

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Plans continue despite delays

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Solar farm development in Jay County has been mostly static for months.

A few bursts of movement have recently fueled some renewable energy companies forward. Still, delays are expected.

Scout Clean Energy, Invenergy and Leeward Renewable Energy are developing Skycrest Solar, Rose Gold Solar and Sun Chief Solar, respectively, in Jay County.

Delays with the PJM Interconnection process have impacted each of the companies.

According to its website, PJM

Interconnection is a regional transmission organization coordinating wholesale electricity movement across 13 states and the District of Columbia. Among other duties, PJM Interconnection conducts grid studies, calcu-

lating upgrade needs to the power grid and costs.

PJM Interconnection announced plans in April 2022 to revamp its analysis process for new services joining the power grid, meaning projects would

likely be delayed as they work through the new process. It was expected to go into effect by the first quarter of 2023.

One of Jay County's upcoming solar farms has already jumped over that hurdle.

Invenergy, the first renewable energy company to formally propose a solar farm in Jay County in 2021, signed its final interconnection agreement with PJM Interconnection in the summer. The company's next steps include engineering studies and project design.

"It took longer than expected, but we do have a formal (agreement)," said Hannah Pawelczyk, project developer for Invenergy.

The company started surveying Jay County and speaking with landowners in 2018.

See Plans page 2

Renewable energy firms remain optimistic about Jay County projects

Grant awarded for early learning center

The Portland Foundation will receive \$500,000 in funding

An effort to create a child care facility and early learning center in Portland has some additional financial backing.

Early Learning Indiana has awarded The Portland Foundation \$500,000 from its Early Years Initiative grant program.

The Portland Foundation will receive \$432,500 for renovation, equipment and supplies for its planned early learning center and \$67,500 for IU Health Jay's Healthy Beginnings program.

"The Portland Foundation is honored to partner with Early Learning Indiana to provide services for Jay County's youngest residents," said foundation executive director Doug Inman in a press release. "The Jay County Early Learning Center will assist in addressing the shortage of high-quality early childhood education opportunities in the community and the Healthy Beginnings program will assist families in providing high-quality prenatal and postnatal care for mothers and babies."

The Early Years Initiative is a grant program that focuses on enhancing learning and development of infants and toddlers in Indiana. It places special emphasis on serving low-income Hoosiers. It is supported by the Lilly Endowment.

"We only have a few short years to set our youngest Hoosiers on a path to thrive in life, and the work of our grantees across the state will enable us to make the most of these years while deepening our understanding about which efforts are most effective," said Early Learning Indiana president and CEO Maureen Weber in a press release.

See Grant page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

A piece of the towers

Billy Puckett (left) and Pat Clancy (right) of the Tunnel to Towers Foundation present Jim Waechter of Portland's Museum of the Soldier with steel from the World Trade Center during a closing ceremony Sunday for the 9/11 NEVER FORGET Mobile Exhibit at Jay County Fairgrounds. The exhibit was on display in Jay County on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The steel from the World Trade Center will be displayed at Museum of the Soldier.

Rokita is facing disciplinary charges

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Todd Rokita on Monday became Indiana's second consecutive attorney general brought up on disciplinary charges — this time related to his statements about an Indiana doctor in the summer of 2022.

The Indiana Supreme Court Disciplinary Commission filed three charges against Rokita, all related to breaches of confidentiality. It's up to high court justices to determine whether any misconduct occurred and what, if any, sanction is warranted.

One of the allegations outlined in the disciplinary complaint states that Rokita improperly disclosed on national television last summer that his office was investigating Indianapolis OB-GYN Dr. Caitlin Bernard. Doing so could be deemed a violation of Indiana's Rules of Professional Conduct, which prohibits such a disclosure if the

investigation is still pending.

At the time of Rokita's statements, the Bernard investigation was still pending, and a formal complaint against the doctor had not yet been filed with the Indiana Medical Licensing Board.

The complaint additionally alleges that by publicly referring to Bernard as an "abortion activist acting as a doctor — with a history of failing to report," Rokita broke a professional rule that bars attorneys from using means "that have no substantial purpose other than to embarrass, delay, or burden a third person."

A third count contends that — because Rokita disclosed his office's investigation into Bernard before making a referral to the Medical Licensing Board — he broke another professional rule that describes any lawyer's actions that are "prejudicial to the administration of justice" as misconduct.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Hopefest fun

Kaelyana Castillo, 5, slides down the inflatable slide inside Jay Community Center during Hopefest activities on Saturday. The event offered informational booths, prizes, inflatable bounce houses and slides, a petting zoo and other activities for local families.

Deaths

Sarah Daniels, 68, Dunkirk
Allen Stanford, 32, Berne
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Sunday. The low was 50.

Tonight's forecast calls for partly cloudy skies with lows in the lower 50s. The high will climb to 80 Wednesday under mostly sunny skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Redkey Town Council has scheduled a public hearing on its 2024 budget for 5:30 p.m. Thursday at the park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St. Council's regular meeting will follow at 6 p.m.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of this week's Jay School Board meeting.

Thursday — Results from the FRHS volleyball match against Coldwater.



Obituaries

Sarah Daniels

Jan. 2, 1955-Sept. 16, 2023
Sarah (McCombs) Daniels, age 68, Dunkirk, died at home on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, following an extended illness. Born in Muncie on Jan. 2, 1955, she grew up in Dunkirk and attended Dunkirk High School. Sarah worked in the cafeterias of the Jay School Corporation and Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Center, retiring in 2019. She belonged to the Dunkirk American Legion Post 227 Auxiliary and enjoyed doing

diamond artwork and spending time with family, especially her grandkids. Survivors include sons Kable Daniels and Randy Stevens (wife: Tessa); daughters Amanda Kirts (Justin) and Renda LeMaster (Mark Fields); mother Sarah Alvina McCombs; brother Shannon McCombs; sisters Nona Bonifas (husband: Greg



Daniels

and Robin Jeffers (husband: Chris); mother-in-law Nora Murphy; brother-in-law Michael Daniels; grandchildren Justin Daniels, Zachary Pitser, Shelblynn Fields, Levi Pitser, Johnaustin Fields, Peytonlynn LeMaster, Abigail Stevens and Logan Hollingsworth; great-grandchildren Lucas James Fields, Lillian Fields and Bryson Pitser; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Philip E. "Phil" Daniels; father Gene McCombs; brother Scott

McCombs; and nephew Skyler McCombs. Services will be 2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023, at Meacham Funeral Service. Burial will follow at the Dunkirk I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Visiting hours are Wednesday from noon until 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Casual dress is preferred. Condolences and other expressions of sympathy may be given at MeachamFuneralService.com. **Allen Michael Stanford**, Berne, a

former Portland resident, Sept. 26, 1990-Sept. 14, 2023. Services will be at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 N. Washington St., Geneva. *The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

CR almanac

Wednesday 9/20	Thursday 9/21	Friday 9/22	Saturday 9/23	Sunday 9/24
81/56	83/56	82/55	80/54	77/59
Mostly sunny on Wednesday, when the high will be around 81 degrees.	Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high of 83 degrees during the day.	Sunny skies are expected on Friday. At night, the low may hit the mid 50s.	Saturday looks to be mostly sunny with a high of 80 degrees and a low of 54.	Mostly sunny on Sunday, with temperatures reaching the upper 70s during the day.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$638 million	49-53-58-62-63-66-67-69 Cash 5: 18-27-28-29-45 Estimated jackpot: \$85,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$183 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 1-4-9 Pick 4: 8-7-1-1 Pick 5: 2-5-9-5-6 Evening Pick 3: 5-3-0 Pick 4: 2-2-1-4 Pick 5: 8-9-7-6-0 Rolling Cash 5: 14-22-26-29-38 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 2-4-7 Daily Four: 0-0-0-5 Evening Daily Three: 9-4-9 Daily Four: 7-6-6-2 Quick Draw: 12-13-14-15-21-22-24-25-32-41-43-46-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.21 Sept. corn.....4.56 Wheat4.90	Dec. beans13.08 Wheat 5.06
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.20 Oct. corn4.80 Late Oct. corn4.55	Central States Montpelier Corn.....4.80 Sept. corn4.40 Beans12.80 Sept. beans12.75 Wheat5.51
The Andersons Richland Township Corn5.10 Sept. corn4.80 Beans12.69	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.86 Oct. corn4.26 Beans12.63 Sept. beans12.63 Wheat5.06

Today in history

In 1356, during the Hundred Years' War, English prince Edward's forces defeated the French at Poitiers.
In 1777, the Saratoga campaign of the Revolutionary War began with the Battle of Freeman's Farm between the British and American forces. Nearly a month later, British general John Burgoyne surrendered his troops, turning the tide of the war.
In 1783, the first hot-air balloon launched in the air in Versailles, France. Its passengers included a sheep, rooster and a duck.
In 1893, New Zealand granted all women the right to vote, becoming the first country to enact women's suffrage.
In 1957, the first underground nuclear test took place in Nevada.
In 1970, "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" premiered on CBS. The show spanned seven years on the air, winning several Primetime Emmy Awards and three Golden Globe Awards.
In 1974, Jimmy Fallon was born in Bay Ridge, New York. Fallon went on to host his own late night talk show, later replacing Jay Leno as host of "The Tonight Show" in 2014.
In 1982, Scott Fahlman posted the first documented emoticons, :-), :-), on Carnegie Mellon University Bulletin Board System.
In 1997, Portland native Monna VanSky-ock received the "Spirit of Special Olympics" award at Indianapolis Athletic Club. The award was the highest presented for Indiana Special Olympics. She had been active in Special Olympics as a coach for 13 years. — The CR

Citizen's calendar

Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.
Thursday 5:30 p.m. — Redkey Town Council 2024 budget public hearing, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.	Friday 8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Plans ...

Continued from page 1
It's planning Skycrest Solar, a solar energy center located on 2,500 acres in Penn and Jackson townships. The company will pay about \$1.75 million in economic development payments to the county over the course of four years, the first coming when construction begins. Skycrest Solar will also result in an estimated additional \$55 million in assessed value. Skycrest Solar was "grandfathered" into the old analysis process with PJM Interconnection, explained Pawelczyk, meaning it was able to get through the process quicker than some of the other new services joining the power grid. Sun Chief Solar — it will be operated by Scout Clean Energy, which owns Bitter Ridge Wind Farm — wasn't as lucky. (Scout Clean Energy is planning a \$100 million, 100-megawatt facility on about 1,200 acres in the same area as its existing wind farm. The company will give about \$1.3 million in economic development payments to the county over four years after construction is completed, and its facility will result in additional \$38.9 million in assessed value.) Scout Clean Energy project manager Zach Lasek noted PJM Interconnection recently opened its queue for new projects joining the power grid. Scout Clean Energy filed its request with the company Sept. 8. "There's still a lot of uncertainty, you know, I think, from a timing perspective of when we're going to

get these studies back," he explained. "It's kind of the 'hurry up and wait kind of scenario.'" During a visit to Jay County for the fair in July, Scout officials spoke with landowners and voiced similar sentiments. "All of us are equally disappointed that we can't push the project forward until we get through this process," he said. "If it was up to us, then we'd already have the interconnection agreement and we'd build it tomorrow if we could." It's not just Sun Chief Solar, he added. Scout Clean Energy and other companies have seen delays across the board for projects. While Scout Clean Energy is hopeful to finish Sun Chief Solar by its previous goal of 2025, Lasek said it's not the most likely scenario. They anticipate project construction won't be completed until 2026, meaning they would need to amend their permits and other agreements with the county. Pawelczyk confirmed it is possible Invenergy could start construction on Skycrest Solar some time next year. Invenergy's goal is to be operational by the end of 2026. (During proceedings with county government, it had anticipated construction in 2022 and to be operational as soon as 2024.) Also on the horizon is Leeward Renewable Energy's Rose Gold Solar, a \$150 million, 150-megawatt facility located on about 1,430 acres just north of Dunkirk. (Leeward will give \$1.95 million to the county

in economic development payments over a four-year period after the facility begins generating electricity. It will also result in an additional \$68.1 million in assessed value.) A spokesperson for Leeward Renewable Energy in December 2022 cited industry-wide delays and the PJM interconnection process in an email and said the company expected construction could begin this fall. When asked for an interview in early September, another spokesperson for the company said in an email there are no project updates at this time. NextEra Energy is also looking to join the solar energy trend in Jay County. The company has been surveying property in the southern part of the county near its existing Bluff Point Wind Energy Center, but no formal plans have been presented yet to local government or Jay/Portland Building and Planning. Lasek noted during the development process there are often quiet periods and busy periods. Regardless, Scout Clean Energy is still planning to get its solar farm built in Jay County. "We are still here and we're still working the project," he said. Despite the delays, Pawelczyk voiced optimism for Skycrest Solar and its impact in the county. "We're just excited to move it forward and start delivering benefits here in Jay County," Pawelczyk said. "We're excited to work with Jay County ... to get this project over the finish line."

Grant ...

Continued from page 1
The Portland Foundation announced in May that it has entered into an agreement with Westminster Preschool of Marion to operate Jay County Early Learning Center, a child care facility that will serve approximately 150 newborns through 5-year-old children. It would be located in the former Judge Haynes Elementary School, which the foundation purchased in summer 2022. The project is estimated at \$3.5 million, with The Portland Foundation seeking grants, such as from the Early Years Initiative, to help cover the cost. Beyond grants, the work will be paid for using The Portland's Foundation's reserves. It will be the largest expenditure for a community project in the history of the foundation. The new early learning center has a goal of providing "high-quality education" for children ages birth through 5. Healthy Beginnings is a women's and infant health

program launched by IU Health Jay after birthing services were discontinued at the hospital in 2020. It offers various services, including car seat fitting, free diapers a milk depot and assistance with medical appointments for women and their infants. A planning process through the Lilly Endowment's Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VII) Community Leadership Grant identified child care as a top priority for Portland and Jay County. It was also listed by all four pathway groups that were

part of the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), which assisted the county with how best to utilize its nearly \$4 million in federal coronavirus relief funding provided through the American Rescue Plan Act. Inman initially brought a proposal to Jay County government officials regarding the possibility of partnering on a child care and early learning facility in the Judge Haynes building in late 2021. County officials initially committed \$700,000 to the project, then a month later rescinded that decision. The Portland Foundation's board then decided last summer to move forward with making an offer to purchase the Judge Haynes site in order to secure it for potential use as an early learning center. It started seeking proposals in early 2023 and entered into an agreement with Westminster in May. For more information about The Portland Foundation's progress toward creating an early learning center in Jay County, visit portlandfoundation.org.

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Harvest

SPECIAL SECTION

Our fall harvest special section will be distributed in The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester), The News Times (Hartford City) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

Contact Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141

SERVICES

Tuesday
Stanford, Allen: 2 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Wednesday
Daniels, Sarah: 2 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Thursday
Rumpel, Hedwig: 11 a.m., St. Mary of the Presentation Church, 5790 E. 1100 South, Geneva.

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

It becomes important to leave reminder

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

It sounded so simple. The plan was to dig up the peony and move it over a few feet so that it was no longer in the shade. I also intended to divide it and put part of it in one of the flowerbeds. I estimated that it would take an hour or two at most.

I should know better. My hubby dug out the peony for me. So far it has taken several days, not hours, to get it back in the ground.

The flowerbed was the first problem. That bed is almost full of other stuff. There is already one

As I See It



peony in it. I selected two small divisions and tried to find a space for them. I am letting the pink lilies that aren't really lilies go to seed. I was careful to not step on anything that was already there as I tucked the peony divisions into the bare soil. Two of the lilies that aren't really lilies fell over and pouted until I

cut their stalks down. That didn't take very long.

I should have known the powers that be were already snickering. For whatever reason I didn't get back to the flowers until Saturday. It was chilly in the morning so I waited until afternoon. By that time the peony pieces had multiplied in the wheelbarrow. I dug the hole where I intended to put it. Then I picked up each piece and laid it in the hole. No matter how many pieces I put in the hole, the wheelbarrow remained full of plants. Somewhere along the

way three packets of tulips and a bag of crocus hopped into the wheelbarrow. I put a couple of the bulbs on the edge of the excavation and saved the rest for later.

My plan for this afternoon is to get the rest of the plants in the ground. I am surprised at how many breaks I had to take just to get done what little I did yesterday.

For me, the cooler days and nights signal the return of energy. I plant flowers to remind myself that tomorrow will come. Tomorrow may be the best day of our lives or the worst, but it will always

get here, with or without us.

Those teardrop-shaped tulip bulbs, the flattened disc-shaped crocus and the gnarled peony roots will grow during the winter, and when the time is right will push through the ground and bloom before retreating back under the surface.

In addition to the urge to plant and play in the dirt comes a need to give the house a good spring cleaning, or would that be a fall cleaning? Whatever it is called I need to clean and in the process find winter homes for the houseplants.

Every year the houseplants make a spring and fall migration. They are repotted as needed. They all spend the winter indoors and when spring comes they all go back outside. They are checked for bugs, spiders, roly poly bugs and even slugs when they are brought back inside in the fall.

There are a couple of points I have wanted to make. Everything takes longer than it should. The older we get, the more breaks we need, and it becomes more important to leave something behind, even if it is only spring flowers.

Adopted child asks for birth mother's help

DEAR ABBY: Would it be wrong to reach out to my biological mother for financial help? I was adopted when I was just 2 months old. I was lucky to have wonderful parents, but they are in poor health, and it's affecting both of them physically. I'm going into debt helping them out financially. They are on a fixed income that barely covers their expenses. Would it be wrong of me to ask my birth mother for that help? We see each other occasionally. My birth mother sold her house and isn't hurting financially. I don't want to sound entitled. I just need some help, and I'm prepared for a no. — ENTITLED TO ANYTHING?

DEAR ENTITLED: It isn't your birth mother's responsibility to support the couple who adopted you, particular-

Dear Abby



ly since the request for money would be ongoing. You stated that you see her only occasionally. (If you do what you are considering, you may be seeing her less often.) If your parents still have relatives, you might have some success if you approach them for the financial help you are seeking. If not, reach out to your local Area Agency on Aging for guidance.

DEAR ABBY: My husband,

"Dan," and I separated for four months. We have now reunited. However, his son "Ryan" told me he never wants to see me again. I wrote him a letter, expressed my remorse and invited him to visit, but have received no response. Ryan shuns me now. My husband is going to invite him to visit, but I don't know how I will deal with it. I do not want to be his hostess. What should I do? — BACK TOGETHER IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR BACK: IF Dan invites Ryan to visit, and IF Ryan agrees, put on a smile and become the most gracious hostess since Perle Mesta. (If you don't know who she was, look her up.) Your husband may be able to mediate a resumption of harmonious family relations. If his son

regarded your leaving as a personal rejection, Dan may be able to disabuse him of that idea and patch things up.

DEAR ABBY: I was recently discharged from the hospital. Family members have told my husband to call if there's anything they can do to help. That makes one more thing for my husband to do — make a phone call. I'd like to suggest a better way to help. Family members, please call and TELL my husband what specifically you would LIKE to do to help. Some examples: Bring a meal. Do an errand. Sit with me while my husband goes out to do errands, etc. I think the best thing anyone can do is bring a meal. It's one less thing for the caretaker to have to do. The food doesn't have

to be homemade; it can be bought. Patient and caregiver still have to eat. Thank you, Abby, for letting me make this point. — HAPPY TO BE HOME

DEAR HAPPY: Your point is well taken. You are right. It never hurts to volunteer what you could do to help someone recovering from a medical procedure. Some suggestions: Do some marketing or laundry or pick up their child from school and take them to the park to burn off some energy.

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.

Today

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

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. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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

Thursday

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.

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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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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We're offering the following advertising packages in *The Commercial Review* for all individual candidates running for office in the Nov. 7 general election

Package A
One half-page ad, one quarter-page ad and four 3x5 ads for **\$1,000**

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NEWSPAPERS

The Commercial Review
The News-Gazette
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The Red Ball Express
The News and Sun

Concern expressed about artificial surface

To the editor:
Concerns on whether artificial turf contributed to Aaron Rodgers' injury has to be concerning to every sports parent whose child will play on it.

Is Jay County schools' installation of artificial turf premature and not studied enough?

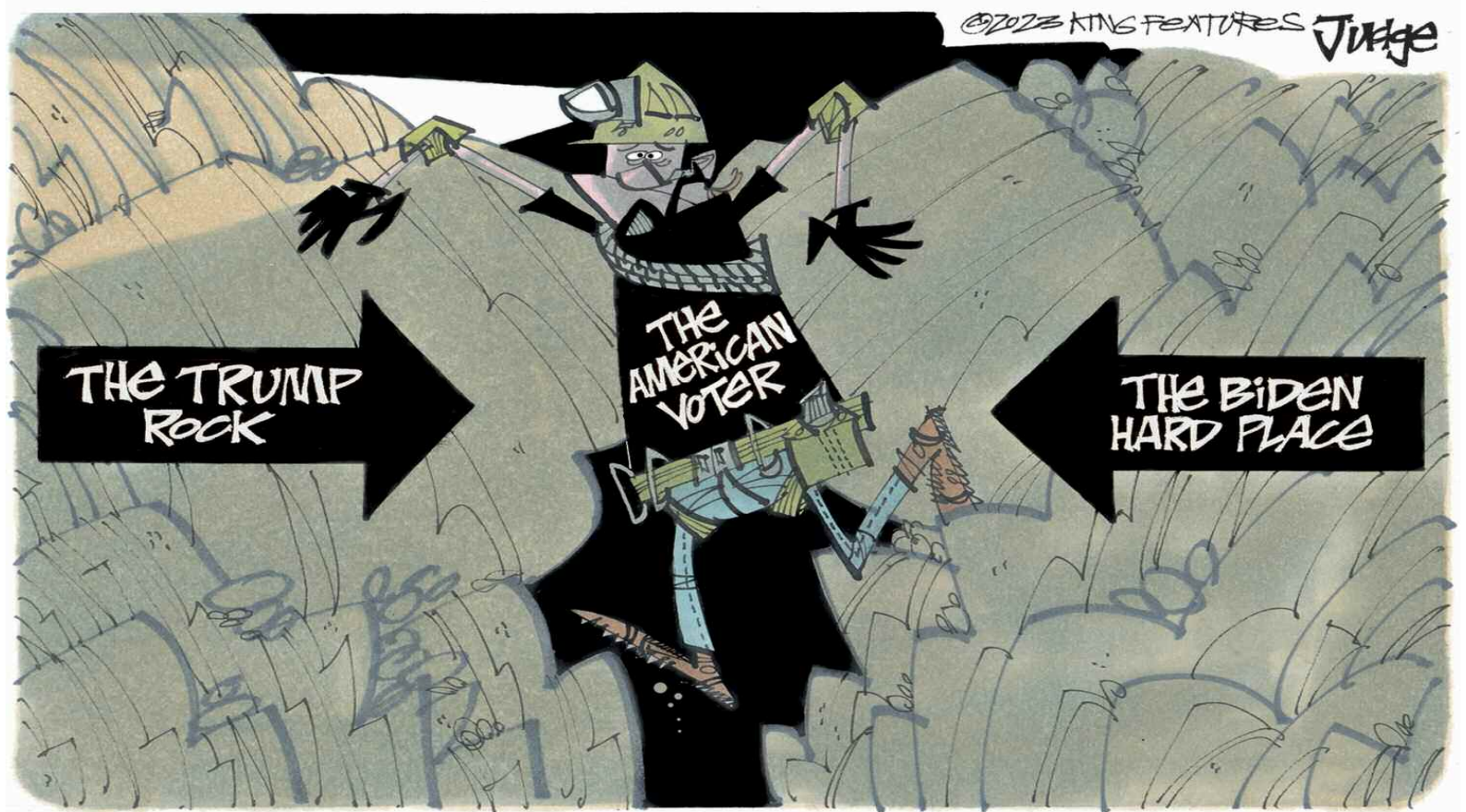
Apparently it is a controversial subject in the sports world.

I certainly hope homework was done on this issue before spending this exorbitant amount of money only to have it ripped back up.

Thank you,
Diane Siegrist
Rural Union City in Jay County

Letters to the Editor

NEWS ITEM: YET ANOTHER AMERICAN IS TRAPPED AND NEEDS TO BE RESCUED...



Stances offer some insight

By MICHAEL LEPPERT
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

It is unusual to have certainty of how the executive of a government — whether a mayor, governor, or president — will respond to an unexpected crisis. The responses to those crises often become what defines the leadership of that executive. They define a leader's character.

Whether it is an unexpected foreign war, a horrific terrorist attack, or a deadly pandemic, how the person in charge leads through it is more telling than any campaign could ever be. President Joe Biden didn't campaign on the war in Ukraine. President George W. Bush didn't campaign on the terrorist attacks of 9/11. And President Donald Trump didn't campaign on COVID-19. At least not the first time.

All of the responses to these crises were revealing to voters.

Last week, U.S. Sen. Mike Braun announced that he has co-authored the "Freedom to Breathe Act." The federal legislation will ban the federal government's ability to implement mask mandates for domestic air travel, public transit systems and schools.

Casey Smith reported for the Indiana Capital Chronicle last week on the bill Braun authored with three other Senate Republican colleagues. He first said in his Wednesday statement, "We're not going to go back to the top-down government overreach we saw during COVID."

This gubernatorial candidate has some kind of issue with "top-down" leadership? Even when he adds "overreach" to his canned statement, he is signaling how he would have led in 2020, or more aptly, how he would have chosen not to lead. Senator, in a crisis, "top-down" leadership is the name of the game. It's the job for which you are running. And it is unlike filing dead-on-arrival legislation with three other members of congress looking only to "own the libs."

It's lonely at the top. Especially in a crisis. Braun's statement is slippery on one hand, and troubling on the other.

First, let's be clear about masking. Masking works. There is no credible scientific study that concludes otherwise. If Braun is saying man-

Michael Leppert



dates were less effective at getting people to wear masks than they should have been, then we can agree. That's what is so slippery here. Anti-maskers love the "Freedom to Breathe Act" because they see it as proposed legislation that will allow them to never wear a mask again. The void here is that in 2020 and 2021, people needed to wear them. If there is a better way than a mandate to get people to wear them, I'd love to hear about it.

Anti-maskers are confused by studies that show people not complying with mandates make the mandates ineffective. Duh. The most notable study in their arsenal is one released earlier this year by the Cochrane Library. The sweeping report details the struggle of getting Americans to wear masks, and that the mandates were ineffective at persuading people who refused to comply. It's this circular thinking that leads to unserious legislation like Braun's.

ABC News and Michael Hiltzik of the Los Angeles Times both do a good job of clarifying what the Cochrane study actually says. But months later, anti-maskers have wrongly used the study as evidence they don't have to listen to public health officials anymore. And at least four U.S. Senators apparently agree with them.

There's more to Braun's statement. He added, "Congress needs to say forcefully that these ineffective, unscientific mask mandates are not coming back in any way, shape, or form." Again, it's not the masking, it's the mandates that failed. Newsflash: Americans routinely resist governmental mandates. If there is a negative sociological companion to our culture's independence, it often is our collective selfishness. Again, it's not the masking, it's our refusal to see how the selfless act of wearing one could help someone else.

But the pronouncement that Braun will not support mask mandates "coming back in any way, shape, or form,"

If there is a negative sociological companion to our culture's independence, it often is our collective selfishness. Again, it's not the masking, it's our refusal to see how the selfless act of wearing one could help someone else.

telegraphs that if he faces a public health crisis as governor, he simply won't lead through it.

Anti-maskers became anti-vaxxers. The National Institute of Health estimated "that at least 232,000 (deaths) could have been prevented among unvaccinated adults...had they been vaccinated with at least a primary series."

In a public health crisis, the goal of a president, governor or mayor should be to persuade their constituencies to do the things they can to survive. This last commitment by Braun is revealing in that it announces he is not interested in that.

The world learned plenty from COVID-19. The biggest lesson is to expect the unexpected. The next pandemic could be worse. It will likely be different. And Indiana has a contender for the office of governor who doesn't want government to lead if or when it comes.

Indiana's governor is already constitutionally weak by comparison to most states. We certainly don't need a new one who wants to make it weaker.

.....
Leppert is an author, educator and a communication consultant in Indianapolis.

Healthy turnover would be helpful

By KEVIN FRAZIER
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Last Friday, Nancy Pelosi announced her intent to run for re-election to the U.S. House of Representatives. Pelosi has occupied that seat since 1987. In nearly four-decades of service, she has accumulated political power and financial resources, earned tremendous influence over Democratic policymaking, and advanced the interests of many of her constituents.

She has also contributed to the decay of a vibrant and representative democracy. By staying in power for decades, Pelosi and other career politicians have contributed to a troubling and accurate depiction of D.C. as a place for "elite" politicians. Gone are the days of Mr. Smith going to Washington—this is the era of Mr. Smith going to Washington and planning to die there. From 2000 to 2012, 17 members of the House passed away while in office.

I do not intend to diminish the profound sadness of losing any American willing to serve their communities through elected office, my goal is merely to scream what has only been whispered about: the House and Senate are not retirement homes.

Of course, anyone who is physically and mentally fit to vigorously and relentlessly advance the needs of their hometowns and our nation belongs in D.C. The representative who "often sits in the back rows of the House floor gabbing with her closest friends," however, must step aside.

Notably, that's how The New York Times described Pelosi's current habits.

Of the House members who stick around until retiring on their own terms, they still stay for quite some time: the average House member occupies their seat for about a decade. Note that I didn't mention the possibility of members exiting through electoral defeat—that's because incumbents win reelection 95 percent of the time.

The upshot is that a healthy rate of turnover is contingent upon representatives and senators recognizing the value of new voices, perspectives, and ideologies breathing life into Congress. That norm has clearly not developed.

This would have been the perfect moment for Pelosi to step

Kevin Frazier



aside and let someone dedicate every ounce of their being to representing the needs of San Franciscans. Yet, finding a politician willing to relinquish power these days is like finding a NASCAR driver who enjoys turning right — nearly impossible.

In the coming months, the likely showdown between (1) a career politician in President Joe Biden and (2) a politician unable to dedicate their full mental energy to the responsibilities of the job in former President Donald Trump should give rise to a productive conversation about what exactly we're looking for in our elected officials.

Some will try to derail this important conversation by coloring it Red or Blue and making it about partisan politics. Others will distract us from engaging on substantive issues by alleging people are ageist, ableist or otherwise. None of that's helpful.

This conversation should not be postponed nor sidetracked. From reforming the Supreme Court to analyzing the fitness of several Senators to continue to serve, the debate over the basic characteristics of the ideal public servant has spread into several important topics and can no longer be pushed aside.

Moreover, this "talk" needs to go deeper than technical fixes like term limits; we need to get to the roots of who we want representing us. My hunch is that we're not OK with representatives seeing the House as a social club. I'd also wager that we're tired of hearing about health reports more so than status updates on actual legislation.

There's nothing wrong with wanting energetic, intelligent, and healthy representatives. So, let's talk about it.

.....
Frazier will join the Crump College of Law at St. Thomas University as an Assistant Professor starting this Fall. He currently is a clerk on the Montana Supreme Court.

The Commercial Review



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



Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for Westside Beauty & Barber Shop. The shop is now located in the former Westlawn Elementary School, 234 W. Pearl St., Suite 12, Dunkirk.

I&M offering home energy check-ups

Indiana Michigan Power is offering Home Energy Check-ups for income-qualified customers.

The check-up will include a walk-through of the home to identify energy-saving opportunities. Homeowners will also receive a free energy-saving kit.

To qualify, a customer must be a residential customer, use electric heat and be at 200% or below the federal poverty level.

For more information, electricityideas.com or call (833) 566-0583.

Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the mural that was completed in July on the north side of Community Resource Center.

The ceremony is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30, at Brick Alley, which is adjacent to the building.

Business roundup

The City of Portland in April received a \$10,000 grant from Indiana Destination Development Corporation for the mural as part of more than \$400,000 in funding awarded for IN Indiana Public Art Activation projects. It is the second Portland mural for Zach Medler, a Geneva native and former Arts Place employee, as he also painted the Portland Rotary Club mural on the south side of the J&P Plating Building.

BSU awarded

The National Educational Telecommunications Association

named "Happy Little Fest"/Ball State PBS winner of the special events award in the market and communications category during a ceremony Sept. 10 in Columbia, South Carolina.

Created last year in honor of the 80th birthday of late painter Bob Ross and the 50th anniversary of Ball State Public Media, Happy Little Fest is now an annual event that includes art displays, trivia, painting workshops and other activities.

"We are exceedingly proud of the consistent innovation and creativity of the hard-working staff at Ball State PBS. This honor from the NETA is a great affirmation of their efforts," said Paaija Turner, dean of the BSU College of Communication, Information and Media, in a press release. "Happy Little Fest is such a lively and joyful celebration, and it's a wonderful way

to allow Bob Ross' mission and message to live on."

Meetings scheduled

Indiana Department of Workforce Development will hold town hall meetings in the coming weeks to offer information to instructional providers about funding available to provide adult education.

The meetings will include an overview of the grant application process, including what funds are available, who is eligible and requirements for grant recipients. Funds available can be used to help adults attain a high school equivalency, transition to post-secondary education/training and assist migrants with English language classes.

The meetings include 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 4 in Allen County Public Library Meeting Room C, 900

Library Plaza, Fort Wayne, and 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 10 in the Maring-Hunt Library Meeting Room, 2005 S. High St., Muncie.

For more information, email adulted@dwd.in.gov.

Officers elected

Indiana State Medical Association elected Dr. David R. Diaz of Indianapolis as its president at its annual convention Sept. 8 through 10.

Diaz is a psychiatrist with IU Health in Indianapolis and an associate professor of clinical psychiatry at the Indiana University School of Medicine. Dr. William Pond, an anesthesiologist at Associated Anesthesiologists in Fort Wayne, was elected vice-president.

Indiana State Medical Association is a federation of county and district medical societies across Indiana.

FR girls place 15th, Heitkamp breaks his own record

TROY, Ohio — The Indians didn't have their star freshman, but they still found a way to stay in the top half.

Makenna Heitkamp wasn't competing for the Fort Recovery High School girls cross country team, but they still managed to finish 15th out of 32 teams at the Troy Twilight Invite on Saturday.

The Indians finished with 429 points to tie with

FRHS roundup

Brookeville while Lakota West took first with 83.

The boys placed 25th of 33 with 672 points. Walnut Hills won with 105.

Natalie Brunswick set

the pace to finish 24th after 19:47.23.

Also scoring were Ellie Will (69), Joelle Kaup (73), Anna Roessner (145) and Jenna Hart (182).

Trevor Heitkamp led the boys with a fifth-place finish in 15:53.44. His time was a new school record, breaking the one he previously set Aug. 9 by 1.25 seconds.

Other scores came from Reece Diller (137), Parker Brunswick (176), Evan

Evers (236) and Russell Hart (300).

The Middle School teams also competed, the boys finishing 16th, while the girls were 17th.

Reily Heitkamp (27) led the girls, finishing with a time of 14:06.58 while Alex Roessner (12:45.05) finished 57th for the boys.

Boys finish 11th

CELINA, Ohio — The Fort Recovery boys golf

team finished 11th out of 19 teams at the Nate Niekamp Invite on Saturday at Mercer County Elks Golf Club.

Minster won the event with 315 strokes while the Indians lagged behind with 359.

Reece LeFevre earned the team-low for Fort Recovery with 83 strokes. He birdied the par-4 third hole while also shooting nine pars.

Colin Feathers of St.

John's was the match medalist, staying two strokes under par with a 70.

Keegan Muhlenkamp shot two birdies during the round en route to a 90. His birdies came on the par-5 first hole and the par-4 15th.

Alex Dues and Matthew Romer rounded out the team score for the Indians. They shot a 92 and 94 respectively.

Sage Wendel's 97 did not affect the team score.

Shining ...

Continued from page 8

"Her confidence in her swing has improved," Buckner said. "She handled her nerves really well. She asked a lot of good questions during the round."

"She was just extraordinary at handling the first time being in this type of setting (at sectional)."

Maddy Snow also put together a strong match for the Patriots.

She finished with 91 strokes, leaving her just short of making

the regional meet (the top three golfers not on advancing teams also clinch a regional berth). Jane Armington, from Wes-Del, shot an even-par (72) to take the first spot while Daleville's Addy Gick (75) and Ava Capes (86) took the final two spots. Snow finished sixth among golfers not on qualifying teams.

"I think I did really good," Snow said. "Obviously I could have done better, but still proud of how I did."

Snow's highlight was a birdie on hole No. 15. Everything came together for the junior on the 340-yard, par-4.

Her drives had been strong to that point in the day, and this one matched that trend almost making it to the green. A good chip set her up for the birdie putt and she executed.

Snow parred the two holes prior as well as the second and sixth.

While Snow's drives were fly-

ing well, she struggled with putting and penalties on the 18th and first holes.

"These greens are hard to read," Snow said. "Way harder than ours (at Portland Golf Club), and they're bigger."

Whitney McIntire finished with a 141 during the match. She struggled throughout the match with double-pars, but had a triple-bogey on the 13th before pulling out a bogey on the 14th.

Despite the struggles, Buckner is pleased with how she improved throughout the season.

"Whitney's swing has improved from the beginning of the season," Buckner said. "She's getting a little better at self-confidence. She's improved immensely."

"I was happy with what she shot today. She didn't shoot double borrow the whole round."

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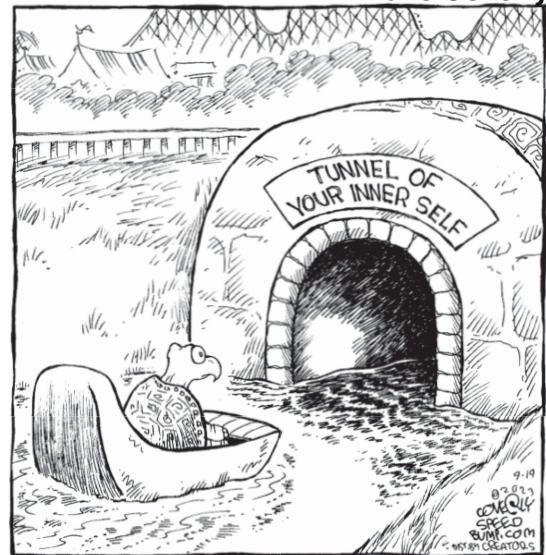
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Try the impossible

North dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH A 8 5 2 10 A K J 4 A 8 7 6 WEST K 6 Q 9 7 6 4 8 2 Q 9 4 3 SOUTH 10 9 7 3 K J Q 10 9 6 K 5 2 EAST Q J 4 A 8 5 3 2 7 5 3 J 10

in four spades and West leads a heart. A quick assessment of the combined resources reveals that, even if the trumps divide 3-2, declarer has four apparently inescapable losers — two spades, a heart and a club.

Since the heart and spade losers are unavoidable, South must find a way not to lose a club. And after some thought, he should realize that all he needs is a moderately favorable distribution of the opposing cards.

Let's say East wins the first heart and shifts to the jack of clubs. Declarer takes the king and leads a spade to the eight. East wins and returns the club ten to dummy's ace.

The ace of spades is cashed, and when everyone follows, the chances of making the contract improve considerably. South does not know who has the high spade, but if that defender started with only two clubs, 10 tricks are in the bag.

So, declarer leads a diamond to the ten, cashes the king of hearts, discarding a club from dummy, and begins to run his diamonds. If East trumps the fourth diamond, he must return a heart, allowing South to discard his club loser as he ruffs in dummy. And if East refuses to ruff, South then leads a trump, forcing East to win and yield the same fatal ruff-and-discard.

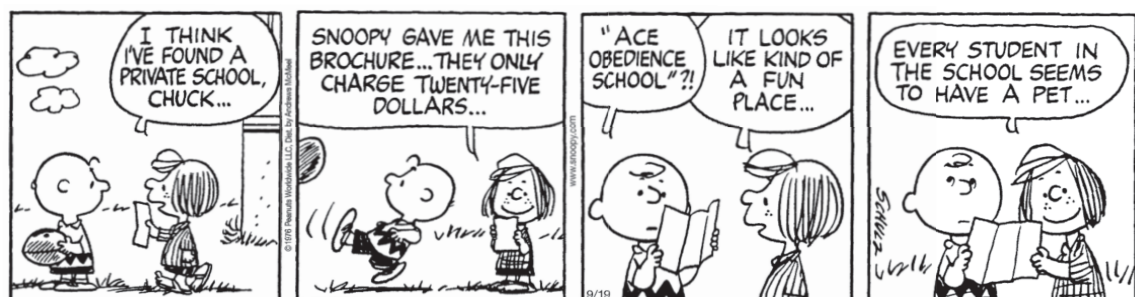
The bidding: North East South West 1 Pass 1 Pass 3 Pass 4 Pass

Opening lead — six of hearts.

There are times when declarer can see, as soon as dummy appears, that he hasn't got the wherewithal to make his contract. This might not necessarily be the fault of the bidding; some hands just don't fit well. But it is also true, as many a declarer can testify, that some seemingly hopeless contracts end up being made. This being so, any declarer worth his salt will make every effort to bring in as many "impossible" contracts as he can.

Tomorrow: The good old days. ©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



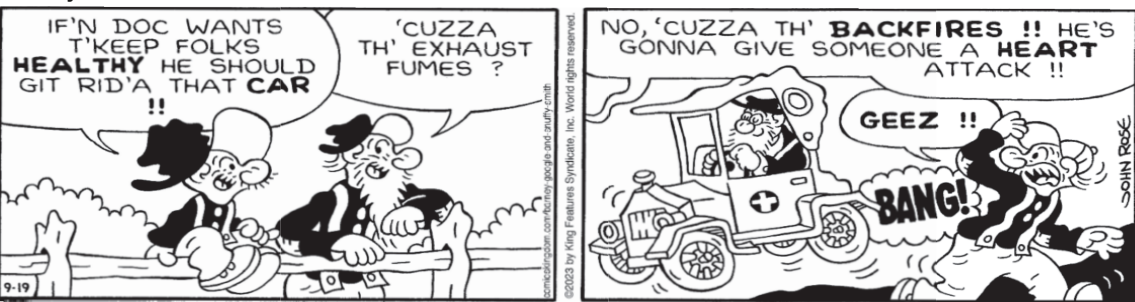
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals A

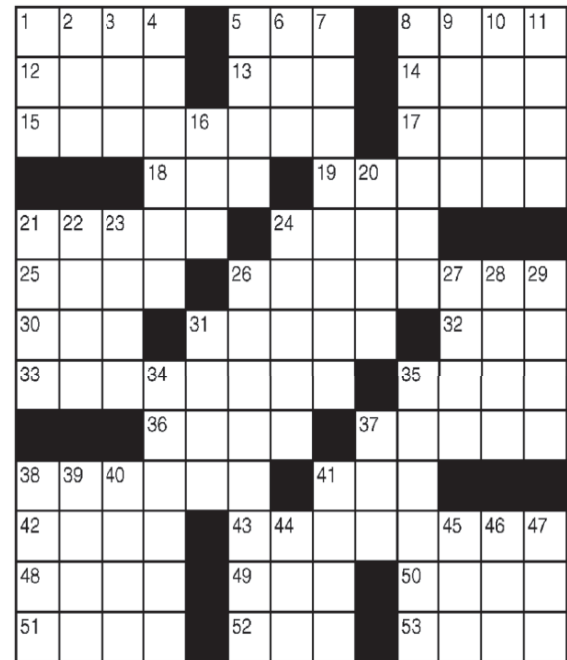
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Indians slip to 0-5 with overtime loss

DELPHOS — The Indians had the lead entering the fourth quarter. The Bluejays didn't have any quit. The St. John's Bluejays forced overtime and scored three minutes in to take down Fort Recovery High School's football team 41-34 on Saturday. Down by six points in the fourth quarter, St. John's was going to need to find the end zone to at least tie or take the lead.

They accomplished that with a 15-play drive that took the Bluejays 94 yards down the field, capped off by a 16-yard pass from Drew Boggs to TJ Wertz. St. John's missed the PAT, leaving the game tied with four minutes remaining. The Indians (0-5, 0-3 Midwest Athletic Conference) couldn't hold on in the overtime period. Three big plays by St. John's moved the Bluejays 80 yards downfield for a touchdown to end the game three minutes into

overtime. Boggs again connected with Wertz for a 20-yard touchdown to put Fort Recovery away. The Indians had a strong first half, finding the end zone four times. The first score came from the defense when Reece Wendel intercepted a pass from Grant Ulm and took it back for a pick-six with five minutes left in the first quarter. Quarterback Troy Homan scored twice in the second period, once on a one-yard keeper

and another when he broke out for 33 yards out of the backfield. He connected for a 49-yard touchdown with Austin Stienbrunner for a third score. Homan finished the game 18-for-29 with 256 passing yards and a touchdown while rushing for 42 yards and two touchdowns on 16 attempts. Fort Recovery opened the third quarter with one last score. After only three plays, Reece Guggenbiller was handed the ball for a one-yard rushing

touchdown with the clock reading 10:52 for a 34-14 advantage. From there, St. John's took over. They only took 22 seconds to answer the score with one of their own. They scored six minutes later as well to set up the fourth-quarter tie and overtime win. Both third-quarter touchdowns were short runs by Ulm. The Indians converted on two of three extra point attempts and on one of two two-point conversions.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Michael Karn, a 2008 Jay County High School graduate, walks off the field alongside junior quarterback Jayden Mullins after getting doused with water following his first career coaching win Saturday.

Karn ...

Continued from page 8
The teams traded second-quarter touchdowns to make it 15-6 at halftime, and the Panthers extended their lead when Flanagan scored on a 13-yard run at the 8:43 mark of the fourth quarter. Blackford had a chance to pull within one score, but failed on a 2-point conversion try after a 1-yard Carter Clouse TD run. And Elwood covered the Bruins' attempt at an onside kick to all but seal the win. The Panthers methodically ran the ball to burn the clock. After an 18-yard run by Mullins gave the Panthers the first-and-goal at

the 2-yard line with less than two minutes to go, Karn called for "99." It marked the first time he has called for the kneel down — victory formation — as a head coach. "Oh my gosh, it feels awesome," said Mullins, who took a knee three times before throwing his arms in the air and screaming in celebration along with his teammates. "I've always rode high with coach Karn. I've always believed in him, and I've always thought that he could actually change this. Now that he got his first win under his belt, it feels awesome and I feel so happy for him."

Karn spent eight years as an assistant at Jay County under Tim Millsbaugh. He was a finalist for the Elwood job in 2020, but it instead went to Terry Riggs. When Riggs left after a single season, the Panthers reached out to Karn and offered him the position. He took over a team that had gone 1-28 over the previous three seasons and has not had a winning record since going 6-5 in 2015. He became Elwood's fourth football coach in as many years. Nothing has come easy since then. Karn lost his

first three games as a head coach by a combined score of 134-6. Eleven of the 26 losses during the skid that ended Saturday were shutouts. The Panthers had knocked on the door to victory — a 24-19 sectional loss to Alexandria in 2021 and a 13-6 loss to Blackford last season — but had not been able to break through until Saturday. "It's taken a lot of work within the program as far as culture goes," said Karn. "Not so much Xs and Os and all that stuff, but just a culture change, getting kids to buy in to everything we want to do. ..."

Patriot boys earn their fourth straight win

WOODBURN — The Patriots had a rocky start to the season. After picking up only one win among two losses and two ties, they have turned their fortunes around for four straight victories. The Jay County High School boys soccer team picked up its fourth-straight victory with a dominant performance over its Allen County Athletic Conference-foe, the Woodlan Warriors, for an 8-0 trouncing on Saturday. The Patriots (5-2-2, 2-1 ACAC) found the goal three times in the first half before exploding for five goals in the second.

Jay County roundup

ing attempts by Woodlan (1-11, 0-3 ACAC).

Overtime loss
WOODBURN — Jay County's girls soccer team suffered its fourth conference loss of the season to the Woodlan Warriors, falling 4-3 in overtime on Saturday.

Woodlan (5-2-4, 3-1) scored two goals in the first half and another early in the second half off of a freekick to build a 3-0 lead over Jay County (3-7-1, 2-4).

Aixa Lopez broke the silence for the Patriots, scoring on a penalty kick with 17 minutes remaining.

Two quick goals forced the overtime period.

At the 3:53 mark, Morgan DeHoff was able to bring Jay County within one on an unassisted goal. Just 40 seconds later,

the Patriots scored again when Lopez crossed the ball close to the goal and Molly Muhlenkamp successfully crashed and sent it in for the score.

The Warriors put Jay County away in overtime, with Lopez nearly tying on a freekick to the top right corner that required a nice save by Jenna Mackin.

Boggs sets pace
The Jay County boys cross country team finished eighth out of ten Saturday at the Yorktown Invitational.

Its score of 197 was good enough to top Anderson (215) and Wes-Del (228), while Lawrence North took home the crown with 29.

The girls did not have the required number of runners to field a team score.

Joseph Boggs set the pace for the boys, earning a time of 17:28.7 for 12th-place. Yorktown's Wyatt Turner won the race in 16:16.9.

Also scoring for the boys were Caleb Garringer (29), Max Klopfenstein (40), Darren Fisher (56) and Lukes Powers (60).

The girls had three athletes

competing at the meet. Alexis Sibray led the trio with an 18th-place finish with a time of 22:30.9. Faith Norris of Daleville led all girls and outpaced Sibray by a minute and 22 seconds.

Behind Sibray were Willow Hardy in 26th-place and Courtney Harris in 36th out of 58 athletes competing.

Junior High splits
The Jay County Junior High coed tennis team split its first two matches of the year with a 5-0 victory over Marion and a 3-2 loss to Hagerstown on Saturday.

Singles winners for the Patriots against Marion were Paul Dirksen (No. 1), Henry Dirksen (No. 2) and Claudia Dirksen (No. 3).

Raylin Hummer and Bailey Towell paired up for the No. 1 doubles match while Maddy Clark and Renna Hurt won the No. 2 doubles contest.

The Patriots played about 15 total matches against Hagerstown, with the first five determining the outcome. Picking up the two Jay County wins were Claudia Dirksen and the pair of Hummer and Towell.

Other Patriots to notch wins in the following matches were Clark, Hurt, Joshua Brown, Henry Dirksen, Paul Dirksen, Kaitlyn Fisher, Hallie Homan and Kaisen Sims.

Spikers slide
YORKTOWN — The Jay County Junior High volleyball team finished 1-4 at the Munciana tournament on Saturday.

The Patriots (8-5) lost all three games in bracket play, falling to New Palestine (25-13, 25-18), Yorktown (25-20, 25-6) and Southwood (23-25, 25-23, 15-9).

They took down Selma 25-19, 25-15 in the first round of bracket-play before being bounced by New Castle 25-15, 27-2.

Brenna Ruble led the Patriots with 11 kills throughout the day. Amelia Heath followed with nine while earning seven blocks as well.

Kenady Lyons finished with 17 assists and 15 aces throughout the five matches. She had the most points of the Patriots with 33 as well.

Gabi Petro led the defensive effort with 12 digs.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Volleyball at South Adams — 6 p.m.; Girls soccer at Delta — 5 p.m.; JV boys soccer vs. Daleville — 5:30 p.m.; Junior High cross country vs. Muncie Southside — 5:30 p.m.; Junior High football vs. South Adams — 5:30 p.m.; Junior High

volleyball at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf at Russia at Arrowhead — 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Coldwater — 5:30 p.m.; Middle school volleyball at Coldwater — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today

6 p.m. — NCAA mens soccer: Maryland at Penn State (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — MLB: Minnesota Twins at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — WNBA: Washington Mystics at New York Liberty (ESPN)
9 p.m. — WNBA: Atlanta Dream at Dallas Wings (ESPN)

Wednesday
12:35 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Minnesota Twins at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — Soccer: Leicester City at Norwich City (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Women's college volleyball: Rutgers at Penn State (BTN)
6:40 p.m. — Major League Baseball:

New York Mets at Miami Marlins (FS1)

Local notes

Hunt applications available
Hunters can apply for a variety of reserved hunts by visiting on.IN.gov/reservedhunts. 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.

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Women's Building and Farmers 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
Saturday Morning September 23rd, 2023 9:30 A.M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
GE washer and dryer; Lazy Boy recliner; Smith Bros 3 cushion sofa; Slight grandfather clock; Coke ornaments; jugs; milk bottles; antlers; German battery clock; and many other items not listed.
TRACTOR - TRUCK - CAR - MOWER - TOOLS
Kubota L3400 FWA diesel tractor with Kubota LA463 loader, 3 pt., and only 209 hours, 2001 Chevrolet 1500 Z71 Extended Cab 4WD Truck, 129,000 miles. A CLEAN TRUCK; 2020 Impala LT car with V-6,

90 SALE CALENDAR

leather, and only 11,500 miles. Craftsman power washer; Craftsman 10" table saw; Craftsman 8" drill press; Craftsman 16" scroll saw; fishing poles; tackle boxes; lures; pry bars; rakes; hammers; wrenches; nails; screws; and other items not listed.
MARY HELEN RIGBY, DECEASED and CLARK FAMILY Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112
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

90 SALE CALENDAR

30.97 acres of tillable land along with 31.5 acres of Classified Forest 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 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.
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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 8256 W 550 N. Pennville, Indiana
MOBILE HOME - UTILITY SHED
1983 Empire 14'x70' mobile home with ton axles and tires. To be moved. Home is in good condition. 10'x12' utility shed. To be moved.
SUV - MOWER - HOUSEHOLD 2012 Chevrolet Captiva SUV with 46,200 miles. Chairs, 6 gun cabinet, 720 Grasshopper mower with 52" cut. Samsung refrigerator with bottom freezer, GE electric range, 2 I-heaters, lighted Curio cabinet, Hand painted globe lamp, 2 glider rockers, rocker recliner. OWNER: DELORIS J BROWN ESTATE/ LOW-ELL BROWN PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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Former JCHS grad earns first coaching victory, see story below

Sports

FRHS volleyball hosts MAC-rival Coldwater, see Sports on tap

Shining Bright(ly)

Brooklynn Bright has career match as golfers compete in sectional

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — Brooklynn Bright didn't have the strongest start to her golf career.

After a season of work, she exhibited exactly how much she has grown.

Bright had a career day as three Jay County High School girls golfers competed at the IHSAA girls golf sectional No. 17 at Crestview Golf Club on Saturday.

The Delta Eagles won the meet with 349 strokes. The other two teams to earn regional berths were Wapahani (370) and Yorktown (375). The Patriots (2-10, 1-5 Allen County Athletic Conference) only had three golfers available for the match, falling short of the required four for a team score.

"Unfortunately, once again due to injuries on the team, we weren't able to field a competing team and the girls worked through that and didn't let that get them down," JCHS coach Marvin Buckner said. "I was thrilled when the girls started coming in with their scores. All three of them improved from the beginning of the season, especially our young ones who are first time golfers."

Bright saw a drastic improvement at the sectional meet. During the first two 18-hole matches of the season, she shot a 128 and a 130 respectively. She cut that down to a 124 at the ACAC tournament on Sept. 7 before shaving even more off for a 102 on Saturday.

"I just went for it," Bright said. "I was excited (to see my score)."

Bright finished the match with two pars and seven bogeys while limiting the amount of holes with triple-bogeys and double-pars to four.

Her first par came on the 370-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS freshman Brooklynn Bright follows through on her swing on hole No. 1 at Crestview Golf Club during the IHSAA girls golf sectional No. 17 on Saturday. Bright had a career day, shooting a 102 that featured a pair of pars and seven bogeys.

yard, par-4 16th hole. The second came on the 405-yard, par-5 hole No. 2.

On the second, Bright teed off with a line drive that bounced up a hill and landed on the left

side of the cart path. She missed her second shot, only sending it 10 yards forward, but got it back to the correct side of the path.

She saved the hole when she

hit her seven-iron 250 yards to get onto the green in regulation. From there, she putted one yard short of the cup before dropping in the par-putt.

See *Shining* page 5

First for Karn

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

MARION — Two and a half seasons.

Twenty-six games. One thousand seventy-eight days.

Michael Karn's first head coaching job has been anything but easy. But finally, he and his Panthers felt the joy of victory.

Karn, a 2008 Jay County High School graduate, earned his first win as a head coach Saturday as the Elwood High School football team knocked off the Blackford Bruins 22-12 at Indiana Wesleyan University.

"It feels amazing," said Karn before repeating that same phrase two more times.

The Panthers' last victory was a 51-43 overtime triumph over Madison-Grant on Oct. 2, 2020, while Karn was still an assistant at his alma mater.

Elwood (1-4, 1-2 CIC), which came up just short in a 29-26 loss to Southern Wells in its season opener this year, never trailed the Bruins (0-5, 0-3 CIC) as it converted its second fumble recovery of the game for a first-quarter lead. An initial score on a 23-yard run by junior quarterback Jayden Mullins was negated by a block in the back, but six plays later A.J. Flanagan took a toss around the left end to paydirt. Mullins added a 2-point conversion run for an 8-0 advantage.

See *Karn* page 7



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