# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

# County looking at new phone system

**Proposed** upgrade would be cloud-based program

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review The county is considering upgrading its phone system.

Representatives from Allstar Communications of Fort Wayne pitched a cloudbased phone service to Jay County Commissioners during their meeting Mon-

Allstar Communications currently handles the county's phone services. Representatives from the company proposed upgrading the county's phone service to an online, cloud-based program, which would cost just under \$1,300 more monthly with a one-time fee of about \$3,600. (The county currently pays about \$2,350 in monthly service fees.)

Commissioners reached out to the company recently after a representative from Level 365 suggested the county switch phone services, offering a monthly fee of \$2,136.36 and a onetime cost of \$18,538.74. Level 365 provides unified communications, or a cloud program, to connect office phones, computers and cell phones through a common app. Some of its features include call forwarding and a voicemail-

to-email option. Eric White and Jay Kimes of Allstar Communications explained their company could offer virtually the same services if county were to upgrade to the system created by NEC, an information technology and electronics corporation.

See County page 2

# **Dedicated** to Dunkirk



Confusion dating back about two decades had the streets of Quincy Place on the north side of Dunkirk on the verge of going to a tax sale. Dunkirk City Council earlier this month agreed to pay the back taxes on the streets and on Monday accepted their dedication to the city from developer The Biggs Group of Decatur.

# City accepts streets from developer

20 years are now property of the

Dunkirk City Council on Monday approved a resolution to accept the dedication of the streets in Quincy Place to the

City attorney Wes Scheme-

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review
DUNKIRK — Streets that had been privately owned for about the streets in Quincy Place —

naur explained to council at its previous meeting that confusion dating back to the early 2000s has the streets in Quincy Place —

streets two decades ago, but the process was not followed through to completion. As a Biggs has since signed the documentation to dedicate the streets Hart Drive, Shrack Lane and Merry Court — on the verge of going up for tax sale. (They were subsequently pulled from that sale.) He told council there had apparently been a discussion amongst Ďunkirk City Council to accept ownership of the

Group, Decatur, had unknowingly continued to own and pay taxes on the streets. That changed recently when Biggs sold its final lots in the development. The taxes were unpaid,

leading them to be in the tax sale. Dunkirk City County on Sept.

to the city.

Council members Bivens, Bryan Jessup, Tom Johnson, Kevin Hamilton and Christy Curts on Monday approved the resolution accepting city ownership of the streets.

See **Dedicated** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Horse-drawn ride

Visitors to Jay County Historical Society's Heritage Festival start their way on a horse-drawn carriage ride Sunday on the north side of Jay County Historical Museum in Portland.

### **Deaths**

Norma Wilson, 77, Port-Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 70 degrees Monday. The low was 57.

Showers are expected tonight with a chance of thunderstorms and a low in the upper 50s. Skies will be mostly cloudy Thursday with a high in the lower 70s and a 50% chance of rain. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Public Library will host Pumpkin Slime & Autumn Time from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Thursday. Children will get to make autumn-themed slime and crafts and will also get to enjoy some snacks. Advance registration is requested by visiting the library, 315 N. Ship St., or calling (260) 726-7890.

# FR applying for grant

The Commercial Review FORT RECOVERY -Fingers crossed.

Fort Recovery Village Council authorized an application Monday for the \$500,000 Small Government Program grant offered through Ohio Public Works Commission.

Fort Recovery is applying for the grant in hopes of doing a total reconstruction of Butler Street between Fort Site to Main streets. The project would cost about \$1.5 million, including repaving the street and replacing the traffic signal, street lights, curbs, sidewalks and water line. If the village needs additional financial assistance, the program also allows applicants to request more funding with a 0% interest rate loan.

For other financial help with the program, Fort Recovery has approximately \$2.3 million in Williams Street for about utes.

Village hopes to use funds for reconstruction of Butler Street

its general fund. (The village started saving extra dollars after the height of the coronavirus pandemic hit.)

Village administrator Randy Diller also gave council two other potential Butler Street projects on Aug. 21 they could complete with the grant if selected: reconstructing Butler Street from George Street to the village's west corporation limit for about \$1 million or replacing the water Fort Site Street to

unappropriated dollars in \$744,000. Council decided at that time to stick with the reconstruction of Butler Street from Fort

Site to Main streets. Plans are to submit the grant to Ohio Public Works Commission sometime this week. The grant approval had been on the agenda during council's regular meeting Sept. 18, but there were only four council members present, meaning they could not legally pass the resolution. All six council members attended Monday's line on Butler Street from meeting, which lasted approximately three min-

### Coming up

**Thursday** — Results from the JCHS boys soccer game against Blackford.

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



# County

Continued from page 1 The new system would allow recording and transcribing calls, as well as transferring calls off-site to a cell phone or other device. (The choice to record calls would be up to each department head.) It also has its own messaging system, allowvia text without using their personal cell phone number, as well as video call capabilities.

Phones could operate with ethernet cables or through their own built-in wifi.

Although the contract would be with NEC, tech support is offered locally through Allstar Communications. Kimes said they would offer training sessions for employees as needed.

"Are most other counties doing this?" asked commissioner Brian McGalliard.

Kimes confirmed many counties and municipalities are phone system at the sheriff's office hasn't been updated since

With the new program, White explained, the county would

eliminate the need for utilizing five different phone carriers, reducing its monthly bill by about \$2,350.

Commissioners agreed to review the proposal.

Also Monday, they heard a ing employees to communicate request from Steve Neargarder to amend truck restrictions.

> Commissioners approved an ordinance Aug. 28 barring trucks from several county roads during construction on Indiana 26 and U.S. 27. Neargarder asked commissioners to consider opening county road 100 North or 300 East to truck traffic, noting there are fewer houses located along those roads between Portland and Fort Recovery.

County attorney Wes Schemenaur pointed out the ordinance amendment wouldn't become effective until switching to cloud-based phone near the end of October if comsystems. He noted the current missioners took action as soon as the next meeting Oct. 9.

Commissioner

intendent Eric Butcher and Sheriff Ray Newton before making a decision.

Also Monday, commissioners approved a contract with Crown City Logistics for trash pickup at Jay County Jail. The rate came in at \$132.50 per

In other business, commissioners Rex Journay, Brian

 Agreed to sponsor a haunted house event, pending insurance approval, at Jay County Country Living. Former director Melissa Blankley, who is continuing to assist the county, explained that someone recently reached out to her requesting to use the facility's basement for a Halloween-themed display.

•Decided to require sealed bids for automobile purchases. McGalliard brought up the matter, noting a local car dealer had requested the formal

president Aflac Insurance to county Chad Aker said he would like to employees, noting the county's sioners the county had been and 23.

offers similar services.

•Heard from Butcher, who noted prep work has been completed for the above-ground fuel tanks being installed at Jay County Highway Department. He expects it will take another two months until the tanks are delivered.

·Were informed Indiana Residential Care Assistance Program is performing its regular audit this week at Jay County Country Living. Blankley also noted the facility has 24 residents and is close to being full, with two open rooms, or space for about seven residents, left.

·Learned about three workshops for entrepreneurs coming up in December through East Central Indiana Regional Planning District.

·Learned county vehicles are exempt by Indiana code 9-20 from size and weight requirements on county roads. (Commissioners asked Butcher to look into the matter after a local truck driver told commis-

touch base with highway super- current broker, One Digital, exceeding size and weight limits.)

·Approved several claims, including \$20.329.49 for computer upgrades at Jay County Sheriff's Office through INdigital of Fort Wayne, \$16,800 for a change order in Beam, Longest and Neff's engineering for replacement of the Seventh Street bridge over the Salamonie River in Portland — plans are to seek a Community Crossings grant to replace the bridge and add sidewalks in 2024 and \$6,573.60 for phishing prevention training through global software company KnowBe4.

 Heard from Jay Emergency Medical Service director Gary Barnett about August's monthly expenses and income, which came to \$136,195.52 \$95,031.70, respectively.

•Revised the 2023 holiday schedule to accommodate Jay County Highway Department employees' new four-day work week. Highway workers will observe Veterans Day on Nov. 9 and Thanksgiving on Nov. 22

# CR almanac

Thursday 9/29 Saturday 9/30 Sunday 10/1 Monday 10/2  73/55 There's a chance (40%) of rain Thursday, when the high will be in the low 70s. Priday's skies with a low in the low to mid 50s at night.  Thursday 9/29 Saturday 9/30 Sunday 10/1  78/53 Another day of sun on Sunday, bringing out warm temperatures in the upper 70s.  Monday looks to be sunny again. The high will be in the mid to upper 70s.						
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	There's a chance (40%) of rain Thurs- day, when the high will be in	Friday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a low in the low to mid 50s at	Sunny skies are expected. The high will be in the mid to	Another day of sun on Sunday, bring- ing out warm temperatures in the upper	Monday looks to be sunny again. The high will be near 80	

### **Lotteries**

#### **Powerball**

Monday 10-12-22-36-50 Power Ball: 4 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$835 million

### **Mega Millions**

jackpot: Estimated \$230 million

### Hoosier

Monday Midday Daily Three: 2-4-2 Daily Four: 4-2-9-7 Quick Draw: 1-2-7-10-11-21-26-29-35-38-40-46-53-54-58-59-64-67-72-76 Evening

Daily Three: 8-1-9

Daily Four: 1-8-4-3 Quick Draw: 6-7-13-14-21-23-24 -28-37-39-42-48-50-56-61-62-63-64-71-72

Cash 5: 5-17-20-25-29 Estimated jackpot: \$125,000

### Ohio

Monday Midday Pick 3: 8-5-1 Pick 4: 9-8-7-8 Pick 5: 8-5-0-6-4 Evening Pick 3: 0-1-1 Pick 4: 4-7-4-7 Pick 5: 4-3-9-5-8 Rolling Cash: 4-18-28-

Estimated jackpot:

\$100,000

## **Markets**

Cooper Farms
Fort Recovery
Corn5.42
Oct. corn5.27
Wheat4.82
POET Biorefining Portland
Corn 5.37

Oct. corn5.22 Oct./Nov. corn4.62
The Andersons
Richland Township
Corn4.52

The Andersons Richland Townsh	
Jan. corn Beans1	4.77

Wheat	. 5.02
Dec. beans	

Cen	tral	Sta	tes
Mor	ıtpe	lier	
Corn	i		
0.4	001010		

Corn	4.67
Oct. corn	4.47
Beans	12.50
Oct. beans	12.90
Wheat	5.46

## Heartland

St. Anthony	
Corn	4.62
Oct./Nov. corn	4.32
Beans	12.54
Oct. beans	12.39
Wheat	5.03

## **Today in history**

approved the Jesuit order that was founded son cracks had develby St. Ignatius of Loyola.

In 1912, "Memphis Blues," which is considered the first blues song, was published by W.C. Handy.

In 1972, Portland Park Board decided to of Jay County governdefer plans for major repairs at the Portland a month if they did not youth center until 1973. complete their required Contractor Paul Bal- cybersecurity training. dauf told the board it

In 1540, Pope Paul III would take that time to determine the exact reaoped in the foundation and south wall of the

building. In 2020, Jay County Commissioners

approved a rule to suspend the email accounts ment employees within

—The CR

### Citizen's calendar

### Wednesday

Board of Health, health department, 504 W. Arch St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Jay County Council public hearing, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park 7 a.m. — Jay County Board, city building 131 S. Main St.

### **Thursday**

7 a.m. — Jay School Board special meeting, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.

### **Obituaries** Norma Wilson

July 7, 1946-Sept. 24, 2023 Norma Wilson, age 77, a resident of Portland, passed away on Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023, at Persimmon Ridge in Portland.

Norma was born on July 7, 1946, in Avon, Kentucky, the daughter of Elmer and Clarice (Lewis) Riddle. She graduated from Parker High School in Parker City, Indiana, and worked for Jay Garment in Portland for many years and retired from FCC in Portland.

Norma was a member of the Portland Moose Lodge. Norma enjoyed walking, loved her grandenjoyed children, collecting Thomas Kincaid paintings and

er of Turner Classic Movies.

Survivors include: children Her Chad Claycomb (wife: Angel), Portland, Indiana, Andy Claycomb (wife: Kim), Shelbyville,

Indiana, and Raina Stolz (husband: Justin), Portland, Indiana

Wilson

Her siblings — James Riddle, Albany, Indiana, Denny Riddle, Hartford City, Indiana, and Mareta Dye (husband: Elwood), Niles, Michigan

Eleven grandchildren and six great-grandchildren

Teddy Bears and was an avid view- son, Derek Wilson; two sisters, Car- homes or mortuary services.

lene Woolard and Deanna Jackson; and one brother, Marvin Riddle. Visitation will be held on Thurs-

day from 4 to 6 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Memorial services will follow at 6 p.m. on Thursday at the funeral home with Pastor Erick Riddle officiating.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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, She was preceded in death by a which are accepted only from funeral

## Felony arrests

### **Drunk driving**

A Decatur man was arrested Monday for drunk driving and other related charges.

Timothy D. Johnson, 42, 333 N. 16 St. Apt. 4, is charged in Jay Superior Court with two Level 5 felonies for causing serious bodily injury when operating a vehicle while intoxicated and causing serious \$10,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

bodily injury when operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or higher, as well as a Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle without having a license.

The court recommended Monday that Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles suspend Johnson's driving privileges. He's being held on a

### Nonsupport

A Muncie man was arrested Friday for nonsupport of a depend-Steven D. Pace, 38, 310 E.

Berkley Ave., is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 He was released on a \$300 bond

from Jay County Jail.

## Capsule Reports

### **Deer accident**

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a deer ran in front of a Hartford City man's vehicle, causing an accident about 10 a.m. Sunday.

Michael L. Anderson, 67, was driving his 2020 Chevrolet Malibu east on county road 200 North in Jay County when a deer ran in front of him. He wasn't able to avoid hitting the animal.

### **Trick-or-treating set**

Redkey Town Council on Thursday set trick-ortreat hours for 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31. Redkey Fire Department will host its costume contest at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 31.

Also at the meeting, council:

·Spoke with Nate Kimball, an East Central Indiana Regional Planning District employee who is serving as Jay County's community coordinator. Kimball provided information about the owner occupied rehabilitation program being created for low income Jay County residents. The program will be

funded with the \$1 million Jav County is receiving for being a part of the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), a planning process through the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affair for how to spend federal coronavirus relief funds through the American Rescue Plan Act. ·Were informed Redkey

will be flushing hydrants starting Oct. 2

See page 5

### **SERVICES**

### **Today**

Grube, Larry: 10:30 a.m., St. Peter Catholic Church, 1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery. Milligan, Judith: noon, Swiss

Village auditoriam, 1350 W. Main St., Berne.

### Thursday

Wilson, Norma: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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



# **Inserter Position Available** Need to get out of the house for a few hours?

This job is perfect for you! Flexible/ varying hours solid work ethic, willingness to learn and reliability are a must. Apply within or send resume to:

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Congettupity 260-726-8141

## **FULL TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

JAY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY 2023 SALARY: \$28,264.60

### WORK SCHEDULE

- 35 hours weekly (Monday Friday)
- Occasional evening, weekend, and overnight hours as necessary

and FEMA Professional Development Series certifications.

- for community outreach, training, etc. Ability to respond to the EOC for emergencies on a 24-hour basis as necessary.
- **DUTIES** • Performs department bookkeeping duties to include preparing and recording claims/payroll, maintaining an up-to-date budget, and filing/recordkeeping.
- Answers telephones, greets visitors, responds to inquiries, provides information/assistance
- to the public, and takes messages for department personnel. Assists with damage assessments, data recording, EOC operations, and other tasks required

### during emergency situations.

- Assists department personnel in maintaining/updating plans, policies, and procedures.
- REQUIREMENTS High school diploma or equivalent Must possess or be able to obtain the necessary National Incident Management (NIMS)
  - Working knowledge of basic accounting, standard office procedures, and Microsoft software. Ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing.
  - Ability to work on several tasks at the same time, and work rapidly for long periods, often under time restrictions. Must have a valid Indiana driver's license and be able to travel off-site as necessary.

All interested applicants can submit their resume to the Jay County Emergency Management Agency, 224 West Water Street, Portland, IN 47371 or to the Director via email srhodehamel@co.jay.in.us.

Applications will be accepted until September 27, 2023.

#### •Made \$184.37 in water bill adjustments.

# month.

McGalliard and Aker:

process. •Tabled a request to offer

# Art classes start soon

Arts Place has a variety of art classes scheduled to start in the coming weeks.

The next class scheduled to begin is macrame bracelet making on Oct. 4. Other classes to begin in October include toddler art for 3 to 5 year olds on Oct. 6, intermediate wheel throwing and Halloween cookies and canvas on Oct. 16, and American folk art for homeschoolers Oct. 26.

Additional classes are slated to begin in November and December. To register for classes, visit

myartsplace.easybooking.site. For more information, email visualarts@myartsplace.org or call (260) 726-4809.

#### VA health care

The deadline for some veterans to enroll in VA health care is Sept.

Veterans who deployed to a combat zone, left active duty between Sept. 11, 2001 and Oct. 1, 2013, and never enrolled in VA health care are eligible to enroll directly in VA health care. They can apply online at va.gov or in person at a VA facility.

#### **Auction scheduled**

Arts Place will host its annual holiday benefit auction Nov. 17.

This year's event is themed after "A Christmas Story." (Jay County Civic Theatre will present its production of the musical Dec. 7, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17 at Arts Place.)

### **Taking** Note

The auction will feature refreshments, a silent auction and a live auction.

For more information, email jcc@myartsplace.org or call (260) 726-4809.

#### **Auditions set**

Creative Arts Theater of Wells County will hold auditions for its production of "White Christmas" Oct. 6 and 7.

Auditions will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 6 and 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 7 at the Creative Arts Council, 428 S. Oak St., Bluffton. They are open to ages 12 and older.

Those interested in auditioning are urged to pre-register at wellscocreativearts.com/holidayproduction.

Performances will be Dec. 7, 8 and 9. For more information, call (260) 824-5222.

#### **Exhibit open**

"Landscape: Speculations and Provocations" is on display until Oct. 5 at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place

The exhibit features the work of draws inspiration from landscapes itindiana.com.

and digital art forms, including video games.

Arts Place is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday.

For more information, email visualarts@myartsplace.org or call (260) 726-4809.

#### **Grants available**

Indiana Destination Development Corporation has announced the availability of two grants — the Indiana Destination Development Grant and IN Indiana Placemaking Activation Grant.

The placemaking activation grant offers communities the opportunity to create IN Indiana artwork and signage in highly visible locations throughout the state. (The City of Portland, Arts Place and Portland Main Street Connect partnered to receive a grant this year that funded the new mural on the north side of Community Resource Center.) The development grant offers funding for "high-impact projects that raise Indiana's capacity for attracting visitors, providing tourism experiences and enhance residential quality of life."

'Indiana is a diverse state that's full of character, and we plan to continue showcasing that through these placemaking and development projects," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 2. Ruth Lantz. The Illinois artist For more information, go to vis-

# Marriage lost spark years ago

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a man I'll call "Ed" for 15 years. We are seniors, but he is 17 years older than I am. I have three children from a previous marriage who are grown and on their own. I think my husband is gay but never came out of the closet. He watches gay porn and once confessed to me he had a fantasy about another man. For the last 10 years, he has refused to have sex and is always making excuses ("I'm old," "I'm tired," "Tomorrow").

Abby, I crave love and

intimacy. Ed is cold, distant and a loner. He refuses to travel or do anything for fun. He's welloff financially, never had kids and is a good provider. However, that is all he does. I want to leave him, but I feel guilty because of his age and because he has been a responsible provider over the years.

I love him as a person, but not as a husband. Please advise. DEPRESSED STUCK IN PENNSYLVA- After that, you will

DEAR D & S: There is what to do.

Dear Abby



more to marriage than sex. There is supposed to be communication, affection, respect, understanding and compassion for each other.

From what you have written, you have none of those.

Address this with Ed before you freeze to death. Ask him if marriage counseling would help him to better understand your needs. If he refuses, and all you get out of this marriage is access to his money, make appointment with an attorney to discuss what your rights may be in the "equitable distribution" state of Pennsylvania after a AND 15-year marriage. have a better idea of

## **Community Calendar**

Notices will appear in based recovery group for mit an item, email news@thecr.com.

#### Wednesday

ING BREAKFAST CLUB Pastor Randy Davis at – Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Cen-

cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

**AL-ANON** 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.

Community Calendar as all kinds of addictions, space is available. To sub- 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 WEDNESDAY MORN more information, call (765) 369-2085.

### Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets PING PONG — Will be 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 PORTLAND ROTARY information, call Brenda CLUB — Will meet at noon Eads at (260) 726-9625 or each Wednesday in the Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792

LAWYERS LIBRARIES — Free and EUCHRE CLUB — Will confidential consultameet at 2 p.m. the fourth tions with a lawyer are Wednesday of each month available from 10 a.m. to at Chalet Village Health noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting FAMILY is available on topics GROUP — New Begin- including divorce, cusnings, a support group for tody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., A BETTER LIFE - BRI- Portland, or by calling ANNA'S HOPE — A faith- (260) 726-7890.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland. MISSISSINEWA CHAP-

TER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY  $_{
m OF}$ THEDAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLU-AMERICAN TION — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, at Jay County Historical Museum. The program is on revolutionary era wedding attire. For more information, call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

### **Friday**

RECOVERY ed. PAST 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 ANONY-MOUS — 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-

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

### **Monday**

PORTLAND BREAK-FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restau-PING PONG — Will be

played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

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

Hoover St., Dunkirk. TAKE OFF POUNDS

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

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accept-

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

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restau-

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

**GAMMA ALPHA** CHAPTER OF PSI IOTA XI — Will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2, at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

### WHAT MATTERS MOST Whether you are home or away, protect what matters most from unexpected power outages with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Warranty\* A \$735 Value! \$0 MONEY DOWN + LOW MONTHLY PAYMENT OPTIONS **REQUEST A FREE QUOTE CALL NOW BEFORE THE NEXT POWER OUTAGE** (866) 953-2203 **GENERAC** istall and activate the generator with a partic ealer. Call for a full <u>list of terms and conditio</u>



Call (866) 553-0725

\*Offer Valid on Potomac and ComfortSmart Models, 4 Window Minimum, Cannot be combined with any other offer. Excludes labor. Based on 10 Georgetown model, Double hung/slider windows with standard installation. Subject for Credit Approval. Offer Ends 9/30/23





We had our Golf Tournament on Sunday, September 10th at the Portland Golf Club.

Proceeds from the Golf Tournament will go towards raising the start-up funds and general operating costs needed to establish the new child advocacy center location in Portland.

Financial assistance will go a long way towards ensuring that Jay County child victims receive the best practice response that they deserve.



We would like to thank our Birdie Sponsor: Jay Petroleum



Sudoku

6 Level: Intermediate

### **Tuesday's Solution**

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

				•						
	6	4	5	1	8	9	7	2	3	
ì t	3	8	9	4	2	7	1	6	5	
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	5	6	4	7	9	2	3	8	1	
	9	1	7	3	5	8	2	4	6	
	8	3	2	6	4	1	9	5	7	

# Historic markers can be confusing

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Sept. 29, 2004. Like many journalists, Jack had an affinity for history. Though he questions some accuracy here, his musings might remind some folks about an aspect of Jay County's history that they forgot, or never knew about.

### By JACK RONALD The Commercial Review

Ideally, a historic landmark ought to provide future generations accurate information about

But sometimes, they only add to the confusion.

That thought drifted across my mind Saturday afternoon as I sat in the sun on the porch of the Balbec cabin, watching the tractor pulls and eating a bowl of ham and beans.

Jay County's track record when it comes to historical landmarks is a little spotty.

Most of the landmarks — usu-

**Back** in the Saddle



ally a rock or boulder with a plaque attached — date from a flurry of historic enthusiasm on the part of the Daughters of the American Revolution in the late

The D.A.R. raised the money and installed a number of historic markers at various spots in the county.

In Portland, you'll find a stone marker at the southeast corner of the courthouse lawn honoring the late John P.C. Shanks, who served his country both as a general and in Congress. You'll also find a marker on North Wayne Street which denotes the site of the date that it was installed by Cincinnati to places like the Levi the first school.

And if you drive south on U.S. 27 a ways, you'll find another marker on the east side of the highway. That one, at Treaty Line Road, marks what was believed to be the boundary established by the Treaty of Fort Wayne between the U.S. government and the Indians. That treaty, which followed the Treaty of Greenville, gave the U.S. additional land — including parts of what is today Pike and Madison Townships.

But there are a couple of historic markers that sometimes confuse as much as they enlight-

One marks the site of Liber College, a short-lived educational institution in the little settlement of Liber, southeast of the county

marker is accurate enough, but because it also bears

the D.A.R., some folks jump to the conclusion that Liber College existed into the 20th century and

That's simply not the case. The college was strictly a mid-19th century phenomenon and was followed by other local attempts at higher education like Eastern Indiana Normal College, which was located near Arch and Middle streets on Portland's west

Even greater confusion is to be found at Balbec, where I was enjoying that lunch in the sunshine Saturday.

There a stone marker rightly denotes the Balbec cabin, restored and maintained by Bill and Jan Hurst and volunteers who help with Balbec Days, as a stop on the Underground Rail-

Fugitive slaves made their way up from the Deep South through Coffin house in Fountain City, then up to Balbec as they moved north in search of freedom.

But the Balbec marker goes one step too far, suggesting that Eliza in the book "Uncle Tom's Cabin,"

stayed there.

Since Eliza was a fictional character in a novel, that falls short of any test for historical accuracy. It's possible that some of the fugitive slaves that Harriet Beecher Stowe used as models for her fictional Eliza did pass through Balbec. Some of them might even have been named Eliza. But it's a real leap to suggest that the Eliza, a product at least in part of a novelist's imagination, stopped there.

Does it matter? Maybe not. History — particularly local history – tends to get blended with folklore over the years.

And it sure didn't have an impact on the quality of the ham and beans.

## Bidenomics isn't achieving its goal

San Gabriel Valley Tribune (West Covina, California) Tribune News Service

President Biden is campaigning for re-election on a strong economy. He said recently, "Bidenomics is just another way of saying, 'Restore the American Dream."

Some things look pretty good. Unemployment in August stood at just 3.8%, up a bit from July's 3.5%. That's 19 straight months below 4%, effectively full employment.

White House talking points include presiding "over \$1.7 trillion in deficit reduction — a larger reduction than under any other President in American history." What that means is Biden cut the deficit from the huge and irresponsible numbers under President Trump, \$3.13 trillion in fiscal 2020 and \$2.77 trillion in 2021. Fair enough. But the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects a \$1.5 trillion deficit for the current fiscal year 2023, which ends on Sept. 30.

not muchThat's progress in a time of prosperity. And the national debt hit \$33 trillion for the first time on Monday, double what it was a decade ago. Due to high interest rates, interest payments on the debt dig in at \$633 billion for 2023.

There are other signs things aren't right, especially for ordinary Americans. On Sept. 12, the U.S. Census Bureau clocked an 8.8% yearly drop in real median household income after taxes from 2021-22. And the poverty rate after taxes as measured by the Supplemental Poverty Measure jumped a sharp 59% to 12.4%. It noted much of that increase resulted from ending some programs from Biden's \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan of 2021.

But it's that overspending that has goosed inflation. And although the rate has dropped from 6.5% in all 2022 to a 3.7% yearly rate in August, that's still too much. The August number also was up from July's 3.2%.

The inflation caused Federal Reserve Board to increase the fed funds interest rate from 0% to 5.5% the past 18 months. Which in turn, according to Freddie Mac, goosed the average fixed prit, Bidenomics caused

### Guest **Editorial**

As with running up excessive personal credit card debt, the bill for the federal overspending always has to be paid.

from 3.22% in Jan. 2022 to 7.08% by next month, sharply dropping home affordability.

"indicators are The sending conflicting information, making it very difficult to predict the performance of the formance of the economy in the near future," says Raymond Sfeir, director of the A. Gary Anderson Center for Economic Research at Chapman University. On the positive side, he said, real personal consumption expenditure increased 2.2% in May, 2.4% in June and 3% in August compared to the same months of last year. "It accelerated, showing resilience by the consumers."

Negatives include inflation, especially rising gas prices. According the Auto Club, the hit at the pump in Southern California rose 52 out of the past 57 days. In Orange County on Sep. 18, the average was \$6.02. And he warned that on Oct. 1 the moratorium on paying student loans ends, which will reduce consumption.

"My conclusion still is that a slowdown will occur at the beginning of 2024," Sfeir said.

As with running up excessive personal credit card debt, the bill for the federal overspending always has to be paid. That time is now. And although Biden is not the only cul-30-year home mortgage its share of the problem.



# Don't leave Ukraine behind

The Times-Tribune (Scranton, Pennsylvania) Tribune News Service

Jeff Casella met his future wife while vacationing with his girlfriend in Russia. Oksana was a Ukrainian citizen. His girlfriend lived in Scran-

"It made for a long flight home," Jeff joked Monday as we chatted about his latest visit to Ukraine with Oksana, his wife of 18 years and their 17-year-old son, Arthur.

Oksana's parents and brother still ve in Mykolaiv a southern port city of about 500,000. Russian war criminal Vladimir Putin's unprovoked invasion of a sovereign nation has exacted a heavy toll on Mykolaiv. Jeff and Oksana tried to convince her parents to leave and live with them in Old Forge, but her brother is of age for military service and can't desert his homeland.

Oksana's mother and father won't leave their son behind. What parents would?

"Mykolaiv is a big part of the war because they're directly between Odesa and Kherson," Jeff said. Civilians in all three cities have endured heavy bombing and water, power and food shortages. Russian forces occupied Kherson and Mykolaiv early in the war, but the Ukrainian military retook the cities and still holds them.

The Casellas recently returned from 10 days in Ukraine. I've shared a few stories of locals who went to Ukraine or the region as volunteers, but my Old Forge neighbors are the first I've heard of who went to a war zone to visit the in-laws.

'Well, you can't fly (into Ukraine), obviously," Jeff said. "We flew into Rome, and then we had a flight to Istanbul, Turkey. And then from Istanbul, we flew into Moldova (a former Soviet "republic" turned democracy).

"And then we drove from Moldova into Ukraine."

It seems odd that a family can pack up a rental car and explore a country torn by war, but Jeff said their American passports made them welcome at every turn.

Chris Kelly



"It's actually a very tricky situation to get in there," Jeff said. "We hit about seven or eight checkpoints before we made it to Mykolaiv. As they States passports, they were like, What are you doing here?' And then they're like, 'Thank you, and have a nice day.' They love us over there."

And they love life, laughter and a free Ukraine. Despite all the destruction, deprivation and depravity they've endured at the hands of Putin, Jeff said the spirit of the Ukrainian people remains indomitable as ever.

'Kids are going back to school, buildings are opening back up. Banks and businesses and federal buildings are open," he said. "The people in Ukraine are just living their life. They're not worried about anything. They're like, 'Whatever happens is going to happen, but we can't live our life around this. We have to live our life through this.

Jeff related an experience he and his family shared with some locals at a public pool.

These guys were doing cannonballs, and I'm a decent-sized guy, and they called me over to do cannonballs," he said. "They couldn't speak English and I can't speak Ukrainian, but we understood each other and we had a great time. I called us the 'Ukrainian Swim Ballet Team.' We still text back and forth. Google Translate works fabulously."

For the record, Arthur, a senior at Old Forge High School, is fluent in Russian and Ukrainian. Jeff said he and Oksana are proud of their son's love and interest in Ukraine and grateful he could experience the hope, resilience and determination of its people firsthand.

verge," Jeff said. "Just a little bit more help, a little bit more support, and this thing is over," Jeff said. "Russia will run out of there like they ran out of Afghanistan. I believe it'll happen."

I do, too, but time (and aid) may be running out. America has come to Ukraine's defense from the first day of the invasion. President Biden and a bipartisan majority of Congress have devoted more than \$60 billion in military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Churches, schools, other institutions and everyday Americans have given their time, money and other resources to the cause.

But polls show public support for continued aid is softening, a sorry trend for a nation that bills itself as the apex defender of democracy. Politicians and professional prevaricators (redundant?) are pushing to cut off aid and abandon Ukraine to

"We are offering this aid, but we are getting so much in return and so many people don't understand that," Jeff said. "And most of it's in weaponry that we can't use anyway. Most missiles and bombs and grenades have a shelf life. That is what they're getting, and it's not costing us nearly as much as it would if we actually ended up in a war with Russia."

Democracy is under attack around the world and here at home. Considering the mess we're in here at home, it's easy to forget that Ukraine and its people are fighting on the front lines not just for freedom, but for their very existence. Jeff Casella's in-laws and the "Ukrainian Swim Ballet Team" deserve better than to be left behind.

What defender of democracy would do that?

Slava Ukraini!

Kelly, the Times-Tribune columnist, is blessed with interesting neighbors. Emailat kellysworld@timesshamrock.com.

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HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

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## Measures considered to avoid shutdown

and BILLY HOUSE Bloomberg News

al funding lapse.

Tribune News Service Moderate Republicans are working with Democrats on a rarely used procedure to shorten a near-certain U.S. government shutdown and protect themselves from the anticipated political backlash from a feder-

The plan puts these vulnerable Republicans, including several from Democratic-friendly districts in New York, firmly at odds with hardliners in their own party. It could, however, limit a disruptive shutdown that threatens to stretch for a month or more to a little more than a week.

The ploy would deal a new Speaker Kevin blow to McCarthy, to whom these moderates have been loyal. The speaker already maintains tenuous control over the House's fractious Republican majority, and using a maneuver to work around him weakens his leverage to extract concessions from Democrats.

Known as a discharge petition, the procedure was adopted by the House in 1910 as a check on the speaker's power and would force a vote on a bill without his approval. Discharge petitions have been successfully deployed just twice this century.

Republicans consider discharge petition as Senate nears short-term funding plan that would keep government open for 45 days

group of senators is nearing a deal on a plan that would fund the government for 45 days, people familiar with the talks said. McCarthy would face a tough choice on whether to hold a vote on such a measure since House conservatives have vowed to oust him if he does. The discharge petition could be used to bring the Senate bill to a vote.

The House, which returns on Tuesday after a weekend break extended to mark Yom Kippur, has just five days before the shutdown deadline.

Given their narrow majority, only five Republicans must join with Democrats to bring it about. Thirty-two Republicans have already signed onto a bipartisan bill to fund the government through Jan. 11 and military provide aid Ukraine.

Representatives Mike Lawler Meanwhile, a bipartisan and Marc Molinaro, both New

York Republicans who repredoesn't play well in those dissent areas Democrat Joe Biden tricts," Doherty said. carried in the last presidential election, already have publicly threatened to join Democrats in such a petition, and other GOP moderates are ready to do

"Many of us are not in a position to support shutting the government down," Molinaro told reporters last week, as he sought to leverage the threat of a discharge petition to get conservatives to back a stopgap spending bill that included GOP border security demands.

Veteran New York political consultant Tom Doherty, a top aide to former three-term GOP Governor George Pataki, said it's "smart" for Lawler and Molinaro to support the maneuver

'Going outside the norm and shutting down the government

The discharge petition can be used to force a vote on that within nine "legislative days" when Congress is actually in session.

A discharge petition was last used to force a vote on a reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank over conservative objections in 2015. The rare maneuver was also deployed in 2002 to get a vote on campaignfinance legislation opposed by House Republican leaders.

McCarthy would be under heavy pressure from ultraconservatives to block a vote on reopening the government. Hardliners have privately threatened to oust him if temporary funding is approved through a discharge petition, a House GOP leadership official

Yet some of the tools to block blame for the shutdown.

politically risky.

Russ Vought, a former Donald Trump budget director who is advising hardliners, said in a social-media post that McCarthy could keep the House in recess to prevent the magic nine legislative days from being reached. But a break for lawmakers would be hard to defend while federal employees go without pay and government services are dis-

Representative Matt Gaetz of Florida, one of the Republican hardliners, threatened to travel to the district of any New York Republican who signs a discharge petition to campaign against them in their primar-

But Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist College Institute for Public Opinion in Poughkeepsie, said Gaetz's threat isn't likely deter to moderates such as the lawmakers in New York, where he doubts any farright Republican primary challenge would succeed.

"Republicans need these seats" to keep the majority, and it would be more difficult for the party to keep them with less centrist-minded candidates, Miringoff said. More valuable to the incumbents is the "bit of cover" a discharge petition provides against

## Dedicated

Continued from page 1 Council also heard from Griffin Schermer about plans to rehabilitate a trailer park at the east end of Ohio Street.

Schermer explained that he has been involved in projects with similar properties in Connersville, Bedford, Brazil and Westport. He said plans would call for cleaning out the current park, redoing the infrastructure and bringing in new trailers for rent.

Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins noted that the state license for the facility is lapsed and that Schermer wanted to seek support from city council before continuing through the process to get it renewed.

"It's not good right now, so you've only got one direction to go," said Jes-

Council gave its blessing for the project, with Robbins asking Schermer to keep him updated on the licensing process with the regarding the county's state. Jessup also suggested that council review its ordinances regarding trailer parks, with Schemenaur suggesting the process should begin with the local zoning board.

Council members also gave final approval of the \$2.74 million 2024 budget for the city.

It's up from \$2.05 million this year, though the bulk of the increase comes from federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act that are being spent on a detention pond and storm sewer project that is already underway. Removing those funds, the budget went up by about 8.7%.

In other business, coun-

•Set residential trick-ortreat hours for 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28. The city's Trunk or Treat event at Dunkirk City Park will be held during the same peri-

•Approved the following: a water bill adjustment of \$415.83 for 224 W. Pleasant St.; a donation of \$200 for

the Toys for Tots co-ed softball tournament Oct. 21 (last year's tournament brought in 8,000 toys); Jordan Wolford as a new member of the West Jay Community Center board; a \$500 sponsorship for Glass Days Inc. for downtown decorations; holding the city's Turkey Drop at 10 a.m. Nov. 18; paying claims totaling \$116,342.37; allowing clerk-treasurer Tina Elliott to seek a better interest rate on a \$195,987.10 CD for the sewage department; and hiring Winget's Tree Service of Dunkirk to put a new fence around the water tower for \$8,050. •Heard a request from

park board president Eva Kreps for a new fund for park improvement needs. Schemenaur will look into what needs to be done to create the new fund.

•Tabled discussion of the updated employee handbook at Bivens' request.

•Heard information owner-occupied rehabilitation program. The program is being funded with the \$1 million the county is receiving through Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs for being a part of the state's Hoosier **Enduring Legacy Program** (HELP) that assisted with planning for how to spend federal coronavirus relief funds through the American Rescue Plan Act. Kimball said the county is still working on approval for its application process from the state but that he is hopeful applications will be available in early October with the first round of projects to begin in January.

 Was reminded by Hamilton that visiting hours for former Dunkirk Police Chief Billy Meacham are from 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Dunkirk Church of the Nazarene with services to follow at 11 a.m. Thursday. Meacham died Friday at the age of 79.

•Canceled its Oct. 9 meeting. Council's next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Oct. 23.

# HEALTHCARE

# Foods to avoid when diagnosed with high cholesterol

The foods people eat are one of two main sources of cholesterol in the blood. Elevated levels of cholesterol have been linked to a host of negative outcomes, including atherosclerosis. heart attack, stroke, mini stroke (transient ischemic attack), and peripheral arterial disease.

The consequences of high cholesterol underscore the significance of a healthy diet and how important it is to avoid certain with high cholesterol. The Harvard Medical School notes foods high in saturated fat are especially worrisome, as they can elevate cholesterol and lead to weight gain. Individuals diagnosed with high cholesterol are urged to work with their physicians and, if possible, a nutritionist to create a diet that can help them get on a healthy track. In the meantime, the following are some foods to avoid after being diagnosed with high cholesterol.

Red meat



also pork, tends to be high in saturated fat. That's particularly so for hamburgers, ribs, pork chops, and roasts. Fish is a healthy alternative to red meat, but individuals who don't want to cut red meat out of their diets entirely should choose lean meats and consume them only on occasion in small portions (three ounces or less per serving).

Fried foods

Foods absorb cholesterol, saturated and trans fats during the frying process, which makes them unhealthy for anyone, but es-Harvard Medical School pecially people already di-

includes beef and lamb but terol. The Cleveland Clinic recommends baking instead of frying. Baking skinless chicken breasts and fries tossed in a small amount of olive oil is a healthy alternative to fried chicken and traditional French fries.

Baked goods Baked treats like cookies

and pastries are some additional high-cholesterol foods to avoid. Harvard Medical School notes that such foods are typically made with large amounts of butter and shortening. However, individuals who like to bake don't necessarily have to give up this beloved

hobby. The right substitutions can help to make baked goods safer treats for people with high cholesterol. Nutritionists and physicians may recommend certain butter substitutions, which may include Greek yogurt, applesauce and ba-

**Processed meats** 

Harvard Medical School notes that fatty cuts of meat tend to be used when making processed meats, which includes sausage, hot dogs one alternative bacon lovers have looked to as a healthy option over traditional bacon. However, the Cleveland Clinic notes that turkey bacon is high in saturated fat and sodium, neither of which is good for anyone, much less people diagnosed with high cholesterol.

Many people are diagnosed with high cholesterol as a result of the foods they eat. Avoiding various foods can help lower cholesterol levels and steer clear of the potentially deadly outcomes associated with high choles-

John Cascio, DDS



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# Capsule Reports

Continued from page 2 \$256,046.41 •Paid claims, the majority of which covered paving costs this year. The work came in at nearly \$11,000 under budget, and council agreed Thursday \$7.562.24 to Indiana Department of Transportation's Community Crossings program for the work.

#### **New BMV hours set** Indiana Bureau of Motor

Vehicles recently announced new hours that will go into effect Oct. 1.

The Portland branch of the Indiana BMV will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Hours for other nearby branches are as follows:

Hartford City — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thurs-

Winchester — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Bluffton − 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Fri-Decatur — 9 a.m. to 5

p.m. Monday through Fri-

day Muncie — 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and 9 a.m. to open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. 12:30 p.m. Saturday



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### **Comics**

# **Dave Coverly** SPEED BUMP SOMETIMES I CRINGE WHEN I LOOK BACK AT MY EARLY WORK.

# THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane 9-27 "You dribble, Daddy, and I'll shoot.'

#### Peanuts

Rose is Rose



PEPPERMINT PATTY THINKS SHE'S IN A PRIVATE SCHOOL...WHAT'S SOING TO HAPPEN WHEN SHE FINDS OUT SHE'S IN DOG TRAINING CLASSES ?











#### Agnes











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### The art of wishful thinking

South dealer North-South vulnerable. NORTH

♠ Q 3

♥ Q J 10 3

♠ A Q 10 4 WEST

**EAST ♦** 10 8 7 **♥** K 9 4 ♦96542 ♥85 **♣**A K O 5 3 SOUTH

AAKJ

VA762

♦ K J 7 ♣10 8 4 The bidding:
West Pass Pass

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

Many players find defense a disagreeable chore that is not nearly as stimulating as being the declarer. Despite this, the fact remains that defending well is more important in the long run than good declarer play, for the simple reason that you are ordinarily a defender twice as often as you are a declarer.

Assume you're East in today's deal and partner leads the jack of clubs against four hearts. You don't have to be an exceptional defender to overtake the jack with the queen and continue with the K-A of clubs. West discards a low spade on the third club, and the question is what you should do next.

Before attempting to answer this

question, you first try to analyze what you already know about South's hand based on the clues available thus far. You know from the play that declarer started with precisely three clubs, and you know from the bidding that he has four or five hearts.

You also know, or should know.

that South has the A-K of spades the ace of hearts and the king of the acc of hearts and the king of diamonds, plus at least another jack! How do you know this? Because South opened one notrump (at least 15 points) and has to have all of those cards to have a proper notrump opening.

Does this mean that you can't beat four hearts, since you can see that the finesse in that suit will work for declarer whenever he

work for declarer whenever he attempts it? You can't really answer that question at this point because it all depends on whether your partner has the eight of hearts!

And so, hoping for the best, you lead another club at trick four! This works out beautifully when your partner, bless him, ruffs with the eight of trump, forcing declarer to overruff with dummy's ten. As a result, you become certain to score a trump trick no matter how declarer proceeds, and the contract goes down one.

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9-27 **CRYPTOQUIP** 

JE Z VRHKC GE SBGSYB XBTB

AZYWJHF ZVGRA Z DBTFBZHA,

CB XGRYU VB ACB AGS-WJKW

GE UJDKRDDJGH.

gold

a back-

28 Vends

31 Italian

**33** Polite

cheese,

for short

address

feature

35 Mailbox

36 Private

pupil

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMOUS OLD SONG ABOUT A BIG STREAM OF WATER ALONG WHICH THOUSANDS OF COWS LIVE: "MOO RIVER."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals P

#### **CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS** DOWN 23 Suitable **38** "Top 1 "Water-1 Oaxaca 24 Sigma's follower loo" target water **40** "Uh-huh" 2 Smooch **25** In a aroup 41 Sharp 3 Erupted clever **5** Bear 4 Tack on tooth hair way 8 "Frozen" 43 Droid 5 Sondheim 27 Allen or Tebow snowman 45 Asian musical 12 Chasm

with the 29 Singer sultanate 13 Granada 47 Pass by song "I'm Rawls **51** Sub Still Here" 30 NASCAR 14 Ashen shop 6 Online sponsor 15 In a prac- 52 With glee address **32** Bullying

suffix

Tseng's

game

since

42 Action

**39** Yani

54 Compe-7 Partner bunch tical way 17 Victor's tent of Rolls 34 Steak 8 Narcotics 55 Unlock, orders cry in verse 9 By the 37 Chemical **18** Spinning

dizzily **56** Bosc. book 10 Oodles 19 Arts comfor one 57 Approving 11 Marshes panion

**21** Noon, on cheers **16** "The Haj" a clock **58** UFO author 22 Words to **20** ACLU 59 Perimeter

stabber **23** — glance Solution time: 22 mins. 26 Harden

1964 44 Hosiery shade 45 Party time. ESS STUNG briefly 46 Ms. ANNANCYMBALS McEntire ONTARIOTRAWL 48 Begged 49 Dross **50** Brontë heroine

concerns

53 Choose Yesterday's answer 9-27

#### 10 13 14 12 15 17 18 19 20 22 21 23 24 32 34 36 40 42 43 45 46 47 48 49 51 52 53 55 56 58 59

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## Attack

Continued from page 8 Newton took one point back when Fortkamp went for a hit from Bella Hall that was about to sail long. She made up for it on the next play with a kill from the back row on a broken play. That sparked a five-point point run when Pearson served up two aces in a row.

"We really just realized that power was something that we could get off this team," Pearson said. "They didn't have a strong blocker or like a strong player to go towards. So, we really just were able to just fullgo on anybody. That helped a lot.

Fort Recovery went on a massive run to start the third set to go up 10-1. From there, they cruised to the finish.

Newton's best set was the first, keeping the match close but they just couldn't string enough points in a row to develop the momentum required to take a lead.

"We just saw this as an opportunity to compete at a higher level, which we are excited about," Newton coach Danita Rapp said. "I'm not disappointed in the fact that I saw some new things from my team. I saw us kind of rise to the challenge, which is really what our biggest goal for tonight was.

Guggenbiller is pleased with how his team has bounced back after suffering two losses to ranked opponents. He hopes they will keep the energy, confidence and momentum as they take



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Kayla Heitkamp sets a ball during Fort Recovery's 25-17, 25-9, 25-13 win over Newton on Monday afternoon.

on Division III No. 3 St. said. "We want to peak Henry on Thursday.

right at the end of the "I see what I'm doing in season. So we're making practice being applied those steps towards that into the game, and that's right direction. The girls what you want every day, are playing really well as to see your growth within a team, and they're really the team," Guggenbiller fun to coach."

# **Stalls**

Continued from page 8 The Rams are 1-2 heading into Sunday's game against the Colts in Indianapolis.

It will be a short week for a team in desperate need of recovery time after left tackle Alaric Jackson and right guard Joe Noteboom left the game because of injuries.

Monday night's game was the first regular-season game between the teams since Super Bowl LVI, when the Rams hung on for a 23-20 victory at SoFi Stadium.

That win made the Rams' all-in, boomor-bust mentality pay off for owner Stan Kroenke. The goal, after all, is to win championships, not to be a perennial contender that falls short.

That victory, however, came with a cost. The Rams no longer employ stars such as receiver Odell Beckham Jr., edge rusher Von Miller, safety Eric Weddle, cornerback Jalen Ramsey and tackle Andrew Whitworth, to name a few.

After experiencing the worst Super Bowl hangover in NFL history in 2022, the Rams pulled back financially and traded, released or chose not to re-sign more than two dozen players, many of whom played pivotal roles in the Super Bowl run. Bengals safety Nick Scott was among them.

Whitworth was in attendance Monday for former Bengals stars Chad Johnson's and Boomer Esiason's induction into the team's Ring of Honor.

The Rams could have used him against a Bengals defensive line that features ends Trey Hendrickson and Sam Hubbard, especially after Jackson suffered a first half thigh injury and was replaced by Zachary Thomas..

Stafford completed 18 of 33 passes for 269 yards and a touchdown, with two interceptions.

The pregame drama centered on Burrow and the right-calf injury that has hampered him since training camp. Coach Zac Taylor had said it would be a game-time decision, but with the Bengals facing the prospect of a dreaded 0-3 start, it seemed inconceivable that a player they recently signed to a \$275 million extension would watch from the sidelines.

When the Bengals won the toss and elected to receive there was no waiting.

Taylor gave Burrow a limited playbook, however, one devoid of rollouts or anything that would force Burrow to move laterally. Instead, he got rid of the ball as

quickly as possible, which helped the Rams avoid having Ja'Marr Chase, Tee Higgins and Tyler Boyd running free in the secondary.

Burrow completed 17 of 31 passes for 144 yards in the first half but never appeared to really set his right foot to unleash passes. Many sailed high.

That changed midway through the third quarter.

Burrow found a rhythm and helped give the Bengals their first lead — and victory of the season. Burrow completed 26 of 49 passes for 259 yards, with one interception. Chase caught 12 passes for 141 yards, both totals more than he had in the first two weeks combined.

Evan McPherson kicked four field goals and Joe Mixon rushed for a touchdown.

The score was tied, 6-6, at halftime as neither team could manage anything other than a couple of field goals.

The Rams came out and moved down the field quickly on passes from Stafford to tight end Tyler Higbee and Williams. A facemask penalty against the Bengals helped the Rams move to the 21-yard line but a third down sack by Hendrickson forced the Rams to settle for another field goal and a 9-6 lead. Then Burrow seemed to come alive.

He connected with Chase, shook off a violent hit by Aaron Donald, found Chase two more times and then completed a pass

to Higgins before Mixon ran for a 14-yard touchdown and a 13-9 lead. Stafford answered with a 46-yard pass to Van Jefferson, but Wilson intercepted his

next pass at the 22 yard-line. Burrow's 43-yard pass to Chase helped set up another field goal, extending the

lead to seven points. Rams cornerback Ahkello Witherspoon's interception with just more than 10 minutes left positioned the Rams for a possible comeback but the Bengals sacked

Stafford twice, ending the threat. The Bengals added another field goal for a 19-9 lead before the Rams launched one final threat.

With 3:34 left, Stafford drove the Rams 61 yards and completed the drive with a oneyard touchdown pass to Tutu Atwell with 1:06 left. This was the Rams first thirddown conversion in 11 tries. But the Rams failed to recover the

onside kick, and the Bengals ran out the

## Sports on tap

#### Local schedule Today

Jay County — Boys tennis sectional semifinal vs. Winchester - 5 p.m.

### Thursday

Jay County — Boys tennis sectional championship – 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Muncie Central – 5 p.m.: Boys soccer vs. Liberty Christian - 5:30 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Heritage - 6 p.m.; Junior High

volleyball vs. Heritage - 5:30 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boys golf sectional at The Colonial Golfers Club – 8 a.m.; Volleyball vs. St. Henry - 5 p.m.; Middle school cross country at

**TV** sports

Coldwater – 5 p.m.; Middle school football at Marion Local – 5 p.m.

Today

6 p.m. -gers (BTN)

Thursday

7:30 p.m. — College football: Temple at Tulsa

- College volleyball: Maryland at Rut-

- College volleyball: Wisconsin at Ohio

8 p.m. — High school football: Thompson at 6 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Cleveland Clay-Chalkville (ESPN2)

Guardians (Bally Indiana)

### Local notes

Turkey Trot sign-up open Cooper Farms will be hosting its 16th annual Turkey Trot Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant in St. Henry, Ohio.

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Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Jay County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of Jay County Council at the Jay County Court House, at 6:00 o'clock p.m., on the 11th day of October, 2023 will consider the following additional appropriations in excess of the budget for the current year.

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Jay County Auditor

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www.thecr.com **The Commercial Review** Page 8

# Full force attack Rams offense

### FRHS spikers dominate Newton in three sets

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review FORT RECOVERY nights, everything goes your way.

Nearly everything was going right for Fort Recovery on Monday evening, as the team that oozed confievery aspect of the game.

The Division III No. 8 Fort Recovery High School volleyball team was riding a high after a victory over Division IV No. 9 Marion Local as they steamrolled the Newton Indians 25-17, 25-9, 25-13 on Monday.

Fort Recovery (10-2) was clicking on all cylinders, with a wide breadth of winning effort.

"It was a good game. It girls came out on a Monday," FRHS coach Travis Guggenbiller said. "It always gets you a little nervous when you have Homecoming on that Saturday and you start a game on a Monday. ... The girls just showed up really well today, and that's everyone. I mean, we had all 11 of our girls contribute in some way, and that's nice to see.'

Three players had six or more assists, five players had five or more kills, five players served aces and three blocked attacks.

Kennedy Muhlenkamp ran the offense as the setter for a large majority of Fort really nice job of finding set because they were out Recovery's rotations. The the hitters. ... We served of system."

ball often came to her while Fort Recovery was in system, allowing her to choose Some nights, things just between some of her harddon't go your way. Other er hitters like Teigan Fortkamp and Mara Pearson, or finding one of the middles like Paige Guggenbiller, Saige Leuthold or Karlie Niekamp. "It was nice. We changed

dence dominated almost the lineup so it gave me more options," Muhlenkamp said. "The passes were really good tonight and they were on fire. I know that wherever I get the ball, they're going to put it away.'

During the first set, Muhlenkamp and Kayla Heitkamp found their middles more often for soft kills over Newton's tall players contributing to the blocker, Sienna Mont-They gomery. found Leuthold three times and was nice to see how the Paige Guggenbiller and Niekamp twice. Muhlenkamp also had three kills when Heitkamp was out on the floor.

The second set was more dominated by Pearson (three) and Fortkamp (five) while in the third the ball was spread around some more.

Muhlenkamp ended with 15 assists and Heitkamp with 14. Fortkamp tallied the most kills with 12. Olivia Rupp led Newton with six.

"We just mixed the ball up really well today," Guggenbiller said. "I thought our setters did a one hitter that they could



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS senior Paige Guggenbiller goes up for a hit during the first set of Fort Recovery's 25-17, 25-9, 25-13 win over Newton on Monday. Guggenbiller totalled five kills with two in the first set and three in the third.

really aggressively today. We had eight aces but we had a lot of it where we only allowed them to have

and Kensey Gaerke all had two aces while Fortkamp and Cali Wendel each added one.

Fort Recovery really took control of the match in the

Muhlenkamp, Pearson second set. Newton (11-3) was hanging with Fort Recovery for a one-point set at 6-5 before Pearson took a big swing for a kill that sparked a four-point run.

See Attack page 7

# stalls against **Bengals**

By GARY KLEIN

Los Angeles Times Tribune News Service

CINCINNATI Last May, about 50 minutes from Paycor Stadi-Miami Ohio unveiled a statue of Rams coach Sean McVay.

McVay, who led the Rams to victory in Super Bowl LVI, was enshrined in the school's fabled Cradle of Coaches, an exclusive club of alums that features among others Super Bowl winners Weeb Ewbank and John Harbaugh.

On Monday night, McVay coached in Ohio for the first time since he and his trademark hair spike were immortalized in bronze.

And for much of the Rams game, the defense made injured Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Burrow look like a statue.

But Burrow found some footing in the second half and the Rams could not counter-punch in a 19-16 defeat before 66,158 and a "Monday Night Football" audience.

Rams quarterback Matthew Stafford had two passes intercepted by Bengals linebacker Logan Wilson, and he was sacked six times.

See **Stalls** page 7

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