

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Funding requests move to council

Committee recommends loans for businesses

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

A pair of local businesses are being recommended for help with building repairs.

Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee on Thursday voted to recommend funding assistance for Wheel & Spoke Antique Mall and Reclaiming Design.

The decisions on the funding now move forward to Portland City Council.

Antique mall owners Angie and Gary Clark are requesting \$188,250 to replace the roof on the facility. They explained that there have been a lot of issues with the roof and that they have already replaced a portion of it themselves. They said fixing the roof will help increase traffic as they would have more usable space for vendors.

"There's a significant amount of funds that have already been invested and improvements they've made," said Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation.

He added that the funding request amounts to about 25% of what the couple has put into the facility so far.

"I'm just impressed you haven't been here before now," said committee member Janet Powers. "I appreciate your investment. I appreciate everything you've done."

"This is just a small drop in the bucket, the money," Gary Clark responded as he and his wife mentioned additional improvements that can be made to Wheel and Spoke Event Center on the west side of the facility. "There's so much that has to go into this in the next couple years."

EDIT advisory committee members Kent McClung, Mike Aker and Powers voted to recommend the funding for the antique mall as a partially forgivable loan.

The parameters of the loan are no interest and no payments for three years, followed by a five-year payback with an interest rate at one percentage point above prime. They recommended that 50% of the loan be forgiven if construction is complete by spring 2025, at least 100 vendor spaces are maintained and the business remains in Portland.

"I'll be happy if you're open and thriving," said McClung.

The approval came after Powers had asked earlier in the meeting about how much money is currently available in the city's EDIT fund. Clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips said it is about \$1.1 million.

LeeAnn Miller of Reclaiming Design requested \$75,000 in EDIT funds to help continue the renovation of her building at 206 N. Meridian St.

See **Funding** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Holidays underway

The holiday season got underway locally Friday with Christmas at the Courthouse and the Arts Place Holiday Benefit Auction. Pictured above, Grace Yowell (center) and Lilly Johnson (right) perform with the Jay County High School choir at the courthouse. At right, Scott Anderson shares the history behind his paintings that sold Friday in the auction. Anderson, a painting teacher, explained his paintings had been made as demonstrations for his students.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Former officer pleads guilty

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A former Redkey police officer will serve about a year on probation for tampering with evidence.

Bradley R. Ridenour, 47, Peru, pleaded guilty Friday to obstruction of justice, a Class A misdemeanor, in Jay Superior Court. He was sentenced to 363 days in Jay County Jail with all but two days of his sentence suspended and given two days credit for time served.

Per the plea agreement, his charge was reduced from a Level 6 felony, which is punishable by up to two and a half years in Indiana.

Ridenour resigned from Redkey Police Department in November 2021. According to documents filed in connection with the case, reserve officer Dustin Huftel and Ridenour conducted two trash pulls Oct. 28, 2021, including a bin from out-

side a home on Meridian Street in Redkey. The home owner, Cody Barger, had been accused of dealing heroin to a rural Redkey resident who overdosed earlier that day. (Barger was charged in August 2021 with a Level 6 felony unlawful possession of a syringe, but the case was dismissed in December 2021.)

Ridenour confirmed during his hearing Friday that he had conducted a trash pull and that there hadn't been a syringe in the trash. A court document said the trash contained ripped bags with powder residue, a cigarette package with two orange syringe

caps and white paper with blood spots.

Huftel and former Redkey town marshal Tim Fishbaugh both told Indiana State Police that after the trash was searched Ridenour walked into the evidence room, returned with a syringe and placed it in the cigarette package.

"It was a joke to another officer," said Ridenour in court Friday.

Wells County prosecutor Colin Andrews noted that if the evidence had made it to Jay County Prosecutor's Office, it wouldn't have been seen as a joke. Ridenour confirmed that he took the syringe out of the cigarette package the next morning.

Ridenour was charged for tampering with evidence

Andrews told Ridenour he was thankful he didn't leave the syringe in with the other evidence. (Ridenour's report from the incident didn't list a syringe as evidence found from the trash pull.) The offense would have been more serious if he hadn't removed the false evidence, Andrews noted, but he reminded Ridenour that he had still committed a crime in tampering with evidence. (Some court cases were dismissed as a result of Ridenour's actions.)

"I do think that Mr. Ridenour was playing fast and loose with the rules," said Andrews. "We're public servants and we have a high duty here."

Ridenour currently serves as a police canine trainer in Miami County. He plans to continue working through his probation period.

Deaths

Anita Mills, 80, rural Portland
Evan Miller, 95, Portland
Debra Brunson, 69, Portland
Stephen Pierson, 58, Dunkirk
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 59 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for sunny skies with a high in the upper 40s. The high will climb into the lower 50s Sunday under mostly sunny skies. Lows will be in the upper 20s and lower 30s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Winterfest activities continue today with the Kids Breakfast and Karnival from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at East Jay Elementary School, the Little Miss Winterfest Pageant at 2 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church and the Parade of Lights at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Portland.

In review

Jay County Emergency Management Agency has 200 contactless infrared thermometers available for Jay County residents. They will be available beginning Monday. Those interested should call the emergency management office at (260) 726-6908 to reserve a thermometer.



Funding ...

Continued from page 1
It is the planned home of a showroom, retail space and office space for her interior design business.

The total project is estimated at just over \$302,000. So far, it has received \$20,000 in facade funding and \$30,000 from Portland Redevelopment Commission. (The money from the redevelopment commission was originally planned for heating, ventilation and cooling but was shifted to roof work after a July storm

peeled part of the roof off the building.)

The \$75,000 would go toward interior renovations.

The committee recommended the funding be approved with the same loan parameters as that for the antique mall. The 50% forgiveness for Reclaiming Design would require the renovation to be completed, Miller to invest a minimum of \$180,000 and the business to stay in Portland.

"She is investing in downtown," said Powers. "I mean, I

know it's your building. But that's all we've heard, 'Invest in downtown. Invest in our community, period.'"

The terms for both loans are similar to the last such loan provided via EDIT funds — \$50,000 for Rollin' J Lanes bowling alley. It was no interest or payments for three years with a pay-back period of four years and 50% forgiveness if parameters were met.

Also at the meeting, the advisory committee recommended contributing an additional \$8,500 to

Jay County Development Corporation (JCDC) to cover its projected budget deficit for 2024. The organization's board approved its 2024 budget last week at \$224,816.04 with a projected deficit of \$8,166. It has the reserves to cover the deficit, but the budget was passed with the caveat that the JCDC executive committee present a recommendation in the first quarter of 2024 for how to cover the funding gap.

While the budget was passed unanimously, board members

acknowledged that deficit budgets in the future are not an option.

Richards told the EDIT advisory committee Thursday that in addition to the projected deficit, the organization's rent at Community Resource Center has gone up. (Portland Board of Works voted recently to increase the monthly rate for all tenants by \$25 per month.) Richards asked for the \$8,500 to cover the additional rent and the overall 2024 funding gap.

CR almanac

Sunday 11/19	Monday 11/20	Tuesday 11/21	Wednesday 11/22	Thursday 11/23
53/33	48/39	52/26	36/22	36/23
Sunday looks to be sunny throughout the day. The high will be around 53.	There's a slight chance of showers during the day, with a higher (70%) chance at night.	Showers will continue into Tuesday with an 80% chance of rain under cloudy skies.	There's a slight chance of show on Wednesday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Thanksgiving will be mostly sunny, with a high near 36 degrees.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 6-9-4 Daily Four: 0-8-5-1 Quick Draw: 2-5-6-7-10-11-23-32-36-38-39-53-60-62-68-71-72-74-79-80	Pick 5: 8-1-1-8-0 Evening Rolling Cash 5: 4-14-21-33-38 Jackpot: \$110,000
Ohio Midday Pick 3: 1-4-8 Pick 4: 0-3-2-1	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$280 million Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$267 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.17 Dec. corn.....4.37 Wheat.....4.56	Dec. beans.....13.15 Wheat.....5.11
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.17 Dec. corn.....4.57 Late Dec. corn.....4.57	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.12 Dec. corn.....4.50 Beans.....13.00 Dec. beans.....13.15 Wheat.....5.10
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....4.21 Dec. corn.....4.42 Beans.....12.90	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.22 Dec. corn.....4.37 Beans.....12.78 Dec. beans.....12.83 Wheat.....4.71

Today in history

In 1789, Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre was born near Paris. He invented the first practical process of photography — the daguerreotype — and formally announced it in 1839. It faded out of popularity in the late 1850s as new methods were developed.

In 1883, North American railroads shifted to a new standard time system at noon. It was referred to as Standard Railway Time and quickly resulted in the creation of the Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific time zones in the United States.

In 1928, "Steamboat Willie," the first animated film with sound that featured Mickey Mouse, was released by Walt Disney.

In 1959, the Bible epic film "Ben-Hur" made its world premiere. Starring Charlton Heston, it would go on to win 11 Academy Awards.

In 1963, the first push-button phones made their debut in the United States. They eventually replaced rotary phones.

In 1972, a five-point personal run by senior guard Larry Patterson pushed the South Adams High School boys basketball team's lead to double figures in the fourth quarter as the Starfires pulled away for an 87-65 season-opening win over Monroe Central.

In 1978, the Jonestown massacre occurred as more than 900 followers of Jim Jones, leader of the Peoples Temple religious community, died in a murder suicide in Guyana. Jones first opened a church in the mid-1950s in Indianapolis.

In 2009, Robert C. Byrd became the longest-serving member of Congress with a total of 56 years, 319 days, combined in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

In 2015, New Zealand rugby player Jonah Lomu died of a heart attack at age 40 after a long battle with kidney disease.

In 2021, Redkey Town Council approved a Community Crossings grant application, using \$50,000 in wind farm economic development funds as its local match. The application was for paving of sections of High, Railroad, Sheridan, Grandview, Butler and Oak streets.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 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.	Tuesday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.
Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.	

Obituaries

Anita Mills

March 7, 1943-Nov. 16, 2023

Anita Mills, age 80, of rural Portland passed away on Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023, at IU Health West Avon.

She was born in Portland on March 7, 1943, the daughter of Carl and Mildred (Haines) Smith. She was married on Dec. 1, 1961, to John J. Mills and he passed away on Jan. 2, 2014.

Anita had worked for Marsh Supermarkets for over 20 years and had served as Jay County assessor before retiring. She attended Fellowship Baptist Church and was a 1961 Portland High School graduate.

Surviving are one daughter, Robin Mills of High Ridge, Missouri; one brother, Melvin Smith of Indianapolis; two sisters, Carol Cook of Gas City and Kay Emerick of Fort Wayne; four granddaughters; four step-grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband John; daughter Carla Horn; and sister Jan Byrd.

Funeral services will be Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Joe Hines presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be from noon to 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to the Payton Manning Children's Hospital or Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Eva Miller

May 20, 1928-Sept. 20, 2023

Eva Nadine Miller, age 95, a resident of Portland, passed away on Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023, at Willowbend Health in Muncie.

Nadine was born on May 20, 1928, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Clarence and Letha (Lee) Oehler. After her mother's passing, Clarence married Dorthea (Stroble), who helped raise Nadine as a child. She

graduated from Portland High School and worked as a secretary for the Jay School Corporation for many years. She was a member of the Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bryant.

Nadine married Jimmy Miller on Dec. 15, 1946, and he passed away on May 30, 2015.

Survivors include:

Her children — Gary Miller (wife: Sandy), Union City, Indiana, Tod Miller (wife: Reda), Portland, Indiana, Nick Miller (wife: Kathleen), Fort Collins, Colorado, and Debra Cravener (husband: Terry), Ocoee, Florida

Seven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren

She was preceded in death by a sister, Marjorie Thompson.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, from 1 to 2 p.m. at Bryant Redeemer Lutheran Church, 201 N. Malin St., Bryant, Indiana. Memorial services will follow at 2 p.m. on Tuesday at the church with burial at Gravel Hill Cemetery, west of Bryant.

Arrangements entrusted to Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Debra Brunson

Oct. 18, 1954-Nov. 15, 2023

Debra Joan Brunson, age 69, of Portland passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2023, at her residence.

She was born in Portland on Oct. 18, 1954, the daughter of Duane and Joan (Thompson) Retter. She was married on March 2, 1974, to Michael Brunson who survives.

Debra retired from MSSSL in Portland, was a 1973 Portland High School graduate and enjoyed music and antiquing.

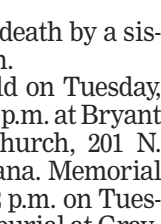
Surviving are her husband Michael; one daughter, Heather Fox (husband: Thomas) of Pendleton, Indiana; one brother, Steve Retter (wife: Chris) of Winchester; and one sister, Rhonda Evans (husband: David) of Portland.



Miller



Mills



Pierson

Stephen Pierson

May 18, 1965-Nov. 14, 2023

Stephen Douglas Pierson, 58, of Dunkirk, Indiana, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023, after a brief battle with lung cancer while in the company of family members at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Indiana.

Steve was born in Portland, Indiana, on May 18, 1965, a son of Patty A. (Craw) Copeland and the late Charles D. Pierson. He was a 1983 graduate of Jay County High School and was formerly employed as a forklift operator for Red Gold in Geneva, Indiana.

Steve was a hard working man who enjoyed fishing, watching the Chicago Cubs, wrestling, sports, playing baseball, bowling, listening to rock 'n' roll and country music, spending time with family and helping with the Frank Merry Park Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

He is survived by his mother, Patty Copeland; son Jackson R. Pierson; brother Todd Copeland (Ashley Surpas); aunt Deloris Dull; two nephews; Thomas and Josh Reagan; and several cousins and friends.

Steve was preceded in death by his father Charles; and brother Chris Pierson.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Nov. 20, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel. Funeral services will follow at 7:30 p.m. Burial will be held privately on Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, in Dunkirk IOOF Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the IU Health Ball Memorial Cancer Center.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries.

Felony arrests

Probation violation

A Portland man was arrested Friday for violating his probation.

Connor S. Kunkle, 23, 7395 E. 400 South, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to battery on a public safety official, a Level 5 felony. He was sentenced to three years and 95 days in Indiana Department of Correction with three years suspended and given 95 days credit for

time served. A petition alleging Kunkle violated the conditions of his probation was filed Tuesday.

He was being held in Jay County Jail without bond.

Drunk driving

A Portland man was arrested Thursday for drunk driving and related charges.

Ismael Cruz, 64, 1350 Meadow Lane, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated and endangering a person and a Class B misdemeanor for leaving the scene of an accident.

See page 5

SERVICES

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.

Monday
Morrical, Jerry: 2 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.
Guntle, Janet: 2 p.m., Gravel Hill Cemetery.
Pierson, Stephen: 7:30 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

Tuesday
Mills, Anita: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Miller, Eva: 2 p.m., Bryant Redeemer Lutheran Church, 201 N. Malin St., Bryant.

Service listings provided by
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AUCTION

Monday, December 4th, 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

PROPERTY LOCATION:
Tracts 1-4: on the south side of W Eaton Wheeling Pike, approx. 1/2 mile east of CR 300 W, approx. 3.5 miles northwest of Eaton, IN (Delaware Co)

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

DELAWARE COUNTY:
30.25+/- Acres • 4 Tracts

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

JAY COUNTY:
26.43+/- Acres • 2 Tracts

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

Chris Peacock: 765.546.0592 • Lauren Peacock: 765.546.7359

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeier IN Auct. Lic. #AJ10000277; HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC69200019, HLS#0CP-12967, Farm: The Lillian P. Nixon Trust and the Estate of Joanne N. Baur

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Photo provided

Elementary kindness

East Jay Elementary recently recognized the first nine weeks' kindness awards. These students were nominated for consistently showing kindness to their peers and staff at school. Pictured, front row, are Abigail Winters, Aime Macias-Gurrola and Amber Wilson. In the second row are Jaycee Rowe, Malak Elshiekh, Ramzey Huffel, Abbie Rowles, Maci Huelskamp, Emersyn Theurer and Zoey Smith. In the third row are Brittin Kahlig, Reyli Ramirez, Kara Fennig, Analise Perez, Kennedy Huffel, Wyatt Shawver, Carsyn Guggenbiller and Meralynn Owens. In the back row are Zoey Ankrom, Daisy Garcia-Benitez, Bristol Kahlig, Tristin Romine, Andrew Myers, Samiah Hill, Madi LeMaster and Seth Zizleman.

Be safe during winter season

Be safe during winter weather.

Indiana Department of Homeland Security and Indiana Department of Transportation this week offered tips for Winter Weather Preparedness Week to remind Hoosiers to take precautions to avoid issues during severe weather.

Top tips from the department include:

- Staying informed about road conditions and having an emergency kit with food, water, blankets, flashlights and other items in all vehicles.
- Wearing warm clothing when traveling during cold weather to prevent exposure.
- Slowing down and adjusting to travel conditions, especially on snow-covered roads.
- Keeping vehicles full of gas, batteries checked and fluids full, with a spare tire available.

"Winter Weather Preparedness Week is an opportunity for all resi-

Taking Note

dents to get ready and ensure their safety and well-being during the colder months," said Indiana Department of Homeland Security executive director Joel Thacker in a press release. Information on road conditions throughout the state is available at 511in.org.

LifeStream leading

LifeStream is hosting its AngelWish program to provide gifts to senior citizens who are alone for the holidays. Those interested in taking part in the program can donate money or volunteer to deliver gifts.

To donate, email ajenkins@lifestreaminc.org or call (765) 748-6994.

Girlfriend ranks children over her partner

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend and I started dating a couple years ago after getting out of long-term relationships. We have kids from those relationships, and she is still in court over custody. We haven't been able to buy a house yet, mostly because of the cost of the court battle, so we live apart and can't spend as much time together as we'd like. However, when we do have the time, she usually wants her kids to join. She says she wants her kids everywhere with her. She has also told me I will never come first. I have custody of my son and want

Dear Abby



to spend time with him, too, but I think we need to spend time as a couple and make our relationship important. I feel both the relationship and the kids should be priorities, but not always one over the other.

Recently, we learned a band we both love and grew up listening to is coming to our town. We were excited about going, but she wants to buy tickets for herself and her son, because he said he likes the band when he hears his mom listening to it. He is 10, and whenever we do things like this, he ends up playing games on his phone all night. I end up being babysitter, buying drinks and food for him, taking him to the bathroom, etc., which prevents me from relaxing and enjoying my time. The tickets are not cheap, and if we bought them sep-

arately, we would not be able to get seats together. She said she's definitely buying tickets for herself and her son and hopes I can make it and maybe she'll see me there. This event is something I felt would be special for us to share together, but it appears she doesn't feel the same. Am I selfish for wanting to spend time with her at this concert, without kids? — CRAVING DATE NIGHT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR CRAVING: I don't think you are selfish for wanting to have a date night with your girlfriend. In fact, I think

one should be scheduled with her on a regular basis. This woman does not appear to be as into you as you are into her. Another thing that concerns me is your statement about her making you responsible for her son when the three of you attend an event together. A trip to the bathroom I can understand, but SHE should take her son to the snack stand if he wants something. Something is out of balance here, and I hope you will think long and hard before investing in a house together.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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.

Sunday

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 Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

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

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

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will

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

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

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A

Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday.

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

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.

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

Sudoku


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

Level: Advanced


Friday's Solution

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

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.






COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER



If you need a meal it will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 22, 2023. There will be no charge - it is **Free!** Please fill out the form and mail to one of the addresses below or call so we will know how many to prepare.

() YES I need a meal delivered on Thanksgiving Day
() I am diabetic

Name _____
Address _____

Drop off or mail to:

Asbury U.M. Church 204 E. Arch Street Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8464	Zion Lutheran Church 218 E. High St., PO Box 602 Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8832 mornings
--	---

Home delivery requests due by Noon Wednesday

33rd Year of Caring and Sharing

26th Annual



November 18 and 19

SIX MARKET SITES:
Over 200 booths filled with antiques, folk art, handmade treasures, primitives, florals, Christmas wares, gifts, collectibles, food and wines.

Open Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., EST


Willkommen!

FREE admission to Markets and the following events

Live Glockenspiel: 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. both days
Marionette Theater, 12:15, 1:30 & 3:30 p.m. Saturday;
11:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Sunday

Plus Monastery Tours; Appearances by the Christkindl Angel and Father Christmas; Reindeer Reserve; Visits with Santa Claus; Sounds of the Season Concert; Free Shuttle Service

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WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Schools November 20-24

Monday:	Main Entrees: Classic cheeseburger on a bun Alternate Entrees: PB&J and cheese fun lunch, ham & cheese chef salad, breadstick Sides for all meals: BBQ baked beans
Tuesday:	Main Entrees: Roasted turkey & gravy, mashed potatoes, dinner roll, pumpkin bar Alternate Entrees: PB&J and cheese fun lunch, ham & cheese chef salad, breadstick Sides for all meals: Seasoned corn
Wednesday:	No school <i>(Thanksgiving)</i>
Thursday:	No school <i>(Thanksgiving)</i>
Friday:	No school <i>(Thanksgiving)</i>

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We must grapple with implications

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service
It's imperative that the United States stay at the forefront in developing military weaponry and defense systems that implement artificial intelligence.

But, just as importantly, the U.S. must tackle thorny ethical and humanitarian issues related to the use of weapons supported by AI.

Ultimately, decisions about where, when and how to deploy such weapons should require final human judgment, rather than relying on artificial intelligence itself to push red buttons, command bombers, aim artillery or direct troops.

An article written last month by CNHI State Reporter Carson Gerber detailed the U.S. mili-

Hoosier Editorial

tary's experimentation and development of AI-enhanced weaponry, intelligence tools and data collection and analysis.

The following are among the most noteworthy advances:

—In February, the Army unveiled an AI-enabled target recognition prototype outfitted for an M1 Abrams battle tank.

—In March, the Navy announced development of Project OneShip, an AI program that uses machine learning to

manage enormous amounts of data gathered daily by Navy ships.

—And in July, the Air Force demonstrated the first flight of a machine-learning AI guidance system capable of piloting a missile-bearing aircraft that could strike military targets from great distances.

According to military officials, AI-assisted weapons systems and other machine-learning programs are efficient, accurate, adaptable and cost effective.

They could also give the United States an edge in a modern arms race with Russia and China.

Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks in September noted that China has spent the

past two decades re-engineering its military to "blunt the operational advantages we've enjoyed for decades."

If the U.S. gets and stays ahead of China in the AI arms race, it can regain the advantage, which could serve as a deterrent to war while providing a decisive advantage in pop-up military engagements around the globe where the modern-day superpowers' interests conflict.

But what about the very real possibility that artificially intelligent devices could make mistakes that lead to the deaths of innocent civilians or U.S. military personnel?

That's of great concern, though AI assistance and ability to guide unmanned military vehicles and aircraft could also

reduce instances of human error that lead to unintended death and destruction while also protecting military personnel from exposure to harm.

The U.S. faces another familiar challenge when it comes to AI implementation: How do you make effective use of new weaponry and defense systems when you're tethered by ethics that your enemies would willingly flout?

That's among the many pressing questions Americans must consider carefully. The age of artificial intelligence is suddenly upon us.

When it comes to military implementation, we must tap the highest expertise while also searching our collective soul for humanitarian guidance.

America needs to be more affordable

By **BILAL BAYDOUN**
OtherWords

For the last two years, the debate on the economy has centered around inflation.

After reaching a 40-year high last summer, inflation as measured by economists is now approaching normal levels. But despite the rapid slowdown, millions still feel squeezed by a decades-long affordability crisis.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, Americans struggled to afford sky-high prices for homes, child care, college, and health care, as wages lagged far behind the rising cost of living. Treating all this as "inflation" does more harm than good.

In conventional economic theory, inflation is a "demand side" problem — a polite way for economists to say people have too much money. Too much money chasing too few goods, the theory goes, leads to higher prices.

It's hard to look around this country and conclude that our main economic challenge is people having too much money. Seventy percent of Americans report feeling "financially stressed," and nearly a third report having paid a late bill in the last six months.

But there are other drivers of high prices that rarely make it into our conversation about inflation.

We know, for example, that homes are getting more expensive because there aren't enough homes being built. We also know that decades of corporate consolidation in certain industries has led to less competition and higher prices. The solutions to these cost barriers are relatively obvious: build more homes and enforce antitrust laws.

But instead, for the last year and a half, we've largely looked to the Federal Reserve to lead our response to high prices. Unfortunately, the Fed wields one tool to deal with inflation: interest rate hikes. And they work more like a sledgehammer than a scalpel.

Since May 2022, the Fed has aggressively raised interest rates to slow the economy by making it more expensive to borrow money. When businesses can't borrow, the story goes, they're less likely to expand operations and hire people — and when families can't borrow, they buy less. This leads to layoffs and lower wages,

Bilal Baydoun



ensuring that workers have less money to spend "chasing goods."

The Fed sees higher unemployment, which can be catastrophic for already struggling families, as a positive sign that these rate hikes are working.

There are at least two major issues with the Fed's theory. First, inflation is coming down, our economy is growing, and unemployment is near record lows. As it turns out, you don't have to grind the economy to a halt and sacrifice millions of jobs to slow down inflation.

More importantly, these rate hikes fail to address the core drivers of rising prices today — and in many cases make the problem worse. The Fed can't build more homes, break up price-gouging corporate monopolies, or lower the cost of prescription drugs. But it can make life even more expensive.

We see this clearly in the housing market. Very few people are eager to buy a home at 7 percent interest, and still fewer want to sell homes that they're financing at 3 or 4 percent. These high rates push more people to rent, which drives up the cost of rent, and discourages the construction of new homes.

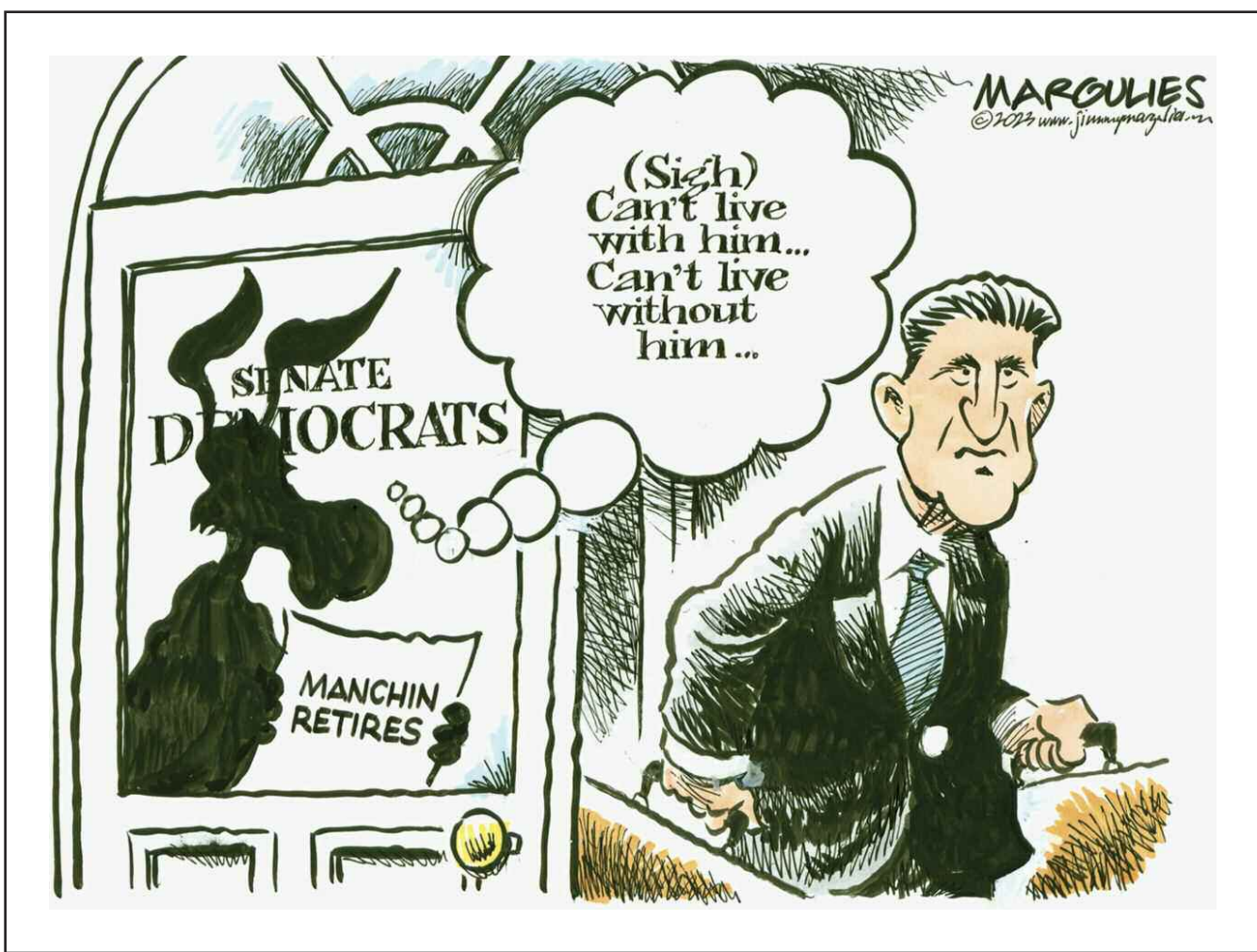
To address the true drivers of higher prices, we must bring the concept of inflation back down to earth. Manipulating interest rates can't make life more affordable for struggling families — but public investment and sound regulations that rein in corporate price-gouging can.

Congress and statehouses must be in the driver's seat of the affordability agenda, as only these democratic institutions can fund long-overdue investments in child care, health care, housing, and education. These investments are the seeds of a stronger, more inclusive economy.

Deferring responsibility for this future to the Fed is a colossal mistake.

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Baydoun is the director of policy and research at the Groundwork Collaborative.

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



Abusers shouldn't have guns

By **CHLOE N. LEE**
The Baltimore Sun
Tribune News Service

Last month, a man shot a Maryland judge callously and coldly in the judge's driveway before apparently shooting himself, according to law enforcement; the man's body was found a week later. The Washington County circuit judge, Andrew Wilkinson, had presided over divorce proceedings involving the suspect, Pedro Argote, mere hours before the shooting, and awarded custody of Argote's children to his ex-wife.

The judge also signed an order prohibiting contact between Argote and his estranged family after raising concerns about suspected domestic abuse.

Clearly, his concerns about Argote's capability to inflict serious harm were well-founded.

This targeting of a civil servant by a man alleged to be a disgruntled abuser is not an isolated incident. Another man with a history of domestic violence, Byrom Zuniga-Sanchez, is charged with recently threatening a family court judge who presided over his case in Orange County, California. The man allegedly blamed the judge for harming his relationship with his young son, writing in an email to the judge: "I am more committed to murdering you than I am to being present as a father." He added threats to kill people indiscriminately at the courthouse.

(Of course, Zuniga-Sanchez's alleged abusive behavior and refusal to pay adequate child support couldn't possibly have harmed his relationship with his son. It was definitely the judge.)

Our society has historically viewed domestic abuse as a private, family matter: A 1975 Oakland, California, police bulletin even advises officers to "encourage the parties to reason with each other" over arresting anyone, if

Chloe N. Lee



called about domestic violence. But domestic abuse is a community problem that can hardly be dismissed as an interpersonal issue. As a society, we have an ethical obligation to protect our most vulnerable and to penalize abuse when we see it.

Intimate partner violence costs the U.S. population as a whole \$3.6 trillion over the lifetime of the country's 43 million adult victims, and more than a third of the women killed in the U.S. in 2021 were killed by an intimate partner.

Furthermore, domestic abuse can lead to a constellation of maladaptive behaviors and resultant negative health outcomes, including substance use disorders, cardiovascular disease, cancer and more. Indeed, the cost of domestic violence to society is inordinate.

Understanding the danger that perpetrators of domestic violence pose to society, especially if they have access to firearms, is a highly relevant and important conversation, given last week's Supreme Court review of *U.S. v. Rahimi*, which will determine whether people under restraining orders for domestic violence can legally keep their guns. Possession of a gun by an abuser is the strongest risk factor for intimate partner homicide; thus, the stakes of this SCOTUS review are terrifyingly high.

The troubling incidents of judges being targeted by perpetrators of domestic violence raise the following question for me: who is next? The lawyer who represents the victim?

The domestic abuse center that provides counseling and shelter for victims? Physicians like myself who often pick up on abusive dynamics? The reporter who brings attention to domestic violence?

It is my clinical and personal experience that abusers, often with narcissistic personality traits, have very poor insight into their behavior; and so, merely issuing restraining orders or attempting to reason with or rehabilitate them with "anger management" classes are insufficient methods of protecting their targets.

Blocking their legal access to firearms is a clear and attainable goal by which we may limit the societal harm that domestic abusers inflict. We in medicine would not hesitate to intervene on any other significant public health risk factor, and the data show that perpetrators' access to firearms is, indeed, a substantial public health threat.

Perpetrators of domestic abuse pose a blatant threat to our society. I may not be a legal expert, but I do not believe that our country's founders intended for people who demonstrate a callous disregard for human life and for our societal institutions to have access to weapons that only make it easier for them to realize their propensity for violence. I do not believe that any one of us with a modicum of decency wants violent people to have legal access to guns.

Do we want a society that allows a violent person who poses an obvious danger not only in their home, but also to the larger community to possess guns legally? Or could we possibly choose otherwise?

I hope that we choose otherwise. Thoughts and prayers help no one when abusers have access to guns and the willingness to use them.

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Lee is a resident in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Rochester Medical Center.

The Commercial Review



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

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Capsule Reports

Redkey rescheduled

Redkey Town Council didn't have a quorum for its Thursday meeting. It will meet again at 6 p.m. Tuesday.

Pole hit

A Portland woman crashed her vehicle into a pole along Shank Street about 8:47 a.m. Wednesday.

Deborah Baker, 73, was driving her 2012 Honda Accord east on the street. She told police she wasn't able to see with the sunlight shining in her eyes, and she struck a pole along the road.

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

Felony arrests

Continued from page 2
He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Methamphetamine

A Dunkirk man was arrested Thursday for possession of methamphetamine.

John A. Fields, 24, 637 N. Elm St., is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony.

He's being held in Jay County Jail on a \$5,000 bond.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Lighting up the courthouse

Little Miss Winterfest 2022 Aria Barnett grins as she flips the switch to light the Christmas tree Friday evening at Jay County Courthouse. The tree lighting kicked off Winterfest activities, which continue today with the Kids Breakfast and Karnival from 8:30 to 11 a.m. at East Jay Elementary School, the Little Miss Winterfest Pageant at 2 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church and the Parade of Lights at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Portland.

Bill signed to avoid government shutdown

By JORDAN FABIAN

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

President Joe Biden signed a stopgap bill to extend government funding into early 2024, averting a government shutdown for now but kicking a politically-divisive debate over federal spending into a presidential election year.

The White House confirmed the move in a statement early Friday morning in Washington, less than a day before existing funding would have expired. Biden — in California for a summit of APEC leaders — signed the legislation on Thursday, according to the statement.

Facing that Friday night deadline and with the House under new leadership, Congress passed an interim measure with broad bipartisan majorities earlier this week.

A shutdown threatened to generate widespread political fallout in Washington. The short-term package allows lawmakers to

regroup over the Thanksgiving holiday while talks continue on spending and policy agreements.

But the measure sets up bitter ideological fights early next year over federal spending and emergency funding for allies Israel and Ukraine.

That battle already brought the U.S. to the brink of a debt default in the spring, caused Fitch Ratings to downgrade the nation's sovereign credit rating and cost Kevin McCarthy the House speakership.

Senate Majority Leader

Chuck Schumer said the chamber would turn to Israel and Ukraine assistance "immediately" when lawmakers return from Thanksgiving.

The White House initially criticized the stopgap measure, with Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre calling it "a recipe for more Republican chaos and more shutdowns." But Biden came around as Democrats indicated they would not block the proposal in order to avoid an immediate funding lapse.

The stopgap measure, engi-

neered by Speaker Mike Johnson, funds some government agencies through Jan. 19 and others through Feb. 2 and lacks the Ukraine and Israel aid demanded by Biden, as well as stricter border policies sought by Republicans.

The risk of a partial government shutdown in January is high because the agencies whose funding will lapse then will not trigger some of the most politically dire consequences, like cutting military pay and closing national parks.

Those agencies will run out of funds in February.

Johnson adopted the staggered funding deadlines and dropped the emergency aid to appease hard-line conservatives, who were nonetheless furious with his decision to pass a bill without deep spending cuts or changes to immigration law.

The speaker has said he will not support another short-term funding measure. But that has done little to quell conservatives' anger, indicating Republicans will need to overcome internal divisions as well as disagreements with Democrats in order to reach an agreement.

Political polarization in Congress and lack of action to address the nation's fiscal health sparked Moody's Investors Service to lower the U.S.'s credit-rating outlook from stable to negative, illustrating the stakes for the next budget fight.

Stopgap measure funds government agencies into 2024, lacks funds for Israel, Ukraine

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Fortkamp Foam 3216 Wabash Road Fort Recovery, OH 45846 419-852-1390 Fortkampfoam.com	Hopkins Repair, LLC Auto & light truck repair Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm Call Scott Hopkins 260-251-0459	J Wood Products For Sale Sawdust & Firewood Call or Text 260-251-1154. 415 W Water St. Portland. 7:00 am-3:00 pm.	
All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning (260)726-4822 24 hr Emergency Service Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas	Vormohr Family Dentistry 1413 W. Votaw St., Portland 260-726-7822	Display Craft Signs 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535	
All Circuit Electrical, LLC 5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN 260-997-8336 www.allcircuitelectrical.com	Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition 100 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371 260-251-3259 Email: jcdpcccontact@gmail.com	Dunn Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8007	
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This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50. Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included			Baird Freeman Funeral Home 221 N. Meridian St. Portland, IN 260-726-7171
			Home Idea Center 901 Industrial Dr. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-375-4951 www.ehomeidea.com

11-18 CRYPTOQUIP

MU VQO KQ KQZUMIK, XHFC LOJC RQ SJMIK HZQIK H RNMJP LQBF, SCBHOLC VQO XMKNR KCR H NQZC MI QIC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER THE SONGWRITER WAS ACCUSED OF STEALING SOMEONE'S MELODY, SHE PROMPTLY CHANGED HER TUNE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals O

Trivial Review (Answers are printed below, upside down.) Geography 1) About 20% of what European nation is made up of islands? 2) What north African country was part of the Ottoman and Carthaginian empires? (2) Tunisia (1) Greece

11-20 CRYPTOQUIP

ITU ZGZ ETM XGOQNOE WDUVXQ WLZZMRJU SMMJ KXVD QXGR? K MVXLWM TM IXW VXOUGRY ETGRYW ENN SXO.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU GO GOLFING, MAKE SURE TO BRING ALONG A THIRD SOCK, BECAUSE YOU MIGHT GET A HOLE IN ONE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals D

CRYPTO FUN Determine the code to reveal the answer! Solve the code to discover words related to going vegan. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 17 = A)

WORD SCRAMBLE Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to veganism. AENBS

kids' corner Illustration of various school supplies and a laptop.

Crossword Puzzle Grid with numbers 1-7.

ACROSS 1. Looked over 3. Writer of a book 6. Great Plains state 7. Illustration DOWN 1. Enjoying a book 2. Armed conflict 4. Navigation tool 5. Make or show a connection to

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY NOV 13 1922: THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS MANDATORY VACCINATIONS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS.

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

WORDS ANIMAL AQUAFABA BUDDHA BOWL BYPRODUCT CAROB CASEIN CONSUMPTION ETHICAL FAUX FLEGG FLEXITARIAN GELATIN HARDLINE HEALTH JACKFRUIT LEGUMES MOCKMEAT NUTRITIONAL YEAST PAREVE RAW SEITAN TEMPEH VEGAN WELFARE

PEOPLE FACT: A CHILD BETWEEN THE AGES OF SIX AND 11 WHO IS A FREQUENT READER WILL READ AROUND THIS MANY BOOKS PER YEAR.

How they say that in... ENGLISH: Illustration SPANISH: Dibujo ITALIAN: Illustrazione GERMAN: Abbildung

Answers: 1. Reviewed 3. Author 6. Nebraska 7. Picture

New Word YOUTH the period between childhood and adulthood

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Elitists team, to fans 6 Kirsten in "Wimbledon" 11 In a crabby way 12 Element #68 14 Acela operator 15 Roman orator 16 The Cow-boys, on a scoreboard 17 Test versions 19 Slugger's stat 20 Sheltered 22 Tree fluid 23 Cupid's alias 24 Bestseller list entry 26 Audio download 28 MSN, for one 30 Pickles (one of the Rugrats) 31 Bean container

Crossword grid for Eugene Sheffer's puzzle.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The step-by-step approach South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH Q 7 6 5 Q J 8 2 Q 5 2 10 4 WEST J 8 6 5 J 9 7 3 J 8 6 5 2 EAST A K J 10 9 7 3 K 10 6 Q 9 3 SOUTH 8 3 A K 10 9 4 A 8 4 A K 7

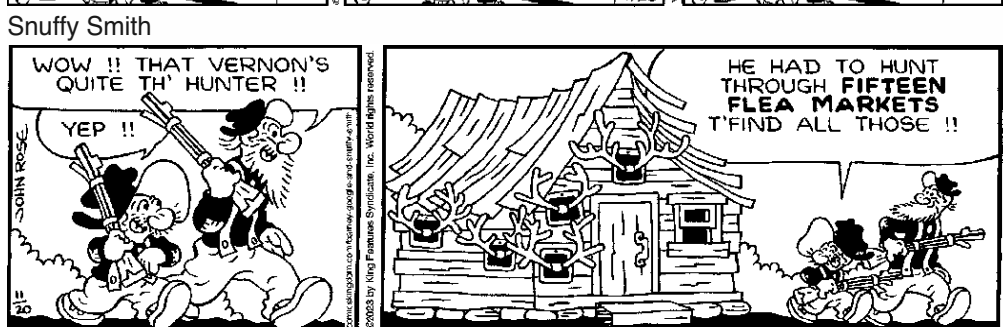
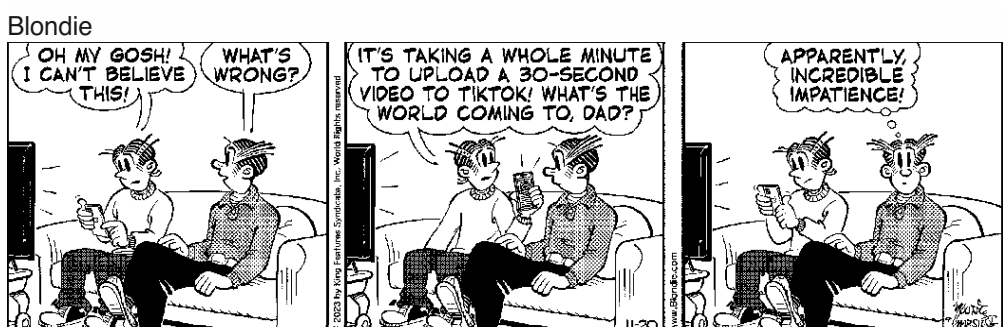
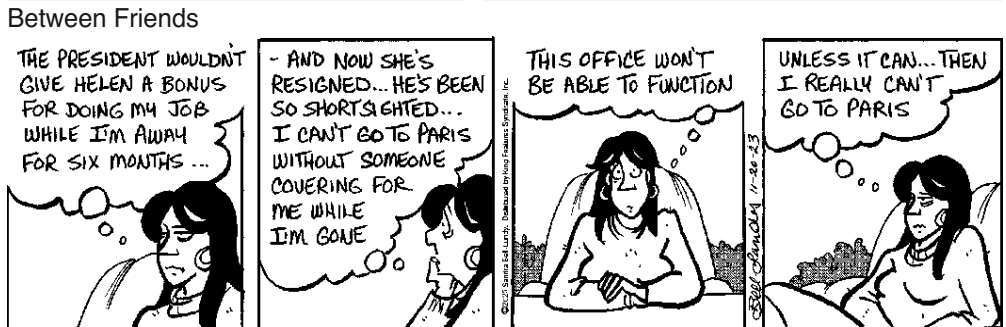
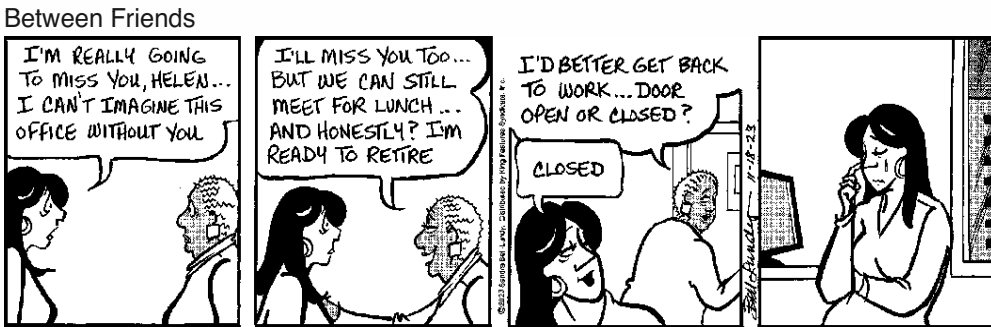
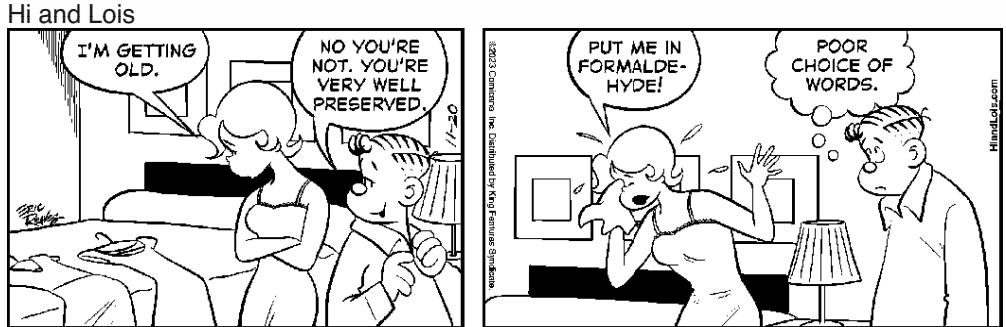
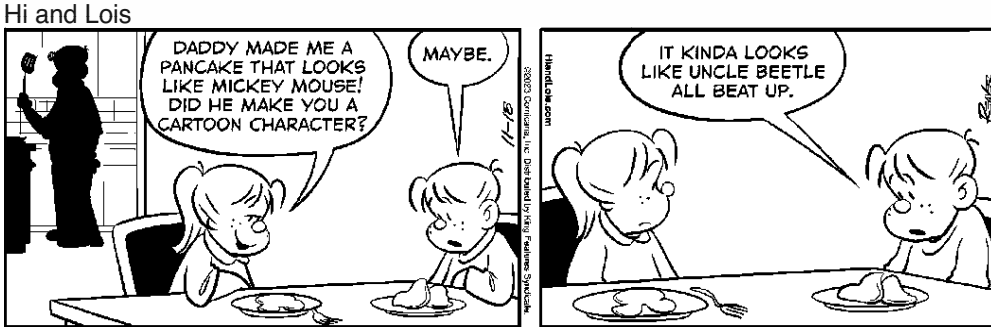
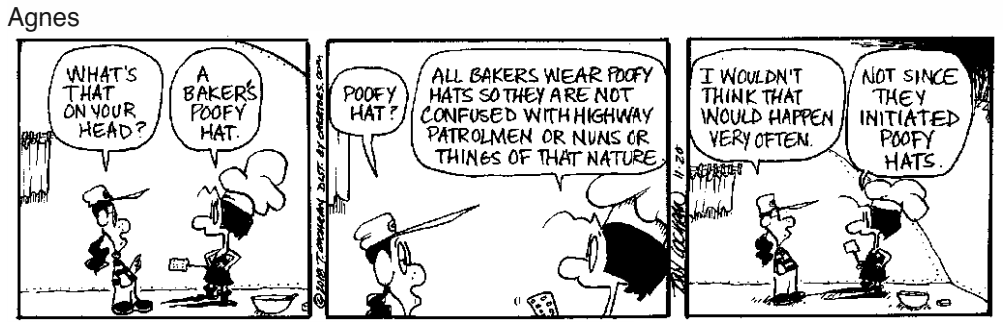
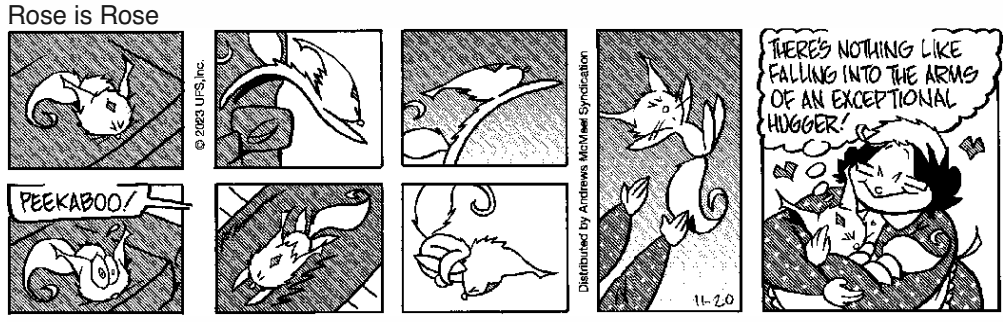
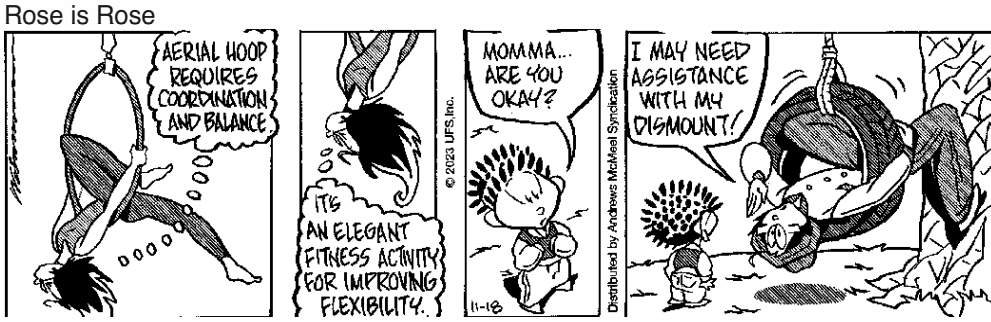
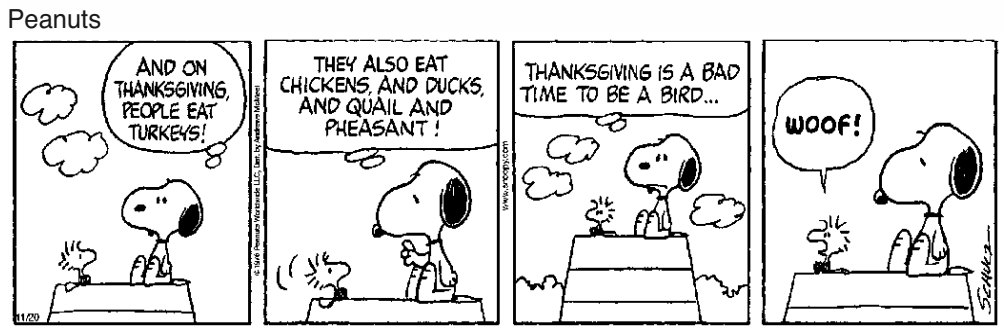
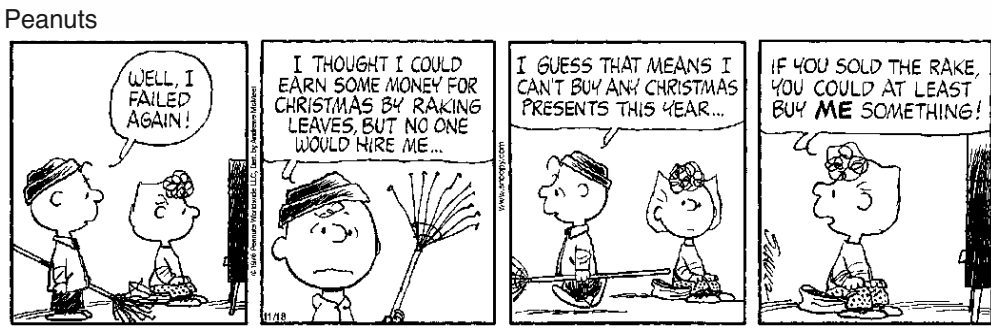
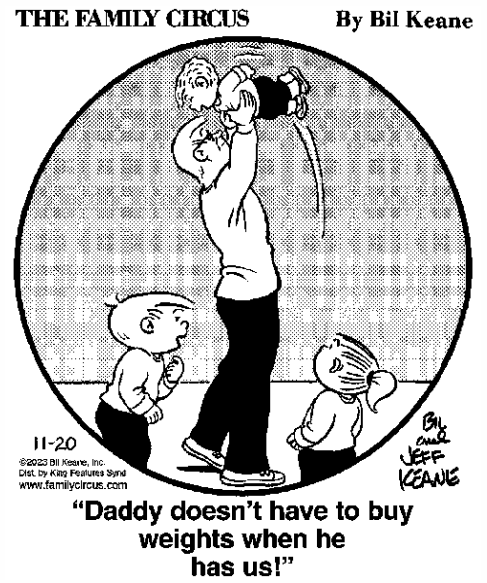
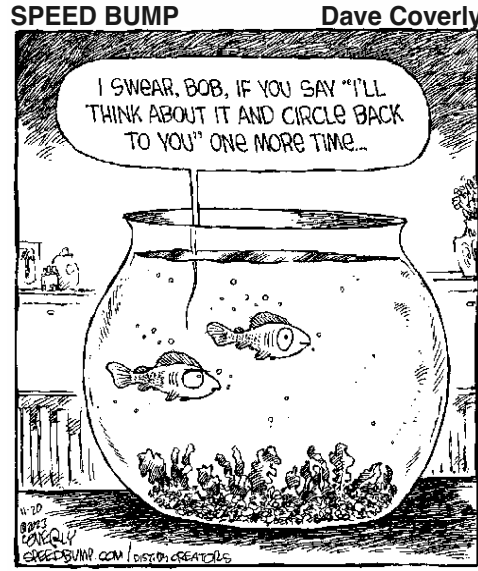
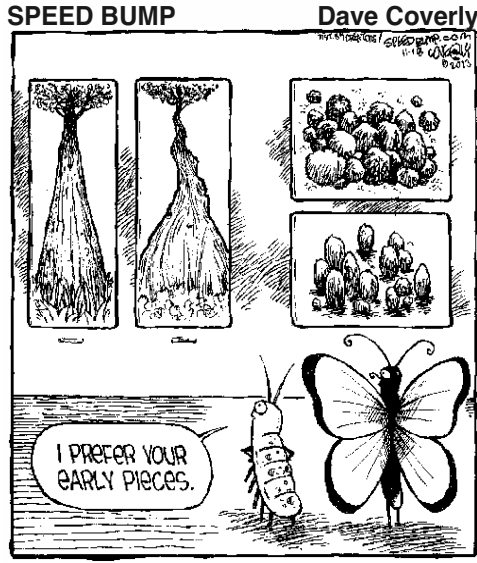
Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand West dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH A 7 10 3 Q 10 8 2 A K 9 6 3 WEST J 8 J 7 4 K J 9 4 10 8 7 4 EAST K 9 2 Q 8 6 5 A 6 3 Q J 2 SOUTH Q 10 6 5 4 3 A K 9 2 7 5 5

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Vintage 4 "Kapow!" 7 Party cheese 11 "Stay" singer Lisa 13 Tempe sch. 14 "Do — others ..." 15 Beige 16 "— Way" (Sinatra biography) 17 Body pics 18 Annual visitor 20 Edict 22 Attempt 24 Nativity display 28 Patella 32 Court proceeding 33 Frost 34 Frenzied 36 "Memory" musical 37 Nervous 39 Last car 41 Daytona 500 acronym 43 Cattle call? 44 Piece of work

Crossword grid for Eugene Sheffer's puzzle.



We Deliver

Laughter

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

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
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ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
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Minimum charge....
\$12.40
1 insertion.....62¢/
word
2 insertions.....81¢/
word
3 insertions.....96¢/
word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/
word
12 insertions. \$1.52/
word
26 insertions. \$1.77/
word
Includes
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Classified Display \$6.95/
per column inch
No borders or logos
allowed on Classified
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100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100
words.... \$13.00
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sporting equipment,
wanted to rent, motor-
ized vehicles, real estate
and mobile homes.

30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

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

40 NOTICES

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

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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9:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South.
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Saturday Morning
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9:30 A.M.

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C3804008 Beer Wine & Liquor - Fraternal Club RE-NEWAL
LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE 1352 609 W. CENTER ST. Dunkirk IN D/B/A L.O.O.M. #1352
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Suffocating ...

Continued from page 10
Jay County gave up seven 3-pointers in the game as well while struggling to defend Cole in the paint, forcing McIntire to make a decision on trying to swarm the paint or stay home on shooters.

"Our 'Zorro' defense obviously didn't do what it needed to do because we had to end up going in to man and that's not our strength," McIntire said. "Zorro should be our strength, but we just kept getting caught behind screens and they shot the ball extremely well."

After the slow start, the Patriots were able to find some rhythm in the second quarter. Along with Muhlenkamp's two buckets, Schwieterman and Saxman put the ball through once and the Patriots hit four free throws, including two from Dirksen after a technical foul was called on the Belmont bench, to trail 24-16 at the half.

"I don't know what was causing the slow start," McIntire said. "I would just say we weren't mentally focused and ready to go, and that surprises me because I felt like that's the first time that we've come out so not ready to go. The second quarter



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Breanna Dirksen (32) of Jay County drives baseline as Belmont's Emily Bleke (10) slides over to try and cut her off on Friday night. Dirksen had a team-high three assists in the 50-33 loss.

obviously was our best quarter. I felt like we were making strides."

The Patriots will look to bounce back tonight when they travel to Winchester.

"We've just got to move on," McIntire said. "We play Winchester tomorrow and I obviously feel like we need to go down there ... be ready to go

from the get go. So be mentally focused."

Junior varsity
The Jay County junior varsity team's fourth-

Box score			
Bellmont Braves vs. Jay County Patriots		Score by quarters:	
		Jay Co. 4 12 7 10—33	
		Bellmont 16 8 15 11—50	
Girls varsity summary			
Jay County (2-2)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Muhlenkamp	5-11	0-2	12
Saxman	2-7	1-5	5
Schwietrmn	2-5	4-4	8
MDirksen	0-2	0-0	0
Sibray	0-0	0-0	0
Denton	0-1	0-0	0
Petro	1-4	1-2	3
BDirksen	1-4	3-4	5
May	0-1	0-0	0
Newton	0-0	0-0	0
Totals	11-35	9-17	33
	.314	.529	
Def. rebound percentage: .615			
Bellmont (3-1)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Kitson	0-1	0-0	0
Garner	0-0	0-0	0
Franze	0-1	0-0	0
Bleke	3-7	1-1	7
BLaurent	3-5	0-0	9
Jarvis	2-9	2-2	7
French	3-9	0-0	8
GLaurent	0-2	0-0	0
Cole	7-10	4-5	19
Totals	18-44	7-8	50
	.409	.875	
Def. rebound percentage: .708			
3-point shooting: Jay County 2-12 (Muhlenkamp 2-5, BDirksen 0-1, May 0-1, MDirksen 0-2, Schwieterman 0-3). Belmont 7-16 (BLaurent 3-3, French 2-3, Cole 1-1, Jarvis 1-5, Kitson 0-1, Bleke 0-3).			
Rebounds: Jay County 22 (Muhlenkamp 6, Saxman 6, Schwieterman 4, MDirksen 2, BDirksen 2, Petro 1, May 1). Belmont 24 (Bleke 7, Cole 5, Jarvis 4, Kitson 2, BLaurent 2, GLaurent 2, Franze 1, French 1).			
Assists: Jay County 7 (BDirksen 3, Schwieterman 2, Denton 2). Belmont 11 (Bleke 4, GLaurent 4, Cole 2, French 1).			
Blocks: Jay County 3 (Muhlenkamp 1, Petro 1, MDirksen 1). Belmont 1 (Cole 1).			
Personal fouls: Jay County 14 (Muhlenkamp 3, Saxman 3, Schwieterman 3, BDirksen 3, Sibray 2). Belmont 18 (Jarvis 5, Garner 3, Cole 3, Kitson 2, French 2, GLaurent 2).			
Turnovers: Jay County 17. Belmont 12.			

quarter comeback earned it a 32-27 victory over Belmont in three quarters Friday.

Alexis Sibray gave the Patriots (2-2) the lead with 36 seconds left in the game on a fast break where she was still in the front court putting on a shoe that came off the previous play.

Meredith Dirksen

scored a team-high 11 points. Raylah Newton followed with 10.

Kady Allred scored back-to-back baskets in the third quarter to tie the game. The freshman finished with four points.

Chaylee Melton cracked the scoring column for the first time this year with one point off of a free throw.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls wrestling at Ben Davis — 9 a.m.; Swimming at Westfield — 10 a.m.; Girls basketball at Winchester — 6 p.m.; JV boys wrestling at Carroll — 9 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Greenville — 9:15 a.m.; Girls basketball scrimmage vs. Bradford — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball scrimmage at Franklin Monroe — 11 a.m.

Monday
Jay County — Boys freshman basketball at Delta — 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Richmond — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Union City — 6 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Boys basketball at Elwood — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Middle school girls

basketball scrimmage vs. Coldwater — 6 p.m.

TV sports

Today
3 a.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN)
4 a.m. — U17 World Cup: Venezuela vs. Germany (FS1)
7 a.m. — U17 World Cup: France vs. United States (FS1)
9 a.m. — Euro Qualification: Wales at Armenia (FS1)
12 p.m. — College football: Louisville at Miami (ABC); SMU at Memphis (ESPN2); Michigan at Maryland (FOX); Rutgers at Penn State (FS1); Oklahoma at BYU (ESPN); Michigan State at Indiana (BTN); Purdue at Northwestern (BTN)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Illinois at Notre Dame (NBC)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Wake Forest at Notre Dame (NBC); North Caroli-

na at Clemson (ESPN); Georgia at Tennessee (CBS); Illinois at Iowa (FS1); UCLA at USC (ABC)

4 p.m. — College football: Minnesota at Ohio State (BTN); Oklahoma State at Houston (ESPN2); Oregon at Arizona State (FOX)
7 p.m. — College football: Kansas State at Kansas (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Washington at Oregon State (ABC); Florida at Missouri (ESPN); Nebraska at Wisconsin (NBC)
8 p.m. — College football: Texas at Iowa State (FOX); Georgia State at LSU (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — College football: New Mexico at Fresno State (FS1)
10:30 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Los Angeles Kings (Bally Indiana)

Sunday
1 a.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN)

9 a.m. — Euro Qualification: Montenegro at Hungary (FS1)
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Syracuse at Maryland (BTN)
12 p.m. — Euro Qualification: Azerbaijan at Belgium (FS1)
1 p.m. — NFL: Pittsburgh Steelers at Cleveland Browns (CBS); Chicago Bears at Detroit Lions (FOX)
1 p.m. — College basketball: UConn vs. Indiana (ESPN)
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Creighton at Nebraska (BTN)
2:45 p.m. — Euro Qualification: Norway at Scotland (FS1)
3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Duke at Stanford (ABC)
3:30 p.m. — College basketball: Texas vs. Louisville (ESPN)
4 p.m. — NFL: Tampa Bay Buccaneers vs. San Francisco 49ers (FOX)
4 p.m. — College basketball: Western Michigan at Ohio State (BTN)

4:25 p.m. — NFL: New York Jets at Buffalo Bills (CBS)
5 p.m. — NBA: Orlando Magic at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: UConn at Minnesota (FS1)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Alcorn State at Michigan State (BTN)
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Drake at Iowa (FS1)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Southern at Illinois (BTN)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Minnesota Vikings at Denver Broncos (NBC)

Monday
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Tennessee vs. Syracuse (ESPN2)
5 p.m. — College basketball: Purdue vs. Gonzaga (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Virginia vs. Wisconsin (TNT)
7 p.m. — CONCACAF: United States at Trinidad and Tobago (BTN)

8:15 p.m. — NFL: Philadelphia Eagles at Kansas City Chiefs (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: SMU vs. West Virginia (FS1)
11:30 p.m. — College basketball: UCLA vs. Marquette (ESPN2)

Tuesday
7 p.m. — College basketball: UMBC at Maryland (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Eastern Michigan at Buffalo (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NBA in-season tournament: Indiana Pacers at Atlanta Hawks (Bally Indiana); Cleveland Cavaliers at Philadelphia 76ers (TNT)
9 p.m. — College basketball: Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Minnesota (BTN)
10 p.m. — NBA in-season tournament: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.



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.

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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS



Suffocating defense



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Patriots' offense gets choked off as they fall to 2-2 on the season

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

DECATUR — Hallie Schwieterman was the leading scorer for the first three games of the year.

The Braves came in looking to shut her down. Only allowing one of her teammates to hit double figures was just icing on the cake.

The Belmont Braves' defense suffocated the Jay County High School girls basketball team, allowing less than 10 points per quarter as they handed the Patriots a 50-33 defeat Friday night.

"I just was real disappointed on our start," JCHS coach Sherri McIntire said. "Obviously I think Belmont's a good, solid team, but I don't think we had our best performance tonight either."

The Braves (3-1) jumped all over the Patriots (2-2) early in the first quarter. Belmont put together a 9-0 run between the five-minute mark until the last few minutes of the period when Cassie Petro got a layup off of a weak side cut and an assist from Breanna Dirksen.

Throughout the first quarter, Belmont coach Andy Heim was yelling at his players to pay attention to Schwieterman and not allow her to get a clean look from the 3-point line. Heim knew the Braves' 2-3 zone defense was susceptible to good 3-point shooters and wanted to take the freshman out of the game.

"I'd like to take a whole bunch of credit like we're doing something special, but keying on (Molly Muhlenkamp) and Schwieterman is what did it," Heim said. "We knew they

were their 3-point shooters and that plays into us being a zone team so we can leave some of those other people a little bit more open and really just focus on those two."

Schwieterman was held to eight points, four of which came from free throws, while Muhlenkamp scored 12 thanks to a pair of baskets in both the second and fourth quarters.

The defense stopped Jay County from getting too many looks from beyond the arc, and it took until the fourth quarter for one to fall, when Muhlenkamp hit a pair.

Muhlenkamp was the team's leading scorer, but no one else could get going offensively. The only other players to score were Sophie Saxman and Dirksen with five points each and Petro with three.

"We just didn't have a spark tonight," McIntire said. "Nobody came in and gave us a spark. We didn't even have a spark from our starters."

The Braves didn't have that problem.

Hailey Cole dominated the offensive end, scoring 19 points. The Braves' ball movement forced the back side of the Patriots' 1-2-2 zone to rotate enough where they were able to get little in passes for the center to go one-on-one with her back to the basket and score.

"She's strong as crap and she's going to get those on her own," Heim said. "We like to play in-to-out which helps the shooters out, helps all that. So that was our goal."

Cole also had a pair of assists.

See **Suffocating** page 9

Jay County High School senior Molly Muhlenkamp goes up for a layup during the Patriots' 50-33 loss to Belmont on Friday. Muhlenkamp scored 12 points on 9-of-11 shooting to lead the Patriots offense.

Jay County runs its record to 3-0

COLUMBIA CITY — The Patriots won their first two dual meets on the opening night of the season.

After a pair of tournaments, the Patriots picked up their third win two weeks later.

The Jay County High School girls wrestling team won six of the nine matches to fuel a 54-18 win over the Columbia City Eagles on Thursday.

With wins against CCHS, Malory Winner and Emily Manor remain undefeated on the season. Manor took down Delaney

Caldwell as the buzzer was sounding off in the first period of the 135-pound match.

Winner took 38 seconds to pin Bralynn Leazier at 170.

Four more athletes put six

points on the board as well for Jay County (3-0).

In the lowest weight class that competed in the match — 115 — Tatiana Willis had a near immediate fall when she pinned Avah

Hyden. The Patriots also secured a victory in the highest weight class as Kiley Williams took down Vivian Parke with 23 seconds left in the 235 match.

Jay County also got wins from

Calie Yates at 120 and Willow Hardy at 125. Both wrestlers pinned their opponent in the second period.

The Eagles took three matches from Jay County.

Alexes Spaulding defeated Lina Lingo 53 seconds into the 130 match. Madison Gage lasted 1 minute, 54 seconds, before Kiersten Williamson beat her at 155. Michela Clifford pinned Tessa Miller in under a minute to win at 190.

The Patriots also earned points by forfeit at 100, 110 and 145.

Winner, Manor keep undefeated records in victory over Columbia City

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