

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Projects progressing

While work on the Meridian Street (U.S. 27) storm sewer project in Portland progressed to the north this week with the reopening of the street from the Salamonie River to Main Street, work is also continuing with the replacement of the Indiana 26 (Water Street) bridge over the Salamonie River on the eastern edge of the city. Pictured above is the status of the bridge work as of Wednesday. The Indiana Department of Transportation project is scheduled for completion in mid November.

Curtis suspect in his ex-wife's death

Affidavit lays out details that led to arrest

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A Muncie man is suspected of killing a former FCC employee.

Ceaser L. Curtis, 50, was arrested Sept. 14 in connection with the death of his ex-wife, 46-year-old Marcia Curtis. Her remains were found at an abandoned property along Delaware County road 800 South.

A request for a search warrant was filed Monday in Delaware Circuit Court 4, including the probable cause affidavit required for arresting Curtis without a warrant.

According to the affidavit, Ashley and Brittany Ratcliff filed a missing person report for their mother, Marcia Curtis, with Muncie police Sept. 6. She was last seen leaving FCC on Sept. 1.

The Ratcliffs told police Ceaser Curtis had picked their mother up from work and was the last person to see her. Brittany Ratcliff said she believed Ceaser Curtis knew where her mother was and "feared the worst," according to the affidavit. Brittany Ratcliff showed police a screenshot of messages her mother had been exchanging with other men, which had been sent to her sister from Ceaser Curtis earlier in the day Sept. 1.

According to the affidavit, Ceaser Curtis told police he picked up Marcia Curtis from FCC on Sept. 1 and they started arguing on their drive back to Muncie.

See **Suspect** page 2

Defense claims killings were ritualistic

By KEVIN GREEN
Greensburg Daily News
Tribune News Service

DELPHI — The defense team for Delphi suspect Richard Allen filed a new motion Monday, claiming in part that 14-year-old Libby German and 13-year-old Abby Williams were "ritualistically sacrificed" and killed by members of a pagan Norse religion and white nationalist-linked group referred to as "Odinists."

Defense attorneys Andrew

Baldwin and Bradly Rozzi noted in their filing that Allen has never been involved or has any ties to Odinism.

The claim the defense is using to back up their arguments are crime scene details — which have never been made public until this filing — that they say reportedly point to the involvement of Odinism in the girls' deaths, including the discovery of several "runes," which are described as sticks that are deliberately arranged on the girls' bodies.

The defense also claims that a symbol resembling an "F" was painted on a nearby tree using German's blood, per the filing, which they argue is also part of Odinism involvement.

Monday's filing also claimed that an Odinite living in Logansport, whose son was reportedly dating one of the girls, allegedly posted pictures to social media that mimicked the crime scene, and the defense team also argued that another man from Rushville also allegedly con-

fessed to his involvement in the girls' deaths.

There were also several other individuals mentioned throughout Indiana, per the filing.

Baldwin and Rozzi also claimed that case investigators — referred to as the "Unified Command" — reportedly knew about the possible Odinism connection to the crime scene and the individuals involved, but the defense was not made aware of these investigations until recently.

See **Claims** page 7

Zelenskyy, Biden implore leaders to stand up to Russia

By COURTNEY SUBRAMANIAN, TRACY WILKINSON and LAURA KING
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

UNITED NATIONS — Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy delivered a dire warning Tuesday, telling global leaders gathered at the United Nations General Assembly that Russia's invasion is a threat that extends beyond the war zone as he seeks continued support for his besieged country.

"The goal of the present war against Ukraine is to turn our land, our people, our lives, our resources into a weapon against you — against the international rules-based order," Zelenskyy said.

His comments echoed a plea by President Joe Biden, who urged his foreign counterparts earlier in the day to strengthen their resolve in supporting Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, two "core tenets" of the U.N. Charter.

The two leaders, who will meet at the White

Presidents of Ukraine, U.S. were scheduled to meet at White House today

House on Thursday, have sought to convince allies to maintain their military support despite a Ukrainian counteroffensive that has fallen short of expectations, and to persuade unconvinced nations to turn their back on Russia. Some developing nations that have been hardest hit by the economic turmoil wrought by the war have urged global leaders to shift their attention away from Ukraine and refocus on other challenges including poverty and inequality.

During his speech in New York, Biden laid out a U.S.-led vision to confront the world's most pressing challenges, including tackling the climate crisis, addressing artificial intelligence and investing in

developing nations of the Global South. Last year, Biden opened his remarks with a forceful condemnation of Russia's invasion. On Tuesday, he spent most of his speech highlighting progress made on global infrastructure partnerships and investment in low- and middle-income countries.

"The United States seeks a more secure, more prosperous, more equitable world for all people, because we know our future is bound to yours," Biden said before the U.N. chamber. "Let me repeat that again: We know our future is bound to yours. And no nation can meet the challenges of today alone."

See **Implore** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Royal reaction

Molly Muhlenkamp, Jackson Edwards and Zion Beiswanger react Friday night after Muhlenkamp was announced as Jay County High School's homecoming queen during halftime of the Patriot football team's game against Bluffton.

Deaths

Gerald Thomas, 61, rural Portland
James Lewis, 63, Muncie
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 73 degrees Tuesday. The low was 50.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the mid 50s. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high in the lower 80s. The high will be 80 Saturday and in the upper 70s Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Portland Redevelopment Commission has scheduled a special meeting for 8 a.m. Friday. An executive session will follow 10 minutes after the conclusion of the special meeting.

Coming up

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

Saturday — Results from the JCHS football game at Woodlan.



Obituaries

Gerald Thomas Jr.

April 1, 1962-Sept. 18, 2023
Gerald "Jerry" Thomas Jr., age 61, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023.

Jerry was born on April 1, 1962, in Portland, Indiana, the son of Gerald Thomas Sr. and Joyce (Fields) Thomas. He graduated from Jay County High School in 1980 and retired from Jay County Highway Department in 2019 after 30 years of service.

Jerry married Penny Smith on Oct. 6, 1984.

Survivors include:

His wife of 38 years — Penny Thomas, rural Portland, Indiana

His mother — Joyce Thomas, Portland, Indiana

Children — Jessica Reite-

nour (Adam), Portland, Indiana, and Jeanette Garlinger

(Kyle), Portland, Indiana



Thomas

Siblings — Cheryl Thomas (Alice Nolley), Decatur, Indiana, and Brian Thomas (Tina Rodgers), Gaston, Indiana

Brother-in-law — Ron Smith (Linda), Bluffton, Indiana

Sisters-in-law — Laura Coleman (Randy), Pennville, Indiana, Brenda McVicker (Jeff), Marion, Indiana

Four grandchildren — Maddi Reitenour, Alylah Garlinger, Hudson Bullock

Thomas and Grayson Hold-

stock.

Several nieces and nephews

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Funeral services will be held on Friday at 11 a.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Burial will follow at Brookside Cemetery in Montpelier.

Memorials may be directed to Jay County Law Enforcement Youth Camp.

Condolences may be expressed at williamson-spencer.com.

James "Jamie" William Lewis, Hartford City, the father of a Dunkirk man, Dec. 3, 1959-Sept. 16, 2023.

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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.

CR almanac

Friday 9/22	Saturday 9/23	Sunday 9/24	Monday 9/25	Tuesday 9/26
82/55	80/53	78/55	74/55	73/57
Mostly sunny skies are expected Friday, when the high will be around 82 degrees.	Saturday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high of 80 degrees. Low of 53 at night.	Mostly sunny on Sunday, with highs in the upper 70s. Chance of rain late.	There's a 30% chance of showers Monday under mostly cloudy skies.	Another chance of showers Tuesday, when the high will be 73.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$672 million	Evening Daily Three: 3-1-8 Daily Four: 9-7-5-3 Quick Draw: 2-5-7-20-23-24-29-33-35-43-46-49-52-55-56-62-63-69-74-77
Mega Millions 6-9-13-29-66 Mega Ball: 24 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$205 million	Ohio Tuesday MIDDAY Pick 3: 2-5-1 Pick 4: 1-7-7-5 Pick 5: 3-6-7-4-1 Evening Pick 3: 9-8-2 Pick 4: 6-4-7-8 Pick 5: 4-3-2-5-5 Rolling Cash: 4-19-22-24-34
Hoosier Tuesday MIDDAY Daily Three: 1-7-9 Daily Four: 4-3-3-4 Quick Draw: 1-5-6-11-14-31-37-39-49-50-52-53-55-63-68-69-72-73-79-80	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.39 Oct. corn4.64 Wheat4.88	Sept. beans12.73 Wheat 5.02
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.29 Oct. corn4.89 Oct./Nov. corn4.64	Central States Montpelier Corn.....4.78 Late Sept. corn4.48 Beans12.83 Late Sept. beans12.78 Wheat5.47
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.89 Sept. corn4.54 Beans12.81	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.94 Oct./Nov. corn4.34 Beans12.66 Oct. beans12.66 Wheat5.02

Today in history

In 1500, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V was born in Ghent, Flanders (now Belgium). He reigned during the rise of Protestantism and struggled to hold his empire together as pressure from the Ottomans and the French challenged his authority.

In 1784, the Pennsylvania Packet and Daily Advertiser became the first daily newspaper in the United States.

In 1915, Cecil Chubb bought the prehistoric monument Stonehenge for 6,600 pounds.

In 1922, President Warren G. Harding signed a joint resolution of approval to create a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

In 1931, the Bank of England moved off of the gold standard.

In 1937, "The Hobbit," by J.R.R. Tolkien, was published.

In 1957, the TV series "Perry Mason" debuted.

In 1964, Malta gained its independence from Britain, which had controlled it since 1814.

In 1972, the Portland Junior High School eighth grade football team clobbered Adams Central 34-0 in its season opener.

In 2012, the Jay County High School football team had a game delayed for the second time in three weeks. The Patriots played just 12 minutes, 40 seconds, against the Connersville Spartans, falling behind 13-0. They would rally when the game was completed the next day, only to come up short in a 19-14 defeat.

In 2017, Redkey Town Council approved the town's \$534,577 budget for 2018 on first reading. It was up about 8% from the previous year.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
5:30 p.m. — Redkey Town Council 2024 budget public hearing, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

Friday
8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
8:30 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission executive session, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Suspect ...

Continued from page 1
He told police she had demanded to be let out of the vehicle at the intersection of Jackson Street and Butterfield Road, and she had started walking north as he drove away.

Detectives extracted information from Ceaser Curtis' phone, which included an argument via text. During the exchange she said she was "done" with him, after which he called her 36 times consecutively without a response, the affidavit says.

Ceaser Curtis returned to a friend's house alone shortly after midnight Sept. 1, one of the witnesses told police.

Another male witness told police Ceaser Curtis admitted to him that "he did it," the affidavit says. The witness told police Ceaser Curtis told him he

had slapped Marcia Curtis in the face while driving south on Burlington Drive and tossed her phone out of the window. He alleged Ceaser Curtis told him he hit Marcia Curtis with a baseball bat and left her in a rural part of the county near Prairie Creek Reservoir.

He told police Ceaser Curtis frequently took drives around the reservoir and surrounding areas, and the witness took police to some of those locations. At an abandoned property along Delaware County road 800 South, police found a shoe near a field and smelled a "strong odor of decay." They found Marcia Curtis' remains. According to the probable cause affidavit, "it was clear that there was significant trauma to the head."

A female witness admit-

ted to police Ceaser Curtis asked her to kill Marcia Curtis shortly after their divorce March 28. The witness said Ceaser Curtis had discovered his ex-wife had been speaking with other men and he told her he had a homemade lead pipe he wanted her to use, the affidavit says.

According to an order on conduct of pre-charge initial hearing, the prosecution had until 1 p.m. today to file formal charges against Ceaser Curtis. He's being held without bond in Delaware County Jail.

An autopsy on Marcia Curtis was performed Friday morning at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. Preliminary results had not been shared with The Commercial Review as of Tuesday evening.

Ceaser Curtis posted to

Facebook on Aug. 27 accusing his ex-wife of sleeping with other men. He shared more than 100 posts that same day from various sources, including a picture of a sweatshirt with the following words printed on it: "I'll put you in the trunk and help people look for you don't test me!"

Ceaser Curtis was charged in Randolph Superior Court in June with a Class A misdemeanor for invasion of privacy in the case of violating a protective order issued to prevent domestic or family violence or harassment. His criminal history includes charges for battery and operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

In Indiana, murder carries a penalty of 45 and 65 years with an advisory sentence of 55 years.

Felony arrests

Child molestation

A Portland man was arrested Saturday for child molestation.

Dominick A. Huffman, 22, 515 N. Meridian St., was charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 3 felony for child molestation, a Level 5 felony for child exploitation and another Level 5 felony for possession of child pornography. He was being held on a \$45,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Battery

A Texas man was arrested Tuesday for battery.

Omar R. Martin, 27, 17310 Legend-Brooke Court, Houston, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for the alleged crime.

He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Probation violation

Two Jay County residents were recently arrested for violating their probation orders.

Michael A. Lemaster, 41, 235 E. Rogers St., Portland, was arrested Friday. He previously pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to nonsupport of a dependent, a Level 5 felony. Lemas-

ter was sentenced in February 2022 to six years in Indiana Department of Correction with three years suspended. A petition alleging he violated the conditions of his probation was filed Aug. 30. Lemaster also was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe. He was being held on a \$2,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Diamond J. Hudson, 29, 208 W. Fourth St., Ridgeville, was arrested Friday. She pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 felony, and she was sentenced in February 2022 to 545 days in Jay County Jail with one year suspended. A petition alleging she violated the conditions of her probation was filed Sept. 5. She was being held in Jay County Jail without bond.

Capsule Reports

Intersection crash

A Portland woman crashed her vehicle into the truck a Geneva man was driving at the intersection of Indiana 67 and Como Road about 7:36 a.m. Tuesday.

Alexia M. Davis, 27, was driving her 2016 Chevrolet 200 north on Como Road and stopped at its intersection with the highway. She told Jay County Sheriff's Office she didn't see the oncoming 2016 Ford F-150 driven by 27-year-old Clayton A. Rhoades.

See page 7

SERVICES

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

Friday
Thomas, Gerald: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Abbott, Bonnie: noon, Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday
Grile, Diana: 10 a.m., Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home, 308 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Wife feels ex needs to contribute more

By JANN BLACKSTONE
Tribune News Service

Q. We pay child support and all med/dental bills, even though my husband's ex is supposed to pay half. She says she can't afford it. So she and my husband made a deal that she will just pay copays when she takes the kids to the doctor or dentist. I know she has a job. She works at Ross when the kids are at school. But, we are getting notifications that copays are not being paid, and now they are coming after us. I don't believe she can't afford co-pays! Isn't there a limit to enabling her dependency on my husband? Plus, when we ask for a little extra time with the kids, she makes it very difficult.

Ex-Etiquette



I want to take a stand! She needs to do her part. Am I wrong? What's good ex-etiquette?

A. Technically, of course not. But if she doesn't have it, she doesn't have it. The job you described may pay only a portion of what is needed. And in this day and age, it's not surprising that she's low on funds.

My first question would be, has dad talked to her about

this particular aspect of non-payment? If the answer is yes and she still can't afford even co-pays, it may be time to put your animosity aside for the kid's sake.

If you can't afford it, then you already have your answer. But it sounds like you feel she is taking advantage of your husband. And that is an indicator that you may need to stand back and reevaluate your stance.

I will tell you something I have learned: The more generous you can be with your partner's kids, the more grateful and loving your partner will be — especially if it appears that their ex is not holding up their end of the bargain.

If you follow this column,

you know about the 10 Rules of Good Ex-Etiquette. Rule No. 7 is, "Put yourself in the other's shoes."

He's got his ex dictating how much time he can spend with his kids, and he has the woman he loves dictating what's fair to give his kids.

Imagine being under the same circumstances, and your partner takes you aside and says, "I love you and I can see how stressed you are. What can we do to make your children's life better?"

How would you react?

Need I say more?

Good Ex-Etiquette Rule No. 9 is "Respect each other's turf." That's a nice way of saying, "You can't control an ex." (Yours or anyone else's.)

Your story sounds like something neither you nor your husband can change right now. For your own sanity, you have to decide if picking up the slack for the kids' mom is really enabling her to be dependent, or simply helping to take care of your husband's children.

Like so many things in bonus family life, the answer to this problem may simply lie in how you look at it. That's good ex-etiquette.

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Jann Blackstone is the author of "Ex-etiquette for Parents: Good Behavior After Divorce or Separation," and the founder of Bonus Families, bonusfamilies.com. Email her through her at dr.jann@exetiquette.com.

Son neglects mother to be with girlfriends

DEAR ABBY: My son's former wife was difficult — manipulative, spoiled and possessive. I tried to get along with her, but no matter what I did, she gave me no respect and turned my son against me. They have been divorced for six years. He began dating a few years ago, and each woman is a carbon copy of the ex-wife. He falls right back into the same pattern of ignoring me and letting his girlfriends "possess" him. I'm deeply hurt. I don't understand why he feels he has to choose between them and me. He is my son, and I shouldn't have to compete for his love.

Dear Abby



and have asked him for some help, but he refuses. I would just like a regular phone call and to see him. I am no longer invited to his house for holidays, nor does he randomly call just to talk. He has a new girlfriend, and it's back to the same old pattern. Please advise me. — LOW PRIORITY IN OHIO

DEAR LOW PRIORITY: Please accept my

sympathy. I know you are hurting. It seems your son is more attentive to you when he's between girlfriends but has tunnel vision when a new woman enters his life.

For your sake, it's important you begin concentrating on building a reliable support system that is independent of him. To accomplish this, you must be willing to lend support to others, which will give you less time to be lonely. Volunteering may be the way to begin, whether for a charity, a political organization or your place of worship. There is so much need

out there; you will feel better once you start filling it.

.....

DEAR ABBY: After 37 years of marriage, all of a sudden, my husband has a problem with how I speak. He says it's my "tone." I can no longer discuss anything with him because it always ends up in an argument, not about the actual words I say, but how I say them. He can't seem to help himself. He constantly criticizes something about whatever I say. He has taken my voice away, and I feel invisible. He talks to me, but I'm supposed to only listen. If I ask a question or make a comment, he gets mad

because I'm "interrupting him." I can no longer add to or participate in the conversation. After all these years, I can't communicate. It's like he hates the sound of my voice. Please tell me what to do. — SILENCED IN TEXAS

DEAR SILENCED: As a matter of fact, I do have a suggestion (or two). The first is that BOTH you and your husband should have your hearing checked. You may be speaking more loudly than you used to, or your husband may have developed some kind of sensitivity to sounds in your vocal range. Second, if your hearing and his are

within normal ranges, and everything checks out during your next physical exam, ask your doctor for a referral to a licensed marriage and family therapist. The behavior you are describing seems to be controlling and disrespectful, and a therapist may be able to guide you before you lose your mind.

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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.

Marriage licenses

Ryan M. Braun, 24, Portland, and Briana M. Muhlenkamp, 23, Portland
David Kohler, 23, Portland, and Courtney Miles, 23, Portland
Lucy M. Hemmelgarn, 26, Portland, and Kyle T. Schroer, 26, Portland
John J. Dunbar, 39, Portland, and Melissa F. Bingham, 23, Portland
Lucy M. Hemmelgarn, 26, Port-

land, and Kyle T. Schroer, 26, Portland
Nathan M. Arnold, 39, Portland, and Jennessey L. Trissel, 24, Portland
Darian A. Franks, 26, Portland, and Ashton M. Mangas, 30, Portland
Freddie A. Dixon Jr., 56, Portland, and Paula R. Miller, 57, Portland
Dayne A. Byrge, 27, Pennville, and

Harlaina T. Knapp, 23, Pennville
Aaron M. Neal, 25, Redkey, and Hannah L. Walters, 22, Dayton, Ohio
Davis D. Anderson, 23, Portland, and Melissa J. Newton, 23, Portland
Ronald R. Franck, 55, Portland, and Jennifer M. Olding, 53, Fort Recovery, Ohio
John R. Bartlett, 68, Pennville, and Norma J. Best, 60, Pennville

Community Calendar

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

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.

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 in May 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. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.



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GRAPHIC PRINTING

NEWSPAPERS

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

Thanks offered for Cancer Cruise

To the editor:
The Jay County Cancer Society's 2023 Cancer Cruise committee would like to say thank you to each of you who volunteered, donated, attended, participated and encouraged a cancer survivor at this year's Cancer Cruise held on Saturday, Sept. 9, at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Thank you for the work of the Cruise committee, all of the volunteers who helped on the day of the Cruise and espe-

Letters to the Editor

cially each of you who generously donated to the Jay County Cancer Society whether monetary or in kind. We could not have such an event if it wasn't for our generous com-

munity. This was a wonderful year and we have raised more than \$25,000, which will financially help Jay County cancer patients.

The evening started with the Cancer Cruise welcoming each survivor with gifts, smiles, music and a meal from 4 to 6 pm. For the first time in several years, we hosted a kids carnival from 6 to 8 p.m. and brought back our luminary ceremony from 8 to 9 p.m. This was a special moment in the

evening when we recognized folks who have fought the battle, who are currently fighting and those who have won the battle against cancer.

There are many ways to be involved, including being a sponsor, volunteering and giving a donation.

Donations are always welcome at Jay County Cancer Society, P.O. Box 614, Portland, IN 47371, on our webpage at jaycancersociety.org and at The Portland Foundation in

the Jay County Cancer Society endowment fund. The fund will ensure that the cancer society can continue to provide financial assistance to cancer patients in Jay County long into the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the cancer society on the webpage — jaycancersociety.org.

See you next year.
Tisha Gierhart
2023 Jay County Cancer Cruise

Big ag doesn't want a fair bill

By REBECCA WOLF
Progressive Perspectives
Tribune News Service

The United States' food system is facing a crisis eerily similar to what we experienced almost 100 years ago: A corporate-dominated marketplace, strangled by an elite few, that holds farmers and consumers hostage to greed.

At the time, lawmakers responded by creating the first Farm Bill, establishing federal policies to level the playing field. This fall, Congress has an opportunity to tackle these issues anew as it negotiates the 19th Farm Bill.

Since the last Farm Bill in 2018, the cost to feed a family of four on a thrifty food plan has increased 51% while top meat and poultry companies have raked in skyrocketing profits. This is not inevitable — and it is not a mistake.

Big Agriculture has turned the food system into a cash cow for the powerful few by undermining small farmers and encouraging operators to "get big or get out." The Farm Bill, which began as seminal New Deal social safety net legislation, has become corporate welfare, plain and simple.

If bad policy decisions got us into this mess, good policies will get us out. America's farmers, consumers and the environment need a fair Farm Bill for all.

A fair Farm Bill stops mega-mergers. Decades of lax antitrust enforcement has created a food system defined by consolidation. In 2022, the largest four companies in each sector controlled more than 85% of the market for beef, 70% for pork, 69% for groceries, and 54% for poultry. Just three dairy cooperatives account for 83% of all milk sales. This level of control gives companies the power to decide the standards, prices and values under which our food is produced.

Thankfully, there is substantial political pushback; in a rare display of bipartisanship, support for reining in Big Ag's power has united the Biden administration and Congress members on both sides of the aisle.

A fair Farm Bill gives sustainable, humane farmers a fair shot by halting new and expanding factory farms. Factory farms are the instrument of Big Ag's control; a single operation can displace dozens of smaller farms. There are at least 1,157 more large factory farms today than when the last Farm Bill was passed just five years ago (and this is likely an underestimate). In Iowa, home to more than double the num-

Rebecca Wolf



A fair Farm Bill ensures that federal programs support small and medium-sized farms.

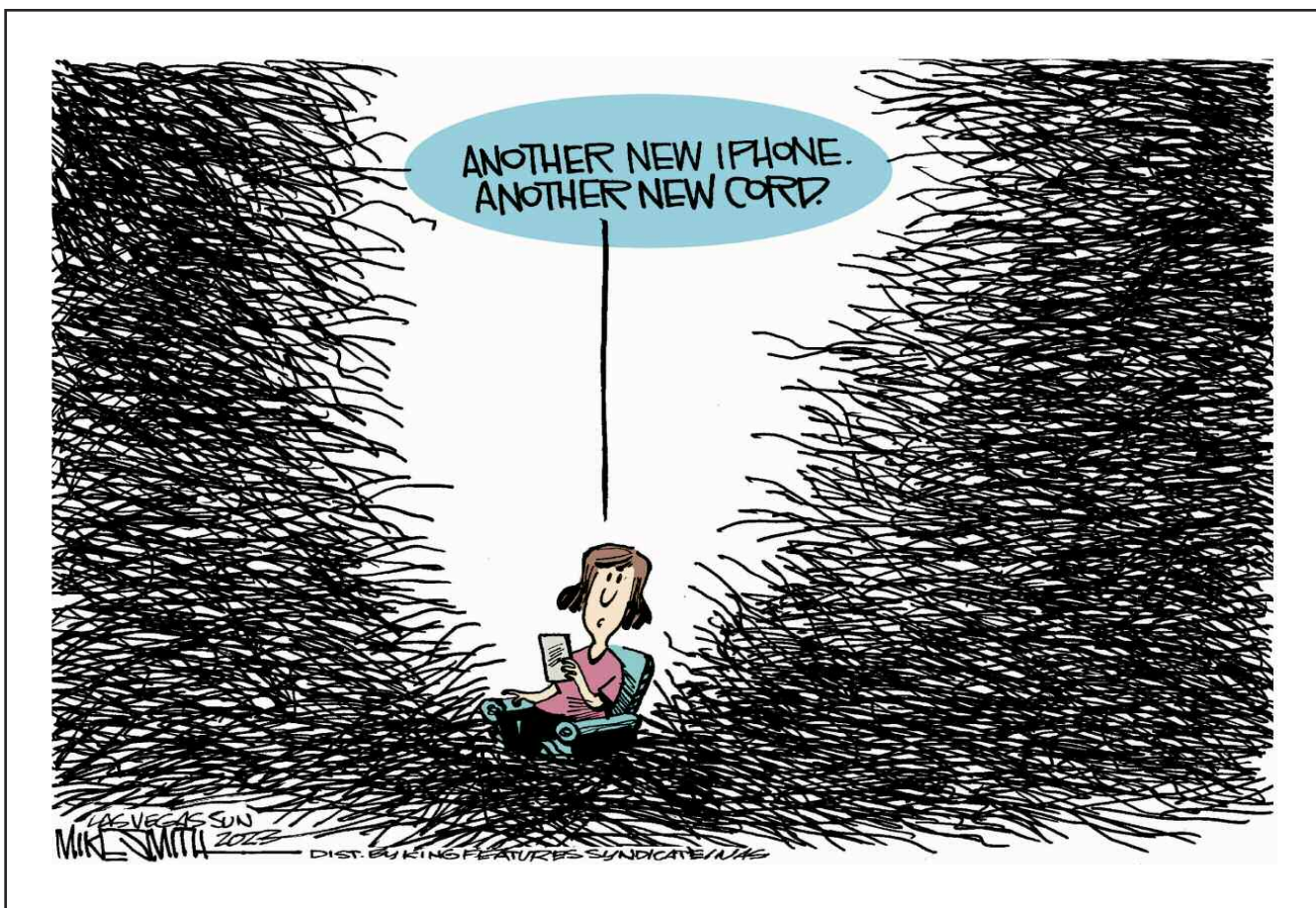
ber of large factory farms of the next highest state, nearly 90% of the state's hog farms shuttered in the 35 years prior to the 2018 Farm Bill due to being unable to compete.

A fair Farm Bill cuts the flow of taxpayer dollars toward Big Ag lobbying. Checkoff programs where farmers pay into a fund designed to market their agricultural products have funneled billions into bolstering the biggest players. The majority of the roughly \$4 billion paid into the Dairy Checkoff program from 2005 to 2018 promoted export policies that benefited enormous producers but sent milk prices plummeting in volatile international markets. Since 2000, the average U.S. dairy farm has managed to turn a profit just twice.

A fair Farm Bill ensures that federal programs support small and medium-sized farms. Big Ag has hijacked programs, like the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, that pay farmers for climate-friendly practices. Grants from the program include a misguided requirement that 50% of projects fund livestock operations, diverting taxpayer money towards dirty boondoggles like factory farm biogas. The biggest players win while tens of thousands of smaller farmers are sent packing. Instigating funding caps and removing the livestock requirement can help.

The first Farm Bill was crafted to respond to a crisis of corporate consolidation and influence — today's lawmakers must heed the same call. It's time to pass a fair Farm Bill for all.

.....
Wolf is Senior Food Policy Analyst at the national advocacy group Food & Water Watch.



Humans just can't trust AI

By MARK BAILEY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

There are alien minds among us. Not the little green men of science fiction, but the alien minds that power the facial recognition in your smartphone, determine your creditworthiness and write poetry and computer code. These alien minds are artificial intelligence systems, the ghost in the machine that you encounter daily.

But AI systems have a significant limitation: Many of their inner workings are impenetrable, making them fundamentally unexplainable and unpredictable. Furthermore, constructing AI systems that behave in ways that people expect is a significant challenge.

If you fundamentally don't understand something as unpredictable as AI, how can you trust it?

Trust is grounded in predictability. It depends on your ability to anticipate the behavior of others. If you trust someone and they don't do what you expect, then your perception of their trustworthiness diminishes.

Many AI systems are built on deep learning neural networks, which in some ways emulate the human brain. These networks contain interconnected "neurons" with variables or "parameters" that affect the strength of connections between the neurons. As a naïve network is presented with training data, it "learns" how to classify the data by adjusting these parameters. In this way, the AI system learns to classify data it hasn't seen before. It doesn't memorize what each data point is, but instead predicts what a data point might be.

Many of the most powerful AI systems contain trillions of parameters. Because of this, the reasons AI systems make the decisions that they do are often opaque. This is the AI explainability problem — the impenetrable black box of AI decision-making.

Consider a variation of the "Trolley Problem." Imagine that you are a passenger in a self-driving vehicle, controlled by an AI. A small child runs into the road, and the AI must now decide: run over the child or swerve and crash, potentially injuring its passengers. This choice would be difficult for a human to make, but a human has the benefit of being able to explain their decision. Their

Mark Bailey



rationalization — shaped by ethical norms, the perceptions of others and expected behavior — supports trust.

In contrast, an AI can't rationalize its decision-making. You can't look under the hood of the self-driving vehicle at its trillions of parameters to explain why it made the decision that it did. AI fails the predictive requirement for trust.

Trust relies not only on predictability, but also on normative or ethical motivations. You typically expect people to act not only as you assume they will, but also as they should. Human values are influenced by common experience, and moral reasoning is a dynamic process, shaped by ethical standards and others' perceptions.

Unlike humans, AI doesn't adjust its behavior based on how it is perceived by others or by adhering to ethical norms. AI's internal representation of the world is largely static, set by its training data. Its decision-making process is grounded in an unchanging model of the world, unfazed by the dynamic, nuanced social interactions constantly influencing human behavior. Researchers are working on programming AI to include ethics, but that's proving challenging.

The self-driving car scenario illustrates this issue. How can you ensure that the car's AI makes decisions that align with human expectations? For example, the car could decide that hitting the child is the optimal course of action, something most human drivers would instinctively avoid. This issue is the AI alignment problem, and it's another source of uncertainty that erects barriers to trust.

One way to reduce uncertainty and boost trust is to ensure people are in on the decisions AI systems make. This is the approach taken by the U.S. Department of Defense, which requires that for all AI decision-making, a human must be either in the loop or on the loop. In the loop means

the AI system makes a recommendation but a human is required to initiate an action. On the loop means that while an AI system can initiate an action on its own, a human monitor can interrupt or alter it.

While keeping humans involved is a great first step, I am not convinced that this will be sustainable long term. As companies and governments continue to adopt AI, the future will likely include nested AI systems, where rapid decision-making limits the opportunities for people to intervene. It is important to resolve the explainability and alignment issues before the critical point is reached where human intervention becomes impossible. At that point, there will be no option other than to trust AI.

Avoiding that threshold is especially important because AI is increasingly being integrated into critical systems, which include things such as electric grids, the internet and military systems. In critical systems, trust is paramount, and undesirable behavior could have deadly consequences. As AI integration becomes more complex, it becomes even more important to resolve issues that limit trustworthiness.

AI is alien — an intelligent system into which people have little insight. Humans are largely predictable to other humans because we share the same human experience, but this doesn't extend to artificial intelligence, even though humans created it.

If trustworthiness has inherently predictable and normative elements, AI fundamentally lacks the qualities that would make it worthy of trust. More research in this area will hopefully shed light on this issue, ensuring that AI systems of the future are worthy of our trust.

.....
Bailey writes about the intersection between artificial intelligence, complexity, and national security. He is a faculty member at the National Intelligence University, where he is the Department Chair for Cyber Intelligence and Data Science, as well as the Co-Director of the Data Science Intelligence Center.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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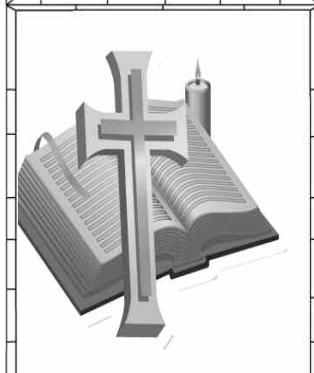
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

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.
fccftrecovery.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.
firstpcportland.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
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 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
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

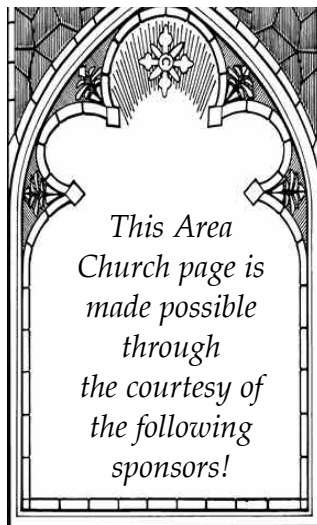
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

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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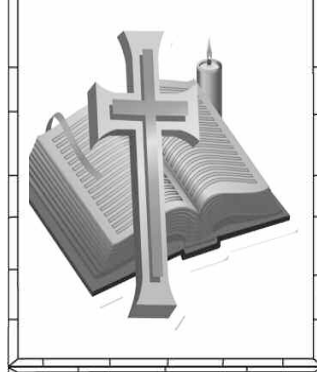
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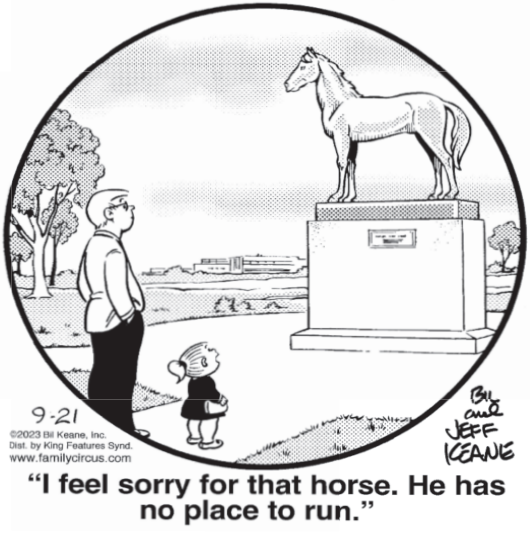


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North dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 8
♥ K J 5 3
♦ A K J 8 7
♣ J 6 5

WEST
♠ Q 10 7 5 3
♥ 7 6 2
♦ 6 4
♣ K 8 2

EAST
♠ A 9 2
♥ Q 10 9 4
♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ 7 4

SOUTH
♠ K J 6 4
♥ A 8
♦ 5 3
♣ A Q 10 9 3

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

Opening lead — five of spades.
On some deals, declarer can justifiably claim to have been done in by bad luck. This was seemingly the case in today's deal, where South was in three notrump and West led a spade.
East won with the ace and returned the nine, declarer's jack losing to the queen. Back came the ten of spades to the king, establishing West's suit, and South now had to decide whether to play diamonds or clubs next.
Correctly, he opted for a diamond finesse to reduce the danger of West's gaining the lead. But when he led a diamond to the jack, East won with the queen and returned a club.
Again, South had a choice — he could play East for the king of clubs, or he could put up the ace and hope both the heart and diamond suits would behave favorably. However, the club finesse offered the better chance, so South played low and wound up down two.
It is true that declarer ran into very bad luck. Just about everything that could go wrong did go wrong. The spade finesse lost, the diamond finesse lost, the club finesse lost and even the heart finesse would have lost had South tried it. Nor did the diamonds break 3-3.
But despite all this, South should have made the contract. All he had to do was to win East's spade return with the king at trick two, retaining the J-6 as a stopper against West's remaining spades. He would then cross to dummy with a diamond, lead the jack of clubs and finesse. Even if the finesse lost, declarer would be assured of nine tricks in the form of four clubs, two hearts, two diamonds and a spade.
In effect, South jeopardized the contract when he finessed the spade jack at trick two. He had a sure thing by taking the king instead, and he should have done so.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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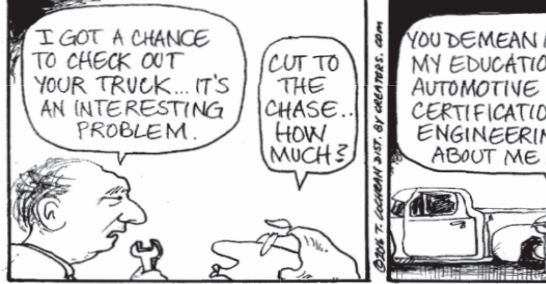
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



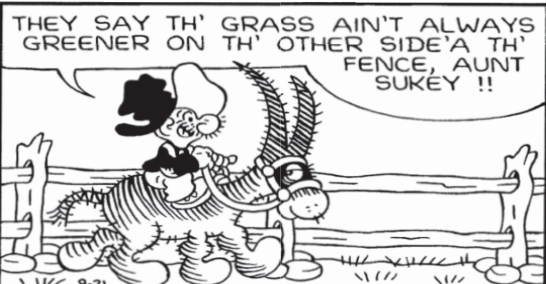
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



9-21 CRYPTOQUIP

ZWYV ZRQPF IRQ XYPP RBNRBK
VWYV YLC SYLVNXQPYLPI
SYPC NB XRPL, BRV LCF RL
OLCCB? PNOWV JQPJK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF SOMEBODY IS TRAVELING ABOARD A PLANE, ONE MIGHT SAY THEY'RE MOVING AT THE SPEED OF FLIGHT.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals W

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Dictionary entry | 1 CNN's Blitz |
| 5 Watch chain | 2 October stone |
| 8 Miles away | 3 Depend (on) |
| 12 Abbr. on a phone | 4 Sagging |
| 13 "Entourage" character | 5 Showy displays |
| 14 Stuffing herb | 6 Spanish gold |
| 15 Film composer | 7 Lettuce variety |
| 16 San Francisco's — Hill | 8 Attack Car parts |
| 17 Rebuff | 10 Water, in Mexico |
| 18 Depart via jet | 11 C&W artist |
| 20 Start of a nursery rhyme | 19 Symbol for iron |
| 22 Pod dweller | 21 Boxing legend |
| 23 Recline | 24 Speck |
| 24 Challenge | |
| 27 Like some prescriptions | |
| 32 "... cone — cup?" | |
| 33 Disney deer | |
| 34 Airport screening org. | |
| 35 "Locksley Hail" poet | 25 Before 26 Spanish dance |
| 38 Recipe amts. | 28 Rock's Brian |
| 39 Payable | 29 Imaginary |
| 40 Lot vehicle | 30 Mentalist's gift |
| 42 Sort of dive | 31 Wagner's "— Rheingold" |
| 45 Frozen spike | 36 Debriefed person? |
| 49 City bond, for short | 37 "— haw!" (cowgirl cry) |
| 50 Santa's aide | 38 Clans |
| 52 Life stories | 41 Room cooler, for short |
| 53 PTA and NEA, e.g. | 42 Med. plan options |
| 54 Chit | 43 Continental currency |
| 55 Coup d'— | 44 Former Nevada senator |
| 56 Chimney grime | 46 Mayor's domain |
| 57 100 cts. | 47 Cash advance |
| 58 "Auld Lang —" | 48 Villa d'— |
| | 51 Bath-room, in London |

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 9-21

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Striking in Toledo

United Auto Workers members, from left, Kaleb Delfine, Bryan Broecker, Michael Gatto and James Triplett picket outside the Jeep Plant on Monday in Toledo, Ohio. The U.A.W. walked out of three locations on Thursday night at midnight, marking the first time they've been simultaneously on strike at Ford, General Motors and Stellantis, the big three automakers.



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Sarah Rice

Biden launches Climate Corps

By DAVID JORDAN
CQ-Roll Call
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden on Wednesday took executive action to establish the American Climate Corps, a workforce training and service initiative that seeks to take inspiration from the New Deal to address the impacts of climate change.

Without additional funding from Congress, the White House said the program will focus on “leveraging and enhancing existing programs” such as AmeriCorps, the federal agency for service and volunteering, to help reach the administration’s climate goals.

National Climate Advisor Ali Zaidi said the administration hopes to put 20,000 people to work in the first year on projects that include deploying renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and making communities more resilient to the effects of climate change.

“And we’ll do all of this while creating pathways to high quality good paying clean energy and climate resilience jobs in the public sector and in the private, all of which we are focused and committed to making sure will be high road jobs — jobs with good wages, good benefits and the right to organize,” Zaidi said Tuesday in a call with reporters.

Implodes ...

Continued from page 1

The president reiterated his unwavering support for Kyiv and urged others to do so, casting Russia’s aggression as a threat to all nations.

“Russia believes that the world will grow weary and allow it to brutalize Ukraine without consequence,” Biden said. “But I ask you this: If we abandon the core principles of the U.N. Charter to appease an aggressor, can any member state feel confident that they are protected? If we allow Ukraine to be carved up, is the independence of any nation secure?”

“We must stand up to this naked aggression today to deter other would-be aggressors tomorrow,” he added.

Zelenskyy, too, tried to connect the conflict to some of the issues developing nations are grappling with as a result of the war, including food shortages and rising energy prices. He condemned Russia, accusing it of weaponizing food, energy and artificial intelligence and abducting Ukrainian children.

He acknowledged that the war comes at a moment when much of the world is enduring the effects of the climate crisis, including recent flooding in Libya that has left thousands dead.

“When all of this is happening, one unnatural disaster in Moscow decided to launch a big war and kill tens of thousands of people. We have to stop it,” Zelenskyy implored. “We must act united to defeat the aggressor and focus all our capabilities and energy on addressing these challenges.”

Zelenskyy’s visit coincides with a difficult juncture in the war: A much-vaunted Ukrainian counteroffensive that began in June has made only incremental progress — in contrast to dramatic battlefield gains at this time last year, when Ukrainian forces retook thousands of square miles of territory in the country’s northeast.

The recent fighting has largely devolved into a bloody war of attrition, as Ukrainian troops seek to punch through formidable fortifications Russian troops have creat-

ed over a period of months, including dense minefields, trenches and tank traps.

Some incremental progress has been reported in recent days, with Ukraine saying it captured a strategic eastern hamlet over the weekend. In the country’s south, Ukraine also reported gains, but its troops have not yet managed to mount a serious challenge to Russia’s grip on a vital land bridge connecting mainland Russia to the occupied Crimean Peninsula.

Ukrainian forces, however, have scored a string of recent successes in attacks against Russia’s Black Sea fleet, a feat that is particularly notable as Ukraine has no navy, but instead relies on drones and long-distance missile strikes.

Over the course of the summer, some tensions have emerged between Zelenskyy’s government and Western backers. As it has since the start of the war, Ukraine has repeatedly pleaded for more weaponry, as some U.S. officials have let it be known that they disagree with its battlefield strategy.

Many Western military analysts, though, say the picture is a nuanced one.

“Ukraine’s got to be really careful, because they’re losing a lot of troops and equipment that they can’t afford to,” said Tim Willasey-Wilsey, a visiting professor in the war studies department at King’s College London. “But they’ve got Russia really rattled over Crimea — these attacks on the Black Sea fleet have been amazingly successful.”

Zelenskyy has also presided over what is generally an unwelcome development for any wartime leader in the thick of battle: a shakeup at his Defense Ministry, primarily in response to concerns about corruption in military procurement.

All six Ukrainian deputy defense ministers were dismissed from their posts Monday, two weeks after the president replaced Defense Minister Oleksii Resnikov, who had been on the job throughout the 19-month-old war.

Claims ...

Continued from page 1

“Due to either incompetence or a concerted intentionality, those in charge of the investigation refused to arrest or even properly investigate these obvious suspects,” the filing stated in part. “... ‘While the prosecution has been holding on to this exculpatory evidence, Richard Allen has

been living in hell.’”

Another claim by the defense in Monday’s filing states that several correctional officers at Westville Correctional Facility, where Allen is currently housed, also reportedly follow the Odinism religion, and the team argues that Allen reportedly has stated that the “Odinities” have

threatened him there, likely alluding to the correctional officers.

“Richard Allen has been monitored, intimidated and mentally abused by correctional officers who are also members of the Odinite cult,” the defense’s filing states.

Because of this, Baldwin and Rozzi are requesting

Allen’s transfer from WCF, though the case’s presiding Judge Frances Gull ruled earlier this summer that Allen would not be moved from the facility.

Allen is slated to go to trial in January 2024, and it’s unclear how this latest filing will affect that schedule.

The motions are now in

the hands of Gull, who will decide whether to accept or deny them.

It was Feb. 14, 2017, when the bodies of Williams and German were located along the banks of Deer Creek near the Monon High Bridge area, after being dropped off the day before but not returning to their pick-up location.

Continued from page 2

As she drove through the intersection, her vehicle hit the side of the truck.

Davis was cited with an infraction for driving with a suspended license.

The truck Rhoades was driving is registered to Fullenkamp Machine and Manufacturing of Portland. Both vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Capsule Reports

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, 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.

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Travis Theurer
AU11200131
Aaron Loy
AU11200112

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 – BLACKFOOT 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 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

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2 I-heaters, lighted Curio cabinet, Hand painted globe lamp, 2 glider rockers, rocker recliner. OWNER: DELORIS J BROWN ESTATE/ LOWELL BROWN

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JAY COUNTY
PORTLAND, INDIANA
CAUSE NO: 38COI-2305-MF-000013
MORTGAGE ASSETS MANAGEMENT, LLC
PLAINTIFF
VS

WAYNE E. STEVENS A/K/A WAYNE E. STEVENS, SR., DECEASED; GRACE STEVENS, DECEASED; TRACI STEVENS A/K/A TRACI OSTEEN; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF WAYNE E. STEVENS A/K/A WAYNE E. STEVENS, SR., DECEASED; ESTATE OF WAYNE E. STEVENS A/K/A WAYNE E. STEVENS, SR., DECEASED; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF WAYNE E. STEVENS, JR., DECEASED, HEIR OF WAYNE E. STEVENS A/K/A WAYNE E. STEVENS, SR., DECEASED; ESTATE OF WAYNE E. STEVENS, JR., DECEASED, HEIR OF WAYNE E. STEVENS A/K/A WAYNE E. STEVENS, SR., DECEASED; THE SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; EVA BISHOP
DEFENDANTS

NOTICE OF SHERIFF’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
By virtue of an Order of Sale, directed to me from the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court and pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on 08/11/2023, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the office of the Sheriff of Jay County, in Jay County, Indiana, located at Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Portland, IN 47371 on 10/26/2023 at 10:00 AM Local Time, the fee simple title together with the rents, profits, issues and income or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, interest, costs and accruing costs of the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana, to-wit:

The following described Real Estate in Jay County in the State of Indiana, to-wit:
Lot Numbered Six (6) in Block numbered Five (5) in Robert A. Andrew’s Addition to the Town of Redkey, Indiana.
Commonly known as: 434 West Main Street, Redkey, IN 47373
State Parcel Number: 38-09-14-403-035-000-031

This sale is to be made in all respects pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, approved March 7, 1931, and entitled An act concerning proceedings in actions to foreclose real estate mortgages, providing for the sale and custody of the mortgaged premises and repealing all laws conflicting therewith (see Indiana Code).

It is further provided by law that there shall be no redemption from such sale, and the purchaser at such sale, upon complying with the terms of his purchase, shall be entitled to immediately receive from the undersigned, Sheriff of Jay County, a deed conveying to him, the purchaser, the fee simple title in and to said real estate.
Ray Newton, Jay County Sheriff
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DeHoff records second hat trick

MUNCIE — Morgan DeHoff has led the Patriots in goals this season.

She led the Patriots on Tuesday as well, earning her second hat trick of the year.

DeHoff powered the Jay County High School girls soccer team to a 4-2 victory over the Delta Eagles on Tuesday night.

Just under four minutes into the game, Sophie Sprunger opened up the scoring on a shot assisted by Aixa Lopez. DeHoff scored the first goal of her hat trick with 28:50 left in the first half.

Delta (6-4-2) scored the next two goals to tie the match at 2-2. The first came with 2:21 left in the first half and the second at 33:19 in the second. One goal was scored by Jordan Bunch, assisted by Chloe Newsome, and the other was scored by Nila Johnson assisted by Bunch.

The Patriots (4-7-1, 2-4 Allen

Local roundup

County Athletic Conference) regained the lead on DeHoff's second goal with 16 minutes remaining and iced the game away with her third at 7:28. She is now up to 14 goals on the season.

Angel Clairday finished with nine saves.

Lopez led the midfield attack with 21 steals while Molly Muhlenkamp and Jayla Huelskamp were right behind her with 19 each.

Offense struggles

BERNE — Jay County's volleyball team hung with the Class 2A

No. 10 South Adams Starfires in the first set but couldn't keep up as they lost 25-20, 25-15, 25-13 on Tuesday.

Only three Patriots — Mya Kunkler (27.3%), Sophie Saxman (18.8%) and Bella Denton (6.2%) — had positive hitting percentages. Denton had the most kills of the three with eight while Saxman added three and Kunkler had two.

Jay County (6-8, 1-3 ACAC) hurt itself in the match by giving up 25 points on hitting errors and nine on aces. As a team, they were negative-3.4% on hitting.

The Patriots outplayed South Adams (20-2, 4-0 ACAC) defensively by digging seven more balls and committing less errors on that side of the ball but it couldn't make up for the offensive struggles.

The junior varsity team beat South Adams 24-25, 25-19, 15-10. Kendel Rowles and Hallie

Schwieterman both had nine kills each in the match. Paisley Fugiett led with nine assists while Elizabeth Barnett anchored the defense with 15 digs.

Muhlenkamp birdies

VERSAILLES, Ohio — The Fort Recovery High School boys golf team fell 145-168 to the Russia Raiders on Tuesday at Stillwater Valley Golf Course.

Keegan Muhlenkamp owned Fort Recovery's low score in the match with a 39. He shot a pair of birdies in the match on the second and eighth hole, both of which are par-4s. He also had four pars en route to his score.

Russia's Felix Francis was the match medalist, shooting a 32 which is three under par. All four of the Raiders' scores either tied or beat Muhlenkamp's 39.

Reece LeFevre had the No. 2 score for the Indians (7-7, 5-4

MAC) with a 40. He also had a birdie, his coming on the par-4 third hole.

Rounding out the team score was Natte Jutte with a 42 and Matthew Romer with a 44.

Alex Dues (50) and Eli Lennartz (52) did not impact the final.

JV dominates

The Jay County junior varsity boys soccer team dominated the Daleville Broncos in an 8-1 victory on Tuesday.

Both teams scored one goal in the first half.

Jay County exploded in the second half to dominate the game. The Patriots scored seven times while blanking Daleville.

Garrett Hidy, Oskar Mateo and Aryan Montes each had two goals in the game. Blake Collins and Brendan Runyon both added one as well.

See Roundup page 9

2023

HOMECOMING

GAME TIME

FRIDAY

September 22nd

7:00 p.m.

Barrenbrugge Athletic Park

Fort Recovery



vs.



New Bremen Cardinals

Indians

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Ranked ...

Continued from page 10
From a defensive standpoint, Guggenbiller would like to see better production from his front row when it comes to blocking. Paige Guggenbiller and Kennedy Muhlenkamp were the only players with blocks, the former with two and the latter with one. While he wasn't impressed by

the performance at the net, he did like how the Indians handled serve receptions and dug the ball out when they could. Wendel led the Indians defensively with 18 digs.

"In the beginning I was having a real difficult time," Wendel said. "Then coach Mandy Diller pulled me to the side and told me

'Cali, you have to line up off the blocker.' So I had to act like there was a string off the block to where I was and had to play off of that."

Teigan Fortkamp led the attack for Fort Recovery. She had a team-high 11 kills as well as an ace. Mara Pearson earned six kills while Kennedy Muhlenkamp

added three and Saige Leuthold had one. The Indians are halfway through a stretch of playing four ranked opponents in five matches. They will travel to face the Division IV No.8 Marion Local Flyers tonight before a game against Newton Monday followed by Division III No. 4 St. Henry on Sept. 28. "Coldwater is a fantastic team.

The best team we've played so far this year," Guggenbiller said. "They're gonna put the ball away. So, it's just staying poised through moments.

"I'm proud of my girls. I'm proud that they fought hard today. We've got work to do to get better. You take it as a lesson, you just go from there."

Roundup ...

Fifer sets record

Abby Fifer broke the Jay County Junior High School girls cross country record as both teams hosted Muncie Southside on Tuesday.

The boys won the meet 15-50 while Muncie Southside did not have enough players to field a girls team.

Fifer's time of 12:51 beat the previous record of 13

minutes flat set by Kendra Muhlenkamp in the 2014-15 season.

Muncie Southside's top girl finished sixth with a time of 14:31.

Raif Beiswanger led the boys with a time of 11:42 for the victory. He beat Muncie Southside's top scorer, Traycen Boggs (eighth) by three minutes, 18 seconds.

Other boys scores came from Sam Wiggins (sec-

ond), Grady Warvel (third), Carson Westgerdes (fourth) and Dougie Cox (fifth).

Patriots slide

BERNE — The Jay County Junior High volleyball team fell to South Adams 25-14, 25-12 Tuesday.

Amelia Heath put together a strong game in which she led in blocks and kills. She ended with four blocks and six kills. Brenna Ruble

and Kenady Lyons each had one kill for Jay County (8-7).

Gabi Petro protected the back row with three digs while Ruble added two.

Lyons was the primary ball handler, tallying four assists.

Heath and Peyton Schoenlein both had three service points. Emalyn Homan had two while Lyons and Makayla Bishop had one.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls soccer vs. Yorktown — 5 p.m.; Boys tennis at South Adams — 5 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Wes-DeJ — 6 p.m.; Junior High cross country at Monroe Central — 5 p.m.; Junior High volleyball vs. Union City — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls golf at MAC Championship at Mercer County Elks — 1 p.m.; Volleyball at Marion Local — 5:30 p.m.; Middle school football at New Bremen — 5 p.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Marion Local — 5:30 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football at Woodlan — 7 p.m.; JV boys soccer vs. Eastern — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Football vs. New Bremen — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today
7:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: Georgia State at Coastal Carolina (ESPN)
8:15 p.m. — NFL: New York Giants at San Francisco 49ers (FOX)
10:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Japanese Grand Prix (ESPN2)

Friday
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — NCAA Football: Wisconsin at Purdue (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NCAA Football: NC State at Virginia (ESPN)

2023

HOMECOMING

GAME TIME

FRIDAY

September 22nd

7:00 p.m.

Barrenbrugge Athletic Park

Fort Recovery



Indians

vs.



New Bremen Cardinals



Ted Romer | Eric Brackman
Kelly Walter | Amanda Siegrist
Gavin Thobe

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GOOD LUCK

to all our teams!

We're proud of our student athletes for their sportsmanship, their commitment to the team and the hard work they put in every day.



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We'd like to wish each and every player success on the field and in the classroom, all season and all year!


G



INDIANS

GOOD LUCK


to our teams!



To the student athletes, coaches and fans who keep the spirit of friendly competition, teamwork and achievement alive, we wish you a successful and rewarding season!

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Hope this season is the best one yet!



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Good Luck, Indians!

Sports

FR falls to Cavs

Indians drop second in a row to ranked rival



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Sometimes you are just outmatched.

That was the case for the Indians as they could never build anything more than a one-point lead.

The aggressive attack of the Division III No. 2 Coldwater Cavaliers was too much for the sixth-ranked Fort Recovery High School volleyball team to handle on Tuesday as they fell 25-17, 25-18, 25-20.

"It's really difficult when they don't have any fear," FRHS coach Travis Guggenbiller said. "We weren't able to find that fear in those athletes. I think we picked on a couple of them to make them question things but the rest were like 'I'm just going to keep swinging.'"

"As a defense it can be deflating when you think you're trying then they get a point. Good teams make big plays, so we just have to keep fighting with them."

The Indians (8-2, 3-1 Midwest Athletic Conference) suffered their first loss of the season to Division IV No. 3 Crestview on Monday night before the Cavaliers (12-1, 3-1 MAC) handed them their first conference loss.

Four different players had strong offensive performances for Coldwater: Madison Wendel (16) and Spencer Etzler (11) both earned double digit kills in the match, while Morgan Blasingame was right behind with nine. Even the Cavaliers' setter, Mia Knapke found a way to get involved with the attack, tallying seven kills.

"I think Mia did a great job tonight, running the offense and also being an offensive threat too as a setter," Coldwater coach Nikki Etzler said. "I think that makes it difficult to know

Fort Recovery High School's Teigan Fortkamp (10) attacks a ball at the net as Madison Wendel (14) of Coldwater contests during Tuesday's match. The Division III No. 6 Indians fell to the No. 2 Cavaliers 25-17, 25-18, 25-20.

(who's attacking) because she's our sixth hitter. ... I think it was awesome for her to be able to run a lot of different options tonight."

The Cavaliers attacked early, squashing any chance for Fort Recovery to develop a lead.

The Indians only had a one-point lead at three different points throughout the night. Two of those three times were in the first set — once when it was 6-5 on a Cali Wendel ace and again at 7-6 on a service error from Knapke. The only other lead came at the start of the second set, when the

Cavaliers were out of system and couldn't return a bump from Wendel.

Coldwater found a way to string points together for small runs to keep control. The largest runs of the match came in at five points, the first was a key part to winning the first set as it put the Cavaliers up 18-12. The other five-point run came at the start of the second set after the Indians earned the first point.

Fort Recovery played stronger in the back-half of each set, often trading points with Coldwater.

See **Ranked** page 9



Review preview

Friday - 7 p.m.



Jay County Patriots

Portland, 3-2 (1-2)

Coach: Grant Zgunda, third year (26th overall)

Conference: Allen County

Last week at Bluffton: Jay County gave up 19 early points to the Bluffton Tigers through the first two quarters in a 19-7 loss. The Patriots shut the fifth-ranked team from Class 2A for the rest of the contest, but couldn't find a way to get their offense to start a comeback.

Season leaders: Passing — Sean Bailey — 34-of-62 for 612 yards and nine TDs. Rushing — A. J. Myers — 103 carries for 412 yards and five TDs. Receiving — Justin DeHoff — nine receptions for 264 yards and three TDs. Defense — Garrett Bennett — 39 tackles and three tackles for loss.

at

Woodlan Warriors

Woodburn, 2-3 (1-2)

Coach: Mike Smith, fourth year (sixth overall)

Conference: Allen County

Last week vs. Southern Wells: Woodlan gave up a field goal to the Southern Wells Raiders before shutting them out for a 33-3 victory. The Warriors had a balanced attack with Ty Loudon passing for 110 yards and three touchdowns and Drew Fleek rushing for 188 yards and two touchdowns.

Season leaders: Passing — Ty Loudon — 54-of-113 for 609 yards and eight TDs. Rushing — Drew Fleek — 129 carries for 442 yards and two TDs. Receiving — Braden Smith — 15 receptions for 261 yards and five TDs.

Last season: Jacob Snyder pulled off a 54-yard pass on fourth-and-8 to set up a score in the final minute to finish off Jay County 40-33. The Patriots improved from 2022's one-score performance by finding the end zone five times in the loss.

Game notes: Jay County and Woodlan have met on the gridiron nine times, with the Warriors winning all of those games Since falling 15-14 to Southridge in the 2017 Class 2A state championship game, Woodlan has had five straight losing seasons ... Cal-Preps.com lists the Patriots as seven-point favorites.

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



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