with the balance in ditch and scrub. This tract also has an easement for a utility tower.
For more information please contact GARY LOY, AUCTIONEER at (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, BROKER at (260) 726-2700.
BEULAH HISER TRUST By Mike Landers and Pam Hart, Trustees
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 3430 W ST RD 67. PORTLAND, IN ANTIQUES-COLLECTIBLES
3- Tokheim gas pumps, large round porcelain Gulf sign, Mobil gas

90 SALE CALENDAR

porcelain sign, Mailpouch porcelain thermometer/sign, Royal Crown Cola sign, Broom maker (from Portland), motor oil cans, oil cans, porcelain light shades, pulleys, Ford Model T door, windshield and radiator, corn jobber, trunks.
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1976 Dodge step side little red express pickup truck, Allis Chalmers D17 series 3 tractor with rear weights (parts), large lot of riding and push mowers for parts, shop and industrial equipment.
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READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Sports

Looking for more

JCHS coach Gillespie happy with victory, still wants to see more from his team

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The Patriots have yet to reach the type of tennis their coach believes they are capable of achieving.

But they were able to pick up a victory in the final match before a two-week stretch that includes all three of their conference matches and the Patriot Invitational.

Jay County High School's boys tennis team dominated at the No. 1 and No. 2 positions Tuesday evening as they defeated the sectional rival Randolph Southern Rebels 4-1.

"It was a W," said JCHS coach Donald Gillespie.

The victory pulled the Patriots to 4-6 on the season.

"Yeah, it's a win, but I saw a lot of flat feet, not a lot of movement.

"I saw some stuff we're going to need to correct. We're not going to be able to beat other teams if we play like that. ...

"We're going to have to play a lot better Thursday night, definitely Saturday."

Jay County will host Bluffton in its Allen County Athletic Conference opener Thursday. It hosts the Patriot Invitational on Saturday, with matches against other ACAC rivals Adams Central on Tuesday and South Adams on Sept. 21.

Gillespie said he was most pleased with the effort from Eli Dirksen, who swept Jackson Latello of Randolph Southern at No. 2 singles. Dirksen and Latello were trying to match each other power-for-power, with

Dirksen most frequently coming out on top.

Latello put up a strong fight in the final game, bouncing back from a 30-love deficit to force deuce six times. But Dirksen finally connected on a winner to the left corner and then smacked a serve that Latello could not return to finish off his 6-0, 6-0 victory.

"His serve was really good," said Gillespie. "He was more consistent with his first serve. He was not double faulting and his groundstrokes were good. ...

"Their match was a lot better. There was a lot of movement."

Jay County's No. 1 doubles duo came back together after splitting up for last week's match against Marion when Sam Myers shifted to the No. 3 singles spot.

After getting warmed up with a 6-2 victory over Ian Vance and Braden Austin in the first set, Gage Sims and Myers stormed through the first five games of the second. Austin and Vance scored the first point of the next game, but a couple of double faults put the Patriot pair firmly in control. Two points later, a Randolph Southern shot went long as Myers and Sims finished off the 6-2, 6-0 win.

"I thought we played fairly well," said Myers. "We gave up two games — shouldn't have happened — but we'll always progress. I know that."

"I feel like we're starting to progress a lot more than we had been since the start

of the season," agreed Sims. "So I'm feeling pretty confident moving forward."

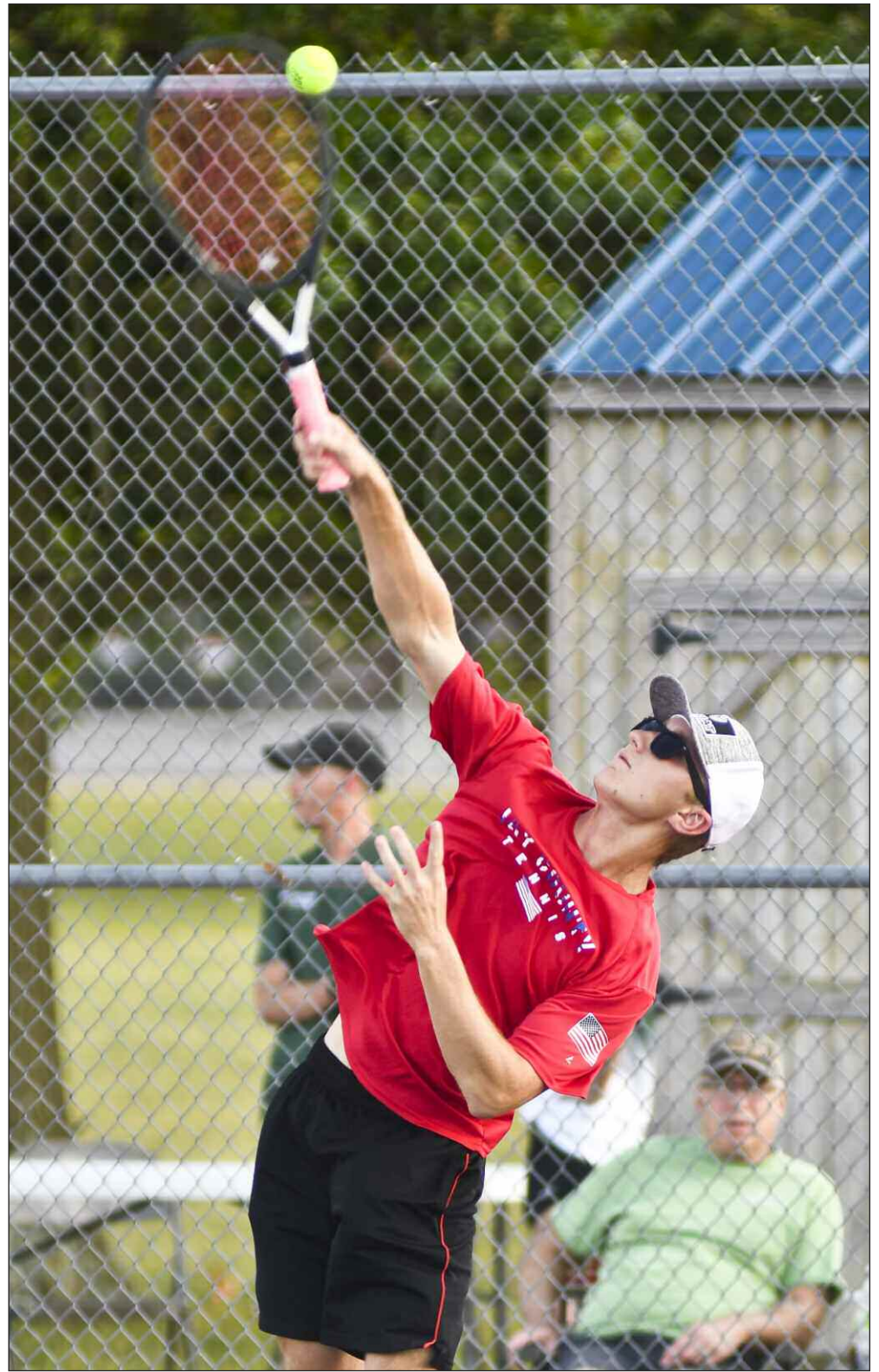
Isaac Miller and Luke Muhlenkamp were back together again at No. 2 doubles after Miller had bumped up to play the No. 1 spot with Sims against Marion. They won 6-1, 6-1 over Wyatt Brown and Coltin Gingerich of the Rebels.

"They played decent," said Gillespie. "If you ask them, they didn't play as well as they should."

Abraham Dirksen gave the Patriots their fourth point of the evening as he finished off a hobbled Vance Taylor. After taking the first set 6-1, Dirksen served the first game of the second at love to take control. He was up 5-1 before Taylor broke his serve, but then took the next game when the Randolph Southern senior was hobbled by a twisted ankle and committed several unforced errors.

Liam Garringer suffered the only loss of the evening in the No. 3 singles match. He fell 6-2, 6-0 to Rebel sophomore Noah Allen.

"He's been doing pretty good," said Randolph Southern coach Kyle Good of the former doubles player. "And I think, honestly, playing doubles first and then transitioning to singles is actually a pretty good deal because you get guys that are used to playing doubles that don't mind going to the net and doing overheads. A lot of singles players like to stay back on the baseline."



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

JCHS senior Gage Sims hits an overhead shot during the No. 1 doubles match against Braden Austin and Ian Vance on Thursday during the Patriots' 4-1 victory over Randolph Southern.

FRHS stays scorching hot

After a rough start to the season, the Indians have caught fire.

A win on Tuesday brought them above .500.

The Fort Recovery High School girls golf team earned their sixth win in a row, beating the Marion Local Flyers 198-221 at Portland Golf Club.

The score was a season-low for the Indians (6-5, 4-2 Midwest Athletic Conference). Their previous low was shot Aug. 29, with 211 strokes.

Marion Local's Anna Hemmelgarn earned match medalist honors with a 46. All of Fort Recovery's golfers beat or tied the Flyers' next best score.

Olivia Knapke had the low-score for the Indians with a 47. She shot for par on the second and eighth holes.

Emma Will was just one stroke behind her with 48.

Eva Kahlig had a pair of pars on the fourth and seventh to put up the No. 3 score for the Indians with 51.

Marissa Schoen rounded out the team score with 52.

Ella Schoen (54) and Brynn Stammen (55) did not affect the team's final.

The junior varsity team also pulled out a 216-231 victory. Ella Westerges and Evvie Briner led the Indians with a 51 and 52 respectively.

Indians stay perfect

CELINA, Ohio — The Fort Recovery volleyball team stayed undefeated as it controlled the match against the Celina Bulldogs for a 25-18, 22-25, 25-16, 25-21 victory on Tuesday.

Teigan Fortkamp earned a season-high 23 kills in the match.

Mara Pearson followed with 10 kills. She also

FRHS roundup

added 15 digs, two aces and a block.

Kennedy Muhlenkamp and Kayla Hietkamp worked as setters for the duo, tallying 38 assists in the contest. Heitkamp led with 22 while Muhlenkamp added 16.

Muhlenkamp also added eight kills, two blocks, six digs and one ace. Heitkamp had one kill and five digs.

The Indians (6-0, 1-0 Midwest Athletic Conference) had another strong day serving the ball.

They only committed eight service errors on 85 total serves for a 91% success rate. Muhlenkamp was 21-for-22 alone.

Heitkamp and Cali Wendel both were perfect with 14 serves each.

Wendel medals

BRADFORD, Ohio — Sage Wendel led the Fort Recovery junior varsity boys golf team to a 192-213 victory over the Versailles Tigers on Tuesday at Stillwater Valley Golf Club.

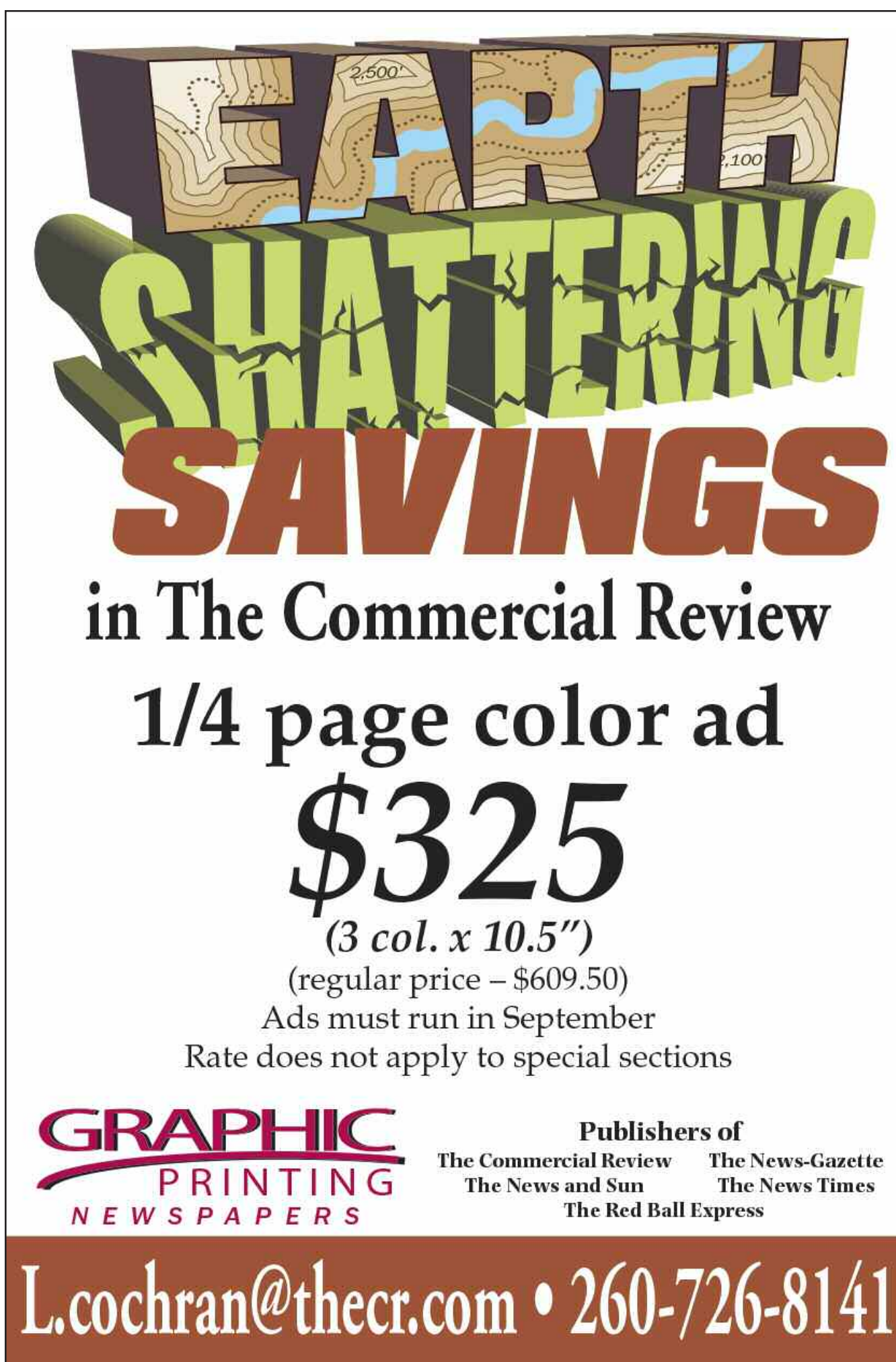
Wendel shot two pars and six bogeys to finish with a 45.

Versailles' low-score came from Devyn Thobe who shot a 51.

Caleb Smith wasn't too far behind Wendel with 47 strokes. Smith's only par came on hole No. 9, while he tallied six bogeys as well.

Colson Post and Reece Evers both shot 50s to round out the Indians' team score. They combined for three pars and seven bogeys.

Riley Grieshop's 51 and Evan Keller's 57 did not affect the outcome.



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