

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Engineer, architect will look at building

Redevelopment commission considering its options

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

Portland Redevelopment Commission will have an architect and structural engineer evaluate a downtown building that has been declared unsafe.

The commission on Friday morning approved contracts with Silver Creek Engineering and SEBREE Architects to evaluate the former Hunt's Building.

It also received an update on its economic development plan.

Portland Board of Works had been scheduled to vote on awarding a bid to demolish the former Hunt's Building at 208 and 210 N. Meridian St. last month but agreed to hold off at the request of the redevelopment commission.

Commission members discussed the building extensively Friday, with consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes explaining some of the concerns — it is located in the heart of downtown, it is located in the tax increment financing (TIF) district and the economic development plan is in the process of being revised. He also noted that the commission has invested in the adjacent building that LeeAnn Miller is renovating to become the home of her interior design business.

City attorney Wes Schemenaur explained that the city had Jeff Ballard of Wessler Engineering evaluate the building and that his opinion was it is a risk to public safety in its current state. He added that Ballard's estimate for total repairs to the building is \$700,000-plus while he estimated \$200,000 to make it safe.

"This is not something that the city took lightly," he said.

He also noted concern about the building deteriorating further during winter weather.

"I think we really need to have a concrete plan pretty quickly," he added. "I think the safety concern is pretty paramount right now."

The bid from JAShroyer of Muncie to tear down the building was originally \$250,000, but has since been reduced to \$189,000 because the firm will already be in the city to take down the former Bailey Building on Main Street. (That work is now expected to begin Nov. 20.)

See **Building** page 2



Photo provided

Veterans honored

Local schools honored veterans with ceremonies Thursday and Friday. Pictured above, Bloomfield Elementary School principal Ben Dues speaks while flanked by veterans in attendance.

Biden, Xi summit is Nov. 15

By **JENNY LEONARD**
Bloomberg News

President Joe Biden will sit down with his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, on Nov. 15, the first conversation between the two leaders in a year.

The long-anticipated meeting is intended to stabilize ties between the countries, affording Biden and Xi the opportunity to discuss in-person the issues affecting the relationship as well as broader global concerns. U.S. officials have downplayed expectations for any clear breakthroughs and stressed that the focus is on clearing up misperceptions in the bilateral relationship.

Biden is expected to raise the need for open lines of communication, including in the military realm, and discuss issues involving artificial intelligence,

Leaders will discuss issues and broader global concerns

fentanyl and detained Americans in China, according to senior administration officials who briefed reporters Thursday on condition of anonymity.

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said in a statement Friday that the two leaders would discuss how the U.S. and China can "responsibly manage competition and work together where our interests align, particularly on transnational challenges that affect the international community."

"The two presidents will have in-depth communication on issues of strategic, overarching and fundamental importance in shaping China-U.S. relations and major issues concerning world peace and development," China's Foreign Ministry said in a statement Friday.

The countries are expected to announce a resumption of military-to-military communications after Beijing cut off that channel following then-Speaker

Nancy Pelosi's trip to Taiwan in August 2022, according to people familiar with the plans. The U.S. also hopes to reach an agreement to get China's help in cracking down on the chemical ingredients used to make fentanyl, said the people, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the U.S. objectives.

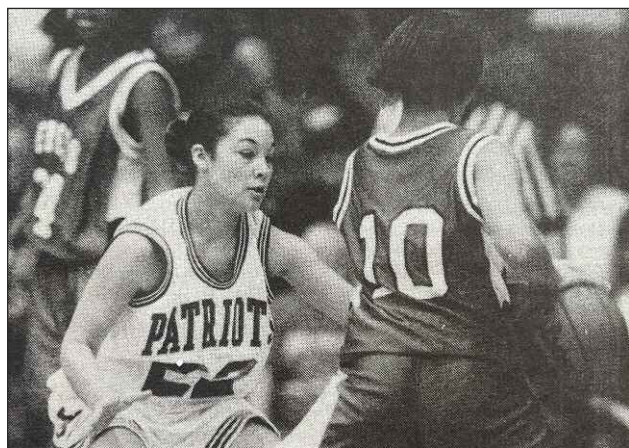
The get-together of the leaders of the world's two largest economies comes on the sidelines of next week's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in San Francisco. The U.S. is hosting the gathering for the first time since 2011.

The senior administration officials did not share where the Biden-Xi meeting would take place, saying only that it would be in the San Francisco Bay area.

See **Summit** page 2

Retrospect

Jay rolled in home opener



The Commercial Review/Mike Snyder

Jay County High School's Jenny Cook guards Heather Thomas of Muncie Southside during the Patriots' 71-16 season-opening victory on Nov. 13, 1998.

Twenty-five years ago this week, the Patriots rolled to victory in its home opener.

The Nov. 14, 1998, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of the Jay County High School girls basketball team's 71-16 victory over the visiting Muncie Southside Rebels.

Despite making some mistakes in the form of turnovers, the Patriots (2-0) rolled out to a 21-0 lead in the first quarter and scored the opening hoop of the second quarter.

"We came out in the first quarter and the goal was to shut them out in the first quarter and we did that," said JCHS coach Lea Selvey. "We knew if we jumped on them early they'd fold."

Cassie Golden scored eight of the Patriots' first 23 points on the way to a game-high 17. Kerri McClung joined her in double figures with 10 points as 12 of the 13 Jay County players scored.

McClung added eight rebounds and Stacey

Muhlenkamp totaled four assists.

The Patriots' lead expanded to 49 points at the end of the first quarter. (Their largest advantage was 57 before Muncie Southside scored the game's final two points.)

"It's an easy win, but it's difficult to look good," Selvey. "It's tough to get any continuity going with all the kids going in and out. We spent more time bringing kids in and out and keeping them fresh

for tomorrow. But for the circumstances, I'm pleased."

Selvey said that the reality of the week of practice was that it was focused on a game the following night against Richmond.

"In all honesty, the girls know that's not a real strong team," he said of Southside. "We've actually been preparing for Richmond all week. I thought we should put all of our eggs in one basket and get ready for Richmond.)

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Friday.

Today's forecast calls for a high in the upper 40s under sunny skies. Tonight's low will be in the lower 30s.

Sunny skies will follow with highs in the mid 50s Sunday and upper 50s Monday. Lows will be in the 30s.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

Museum of the Soldier will host a 248th birthday celebration for the United States Marine Corps at 2 p.m. Sunday. The museum, 510 E. Arch St., will open beginning at noon. Those who have served or had a family member serve in the Marine Corps are invited to attend. The event is free and open to the public.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from tonight's JCHS girls basketball game at Hamilton Heights.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Dunkirk City Council meeting.



Building ...

Continued from page 1
Commission members discussed options, with president Rusty Inman saying he is interested in saving the structure but would not be in support of spending city money on a building that is not owned by the city. (Juan Marentes currently owns the building.)

Miller asked about the possibility of making the building safe now and then seeking grants for additional repairs. Curtin noted that most grants would not be available unless the city owns the building.

Commission members Reda Theurer-Miller, Joe Johnston, Mike Simons and Inman, absent Dave Teeter, approved contracts with Silver Creek Engineering and SEBREE Architects in conjunction with plans to reach out to Marentes about whether he would be willing to consider the city taking ownership of the

building. The contract with SEBREE of Carmel is not to exceed \$1,200 while the contract with Silver Creek of Indianapolis is \$190 per hour with an estimated six hours of work.

Steve McIntosh of the city's board of works also addressed the redevelopment commission, saying he's not in favor of tearing down buildings but adding that he wants to make sure funds are spent where they can be most effective. As he has previously, he questioned the timing of the redevelopment commission's Oct. 17 request to delay the process. He noted that the issue has been discussed at meetings and covered in local media since Aug. 10.

Also Friday, Curtin informed the commission that its updated economic development plan is nearly complete. He asked commission members to review the plan in its current form and offer comments and suggestions.

Rundell Ernstberger Associates, which is working with the redevelopment commission on the plan, visited Portland to conduct surveys in July and then held focus groups and a public open house in September as part of developing the plan. Curtin said some of the highlights include enhancing the visual appearance of the downtown area, stabilizing and refurbishing buildings, supporting business creation, retention and growth and attracting and increasing traffic.

He noted that the plan will also suggest looking at changes to the city zoning ordinance regarding conforming lots, saying 96% percent of existing structures in the downtown area do not meet current ordinance requirements. (In most cases, the lots are smaller than the quarter-acre required by ordinance.) The plan will also sug-

gest reviewing the vacant building code in order to clarify processes.

Plans call for holding another public open house in the next few weeks, with redevelopment commission to then consider initial approval of the plan in December. It would then need to go to Portland Plan Commission and Portland City Council for approval before returning to the redevelopment commission for final approval.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved a \$50,000 contribution to Jay School Corporation for clothing and equipment related to its skilled trades program, which was reinstated this year. Jay County Junior/Senior High School principal Chad Dodd explained that the course was one of the top priorities indicated in a community survey distributed last fall.

- Informally agreed to submit a project for Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0, a state program that can allocate up to \$75 million apiece (\$500 million total) to regions across the state for quality of place, quality of life and quality of opportunity projects.

- Set its 2024 regular meeting schedule for 8 a.m. on the last Friday of January, April, July and October.

- Was reminded by Inman that redevelopment commission seats are one-year appointments — three by the mayor and two by city council. He noted that the city will have a new mayor — mayor-elect Jeff Westlake was in attendance — and at least two new city council members in 2024.

- Approved its financial report, which shows a balance of just under \$1.05 million.

CR almanac

Sunday 11/12	Monday 11/13	Tuesday 11/14	Wednesday 11/15	Thursday 11/16
54/34	58/30	56/34	60/41	62/47
Sunday's forecast shows sunny skies with temperatures again dipping to the 30s late.	Sunny, with a high of 58 during the day. At night, the low will be around the freezing point.	Another day of sun is expected Tuesday. The high will be 56 degrees.	More sun is on the horizon for Wednesday, with temperatures jumping to the upper 50s.	Thursday looks to be mostly cloudy, with the low reaching the mid to upper 40s at night.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 8-8-8 Daily Four: 0-3-8-3 Quick Draw: 2-10-12-13-23-30-31-50-54-55-56-59-61-62-63-64-75-76-79-80	Pick 5: 5-7-0-3-3 Evening Rolling Cash 5: 2-12-25-31-37 Jackpot: \$100,000
Ohio Midday Pick 3: 3-4-0 Pick 4: 7-1-2-4	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$220 million Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$223 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.34 Dec. corn.....4.64 Wheat.....4.79	Dec. beans.....13.23 Wheat.....5.35
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.29 Dec. corn.....4.59 Jan. corn.....4.69	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.34 Late Nov. corn.....4.34 Beans.....13.02 Dec. beans.....13.22 Wheat.....5.35
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....4.29 Dec. corn.....4.49 Beans.....12.98	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.24 Dec. corn.....4.34 Beans.....12.88 Dec. beans.....12.98 Wheat.....4.90

Today in history

In 1417, Pope Martin V was unanimously elected. The vote brought an end to the Roman Catholic Church's Great Schism, during which there were two and sometimes three rival popes.

In 1831, Nat Turner was hanged after he led a slave rebellion.

In 1865, Mary Edwards Walker became the first woman to be awarded the U.S. Medal of Honor.

In 1889, Washington was admitted as the 42nd state. The formation of the state came less than 50 years after pioneers began entering the Pacific Northwest by way of the Oregon Trail.

In 1966, NASA launched spacecraft

Gemini 12. It was the first to make an automatically controlled re-entry into Earth's atmosphere.

In 1972, The News and Sun won for best editorial page in Division 1 in the Hoosier State Press Association's annual contest. It was also second for best news story. The Commercial Review took second place in Division 3 for best editorial page.

In 2017, Alex Bader won the 100-yard butterfly and 100 breaststroke to lead the Jay County High School girls swim team to its first championship in the Norwell Invitational in five years. The Patriots outscored the runner-up host Knights by 39 points.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St.
3 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St.

4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Summit ...

Continued from page 1
China's foreign ministry confirmed Friday that Xi will travel to San Francisco Nov. 14-17 to meet with Biden and attend APEC meetings.

Biden and Xi have not spoken since their last encounter at the Group of 20 summit in Bali, Indonesia, on Nov. 14, 2022. That meeting lasted about three-and-a-half hours and appeared to clear the way for a less confrontational relationship.

The post-Bali glow did not last long. Relations deteriorated to a new low early this year after an alleged Chinese spy balloon traversed the continental U.S. and was ultimately shot down by the U.S. military. The balloon episode could come up in the broader context of military commu-

nications and the need for clear parameters of engagement, one of the officials said.

In recent months, both leaders have dispatched top officials to each other's capitals for talks and to prepare for the meeting.

Xi last set foot on U.S. soil in 2017 when he met with then-President Donald Trump at his Mar-a-Lago resort.

Next week's encounter comes against the backdrop of the conflict between Israel and Hamas and Russia's war against Ukraine. U.S. officials believe China is helping Moscow replenish its war machine through exports of dual-use technologies, but that Beijing is more hesitant to support Iran and its proxies against Israel. Iran-backed

Hamas has been designated a terrorist group by the U.S. and European Union.

The U.S. has asked Beijing to pass messages to Tehran and help avoid the war between Israel and Hamas from escalating in the region. Biden will again underscore that message in his meeting with Xi, the officials said.

Biden and Xi will also discuss Taiwan, which along with technology restrictions and military encounters in the South China Sea, remains one of the main flashpoints in the U.S.-China relationship.

Biden will reaffirm his stance that there should be no change to the status quo by force and that the U.S. supports peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.

Capsule Reports

Recycling set

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.

The solid waste district also issued a reminder this week that strands of Christmas lights can be recycled at its office, 5948 W. Indiana 67, or Jay County REMC, 484 S. 200 West.

Passing accident

A Portland man crashed his vehicle into a Montpelier woman's car after he tried to pass her at the intersection of U.S. 27 and county road 300 North about 2:40 p.m. Friday.

Ruben Gutierrez II, 21, was driving his 2010 Chevrolet Malibu north on the highway when he started to pass a 2015 Ford Edge stopped in the northbound lane. Breanna E. Penrod, 25, was driving the Ford Edge and getting ready to turn west with her turn signal on, according to a Jay County Sher-

iff's Office report. As she turned, Gutierrez struck her vehicle.

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000, and Penrod's vehicle was towed.

Show scheduled

Delta Theta Tau is holding its annual craft show from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today at Jay County Junior/Senior High School.

Admission is \$3. Those 12 and younger will be admitted free.

Backing crash

A Portland man backed his car into a Portland woman's vehicle in the Low Bob's Tobacco parking lot about noon Friday.

Trevor Ingram, 24, Portland, was backing his 2008 Ford Fusion out of the parking lot at 597 N. Meridian St. and failed to see the 2016 Buick Cascada, driven by 76-year-old Janice Stoner, behind him. Stoner told police she was driving south when Ingram backed into her car.

Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Felony arrests

Probation violation

A Berne man was arrested Thursday for violating his probation.

Robert E. Mann, 51, 305 Oberli St., pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to a Level 6 felony for cemetery mischief. He was sentenced in August 2022

to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 180 days suspended and placed on probation for one year. A petition alleging he violated the conditions of his probation was filed Nov. 8.

Mann is being held in Jay County Jail.

SERVICES
Today

Wendel, Virginia: 10:30 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Osborne, William: 11 a.m., Cornerstone Church of Pennville, 190 W. Main St., Pennville.

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Tracts 5-6: on the west side of CR 1100 W, approx. 1/4 mile south of 400 S, on the east edge of Dunkirk, IN (Jay Co)

DELAWARE COUNTY:
30.25+/- Acres • 4 Tracts

TRACT 1: 5+/- ACRES
TRACT 2: 13.55+/- ACRES
TRACT 3: 5.7+/- ACRES
TRACT 4: 6+/- ACRES

JAY COUNTY:
26.43+/- Acres • 2 Tracts

TRACT 5: 13+/- ACRES
TRACT 6: 13.43+/- ACRES

Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 • **Lauren Peacock:** 765.546.7359

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harneyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU1000277, HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC0920019, HLSHCCP-12967, Farm: The Lillian P. Nixon Trust and the Estate of Joanne N. Baur

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Photo provided

Character Counts

East Elementary kindergarteners recently won awards for demonstrating respect. Pictured above, front row, are Duke Steed, Emmery Twigg and Abe Theurer. In the back row are Leander Ankrom, Evie Brelsford, Felix Owens and Ava Atkinson.

Middle school releases honor roll

Fort Recovery Middle School recently announced its first nine weeks honor roll recipients.

Making the list with all A's were sixth graders Kyle Andrews, Logan Gaerke, Mason Jutte, Camden LeFevre, Eloise Niekamp, Katelyn Siefing, Aubrey Stammen, Makayla Wehrkamp, Aubrey Wendel, Julia Westgerdes and Mya Will.

Sixth graders honored for getting all A's and B's were Mason Alig, Kolson Bechtol, Alexandra Bihn, John Bihn, Molly Boeckman, Lukas Brackman, William Eichenauer-Clements, Macy Fullenkamp, Skylee Grafmiller, Brayden Grisez, Mason Grisez, Miley Hardwick, Lauren Hart, Alex Heitkamp, Jesse Homan, Ryan Jutte, Isla Kaiser, Eli Kremer, Owen Lamm, Quinn McCain, Zackory Meyer, Aubrey Post, Braxton Schmitz, Rayla Staugler, Koby Timmerman, Kenzie Wendel, Rielle Wendel and Gavin Willmann.

Also on the list with all A's were seventh graders Chloe Brockman, Anthony Evers, Brinley Fortkamp, Stetson Fullenkamp, Gavin Heitkamp, Addison Jutte, Alexander Roessner and Lana Wuebker.

Seventh graders with all A's and B's were Kaiser Albers, Jenna Bertke, Jaxin Breen, Kali Brunswick, Kale Diller, Bentley Dilworth, Emmitt Dues, Jordan Dues, Hope Evers, Kayla Gaerke, Landon Gahret, Claire Grube, Addyson Heitkamp, Ethan Homan, Brynn Huntsman, Yoselin Juarez-Gomez, Carter Kaiser, Andrew Martinez, Isaac Niekamp, Courtney Overman, River Overman, Kayden Ranly, Andrew Rehmer, Ethan Schmitz, James Shuttleworth, Bryce Siefing, Gunnar Thompson, Jett Tobe, Ben Vogel, Mara Wendel, Claire Wenning, Vincent Wenning, William Wenning, Lydia Will, Reid Willmann and Lane Zehringer.

On the list with all A's were eighth graders Alivia Brunswick, Claire Gaerke, Henry Jutte, Andrew Niekamp, Kendall Ranly, Madilyn Reinhard, Charlie Stammen and Madelyn Weigel.

Eighth graders with all A's and B's were Raya Androne, Layla Armstrong, Brooke Bihn, Jocelyn Bihn, Emily Boeckman, Addison Brunswick, Kyra Brunswick, Riley DeRoo, Evan Diller, Braylon Dilworth, Jackson Dues, Haley Easton, Makenzie Evers, William Faller, Malia Grisez, Pete Guggenbiller, Madeline Hardwick, Paisley Hart, Elizabeth Heitkamp, Elizabeth Kahlig, Courtney Klenke, Liza Knapke, Shelby Knapke, McKinnlee Kremer, Mason Laux, Duc Anh Nguyen, Hudson Overman, Stella Patch, Cora Pearson, Charity Pohlman, Ally Roessner, Hoyt Schmitz, Eliza Smith, Lilah Thien, Livy Timmerman and Jady N Weyerick.

Expensive party concerns friend

DEAR ABBY: My best friend is getting married next year and is planning for her bachelorette party. Right now, they are looking at places that have a three- or four-night minimum and would cost each person more than \$500. (That's just to rent the place.) It wouldn't cover food, gifts, etc.

My friend isn't a fancy, extravagant person, so I was shocked by the length of time I'll need to take off from work and the amount of money I will have to spend. I worry if I try to (nicely) say something, it will come across as not caring about her; her wedding or doing this for her. It's not that I can't afford it, and I think I should have some time off available, but it's going to cost more than I'm comfortable with. Am I being unreasonable? I wouldn't want to not make her feel special. — SOUR ON IT IN INDIANA

DEAR SOUR: You are not being unreasonable. You are practical, and your reasoning is sound. If your friend's bachelorette party will be more of a financial stretch than you can COMFORTABLY afford, you need to level with her, because the wedding will cost you even more. What isn't reasonable is for her to expect everyone to drop everything and blow their budgets in order for her to "feel special."

DEAR ABBY: I had a best friend I got together with weekly. She decided she needed to move away to a quieter place. Of course, I was disappointed, but I supported her decision because it was right for her. She promised me nothing would change, but we lived too far apart for our weekly visits to continue, so I hoped we would talk weekly by phone.

She canceled our last get-

together, saying she was stressed and busy preparing for the move. I told her I understood, and I'd give her space and time to settle in and would wait for her call when she was ready. The call never came.

We have seen each other a few times in the years since she moved, always at her suggestion. I gently reminded her of the phone calls we used to make and mentioned getting together a few times, but I received no response. Must I just let her go? I want to tell her how much I miss her friendship, but I'm afraid it will make her feel guilty or obligated. — GRIEVING IN CANADA

DEAR GRIEVING: Yes, you should let her go. Your friend no longer feels the tie to you that she did when the two of you lived close by. If you want to tell her how much you miss her friendship, you are entitled to do that. But please recognize that not all friendships last forever; some have an expiration date, and the one you had with her appears to be one of them.

DEAR VETERANS: For your service to our nation, I salute you. My thanks to each of you on this Veterans Day. You are the personification of patriotism, self-sacrifice and dedication to our country. I would also like to recognize your families for the sacrifices they, too, have made while you were serving your country. — LOVE, ABBY



Dear Abby

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will

meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

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

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

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

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.

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

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

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

BRYANT COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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

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Tuesday: Main Entrees: Pepperoni pizza pasta bake, garlic breadstick Alternate Entrees: Muffin, yogurt & cheese fun lunch, popcorn chicken salad base, breadstick Sides for all meals: Seasoned zucchini
Wednesday: Main Entrees: Fresh baked biscuit, sausage gravy, scrambled eggs with bacon and cheese Alternate Entrees: Muffin, yogurt & cheese fun lunch, popcorn chicken salad base, breadstick Sides for all meals: Tater tots
Thursday: Main Entrees: Mashed potato & chicken bowl Alternate Entrees: Muffin, yogurt & cheese fun lunch, popcorn chicken salad base, breadstick Sides for all meals: Seasoned corn
Friday: Main Entrees: Classic pepperoni pizza Entrees: Muffin, yogurt & cheese fun lunch, popcorn chicken salad base, breadstick Sides for all meals: Seasoned peas and carrots

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Join in annual community dinner

To the editor:
Thanksgiving Day is nearly here and the committee for the 33rd annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner has been hard at work since early October.

Thankful that the pandemic is behind us, we are especially excited to return to our traditional 1 p.m. dinner with renewed focus on community. Our committee, guided by Carol Smith's leadership, is again privileged to share this traditional holiday turkey dinner with family, friends and neighbors.

Around the tables at Asbury United Methodist Church will be families and individuals who are unable to commute to a

Letters to the Editor

family gathering; some with financial challenges and unable to prepare the traditional meal for their family; and there also will be many people who attend this community event simply for the fun, fellowship and the delicious food it offers.

Regardless of the reason, we hope you join our celebration. We look forward to a packed Asbury Fellowship Hall with

adults and children of all ages bustling with laughter and conversation, sharing tasty and delectable dishes in an atmosphere of fellowship and true thanksgiving.

In addition to the meal and the opportunity to gather with others, there will once again be a variety of door prizes and gift certificates to various local businesses. Our hope is to provide a bit of enjoyment and give the home budget some relief even after the holiday is over.

As always, we are looking forward to including the homebound in this holiday tradition by furnishing a meal. If you are homebound, we will have driv-

ers standing by who are anxious to deliver a meal to your home.

Please call Asbury United Methodist Church at (260) 726-8464 or Zion Lutheran Church at (260) 726-8832 (mornings) with your request. Requests for meals must be called in by Wednesday afternoon, the day before Thanksgiving, so that we are adequately prepared.

If you have your own holiday tradition with family but would like to lend a hand, please feel free to make an extra dish (in a disposable pan) and drop it off at Asbury the afternoon before or Thanksgiving Day morning. Any dish is appreciated, but vegetables are especially need-

ed. Together, it creates a virtual smorgasbord of goodies.

If you want to spend an hour or two assisting on Thanksgiving Day, contact our chairperson, Carol Smith, at (260) 726-9049. She will happily put you to work. As Carol said a few years ago, we are lovingly serving up "thankfulness and hope." We are serving that same recipe this year, too.

The welcome mat is out to our entire community. We hope to see you there.

Even if you are not part of this event, we hope your family shares a joyous and peace-filled day.

Dolphus Stephens
Community Thanksgiving Dinner Committee

Be a partner in suicide prevention

By DENNIS WIMBER
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Friday, November 11, is Veterans Day — a significant national holiday dedicated to honoring and showing appreciation for all military Veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Originally known as Armistice Day to commemorate the end of World War I on November 11, 1918, Veterans Day was established on June 1, 1954, and replaced the word Armistice with Veterans. President Dwight D. Eisenhower stated: "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all Veterans, all Veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose."

On this day, Americans come together to pay tribute to the men and women who have selflessly defended our nation. Parades, ceremonies, and events take place across the country to honor Veterans, including right here in Indiana. It is a time to recognize the sacrifices, courage and dedication of those who have served, whether in times of war or peace.

In Indiana, Gov. Eric J. Holcomb, took up the call to join the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. This follows those words from President Eisenhower over 69 years ago of a "common purpose." The Governor's Challenge is a partnership between Indiana state government, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA), the Indiana National Guard, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), local Indiana communities and numerous non-profit organizations.

Together, our goal is to reduce rates of suicide by understanding the issues surrounding it, increase knowledge about the challenges and lessons learned from the past, and implement promising, best and evidence-based practices to prevent and reduce suicide at the local level.

Just this past month, IDVA launched the initial pilot coalition partnership, with more partnerships to be added over the course of 2024 and beyond. The Governor's Challenge seeks to raise awareness about the issues Veterans face and the challenges for

Dennis Wimber



... solving the problem of veteran suicide is an ongoing effort that requires dedication, resources, and the cooperation of many stakeholders.

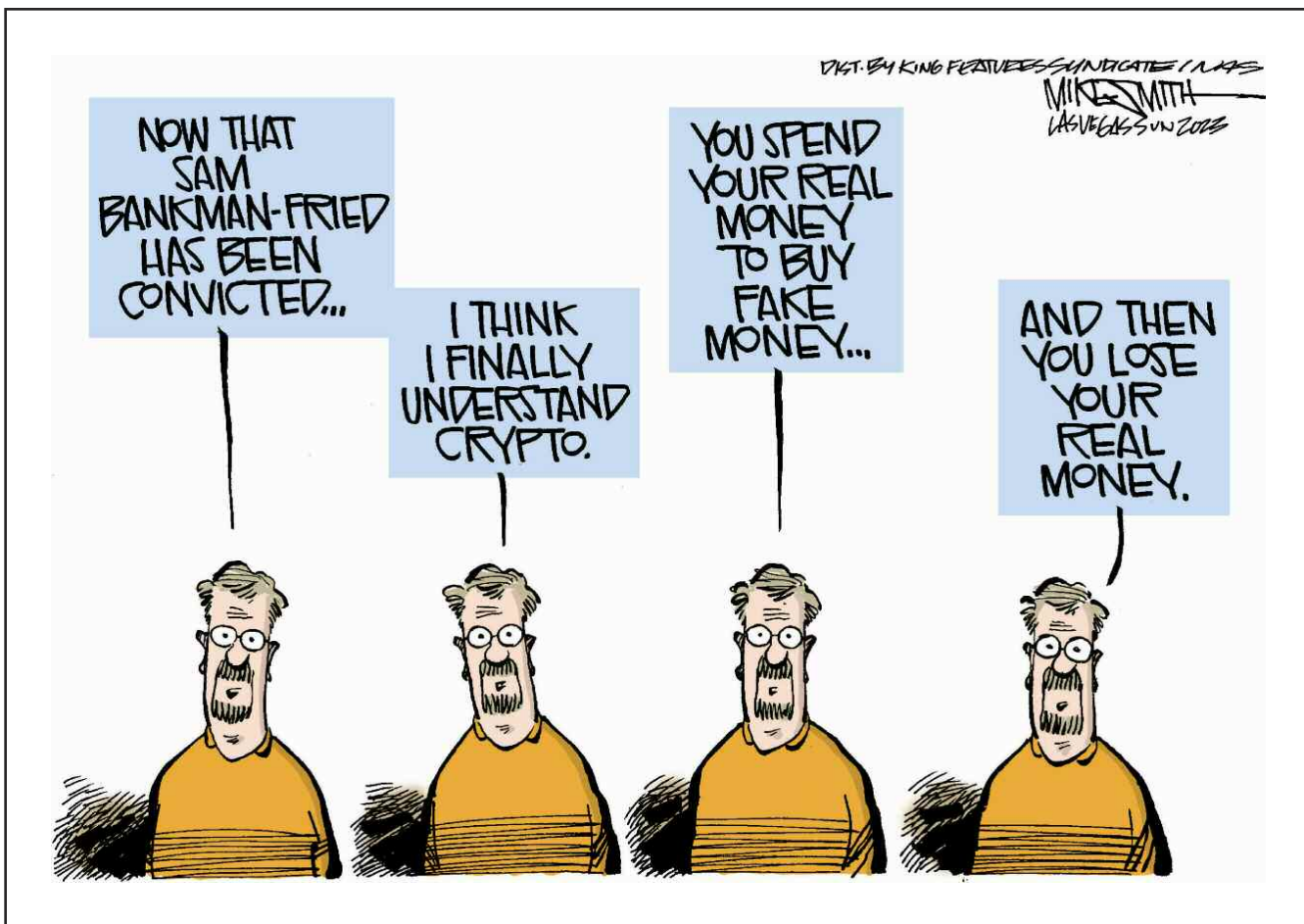
caregivers and family members. At each touchpoint, the teams are engaging local communities and working to build capabilities and capacity to support Veterans. This includes creating support networks, organizing events, and promoting understanding and inclusion.

It's important to note that solving the problem of veteran suicide is an ongoing effort that requires dedication, resources, and the cooperation of many stakeholders. With a collective commitment to providing the necessary support and care, progress can be made in preventing veteran suicide and ensuring the well-being of those who have served this country.

Veterans Day holds special importance as it serves as a reminder of the enduring commitment and resilience of those who have served. It is a day to express gratitude, offer support to Veterans, and reflect on the freedoms and security they have helped to protect. Remembering and thanking our Veterans is a way to ensure that their contributions are never forgotten.

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Wimber is the director of the Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs, appointed in 2019. He previously served in the U.S. Air Force.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.



Gazans could not rise up

By BOBBY GHOSH
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

"They could have risen up, they could have fought against that evil regime which took over Gaza in a coup d'état." Israeli President Isaac Herzog ought to know better than to have said that. But those who don't — those who had no call to pay attention to Palestinian politics until a month ago — might be forgiven for asking why Hamas has never faced a serious uprising from within their Gazan redoubt in the 17 years it has ruled the strip.

That it has not allows some, in Israel and elsewhere, to suggest that the majority of the 2.3 million Palestinians who are confined to the 139 square miles of Gaza must approve of the terrorist group's actions, including the horrific attack on southern Israel on Oct. 7. To follow this line of reasoning is to conclude that all Gazans are complicit in terror. "It's an entire nation out there that is responsible," Herzog told reporters a few days after the attack. "This rhetoric about civilians not aware, not involved, it's absolutely not true.

And Herzog, remember, is from the liberal side of the Israeli political establishment: A former head of the Labor Party, he unsuccessfully ran against the right-wing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the 2015 parliamentary elections. In 2021, he was elected to the largely ceremonial presidency, a role that requires him to act as Israel's moral north star.

Those unburdened by such responsibility and hewing to the opposite end of the political spectrum have gone much farther than Herzog in placing collective blame for Hamas's crimes on all Gazans — and proposing collective punishment. In the most extreme instance of this absurd syllogism, Heritage Minister Amichai Eliyahu implied that dropping an atom bomb on the strip was an option.

So, why haven't Gazans risen up

Bobby Ghosh



against Hamas? Before I address that question, please permit a short detour to explain how Hamas came to rule the strip.

The group won the last election to be held in Gaza and the West Bank, in 2006. Back then, Hamas was identified mainly as a radical offshoot of the Islamist, pan-Arab Muslim Brotherhood political movement, but its main attraction to voters was as an alternative to Fatah, the faction running the Palestinian Authority — the deeply corrupt and inept government responsible for the West Bank and Gaza. Hamas's election campaign leaned heavily on the corruption issue, which resonated with voters.

The prospect of Islamists running the PA alarmed Israel as well as the US. But Fatah contested the results, and the two groups fought pitched battles. When the dust settled in 2007, Fatah was left in control of the PA, but its remit was restricted to the West Bank. Hamas was supreme in Gaza.

Hamas didn't take long to prove it was as venal and incompetent as Fatah, with its unstinting opposition to Israel its only source of legitimacy. Its goal, stated in a revised charter issued in 2017, was the destruction of the state of Israel. Armed and trained by Iran, its fighters periodically clashed with the Israel Defense Forces, bringing devastation upon Gaza.

In the meantime, Hamas cemented its control by systematically eliminating all opposition. It maintains a network of spies, informers and enforcers and exercises a monopoly of violence. Human rights groups like Amnesty International raised

alarms about a "brutal campaign of abductions, torture and unlawful killings" against Palestinians. Invariably, the victims were blamed for being in cahoots with Israel.

With Gaza essentially sealed off from the wider world by Israeli restrictions on travel and trade, Hamas also took control of the economy as the principal employer and paymaster of Palestinians. It decides how foreign aid is doled out, and its leaders siphon out large sums into an international portfolio of investments. Meanwhile, it cracks down on Gazans complaining about economic hardship.

Ismail Haniyeh, who heads the group's political bureau, claims Hamas's actions represent Gazans. But after 17 years of Hamas rule, Gazans have few political rights or civil liberties. The vast majority are too young to have participated in the 2006 election, and none have had a chance to vote Hamas out.

Given the chance, would they? We can only know for certain when — or if — a free and fair election is allowed. To the extent that poll opinions in a populace that lives in fear are possible, there's some evidence that Gazans would like Hamas gone. A recent survey by the Washington Institute showed a large majority want the PA to rule Gaza. This result is doubly remarkable given that the Fatah leadership has only gone from bad to worse since it last had any authority over Gaza.

But to expect Gazans to rise up against Hamas is to require them to risk their lives and livelihoods, to face down a terrorist group that has repeatedly demonstrated willingness to slaughter Palestinians as well as Israelis. And while Hamas can rely on a regional power, Iran, to supply it with arms, all Gazans can expect from the wider world is qualified sympathy — and unreasonable expectations.

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Ghosh is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering culture. Previously, he covered foreign affairs.

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Killing more than weeds

Herbicides are causing problems for trees

By **BRYCE GAY**
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Tribune News Service

NASHVILLE, Illinois — Agricultural weedkillers are slowly killing trees across Missouri and Illinois, scientists, state workers and landowners say.

Landowners say 200-year-old oaks have gotten sickly. State conservation workers are documenting trees with curling leaves and forests with thinning canopies. Scientists have studied hundreds of trees and found widespread evidence of chemicals in their leaves.

The signs are spreading across the region, from farms to conservation areas to some of Illinois' largest forests.

Many affected trees have already died or been logged, and experts and property owners fear that others will be pushed past their limits in the next few years, if the chemical exposure persists.

"It's pretty scary," said Robbie Doerhoff, a forest entomologist for the Missouri Department of Conservation who leads the agency's forest health program. She said she sees a "slow and cumulative" ecosystem-wide impact. "We're gonna be in a world of hurt in the next few years here, I think."

The same is happening in Illinois, said Kim Erndt-Pitcher, the director of ecological health for Prairie Rivers Network, a nonprofit that has tested trees across the state for years.

"This is one of our biggest threats to forest health that we have in Illinois and even in the Midwest," she said.

The concerns have emerged with the voluminous increase in the use of industrial herbicides on genetically modified herbicide-resistant crops. With that rise has come a corresponding spike in complaints from neighboring farms that the herbicides have "drifted" onto their fields and damaged crops that aren't engineered to withstand the chemicals.

Major agribusiness companies behind the weedkillers defend their products.

German giant Bayer, with its crop science headquarters in St. Louis, said it "stands fully behind" XtendiMax, an herbicide based on the chemical dicamba, which was found in tree samples, and has sparked years of controversy. In a statement, it called the product a "vitaly important weed-control tool for many growers."

Bayer said XtendiMax, when used correctly, stays "on-target," and doesn't drift onto other fields. "Based on our data and conversations with growers this season, we believe the vast majority of XtendiMax applicators had success with on-target applica-



Tribune News Service/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/Allie Schallert

Gerry Scanlan talks about the oak trees that became sick in recent years from suspected chemical drift damage, pointing out sick or dead trees Oct. 24 on a property in Venedy, Illinois. With less oak trees the ground is less shaded, allowing different vegetation and trees that grow faster than oaks to cultivate more easily in the area than they used to.

tions and weed control," the statement said.

And Indianapolis-based Corteva, a major producer of the weed-killer 2,4-D, said its "unique formulation" has been rigorously reviewed by researchers, including the Environmental Protection Agency, and the reviews show the product "doesn't impact surrounding wildlife."

Neither company made a representative available for an interview.

Experts in the region said they have not directly tied the weedkillers to the deaths. But they have linked exposure to elevated rates of tree mortality. Prairie Rivers, the Illinois nonprofit, has logged more than 700 visits to inspect area forests, and collected dozens of samples from area trees, and almost all of those samples show evidence of agricultural herbicides, including dicamba and 2,4-D.

And even if the chemicals themselves don't kill any given tree, they likely weaken them, experts say, which makes them more susceptible to disease and other threats.

"These are chronic stressors," said Martin Kemper, a retired biologist from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources who helps spearhead Prairie Rivers' testing efforts.

Dicamba, pioneered decades ago, has roared to newfound prominence in the past decade.

As weeds developed resistance to long-used mainstays, like Bayer's Roundup, agribusiness companies were left searching for a successor.

Dicamba has stepped into that role in the last 10 years, ever since Creve Coeur-based Monsanto, which was purchased by Bayer in 2018, released cotton and soybean seed varieties genetically engineered to be sprayed directly with the herbicide.

Many farmers swear by the technology, hailing it as a needed

tool in the fight against increasingly hard-to-control weeds. But, after the introduction of dicamba-tolerant seeds, fierce debate about the chemical quickly exploded.

Dicamba has long been notorious for its "volatility" — or tendency to turn into a vapor and drift, especially in hot conditions.

And farmers across the country who didn't immediately adopt the dicamba-resistant seeds began to blame the weedkiller for damaging their crops.

Complaints and lawsuits about suspected dicamba damage have since stretched from soybean fields to the forage for honeybees and from peach orchards to grape vineyards, resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars of legal settlements.

More recently, however, formal dicamba complaints have nearly vanished — dropping to just 12 reported to the Missouri Department of Agriculture this year, compared to a high of 315 in 2017. On one hand, experts say, farms have increasingly planted dicamba-resistant seeds. And some, including the seed and chemical companies, say that application techniques have improved. Farmers and researchers also agree that plenty of dicamba remains in the air, and that farmers have simply stopped reporting damage.

Landowners said they first started to notice signs of injury to their trees nearly a decade ago, too. And complaints of damage quickly escalated in the years to follow, as the chemical saw a roughly five-fold national increase in usage from 2015 to 2019, according to data from the U.S. Geological Survey.

Usage of 2,4-D also rose then, but more modestly.

The emerging wave of complaints prompted Prairie Rivers, the Illinois nonprofit, to launch a campaign six years ago aimed at

monitoring "herbicide trespass" by sampling leaves from trees across Illinois.

The initiative aims to visit each of 260 locations around the state at least once a year, from forests to cemeteries, school grounds to residential yards. In over 700 site visits to date, more than 99% of them have revealed symptoms consistent with herbicide exposure, according to data from the group.

The most widely detected herbicide was 2,4-D, which was present in 86 out of 109 samples, or nearly 80% of affected trees. Dicamba, meanwhile, was found in 44 samples — or about 40%. But dicamba likely has a greater presence than the tests are able to confirm, because it is more quickly metabolized by plants, compared to other weedkillers — meaning traces of it won't be detectable for as long.

Concerns span many different tree and plant species, but they are especially high for trees such as redbuds and oaks, experts said.

And signs of the damage can be found throughout the region, experts say. Like in Washington County, Illinois, about an hour's drive east of St. Louis.

Here, around the farming community of Nashville, lots of trees exhibit signs of distress that experts attribute to herbicide exposure. That includes a grove of majestic oaks in a pasture owned by Shelley Harper. One massive tree on the property is Illinois' biggest known post oak, and although it has likely lived for more than 200 years, it's unclear if it and other trees around it will survive much longer, after years of struggles and symptoms of herbicide exposure.

Some trees on the property have even sprouted twigs and leaves from almost everywhere along their branches — something called epicormic branch-

ing, generally done as a last-ditch, desperate effort to get the energy needed to survive.

"I have to say, it's worse each year," said Harper. "You just feel sad about it and kind of helpless, too, because what can you do? What can you do in the short-term, before a lot of them die?"

Near the small town of Venedy, signs of damage reach deep into the woods along the Kaskaskia River. In recent years, growing pockets of the forest have been transformed, with the canopy opening up as foliage withers and trees die, giving rise to thick undergrowth on the forest floor.

Local residents Glen Schuetz and Gerry Scanlan each own hundreds of forested acres in the area, and Schuetz worries that their lifetimes of stewardship of the woods are "being taken away by a force we have no control over."

"It's really frustrating," he said. "We've dedicated our lives to purchasing and conserving this old-growth forest in the area."

"It's heartbreaking to see," said Scanlan. "All the timberland around here is affected by this issue."

Recent years have seen tweaks to the labels and rules for using dicamba, but they have not erased questions about the chemical's ability to safely coexist with other crops and plants. And it's unclear what further changes, if any, might be in store.

In Missouri, for instance, no changes governing dicamba use are expected for the 2024 growing season, according to a spokesperson for the state Department of Agriculture.

Researchers and landowners said they don't blame farmers. "They're using what's available to them," said Scanlan.

Instead, he and others want to hold chemical manufacturers and regulators accountable.

The EPA says that it continues to assess whether herbicides such as dicamba pose "unreasonable risks to non-target crops and other plants," and pointed to its recent approval of "amendments that further restrict the use" of the chemical, including some that took effect this year in Illinois and other states.

But property owners and experts who track tree damage say the status quo is untenable. They expect tree deaths will increase further if nothing changes.

"If we could stop this exposure, I think many of these trees could recover," said Kemper, the retired Illinois state biologist.

But he fears the costs of inaction or ineffective oversight, warning that the situation might reach an extreme where "the problem is solved, because the damage is done."

Others agree that something has to change.

"What (the EPA) is doing isn't working," said Erndt-Pitcher, the Prairie Rivers researcher. "They need to address these herbicides that are not staying put. Until we address that, it's going to be a finger-pointing time."

"There are a lot of us who would say this is unreasonable harm," she added.

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IMAGES POSTED TO THE INTERNET OF THE PARTY YOU HOSTED IN YOUR NEW HOME: HOUSEWARMING GIFS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals Y

Trivial Review (Answers are printed below, upside down.) American origins 1) What American colony did the Dutch give up to the British via the Treaty of Breda? 2) As one of his last public acts, Benjamin Franklin petitioned Congress to bring what to an end? (1) New York (2) Slavery

11-13 CRYPTOQUIP UXZ MUBO IVD U WUDFO SVDXVDUZHVM ZEUZ BUMUFOR U YOWW-GMVYM SEUHM VI ZUZZVV XUDWVDR: HMG, HMS. Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF SOME OFFBEAT POETS LIKE TO COMPOSE EVERY LINE BACKWARD, I'D SAY THEY WRITE INVERSE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals T

CRYPTO FUN Determine the code to reveal the answer! Solve the code to discover words related to caregiving. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 23 = I) A. 7 4 12 11 22 23 2 11 12 Clue: Tends to someone B. 6 4 7 23 15 23 3 19 Clue: Building or place of business C. 4 7 3 23 2 23 3 19 Clue: Keeps you busy D. 3 20 11 12 4 26 19 Clue: Remediates a health problem

WORD SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to caregiving. RWEKLA

Guess Who? I am an actor born in California on November 11, 1974. An agent suggested I use a different name as my stage name. I am known for many big films, including one that really launched my career, despite the subject matter being about a titanic disaster.

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CAREGIVING WORD SEARCH Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS ACUTE AGE IN PLACE AGING CAREGIVER COMPASSION CONTINUING COORDINATOR DAYCARE EQUIPMENT FAMILY GERIATRIC HOME HEALTH AIDE HOSPICE ILLNESS MEMORY NURSE NURSING HOME PALLIATIVE PROXY RESPITE SKILLED THERAPY VOLUNTEER

How they SAY that in... ENGLISH: Globe SPANISH: Globo terráqueo ITALIAN: Mappamondo FRENCH: Globe GERMAN: Globus

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GET THE PICTURE? Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Tax prep pro 4 London gallery 8 Top choice, for short 12 Taunting laugh 13 Wax-coated cheese 14 Battery fluid 15 Land in la mer 16 Use a fruit knife 17 Aid for Dr. House 18 Ceremony on Veterans Day 21 Moines 22 Auto fuel 23 Seine city 26 Briny expanse 27 Apply cream 30 Sparkling Italian wine 31 USO audience 32 Lady ("Poker Face" singer) 33 Actress West 34 Young fellow 35 Duck down 36 Erie Canal 37 Celeb gossip source 38 Musical groups in a Veterans Day parade 45 Boast 46 Hawaiian city 47 Spanish gold 48 Similar 49 Scored 100 on 50 Sailor 51 Bygone fliers 52 "Finding Nemo" fish 53 Ram's mate DOWN 1 Swank 2 Alto, Calif. 3 Throat clearer 4 Homes on reservations 5 Photographer 6 Poi base 7 Comes into view 8 Almanac data 9 "Super-food" berry 10 In — veritas 11 Biblical garden 19 1502, in Old Rome 20 Motorist's org. 23 Shriver of tennis 24 Solid-rock insert 25 Numbered rd. 26 "Ice Age" sloth 27 June honoree 28 Bio stat 29 Rail 31 Round Table knight 32 Sphinx site 34 Back muscle, briefly 35 Represent 36 Zodiac dozen 37 10th U.S. president 38 Some corp. recruits 39 Annoys 40 Cannes milk 41 Puerto — 42 Part of a chord 43 Sketch 44 Achy

Yesterday's answer 11-11 (Crossword grid)

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

On the horns of a dilemma North dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH: ♠K6, ♥KJ85, ♦AQ9, ♣J652. WEST: ♠J1093, ♥973, ♦10763, ♣Q9. EAST: ♠Q8742, ♥4, ♦J852, ♣K104. SOUTH: ♠A5, ♥AQ1062, ♦K4, ♣A873. The bidding: North 1♣, East Pass, South 2♥, West Pass. Opening lead — jack of spades. Sometimes declarer sees that the best chance for his contract lies in developing an end position where the opponents will be forced to yield a critical trick to him. In many of these situations, declarer should lay the groundwork early, long before the enemy realizes what is going on. Consider this deal from a team match where at both tables South got to six hearts and West led a spade, taken by dummy's king. Both declarers saw immediately that the outcome depended on avoiding two club losers. At the first table, South led a club to the ace at trick two and then drew three rounds of trump. He next cashed the K-A-Q of diamonds, discarding a club, led a spade to the ace and exited with a club. This sequence of plays created an insoluble predicament for the defense. If West's club queen held the trick, his forced diamond or spade return would allow South to ruff in dummy and discard his remaining club. And if East instead overtook West's queen with the king, dummy's jack would become a trick. Either way, South was certain to make the slam. At the second table, declarer adopted essentially the same method of play as his counterpart, but with one major difference: He first drew trump, then cashed three diamonds and the spade ace before playing the ace of clubs. By this time, West knew a great deal about South's hand and could clearly see the handwriting on the wall. But he also saw a way out. And so, when declarer cashed the club ace at trick nine, West dropped his queen on it! East now could not be prevented from scoring two tricks with the king and ten of clubs, and South went down one. In the process, he learned that if you're planning a surprise ending, it's best not to reveal your intentions while developing the plot.

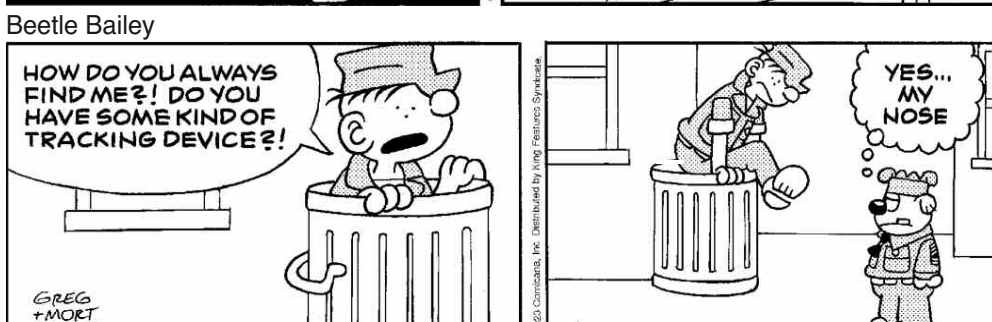
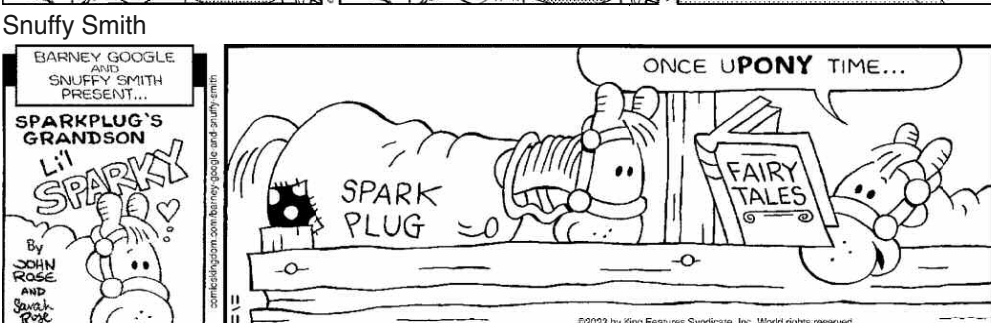
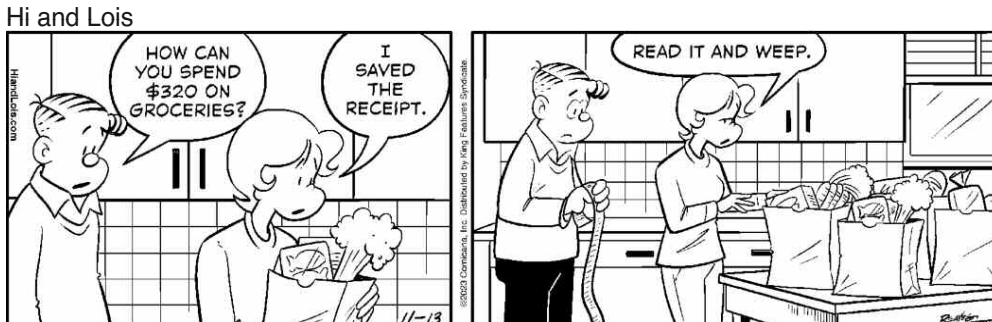
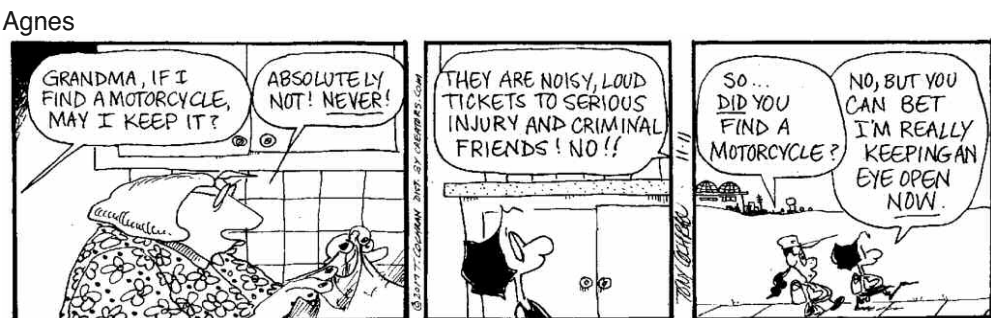
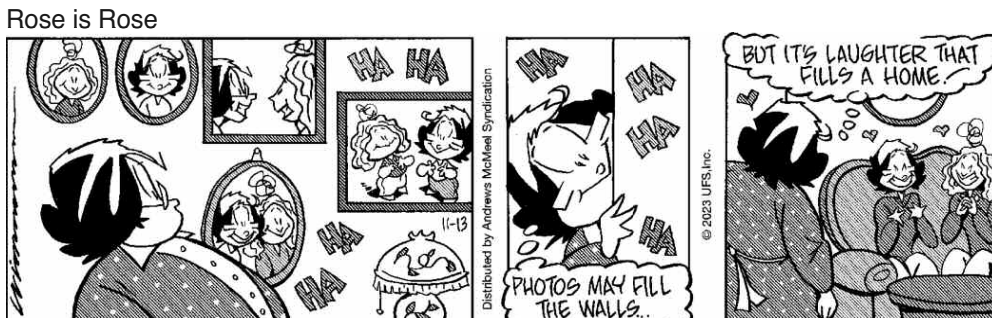
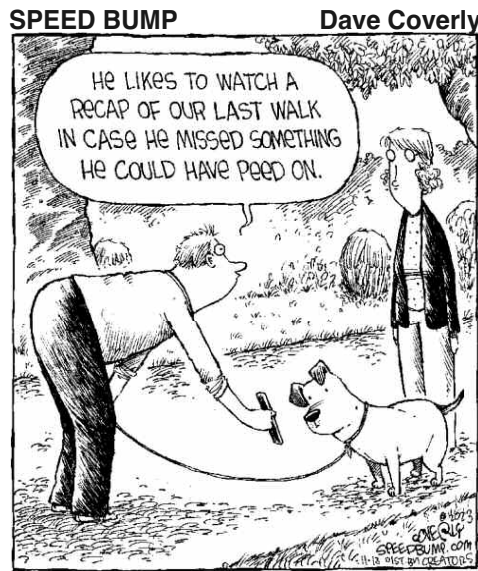
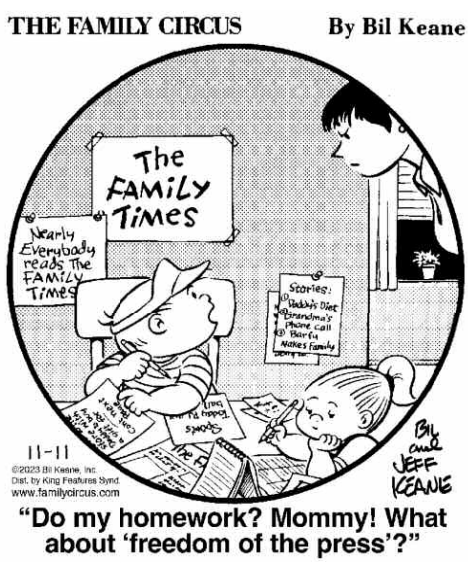
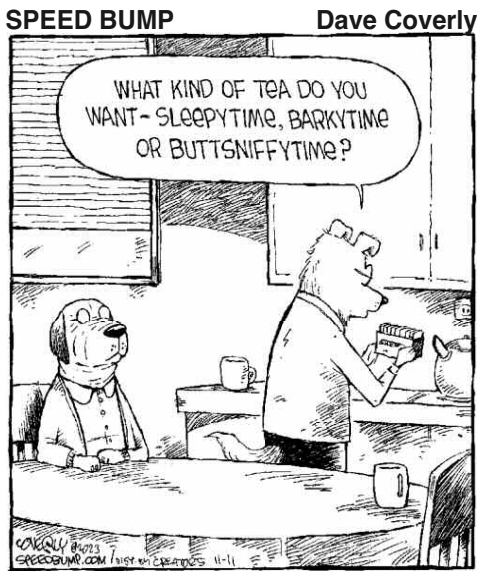
Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand South dealer. Neither side vulnerable. NORTH: ♠4, ♥8632, ♦AKQ, ♣KJ954. WEST: ♠Q8762, ♥75, ♦73, ♣10862. EAST: ♠AKJ9, ♥KJ1094, ♦J984, ♣—. SOUTH: ♠1053, ♥AQ, ♦10652, ♣AQ73. The bidding: South 1♣, West Pass, North 2♣, East Dble, South 4♥, West Pass, North 5♣, East Pass, South Pass, West Dble. Opening lead — six of spades. This deal was played in the 1930's, which accounts for some of the bids that led to six clubs doubled. The declarer was Waldemar von Zedtwitz, whose name was closely associated with every facet of contract bridge from the time the game was invented in 1926. West led a spade to East's king, and East returned the jack of hearts. Von Zedtwitz finessed the queen and led the three of clubs. When West followed with the deuce, von Zedtwitz played dummy's four! After the club finesse succeeded, as seemed likely from the bidding, declarer had smooth sailing. He cashed the ace of hearts, led a diamond to dummy, ruffed a heart with the club queen, led the seven of clubs to dummy's nine, ruffed dummy's last heart with the ace and trumped a spade in dummy. The K-J of clubs drew West's two remaining trumps, and the A-K of diamonds won the last two tricks to give von Zedtwitz a score of 1,090 points. Subsequent analysis showed that the slam could not have been made without the deep trump finesse at trick three. Finessing the four of clubs was by no means just a fancy play — it was absolutely essential. West could have thrown a spanner into the works by playing the six of clubs at trick three instead of the deuce, but this does not diminish the luster of von Zedtwitz's play once he got the chance to finesse the four. Taking advantage of defensive slips is an important part of the game. Tomorrow: First things first.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Gratuity 4 College VIPs 9 Bliss 12 Docs' org. 13 Rolling Stones hit song 14 Common verb 15 Brit's approval 17 Verily 18 Yale grad 19 Maine city 21 Sign up anew 24 New Age singer 25 Outer (Pref.) 26 Hamilton bill 28 Brawl 31 Unoriginal one 33 Salty expanse 35 Russian ruler 36 Access the Web 38 Den sets 40 Iota 41 Bar 43 Gas components 45 Austria's capital 47 TV's "Science Guy" 48 Citric beverage 49 Play-ground fixture 54 Signing need 55 Farewell 56 Fish eggs 57 Jargon suffix 58 Transmits 59 Skeddadle DOWN 2 "As I see it," to a texter 3 Chum 4 Naturally illuminated 5 Web search tools 6 Past 7 Weeper of myth 8 Family cars 9 Protagonist in a novel 10 Nabisco cookie 11 Once around the sun 20 Russian denial 21 Genuine 22 Big fair, for short 23 Foot-ball's "mean" Hall-of-Famer 27 Profit 29 Follow 30 Scraps 32 Reddish horse 34 Got back at 37 Japanese warriors 39 Phonograph needle 42 Summa cum — 44 Haw preceder 45 Smoke an e-cig 46 Mid-month date 50 French diarist Anais 51 Rover's warning 52 Thee 53 Chess pieces

Saturday's answer 11-13 (Crossword grid)



We Deliver

Laughter

The Commercial Review We Deliver

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

ATTENTION! LOST A PET Or found one? The jay county humane society can serve as an information center. 260-726-6339

40 NOTICES

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER. Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Plan now to attend November 23, 2023, 1:00 pm. Asbury UM Church. All Jay County welcome. No charge for the meal.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

60 SERVICES

J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC. Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

"SEAMSTRESS NAN" HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, Appliqué, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located : 822 S 500 W, Portland, IN.
Friday Morning,
NOVEMBER 17, 2023
10:00 A. M.

EQUIPMENT-DUMP TRUCK-CLUB CAR
Bobcat T870 2 Speed Track Loader, 2021 Kubota KX080-4S2R3A Excavator, Include Angle Blade, Power Factory Thumb and 24" GP Bicket; 2023 Bobcat Toolcat UW56 - 4X4 Diesel, 2018 Enduraplas Field Boss XTREAM UTV
Sprayer with 12' Booms, 50' Hose Reel, and Honda
Motor; 2021 EZ GO L6 - 6 Passenger Gas Club Car.

TOOLS
Hobart Stick Mate LX Welder on cart; Bed-scraper Trencher; Stor-Loc Modular Drawer System Tool
Bench; Mats; Dog Cage; Clay Targets; Tannerite; Stihl Safety Helmet, Pants, and Chaps; Propane Burner; Shop Vacs; Come Alongs; and other items not listed.

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: EQUIPMENT, TRUCK AND CLUB CAR WILL BE SOLD VIA LIVE AND ONLINE BIDDING THRU EQUIPMENT-FACTS. 3% CONVENIENCE FEE FOR ONLINE BIDDING. FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT GARY LOY, AUCTIONEER AT (260) 726-5160.
MYRON FARMING MANAGEMENT LLC & MYRON TERRAIN MANAGEMENT LLC
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

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Highway 67 W,
Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

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RESIDENTIAL • VINYL
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rgfence@yahoo.com
(765) 546-8801

90 SALE CZLENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located : 7638 N 650 W Bryant, IN
Saturday morning
NOVEMBER 11, 2023
9:30 A.M.

REAL ESTATE
PARCEL #1: 2 Story home with 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large family room, partial basement, and a 2 car attached garage.

This home has a new gas furnace plus a wood furnace, newer windows, new well, and a metal roof. This parcel has several outbuildings and will contain approximately 4 acres.

PARCEL #2: 58.11 Acres of land with 48 acres tillable, 6.5 acres of woods and the balance in roadway and ditch.

Parcel #3: 62.11 acres of land with house and outbuildings.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS

Whirlpool side by side refrigerator; Whirlpool washer & dryer; Oak punched tin cabinet; wood bench; galvanized rinse tubs; horseshoes; metal horse clock; 2 milk cans with seats; and many other items not listed.
VAN-MOWER-GOLF CART -EQUIPMENT-TOOLS
2004 Chevrolet Venture van; Easy Go Club Car electric golf cart; Grasshopper 618 zero turn mower with 1099 hours; Hover Round mobility cart; pony saddles; work horse harnesses; scrap metal; and many other items not listed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT KIM LOY BROKER 260-726-2700 OR GARY LOY AUCTIONEER 260-726-5160.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TO SELL IMMEDIATELY AFTER REAL ESTATE.

HOUGH FAMILY TRUST
By Freda Corwin & Mitch Corwin
Co-Trustees
Loy Auction
AC#31600027 Auctioneers

PUBLIC AUCTION
MONDAY NOVEMBER 13TH, 2023 TIME 5:00 P.M.
LOCATED: 7259 W 200 N. Pennville, IN
REAL ESTATE
79 Acres in section 7 Greene Township, Jay County Indiana. To be offered in two tracts and entirety.
Tract 1: 16 acres with approximately 13 acres tillable, balance being road frontage on County Road 200
N and wooded. Tract 2: 63 acres practically all tillable with road frontage on County Road 150 N.
Tract 3: Combination of tract 1 and 2. For more information phone auctioneers.
OWNERS: Carl and Betty Stultz Estate
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9TH, 2023
9:00 A.M.

LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South.

FARM TRACTORS-FARM EQUIP.-CONSTRUCTION EQUIP. - TRUCKS-TRAILER-VEHICLES- RIDING MOWERS-ATVS- ATTACHMENTS-MISC. NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS UNTIL

5p.m. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023. Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad.

TERMS: CASH OR GOOD CHECK NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SHOWS

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. **AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS**
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
www.auctionzip.com - Auctioneer ID #4243

PUBLIC AUCTION
MONDAY NOVEMBER 13 TH , 2023
TIME 6:00 P.M.
LOCATED: 4579 W 200 N,
Portland IN

64 ACRES OFFERED IN TRACTS

Tract 1: 3 Bedroom two story home containing 2376 square foot of living area. Home has central air and is in move-in condition. 55' x 44' Barn with lean-to and porch. Nicely situated on 5 acres. Tract 2: 59 acres practically all tillable in section 10 Greene Township, Jay County Indiana. Tract 3: Combination of tracts 1 and 2.

OWNER: Chris Schwartz
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
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110 HELP WANTED

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SEEKIN FT LABORER Water Dept., Dunkirk. Applications @ City Building And accepted till Nov. 16th.

LOOKING FOR A CDL DRIVER Class A with a tanker endorsement, part time and full time hours. Call Allen at CJR trucking 260-726-5522

HIRING PART-TIME INSERTER Hours vary each week. Apply at The Graphic Printing Company • The Commercial Review 309 West Main Street • Portland, IN 47371 Office Hours: 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday - Friday **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.** Equal opportunity employer.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

190 FARMERS COL-UMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

NEED MORE STORAGE? PJ's U-Lock and Storage, most sizes available. Call 260-726-4631.

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Lease of Approximately Fourteen (14) Acres of Farm Ground
Located at 1258 E 600 N, Bryant, IN 47326

I. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Pursuant to LC. § 36-1-11-13, the Town of Bryant has determined that leasing a part of the Town-owned property located at 1258 E 600 N, Bryant, IN 47326 is in the best interests of the Town and the public. This Property consists of the Town's water treatment plant. The entire parcel is forty (40) acres. However, the total portion that is subject to this lease is approximately fourteen (14) acres. For the following reasons, the Town has determined that the use of LC. § 36-1-11-10 to lease the Property is not feasible:

- A Request for Proposals allows the Town to comply with the statutory requirements of leasing the Property and securing an appropriate tenant in an efficient manner, taking into account elements such as use and other restrictions set forth in the lease; and
- A Request for Proposals is the most effective and appropriate way to proceed in light of time constraints.

Therefore, the Town seeks proposals from qualified parties interested in leasing the Property and intends to select, after all Indiana Law requirements have been met, and enter into a lease agreement with the most highly qualified respondent pursuant to the evaluation criteria set forth herein. The Town is interested in leasing the Property to a party or parties who will utilize the Property in a manner consistent with prior practices and abide by the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Lease Agreement.

II. GENERAL INFORMATION

Location and Description
-The total property consists of forty (40) acres. ONLY approximately fourteen (14) acres is subject to this Request for Proposal. The fourteen (14) acres is separated by a ditch. Nine (9) acres are accessible from County Road 600 N. The remaining five (5) acres are only accessible by agreement of the landowner to the north. The Town DOES NOT guarantee access to the five (5) acres that is located to the north of the ditch.
-The nine (9) acre portion can only be used as a hay field, due to its close proximity to the wastewater plant.
-The five (5) acre portion can be planted in any legal crop.

-The two portions are not being offered as separate parcels or separate leases. A successful respondent shall lease the entire fourteen (14) acres and fully comply with the terms of the Lease Agreement, which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

Ineligible Persons and Trusts

-The Property will not be lease to a respondent who is ineligible pursuant to LC. § 36-1-11-16. This includes individuals (or agents thereof) who owe delinquent taxes, special assessment, penalties, interest, or costs directly attributable to a prior tax sale on a tract of real property pursuant to LC. § 6-1.1-24-1.

-If a proposal is submitted by a trust (as defined by I.C. § 30-4-1-l(a)), the proposal must identify each beneficiary of the trust and each settlor empowered to revoke or modify the trust.

Risk Allocation
-Each respondent shall assume all risk for the implementation and operation of its proposal and the obligations contained in any final leasing arrangement for the Property.

III. PROPOSAL FORMAT

-Proposals must be fully responsive to the criteria below and submitted in the format outlined herein. Each proposal will be reviewed to determine if it is complete. The Town may reject from consideration any response that does not follow the format or is not responsive, but reserves the right to waive minor irregularities if such waiver is in the best interest of the Town and the public. Each respondent shall submit a hard copy of its proposal to Gregg Ellenberger by November 20th, at 6:00 p.m. at 107 E Main Street, Bryant, IN 47326.

-Each Proposal shall include the following:
- Respondent's point of contact, including name, address, phone number and email;
- Proposed use of the Property;
- Three references;
- Lease payment (including any special payment structures);
- Any proposed amendments to the Lease Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

IV. PROPOSAL SELECTION

-In determining the best and highest offer, the Town shall take into consideration the following criteria:
- Proposed lease price and other lease terms;
- Compliance with this Request for Proposals;
- Whether the proposed use of the Property complies with the desires and requirements of the Town;
- Respondent's reputation and proposal references.

V. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Respondents be advised:
-The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals at its sole discretion.
-The costs for preparation of a proposal will not be reimbursed by the Town and are the sole responsibility of the respondent
-The Town requires a successful respondent to show proof of commercial general liability insurance naming the Town of Bryant as additional insured for the leased property.
-The respondents will be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision to the proposals. The Town may enter into discussion with offerors to clarify and assure a full understanding of the proposals.
-The Town may refuse to disclose the contents of the proposals during discussions with eligible respondents.

VI. SUBMISSION INFORMATION

PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOVEMBER 20TH AT 6:00 P.M. AT 107 N MAIN STREET, BRYANT, IN 47326.

CR 11-4.11-2023-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located in the Bulp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds,
806 E Votaw Street, Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning

NOVEMBER 18, 2023

9:30 A.M.

(2) Oak desks (came from 1st National Bank in Portland); Whirlpool upright freezer; Frigidaire Bronze color electric stove; Golden lift chair; 3 pc. full size bedroom suit; 4 pc. bedroom suit; 5 drawer chest; hall table; retro yellow color table with 6 chairs; 6 drawer chest; 12 drawer dresser with mirror; rocker/recliner; hide-a-bed sofa; (2) glass door cabinets; glass door bookcase; Lazy Boy rocker/recliner; kneehole desk with chair; (2) swivel occasional chairs; kitchen table with 4 chairs; (4) ladder back chairs; (2) 1 drawer lamp stands; rocker; floor lamp; coffee table; coat rack; 5,000 BTU window air conditioner; mantel clock; Willow Tree figurines; Syracuse china; Pink Depression; Corelle dishes; stainless mixing bowl set; Milk White pitcher and tumblers; baking dishes; cookware; utensils; flatware; cookbooks; Rogers 1847 flatware with case; Precious Moments figurines; picture frames; lamps; metal kitchen cabinet; (2) metal cabinets; records albums; stained glass; brass spittoon; pictures; Sony portable stereo; medicine bottles; GE ice tea maker; Braun coffee maker; food processor; GF grill; sleeping bags; sewing items; scales; luggage; figurines; large amount of bedding; kid's stools; Blue Hobnail vase; Royerton yearbooks; walkers; children's books; costume jewelry; porcelain pans; Longaberger baskets; linens; antique glassware; folding chairs; canning jars; decorations; Fisher Price game table; port hole clock; kitchen stool; puzzles; cement figurines; Daisy BB gun; hall tree; quilt rack; yardsticks; carnival sticks; cuckoo clock; Magnavox 24" TV/DVD/VCR combo; Master Mix mixer with 2 bowls; metal kneehole desk and chair; Tupperware; office chairs; step stools; afghans; child's rocker; ceramic owls; metal quilt stand; Homer Laughlin dishes; globe on stand; bookshelf; mirror; corner shelves; figurines; bells; kitchen cart; Benton Ware dishes; Carnival; Pyrex; cow cookie jar; fans; coolers; picnic jug; games; signs; bird feeder;

Lawn Boy push mower with bagger; yard tools; aluminum extension ladder; saws; pipe wrenches; screws; nails; vise; square; Makita rechargeable 9.6 drill; B&D electric hedge trimmer; wrenches; levels; sockets; broadcaster; wood step ladder; air tank; pruners; pry bars; rakes; bug light; hose and reel; shovels; hoes; wheelbarrow; lawn chairs; gas cans; and many other items not listed.

CHESTER POWDER

LOY AUCTION AC#31600027
AUCTIONEERS
Gary Loy AU 01031608 Aaron Loy AU11200112
Travis Theurer AU 11200131

CR 11-11-2023

THE CLASSIFIEDS
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Core ...

Continued from page 10
DeHoff will remain in the breaststroke but will likely move from the butterfly one of the sprint freestyle races. Last season, she finished third in the breaststroke, only behind Bader and Julia Arnold of South Adams. Slavik said he is looking for DeHoff to have a breakout year. Huey will reprise her role as a backstroker and Millsbaugh will stick with the distance freestyle races. Millsbaugh finished fourth in the 500 freestyle last year behind two seniors who have since graduated and Norwell sophomore Cassandra Coyne. Another change that may happen will involve Snow getting on the start-

ing block to swim in the breaststroke. Early in the season, Slavik is putting an emphasis exploring different options for the sprints. "Right now, we don't have any standout sprinters," Slavik said. "That's a lot of our focus this year, is working 50 and 100 and trying to find that breakout sprint swimmer." In the 200 medley relay and the 200 freestyle relay, Slavik will have to find someone to replace Bader. Previously, Huey, Fisher and DeHoff swam the medley while Fisher, DeHoff and Beiswanger competed in the freestyle. Slavik is currently considering moving DeHoff to the breaststroke leg of the medley and adding either

Beiswanger or Laux as the freestyle leg. In the freestyle he thinks that Hoevel or Wentz could jump in. The Patriots will kick off the season next Saturday when they travel to Westfield. Before the Patriots look to take the Allen County Athletic Conference and repeat as a top-three finisher at sectional, they will need to focus on the dual meets of the season. "First and foremost for me to focus on our dual meets and just try to figure out where everybody belongs," Slavik said. "As long as we're accomplishing the little goals, it all comes together at the end and makes us better as a team."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Wood teaches

Jay County High School's Tony Wood (behind) and Jacob Robinson (front) demonstrate a far wrist tilt during practice on Thursday. The JCHS boys wrestling team just started practices last week and are preparing for the season opener against Centerville on Nov. 28.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Rowles signs

Jay County High School senior Cody Rowles signed a letter of intent to play baseball at Indiana Tech on Thursday. Pictured from left are Coach Todd Farr, father Patrick, sister Katie, mother Niki, Cody, pitching coach Mitch Waters and Indiana Bandits coach Tim Garret.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls wrestling at East Noble — 9 a.m.; Girls basketball at Hamilton Heights — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball scrimmage vs. Russia — 12 p.m.

Monday
Jay County — Junior high boys basketball vs. Norwell — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Norwell — 7:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball scrimmage vs. Greenville — 6 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Girls basketball vs. Oak Hill — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Adams Central — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.

TV sports
Today

7 a.m. — U17 World Cup: Senegal vs. Argentina (FS1)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur at Wolverhampton (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League: Luton Town at Manchester United (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Michigan at Penn State (FOX); Tulsa at Tulane (ESPN2); Georgia Tech at Clemson (ABC); Texas Tech at Kansas (FS1); Indiana at Illinois (BTN)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League: Newcastle United at AFC Bournemouth (NBC)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Miami at Florida State (ABC); Utah at Washington (FOX); Tennessee at Missouri (CBS); Rutgers at Iowa (BTN); Minnesota at Purdue (NBC); Northwestern at Wisconsin (FS1)
4 p.m. — College football: Washington State at Cal (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — College football: Ole Miss at Georgia (ESPN); West Virginia at Oklahoma (FOX); Cincinnati at Houston (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Michigan State at

Ohio State (NBC); Texas at TCU (ABC)
8 p.m. — NWSL: Gotham FC at OL Reign (CBS)
10 p.m. — College football: New Mexico at Boise State (FS1)
10:15 p.m. — College football: Iowa State at BYU (ESPN)
10:30 p.m. — College football: USC at Oregon (FOX)

Sunday
7 a.m. — U17 World Cup: United States at Korea Republic (FS1)
9 a.m. — Premier League: Nottingham Forest at West Ham United (USA)
9:30 a.m. — NFL: Indianapolis Colts at New England Patriots (ABC)
11:30 a.m. — Premier League: Manchester City at Chelsea (USA)
1 p.m. — NFL: Green Bay Packers at Pittsburgh Steelers (CBS); San Francisco 49ers at Jacksonville Jaguars (FOX)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at South Carolina (ABC)

3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: UConn at N.C. State (ABC)
4 p.m. — NFL: Detroit Lions at Los Angeles Chargers (CBS)
4 p.m. — NHRA: In-N-Out Burger NHRA Finals (FS1)
4:25 p.m. — NFL: New York Giants at Dallas Cowboys (FOX)
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Auburn at Rutgers (BTN)
6 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Philadelphia 76ers (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Army at Indiana (BTN)
7 p.m. — USL Championship: Phoenix Rising at Charleston Battery (ESPN)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: New York Jets at Las Vegas Raiders (NBC)
9 p.m. — Top rank boxing: De Los Santos vs. Stevenson (ESPN2)

Monday
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Kansas

at Penn State (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan at St. John's (FS1)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Rider at Nebraska (BTN)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Xavier at Purdue (FS1)
8:15 p.m. — NFL: Denver Broncos at Buffalo Bills (ABC)

Tuesday
4 a.m. — U17 World Cup: New Caledonia at Brazil (FS1)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Wisconsin at Providence (FS1)
7 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Philadelphia 76ers (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Duke at Michigan state (ESPN); St. Francis at Penn State (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: San Antonio Spurs at Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Marquette at Illinois (FS1)

Announcing the **25TH** Annual

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS Christmas Fiction Contest

Open to residents of Jay, Randolph, Blackford, Adams, Wells and Delaware counties in Indiana and Mercer and Darke counties in Ohio. Former area residents who are subscribers to The Commercial Review, The News-Gazette, The News Times or the News and Sun may also enter.

Selected entries will be published in The Graphic Printing Company's annual Christmas Greetings special section. The first-place entry will also receive a \$250 prize.

Original short stories with a Christmas theme or setting should be emailed to news@thecr.com by Dec. 8. Each entry should include the writer's name, complete address and phone number.

Entry Deadline is Dec. 8, 2023.

The 2022 winner

"Christmas Magic"

By Madison Bihn

Sports



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Pictured is the 2023-24 Jay County High School girls swim team. Front row from left are Morgan DeHoff, Kenzie Clayton, Zion Beiswanger, Nina Ribas Cesar, Naroa Zugasti Goicoechea and Maddy Snow. Middle row are Lily Awilya, Aubrey Millspaugh, Tikuna Japaridize, Kenzie Huey, Maisey Keller, Avery Wentz and manager Maria Laux. Back row are Lucy Mace, Kaylynn Clark, Emma Ransom, Ariel Beiswanger, Lauren Fisher and Sophia Hoevel. Not pictured are Hannah Laux and Callie Houck.

Swimmers return core

Patriots lose state-qualifier Mara Bader, but return eight athletes that competed in sectional finals

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

It's been 11 years since the Patriots girls swim team hasn't had a member of the Bader family in the pool.

With the youngest of the clan, four year state qualifier Mara Bader, graduating last year, coach Matt Slavik will be looking for a way to fill in the gaps.

Despite losing its top swimmer, the Jay County High School girls swim team returns a majority of the roster that earned a top-three finish at the sectional meet a year ago.

"I think we have a lot of girls that will be able to fit into different positions," Slavik said. "Mara went to state all four years of her high school career. So obviously, it leaves a few holes to fill, but I'm pretty confident that we have some girls here that can fill them and score points at sectionals.

"The goal is to try to get at least a relay down to the state this year. And I think we can do it. ... Every one of those girls that come back from sectional can make a jump."

The Patriots return eight swimmers who competed in sectional finals as individuals last year and two more who made the consolation heat of the sectional as individuals while participating on the 400-yard freestyle relay team that placed sixth.

From the sectional finals, the Patriots bring back Lauren Fisher (50 freestyle, 100 butterfly), Aubrey Millspaugh (200 freestyle, 500 freestyle), Zion Beiswanger (100 breaststroke), Morgan DeHoff (100 breaststroke), Kenzie Huey (100 backstroke) and Hannah Laux (100 butterfly).

Girls who qualified for consolation heats were Sophia Hoevel (200

freestyle, 100 freestyle), Avery Wentz (500 freestyle, 100 backstroke), Beiswanger (200 individual medley), DeHoff (100 breaststroke) and Laux (100 butterfly).

Maddy Snow also got through the sectional as a diver before finishing 13th in the regional. She will be joined by freshman Lucy Mace.

Slavik is looking to improve the number of girls who are in the finals of each event as well as the number who make it out of the prelims this season.

"The idea is that I would like to see us fielding two or three girls at sectional finals and every event," Slavik said. "I think we're pretty capable of that. We had three events where we had the 17th or 18th swimmer last year. That's never a good feeling to leave your sectional meet when you have that many people that are alternates.

"So, the goal is that we have nobody on that alternate spot and everybody's moved up into the top 16," continued Slavik. "And anybody that finished in that consolation, the expectation is that we're shooting for the finals heat."

While a lot of swimmers will stay in similar events, some will get moved around early in the season to maximize their strengths and fill the holes left by Bader.

In individual events, the three that may move the most are Fisher, DeHoff and Beiswanger. As of right now, Beiswanger may remain in the breaststroke and individual medley, but Slavik likes how well rounded she is and may move her as needed.

Fisher will be sticking with the butterfly, but will likely move from the sprint freestyle to the 200.

"Lauren brings a lot to the table coming back as a

2023-24 schedule		
Date	Opponent	Time
Saturday, Nov. 18	Westfield Invitational	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 28	Bluffton	6 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 30	Anderson	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 3	Celina Sprints	11 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 5	Oak Hill	6 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 7	Norwell	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 11	South Adams	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Delta	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 18	Adams Central	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 27	Homestead (diving)	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 2	Bellmont	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 4	Celina/Coldwater	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 5	Jay Co. Invitational	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 6	Jay Co. Invitational	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 9	Yorktown/Union City	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 16	Muncie Central	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 19	ACAC Meet	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 23	Blackford/Burris	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 26	Marion	6 p.m.
Home meets in bold		

sophomore this year," Slavik said. "We're not 100% sure where her events are going to unfold. We're looking at butterfly and leaning towards 200 freestyle right now because with some stroke improvements we're working on I think it could benefit her."

See Core page 9

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