

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

State gets grade of D

Redistricting process was 'secretive and partisan'

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana earned a "D" grade for its "secretive and partisan" lawmaker-led redistricting in a national Coalition Hub for Advance Redistricting & Grassroots Engagement (CHARGE) report released Thursday.

Indiana's General Assembly — dominated by Republican supermajorities in each chamber — approved new maps in October 2021. Shortly after, GOP Gov. Eric Holcomb signed them into law.

"Redistricting works best when people have influence over their voting districts," said Julia Vaughn, who leads elections watchdog Common Cause Indiana, in a news release Thursday.

"However, too many leaders in Indiana have prioritized their own interests over the will of the people, which is reflected in our grade," Vaughn continued. "Moving forward, it is critical that we not only make it easier for Hoosiers to make their voices heard in redistricting but also pass redistricting standards that make it more difficult for lawmakers to draw maps driven by political concerns instead of the public interest."

CHARGE said it conducted surveys and "hundreds of on-the-ground interviews" to create the 112-page report. The letter grades, it said, reflect interviewees' feedback.

See Grade page 2

Council OKs \$

Funding request moves on commissioners

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Jay County Baseball Club may be getting financial support from the county for its new building.

Jay County Council agreed Wednesday to contribute \$220,000 in wind farm economic development dollars toward the nonprofit organization's new facility, The Clubhouse.

The request for funds must also be approved by Jay County Commissioners, who next meet Oct. 23.

Members of the group's board of directors — Kyle Teeter, Adam Homan, Brady Johnson, Zack Wasson and Zac Green — pitched a request for funding to council members. Jay County Baseball Club members, including parents and children, filled more than half the seats in Jay County Courthouse's auditorium Wednesday in support of the project.

The group recently purchased a \$575,000 building on county road 500 West with a plan to renovate it into a turf sports facility. Plans shared in August included an office space, a golf simulator, a classroom area for teams and a main room with turf and six batting cages. Per the purchasing agreement, the club will gain access to the building Jan. 1.

Teeter explained that the turf will provide space for athletes who may otherwise not have a place to practice locally in the winter months, such as those who play soccer, baseball, football or golf.

Technology, equipment



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Members of Jay County Baseball Club filled about half of the seats in the Jay County Courthouse auditorium for Wednesday's Jay County Council meeting. Council approved \$220,000 in funding for the club's project to establish The Clubhouse, an indoor training facility for turf sports. The funding will now move on to Jay County Commissioners for their approval.

and labor to outfit the building was estimated to cost \$320,000. The group started a fundraising campaign for the project in August. (To donate, visit bit.ly/Clubhouse-Fundraiser.)

So far, according to a handout distributed by the group, it has raised \$185,000, with another \$35,000 pledged.

Teeter asked council on Wednesday to consider matching their funds at around \$200,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars, although he noted the group would be happy to receive any financial support. He said it would be a one-time request to pay for equipment needed to make the facility operational.

"We would sure love it if you guys would consider getting on our team and getting this done," said Teeter. "Putting something positive in our community. Something that these kids are going to benefit from. It's not

about making All Stars and Major League Baseball players. It's about developing young kids to be good citizens and have things here that they want to come back (to)."

Johnson pointed out high costs to take children to turf facilities outside Jay County. One in four children live in poverty in Jay County, he noted, and he advocated the facility will provide the opportunity for those children to have the same opportunities as others.

Council member Cindy Bracy asked how the group plans to make its facility affordable to lower-income families.

According to the general cost structure listed in the group's handout, family memberships for one cage come to \$100 for one month, \$200 for three months, \$280 for six months or \$350 for one year. (For an individual, it's set at \$40, \$100, \$180 and \$300, respectively.) Non-member prices are

listed at \$30 per hour for a standard cage.

Homan noted the facility has to pay off the \$420,000 loan it took in order to purchase the building. Funding from travel teams in other counties and other groups utilizing The Clubhouse should help, he added.

"This is with our current loan structure for us to be able to operate," said Homan. "Our goal is to impact our community, and so if we can raise more money and help bring down the cost of the building and the cost of the loan and take that out of our budget, we will do this much cheaper for the kids."

Teeter noted the facility could draw groups from folks in Randolph, Adams, Wells and Blackford counties as well as Mercer County, Ohio.

Bracy asked if the group has sought funding from Jay School Corporation. Teeter noted they

don't plan to ask the schools for help. The goal, he explained, is to build a facility with an open schedule.

"It would be at a disadvantage to have them run it," he said. "They would be in control of the way we could use it, how we could use it, the hours in which it could be used. It wouldn't be beneficial for these kids."

Houchins told the group county attorney Wes Schemenaur, who wasn't present for Wednesday's meeting, suggested any funding for the project come from economic development payments received from Bitter Ridge Wind Farm.

Council member Harold Towell noted his coaching background, referencing many of the adults in the auditorium as previous players on his teams.

"This program out here is probably 30 years past due," he said.

See Council page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Story response

Four-year-old Perci Hartman responds to a question during family story time Tuesday morning at Jay County Public Library in Portland. The next family story time at the library is scheduled for 10 a.m. Oct. 24.

China urged to step in

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Israel's ambassador to China called on Beijing to leverage its close relationship with Iran to rein in Hamas, saying the Asian giant needed to be engaged in talks around the conflict.

"We really hope China can be much more involved in talking to its close partners in the Middle East and particularly Iran," Irit Ben-Abba told Bloomberg TV in an interview Thursday. "Iran is definitely very much involved in what has happened."

Ben-Abba's remarks come as China's willingness to entangle itself in some of the region's most intractable conflicts has come under scrutiny. A U.S. senator confronted President Xi Jinping this week about his government's failure to condemn the surprise Oct. 7 strike by Hamas on Israel that killed hundreds of civilians.

While China's Foreign Ministry later said it was

Ambassador pushes for Beijing to use its influence to help rein in Hamas

"saddened" by the casualties, Beijing hasn't criticized Hamas in its statements, only saying that the Asian country is a "friend to both" sides of the conflict.

In a regular press briefing on Thursday, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said three Chinese nationals had been killed and several others injured in the attacks, without elaborating on the circumstances.

While Tehran is a known backer of Hamas, Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei has denied his country was involved in the strike.

China until recently didn't have a record of negotiating peace deals. That changed when in March it helped broker a tentative detente between Iran and Saudi Arabia, after years of diplomatic deadlock between the historic rivals. The deal marked a departure from Beijing's long-stated reluctance to involve itself in foreign disputes.

Zhai Jun, Beijing's special envoy on Middle East issues, is expected to speak to Israeli officials on Thursday, according to Ben-Abba. That will mark China's first public contact with the Israelis since the conflict broke out.

Deaths

Tom Hough, 92, rural Geneva
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 68 degrees Wednesday. The low was 37. Rain is expected tonight with a low in the mid 50s. More rain is expected Saturday with temperatures steady in the upper 50s. More rain is possible Saturday night. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — Repairs are underway at Salamonia Schoolhouse.

Tuesday — Results from Saturday's cross country sectional meet.



Council ...

Continued from page 1
He commended the group for its choice to run the facility without the school system's financial assistance, and he made a motion to contribute \$220,000 in wind farm economic development dollars toward the project.
Council members Faron Parr, Randy May and Towell voted in favor of the request. Council members Matt Minnich and Bracy dissented, both noting they would prefer to at first approve a lesser amount, such as around \$125,000. Dave Haines was absent.
Also Wednesday, council approved the county's 2024 budget, with Towell in opposition.
Next year's total budget sits at just under \$22.5 million, up by

nearly \$1.64 million for the current year. It includes \$10.7 million in the general fund, which increased about \$1 million from this year's general fund total.
Other major fund totals are listed at \$3.32 million for Jay County Commissioners, \$3 million for Jay County Highway Department — the department also had an additional \$1.85 million from the state in the Local Motor Vehicle Highway restricted fund — \$1.85 million for Jay Emergency Medical Service, \$1.76 million for Jay County Jail and \$1.29 million for Jay County Sheriff's Office.
Increases to next year's budget are largely because of inflation, raises and small changes across

the budget. Around \$500,000 of the increase is designated for raises.
Towell voted in opposition because he disagreed with several choices made during the budgeting process.
Also Wednesday, council:
•Made the following additional appropriations: \$24,970 for the health bioterrorism grant, an annual grant given to Jay County Health Department, \$25,000 for the truck and tractor repair fund for Jay County Highway Department, \$11,422 for firearms with Jay County Sheriff's Office and \$840 for pauper counsel
•Transferred the following: \$5,001 for holiday pay and trucks in the Jay County Surveyor's Office budget, \$1,500 for transla-

tor wages in Jay County Superior Court's budget, \$4,500 for part-time registrar wages in Jay County Health Department's budget, \$24,500 for employer health insurance in Jay County Highway Department's budget and \$6.67 for medical and hospital costs in Jay County Correction's budget
•Approved Scout Clean Energy's compliance forms for Bitter Ridge Wind Farm's tax abatement. Houchins noted the company had not been paying its county property taxes but that taking it to court in an effort to recoup those funds would be costly. Scout will be sent a bill for last year and this year's taxes, county auditor Emily Franks confirmed.

Obituaries

Tom R. Hough, rural Geneva in Bearcreek Township, Jay County, Sept. 8, 1931-Oct. 10, 2023. Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 N. Washington St., Geneva.
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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

Saturday 10/14	Sunday 10/15	Monday 10/16	Tuesday 10/17	Wednesday 10/18
60/44	54/39	53/40	54/39	58/43
Rain is expected Saturday with an 80% chance of showers and a low around 44 degrees.	There's a 20% chance of showers on Sunday. Overnight, the low may dip to 39 degrees.	Monday's forecast shows a 20% chance of rain during the day under mostly cloudy skies.	There's a chance of rain Tuesday. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high of 54.	Wednesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high of 58 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball 22-24-40-52-64 Power Ball: 10 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Daily Four: 6-0-4-1 Quick Draw: 6-9-16-19-23-27-30-34-40-46-49-50-52-55-59-62-65-67-75-77 Cash 5: 2-3-13-22-30 Estimated jackpot: \$341,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$48 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 8-2-0 Pick 4: 7-8-7-6 Pick 5: 5-3-2-6-9 Evening Pick 3: 6-7-1 Pick 4: 3-8-0-7 Pick 5: 1-6-5-1-1 Rolling Cash: 6-15-17-23-38 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 3-6-2 Daily Four: 8-5-9-7 Quick Draw: 5-8-11-16-19-23-24-25-28-34-38-41-49-51-52-53-59-61-68-77 Evening Daily Three: 6-6-6	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.43 Oct. corn4.90 Wheat4.99	Dec. beans12.88 Wheat 4.85
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.43 Oct./Nov. corn4.83 Dec. corn4.93	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.67 Nov. corn4.72 Beans12.52 Nov. beans12.62 Wheat5.29
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.71 Dec. corn4.82 Beans12.46	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....5.38 Oct./Nov. corn4.83 Beans12.28 Nov. beans12.36 Wheat4.80

Today in history

In 1792, the cornerstone of the White House was laid. President George Washington had announced the permanent location of the new capital in early 1791, and he and French city planner Pierre Charles L'Enfant selected the site for the residence.
In 1972, Joe Lloyd won the individual title and led Redkey High School to the team championship at the Jay County cross country meet. Lloyd won the 2.5-mile race at Portland Country Club in 13 minutes, 19 seconds by 11 seconds over Bryant's Ron Grogg.
In 1988, carbon dating showed the Shroud of Turin dates to the Middle Ages. For centuries it had been purported to be the burial garment of Jesus.
In 2021, Jay County Council gave preliminary approval to tax abatements for the Lee-ward Renewable Energy's Rose Gold Solar and Scout Clean Energy's Sun Chief Solar.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council work session, village hall, 201 S. Main St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Tuesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works special meeting, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	

Grade ...

Continued from page 1
Indiana was one of 13 states to earn a "D," "D+" or "D-." Eight had "F"s.
"It's undeniable that manipulation of voting districts for political advantage is a direct threat to the health of our democracy," said Dan Vicuña, national redistricting director for the nationwide Common Cause.
"However, that threat doesn't derive from which party is up or down at a given moment," he said. "It derives from the slicing and dicing of communities into districts in ways that make it impossible for their residents to have an effective voice in Congress, state legislatures and local government."
Hoosier lawmakers and their advisers draw up congressional and state legislative districts through bills. Indiana Code includes a seldom-used politician commission as backup should the General Assembly deadlock.
Independent redistricting com-

missions with strong conflict-of-interest protections are a gold standard for CHARGE.
The report declared Indiana's maps a "clear partisan gerrymander" given the state's Republican trifecta.
"Fair maps advocates faced an uphill struggle to make their voices heard," the report said. "The legislature ultimately drew and passed maps that focused primarily on maximizing the number of districts that Republicans would win."
It said lawmakers "erected structural barriers" that hindered public participation: few redistricting hearings, meetings during weekdays, on already-completed proposals.
But Hoosiers showed up in large numbers, the report noted, credit- ing organizers for building voters into a "much greater and more vocal presence than before."
And they won some victories, according to the report.
The 2011 maps fractured a Fort

Wayne apartment complex between four Indiana House Districts and halved the town of Greencastle into two Indiana Senate districts. The 2021 maps addressed both.
The report additionally highlighted the Indiana Citizens Redistricting Commission, created by Hoosier reform coalition All IN for Democracy. The group included equal numbers of Democrats, Republicans and independents, and implemented conflict-of-interest restrictions to bar "political insiders and their close relatives" from serving as commissioners.
They took public input to establish district-drawing criteria, then led a public mapping contest and selected winners to propose to lawmakers.
"Although the redistricting process run by the General Assembly was secretive and partisan, this organizing engaged the public in the mapmaking process and prevented some communities from being split," the report said.

Felony arrests

Drug possession
Two Portland residents were arrested Tuesday on drug possession charges.
Steven L. Rowles, 29, and Nicole R. Stone, 33, both of 805 E. Votaw St., were preliminarily charged with a Level 4 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 felony for possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug, a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance, a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.
Rowles and Stone were each being held on \$22,500 bonds at Jay County Jail.

Capsule Reports

Trapped in
A Dunkirk man lost control of his vehicle along county road 300 South, causing it to hit several trees and him to become trapped in his car about 6:20 a.m. Monday.
Curt J. Nelson, 51, Dunkirk, told police he was driving east on county road 300 South when a deer ran in front of his 2006 Ford Taurus. He swerved to miss the animal and lost control of his vehicle, causing it to go off the east side of the road and spin onto its side before hitting some trees in a wooded area.
Nelson was trapped in his vehicle, but he said he had no injuries and refused medical assistance, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. Dunkirk Fire Department and rescue team removed Nelson from his vehicle, which was towed.
Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

SERVICES
Monday
Hough, Tom: 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Service listings provided by
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BSU hosts textile exhibit

Ball State University is hosting a first-of-its-kind exhibit. "Fibers of Being: Textiles from Asia in the David Owsley Museum of Art's Collection" is on display through Dec. 21.

The exhibit features textiles translocated from Asia to the United States. Many garments involved in the exhibit have not been displayed for the public since the 1930s.

"This exhibition offers visitors a rare chance to view these exquisite pieces that, because of their fragility and sensitivity to light, can only be displayed for a limited time," said Noelle Giuffrida, the museum's associate curator of Asian art, in a press release. "I encourage visitors to discover how textiles tell stories about the cultural traditions and social lives of makers and wearers across Asia."

The museum is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

Mammograms

Adams Memorial Hospital is hosting Mamography Night celebrating women's health Oct. 23.

The hospital's radiology department will host the event from 4 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 23, featuring a 3-D screening mammogram tailored to women who haven't had the procedure in the past three years or at Adams Memorial Hospital. Refreshments, gifts, and free back massages will also be offered by Deb Barron to those attending. Those who have not had a mammogram at the hospital

Taking Note

before and who qualify financially will receive the test at no cost.

To schedule a mammogram, call the AMH central scheduling department at (260) 724-2145.

Hunting safety

Stay safe during hunting season.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources recently shared some tips to stay safe during deer hunting seasons, which run through Jan. 31.

Prior to hunting, the DNR recommends:

- Reading and understanding the tree stand manufacturer's instructions
- Checking tree stands and equipment for wear
- Practicing tree stand use and setup at ground level

During the hunt, it recommends wearing a full-body safety harness, using a safety rope and making sure firearms are unloaded and the safety is on prior to attaching them to a haul line. Hunters are also reminded to carry a cell phone and flashlight, make a plan before hunting and sharing it with others, and identifying game before pointing a firearm.

To learn more information about hunting precautions, visit hunting.IN.gov.

Diabetes prevention

Adams Memorial Hospital is offering a new series of diabetes prevention classes later this month.

"Prevent Type 2 Diabetes" is a part of the National Diabetes Prevention Program led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. According to a press release from the Decatur hospital, the class features an approach proven to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes, which can lead to various life-threatening conditions. (One out of three American adults have pre-diabetes.) Adjusting food choices and physical activity can help cut the risk nearly in half in those diagnosed with pre-diabetes, the release says.

Evening classes begin Oct. 25, and day time classes begin Oct. 26 at Adams Memorial Hospital in Conference Room D, previously the Geneva Room.

To register, call registered nurse, certified diabetes educator and life coach Lisa McAfee at (260) 724-2145.

Arts Place concerts

Summer 2023 is gone but plans are already in the works for 2024 concerts.

Arts Place is accepting proposals for performances for its 2024 concert series at the Hudson Family Park amphitheater.

The organization is planning to hold performances from July through October, 2024. Proposals can be submitted by visiting bit.ly/APsummer2024.

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

Cat has worn out its welcome

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-law, "Irma," is a peach — she's the sweetest person in the world. She will do anything for anyone to lend a helping hand. Two weeks ago, she fell and broke her femur, which resulted in a hospital stay and rehabilitation. My wife and I have been taking care of her house and managing all her other daily tasks while she recovers, but one of these has become an issue.

Irma has an old, needy, unfriendly cat ("Mehitabelle") we have taken into our home. She hisses and growls at me and won't allow me to give her medication, which is required twice daily. Irma loves her cat and asks about her often.

We have two cats of our own, so we created a home for Mehitabelle in an upstairs bedroom in an effort to keep all the cats in the house amicable. My wife and I have managed this so far, but things have grown dramatically worse.

Mehitabelle also refuses to use her litter box. We have set pads around the litter box and throughout the room, but it's still a terrible mess to clean up every day and takes more than an hour. That cat has single-handedly ruined this section of our house by urinating all over the floors and

Dear Abby



furniture. We have a beautiful home we've worked hard on, and it really hurts to see the animal ruin things. She has to go, as I see it, but Mom loves her cat. What do we do? — "FELINE" BAD IN MISSOURI

DEAR "FELINE" BAD: Mehitabelle doesn't appear to like living with you any more than you like having her as a houseguest. If your mother-in-law's home is close enough to yours that you could go there once a day, you might all be happier if the kitty was returned to her own territory rather than staying at your place. If you or your wife could arrange to give Mehitabelle her meds once a day and find someone else willing to see that she gets her second dose, the situation might be workable until your mother-in-law is released. Please consider it. It may save your sanity.

Community Calendar

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

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

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.

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.

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-

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

Monday

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

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

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

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 accepted.

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

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

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

Tuesday

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

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

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

GAMMA ALPHA CHAPTER OF PSI IOTA XI — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 17, at the Disabled American Veterans building. For more information, call Jane E. Switzer at (260) 726-2626.

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

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

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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

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Thank you for supporting concerts

To the editor:
We are writing to express our heartfelt gratitude to our wonderful community for its tremendous support of the recent concerts held at the Hudson Family Park Amphitheater as part of the Hudson Family Park Amphitheater Concert Series.

The success of these events would not have been possible without the generous contributions, enthusiastic attendance and unwavering support of our residents.

The Hudson Family Park amphitheater served as the perfect backdrop for two memorable evenings of music and entertainment. On Aug. 24, we were serenaded by the Motown

Letters to the Editor

Sounds of Touch despite the heat. And, on Sept. 14, The New Frontiers: Journey Tribute Band took the stage on a perfect, almost-fall evening. Families, friends and neighbors gathered at this picturesque venue to thoroughly enjoy the performances.

I would like to extend a special thank you to our sponsors, The City of Portland and The Portland Foundation, whose

support was instrumental in making these concerts a reality.

The dedication and hard work of the performance committee, including Ray Cooney, Ramon Loucks, Rusty Inman, Tami Kaufman, Emily Hull, Sarah Lingo, Shawnda Roussey and Carolyn Carducci, were invaluable in ensuring the success of these events. Their expertise and passion for bringing the arts to our community shone brightly.

Our thanks also go out to Matt Shauver, the park manager, for his assistance and cooperation in organizing these concerts. We extend our appreciation to Jay County Sheriff's Office for stepping up to help the performers unload their equipment and Jay

County Wrestling Club for handling the tear-down efforts for the performers, ensuring that they could leave in a timely manner. Your contributions were instrumental in making these concerts a resounding success.

A special mention must also be made for our local businesses that stepped up to enhance the concert experience. Yergy's BBQ and The Scoop Station and their contributions were enjoyed by all, adding to the overall enjoyment of the evenings.

In a world that often seems divided, events like these remind us of the incredible strength and generosity of our community. The Hudson Family Park Amphitheater Concert Series was a testament to the

spirit of togetherness and solidarity that defines our town.

Once again, thank you to everyone who played a part in making these concerts a tremendous success. Our community's support is truly something to be proud of.

We are excited to announce that we look forward to next year's summer performances and we anticipate adding more dates to the calendar. Stay tuned for more music and entertainment in our beautiful amphitheater.

Sincerely,
Laura Pieper
LeeAnn Miller
Co-chairs
Arts Place performance committee

Poverty data is a wake-up call

By SHAILLY GUPTA BARNES
OtherWords

Shailly Gupta Barnes



This fall, the Census Bureau released new poverty data showing a stunning reversal in economic security over the course of last year. The findings included a record jump in the Supplemental Poverty Measure just one year after hitting a record low. Child poverty doubled.

Some 12.4% of Americans were poor last year, according to that measure. But when you crunch the numbers fully, the number of poor and low-income people in this country rose to more than 135 million. That's over 40% of the nation's population.

If this sounds like a bigger number than we usually hear about, that's because it is.

The 135 million figure includes everyone living below the poverty line and everyone living precariously right above it. We need to pay attention to this bigger number for two reasons: First, it shows that poverty is more widespread than the official numbers reflect. And second, it shows what measures can be taken to address poverty once and for all.

To be counted as "poor," a household's income must fall below a certain threshold. For an adult under the age of 65, that's just over \$15,000. For a two-adult, two-child household, it's just under \$30,000.

These numbers are absurdly low. They mean that someone earning \$20,000 wouldn't be considered poor, nor would a family with an income of \$40,000 — even though just one medical emergency, car accident, climate disaster, or lay-off would push those households into financial ruin.

To get a better sense of economic insecurity in the nation, researchers often look at everyone whose incomes fall both below those thresholds and right above them. This broadens the count from 40 million people who are "poor" to 135 million people who are "poor or low-income," just one emergency away from economic despair.

That number includes Americans of every color. But the racial disparities are stark.

While nearly half (61.8 million) of those 135 million were white, other groups faced much higher rates of hardship. Under this definition, some 60% of Latinos (38 million), 54% of Black non-Latinos (22.5

million), and 58% of American Indian or Alaskan Natives (2.3 million) were poor or low-income.

Being poor can have life-threatening consequences. According to research from the University of California, Riverside, poverty was the fourth leading cause of death in 2019, accounting for between 500 and 800 deaths a day. This was before the pandemic wrought even greater havoc on poor communities.

Only when we appreciate the breadth and depth of this insecurity can we develop the appropriate social and policy response. As Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote in 1967, "the prescription for the cure rests on an accurate diagnosis of the disease."

Here too, the Census Bureau's SPM report is illuminating.

It shows the impact of government programs like Social Security, stimulus payments, unemployment insurance, and the expanded Child Tax Credit on poverty and economic hardship. In 2021, those programs brought the poor and low-income population down from 139 million to 112 million.

As many of those programs expired in 2021, those numbers increased by 20 percent in 2022 to 135 million.

In short, after a stunning experiment in reducing poverty through pandemic relief programs, we're seeing a return to pre-pandemic conditions — when millions of people were facing eviction, hunger, low wages, and health crises, and when wealth inequality was at historic highs.

For poor and low-income people, this isn't new news. It's a reminder that the nation's return to "normal" comes at the expense of their lives and well-being.

For policymakers, this should be a wake-up call. We know what works — now let's do it.

.....
Barnes is the policy and research director for the Kairos Center for Religions, Rights, and Social Justice.

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War highlights dysfunction

By MICHAEL LEPPERT
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Michael Leppert



As news of the horrific attacks in Israel by Hamas began reaching us on Saturday morning, I wondered how long it would take for the political machines in America to begin making it all about us. The clarity to my wonder came quickly. It was almost immediate.

At 11:03 a.m. on Saturday is when I saw the beginning of how the debate will likely be shaped. This is when 2024 presidential candidate, Nikki Haley, posted this comment: "This is not just an attack on Israel—this was an attack on America." She went on to give her advice to embattled Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with this: "Finish them."

But wait, former Vice President Mike Pence is still a 2024 presidential candidate too. How could a Hoosier forget? He was actually quicker out of the gate than Haley. At 9:56 a.m. on Saturday, he posted: "This is what happens when (President Joe Biden) projects weakness on the world stage..." Pence was quicker, but his campaign is less relevant than Haley's, but not by much.

Oh yes, the American president, whoever they are and whenever they are in office, is ultimately responsible for whatever happens in this seemingly never-ending conflict. Is there a president whose term featured meaningful peace in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in the last 50 years? Saturday's attacks come one day after the 50-year anniversary of the start of the Yom Kippur War in 1973.

The violence has ebbed and flowed there since that bloody conflict, but I don't recall there being a resolution, an agreed upon end to the conflict, or even an acknowledgment from either side of the other's right to exist. The winner in this multi-generational conflict has been the conflict itself. The events of the weekend are more catastrophic than any before it. The intelligence failures are immense.

But the hostilities between the parties have never waned.

In the U.S., the president speaks and acts on our behalf. President Biden's response is what most in the world would expect, reassuring ongoing American support for Israel. No, he didn't say things like "finish them." Good. Presidents shouldn't use that kind of rhetoric so cavalierly.

What is important is that the Biden administration was prepared to respond. While political opponents were mean-Tweeting, the president was on the phone with Netanyahu. By early afternoon, he was announcing to the world that we would support exactly who we always have, and exactly how we have always done it. Good.

Two miles away, just up the hill, the U.S. Capitol sat largely empty. It was Saturday after all. But the building was even more empty than almost any other Saturday. The House of Representatives is inoperable, functionally and legally unable to govern. The body does not have a Speaker. Without one, the House cannot meaningfully participate in the American response to the war in Israel.

Just days before now-former Speaker Kevin McCarthy's ouster last Thursday, an action that has never occurred before in American history, Congress passed a 45-day continuing resolution to fund the government and avoid a shutdown. An important part of the "CR" included a defunding of the American support for another ally's fight for its life, Ukraine.

This CR expires on Nov. 17, a deadline that was the primary source of

pressure on House Republicans to become a responsible, governing coalition again. Just days into that short term and inadequate CR, another ally in need is at war.

The rhetoric coming from this caucus is shameful noise. I don't want to hear critiques from them about anyone or anything. They have voluntarily taken themselves out of the governing process. They can't fund additional Israeli support. They can Tweet themselves silly, but they aren't contributing to America's actual response.

In the Senate, Senator Tommy Tuberville has indicated he plans to continue his blockade of military promotions. Makes sense. The Israeli war is important, but not that important to him.

"We need an Ambassador to Israel and a Chief of Naval Operations," said U.S. Sen. Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii) as reported by The Hill. President Biden nominated Jack Lew for the ambassadorship last month, and the Navy post has been unfilled since August. Admiral Lisa Franchetti has been nominated to fill it, but her promotion is being held up by Tuberville.

Politics and scores of misinformation aside, our government is how America speaks, acts and advocates for allies in times of war. We don't make meaningful contributions on the global stage through pithy little social media quips, we do it by governing.

Most importantly, the GOP has engaged in an unscheduled and predictably messy transfer of power. Every member of that caucus needs to be quiet until it recovers from its own, self-inflicted meaninglessness.

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

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

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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, neither side vulnerable, and the bidding has gone:
West North East South
3♦ 3♠ 4♦ ?
What would you bid with:
♠5♥AKQ108♦8♣KQ8743

There were 10 votes for Four Hearts; nine for Five Clubs; three for Five Diamonds; three for Four Notrump; four for Double. There were no votes for Six Hearts, Six Clubs or Five Hearts, which were alternative possibilities. Here are some of the comments offered by the panelists:
Jack Ehrlichbach: Five clubs. Hoping to get my hearts in over five diamonds.
Edgar Kaplan: Five clubs. When in doubt, bid your longest suit. And I'm in doubt.
Bobby Wolff: Four hearts. Nothing else is remotely in the ballpark.
Theodore Lightner: Four hearts. There is often no satisfactory action after a pre-empt. Amen.
Marshall Miles: Double. I'm probably settling for 300, and we probably have a game. But where? It is possible we have a slam, but there is no logical way to investigate it.
Alvin Roth: Four notrump. I'm only guessing. There is a good chance that partner has two aces; if so, I plan on bidding six clubs. If partner has only one ace, I'll bid five hearts. How come that in real life I have never had this type of problem?

Many years ago, The Bridge World magazine, which polls top experts each month on a variety of bidding problems, presented this one to its distinguished panel with the following results:

NORTH
♠AQ10932
♥732
♦A5
♣A10

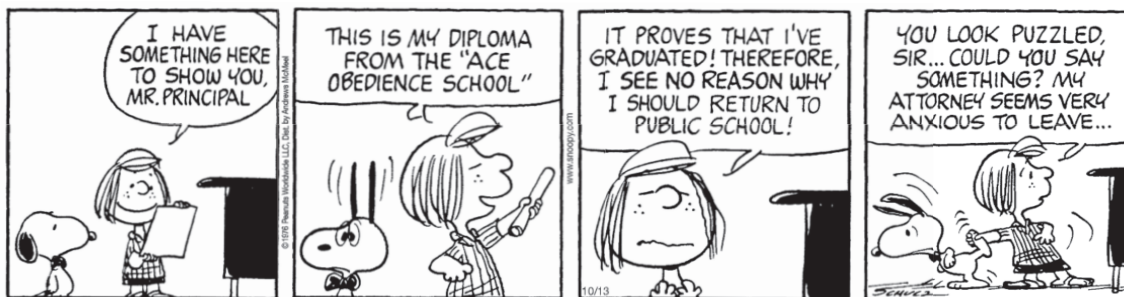
WEST
♠K84
♥9
♦K97432
♣95

EAST
♠J76
♥J654
♦J106
♣J62

SOUTH
♠5
♥AKQ108
♦8
♣KQ8743

Tomorrow: Never say die.
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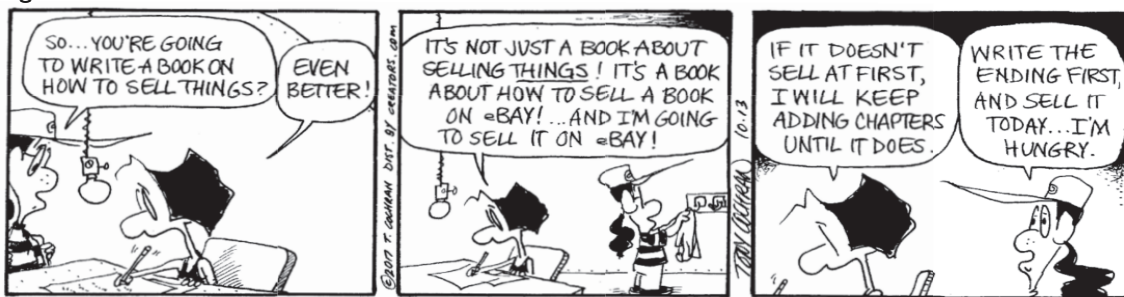
Peanuts



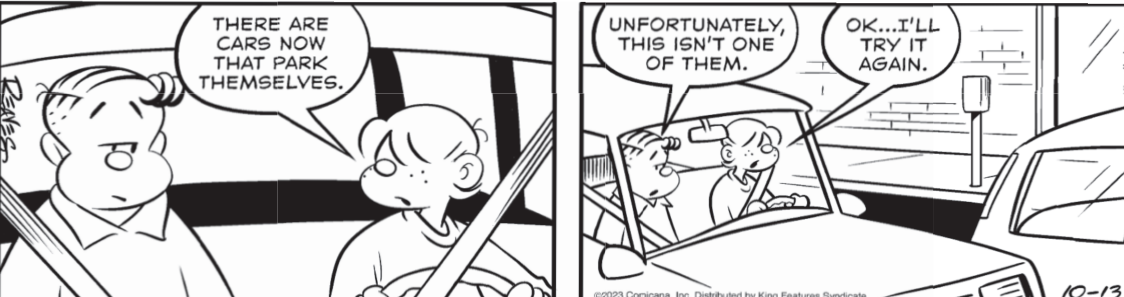
Rose is Rose



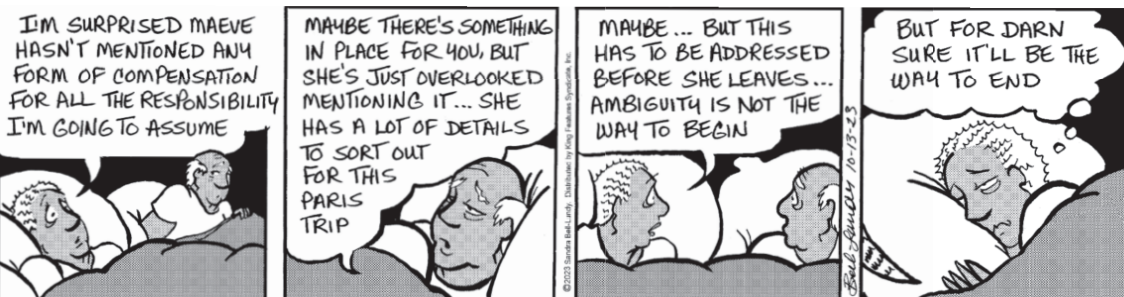
Agnes



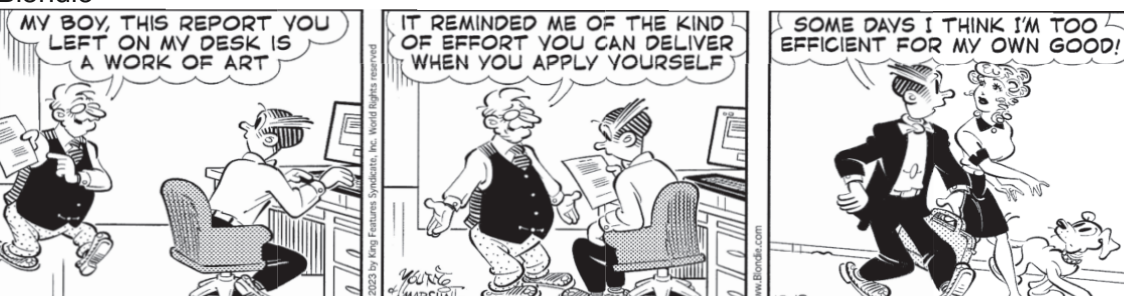
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



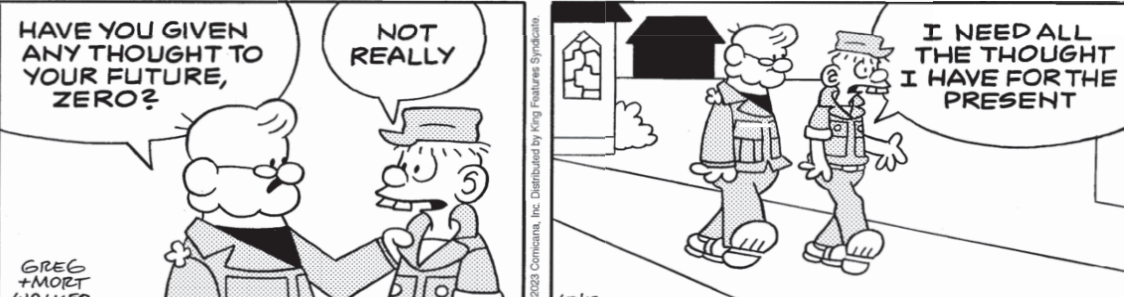
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



10-13 CRYPTOQUIP

NBAMY QBLH HU XJVYA LEBPY
WXAQYO WAXQ VCHUML LJPC
BL EXVBVXYL, EBLVB BUO

AHPY: PBAI UYIJB.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN FILM CENSORS ARE TICKLED PINK FROM THEIR JOBS, WHAT ARE THEY DOING? BLEEPING FOR JOY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals S

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Shriver of tennis
4 Flow out
7 Trumpet part
12 Actress Thurman
13 Middling grade
14 Thai or Viet-name
15 Photo, for short
16 Traditional plum pudding topping
18 — tizzy
19 Belly button type
20 Depths
22 "That'll be — day!"
23 Mediocre
27 Weep
29 Like ocean water
31 Wander off
34 "Skyfall" actress Judi
35 Inflatable mattress
37 Fed. office supplier

DOWN
1 Student
2 Acid type
3 Showy parrot
4 Reverberate
5 Pulchritude
6 Docking place
7 Bud holder
8 Solid-rock insert
9 Lucy of "Kill Bill"
10 Rug cleaner, briefly
11 Compass dir.
17 Conks out
21 Union foes
23 Dreary
24 Architect Maya
25 Mandela's org.
26 Devilish laugh
28 Reuben bread
30 TV spots
31 "Cheers" bartender
32 Uncle (Sp.)
33 Train lines (Abbr.)
36 Erte's style
37 Adorned
40 Island off Venezuela
42 Like Cheerios
43 Royal crown
44 Distend
45 Doc's "Now!"
46 Clarified butter
48 Drench, in dialect
49 Sound of surprise
50 Corpulent
51 Prefix with athlete

Solution time: 25 mins.

PAW	PALE	MIRA			
AGO	ALAI	IGOR			
CARD	GAME	NEAT			
	DUE	BIZARR			
RIGORS	OER				
IRA	SOX	DEGAS			
COMP	BEG	TOLL			
KNEES	SAC	OSU			
	RHO	HOTDOG			
RECTORS	NAG				
AREA	MIND	GAME			
DIDI	ANNO	MAW			
SEEN	NEWS	EYE			

Yesterday's answer 10-13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16			17				
18			19							
20		21		22			23	24	25	26
		27	28			29	30			
31	32	33					34			
35				36		37				
38				39	40		41	42	43	44
				45			46		47	
48	49	50	51						52	
53						54			55	
56						57			58	

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Farm bill stalled amid speaker battle

By ASHLEY MURRAY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

WASHINGTON — As Congress faces another pressing deadline to fund the government and the U.S. House grinds to a halt without a speaker, the reauthorization of the nation's agriculture and hunger programs has taken a back seat.

But lawmakers tasked with shepherding the new version maintain their progress is "in good shape."

The previous farm bill expired Sept. 30 and its renewal, a process that occurs every five years, remains "in the drafting stage," said Sen. John Boozman, the Arkansas GOP lawmaker and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

"I know myself and Senator Stabenow, our teams are working together to try and get ideas in the text. And so we're moving forward," Boozman told reporters Wednesday.

Stabenow of Michigan chairs the committee.

"It's been difficult because the appropriations process has kind of sucked all the wind out. But we're in good shape. We don't need an extension until the first of the year. If we do need an extension, I think we'll be looking in the November time frame as we do the CR."

The CR, or continuing resolution, is the funding compromise Congress struck last weekend just hours before a partial government shutdown. The temporary spending measure expires Nov. 17.

The farm bill and long-term government funding are completely different processes, but GOP House majority infighting over appropriations has stalled other priorities.

And, with the ouster of former House Speaker and California Republican Kevin McCarthy by a handful of far-right party members and all



USDA/Lance Cheung

Rows of soybean plants grow in the fields at Seidenstricker Farms, owned by Robert and Cathy Seidenstricker, in De Valls Bluff, Arkansas, on June 25, 2019.

House Democrats, the lower chamber is frozen.

"As with every Farm Bill, there are forces and circumstances out of our control. What is always a complicated process has become a little more complicated, but our work continues to produce an effective Farm Bill," Pennsylvania GOP Rep. Glenn "GT" Thompson, who chairs the House Committee on Agriculture, said in an emailed statement.

Thompson and fellow lawmakers have spent thousands of hours over the past two years collecting feedback from constituents on what they want to see in the multi-year

bill that is forecast to cost \$1.5 trillion.

But some constituents say despite reassurance that the farm bill is progressing, they remain concerned about its delay, as well as funding for several of its programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, formerly known as food stamps.

As a mandatory program, SNAP will continue as long as Congress approves either temporary or long-term government funding.

"The delay in considering important legislation, such as agriculture appropriations and the farm bill, creates a great deal of uncertainty for farmers

and ranchers. The 2018 farm bill already expired," Sam Kieffer, the American Farm Bureau Federation's vice president of public policy, said in a statement.

"All families, including those in rural America, face rising interest rates, high inflation and turbulence in the marketplace," he continued. "The farm bill provides certainty to those who grow this nation's food, fuel and fiber and is crucial to ensuring a safe and affordable food supply. Congress has always come through on a farm bill, and they must do it again. Every family in America is counting on it."

The 2018 farm bill was not

signed into law until Dec. 20 of that year.

The expansive agricultural and food policy bill covers farmer safety net programs, conservation and sustainability incentives, international trade, rural area development, and food and nutrition programs for low-income earners — the last of which by far accounts for the largest portion of the bill. The legislation is one of Congress' omnibus packages, meaning it's made up of numerous provisions from many lawmakers.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

90 SALE CALENDAR PUBLIC AUCTION Located : 101 S Broad Street, Dunkirk IN OCTOBER 14, 2023 10:00 A.M. HOUSEHOLD GOODS- OLD & COLLECTORS ITEM-TOOLS Amana washer & dryer; 5 pc. bedroom suit; LG flatscreen TV; 3 cushion sofa; recliner; chest type freezer; Frigidaire refrigerator; Pyrex; Temptations dishes; Shawnee bowl; rooster figurines; Fire Fyter safe; Schumacher 40 amp charger/starter; air compressor; wheelbarrow; yard tools; camp chairs; and many other items not listed. DONNA HATFIELD, DECEASED By Terri Lewellen Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY OCTOBER 21ST, 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3386 North US 27 Portland, IN COLLECTOR CARS-VEHICLES-TRACTORS-TRAILERS 1929 Ford model A-older restoration, 1955 Ford F100 pickup-auto trans, 1971 Chevy Monte Carlo 350, 1972 Chevrolet El Camino, 1932 Ford Roadster project car-semi complete, 7,000 lb car trailer, Ford 1510 FWA tractor with turf tires, 9N Ford tractor. 7 foot grader blade. MOTORCYCLES-RIDING MOWER-CUSHMAN-AUTO PARTS 2004 Vento Rebellion 250 motorcycle with 2500 miles, Cushman LP gas truckster, Cushman frame, Cub Cadet 1650 riding mower with snow blower, front blade, rototiller, and rear weights. SHOP TOOLS Tire changer- complete, Exhaust bender-complete, Weaver 2 column car hoist, Large engine lift. Engine stand, Lincoln 225 welder, Pneumatic air and body tools,

Former Colt arrested on a murder charge

Sergio Brown is accused of killing his mother

By BRIDGET HYLAND
nj.com
Tribune News Service

Former NFL safety Sergio Brown was arrested on a first-degree murder charge in connection with his mother's homicide, USA TODAY reported Wednesday.

Brown, who was reported missing last month, was in police custody in Southern California on Wednesday. He was taken into custody after he was deported from Mexico, re-entering the United States through San Diego, California, via an arrest warrant from Illinois authorities, CNN reported.

Last month, Brown's 73-year-old mother, Myrtle Brown, was discovered by police near a creek behind her residence in Maywood, Illinois. According to the Chicago Tribune, the Cook County Medical Examiner's Officer ruled her death a homicide, saying she suffered multiple injuries during an assault.

According to CNN, Mexican authorities have known Brown's where-

abouts since at least Sept. 19.

Brown is awaiting extradition to Maywood, according to police.

After Brown was announced a missing person, he posted a video on social media claiming the FBI played a part in his mother's death. He posted the video to the Instagram account, "intplayerwithapassport," which is not his main account.

"Fake news, fake news," he said in the video, via Yahoo. "It has to be the FBI that came into my house on Bob Marley's death day. With the 511 haze and gas — unwarranted. They kidnapped me twice from my home. The Maywood, Ill. Police Department... it had to be the FBI or the Maywood Police.

"I thought my mama was on vacation. That's f**king fake news. She's retired. And you want to come to me? FBI had to do it, they got the power to do some sh*t like that. What the f**k is going on? That's fake news."

According to Deadspin, the video was posted with the location tagged to Mexico City, Mexico, then deleted and reposted without the location.

Brown was in the NFL from 2010 to 2016, playing in 94 games for the New England Patriots, Indianapolis Colts, Jacksonville Jaguars and Buffalo Bills.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Saige swings

Saige Leuthold of Fort Recovery High School hits a ball near the middle of the net during Monday's win against Ansonia. Leuthold has been on a tear with 50 kills over the past 13 days while leading the Indians in blocks on the year with 55.

FR grad leads USF

Paige Fortkamp leads the Saint Francis University volleyball team's leader in kills during the 2023 season.

Another strong week from the Fort Recovery High School grad helped her solidify her role as the Cougars' offensive leader.

Fortkamp tallied 51 kills over the past four matches as the Cougars won in five sets against Goshen while falling to Mount Vernon Nazarene, Huntington and Bethel since Sept. 29.

The junior exploded for 24 kills in the 25-12, 25-23, 23-25, 23-25, 15-12 victory at Goshen. She added 27 assists and two blocks to her stat line to power the Cougars to victory.

She broke double-digits in the four-set loss to Huntington. Defensively, she played a larger role with seven digs and two blocks.

Against Bethel, Fortkamp had nine kills while Mount Vernon Nazarene held her to only two.

Anhely Montes Jay County — 2020

Scored two goals as the Anderson University women's soccer team split four matches over the past two weeks.

She was responsible for two scores in a 4-0 victory over Bluffton University on Sept. 30. She assisted Mandy Williams 7:54 into the match to put the Ravens on the board. Two and a half minutes later, she scored a goal of her own to

Collegiate Check-up

extend the lead.

She struck early in the 8-0 victory against Defiance on Oct. 11, scoring the first goal of the match at 3:50. She took two more shots in the first half, both of which were wide of the goal left and high.

Montes took a shot on the goal in both of the Ravens' losses to Rose-Hulman and Transylvania. She played all 90 minutes in the 1-0 loss to Rose Hulman and 80 minutes as Anderson fell 2-0 to Transylvania.

Griffin Mann Jay County — 2021

Competed for the first time this season at the Stateline Shootout hosted by Mount St. Joseph University on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at Miami Whitewater Forest Golf Course.

Mann struggled in the first round shooting a 91 before bouncing back the second day for an 85. He finished with a 176 which was 34 strokes over par to earn him 48th place.

He shot two birdies, including one on the par-4, 393-yard 14th hole.

His score did not impact Hanover College's team score. It finished with 619 strokes to finish third of six teams and only 19 strokes

behind the first-place DePaw University Tigers.

Whitley Rammel FRHS — 2022

Played in one set of the East Tennessee State University volleyball team's 25-18, 25-18, 25-22 loss to the Mercer Bears on Oct. 6.

Rammel played in the third set when she had one kill and two errors on four attacking attempts. She also had a block to account for two points for the Buccaneers.

Her block came early against Gia Padilla to cut Mercer's lead to 6-4. Later, her kill came on an assist from Jessica Dunn to extend ETSU's lead to 12-9.

Allysen Fullenkamp FRHS — 2023

Found the floor for one set of the Indiana Wesleyan University volleyball team's 25-6, 25-12, 25-9 sweep over Saint Francis University of Illinois on Saturday.

Fullenkamp played in the third set of the sweep. She attacked the ball twice, but was unable to record a kill.

She combined with Macy Staggs for an assisted block on an attack from Saint Francis' Taylor Connolly for the 24th point of the set.

Trevor Shaneyfelt Jay County — 2022

Played for the Trine University football team on Oct. 7 in a 34-14 victory against Adrian College.

Shaneyfelt came off the bench to play on the offensive line.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Football vs. Heritage — 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football at Anna — 7 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Cross country sectional at Taylor University — 10:30 a.m.; Potential volleyball semifinal & championship at New Castle — 12:30 p.m., 7 p.m.; JV football at Heritage — 10 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Cross country at MAC meet at Coldwater — 9 a.m.; Middle School cross country at MAC meet at Coldwater — 9 a.m.

TV sports

Today
6 p.m. — College soccer: Wisconsin at Rutgers (BTN)
7 p.m. — High school football: Mill Creek at Buford (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — College football: Tulane at Memphis (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Alsco Uniforms 302 (USA)
7:30 p.m. — NBA preseason: Miami Heat at San Antonio Spurs (TNT)
10 p.m. — College football: Stanford at Colorado (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA preseason: Golden

State Warriors at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN2)

Saturday
12 p.m. — College football: Michigan State at Rutgers (BTN); Georgia Southern at James Madison (ESPN2); Georgia at Vanderbilt (CBS); Indiana at Michigan (FOX); Iowa State at Cincinnati (FS1); Syracuse at Florida State (ABC)
3 p.m. — Friendly International soccer: Germany at United States (TNT)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Oregon at Washington (ABC); BYU at TCU (ESPN); Texas A&M at Tennessee (CBS); Illinois at Maryland (NBC); Kansas at Oklahoma State (FS1); UMass at Penn State (BTN); Florida Atlantic at South Florida (ESPN2)
3:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Alsco Uniforms 302 (USA)
4 p.m. — College football: Iowa at Wisconsin (FOX)
6:07 p.m. — Major League Baseball playoffs: Atlanta Braves at Philadelphia Phillies (TBS)
6:30 p.m. — IMSA SportsCar Championship: Motul Petit Le Mans (USA)
7 p.m. — College football: Kansas State at Texas Tech (FS1); Auburn at LSU (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — College football: USC at Notre Dame (NBC); Miami at North Carolina (ABC)

8 p.m. — College football: UCLA at Oregon State (FOX)
8 p.m. — NHL: Seattle Kraken at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
9:45 p.m. — College football: Boise State at Colorado State (FS1)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Montana at Idaho (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — Top Rank Boxing: Vincenzo Gualtieri vs. Janibek Alimkhanuly (ESPN)

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.
Participation costs \$15. All proceeds benefit EverHeart Hospice.
The race will begin at 10 a.m. There will be splits at each mile of the 3.1-mile course. There will also be chip timing for participants operated by Speedy Feet.
Water will be provided throughout the race, as well as a togo turkey meal at the end.
You can register by visiting bit.ly/cooperfarmsturkeytrot, or registration will open at 9 a.m. at Cooper Farms on the day of the race.
.....
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

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

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

Package B
One quarter-page ad and five 3x3 ads for **\$500**

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

Call (260) 726-8141 or email ads@thecr.com

We also offer commercial printing services, including door hangers and a variety of other items
Call (260) 726-8141 or email print@thecr.com for details

All election-related ads must be paid in advance

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

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



Halloween Coloring Contest Enter If You Dare!



Pictures will be on display at The Commercial Review.
The CR staff will judge the contest.
There will be 3 age categories:
1-4, 5-7 and 8-10. The winner's pictures will be displayed in the newspaper on October 27, 2023.

If you would like a chance to have your colored picture in the newspaper, fill out the entry form and bring/send in your picture to the address listed on the form. Don't forget to read the SAFETY TIPS, and have a safe and happy Halloween, KIDS!

Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers
Hometown Hardware

HELP children choose costumes that will be safe.
Performance Tool, Inc.

LOOK both ways before you cross the street.
Arnold Lumber



GO slow, drivers. Look out for trick-or-treaters while you are driving.
Moser Engineering

ONLY eat candy in sealed wrappers, and have your parents inspect all of your candy.
K&L Tractor Sales

MAKE sure treats are age-appropriate.
Renegade Customs

BRUSH Always brush your teeth after eating candy.
Barnett's "231/2 hrs" Towing and Auto Parts

SET curfews.
Baird-Freeman Funeral Home

NEVER wander off alone - stay in the group.
Youth Service Bureau of Jay County

TRY downtown trick-or-treating, it's well lit & safe.
The Tire Center

LIGHT your jack-o'-lantern with a battery-powered light instead of a candle.
Best One Tire and Auto Care

HALLOWEEN COLORING CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Mail completed picture and your entry form to:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Age: _____

Halloween 2023
Coloring Contest
The Commercial Review
309 W. Main St.
P.O. Box 1049
Portland, IN 47371

CUT costumes reasonably so tripping does not occur.
Hastings Auto

JACKETS provide warmth. Take one with you on a cool Halloween night.
Stu's Garage

NEVER enter a stranger's house or car under any circumstances.
Vore's Welding & Steel Inc.

KEEP a first aid kit fully stocked & nearby in case of emergency.
Portland True Value

HAND OUT healthy alternatives to candy, like sealed trail mix or raisins.
City of Portland

MAKE sure you wear shoes that fit well and are tied tightly.
Jay County REMC

WEAR proper footwear.
May Financial Group, Inc.

PIN a slip of paper with child's name, address and phone # on child's costume.
Bollenbacher & Associates

COLORING CONTEST RULES

- Contest open to children 10 and under.
- Contestants may use crayons, colored pencils or markers. Adults may assist in completing the contest entry form, but not the coloring.
- Limit one entry per child. Entries will not be returned.
- All entries must be postmarked by October 23, 2023.
- Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
- Decisions of the judges are final.

REMEMBER to say Thank You.
Grube Auctioneering, LLC

IF there is no sidewalk, then walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.
Jamar TV, Appliance & Bedding

WEAR a watch that lights up, so you can read it in the dark easily.
Redkey Veterinary Clinic

ALWAYS carry a flashlight with you when trick-or-treating at night.
Classique Beauty Salon

PROPS like a toy sword or wand should be flexible, without sharp edges or points.
West Jay Community Center

REMEMBER to walk, not run, from house to house while trick-or-treating.
Graphic Printing Newspapers

VISIT only those houses that are well-lit, and never approach a house alone.
Shields Garage

BE CAUTIOUS of animals and strangers.
Portland Veterinary Clinic