

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



Photo provided

Old barn, new purpose

Jay County FFA's new home is in place. Foundation work for the building was completed earlier this year and a barn that had been used for harness racing horses was moved Tuesday afternoon from its former location on the east side of the fairgrounds near the track. The new Robert and Joyce Lyons FFA Petting Zoo is located north of the midway and south of the East Arena at the fairgrounds. Dalton's Concrete Construction and Barnett's Wrecker Service teamed up to move the barn.

Curtin hired to assist with TIF dollars

Final bond is paid off, freeing up \$584,000 annually

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

County officials are taking another step toward figuring out how to spend tax increment financing (TIF) dollars.

Jay County Redevelopment Commission approved a contract Monday with Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes.

Curtin, former executive director of Columbus Redevelopment Commission, has worked with Portland Redevelopment Commission since 2021. He approached Jay County Redevelopment Commission in October and shared information about TIF districts. At that time, Curtin suggested the group update its economic development plan, which dictates how TIF dollars are allocated, and offered his assistance.

CWC Latitudes' contract lists a scope of services, which include conducting meetings, identifying redevelopment or economic development areas, engaging the public, creating and adopting a redevelopment or economic development plan, facilitating the establishment of an allocation area and coordinating reporting requirements and team members, legal and financial counsel.

Commission president Carl Walker walked through several details in the contract Monday, including Curtin's compensation.

See **Hired** page 2

Development project set as priority

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A project just west of Portland will be the county government priority for a state grant program.

Jay County Commissioners on Monday declared development of the 68 acres acquired by Jay County earlier this year as the county's priority for the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0 initiative.

Aker noted the county needs to submit projects for the grant

Commissioners will apply for READI funding for 68 acres

program to its regional group by Nov. 17.

Consulting firm REA told commissioners it wouldn't be a prob-

lem to allow farming on the ground for another year, added Aker. Commissioners agreed to advertise a one-year lease for the

farm ground in 2024. (Per the purchasing agreement, the former owners farmed the ground for the remainder of this year.)

Also Monday, commissioners agreed to contribute \$300 to individuals or \$600 to families with Health Savings Accounts on the county's high-deductible health plan in 2024. The move comes as an incentive for employees to create HSAs, which will be a new perk to the county's health insurance next year.

See **Commissioners** page 2

Participating in GIFT VIII

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The Portland Foundation will be seeking grant funding through the Lilly Endowment.

The foundation announced its plans to participate in Lilly's Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) Initiative VIII for Indiana Foundations.

GIFT VIII is designed to help community foundations "grow their financial resources to promote long-term viability and sustainability, further strengthen their leadership capabilities, and develop and implement strategic programs, projects, and initiatives that enhance their communities' quality of life." It is offering \$210 million in potential funding for community foundations across the state in the form of matching fund, community, planning, implementation and board engagement grants.

The Portland Foundation plans to apply for:

•A matching grant of \$750,000 to develop unrestricted assets. (It would be a \$2 for \$1 matching grant

Initiative offers \$210 million for community foundations

on a first-come, first-serve basis for new and existing unrestricted endowments.)

•A Community Leadership Phase 1 Planning Grant of \$50,000 to continue community discussions around early childhood education.

•A Community Leadership Phase 1 Planning Grant of \$60,000 in collaboration with Blackford County Community Foundation and the Community Foundation of Grant County to work with Project Leadership to develop education and career strategies for high school students

•A Board Engagement Grant of \$100,000

The foundation also plans to submit a Community Leadership Phase 2 Implementation Grant concept paper for \$5 million for

a compelling project in Jay County.

"We are honored and humbled by Lilly Endowment Inc.'s generosity to The Portland Foundation and all Indiana community foundations," said Doug Inman, Portland Foundation executive director, in a press release. "GIFT VII showed us that early childhood education is important to the community. We will take the momentum gained from GIFT VII and use GIFT VIII to continue the discussion around this topic, which is vitally important to Jay County's future. We are excited to collaborate with the community foundations in Blackford and Grant Counties to assist high school students to be prepared for life after graduation."

See **GIFT** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Delight at Delts'

Kathy King and Chelle Gates look at potholders on sale Saturday morning at the Delts' Holiday Crafts and Gift Show at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Deaths

Carol Stump, 69, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 61 degrees Tuesday. The low was 30.

Tonight's forecast calls for a steady temperature in the mid 50s with a chance of showers after midnight and winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. More rain is expected Friday with a high in the upper 50s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Winterfest kicks off Friday night with Christmas at the Courthouse. The event at Jay County Courthouse will feature tree lighting with 2022 Little Miss Winterfest Aria Barnett at 5:30 p.m. and a performance by the Jay County High School choir at 5:45 p.m.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS girls basketball team's game at Bellmont.



Commissioners ...

Continued from page 1

They also signed into effect an ordinance raising the permit fee for horse-drawn vehicles from \$60 to \$120, and creating a late fee of \$25 if paid after May 15.

In other business, commissioners:

- Learned about an opportunity for local residents to learn more about the election process and how to run for office at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 9 in Jay County Courthouse auditorium, an event offered by Jay County Purdue Extension Office and Jay County Clerk's Office.
- OK'd buying a light bar and other accessories for Jay County Highway Department's new pickup truck from American Eagle Equipment for \$4,136.76. The purchase comes with a 10-year warranty.
- Paid a claim from Milestone Contractors for overlay work on county road 200 South and Blaine Pike. Approximately \$56,878.25 of the work was covered by a Community Cross-

ings grant through Indiana Department of Transportation, with the remaining \$14,315.75 coming out of the highway department's budget.

- Received a quarterly report from John Hemmelgarn of Jay/Portland Building and Planning. Approximately 287 permits have been issued since January, with 17 of those per-

mits for new homes in Jay County.

- OK'd Jay County Health Department to continue utilizing Josh Atkinson as its legal representative in 2024.
- Approved a lease agreement with the City of Portland for Kimball's office at Community Resource Center for about \$350 per month.

•Paid a \$50,000 claim for the new Brandeis Kumasu, an excavator for Jay County Surveyor's Office.

- Approved the purchase of a \$6,640 furnace for Purdue Extension Office of Jay County from Laux Plumbing and Heating.
- OK'd a passthrough of \$458,456 in state funding to pay for four new buses for LifeStream Services.
- Decided not to appoint a member to the Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission.
- Paid a \$899.40 claim from Indiana Bond Bank for administrative fees with its fuel budget program.

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CR almanac

Friday 11/17	Saturday 11/18	Sunday 11/19	Monday 11/20	Tuesday 11/21
57/27	47/28	49/30	49/37	49/32
Friday's forecast looks like rain with a 70% chance of showers. Wind gusts could reach 25 mph.	Sunny skies are expected Saturday, when the low at night will drop to 28.	Another day of sun is in the forecast for Sunday. The high will be around 49.	There's a slight chance of showers during the day, with a higher (50%) chance at night.	Showers will likely continue into Tuesday under mostly cloudy skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$255 million	Evening Daily Three: 4-9-9 Daily Four: 3-5-1-7 Quick Draw: 2-4-7-17-27-28-32-35-36-41-44-46-47-55-66-68-69-74-76-80
Mega Millions 29-35-59-61-69 Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$267 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 7-3-1 Pick 4: 8-2-2-8 Pick 5: 1-2-7-3-1 Evening Pick 3: 4-0-0 Pick 4: 6-1-1-2 Pick 5: 7-0-8-0-5 Rolling Cash: 7-9-24-36-38
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 6-5-2 Daily Four: 8-8-9-3 Quick Draw: 7-10-19-21-26-27-29-30-31-34-43-46-48-57-62-63-69-70-75-79	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.21 Dec. corn.....4.41 Wheat4.67	Dec. beans13.59 Wheat 5.19
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.25 Dec. corn.....4.45 Late Dec. corn.....4.60	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.38 Late Nov. corn4.38 Beans13.43 Dec. beans13.58 Wheat5.18
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.22 Dec. corn.....4.55 Beans13.34	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.21 Dec. corn4.41 Beans13.22 Dec. beans13.27 Jan. wheat4.80

Today in history

In 1836, Kalakaua, the last king of Hawaii, was born.

In 1855, British explorer David Livingstone became the first European to see Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. The falls at the modern-day border of Zambia and Zimbabwe span more than 5,500 feet at its widest point and has a drop of 355 feet.

In 1873, W.C. Handy was born in Florence, Alabama. A composer, he is credited with changing the course of popular music as he integrated the blues into ragtime music.

In 2003, Jay County Commissioners reviewed a list of planned Indiana Department of Transportation projects. It included resurfacing U.S. 27 from Portland to Deerfield, paving U.S. 26 on the west side of Portland and resurfacing Indiana 67 between Redkey and Portland, all in 2004.

In 2021, the Jay County High School girls basketball team clobbered visiting Oak Hill 60-22. Madison Dirksen scored 15 points to lead the Patriots, who were ranked eighth in Class 3A.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works executive session, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 4:20 p.m. — Portland Board of Works special meeting, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 5 p.m. — Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.
Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	

Ordinance raises permit fee for horse-drawn vehicles in Jay County

Obituaries

Carol Stump

Dec. 8, 1953-Nov. 13, 2023

Carol Stump, age 69, a resident of Portland, passed away on Monday, Nov. 13, 2023, at The Waters of Dunkirk.

Carol was born Dec. 8, 1953, in Portland, the daughter of Dale Arnold Jr. and Theda (Masonbrink) Arnold. She worked for Pennville Custom Cabinets and retired from Marsh.

She married Martin "Marty" Stump on March 12, 1978.

Survivors include:
Her husband — Martin "Marty" Stump, Portland, Indiana
Her children — Jon Hollopeter Jr.,

Union City, Indiana, and Jeremy Hollopeter (wife: Melany), Portland, Indiana

Her siblings — Steve Arnold (wife: Lisa), Redkey, Indiana, Mike Arnold (Becky Ballard), Portland, Indiana, Deb Nielsen (husband: Gary), Sheridan, Michigan, and Vickie Hiday (husband: Tim), Salamonia, Indiana

Five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren

Visitation will be held on Saturday from 10 to 11 a.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will



Stump

follow at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the funeral home. Pastor Herb Hummel will officiate and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant.

Memorials may be directed towards Jay County Cancer Society. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

Hired ...

Continued from page 1

He noted the contract states Curtin is not to exceed \$30,000 in pay. That includes up to 12 in-person meetings and associated travel time.

Walker noted Curtin would have about six-hour round trip drives to and from Portland, and he advised commission members to be conservative with visits from Curtin in order to avoid going over the contracted limit. County attorney Wes Schemenaur noted the group could meet remotely with Curtin as well.

The redevelopment commission approved the contract.

It also reviewed Jay County Commissioners' capital improvement plan.

Jay County Redevelopment Commission approved the plan in October as a list of projects that could be paid for with funding from the county's current TIF district. It includes projects for broadband, Jay County Highway Department, Jay County Solid Waste Management, Jay Emergency Medical Service,

Jay County Health Department, development of the 68 acres owned by the county on the western edge of Portland and a sober living facility.

Created about 15 years ago after POET Biorefining announced plans to build an ethanol plant in rural Jay County, the county's TIF district covers approximately 191 acres southwest of Portland in Greene Township. TIF dollars have been used since then to pay off bonds associated with road work and sewer

improvements near the plant.

As of this year, Jay County has paid off its final bond for the project. Redevelopment commission is looking into options for its newly available funding — approximately \$584,000 annually.

Projects utilizing TIF dollars are generally those that are in or serve the TIF district, such as recreation facilities, public safety projects, site acquisition, infrastructure, capital projects, job training or efficiency projects.

Capsule Reports

Lost control

A Portland teen's brakes on the truck he was driving failed, causing him to crash into another car at the intersection of Votaw and Charles streets about 6:30 p.m. Nov. 7.

Keegan B. Wasson, 16, was driving a 1998 Ford F-150 west on Votaw Street. He was driving behind a 2008 Ford Fusion driven by 21-year-old Maggie P. Maitlen of Portland. Wasson told police Maitlen began to stop and signaled to turn onto Charles Street, but his brakes

weren't working. He floored the brake pedal, causing his vehicle to abruptly stop and slide into Maitlen's vehicle.

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Maitlen's vehicle was towed.

Overcorrected

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a Muncie woman drove off county road 200 West and crashed into a mailbox and rock about 4:40 p.m. Monday.

Hannah M. Fifer, 28, Muncie, was

driving her 2017 Kia Soul north on county road 200 West when her car went off the east side of the road. She overcorrected, causing her vehicle to jerk to the west side of the road and strike a mailbox owned by Tessa VanSkyock. The mailbox scraped the bottom of her car, causing her gas tank to start leaking. Her vehicle continued off the road until it hit a rock and flattened her tire. Fifer told police she continued driving through the field to avoid getting stuck.

Her vehicle was towed.

GIFT ...

Continued from page 1

The Portland Foundation was awarded a \$100,000 Community Leadership Grant as part of the seventh phase of Lilly Endowment's Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT VII) initiative in fall 2020. It was used to work on developing a strategy to "combat the interrelated issues of the opioid epidemic, high child poverty, low post-secondary educational attainment and low workforce development skills."

That process identified six areas of need:

- Affordable, quality early care and education
 - Education and workforce development
 - Chronic school absenteeism
 - Improved system of care (support for families dealing with mental illness, substance abuse, domestic violence, etc.)
 - Parenting skills
 - Drug abuse prevention
- Efforts have already been made toward addressing goals, including The Portland Foundation's progress toward creating an early learning center at the former Judge Haynes Elementary School.

Created 33 years ago, the GIFT initiative is

designed to help communities develop philanthropic capacity to address their own needs and challenges.

SERVICES

Today

Girod, David: 9 a.m., Samuel E. Girod residence, 9676 S. 50 East, Geneva.

Call, Patricia: 7 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday

Turner, Carolyn: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Brown, Scherlene: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday

Stump, Carol: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Duran, Agustin: 4 p.m., Bryant Wesleyan Church, 209 S. Hendricks St., Bryant.

Service listings provided by

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

The Commercial Review

Thanksgiving

EDITION

It's Our Biggest
Publication Date
November 22
Advertising Deadline
November 10

These rates are ONLY for our Thanksgiving edition

Full-page color
\$525 (only four available)

Full-page black and white
\$425

Half-page color
\$350 (only three available)

Half-page black and white
\$300

Purchase one of our Thanksgiving COLOR special ads and run the same ad a second time in November at a discounted rate.

Contact Lindsey at
L.Cochran@thecr.com or (260) 726-8141



Students make honor roll

Fort Recovery High School announced its honor roll recently.

On the list with all A's were sophomores Evvie Briner, Rylee Bubb, Kylia Dues, Elisa Evers, Carson Fullenkamp, Alivia Grube, Brodie Hart, Aubrie Heitkamp, Jameson Heitkamp, Madison Heitkamp, Maleiah Kaffenberger, Olivia Knapke, Brylee Kremer, Cora Kremer, Autumn Leuthold, Lily Schwieterman, Megan Weitzel, Georgia Wenning and Leah Wuebker.

Sophomores with all A's and B's were Gabe Acheson, Ella Bechtol, Douglas Bihn, Aiden Brunswick, Emma Coleman, Garrett Diller,

Zoe Dues, Nevaeh Elsass, Yaneth Esparza, Mallory Evers, Alex Gaerke, Eli Hawk, Jenna Homan, Cayson Kaikala, Wes Keller, Reece LeFevre, Anthony Roessner, Dani Schmitt, Hayden Siefing, Jesse Springer, Reece Wendel and Tyler Wendel.

Making the list with all A's were freshmen Kenna Dues, Tyler Dues, Cadence Eber, Brady Evers, Carter Fortkamp, Alexis Grisez, Makenna Huelskamp, Meredith Jones, Breaker Jutte, Grace Lochtefeld, Ian McCain, Jake Meyer, Cameron Muhlenkamp, Isaac Roessner, Madelyn Schoenlein, Kiera Stump, Ivy Tobe, Jen-

nifer Wendel, James Westgerdes, Reed Westgerdes and Brynn Willmann.

Freshmen with all A's and B's were Brody Barga, Owen Boeckman, Deanna Brown, Alex Carreto, Destiny Ervin, Grant Fortkamp, Ava Fullenkamp, Sophia Guggenbiller, Russell Hart, Aubree Heitkamp, Theresa Hipple, Adyson Homan, Hudson McAbee, Trinity Rammel, Coby Schmitz, Emma Schmitz, Angel Serio, Cara Shoemaker, Riley Stammen, Amber Timmerman, Ava Timmerman, Kaylor Wendel, Will Westgerdes and Jase Wuebker.

Beef meetings are next month

Indiana Beef Cattle Association will host area beef meetings in December.

The meetings will feature information on beef issues, policies and programs. There will also be updates on current news and events from the association, Indiana Beef Council, Indiana State Board of Animal Health, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and Purdue Extension.

Sessions will begin at 6:30 p.m. as follows: Dec. 10 at Elanco Animal Health, 2500 Innovation Way, Greenfield; Dec. 13 at Whitley County Ag Museum, 680 W. Squawbuck Road, Columbia City; and Dec. 14 at Willie and Red's Buffet, 40 E. Main St., Hagerstown.

For more information, email Brian Shuter at bshuter@indianabeef.org or (317) 293-2333.

Taking Note

ing in the service. An offering will be taken to help with community benevolent needs and high school scholarships. A fellowship time will follow the service.

Seeking feedback

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) is asking for feedback regarding how the state should spend federal grant funds to improve Indiana's air quality.

IDEM received a \$3 million initial grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and develop a plan, and may be eligible to apply for additional funding to implement strategies.

At on.IN.gov/cprg, Hoosiers can find an overview of the grant and other details as well as a link to a survey regarding how the funds should be spent.

Man strives to put mother out of life

DEAR ABBY: I was born 40 years ago and raised by my mother to believe that her husband was my birth father. She divorced him and raised me while receiving court-awarded child support, based on her insistence to all involved that she had not had an affair. As the years went on, it became increasingly evident this wasn't true, so I took a genetic test. The result came back with a 99% likelihood that I had a different father. I soon made contact with the brother of the man I believed to be my birth father. He had personal knowledge of the affair and did a confirmational genetic test to show his genetic relationship to me.

My mother continues to insist on what is now certainly a lie, perhaps to save face with me and others, and to avoid perjury charges and support repayments that might follow. I have not had contact with her for many years and changed my last name to my biological father's. He was a loving father figure to me in secret and is now deceased.

My problem is, I cannot find closure for all of my mother's countless lies and denials. She gaslighted me into feeling I was deranged while she cultivated a popular public face as a

reporter and patron of the arts in our small town. I want to be able to reconcile with my past so I can be a better father to my own kids and be able to trust my loved ones fully. I feel weak as a person, and I don't want to pass that on to my kids. Please advise. — TRUE SELF IN CANADA

DEAR TRUE SELF: You are not a "weak" man. You are an intelligent person who was fed a pack of lies for decades. Yet you managed to get to the truth in spite of that. Your mother has lied because she is afraid she will lose standing in the community, and she is probably right about that. It would benefit you to discuss your family history with a licensed mental health professional. If you do, it will help to sort all this out more quickly than if you try to work through it on your own.

Dear Abby



DEAR ABBY: I am torn between my and my husband's desire to move and my obligation to my family. We decided to explore moving out of state because of the climate. Where we currently live is very dry and hot in the summer, and wildfires often cause smoky skies for weeks. We can hardly go outside in the summer.

My widowed mother lives close by and knows how much we struggle in the summer, but she's in her 60s and healthy. Now that we've chosen a place to move a few states away, she has convinced my grandmother, who lives out of state and recently went into independent living, to move close to all of us. I'm torn between moving somewhere I feel my quality of life would improve and staying close to my grandmother, who I've never lived near before. How do I make this decision? — MAKING A DECISION IN COLORADO

DEAR MAKING A DECISION: Decide rationally. If you opt to make the move — which would be understandable — discuss it with your mother. Although her health is strong now, she and your grandmother may be open to the idea of relocating to YOUR new city so you can all be together.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

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

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

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

MISSISSINEWA CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, at Jay County Historical Museum. Shirley Wagaman will present about communications in Vietnam. For more information, call

Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Susan Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

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.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Nov. 17, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

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VISIT INDIANAUNCLAIMED.GOV TO SEARCH FOR YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES

TEXT "DISCOVER" TO 46220

SMILE...

It's that Time Again!

Our Christmas Greetings issue will appear in The Commercial Review, The News-Gazette, The News Times and The News and Sun the week of Dec. 18.

Ads 15 inches or larger may include a photo of your staff. For those who provide their own photo, the fee will be \$20. (The fee will be waived if you get your photo to us by Nov. 30.) If you'd like us to come take your picture, the fee will be \$50.

Deadline for all ads & photos is December 8th!

We try hard not to miss anyone who wants to be in this issue.

If you do not get contacted and would like to be in our Christmas Greetings special section, please email ads@thecr.com or call (260) 726-8141.

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday November, 18th from 1:00 until 5:00 pm.
2786 S Butternut Creek Dr Portland, IN

Jack Houck Real Estate
1415 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
260-729-2164 jackhouck2012@gmail.com

Inflation is more or less elsewhere

By MORTON J. MARCUS

No. I don't have a solution for the Israeli-Arab conflict.

Instead, let's talk about inflation.

First, stop thinking that if inflation is tamed, prices will go down. It may sound simplistic, but prices will not go down until there is a reduction in the demand for goods, or an increase in the supply of goods. And the same is true for services.

Example: My haircuts have risen in price to \$21 from their long-time \$15 level. That's a 40% increase in what I pay to avoid looking like an overweight athlete who recently escaped from the stone age.

It will take an increase in the

Eye on the Pie



number of barbers willing to run a mower over my scalp or a decrease in the frequency of patrons seeking haircuts to lower the price of haircuts.

Of course, it's more complicated than that. On the supply side, older barbers are retiring. Potential barbers are being lured into coding for computer programs, probably being

replaced shortly by artificial intelligence.

On the demand side, as the great swell of baby boomers pushes into their 60s and 70s, we have more patrons going bald and desiring "only a trim" with decreasing frequency. Among younger customers, shagginess is in style and getting worse for barbers.

Discussions of inflation need to recognize that all prices are relative to each other, but not necessarily linked. The prices of a quart of soy milk and a quart of luminescent paint for the man cave are not closely linked. In addition, prices will vary by location throughout the nation.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis annually publishes "Regional Price Parities." These data show us what it costs to buy goods and services in the various states compared to the nation as a whole.

Imagine there is a bundle of goodies you want to buy. "On average" that bundle cost \$100 in 2011. However, it would have cost you \$110 in New York State, \$93 in Indiana (13th lowest in the nation) and \$88 in South Dakota.

Now, let's go shopping in 2021 with the latest data available. Again, let the average bundle cost \$100. In New York, the price fell by 96 cents. In Indiana, it dropped by 29 cents. In South Dakota, you'll shell out an added \$2.18. In all, relative prices rose

between 2011 and 2021 in 17 states and fell in the remaining 33 states. The biggest price increase over that decade was \$6.16 in Washington State. Prices fell by \$7.02 in New Mexico.

Too often, federal agencies release data for the United States and fail to note the wide differences within the country.

A national number becomes a trigger for action or inaction. Public policy needs to reflect our diversity in its many dimensions. We seem hooked on seeing diversity only in people and often are oblivious to geography.

.....
MARCUS is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Place focus on ending conflict

Bangor Daily News (Maine)
Tribune News Service

As we sit here in Maine, a world away from the Middle East, we realize that we have no special insight into the events in Israel and the Palestinian territories. We realize that, in the comfort of America, we have little tangible sense of what daily life was like in places like Gaza and Tel Aviv before the terrorist attacks of Oct. 7 and even less of what it is like now, a month after those attacks as Israel stepped up its bombardment and isolation of Gaza.

What we do know is that many reactions to the events of Oct. 7 and the month after are far too simplistic and miss the vast complications of a conflict that has brewed for centuries.

Of course it is simplistic — and likely a faint hope — but we wish for an end to the fighting, terror and horror, for Palestinians and Israelis alike. We wish for innocent civilians on both sides of this conflict to stop paying a horrendous price for a terrorist group's brutal attack and a government's expected but nevertheless excessive response. We wish for safety, prosperity and hope for everyone caught in this tragic cycle of violence and hate.

We don't know how to make any of these a reality. But some of the things being done and said in response to the Oct. 7 attacks and the subsequent Israeli military operations are counterproductive and, sometimes, just plain insensitive.

Take those who are ripping down posters with photos of the more than 240 Israeli hostages still being held by Hamas. We can criticize the Israeli government's mistreatment of residents of Gaza, essentially barricading them in an impoverished city with sporadic electricity, few jobs and little hope and, more recently, Israel's bombardment of Gaza, which has displaced more than 1 million Palestinians and left thousands dead. At the same time, we can — and must — appreciate the humanity of the children, grandparents, mothers, fathers, sons and daughters who are still being held captive by Hamas. We must advocate for their immediate and safe release, as should Israel's neighbors in the Middle East who say they want a peaceful solution.

We fully respect those who are protesting on behalf of more rights and dignity for Palestinians. Understand, however, that

Guest Editorial

when someone carries posters that say "from the river to the sea," or project this on a university building, these words are not just a catchy slogan and have long been a code for driving all Jews out of Israel, for wiping Israel off the map. Understand that the elimination of Israel as a Jewish state has long been a cornerstone of Hamas' charter. The charter was moderated in 2017, but it still calls for the elimination of the state of Israel.

We have seen Israelis and Jews around the world speak out against the current government of Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his party have been far too strident in their support of the continuation and expansion of settlement building in the Palestinian territories.

Netanyahu has also taken questionable steps to consolidate his power, steps that have led to widespread protests in Israel.

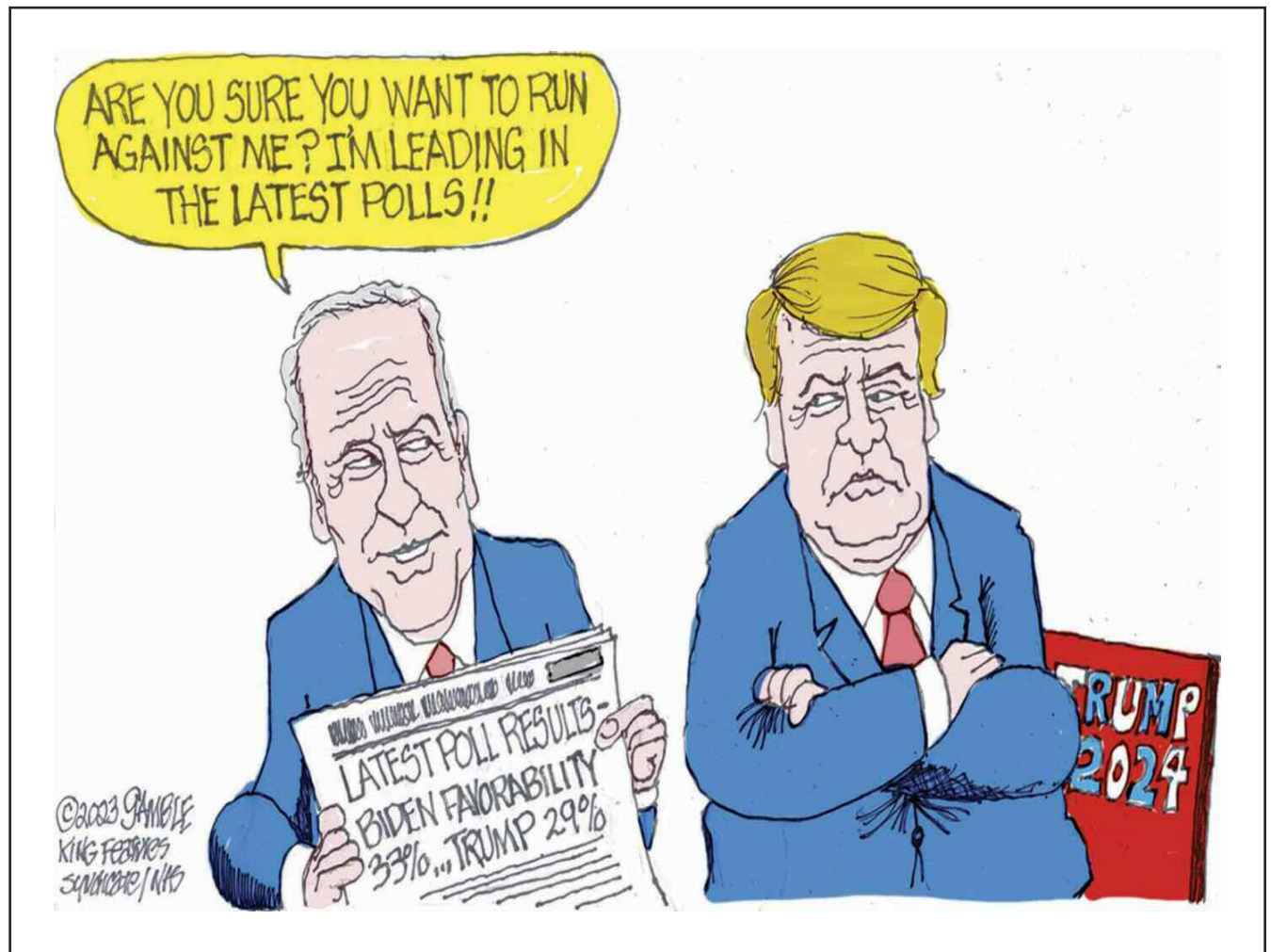
Many have also argued that these controversial power grabs diverted attention away from the security needs of Israel, perhaps leading to the intelligence lapses that allowed the Hamas attacks to happen.

Like many prime ministers before him, Netanyahu's primary response to Hamas and other Arab militant groups is through military strikes, including daily bombings of Gaza in recent weeks. Despite attempts to avoid civilian casualties, these Israeli operations have killed thousands of Palestinians, many of them children. In addition to the loss of innocent lives, these killings will surely radicalize another generation of Palestinians who will hate Israel.

Simply put, the cycle of killing must stop. Doing so, however, is far from simple.

In the short term, Hamas must quickly return the Israeli hostages it is holding. Israel (and Egypt) must speed the flow of humanitarian aid to Palestinians, and plan for an end to the bombings.

Longer term, Israel and Palestinians should return to a focus on negotiations for a two-state solution. There are many reasons why such negotiations will be fraught and difficult. But continued killing cannot be the answer.



States are leading the way

By RACHEL LEVEN

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

2023 has been a rough year. The waves of violence, natural disasters and conflict over the last several months are enough to make an optimist lose hope. To make matters worse, our political system seems totally incapable of solving these crises. Six in 10 Americans have little to no confidence in the future of our political system, a recently published Pew Research Center study found. It feels like problems are everywhere, and thanks to a stale, uncompetitive electoral system, leadership is nowhere.

At the root of this dysfunction is a political system that exists to sustain the status quo, not build toward the future. The Democratic and Republican parties play the political game so well that only a handful of places in the U.S. experience truly competitive elections. Everywhere else, there's essentially no way to hold party power in check. Last year, a shocking 41% of state legislative races nationwide featured only one major party, according to Ballotpedia.

Because most elections lack healthy competition, the voices that can challenge party power are selling extremism and controversy, not progress and governance. If we want accountability from our elected officials and the ability to respond to the violence, disasters and many more challenges that we'll continue to face, we need to shake the great institution of American democracy out of its self-perpetuating complacency.

A study I co-wrote for the Unite America Institute, a nonpartisan research group, suggests that Alaska's new top-four nonpartisan primary may be the shake-up we need. In Alaska's election last year, all state and federal primary candidates were listed on one nonpartisan ballot. Voters chose one candidate per office. The top four vote-getters advanced to the general election, in which voters

Rachel Leven



ranked their preferred candidates. If no one received a majority of the first-place votes, an instant runoff decided the winner.

As a result, general elections were significantly more competitive. Uncontested elections for the state legislature fell from 24% in 2020 to 12% in 2022, according to our study, making last year's the most competitive election for at least a decade prior. Our research makes clear that this fresh competition, shown across many metrics, is directly because of Alaska's new voting system.

Alaska voters also had the freedom to express a diversity of ideological opinions, which was not possible under the old system. In the primary election, across multiple races, they could choose a combination of Democrats, independents and Republicans. In the general election, they could rank two or more candidates from the same party. Candidates in Alaska had to do more than wear a red or blue pin; they had to make the case to all voters from all parties why they personally were better for the job. More so, our work shows, than in any other state.

Although there is still much to learn, Alaska's reform is the kind of change that — if adopted by other states — could prevent the U.S. House from falling into an endless cycle of speaker votes and keep elected officials focused on working for their districts. The Alaska Statehouse and state Senate established cross-party governing coalitions so they can pass critical legislation, such as the state's budget. Freshman Statehouse members from across the aisle

formed an informal caucus to support each other as they learned to navigate the chamber.

This is not the first time in our political history that voters have recognized the need for intervention. During the Progressive Era, party primaries were a great democratizing reform. Instead of allowing party bosses to choose nominees, the people would vote in nomination contests. This injected a new level of competition into politics. But with time, the parties found new ways to consolidate power and eliminate competition. While the problems are different from what they were back then, change is just as sorely needed.

Thankfully, a reform movement is growing across the country. California, Washington, Nebraska and Louisiana also have done away with partisan primaries. Maine voters have used instant runoffs, also known as ranked choice voting, to elect their federal representatives since 2018. Last year, Nevada voters approved an Alaska-style reform and must pass it once more in 2024 for it to become effective in 2026.

More and more cities like Evanston, Illinois, are adopting instant runoffs, and still others like Portland, Oregon, are implementing proportional election systems. Though they come in different flavors, all these reforms seek to increase competition and reframe the incentives for leaders. They are all about shaking up the political game.

Now and then, the rules have to change. With each passing year, it's becoming clearer and clearer that the status quo isn't working. If 2023 has felt to you like one long fire alarm without a red truck in sight, then you know, that time is now.

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Leven is a public policy professional and author of the report "Alaska's Election Model: How the top-four nonpartisan primary system improves participation, competition, and representation."

The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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

Asbury United Methodist
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Joe Boggs
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
asburyministries.org

Banner Christian Assembly of God
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Michael Burk
(260) 726-4282
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefountain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

Christ Chapel
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
Quentin Elsea
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside)
1209 S. Shank St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville
190 W. Main St., Pennville
David Davidson
(260) 202-9718
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccftrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. David Yinger
(937) 337-5781
Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

Hopewell of Life Ministries
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor Community Church
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist
County roads 600 East and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 755-6354
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland First Church of Nazarene
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Chuck Hollandbeck
(765) 369-2676
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
County roads 400 North and 550 West
Rev. Mike Heckman
(260) 731-4733
Services: 11 a.m.

Sugar Grove Church
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

The Church at Westchester
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

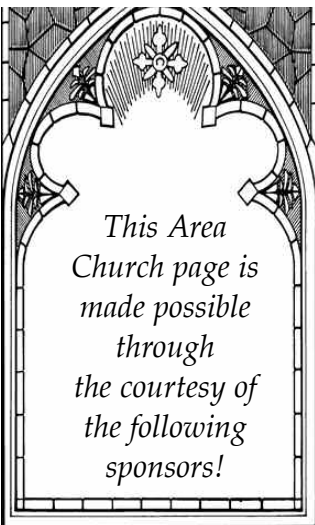
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris Kruckow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

THIS IS SO FUN - I'VE BEEN WAGGING MY TAIL SO MUCH MY CHEEKS HURT!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

11-16
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"How much longer will the copier be tied up with the press run of this 'Family Times'?"

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Once, maybe — twice, never

East dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠9 7 2
♥Q J 2
♦A Q 8 2
♣A 10 3

EAST
♠10 6 5 4
♥10 5 4
♦K 9 8 5 4 2
♣K

SOUTH
♠J
♥A K 9 7 6
♦K J 6 5 4 3
♣6

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♥ 1♠ 2♦
2♠ 4NT 5♠ 6♥

Dble

Opening lead — king of spades.

Expert players don't always play expertly. They make mistakes just like everyone else. The difference is that they do so less often than ordinary mortals.

Consider this deal from an inter-city match between Los Angeles and Houston. With Houston North-South and Los Angeles East-West, the bidding went as shown. Six hearts was a sound contract, but six diamonds would have been much safer.

West led the king of spades, East playing the four, and continued with the ace, ruffed by South. Declarer then drew trump and chalked up 1,210 points for making six hearts doubled.

Of course, the slam could have been defeated. West had two chances and muffed them both. First of all, West should have led a diamond originally. East, the player not on lead, had doubled six hearts, which — according to the Lightner slam-doubling convention — called for an unusual lead, normally dummy's first-bid suit. The only other suit North had bid besides hearts was diamonds, so this was clearly the lead East was asking for.

Had West led a diamond, East would have ruffed, returned a spade and gotten another ruff to put the slam down two — 300 points. But even after the king-of-spades lead, West could have saved the day by shifting to a diamond. Instead, he ignored East's low-spade play on the king — which directed West to stop playing spades — and continued the suit. After that, it was curtains.

The lesson to be learned is that bridge is a partnership game, and that one shouldn't ignore warning signals transmitted by partner. Once, maybe, but twice, never!

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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Peanuts

WOULD YOU ASK YOUR MOTHER IF SHE WANTS HER LEAVES RAKED?

I CAN'T TALK TO HER... SHE'S MAD AT ME BECAUSE I DIDN'T MAKE MY BED...

I MADE MY BED, AND I DIDN'T GET TO TALK TO HER EITHER!

Rose is Rose

I'M NOT MAKING ANY PROGRESS... THUMP THUMP THUMP

I WISH THAT I COULD HELP YOU CAN...

APPLY CONSTANT VISE-LIKE PRESSURE.

Agnes

I CAN'T WAIT TO GET THIS BAD MOTOR SCOOTER TO RUN! THE FREEDOM WILL BE SO COOL!

WE CAN HOP ON IT, HIT VEGAS, GET DOWN TO A MUSIC FESTIVAL IN L.A., GRAB A BROADWAY SHOW IN NEW YORK AND STILL BE HOME IN TIME FOR DINNER!

OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE RIDING PILLION, YOU HAVE TO COUGH UP GAS MONEY.

LET'S JUST GO TO THE DOLLAR STORE AND BUY GUM.

Hi and Lois

WHY DID YOU GET PIES FROM DIFFERENT PLACES?

WE'RE HAVING A "TASTE TEST."

THE FROZEN ONE IS WINNING.

Between Friends

I'M SORRY TO LEAVE YOU IN THE LURCH, MAEVE - BUT I'M GOING TO HAND IN MY RESIGNATION TOMORROW

I'LL STAY UNTIL YOU LEAVE FOR YOUR PARIS EXCHANGE - BUT I JUST CAN'T ACCEPT TAKING ON EXECUTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES WITHOUT COMPENSATION

WELL, HELEN... THE THING YOU SHOULD CONSIDER IS ...

I DON'T BLAME YOU ONE BIT

Blondie

BOSS, YOU'RE UNDERPAYING ME FOR TOO MUCH WORK

AM I?

OR AM I OVERPAYING YOU FOR TOO LITTLE WORK?

I HATE IT WHEN HE GETS PHILOSOPHICAL

Snuffy Smith

I'M THINKIN' OF STARTIN' MY OWN BIZNISS, SNUFFY !!

WHAT ??? WHY, MAW ??

EV'RYONE'S ALWAYS TELLIN' ME I SHOULD MIND MY OWN BIZNISS, SO THEY MUST ALL THINK I'D BE PURTY DARN GOOD AT IT !!

Beetle Bailey

A SOLDIER MUST BE BRAVE, FEARLESS, DEDICATED AND FOCUSED

WHAT IF A SOLDIER IS NONE OF THOSE THINGS ?

THAT'S WHY WE MAKE SOLDIERS FOLLOW ORDERS

11-16 CRYPTOQUIP

VCUL BKNOI U EHWKMS BUOO
U EKJY VWFLLS UAKNL
FYYKWUO CUAFLM USI

AHCUIJFKWM? JFBH JHWMH.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE TWO SAILING BUDDIES' SMALL BOAT OVERTURNED FROM HEAVY WAVES, THEY HAD A FALLING-OUT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals B

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 Part of speech
- 5 Vat
- 8 Mama's mate
- 12 Sheltered
- 13 Leading lady?
- 14 Burden
- 15 Close
- 16 Scot's refusal
- 17 Roman 1601
- 18 Bug barrier
- 20 Calcutta currency
- 22 Use a wok
- 23 Mal de canal
- 24 Tear canal
- 27 Imagined
- 32 The Magic, on scoreboards
- 33 Sugar suffix
- 34 Flamenco cheer
- 35 Instrument in a Dixieland band
- 38 Winter blanket

DOWN

- 21 Moving vehicles?
- 24 Medico
- 25 Web address
- 26 "Stronger" singer
- 28 Kelly
- 29 "Cheers" regular
- 30 "Strange Magic" gp.
- 31 Lawn coating
- 36 Checked
- 37 Chemical suffix
- 38 Didn't dance
- 41 Egyptian sun god
- 42 Mama — Elliot
- 43 Tennis champ
- 44 Eyeglass frames
- 46 "Young Frankenstein" role
- 47 Unctuous
- 48 Ocular woe
- 51 Itinerary word

Solution time: 24 mins.

O	W	L	S	F	A	B	G	U	L	P
D	O	P	E	I	C	I	O	N	E	A
D	O	G	T	I	R	E	D	U	D	O
S	L	A	T	S	E	L	D	E	S	T
L	E	A	K	O	A	R				
M	A	D	E	S	I	M	I	D	A	M
E	G	O	T	I	L	E	S	O	I	L
W	A	G	H	A	T	S	A	G	R	A
P	I	E	S	H	A	G				
D	E	A	D	E	N	S	H	I	M	S
A	S	T	A	L	P	H	A	D	O	G
I	T	C	H	Y	E	E	S	E	A	T
S	O	H	O	V	E	A	T	A	T	S

39 Wine selection

40 Epoch

42 Less moist, as a brownie

45 Proportions

49 Professional gp.

50 Hosp. hookups

52 Taking action

53 Oxford, for one

54 "O Sole —"

55 Un-slightly

56 Dispatch

57 — Salvador

58 Diggs of "Rent"

21 Ballpark figure

24 Medico

25 Web address

26 "Stronger" singer

28 Kelly

29 "Cheers" regular

30 "Strange Magic" gp.

31 Lawn coating

36 Checked

37 Chemical suffix

38 Didn't dance

41 Egyptian sun god

42 Mama — Elliot

43 Tennis champ

44 Eyeglass frames

46 "Young Frankenstein" role

47 Unctuous

48 Ocular woe

51 Itinerary word

Yesterday's answer 11-16

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

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS senior Breanna Dirksen lifts off for a layup during the third quarter of a 38-15 win over Oak Hill on Tuesday. Dirksen had four points in the quarter and was the Patriots' second-leading scorer with eight total.

Junior High girls sweep AC

MONROE — The Patriots couldn't secure a win in their season opener. Just one day later, they cracked the win column. The Jay County Junior High eighth grade girls basketball team picked up their first win over the Adams Central Jets as they edged past for a 30-24 victory on Tuesday. The seventh grade team blew out the Jets for a 49-0 win. Amelia Heath led the eighth graders with 13 points to power Jay County (1-1). Elizabeth Brunswick worked in tandem with Heath as she was responsible for 12 points, giving the Patriots a one-two punch. The final five points came from Gabi Petro (three) and Natalie May (two). After her 20-point debut on Monday, Karsyn Schwieterman scored a team-high 15 against Adams Central. Right behind her was Charlie Peters with 14. Claudia Dirksen wasn't too far behind, cracking double digits for the Patriots (2-0) as she poured in 10 points. Kendall Schemenaur and Avery Snow both found the basket in the shutout win with the former scoring four points and the latter two.

Hayes named U.S. women's soccer coach

By KEVIN BAXTER
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service
LOS ANGELES — U.S. Soccer confirmed Tuesday what had already been widely reported, selecting Chelsea manager Emma Hayes coach of the women's national team. What the federation couldn't say, however, is when the new coach will be able to meet with her players. Hayes is under contract with Chelsea through the end of the Women's Super League schedule in May and the club intends to keep her in the job. As a result, it's unclear whether Hayes will be able to attend the national team's final training camp of this year in December or the first training camps of 2024. After her Chelsea contract expires, she will have two months and four games with the U.S. team to prepare for the Paris Olympics tournament, which kicks off July 25. Sources told Fox Sports that Hayes' base salary would be \$1.6 million a year, more than three times what Sarina Wiegman, manager of England's national team and the highest-paid coach in women's soccer, is reportedly paid. Vlatko Andonovski, the former USWNT coach, was paid \$450,000 a year while Gregg Berhalter, coach of the men's national team, made \$1.6 million, according to the federation's 2022 financial filings. Chelsea was said to be offering Hayes four times her current salary to stay in London, but the coach, the mother of a 5-year-old son named Harry, has long talked about moving out of club soccer in search of a better life-work balance. Interim coach Twila Kilgore will continue to manage the U.S. team in Hayes' absence, then join her staff as a full-time assistant. "This is a unique situation, but the team is in safe hands with Twila," said Matt Crocker, U.S. Soccer's sporting director and the man who chose Hayes for the job. "Her stewardship will be crucial during this period as we are focused on success at the Olympics." Andonovski stepped down after the U.S. was eliminated in the round of 16 in last summer's World Cup, its earliest exit. "This is a huge honor to be given the opportunity to coach the most incredible team in world football history," Hayes, 47, said in a statement released by U.S. Soccer. "The feelings and connection I have for this team and for this country run deep. I've dreamed about coaching the USA for a long time, so to get this opportunity is a dream come true." When Hayes joins U.S. Soccer in late May, she'll be taking over a national team in transition. Megan Rapinoe, 38, and Julie Ertz, 31, have played their final games for the U.S., and defender Becky Sauerbrunn, 38, might soon follow. Their places will be taken by young talents such as Alyssa Thompson, Jaedyn Smith, Naomi Girma and Trinity Rodman, none of whom are older than 23.

Box score			
Class 3A No. 11		Score by quarters:	
Jay County Patriots vs.		Oak Hill 2 2 3 8 —15	
Oak Hill Golden Eagles		Jay Co. 13 12 9 6 —38	
Girls varsity summary			
Oak Hill (2-1)		3-point shooting: Oak Hill 1-9	
FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	(Hardman 1-3, Newhouse 0-1, Shaw 0-1, Godfrey 0-5). Jay County 3-7 (Schwieterman 2-4, May 1-3, Muhlenkamp 0-1, MDirksen 0-1, BDirksen 0-1).
Newhouse 0-3	0-0	0	
Shaw 0-2	0-0	0	
Hardman 4-8	0-0	9	
Myers 0-2	0-0	0	
Pond 0-0	0-0	0	
Trexler 1-1	1-2	3	
Godfrey 0-5	0-0	0	
Cates 1-1	1-2	3	
Totals	6-22	2-4	15
	.273	.500	
Def. rebound percentage: .647			
Jay County (2-1)		Rebounds: Oak Hill 14 (Newhouse 5, Cates 3, Hardman 2, Trexler 2, Shaw 1, Godfrey 1). Jay County 20 (Saxman 7, Muhlenkamp 4, Denton 3, Schwieterman 2, BDirksen 2, Sibray 1, Petro 1).	
FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Muhlenkamp 1-2	0-0	2	
Saxman 0-3	4-8	4	
Schwieterman 5-10	5-6	17	
MDirksen 0-1	0-0	0	
Sibray 0-0	0-0	0	
Denton 1-3	0-0	2	
Petro 1-1	0-0	2	
BDirksen 4-6	0-0	8	
May 1-4	0-0	3	
Newton 0-0	0-0	0	
Luzzi 0-0	0-0	0	
Totals	13-30	9-14	38
	.433	.6423	
Def. rebound percentage: .688			
Assists: Oak Hill 2 (Myers 1, Pond 1). Jay County 7 (Muhlenkamp 2, Saxman 2, Denton 2, BDirksen 1).			
Blocks: Oak Hill 1 (Team 1). Jay County 3 (Muhlenkamp 1, Schwieterman 1, Petro 1).			
Personal fouls: Oak Hill 10 (Newhouse 3, Hardman 3, Shaw 2, Trexler 1, Godfrey 1). Jay County 10 (Sibray 3, Muhlenkamp 2, MDirksen 2, BDirksen 2, May 1).			
Turnovers: Oak Hill 28. Jay County 19.			

Clamp ...

Continued from page 8
McIntire said she was pleased with how Schwieterman has filled into her role on the team. After just three games on varsity, the freshman is looking to score and has developed a scorer's mentality. During those games, she is averaging 15.7 points per game with a 41.2% field goal percentage. Overall, she felt that everyone filled their roles and played to their individual strengths. She will look for that and a strong start as the Patriots travel to Decatur to take on the Belmont Braves on Friday. "A lot of girls did what they do well tonight," McIntire said. "I told them in the locker room that we have our second biggest test on Friday Belmont. "They play a lot like we do as far as they're scrappy and get after you on defense. We've got to get ready to play and match their intensity and actually surpass their intensity because that's the style we like to play." **Junior varsity**
The Jay County JV team fell to Oak Hill 24-16 on Tuesday to lose its second game in a row. After the Patriots (1-2) won the first quarter, the Golden Eagles turned up the intensity to come back and win the three-quarter game. The Patriots had a new leading scorer as Raylah Newton took the lead to put up nine points. Outside of Newton, Jay County got three points from Meredith Dirksen and two out of both Kady Allred and Alexis Sibray.

Sports on tap

Local schedule
Today
Jay County — Boys basketball vs. Tri — 6 p.m.; Girls wrestling at Columbia City — 6 p.m.; JV boys wrestling at Columbia City — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball scrimmage at Van Wert — 5:15 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball scrimmage at Fort Loramie — 5 p.m.
Friday
Jay County — Girls basketball at Belmont — 6 p.m.

TV sports
Today
2 p.m. — College basketball: Saint Louis vs. Wyoming (ESPN2)
4 p.m. — College basketball: Dayton vs. LSU (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Houston vs. Towson (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball:

Maryland at UConn (FS1)
7 p.m. — College football: Boston College at Pitt (ESPN)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Wright State at Indiana (BTN)
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at UConn (FS1)
9 p.m. — College basketball: Missouri at Minnesota (BTN); Auburn vs. Notre Dame (ESPN2)
9 p.m. — CONCACAF Nations League: Trinidad and Tobago at United States (TNT)

10:30 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at San Jose Sharks (Bally Indiana)
10 p.m. — De Los Santos vs. Stevenson (ESPN)
11:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN2)
Friday
2:45 p.m. — Euro Qualification: Malta at England (FS1)
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Butler at

Michigan State (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NBA in-season tournament: Sacramento Kings at Toronto Raptors (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Maryland at Villanova (FS1)
9 p.m. — College football: South Florida at UTSA (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NBA in-season tournament: Phoenix Suns at Utah Jazz (ESPN)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Colorado at Washington State (FS1)

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.
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90 SALE CALENDAR

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
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

90 SALE CALENDAR

Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South.
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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bulp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN Saturday Morning NOVEMBER 18, 2023 9:30 A.M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS
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Clamp down

Patriots hold Oak Hill to four points in the first half

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Patriots allowed 12 shots to go up in the first half.

They forced 13 turnovers.

The result was a 25-4 lead.

The Jay County High School girls basketball team's turned defense into offense to quickly put the pressure on the Oak Hill Golden Eagles in a 38-15 victory.

"I'm very pleased with how we came out and started the game," JCHS coach Sherri McIntire said. "I thought we were focused and ready to go mentally. ... I felt like we ran our half court trap really well that night. We definitely had confused them a little bit with our defenses, they weren't really sure what to run against us, which is good."

The Patriots (2-1), who finished 11th in this week's Class 3A poll voting, never let the Golden Eagles (2-1) find a rhythm on offense. During a large portion of the first half, guards Erika Newhouse and Landri Hardman swung the ball back and forth without getting it below the free-throw line and or inside the 3-point line.

When they did, multiple Patriot defenders would converge to trap and force a turnover.

Oak Hill launched four threes in the first quarter and another three in the second without being able to put any through the cylinder. The Patriots also forced six turnovers in the first period and seven in the second.

"Because we lost important people on offense from last year, we have to have defense as something that we all work hard for," senior Sophie Saxman said. "It's something we all have to do. We just need to keep that up. ... And rebounding is something you just have to do."

Saxman played a big part for the Patriots defense. She led Jay County with six steals and pulled down six boards off the defensive glass. Offensively, she was working the Golden Eagles' forwards by posting up and drawing fouls.

The only way Oak Hill could score in the first half was off of Hardman getting steals and starting a fast break. Still, the Patriots won the transition game with seven points to four.

In the second half, the Golden Eagles were able to take the air out of the ball by running constant motion and extending the time of their possessions.

Yet, Jay County wasn't giving them any open shots. The Patriots only gave up three points, two

on a fast break for Lydia Trexler and another off of a free throw by Morgan Cates.

Oak Hill won the fourth quarter 8-6 after McIntire emptied the Patriots' bench.

"Well, it looks like we didn't prepare for a 1-2-2 at all, but we did," OHHS coach Kerri Barcomb said. "I don't know if we were intimidated by it, or if it's because it's length that we haven't seen that we can't emulate in practice. ... But it's a learning experience and it's just game three."

While the Golden Eagles struggled to put points on the board, the Patriots did it with ease.

Freshman Hallie Schwieterman continued to be Jay County's leading scorer, totaling 17 points on 5-of-10 shooting and going 5-for-6 from the free-throw line. She also drained two 3-pointers.

After being held to 10 points against Hamilton Heights, Schwieterman was able to get out in transition and get open looks in the half court.

"Part of that was just a confidence thing," Schwieterman said. "Hamilton Heights had a really good defense. So did Oak Hill, but I definitely feel like we were more comfortable with the ball because we know we can beat this team."

See **Clamp** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Sophie Saxman of Jay County High School fights through contact on a layup during the Patriots' 38-15 win over Oak Hill on Tuesday. Saxman was 4-for-8 from the stripe in the game while leading Jay County in steals and rebounds.



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