

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Pegs and Jokers

Joan and Galan Gray of Keystone explain their homemade board game, "Pegs and Jokers," to a woman visiting the Delts' Holiday Crafts and Gift Show on Saturday morning at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

## Sheriff's Office days will roll over

Commissioners set June 1 deadline for using days

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Time is rolling over for some county employees. Jay County Commissioners OK'd a request Monday from Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton to allow rolling over employees' vacation, flex and personal time into 2024 in an attempt to cut down on overtime pay. Employees must use their time by June 1.

Commissioners also heard a proposition from Ritter Strategic Services to provide consultation regarding the purchase of new emergency responder radios.

"We (have been) so short-staffed these last few months that I'm trying to avoid paying overtime," explained Newton, suggesting the county roll over employees' vacation days as a temporary solution. (Employees would need to decide whether they want to roll over their time or take it before the end of the year.)

Commissioner Chad Aker recalled in 2022 when Jay County Highway Department requested rolling over vacation time into the new year because employees wouldn't be able to use all their days leftover before January. At that time, Aker noted, they agreed to handle such requests on a case-by-case basis.

"Obviously, we're not encouraging it to happen, but in some instances you can have it," he said.

As of last week, Newton pointed out, Jay County Jail was short five correctional officers. Two new correctional officers and two new dispatchers were hired recently. Although Jay County Sheriff's Office has a full staff of deputies, Newton added that two deputies will be attending the police academy in January.

"It's just, we can't find the help anymore. Not like we used to," said Newton.

See Roll page 2

## Israel reveals details of offensive

By STEFANIE JARKEL, CHRISTINA STORZ and WEEDAH HAMZAH

TEL AVIV — The Israeli army revealed more details of its ongoing ground offensive in the Gaza Strip on Monday as a UN building was hit there and more rockets were fired at Israel from both Gaza and Lebanon.

The Israeli army said on Telegram that it has carried out a total of 4,300 attacks, by the air force and ground troops, since the start of ground operations in Gaza around a fortnight ago.

Hundreds of launch sites for anti-tank missiles and around 300 tunnel shafts had been hit.

Around 3,000 targets, which the army described as terrorist infrastructure, were attacked, including more than 100 that were equipped with explosive devices.

Hundreds of command

*More than 4,300 attacks have been carried out in two weeks*

and control centers of the Islamist Palestinian organization Hamas were also attacked, it said.

Military videos showed airstrikes on buildings that collapsed and soldiers in combat gear running between destroyed houses.

The Israeli Navy has discovered dozens of weapons and military equipment in the sea near Gaza since the beginning of the Gaza war on October 7, the army said on Monday.

The army announced that Hamas wanted to use the weapons and explosives to advance into Israeli territory. The navy

foiled these attempts, it said.

The underwater operations unit found explosive devices, explosive belts, ammunition, inflatable boats and a missile. The explosive devices were "neutralized," it said. An army video showed two explosions on beaches.

Back on the ground, Israel's army once again gave civilians in the embattled northern Gaza a window of opportunity until 1400 GMT to flee to the south of the coastal region on Monday.

The situation was particularly difficult for patients

in hospitals in the north, who were unable to be transported due to the severity of their injuries or illnesses.

Israel has been calling on the civilian population in Gaza City and in the north for weeks to move to the south of the coastal strip for their own safety.

However, according to eyewitnesses, there have also been several Israeli airstrikes in the southern part of Gaza. According to the Israeli army, these were exclusively targeted attacks on members of Hamas.

But on Monday, the United Nations said Israel had attacked a building housing UN staff in southern Gaza. It provided no evidence that Israel was behind the attack. The information could not immediately be confirmed independently and there was no immediate comment from the Israeli government.

The UN said the incident, which occurred near

the Rafah border crossing, was "another indication that no place in Gaza is safe. Not the north, not the center and not the south," said Philippe Lazzarini, commissioner general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) on Monday.

The UNRWA said it had sent the coordinates of the building's location to all parties to the conflict twice, most recently on Friday.

According to UN figures, more than 1.5 million people have been displaced as a result of the fighting in Gaza.

The UNRWA says more than 60 UN facilities have been directly or indirectly damaged in recent weeks. Most of these are schools, which are now being used as emergency shelters. More than 600,000 people are said to have sought refuge in UNRWA buildings in southern Gaza.

## Little spent so far

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Almost a year after distributions started from the National Opioid Settlement, only \$7.1 million has been put to use so far in Indiana as local units of government wrestle with how to make the most of the payments.

Over the next two decades, tens of billions of dollars will flow into state coffers nationally from the National Opioid Settlement, a court agreement between companies deemed responsible for the deadly, life-disrupting impact of the addictive

drug and the localities bearing the brunt of the devastation.

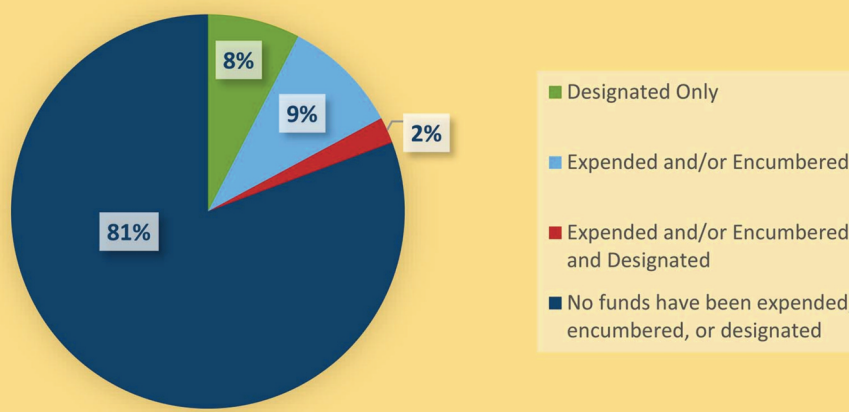
On average, four Hoosiers die each day from a drug overdose and three-quarters of those deaths involved an opioid, according to a 2021 updated drug

overdose report from the Indiana Department of Health. More than 15,000 Hoosiers have died since 1999 and thousands more have been incarcerated for drug-related offenses due to their addiction.

See Spent page 2

*Only \$7.1 million of opioid settlement funds have been used in Indiana*

### Local Units of Government: Breakdown of Abatement Funds



Indiana Family and Social Services Administration Annual Opioid Settlement Report

Municipalities across the United States have started the process of utilizing less than 20% of the funds received from the National Opioid Settlement received between July 31, 2022, and Aug. 1, 2023.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 54 degrees Sunday. The low was 32.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the lower 30s. Expect most-

ly sunny skies Wednesday with a high in the low 60s. The low will again be in the 30s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Portland Board of Works has scheduled an executive session for 4 p.m. Thursday in the mayor's office at city hall. A special meeting will follow at 4:20 p.m.

### Coming up

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

**Thursday** — Results from today's JCHS girls basketball game against Oak Hill.



# Roll ...

Continued from page 1  
 Commissioner Brian McGalliard asked county auditor Emily Franks for her opinion on the matter. She said she understood Newton's reasoning, but expressed some concerns. Franks asked if there would be any guarantee employees use their vacation days "within a reasonable amount of time."

County attorney Wes Schemenaur recommended putting a deadline on the extension. As a representative of several local municipalities, he said he has seen the same issue before.

"It's a snowball thing," he said. "You know, (if) you're short-staffed next year, they've rolled over 40 hours from the year before, and Jan. 1, all of

sudden they get 'X' number of hours additional, and you know, it just keeps going and going and going to the point where, what do you do with that? They're never going to be able to take 200 days off."

Commissioners decided to allow the rollover with the stipulation that time must be used by June 1.

Also Monday, Newton introduced commissioners to Barry Ritter, former Indiana 911 director and police officer in Richmond. Ritter has been offering public safety consulting to local governments through Ritter Strategic Services for about seven years.

"When I started this company, I was the state 911 director, and it became very apparent that

local government ... needed someone sitting on their side of the table," explained Ritter. "Versus vendors coming in and telling you what your problem was, telling you what the solution to that is, and then having you spend a great deal of money and coming out the back end of the project, and it (may) not necessarily be what it was you thought you were going to get or what it was you needed."

He offered his services, which would include providing assessments and recommendations to the county about the purchase options for emergency responder radios. Ritter said he doesn't have a price nailed down for Jay County's needs yet, but he compared similar services cost Wayne County about \$80,000

recently, and a smaller county that he didn't name to about \$63,000.

Aker noted the county has been looking into purchasing new radios for years.

"The problem is, we don't know what we actually need," he said. "We do need some type of a consultant on this in my opinion."

Newton pointed out law enforcement has had difficulties with the current system. Mike Weitzel, chief of Portland Fire Department, added that the system is "antiquated" and needs to be updated.

"It's working sufficiently, but in some point in time, we're going to be a point where there's not a fix for it," Weitzel said.

Newton also added some of

the municipal departments may not be able to afford the switch and may need help in funding the purchase of new radios.

"We're not out here to leave anyone in the cold," he said. "I just want to make sure, whatever we buy is going to last for quite a few years."

"We need to act on it quick, because it's been two years, three years, and we still haven't made a decision," he added. "We need to do something now, at least for the sheriff's office, because our radio system is going out."

Commissioners made no formal decision on the matter Monday but suggested Ritter forward a contract proposal to Schemenaur to review.

# CR almanac

Wednesday 11/15	Thursday 11/16	Friday 11/17	Saturday 11/18	Sunday 11/19
<b>61/39</b>	<b>63/47</b>	<b>58/32</b>	<b>51/32</b>	<b>52/37</b>
Wednesday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high near the low 60s.	Mostly sunny on Thursday, when the high will be around 63 degrees.	There's a chance of showers Friday. Otherwise, partly sunny, with a high in the upper 50s.	Sunny skies are expected Saturday, when the low at night will drop to 32.	Another day of sun is in the forecast for Sunday. The high will be around 52.

# Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$235 million	62-65-72-74-76-79-80 Cash 5: 5-9-26-36-38 Estimated jackpot: \$95,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$245 million	<b>Ohio</b> Sunday Midday Pick 3: 2-9-6 Pick 4: 5-4-3-3 Pick 5: 1-8-9-5-3 Evening Pick 3: 4-5-8 Pick 4: 9-1-1-3 Pick 5: 7-3-1-1-8 Rolling Cash 5: 16-23-26-27-29 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Sunday Midday Daily Three: 3-8-8 Daily Four: 7-3-5-1 Evening Daily Three: 5-9-2 Daily Four: 1-3-7-1 Quick Draw: 7-9-11-14-15-19-28-31-35-36-42-52-54-	

# Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.44 Dec. corn .....4.74 Wheat .....4.89	Dec. beans .....13.54 Wheat ..... 5.39
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.38 Dec. corn .....4.68 Jan. corn .....4.79	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.43 Late Nov. corn .....4.43 Beans .....13.33 Dec. beans .....13.53 Wheat .....5.39
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.35 Dec. corn .....4.59 Beans .....13.29	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.39 Dec. corn .....4.54 Beans .....13.12 Dec. beans .....13.22 Wheat .....4.90

# Today in history

In 1305, Clement V became the first of the Avignon popes.  
 In 1732, the Library Company of Philadelphia, founded by Benjamin Franklin and others in November of the previous year, signed a contract with its first librarian. The library offered subscriptions for 40 shillings.  
 In 1851, Herman Melville published "Moby Dick" through Harper & Brothers. The book about the Captain Ahab's quest to hunt and kill a whale is considered a classic of American literature.  
 In 1889, journalist Nellie Bly started her trip around the world, attempting to beat the mark set in the Jules Verne book "Around the World in Eighty Days." She completed the journey in just over 72 days.  
 In 2018, Jay County Council approved Jay County Commissioners' plan to increase the county's contribution toward employee health insurance.  
 In 2022, Jay County High School athletics director Steve Boozier laid out immediate, intermediate and long-term goals for outdoor facilities. Those goals included determining whether to continue with a grass football field or replace it with artificial turf. (A project is planned to install artificial turf ahead of the 2024 football season.)  
 —The CR

# Citizen's calendar

<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North	Meridian St. 4:20 p.m. — Portland Board of Works special meeting, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
<b>Thursday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N.	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

# Spent ...

Continued from page 1  
 As with mental health services, jails remain one of the few places to receive treatment in a state with a shortage of options.

But the \$507 million coming to Indiana over the next 18 years — from the National Opioid Settlement with distributors Americource-Bergen, Cardinal Health and McKesson as well as opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson — has the potential to change that.

In contrast to its predecessor, the 1998 Tobacco Master Settlement, funds are flowing to local units of government — a move meant to target areas with high numbers of overdose deaths and opioid proliferation.

Payments started going out in December of 2022, with more than \$107 million in the first wave to the state and 648 local units of government.

A Fall 2023 report presents the first look at where funds have gone and how localities chose to spend them, falling into a handful of approved uses for funds that include: treatment, prevention and catch-all strategies designed to strengthen local responses.

But, so far, many are being cautious with the money they've received or spending their dollars on long-term projects that haven't yet come to fruition.

### Where is it going?

Just 606 cities, towns and counties of the 648 reported their spending to NextLevel Recovery, part of the state's Office of Drug Prevention, Treatment and Enforcement. Of those, 81% of abatement funds hadn't been expended, encumbered or designated. Even fewer had opted to spend unrestricted funds — 87% of cities, towns and counties hadn't touched those dollars yet.

Though there isn't yet a dashboard of spending, the office's executive director, Douglas Huntsinger, hinted at a Nov. 3 meeting of the Indiana Commission to Combat Substance Use Disorder that one is coming and current reports are available at in.gov/recovery/settlement.

Huntsinger told the Indi-

ana Capital Chronicle that individual town, city and county spending reports will be available in December and as more funds are spent, "the reports will get more complex in the future."

Confusion erupted for the smallest towns and townships receiving paltry amounts — some too small to purchase a \$45 box of Narcan — as recorded in final comments submitted to the state.

"The funds have not been spent because what can you do with \$9.10?" wrote Terry Craig, the Clerk-Treasurer of Milton, a town of just over 450 in Wayne County. "We got short changed on this."

Craig's disbursement was one of 157 under \$1,000 — all of which were clawed back and combined with a county allotment this year.

In Hancock County, Clerk-Treasurer Yvonne Jonas found herself flummoxed at the new duty thrust upon her in a community of 2,744 Hoosiers. Her town, New Palestine, received \$2,108.

"The opioid money is a very small amount. It can't be used by our small community to start any kind of significant program," Jonas wrote. "I am not equipped to fix the opioid crisis. The burden of this detailed reporting takes me away from more important things. I wish our town had not been burdened with this task/money."

### Spent on grants

The state spent nearly \$19 million of its \$53.7 million share, 35% of its total funds.

Over \$18.8 million of those dollars went to grant funding while \$110,000 went to Hope Academy Recovery High School, a tuition-free, public charter high school in the Indianapolis area.

The state used other funds streams to bolster grants, awarding \$25 million with an explicit goal to increase treatment options and programs.

Efforts have increased the number of treatment beds by 432, according to Huntsinger, who said recipients have until September 30, 2024, to complete their awarded projects.

Huntsinger, in a state-

ment, said residences "must be completed, apply to become certified by (the Family and Social Services Administration's) Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) and apply to become a Recovery Works provider" by that time.

Other efforts include Harm Reduction Street Outreach (HRS) Teams, for which the agency is currently accepting proposals to expand the state's current ten teams. Between January 2022 and August 2023, existing teams have distributed 41,973 harm reduction kits and served Hoosiers across 102 zip codes.

### Lessons learned

Repeated national audits of the landmark 1998 tobacco master settlement revealed that less than 3% of those dollars went to prevention and cessation.

Indiana is no exception. Though fund totals for the Tobacco Master Settlement Trust Fund regularly top out over \$210 million, budget writers divert just \$7.5 million directly to the state's prevention and cessation program between 2021 and 2023 — roughly 3% to 3.5% of total funding for each of those years.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indiana should be spending \$73.5 million annually on tobacco control programs.

Nearly all of that funding goes to local community-based partnerships and grants, according to the agency's annual report.

The largest singular appropriation goes to the administration of the Department of Health, which oversees the fund, at \$23 million. Overall, the agency gets over \$90 million — much of it dedicated to other worthwhile causes, such as prenatal substance use and prevention, community health centers, the Safety PIN Program and even donated dental services.

FSSA received \$74 million in 2021 but its share fell to \$23 million in 2022 and 2023. It spent around \$250,000 each of those years for Youth Tobacco Reduction Support programs but the bulk of its share of set-

tlement funds goes to CHIP (a children's health insurance program) and community mental health centers.

According to the fiscal closeout for 2023, plans for spending the money will be the same for the next fiscal cycle — even as many counties have turned to the new public health program to fund local tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.

### Applying to opioids

The opioid settlement, on the other hand, specifies that 70% of funds must be spent on narrowly defined opioid-related expenses — while 15% of monies go to administrative costs or past opioid-related expenses. Only 15% of the dollars are totally unencumbered.

"The National Opioid Settlement is fundamentally different from the tobacco settlement. The opioid settlement requires that a majority of funds be used for treatment, education, and prevention programs for substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health issues," Huntsinger said. "Similarly, the legislature is treating these dollars differently, with transparency at the forefront."

But those funds do still have limitations set by the national settlement agreement — notably, nothing for the hundreds of thousands of Hoosiers who've lost a loved one to an opioid overdose or the grandparents raising grandchildren in the absence of their parents.

"Understanding that children with a loved one with (substance use disorder) are susceptible to greater risk factors, we are working with (the Division of Mental Health and Addiction's) prevention bureau to understand how we can provide additional prevention services and programming for both children and the whole family," Huntsinger said. "We are also having conversations with our counterparts in other states to learn how they are serving families within the parameters of approved uses."

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

Announcing the

# 25TH Annual

## GRAPHIC PRINTING CHRISTMAS FICTION CONTEST

NEWSPAPERS

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@thepr.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 Bihl

# Niece defied the odds, pursued dream

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special To The Commercial Review

I would like to introduce you to my niece, Margaret. She is the youngest of three girls. Her mom, Sue, is my hubby's sister.

I recently read a message from her on social media. It began by saying that after more than 19 years she had finally paid off her student loans. That in itself was worth celebrating. How she got to that point is a lesson in perseverance and courage.

Her high school guidance counselor told her that college wasn't for her. School was difficult and

## As I See It



she always felt that she was behind and could never quite catch up. She left his office "devastated."

In true Margaret fashion she dried her tears of disappointment and decided to prove him wrong. She applied to her dream school, Xavier, and received a rejection letter. This added to her determination to go to college.

With the aid of an excellent teacher and a lot of hard work, she managed to bring her ACT score up to an almost acceptable level. She wrote an essay and attached it to her application to Xavier. This time she was accepted.

In her first semester she made the Dean's list. She made it again the second semester. This was in addition to working at the admissions office and babysitting to earn money. She took full advantage of the college experience. She was in plays, attended basketball games, went to various clubs and made friends. She also met her future husband there.

She credits her experiences for enriching her life and making her current life possible. She has held several jobs since college and currently owns her own business. She continues to embody that can-do attitude.

When her oldest was the right age to be in Girl Scouts she looked around for a nearby troupe. She couldn't find one so she and her best friend started one. On the most recent cookie drive, her daughter sold a record number of cookies. She wants to do it again.

The above story is meant to illustrate that people can and do defy the odds

every day. A determined attitude can do wonders. What I am not saying is that because my niece could do it, anybody can. She defied the odds and graduated from college. She has a happy marriage and a beautiful family. She also worked very hard to accomplish this.

The other thing she had in her advantage was her family. Her mom, dad, sisters and assorted aunts, uncles and grandparents all encouraged her. They all believed in her and helped as much as they could.

The whole point of this column is that it is possible to defy the odds. I am

not saying that everyone can. There are people who cannot do something no matter how hard they try. For instance, I am incapable of putting air in a car tire.

I know how. But actually doing it is impossible. One day my first husband decided that was silly and that anybody could do it. An entire afternoon and four flat tires later, he gave up on trying to teach me.

The world is a better place because Margaret is in it. I hope that this little story encourages you to try to fulfill your own dreams even if the odds are against you.

# Mom's abrupt life decision confuses children

DEAR ABBY: One night about six months ago, my mom walked out on my dad. A week later, she admitted she had been having an affair for a whole year. My parents' divorce was final three months after she left. Mom has now announced to me and my siblings that she's engaged and plans to marry her fiance just six months after the divorce. We think it's a terrible idea. We really dislike her fiance and think he's a bad guy based on our interactions with him. Mom claims to be happy, but we don't believe her. Should we just let her live her life? How do we accept this new reality? — THROWN IN WASHINGTON

DEAR THROWN: If you and your siblings plan to maintain a relationship with your mother, handle this like the hot potato it is. Recognize that things were not as rosy as you assumed in your parents' marriage, take things one step at a

## Dear Abby



time, and make an extra effort to look out for your father. Then cross your fingers and hope that as painful as this disruption is, everything works out for the best.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married 33 years. We have no savings. We live paycheck to paycheck. My husband keeps borrowing more and more, and our credit cards are out of hand. He still works. I am retired. He has a 28-foot enclosed trailer stuffed with mechanical items, hobbies, collectibles and who knows what else, as well as a double garage

filled with so much you can't walk in. There is \$10,000 to \$15,000 worth of stuff. He refuses to sell anything even though he hasn't even been to the trailer in more than a year. We have terrible fights over this. I'm losing sleep over our future. Any ideas? — GOING DOWNHILL IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR GOING DOWNHILL: From what you have described, your husband is a hoarder. Some people do this because of anxiety or depression. Your husband needs to get to the root of why he spends compulsively on things he isn't using. His doctor could refer him for counseling and possibly medication that would help if he is willing. However, if he's unwilling, you may need to separate your finances from his before he encumbers you both further.

DEAR ABBY: How do you tell

your adult children it's time for them to start planning family events? Neither of my 30-something kids has planned a thing. I'm tired of being the social glue. How do I get them to step up? — PASSING THE TORCH

DEAR PASSING: You can encourage your children to step forward and assume some responsibility for family events by telling them in plain English. As the next holiday draws near, approach them individually and as a group, and inform them if they want family celebrations, they should start planning some of them because, after all these years, you need a break.

DEAR ABBY: How do you deal with a jealous adult sibling? My sibling has never spoken of this to me. However, my sibling's PARTNER made it clear they felt I was favored over my sibling by our parents. I discussed it with

our mother. She told me they have helped dig my sibling out of the hole many times.

My sibling has since passed away. But, years later, my in-law mentioned again to me how I'm the "favorite," with details. I didn't respond, and just let the person talk about their feelings. Whether their statement is true or not, I don't think my in-law should be speaking to me about it. Of course, they would never say anything to my parents. If this person brings this topic up again, how should I respond? — MAYBE THE FAVORITE

DEAR MAYBE: Tell your late sibling's partner you are tired of hearing it, and if they have a complaint to air, it should be made with your parents. If your sibling was irresponsible with money, the fault is not your own. You have nothing to feel guilty about, though it appears this in-law is trying to make you feel that way.

# Community Calendar

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

## Today

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 - BRANNA'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 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.

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

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

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for

friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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

## Thursday

STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 251-8792.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. ORGAN TRANSPLANT

SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

## Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

## Saturday's Solution

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

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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Rates do not apply to The CR's Nov. 22 Thanksgiving edition. Color is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If color is not available, ads will convert to black and white.

# End government shutdown threat

The Herald Bulletin  
(Anderson)  
Tribune News Service

Newly elected U.S. House Speaker Mike Johnson, a Republican from Louisiana, has a plan to avoid the impending government shutdown over appropriations debates.

The idea: Divvy the spending bill into 12. As a continuing resolution, different agencies in government would have different ends to funding.

That is no solution. The proposal begs a divided Congress to have extended debates, undue delays and standalone funding bills that could easily be killed. It could well develop into another stopgap funding measure, under which the government is currently operating.

## Hoosier Editorial

Imagine the consequences — each month, a government agency could face a shutdown.

Johnson, who told former President Trump to keep fighting back to subvert the 2020 election, is a GOP extremist. Not sure of his goal? He has

suggested that aid to Israel depends on a cut in IRS funding. Such a cut would reduce the number of IRS employees who could audit rich, potential GOP donors. Not even former Speaker Kevin McCarthy would have tried this maneuver.

Ed Kilgore, political columnist for Intelligencer, asks whether Johnson even wants to avoid a shutdown. For those Trumpers who wouldn't mind a government in chaos, a shutdown would fit the bill.

With GOP extremists now in control of the House, the shutdown threat this time seems more imminent than before.

The Nov. 17 deadline is nearing.

It would mean to Hoosiers a loss of government services, temporary closing of national parks, lost wages for those working for the federal government and lost revenue for federal contractors.

When Congress voted in October to avert a shutdown, there were four House Republicans from Indiana who voted against the spending bill: Jim Banks, Victoria Spartz, Greg Pence and Rudy Yakym. Banks voted no because the funding bill, he said, helped President Biden's "radical agenda."

Add U.S. Sen. Mike Braun to

those against the stopgap measure.

Braun, Indiana's lame duck senator who is running for governor in 2024, insisted on spending cuts even while asking for more dollars for border protection.

Democrats, in control of the Senate, want to take care of appropriations through next September, the end of the fiscal year. That is far better than Johnson's piecemeal funding plan.

It's time for Indiana's congressional delegation to come to an agreement to not just delay but totally forestall the threat of a shutdown. All of Congress should do the same.

# Americans want a Gaza ceasefire

By FARRAH HASSEN

Two years ago, filmmaker Mohannad Abu Rizk asked children in Gaza about their dreams. One young girl responded, "My dream is for us to stay alive and to live in peace. We have a right to stay alive."

She's one of the 2.2 million Palestinians living in the densely populated Gaza Strip under a 56-year Israeli occupation — and a 16-year blockade that deprives them of food, water, electricity, and freedom of movement. International rights groups now classify this system as apartheid.

She's also one of the Palestinians Israeli officials called "human animals" and "children of darkness" as bombs fell on Gaza. It's unclear if this girl with the big, soulful brown eyes is still alive, but about half of the over 10,000 Gazans killed by the Israeli military are children.

All human lives are precious. The murder of over a thousand Israelis by Hamas on October 7 was a heinous crime. Israeli families deserve justice and the safe return of their loved ones held hostage. But indiscriminately bombing and collectively punishing Palestinian civilians — who are neither synonymous with Hamas nor responsible for their crimes — accomplishes neither.

For most Americans, that's not a controversial opinion. In a recent survey, 66 percent of Americans supported an immediate ceasefire as a step toward peace and justice for both Palestinians and Israelis.

Unfortunately, our elected officials aren't listening — yet.

Instead of backing a ceasefire, President Biden requested \$14.3 billion in military assistance to Israel above the \$3.8 billion taxpayers already send each year. And when a few House Democrats, including Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-MI), called for a ceasefire in October, the White House press secretary didn't hold back: "We believe they're repugnant and we believe they're disgraceful."

The GOP rhetoric has been even more repulsive. Rep. Brian Mast (R-Florida) compared "innocent Palestinians" to "innocent Nazis" while Rep. Max Miller (R-Ohio) called for Gaza to be "eviscerated" and "turned into a parking lot." Instead of working for peace, House Republicans have focused their energies on a bad faith censure of Tlaib, the only Palestinian American in Congress.

This dehumanizing and dangerous rhetoric fuels

Farrah Hassen



hate crimes that have escalated against Arab and Muslim Americans since October 7 — including the murder of 6-year-old Palestinian American Wadea Al-Fayoume and the attempted murder of his mother in Illinois. Recently, a Muslim student at Stanford was hospitalized after being struck by a car in a suspected hate crime.

The war's reverberations can also be felt in the chilling climate of fear and repression that painfully reminds Arab Americans and Muslims like myself of the days following the 9/11 attacks. College students have faced doxxing and harassment for signing statements supporting Palestinians or criticizing the Israeli government. Others have lost job offers.

But despite efforts to smear and silence them, people are standing up for basic human dignity. Tens of thousands of Americans marched in Washington, D.C. on November 4 to support a ceasefire. The movement for a ceasefire continues to grow around the country.

Veteran State Department official Josh Paul resigned in protest on October 17, calling the U.S. rush to supply Israel with more arms "shortsighted, destructive, unjust, and contradictory to the very values that we publicly espouse." And over 400 congressional staffers signed a statement demanding a ceasefire in Gaza.

Gaza is facing a humanitarian catastrophe. There is no food, water, or safety. Many experts have warned that a likely genocide is underway. The U.S. must stop funding this assault, which will only lead to the loss of more Palestinian and Israeli lives — and exacerbate the rising Islamophobia and anti-semitism that have no place in our society.

Our elected officials must listen to the majority of American people who are demanding peace so that Palestinians can live freely, instead of dreaming about it.

Hassen is a writer, policy analyst, and adjunct professor in the Department of Political Science at Cal Poly Pomona.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.



# We need to take better care

By LISA JARVIS

Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

New provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention offer a horrible statistic: The infant death rate in the U.S. rose by 3% in 2022 to 5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births, the first significant increase in about 20 years.

It's too soon to know if this is the start of a terrible trend or one bad year. Public health researchers will need time and more granular data to unravel the factors contributing to the rise in infant deaths.

Nonetheless, the data reflect hard truths about the state of infant and maternal health care in the U.S. — and there are reasons to worry the situation could worsen. We should consider even one year's reversal in infant deaths, a rate already exceeding that of the country's economic peers, as a sign that more should be done to improve the prospects for moms and babies in the U.S.

Marie Thoma studies reproductive and maternal and infant health at the University of Maryland School of Public Health. When she saw the data, "my stomach just dropped," she says.

The CDC pointed out a few specific areas of concern: The increase in deaths was most pronounced in babies born to Alaska Native and American Indian women, as well as White women and in births that were preterm (less than 37 weeks' gestation) and early preterm (less than 34 weeks). Moreover, more deaths were due to maternal complications and bacterial sepsis.

The question is whether this is a one-year blip or part of a more concerning shift. Public health experts stress that there's not enough information yet to draw conclusions about why more babies died last year. But they also stress that we can't talk about infant deaths without talking about the ongoing crisis in maternal health. Moms and babies are a package deal, and the failures on one reflect failures for the other.

Lisa Jarvis



And it's fair to say that "the pressures on reproductive health are stacking up," which could have consequences for infant health in the coming years, says Laurie C. Zephyrin, senior vice president for Advancing Health Equity at the Commonwealth Fund. Those pressures include increasingly limited access to abortion care services, rising rates of maternal mortality and morbidity, growing swaths of the country that lack maternal care, and lack of insurance coverage.

Maternal deaths in the U.S. more than doubled between 1999 and 2019, with American Indian and Alaska Native and Black women faring much worse than other groups. The numbers further deteriorated during the early part of the pandemic, and while provisional CDC data suggest an improvement in 2022 and 2023, they still remain significantly higher than before Covid hit.

Those unconscionable statistics have forced some policy changes that could benefit moms and, by extension, babies. States, for example, seem to recognize that taking care of mom is critical for taking care of baby. Already 38 states and Washington, DC, have extended the time that women are covered by Medicaid after birth from six weeks to a full year, and seven more states plan to do so, according to KFF. Given about 40% of births in the U.S. are covered by Medicaid, the hope is that lengthier insurance coverage, which first became available in April 2022, can help move the needle on maternal mortality and morbidity.

But the counterweight to that good news is that some 10 million people and counting, including some 1.8 mil-

lion children (including infants), have been dropped from Medicaid as pandemic-era rules guaranteeing continuous coverage unwind. There's a reasonable fear that infant and maternal mortality rates could worsen if people aren't getting appropriate care, whether that's before, during or after a pregnancy.

It's also tempting to draw a line from newly implemented abortion bans to infant deaths. After all, three of the four states with the most significant increases in the death rate (Georgia, Missouri and Texas) had the most restrictive laws either leading into or immediately following the mid-2022 dissolution of Dobbs.

And while one recent study suggests bans could lead to a rise in infant deaths, it's too soon to tell if that will be broadly true. Among the fears is that women will be forced to carry out pregnancies that aren't viable due to severe genetic or other birth defects. An analysis by CNN found that such deaths rose by 21% in Texas following severe restrictions on abortion.

States with bans already had the worst infant and maternal mortality rates, and giving birth there could get riskier: a Commonwealth Fund analysis found that states with abortion restrictions have a higher proportion of so-called "maternity care deserts," or counties lacking obstetric providers and hospitals offering obstetric care — a disparity that could widen as some OB-GYNs choose to leave states with strict bans.

Researchers undoubtedly will spend the coming months picking apart what happened in 2022 to understand how to prevent infant mortality in the U.S. from worsening. But there are already many emerging forces working against maternal and infant health. The key question is whether policy to improve obstetric care can keep up with policy that undercuts it.

Jarvis is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering biotech, health care and the pharmaceutical industry.

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## Disney expects to pay \$8.6 million

By MEG JAMES  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

The Walt Disney Co. is proceeding with its buyout of Comcast Corp.'s stake in streaming service Hulu — a major step in the Burbank entertainment giant's pivot to streaming.

The move was expected.

Months ago, Comcast Chief Executive Brian Roberts signaled that the Philadelphia cable giant was planning to divest its 33% interest in the service, and in September, the two companies announced they had expedited the timetable for Disney to complete the buyout.

Disney confirmed the move Wednesday, which marked the first day of a scheduled appraisal process to ultimately set a value for Hulu.

"The acquisition of Comcast's stake in Hulu at fair market value will further Disney's streaming objectives," Disney said in a statement, noting that it expects to pay Comcast's entertainment company, NBCUniversal, about \$8.6 billion for its stake in the popular service, which offers such acclaimed fare as "The Bear," "The Handmaid's Tale" and "Only Murders in the Building."

However, Disney may end up paying considerably more than \$8.6 billion.

Both Disney and Comcast have hired investment firms to come up with separate appraisals to determine the "fair market value" for the service, which has about 48 million subscribers.

If the two firms reach different conclusions, a third appraiser will be hired to come up with the valuation, according to regulatory filings.

That process is expected to take several months. Disney, in its statement, said the appraisal process likely will stretch into 2024.

Disney gained the majority stake in Hulu as part of its April 2019 acquisition of much of Rupert Murdoch's 21st Century Fox. The following month, Disney and Comcast negotiated a pact that outlined the governance of the service while it was jointly owned by the two companies and also provided a blueprint to dissolve their partnership.

At the time, the two sides agreed that Hulu would be valued at no less than \$27.5 billion, making Comcast's stake worth \$8.6 billion.

But Roberts has stressed that Hulu is a unique asset that, in Comcast's view, is worth considerably more. Analysts have speculated that Hulu might be worth as much as \$60 billion — more than twice the amount envisioned four years ago.

Earlier this year, Disney Chief Executive Bob Iger sounded a downbeat note about Hulu, saying he wanted to turn the company's focus away from "undifferentiated" general entertainment content. He hinted that the service might be among the assets that Disney was willing to part with.

# Workshop set for Nov. 21

A workshop to help define purpose is scheduled for next week.

Jay County Chamber of Commerce is partnering with East Central Indiana Small Business Development Center to bring Living Well's The Power of Purpose to John Jay Center for Learning from 9 a.m. to noon on Nov. 21.

The Power of Purpose, led by Jennifer Stanley and Wil Davis, is designed to help attendees "get clear on your purpose, craft your statement and live with fulfillment and joy."

The event is free but pre-registration is required. Those interested can reserve a seat at [isbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/16540](http://isbdc.ecenterdirect.com/events/16540).

The chamber will also host ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the Salomon Schoolhouse restoration project at 1 p.m. Wednesday and for the new location of Beauty Bar at noon Friday. The schoolhouse, which had a new ramp installed and exterior brick work completed, is located at 5844 E. North St. in Salomon. Beauty Bar has moved to 216 N. Meridian St., Portland.

### Grants awarded

IU Health recently awarded \$9.6 million in grants to 14 organizations through its Community Impact Investment Fund.

The funding will address factors that contribute to "poor health, shortened lives and higher health care costs," IU Health said in a press release.

The grants included \$500,000 over three years to Marian University to expand its City Connects program into Muncie Community Schools, \$1 million over three years to St. Joseph Community Health Foundation to develop the Refugee Health Collaborative in southeast Fort Wayne and \$750,000 over three years to Intend Indiana Inc. to expand its HomePower program.

### Agreement renewed

Ardagh Glass Packaging last week announced that it has renewed its supply agreement with Oliver Winery.

Ardagh, which operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester, will con-

## Business roundup

tinue to manufacture a majority of the bottles for Oliver, which is located in Bloomington. The companies have partnered on sustainability, including bottles that are infinitely recyclable.

"Through Ardagh Glass Packaging's collaborative partnership with Oliver Winery, we are focused on providing exceptional service and high-quality glass bottles to the winery, so they can deliver quality wines to consumers across the U.S.," said Liz Curtin of Ardagh in a press release. "With a passion for sustainable practices and protecting the environment, Ardagh Glass Packaging values partnering with customers like Oliver Winery to achieve its sustainability goals."

### Hosting drive

First Financial Bank is collecting food for those in need through Nov. 17.

The bank will accept donations at all of its locations, including 112 N. Meridian St., Portland, and 220 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery. Following the drive, bank employees will distribute the food to organizations in the community.

"Helping the communities we serve comes naturally to our team, and this is a fun, impactful volunteer effort that will benefit the neighbors who keep our communities vibrant," said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate responsibility officer for First Financial Bank, in a press release.

During its first drive last year, First Financial Bank gathered more than 7,600 food items at its locations in Indiana, Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky.

### Opening on campus

Ball State University announced recently that it will open a full-service Chick-fil-A at North Dining on Jan. 8.

The new location, which will offer the restaurant chain's full menu, will replace the current Chick-fil-A Express in the Atrium at the Art and Journalism Building. That site will close Nov. 17.

"We look forward to opening our new Chick-fil-A location in our state-of-the-art North Dining facility in January," said BSU associate vice president for business and auxiliary services Julie Hopwood in a press release. "At Ball State, through collaboration and assessment, we pride ourselves on continually improving our campus dining experience, from the dining locations, staff training, products, foods, and practices. We anticipate our campus community will enjoy an expanded menu and even more convenience at our new Chick-fil-A location."

### Accepting toys

All Menards stores are serving as drop sites for a toy drive.

Stores will have drop boxes near its exit doors to collect new, unwrapped toys through the end of November. They will be distributed to those in need through non-profit organizations.

Menards has locations at 3401 N. Nebo Road, Muncie; 3800 National Road East, Richmond; and 1920 Havemann Road, Celina, Ohio.

### Drug approved

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration last week approved the use of Elil Lilly's Tirzepatide (trade name Mounjaro) for chronic weight management in adults.

The drug, which will be sold under the name Zepbound, can be used for weight reduction and maintenance for those who are considered obese or those who are overweight and also have a weight-related condition such as diabetes. It works by activating hormone receptors secreted from the intestine to reduce appetite and food intake.

"Obesity and overweight are serious conditions that can be associated with some of the leading causes of death such as heart disease, stroke and diabetes," said John Sharretts, director of the FDA's division of diabetes, lipid

disorders and obesity, in a statement. "In light of increasing rates of both obesity and overweight in the United States, today's approval addresses an unmet medical need."

### Hosting conference

Indiana Chamber of Commerce and Air, Waste Management Association Indiana Chapter and Greater Indiana are partnering to host the 2023 Indiana Environmental Conference and Winter Technical Meeting on Dec. 6 and 7 in Indianapolis.

The conference will review recent breakthroughs and advancement in alternative fuel technologies. Jeff Carpenter of the United States Department of Agriculture, Nadia Gkritza of Purdue University, Inez Evans of IndyGo and Daniel O'Connor of Cummins are among the speakers scheduled to present at the conference.

It will also include the Greater Indiana 2023 Awards and Reception.

Registration is available at [indianachamber.com](http://indianachamber.com).

### Grants awarded

CVS Health Foundation last week announced \$3 million over five years for advancing mental health equity.

Grants of \$1 million each will go to Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County in Florida, Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute of Texas and Rosecrance Foundation of Chicago.

"Our work to bolster these organizations' efforts to improve the quality and availability of mental health services for adolescents is so important as we continue to see suicide as the second leading cause of death among youth and young adults," said CVS Health senior vice president of corporate social responsibility and chief sustainability officer Sheryl Burke in a press release. "By supporting our youth to be peer navigators and arming health care providers with the tools they need to elevate and advocate for screening, prevention and early intervention, we will help improve health outcomes together."

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First things first

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH: A J 9 3, A 8 5, Q 6 5 3, 7 2. WEST: 10 6, J 3, A 10 8 4, K J 9 6 5. EAST: Q 8 5 4, Q 10 9 7 2, 9 2, 10 8. SOUTH: K 7 2, K 6 4, K J 7, A Q 4 3. The bidding: South 1 NT, West Pass, North 2, East Pass. Opening lead — six of clubs. In many deals, declarer must decide which of two suits to attack first. Many factors might influence his decision among them which opponent he would prefer to have on lead at a later stage in the play. Consider this case where West leads a club against South's three-trump contract. Declarer takes East's ten with the queen and can count six top tricks — two spades, two hearts and two clubs. Two more tricks are certain to come from diamonds, and if the suit divides 3-3 (only a 36% chance), nine tricks are assured. The spade suit also offers the potential for one or two additional tricks, and if just one extra trick can be developed in that suit, a 3-3 diamond division will not be needed. Since it might be necessary to play both suits, South must decide which suit to tackle first, taking into account any potential threats to the contract. Declarer should reason that if West has five clubs, the opponents might collect three clubs, a diamond and a spade before he scores nine. This can happen, though, only if West gains the lead to run the clubs after the suit is established. Since the only way West could gain the lead is with the ace of diamonds, South should attack diamonds first in order to dislodge West's potential entry. The spades can wait until later, even if the finesse loses, East will not have a club to return (unless the opposing clubs were originally divided 4-3). So at trick two, declarer leads the king of diamonds, losing to West's ace. West returns the club jack to South's ace, and declarer can now take the spade finesse in complete safety. Although the jack loses to East's queen, the fall of West's ten yields three tricks in the suit, and declarer ends up with three spades, two hearts, two diamonds and two clubs for nine tricks. Note that if South tries the spade finesse before dislodging the diamond ace, the contract fails.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



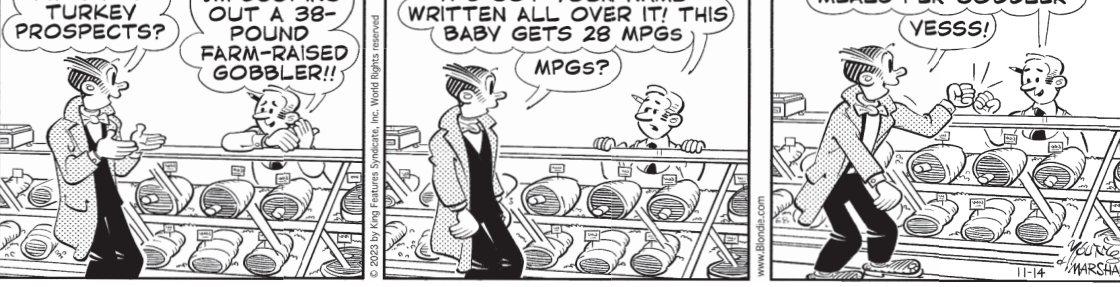
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



11-14 CRYPTOQUIP

V X C J C C H G A V H S L R V A
Z U I C A R V Y L J W W I C H B Y W M U
X C M Q P W H S L V Z C . V A R W G P B
J G Q U O M W O C M O M W O O C M .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: APT NAME FOR A LARGE CORPORATION THAT MANAGES A WELL-KNOWN CHAIN OF TATTOO PARLORS: INK, INC. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Honey drink, 5 Parisian pal, 8 Diplomacy, 12 Alan of 'The West Wing', 13 Faux — guesses, 14 Some JFK family name, 17 NYC gallery, 18 Half dozen, 19 'Night-hawks' painter, 21 Square dance group, 24 Curse, 25 Asia's — Sea, 26 'Bel Canto' author, 30 Scepter, 31 'Glee' guitarist, 32 — culpa. 33 Actress Johanson, 35 Campus area, 36 Online auction site, 37 Corn covers, 38 Fragrant wood, 41 French 'yes', 42 Slender woodwind, 43 Pear variety, 48 Oodles, 49 '30 Rock' role, 50 Onion relative, 51 Workout count, 52 Tokyo's historic name, 53 Venetian blind part needs, 21 Rowboat, 22 Gator's kin, 23 'There!', 24 Eccentric, 26 'We the people' document, 27 Flightless birds, 28 Ship wood, 29 Tiny amounts, 31 Jessica of 'Dark Angel', 34 Puts back to zero, 35 Old-fashioned pens, 37 Grass shack, 38 Piglet's dad, 39 Competent, 40 Air show stunt, 41 Rice-shaped pasta, 44 Help, 45 Sushi choice, 46 Bubble, 47 B'way show purchase. Solution time: 22 mins.

Crossword grid with numbers 1-53 indicating starting positions for clues.

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## Outlast ...

Continued from page 8  
Its largest run started at the end of the first quarter into the second with a three corner three from Hickok. To begin the second, Hickok and runner hit a pair of threes in the weakside corner as the Huskies' wings set screens on the elbow defenders to get off clean looks when the ball was swung from the opposite side.

"They were trying to screen us off on the backside," Patriot guard Breanna Dirksen said. "Getting around that screen was pretty difficult, but we were trying our best."

The run was capped off with a fastbreak layup by Runner that broke the school record in career points at 1,341. Runner was nearly perfect from the field, shooting 5-6 with three threes and knocked down four free throws to tally 17 points, setting the new mark at 1,346.

She scored two more points off of an offensive rebound but was forced out of the game after picking up four fouls in the quarter. Runner was confined to the bench in the third as well. The Patriots outscored the Huskies 11-7 while she was out.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Hallie Schwieterman floats up for a layup during the third quarter of Jay County's 53-41 loss to Hamilton Heights on Saturday.

"For all the great things that Camryn does, when you get that third, you can't even put yourself in position to allow them to make a call," Hamilton Heights coach Keegan Cherry said. "But that girl only knows one way so it's hard to turn it off for her. "Playing without Cam-

ryn is obviously to the other team's advantage. She's a big part of what we do and not having her on the floor with us is concerning. But I was proud of the girls that played that third quarter. We won the quarter without Camryn."

Hickok was the only other Husky to break double digits with 15 points. Both Molly Muhlenkamp and Hallie Schwieterman led Jay County with 10 points while Petro was next in line with seven and Dirksen had six. Dirksen also acted as a distributor, dishing out a game-high five assists.

"Ball movement is key in the game," Dirksen said. "I like to work off fast breaks so I always try to get down court and ahead of them."

Despite scoring 10 first-quarter points, the Patriots got off to a slow start committing seven turnovers in the first period. The first quarter had the largest scoring margin with Hamilton Heights putting up five more points.

"We obviously didn't get off to the kind of start that we wanted to," McIntire said. "Sometimes I feel like we come

Box score			
<b>Class 3A No. 4</b>		<b>Score by quarters:</b>	
<b>Hamilton Heights Huskies vs.</b>		<b>Jay Co.</b>	<b>10 14 6 11—41</b>
<b>Class 3A No. 8 Jay County Patriots</b>		<b>HHHS</b>	<b>15 16 7 15—53</b>
<b>Girls varsity summary</b>			
<b>Jay County (1-1)</b>			
<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>	
Muhlenkamp 4-7	0-0	10	
Saxman 2-8	0-2	4	
Schwrtman 3-10	3-6	10	
Denton 2-4	0-0	4	
Petro 3-5	1-1	7	
Dirksen 3-4	0-0	6	
May 0-0	0-0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17-38</b>	<b>4-9</b>	<b>41</b>
	<b>.447</b>	<b>.444</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .680</b>			
<b>Hamilton Heights (4-1)</b>			
<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>	
Hickok 3-8	6-6	15	
Brown 1-9	2-2	5	
Harley 0-0	0-0	0	
Runner 5-6	4-4	17	
Rhoton 2-5	0-0	5	
Schakel 1-3	2-2	4	
HCherry 3-7	0-0	6	
KCherry 0-2	1-2	1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>15-40</b>	<b>15-16</b>	<b>53</b>
	<b>.375</b>	<b>.938</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .667</b>			
<b>3-point shooting:</b> Jay County 3-5 (Muhlenkamp 2-3, Schwieterman 1-2), Hamilton Heights 8-28 (Runner 3-4, Hickok 3-7, Rhoton 1-3, Brown 1-9, Schakel 0-2, KCherry 0-1, HCherry 0-1).			
<b>Rebounds:</b> Jay County 22 (Saxman 7, Schwieterman 5, Denton 4, Dirksen 3, Muhlenkamp 2, Petro 2), Hamilton Heights 21 (Runner 5, HCherry 4, KCherry 4, Hickok 3, Brown 3, Harley 1, Rhoton 1).			
<b>Assists:</b> Jay County 14 (Dirksen 5, Muhlenkamp 3, Saxman 3, Schwieterman 3), Hamilton Heights 13 (Hickok 7, KCherry 3, HCherry 3).			
<b>Blocks:</b> Hamilton Heights 3 (Runner 1, Schakel 1, KCherry 1).			
<b>Personal fouls:</b> Jay County 17 (Muhlenkamp 5, Schwieterman 4, Saxman 4, Dirksen 2, Denton 2), Hamilton Heights 12 (Hickok 4, Runner 4, HCherry 2, Rhoton 1, KCherry 1).			
<b>Turnovers:</b> Jay County 15. Hamilton Heights 11.			

in or are too tight. And we don't always come in relaxed. I think if we come in and be relaxed we might get a different turnout.

"Overall, happy with our effort. You know, I felt like our girls played hard."

### Junior varsity

The Jay County junior

varsity girls basketball team couldn't keep up with Hamilton Heights in a 35-8 beating in a game that lasted three quarters.

Alexis Sibray had six points for the Patriots (1-1) while Raylah Newton had the other two.

The Patriots will be back in action today against Oak Hill.

## Colts ...

Continued from page 8

According to ESPN, since 2000, the five sacks allowed in the first half tied a high for the Patriots under Bill Belichick. The low-light was only accomplished two other times - Tom Brady in 2015 and Matt Cassel in 2008.

The offense's first drive was a good one as Rhamondre Stevenson and Ezekiel Elliott carried the Patriots on their back. Mac Jones hit Mike Gesicki for an 11-yard gain on third down. Stevenson and Elliott then touched the ball on the next eight straight plays. That included a highlight 19-yard catch and run from Elliott.

The group stalled at the 14-yard line after Jones was sacked on third down by Dayo Odeyingbo. Chad Ryland hit the 37-yard field goal and the Patriots led 3-0 at 8:11 of the first quarter.

The Patriots second drive wasn't successful as Odeyingbo sacked Jones again on third down. That theme continued in

the third series. This time, Odeyingbo sacked Jones on first down for a loss of five yards. That marked his third sack of the first half after coming into this season with three total sacks. The sack on this drive led to a Patriots three-and-out.

It was close to the same thing in the fourth series. Jones was sacked for the third time on third down. This time it was by Tyquan Lewis and led to another Patriots three-and-out.

In the fifth series, the Patriots didn't go three-and-out, but Jones was sacked on third down for the fourth time. This one came courtesy of Kwity Paye.

The Patriots went into halftime with 138 total yards and were just 2-of-7 on third down.

### Patriots defense stepped up

The Colts immediately answered the Patriots to take a 7-3 lead. Gardiner Minshew hit Isaiah McKenzie for a 30-yard

gain on third down. That third-down conversion turned out to be costly. Next, Indianapolis turned to Jonathan Taylor and the running back touched the ball in the next eight straight plays.

That led to a fourth-and-goal from the 1-yard line where Taylor ran in for a touchdown at 58 seconds of the first quarter.

It was a rough start for the Patriots defense, but it didn't continue in the first half.

The defense held the Colts to a quick three-and-out on their second series. The unit stepped up again on the third series with Kyle Dugger stuffing Taylor on third-and-1 to force another three-and-out. Indianapolis also punted in their fourth series.

Colts kicker Matt Gay missed a 57-yard attempt with seven seconds left in the first half and the Patriots went into halftime down, 7-3.

The defense kept up the momentum in the second half.

The group opened the third quarter with a Myles Bryant interception. Minshew's pass was deflected by Jahlani Tavai and Bryant caught the errant pass at 12:42 of the third quarter.

Following a Ryland field goal, Isaiah McKenzie returned the kickoff 41 yards. That helped set up a 51-yard field goal by Gay to put the Colts up, 10-6 with 8:54 remaining.

The Patriots got the ball back down by a score, but an eight play drive ended with Zappe tossing an interception to Thomas II with 36 seconds remaining. The Colts took a knee to run out the clock and secure the 10-6 victory.

Minshew finished the game with 194 yards while throwing 18-for-28 with one interception. Jones wasn't far behind with 170 yards on 15-of-20 passing attempts with an interception.

Taylor had the only touchdown of the game for either team.

## JCHS ...

Continued from page 8

Maleah Parsons earned the most points for Jay County without winning her bracket. She totalled 20 points in four wins before falling to Garrett's Mika Roxas in the 145 weight class.

Every Jay County wrestler placed in the meet. The other wrestlers were Sophia Thomas (105, sixth), Tatiana Willis (110, second), Calie Yates (115, third), Ellie Wendel (120, fifth), Willow Hardy (125, second), Lina Lingo (130, third), Haley Ridenour (155, third) and Tessa Miller (170, sixth).

The Patriots will be back in action on Thursday with a dual meet at Columbia City.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
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.

**Today**  
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 vs Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: Marquette at Illinois (FS1)

Seton Hall (FS1)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Merrimack at Ohio state (BTN)  
7 p.m. — College football: Buffalo at Miami (OH) (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — NHL: Philadelphia Flyers at Carolina Hurricanes (TNT)

8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Georgetown at Rutgers (FS1)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings at PLoS Angeles Lakers (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NHL: New York Islanders at Vancouver Canucks (TNT)  
.....  
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

### TV sports

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#### 90 SALE CALENDAR

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Gary Loy  
AU01031608  
Travis Theurer  
AU11200131  
Aaron Loy  
AU11200112  
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Hwy 67 and County  
Road 200 South.  
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STRUCTION EQUIP. —  
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CONSIGNMENTS  
UNTIL  
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cember 8, 2023 until the hour of  
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be delivered to the county in  
the amounts and at such time as  
ordered by the head of the de-  
partment. Bids are to be from  
January 1, 2024 through Decem-  
ber 31, 2024 with option escala-  
tor clause as an alternate.  
Specifications are available in  
the Jay County Auditor's Office,  
Portland, Indiana, 47371 for the  
following items:  
Item #1 Crushed Stone 150,000  
tons or less of crushed stone  
conforming to the 1995 Indiana  
Department of Highways Stan-  
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will be in the best interest of  
Jay County, being the best and  
and/or lowest response and re-  
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## Huskies outlast Jay Co.

*HHHS knocks down 12 fourth quarter free throws to outlast Patriots comeback*

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

ARCADIA — Cassie Petro only attempted two shots in the first three quarters. In the fourth, she had two big baskets and converted an extra point to keep the Patriots hopes alive.

With two minutes remaining, the Patriots couldn't find the basket they needed to make it a one-possession game and the Huskies knocked down their free throws.

The Class 3A No. 4 Hamilton Heights Huskies knocked down eight free throws to ice away the No. 8 Jay County High School girls basketball team in a 53-41 loss for the Patriots on Saturday.

The Huskies (4-1) hold a 6-0 record against Jay County (1-1) all time, including knocking out the Patriots in the past three sectional tournaments.

"I just felt like when there was a time we needed a bucket, we didn't always get it," Jay County coach Sherri McIntire said. "We'd miss a bunny shot. ... We were within four, called a timeout, and set up a play. We could have easily got it within two, but we didn't, you know, so that was disappointing."

Petro provided life in the fourth quarter. The first

bucket came off an assist from Sophie Saxman, on a layup and fought through contact from Ella Hickok for a chance at a three-point play. The junior sank the free throw to make it a 41-37 game in favor of Hamilton Heights.

Camryn Runner hit a pair of free throws to extend the lead to six before Jay County called a timeout with 3:19 left. Out of the timeout, Petro had the ball on the left block and cut things back down to four after missing a bunny, getting her own rebound and putting it back in.

"Cassie Petro did a good job coming off the bench," McIntire said. "Those points were huge."

"She finished the game for us. People get caught up on who starts the game, but it's who finishes the game. Usually when it's a tight game, you got the people in there that you're confident in. And I hope Cassie takes that and runs with it."

The Huskies finished the game on a 10-2 run. Hamilton Heights hit the bonus with under two minutes left, and knocked down every shot from the stripe to ice the game away.

Hamilton Heights hit three in the first half to build a 13 point lead.

See **Outlast** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Molly Muhlenkamp of Jay County High School and Ella Hickok of Hamilton Heights fight over a loose ball during Saturday evening's basketball game. The Patriots fell 53-41 to drop the sixth consecutive game against the Huskies.

## JCHS 2nd at East Noble

KENDALLVILLE — Last weekend, Katie Rowles, Mallory Winner and Emily Manor walked away with first place in their weight classes.

Rowles and Manor repeated this weekend while Kiley Williams added her name to that list.

The Jay County High School girls wrestling team claimed championships in the 100 pound, 135 and 190 weight classes en route to a second-place finish at the East Noble Girls Invitational on Saturday.

The Patriots earned 164 points in the second-place finish. Rochester topped the field of 33 teams by earning 175 points.

Rowles and Manor both earned 26 points by pinning five girls each. Rowles beat Wawasee's Karlee Clevenger in 2:09 in the final round while Manor took down Armani Serrano of Wayne in 40 seconds.

Williams won four matches by fall to earn 18 points for the Patriots. She pinned Northside's Ka Lay 49 seconds into the championship match.

See **JCHS** page 7

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## Reasons the Colts defeated the Patriots

*Indianapolis Colts take down New England Patriots 10-6 in Frankfurt, Germany*

By **MARK DANIELS**  
masslive.com

Tribune News Service  
FRANKFURT, Germany — It sounded like a home game for the Patriots inside Deutsche Bank Park on Sunday.

As soon as the Indianapolis Colts took the field, they were greeted in Frankfurt by a loud chorus of boos. It was a stark contrast to the loud ovation the Patriots received when they took the field in Sunday's Week 10 international matchup.

Between the joyous fanfare, the playing of Sweet Caroline inside the stadium, and the copious amount of jerseys visible, it's clear the Patriots are beloved here in Germany.

It's too bad the Patriots couldn't give the crowd more to root for.

This matchup involved plenty of sacks, but little scoring. This game wasn't exactly a high-octane affair as the Patriots went into the fourth quarter down 7-3 to the Colts. Sunday's game represented a golden opportunity for the Patriots to beat a struggling Indianapolis team with a backup quarterback.

Instead, Bill Belichick's team put forth a lackluster effort with the offense looking inept for most of the day. It ended with Mac Jones getting benched abroad as the Patriots lost 10-6. They drop to 2-8 on the season.

Here's how it happened:

### Bill O'Brien got angry, Mac Jones got benched

After a rough first half, the Patriots started the third quarter at midfield following a defensive interception. Somehow, the team still came away empty following the turnover and Mac Jones drew the ire of his offensive coordinator.

After seeing all the trouble Jones had dropping back, the Patriots started this drive with six straight run plays. That brought the offense down to the 17-yard line where disaster struck.

On third-and-2, Jones was nearly sacked for the fifth time on third time, but the quarterback barely got a sloppy

pass off for an incompletion that was almost an interception. Then at 8:41 of the third quarter, Chad Ryland missed a 35-yard field goal.

When Jones got back to the sideline, offensive coordinator Bill O'Brien could be seen screaming at his quarterback.

The next time on the field, the Patriots went run-heavy, running the ball nine of 10 plays in a row. The one pass in that series, Jones hit JuJu Smith-Schuster for a first on third down. After picking up 15 yards on his feet, Jones also hit Ezekiel Elliott for a 15-yard gain to set up a first-and-goal at the 9-yard line.

Unfortunately, they didn't go much farther. The offense stalled at the 5-yard line when Jones was nearly intercepted in the end zone on third down. Ryland hit a 24-yard field goal and the Patriots trailed 7-6 with 12:44 remaining.

Down 10-6, the Patriots got the ball back with 8:54 on the clock. The unit crossed midfield and Jones hit Demario Douglas for a 21-yard gain at the 24-yard line. The offense got to the 15-yard line when Jones was intercepted by Julian Blackmon with 4:24 left on the clock. The quarterback severely under threw Mike Gesicki, who was open in the end zone.

Jones retreated to the bench where he hung his head.

Then with 1:52 left on the clock, Jones stayed on the bench and Bailey Zappe entered the game. Around this time, the entire stadium chanted "Zappe! Zappe! Zappe!"

The fans wouldn't get what they desired as Zappe was intercepted Rodney Thomas with 36 seconds on the clock.

### Patriots couldn't block in first half

The Patriots opened this game by running over the Colts. The good feeling didn't last as the Patriots offensive line allowed five sacks in the first half with four coming on third down.

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