Friday, December 8, 2023

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

JCHS grad part of new team

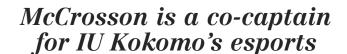
By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

KOKOMO — Indiana University Kokomo has a new esports team.

One of its co-captains is a Jay County graduate.

In February, IU Kokomo announced it would be launching an esports team as a varsity sport.

"Really, it was an idea coming from our new chancellor," explained coach Nick Liegey. "It's one of those sports — we're actually considered under athlet- in a lot of recruits for the ics — that you don't have the tra-



ditional travel as some other sports, so it can obviously be a real profit-maker as well as something that can really draw school.'

Esports, short for electronic sports, is a team-based video game competition. Several members from the group had previously been involved in the esports club, which continues to

dents is sophomore Gavin McCrosson, a 2022 graduate of Jay County High School.

"I had joined the club — I saw them at the activity fair my freshman year," he explained. "And then, one day, Nick started asking people who wanted to compete ... I messaged him saying I'd be interested, and it went on from there."

Esports team members currently have the option of playing three video games competitively — "Overwatch 2," "Rocket

serve as an environment for League" or "Super Smash Bros. casual gamers. One of those stu- Ultimate." (Players are placed into squads for each game.) Liegey shared the possibility of adding other titles as interest grows and conference availability opens up.

"Ás trends change, we'll switch out games for what students are really interested in competing in," explained Liegey.

IU Kokomo's team participates in the National Esports Collegiate Conference, which has more than 300 schools across America.

See Team page 2

Haley draws fire from rivals **By GREGORY KORTE** Bloomberg News **Tribune News Service**

Former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley emerged as the top target of her rivals during the fourth Republican presidential debate, defending her growing base of Wall Street donors and her for-

eign policy stances. Haley, who has been surging in polls and attracted new interest from big-dollar donors in recent weeks, drew pointed attacks straight out of the gate from Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and Ohio entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy.

"Look, we will take support from anybody we can take support from, but I have been a conservative fighter all my life," Haley said Wednesday on the stage in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Haley shot back that "mad DeSantis was because those Wall Street donors used to support him and now they support me." Ramaswamy criticized Haley for taking money from LinkedIn Corp. cofounder Reid Hoffman, who donated \$250,000 to a super political action committee backing her. Hoffman has historically donated to Democratic candidates but said he sees Haley as a potential alternative to Donald Trump, the GOP frontrunner. Ramaswamy criticized Haley's ties to BlackRock Inc. Chief Executive Officer Larry Fink, who he termed "the king of the woke industrial complex." "To say that doesn't affect her is false," Ramaswamy added. Wednesday's debate saw just four candidates take the stage — Haley, DeSantis, Ramaswamy and former New Jersey Governor Chris Christie — as the field of potential challengers to Trump shrinks and the former president extends his lead against his remaining rivals. Time is running short, with Iowa — the first state on the nominating calendar less than six weeks away.

East celebration

East Elementary students participated in their annual Christmas program Thursday. Pictured at right, second grader Arabella Beltz holds her hands up during her class' practice session at East Jay Elementary on Thursday morning. Beltz wore a sweatshirt themed after Jack Skellington, a character from "The Nightmare Before Christmas." Below, second graders Maverick LeMaster, Allison Navaro-Garcia, Archer Nichols and Emree Spoonemore sing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas" at the end of their practice session.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



See Rivals page 2

Holcomb defends pipeline process

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

Gov. Eric Holcomb defended the timeline process for a water pipeline from Tippecanoe County to Boone County for a massive, high-tech development grounded by a multi-billion dollar investment from Eli Lilly.

Other companies coming to the area haven't yet been announced but the Indiana Economic Development Corporation hopes to pipe millions of gallons of water daily from the Wabash Alluvial Aquifer though local officials aren't sold on the idea.

on an unprecedented scale, as (the IEDC is) ... I'm pleased that they were operating at the speed of business, not to the speed of what we're used to," Holcomb said. "And knowing that there may be some bumps along the way but always know that the data would drive our ultimate decision."

To verify the water supply statewide, both the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and an IEDC contractor are working on a study though the contractor for the latter, narrower study has been moved to the Indiana Finance Authority.

"When you deal with something help or hurt because being slow could mean losing the bid but thought that Indiana was "at a place, right now, (where) the interest is still there.

'No one was ever going to promise a company water if we don't have it; no was ever going to take water away from a community if we don't have it," Holcomb said.

Rather, he believed the studies would show "an abundance of water sources" similar to neighboring states, states he said were in the best position to attract businesses in coming years.

Holcomb said he wasn't yet Holcomb said that speed could ready to unveil his final legislative (with) the structure in place.

agenda as governor, which is set to be revealed on Jan. 8. Lawmakers seem keen to keep session short in 2024, meaning any priorities will need to be ready when legislators convene on that same date.

He shared three generalized priorities, including: government efficacy and transparency, wrapping up outstanding or in-progress projects and increasing awareness of current government programs.

"We want to finish strong; we don't want to limp to the line," Holcomb said. "That will require us not only finishing some projects but also getting some programs

Deaths

Gerald Bertke, 82, St. Joe, Ohio Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high tem-perature of 37 degrees Wednesday. The low was 32. There is a chance of show-

ers tonight with the temperature holding steady around 50 and winds gusting to 35 miles per hour. Expect more rain Saturday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

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

In review

Saturday — Results from the first day of the ACAC wrestling duals at Jay County.

Coming up

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.



Local/Nation

Obituaries

Gerald "Jerry" L. Bertke.

St. Joe, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1941-

Dec. 5, 2023. A Mass of

Christian Burial will be held

at 10:30 a.m. Monday at St.

SERVICES

Today

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod

Funeral Home, 208 N. Com-

Meacham Funeral Service, 648

merce St., Portland.

W. State St., Albany.

ery, Ohio.

Denney, Sandy: 2 p.m.,

Whitesell, Debbie: 2 p.m.,

lliff, Anita: 6 p.m., Wayne

Street Methodist Church, 130 N.

Saturday

a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recov-

Monday

Timmerman, Alma: 10:30

Wayne St., St. Marys, Ohio.

Joe Catholic Church.

Team

Continued from page 1

Unlike other sports, esports tournaments are typically hosted remotely. (Larger matches may be hosted in-person via local area network (LAN) communications.)

"We may be playing a school in California, we could be playing a school in Florida, it just kind of depends on the week," Liegey said.

The Cougars had been playing remotely from their own homes utilizing Discord, an instant messaging and social platform regularly used by gamers. (The application ties into video game software, allowing users to play and chat with their friends in the same space online.)

They planned to set up in the Student Activities and Events Center while waiting for construction to be finished on the esports arena, a new addition to IU Kokomo's Kelley Student Center. (Plans are to have the space completed some-

be outfitted with 18 computers for players, along with a coach's computer, streaming room and various outlets and data ports for their equipment.

The team has been sharing its competitions online via Twitch, a live-streaming service. and planned to stream games on screens across campus.

As co-captain of the "Overwatch 2" squad, McCrosson plans out strategies and keeps his teammates in check with regular practice sessions at least two times a

week. "Most of us practice more than that," he said. "It is a video game, you can hop on it at your leisure. It's a lot different than like, let's say baseball, where you want to go to a field or where you want to hit somewhere. Most of us, we can sit at home and play together."

The Cougars' first games started

time in January.) Their arena will in September, with the playoffs wrapping up this month.

McCrosson boasted in October about the "Overwatch 2" squad's record, which ultimately came to 5-0 for the regular season.

"We're definitely just going to keep steamrolling the competition like we are right now," said McCrosson. "We have a pretty good group behind us, and we're just going to keep plowing forward."

According to the group's schedule on IU Kokomo's website, "Rocket League" players finished with 3-3 for the season and "Super Smash Bros. Ultimate" players were 2-3. In the NECC Navigator **Division Great Lakes Conference** playoffs, IU Kokomo's "Overwatch squad dominated Murray State University in the quarterfinals Nov. 16 with a 3-0 win and advanced past University of Missouri with a 4-2 win in the semifinals Nov. 30.

Their fall season is nearing a close — the "Overwatch 2" group was set to face off against Southern Illinois University in a championship match on Thursday. Still, the spring season is just

the program, noted Liegey. Near the beginning of the season, the esports team boasted more than 20 players. Liegey hopes to bring the headcount to 40 in the next year.

puter science teacher at Western High School in Russiaville, Liegey served as his high school's esports coach for a vear before taking over as coach of IU Kokomo's first esports team.

"This opportunity opened up, I totally wanted to be a part of it,

CR almanac Monday 12/11 Saturdav Sunday Tuesday Wednesday 12/10 12/9 12/12 12/13 42/25 59/34 38/23 38/26 40/26 Rain is like Sunday has Mostly Tuesday's Another ly on Saturday with a 70% a 60% chance of rain and cloudy skies are expected day of mostly forecast sunny skies on shows most-Monday, when the high won't sunny Wednesday, when the high chance of snow throughshowers day skies with a out the day. go past 40 degrees. and night high of 42 will be around degrees. 40 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball

6-47-50-61-68 Power Ball: 4 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$400 million

Markets

Daily Four: 2-5-4-2 Quick Draw: 4-15-16-18-21-22-23-24-34-36-37-39-41-43-46-62-64-72-74-79 Cash 5: 8-26-31-35-38 Estimated jackpot: \$105,000

..... N

| Mega Millions | Ohio |
|--|---|
| Estimated jackpot: | Wednesday |
| \$355 million | Midday |
| Hoosier | Pick 3: 7-0-6 |
| Wednesday | Pick 4: 6-0-2-1 |
| Midday | Pick 5: 9-7-3-9-9 |
| Daily Three: 9-7-1 | Evening |
| Daily Four: 9-2-4-9 | Pick 3: 8-1-3 |
| Quick Draw: 1-3-6-7-12- | Pick 4: 6-5-1-2 |
| 21-25-32-34-41-51-52-58-60- 65-69-71-72-73-76 | Pick 5: 0-8-8-7-2 Rolling Cash: 10-14-17- 24-33 |
| Evening | Estimated jackpot: |
| Daily Three: 0-7-2 | \$150,000 |

Rivals

Continued from page 1

DeSantis faced questions about his electability as he struggles to right a struggling campaign that saw him enter the race as a potential viable alternative to Trump before sliding in the polls.

'I'm sick of hearing about these polls," DeSantis said, noting that he had won reelection to the governor's mansion in Tallahassee in 2022 — even as Republicans in other races across the country underperformed.

"They said there was gonna be a big red wave," he continued, "The one place it didn't crash and burn was in the state of Florida.'

Trump, who is leading by wide margins in state and national polls, skipped the debate as he has prior forums this cycle, opting to host a fundraiser in Florida.

A Monmouth University poll released Wednesday showed a majority of Trump's supporters want his rivals to drop out as the former president's opponents struggle to coalesce around a single candidate.

Fifty-three percent of Republican voters named Trump as their pick for a nominee, up from 26% a year ago. President Joe Biden has also increasingly treated Trump as the de facto nominee, focusing his attacks on the frontrunner.

Still, the race for runner-up has higher stakes this cycle, with Trump, 77, facing a number of legal cases that threaten to pull him from the campaign trail.

McCarthy to retire

By ERIN B. LOGAN Tribune News Service

the state's deadline to file to run again for his Bakersfield-based seat. His WASHINGTON — For departure opens the door for what could become a contested House race in heavily California's Republican Central Valley. McCarthy's retirement from Congress continues the steep decline of California's political power in Washington, where just a handful of lawmakers from the state remain in leadership posts.



A full-time business and com-

and it was like a dream come true, be able to build a program and really see it through," he said.

DeSantis, 45, was asked if he believed Trump is mentally fit to serve.

"The idea that we're going to put someone out there that's almost 80 - and there's going to be no effects from that we all know that that's not true," he replied.

"I think we need to have somebody younger," he added, saying he did not believe Trump would be able to get elected.

Christie, who has made denying Trump the nomination the centerpiece of his bid, criticized DeSantis, saying he had failed to address the question about Trump's fitness.

"He's afraid to answer," he said.

Exchanges on foreign policy, including support for Israel and Russia's war in Ukraine, dominated the first thirty minutes of the debate and drew most heated rhetoric.

Ramaswamy challenged Haley's knowledge of global affairs, saying the former U.N. ambassador was wrong to characterize the deadly Oct. 7 Hamas incursion into Israel an attack on the U.S.

"I mean, if you can't tell the difference between Israel and the U.S. is on a map, I can have my three-year-old son show you the difference," he said.

Ramaswamy who has also been skeptical of providing continued U.S. aid to Ukraine, also criticized Haley's support for Kyiv, saying she was in lockstep with President Joe Biden.

Bertke, Gerald: 10:30 a.m., 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery.

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

35th Annual Jay County Farm Toy Show

Sun, Dec. 10, 2023 from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. In the green Bob Schmit Memorial Building at the Jay Co. Fairgrounds

Portland, IN Admission: \$3/Adults, \$2 Youth, 12 & Under Free with an adult.

Brows thru 70+ tables of new and used farm toys and a few related crafts. You may find toys from 1/64th scale all the way up to pedal tractors with scaled size implements! This is a great opportunity to find something special for the farm enthusias in your family, regardless of their age! Handicap accessible. Plenty of parking Concessions in the side room by local

4-H

For more info call or text: 260-726-6433 or 260-251-0463



jackpot: Los Angeles Times

| Cooper Farms Fort Recovery | Jan. beans12.95 Wheat 6.04 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Corn4.58 Jan. corn4.79 | ADM |
| Wheat5.59 | Montpelier Corn4.43 |
| POET Biorefining | Jan. corn4.60 Beans12.81 |
| Portland Corn4.58 | Jan. beans12.87 |
| Late Dec. corn4.68 | Wheat5.72 |
| Jan. corn4.78 | Heartland St. Anthony |
| The Andersons | Corn4.44 |
| Richland Township | Jan. corn4.54 |

| Jan. beans Wheat | 12.87 |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Heartland St. Anthony | |
| Corn | |
| Jan. corn | |
| Beans | |

| Beans | 12.60 |
|------------|-------|
| Jan. beans | 12.68 |
| Wheat | 5.44 |

Today in history

was fatally shot by Mark David Chapman in New York City. Lennon rose to fame as a member of The Beatles before mov- Department of Transing on to a solo career.

Corn4.33 Jan. corn4.73

Beans12.85

In 2003, Portland mayor-elect Bruce Hosier announced the appointment of new department heads that would go into effect Jan. 1. Bob Sours was named police chief, Jeff Harker Avenue in Dunkirk and superintendent of the Main Street in Bryant. street and parks depart-

In 1980, John Lennon ment and Bob Brelsford superintendent of the wastewater treatment plant.

> 2020, Indiana In portation announced Community Crossings grants totaling \$475,612 to Portland, Dunkirk and Bryant. Paving via the grants included a section of Bridge Street in Portland, Moore -The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday

9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, audito- Council, city building. rium, courthouse, 120 N. 131 S. Main St. Court St.

3:45 p.m. — Jay Coun- Wednesday ty Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St.

Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

Board of Works, city St.

building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City

1 p.m. — Jay County Sheriff's Office Merit Board, sheriff's confer-4 p.m. — Jay County ence room, sheriff's office, 224 W. Water St., Portland.

6 p.m. – Jay County Council, auditorium, 6 p.m. — Dunkirk courthouse, 120 N. Court

mer House Speaker Kevin McCarthy will not seek another term in Congress, ending a tumultuous twodecade career in public office that was marked by a swift ascent and descent in Washington GOP leadership. He said he would leave the House by the end of the year.

McCarthy announced his decision days before

Felony arrests

A Union City woman was arrested Monday for possession of methamphetamine and related charges.

Rayna M. Garringer, 33, 313 W. Oak St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 3 felony, along with a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

She was being held on a \$31,000 bond in Jay County Jail.



NIGHT SHIFT CHARGE NURSE

Swiss Village, Inc. is seeking a Full-Time Healthcare Charge Nurse for night shift. Position will be 3 days/week, 6pm-6am, with no weekends required!! All shifts will be Mondays-Thursdays. This position will be responsible for the overall nursing care of the residents assigned to him/her and for the supervision and performance of personnel. Candidates must be licensed in the State of Indiana as a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse and be dependable, flexible, and have excellent interpersonal skills. Position eligible for insurance benefits, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

\$5,000 Sign On Bonus!!!

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org, in person, or send Resume to: Taylor Lehman, Vice President of HR Swiss Village, Inc. 1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711 careers@swissvillage.org



Drug possession

A Virginia man was arrested Monday for failing to appear in court. Randy R. Addie, 49, 321 Coal Hollow, Christians-

burg, is charged in Jay Superior Court with two Level 6 felonies for unlawful possession of a syringe and maintaining a common nuisance, along with a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Failed to appear

He's being held in Jay County Jail without bond.



NOW SEEKING CANDIDATES FOR FEBRUARY 2024 C.N.A. CLASS!

Swiss Village, Inc. is now seeking candidates for a Certified Nursing Assistant class that will begin in February 2024!! Classes will be held in the evenings and on Saturdays. Seeking candidates available to work in Healthcare on 2nd shift, in Assisted Living every other weekend on 1st shift, or in Assisted Living on 2nd or 3rd shifts. Full-time positions available on 2nd shift, and a part-time position available on 3rd shift in Assisted Living. Full-time positions are eligible for benefits including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation. Part-time positions are eligible for benefits including dental and vision insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

Application deadline for the C.N.A. class: Friday, January 12, 2024.

Apply in person, online at www.swissvillage.org, or send Resume to: Kayla Reilly, HR Specialist Swiss Village 1350 W. Main St. Berne, IN 46711 Or e-mail: careers@swissvillage.org

Family

Nativities return this weekend

The Festival of Nativities is returning to Trinity Arch Bridge Church.

More than 500 nativity sets will be on display at the church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland, from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. As one of the largest nativity exhibits in the Midwest, it everything from boasts handcrafted to mass-produced sets provided from area residents.

For more information, call (260) 729-7017.

Winter concert

Jay County High School Music Department will present its winter concert at 2 p.m. Sunday in the high school auditorium. Admission is free. Patrons may enter through door 8.

Additionally, Jay County Choral Boosters are sponsor-

Taking Note

ing a cookie walk starting at 11 a.m. Sunday until the concert begins and the Jay County High School Patriot Band will be collecting donations for Asbury Critical Needs Fund.

Arts activities

Jay County Campus of Arts Place has two upcoming events

"Gift Wrapping and Goodies," a class for learning how to wrap gifts and make bows with Katie Brandenburg, is slated for noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Hudson Center for the Visual Arts in Portland. Participants will also have access to free goodies. Registration is \$20. To sign up, visit bit.ly/3T6qyBY.

"After School Art Club" is available to local school-age children and teens from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 13, at Hudson Center for the Visual Arts in Portland. Students will turn pinecones into handpainted ornaments. The cost is To register, visit bit.ly/3NaTxR5.

For more information, call Arts Place at (260) 726-4809 or email visualarts@myartsplace.org.

Apple giveaway

Menchhofer Farms is hosting an apple giveaway between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Those interested may bring bags or containers to the farm located at 5679 Wabash Road, Coldwater, Ohio, for free apples.

Best foods for upset stomach

Mayo Clinic News Network Tribune News Service

intestinal infection marked by watery diarrhea, abdominal cramps, nausea or vomiting, headache, muscle aches and sometimes fever.

or the stomach flu, but it's not actually the flu or influenza, which is a respiratory illness. This infection often develops through contact with an infected person or by ingesting contaminated food or water.

An upset stomach is a common symptom of a stomach bug, which can make eating unappealing, even sound though you may be hungry. Knowing what to eat is difficult because you don't know what will agree with your stomach.

Follow these tips for fueling your body when you have viral gastroenteritis:

•Let your stomach settle. Avoid eating solid foods for a few hours. Instead, drink liquids like broths, teas, sodas or non-caffeinated sports drinks.

•Hydrate. Focus on drinking in small amounts of liquid frequently to stay hydrated.

•Ease back into eating. After week.

you can tolerate drinking clear fluids, start eating smaller Viral gastroenteritis is an meals of bland, low-residue foods, such as mashed potatoes, plain noodles, crackers, toast, gelatin, bananas, rice and chicken.

•Be cautious with medica-It's often called a stomach bug tions. It's best to use over-thecounter medications like ibuprofen sparingly as they can cause an upset stomach. Discuss your medications with your health care team to avoid any potential side effects. If your symptoms are severe, you may need to use an over-thecounter medication to help decrease diarrhea symptoms or an anti-nausea medicine to help you keep food and fluids down with vomiting.

> The main complication of a stomach bug is dehydration, which is a severe loss of water and essential salts and minerals. You can lower the risk of dehydration by drinking enough fluids to replace those lost from vomiting or diarrhea.

> Depending on the cause, viral gastroenteritis symptoms generally appear about one to three davs after exposure. Symptoms can be mild or, at times, severe and last for a few days to a

When to see a healthcare professional

Although viral gastroenteritis is extremely common, it can usually be managed at home. Red flags or worrisome symptoms that would prompt a visit to your healthcare team are severe dehydration, not being able to keep fluids down, bloody stools, severe abdominal pain or when symptoms last longer than one week. Young children, older adults and people with compromised immune systems are more likely to have complications related to viral gastroenteritis.

Prevention

Good hand hygiene and proper food handling are essential to prevent you from getting sick and to limit the spread of viral gastroenteritis within a household, school, workplace and the community.

Ensure you wash your hands with soap and water, especially after using the bathroom, before preparing food and eating.

Stomach bugs most commonly are seen in the winter and spring, so it's important to be diligent, especially this time of vear.

Friend knows parentage truth

DEAR ABBY: Forty years ago, a neighborhood boy fathered a child with a neighborhood girl. "Billy" was 17 at the time, and "Becky" was 14 or 15. Both were friends of mine. They were not a steady couple. She liked him, but I feel he used her. I heard that she married an older gentleman who accepted the baby, "Matt," as his own.

Ten years ago, I found Matt on Facebook. I told him I knew his mother, and he shared her contact information with me. When I called Becky, we enjoyed talking about old times, and I let her know that Billy had passed away. She informed me that her husband had also passed away.

I was surprised when she told me she never told Matt who his biological father was. He was raised believing his biological father was Becky's husband. I have photographs of Billy, and Matt has an aunt he is unaware of. As tempted as I am to inform him who his father was, I know that is not the right thing to do.

We don't communicate regularly, but Becky and I are friends on Facebook. I believe she's having health issues now. Abby, If she passes away, do you think I should let Matt know who his father was, share the photographs and let him know about his aunt? I think I'd want to know. — OLD FRIEND IN CALI-FORNIA

DEAR OLD FRIEND: If Becky's health problems are life-threatening, she's the person you should consider approaching. The question you should pose is this: Would she want her son to think he's all alone in the world after she's gone?

I do not think you should lay this news on Matt after his mother's death. His parents would not be there to answer his inevitable questions, and he would likely feel hurt and angry that he wasn't told the truth.

••••••

DEAR ABBY: My wife is an active member of her church, whereas I am a non-believer. It is, of course, her right to practice her religion and enjoy belonging to a community of like-minded people. The difficulty stems from the many hours spent every week above and beyond the services, such as you a referral.



prayer sessions, Bible study groups, etc.

Dear

Abby

I have begun to resent her heavy involvement in church administration that has nothing to do with worship, and the resulting lack of spontaneity in our relationship. To plan an activity or vacation, she needs at least two months' notice because her never-ending, selfof imposed commitments. This has increased over the years.

We have a large circle of friends, and our marriage has no other major issues. We try to find a balance, but it's not easy. What advice do you have for us? -FAITHLESS IN FRANCE

DEAR FAITHLESS: Does vour wife realize vou are so upset about the imbalance in her relationship to the church and to YOU that you wrote to an advice columnist for help? By all means, tell her. The two of you are overdue for a serious discussion about the way she budgets her time, since you feel cheated. Begin that conversation now and, if necessary, involve a mediator.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been together for 20 years, married almost 10. He is angry with my adult children for not coming to our wedding. (I had told them if they couldn't be happy for me, stay away.) He avoids any social interaction with them. Last weekend, there was a formal affair for my brother, and again, my husband didn't join me. I'm sick of hearing "he is the way he is" and can't suck it up for my sake. He's now sleeping in the guest room. I love him, but I'm sick of the nonsense. Any advice? - TIRED OF IT IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR TIRED: Because you and your husband are at an impasse, my advice is to seek counseling from couples someone who is licensed to give it. Your doctor or health insurance provider could give

ommunity Calendar

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

Today

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

Saturday

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The

| Sudoku | | | | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 7 | 5 | | 8 |
| | | 2 | 9 | | 6 | | | |
| | | | | | 2 | | | 1 |
| | | 9 | | 6 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | 6 | | 3 |
| | 1 | 5 | | | | 2 | | |
| | | | 3 | 5 | | | | |
| 2 | | | 7 | | 4 | | | |
| | | 8 | | | | | | 4 |

Thursday's Solution

Level: Advanced

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

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

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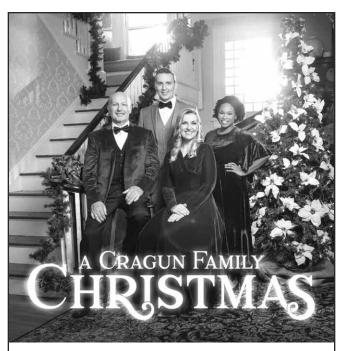
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Opinion

Justice O'Connor was a trailblazer

Chicago Tribune Tribune News Service

News that Sandra Day O'Connor, the Supreme Court's first woman justice, had died Friday at age 93 brought back fond memories in these offices of her gracious - and well-attended — visit 10 years ago to our Editorial Board.

Although retired since crack took 2006, she politely disappointed us by holding to the high court's practice of refusing to comment on decisions made during her time there or after.

Guest **Editorial**

"I'm an old lady with a short memory," she said. That self-deprecating

on new poignancy in 2018 when she announced that she'd been diagnosed with "the beginning stages of dementia, probably she offered to work for no Alzheimer's disease." Her pay and shared a space husband John O'Connor with the secretary. "I loved of opposition signaled con-

of Alzheimer's in 2009.

Yet, she showed no difficulty in remembering the frustrations of life decades ago when she was trying to get started as a lawyer. Back then, the selfdescribed "cowgirl from the Arizona desert" called 40 firms that had advertised on the Stanford Law School's bulletin boards and didn't get a single interview.

She finally was hired by a county attorney after she offered to work for no smile.

Better offers would come later, most memorably in 1981 when, after only two years on Arizona's Supreme Court, President Ronald Reagan nominated her to the nation's highest court, fulfilling his campaign promise to name the nation's first female Supreme Court justice.

The Senate confirmed her unanimously. Those were less partisan days, especially when it came to the judiciary. But the lack

sensus-builder, grounding her decisions in her interpretation of the Constitution, not ideology.

Did she succeed? On some of the most contentious issues of our times — abortion, voting rights affirmative action, sex discrimination — she proved to be an equalopportunity offender to those on the left and the right. Conservatives, for example, expected a Reagan appointee to come down on their side more often. Instead, O'Connor's conservatism was prag-

had died of complications the work," she said with a fidence she would be a con-matic, seeking to build public confidence in what after all is our least democratic branch of governlifetime ment. with appointments to boot.

You could hear her appeal to reason in her confirmation hearings when she was asked what kind of legacy she would like to leave. "Ah, the tombstone question," she said. "I hope it says, 'Here lies a good judge.'"

She was that and far more. A trailblazer. A quintessentially American success story. And an excellent justice.

Shop locally, in person

The Seattle Times Tribune News Service

As with all else in life, technology has created a fork in the road regarding the holiday season, specifically the gift-giving part.

Between the convenience of browsing from home and three years of pan-

demic-era social distancgrown have



habituated to honoring friends and family by clicking a link on Amazon.

That may be convenient, but it doesn't build much holiday spirit. The best thing about this time is the year way Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa encourage us to connect with one another — with our communities, our neighbors, and yes, our neighborhood businesses.

Beyond the obvious boost to local economies, shopping in person is an effort made to demonstrate our feelings about others and what they mean to us. It requires thoughtfulness. It means putting your hands on the item you're going to choose for someone else. In that sense, it both symbolizes and reinforces connection.

The same cannot be said for scrolling through a page on a website and clicking a "Buy Now" button. That act turns holiday shopping into a chore, rather than an opportunity to celebrate or strengthen bonds.

those proprietors and their employees, though that is important. Shopping local provides an annual check-in with the home team. Maybe you pop into a store and catch up with a worker you've known for years, or share a joke or an observation about what remains the same despite so much change in all our lives. Or maybe you spot a new business and dart in to browse its unfamiliar shelves. Maybe you find something that reminds you of someone you hadn't even planned to shop for. Maybe on the spur of the moment, you buy it for them. Either way, you're thinking about others, affirming bonds. Amazon, convenient though it may be, provides the very opposite of that experience. It is checking a box, interacting with a cyborg. In rural areas, incidentally, the demands of Amazon package deliveries at holiday time are causing havoc for mail carriers from Minnesota to the San Juan Islands, according to a recent report. (In large cities, Amazon has its own network of delivery drivers. But in more remote regions, mail carriers routinely use their personal vehicles to distribute the mail, including Amazon packages.) Admittedly, shopping in person, rather than by touch screen, means standing in line at the post office. But that, too, is a way to connect with your community.



ing, consumers Editorial



Case could have a major impact

By LYNN GREENKY Indiana Capital Chronicle

indianacapitalchronicle.com The First Amendment does not protect messages posted on social media platforms.

The companies that own the platforms can — and do — remove, promote or limit the distribution of any posts according to corporate policies. But all that might soon change.

The Supreme Court has agreed to hear five cases during this current term, which ends in June 2024, that collectively give the Stepping into a neighborhood court the opportunity to reexamshop goes well beyond supporting ine the nature of content moderation — the rules governing discussions on social media platforms such as Facebook and X, formerly known as Twitter and the constitutional limitations on the government to affect speech on the platforms. Content moderation, whether done manually by company employees or automatically by a platform's software and algorithms, affects what viewers can see on a digital media page. Messages that are promoted garner greater viewership and greater interaction; those that are deprioritized or removed will obviously receive less attention. Content moderation policies reflect decisions by digital platforms about the relative value of posted messages. As an attorney, professor and author of a book about the boundaries of the First Amendment, I believe that the constitutional challenges pre-sented by these cases will give the court the occasion to advise government, corporations and users of interactive technologies what their rights and responsibilities are as communications technologies continue to evolve. In late October 2023, the Supreme Court heard oral arguments on two related cases in which both sets of plaintiffs argued that elected officials who use their social media accounts either exclusively or partially to promote their politics and policies cannot constitutionally tiffs' argument, the only recourse istration has regularly advised anacapitalchronicle.com.



block constituents from posting comments on the officials' pages.

In one of those cases, O'Connor-Radcliff v. Garnier, two school board members from the Poway Unified School District in California blocked a set of parents — who frequently posted repetitive and critical on the board members' Facebook and Twitter accounts — from viewing the board members' accounts. In the other case heard in October, Lindke v. Freed, the city manager of Port Huron, Michigan, apparently angered by critical comments about a posted picture, blocked a constituent from viewing or posting on the manager's Facebook page. Courts have long held that public spaces, like parks and sidewalks, are public forums, which must remain open to free and robust conversation and debate, subject only to neutral rules unrelated to the content of the speech expressed. The silenced constituents in the current cases insisted that in a world where a lot of public discussion is conducted in interactive social media, digital spaces used by government representatives for communicating with their constituents are also public forums and should be subject to the same First Amendment rules as their physical counterparts. If the Supreme Court rules that public forums can be both physical and virtual, government officials will not be able to arbitrarily block users from viewing and responding to their content or remove constituent comments with which they disagree. On the other hand, if the Supreme Court rejects the plain-

for frustrated constituents will - some say strong-armed media spaces where they can criticize and argue at will.

Two other cases — NetChoice LLC v. Paxton and Moody v. NetChoice LLC — also relate to the question of how the government should regulate online discussions. Florida and Texas have both passed laws that modify the internal policies and algorithms of large social media platforms by regulating how the platforms can promote, demote or remove posts.

NetChoice, a tech industry trade group representing a wide range of social media platforms and online businesses, including Meta, Amazon, Airbnb and TikTok, contends that the platforms are not public forums. The group says that the Florida and Texas legislation unconstitutionally restricts the social media companies' First Amendment right to make their own editorial choices about what appears on their sites. In addition, NetChoice alleges that by limiting Facebook's or X's ability to rank, repress or even remove speech — whether manually or with algorithms — the Texas and Florida laws amount to government requirements that the platforms host speech they didn't want to, which is also unconstitutional. NetChoice is asking the Supreme Court to rule the laws unconstitutional so that the platforms remain free to make their own independent choices regarding when, how and whether posts will remain available for view and comment. In an effort to reduce harmful speech that proliferates across the internet — speech that supports criminal and terrorist activity as well as misinformation and disinformation — the federal government has engaged in wide-ranging discussions with internet companies about their content moderation policies.

be to create competing social social media platforms to deprioritize or remove posts the government had flagged as misleading, false or harmful. Some of the posts related to misinformation about COVID-19 vaccines or promoted human trafficking. On several occasions, the officials would suggest that platform companies ban a user who posted the material from making further posts. Sometimes, the corporate representatives themselves would ask the government what to do with a particular post.

Maneuver

While the public might be generally aware that content moderation policies exist, people are not always aware of how those policies affect the information to which they are exposed. Specifically, audiences have no way to measure how content moderation policies affect the marketplace of ideas or influence debate and discussion about public issues. In Missouri v. Biden, the plaintiffs argue that government efforts to persuade social media platforms to publish or remove posts were so relentless and invasive that the moderation policies no longer reflected the companies' own editorial choices. Rather, they argue, the policies were in reality government directives that effectively silenced - and unconstitutionally censored - speakers with whom the government disagreed. The court's decision in this case could have wide-ranging effects on the manner and methods of government efforts to influence the information that guides the public's debates and decisions.

To that end, the Biden admin-

.

Greenky is professor emeritus of communication and rhetorical studies, Syracuse University. She is also an attorney admitted to practice in New York.

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Agriculture

Leave the leaves Tree debris is resource for habitat, food and shelter

By KATHERINE FORAN University of Missouri

KINGSTON, Mo. — The "Leave the Leaves" movement could just as easily be called "Save the Pollinators," says University of Missouri Extension horticulture specialist Manoj Chhetri.

Chhetri, who serves northwestern Missouri from his base in Caldwell County, agrees that letting leaves do their thing is better than carting them off to a landfill. That has all kinds of long-term costs, environmental and otherwise. Moreover, removing fallen leaves takes away vital habitat that insects need to survive the winter, Chhetri said.

"The leaves that fall in your yard are a wonderful resource for habitat, providing food and shelter for many helpful pollinators like butterflies, moths, native bumblebees and other ground-nesting insects," Chhetri said. In return, birds rely on overwintering bugs for food.

Nonetheless, there's no "one-size-fits-all" approach to leaving the leaves. "You use different methods for different parts of your yard," he said.

Vegetable garden

If you let leaves decay in your vegetable garden naturally, you risk carrying over insect problems from one season to the next.

'In your vegetable garden, first chop or shred the leaves with a lawn mower or leaf mulcher, and till that back into ground in late fall," Chhetri said. "That will reduce infestations from overwintering pests while still allowing your garden to benefit from nutrient-rich leaf waste.'

Flower beds



University of Missouri horticulturist Manoj Chhetri says leaving fallen leaves in place can be beneficial, especially when compared to having them hauled to a landfill. "The leaves that fall in your yard are a wonderful resource for habitat, providing food and shelter for many helpful pollinators like butterflies, moths, native bumblebees and other ground-nesting insects," he said.

the greatest added value in the flower beds, Chhetri said. They provide habitat for beneficial insects, protect the soil from erosion and shelter plants from extreme weather.

Do not shred the leaves you put in flower beds; you don't want to damage overwintering eggs and larvae, he said. Wait to clean up the yard until it warms to 50 F the following spring.

Grass yard

Run a leaf mulcher or mower over your lawn and Leaving the leaves has let the leaf litter add there is more than an inch

organic matter to the yard. "That way, they decay and naturally filter back into the soil," Chhetri said. "Although not providing habitat for insects, it is certainly better than sending yard waste to the landfill.'

That said: "You need bal-ance," he said. "If you have too many leaves, that can affect the health of the grass.

Chhetri recommends mowing/shredding leaves at least once or twice a month as needed. While not a set rule of thumb, if

grass, it's time to shred the leaves, redistributing the excess to flower beds and other garden areas.

Compost bin

Another alternative is to place excess leaves in a compost bin: "Yard waste is wonderful," Chhetri said. "It is rich in carbon and essential for good composting."

Too many leaves?

"Think about sharing some with a neighbor who doesn't have as many trees, or expand your flower beds is one way to help pollina-

of leaves covering the so you have more places to tors reproduce and surhelp provide a good habitat vive." for insects," he said. While mulching with

dead leaves may not have the same curb appeal as pristine raked lawns, attitudes are changing. "People are thinking more about the good we can do for the environment by not adding to landfill waste Chhetri said. issues,' "You're also helping our food industry, when you think about it, because our crops need pollinators. And your leaf-covered yard

Black walnut leaves

You may have heard that black walnut leaves must be removed to prevent damage to plants and lawns. Not so, Chhetri says. While the tree does release a toxin, juglone, that can hinder plant growth, "several studies have shown that the amount of that toxin left in fallen leaves, branches and twigs is so minimal that it's no longer toxic," he said.



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Peanuts





"Instead of gold, frankincense and myrrh, I'll bet Mary wished they brought diapers."

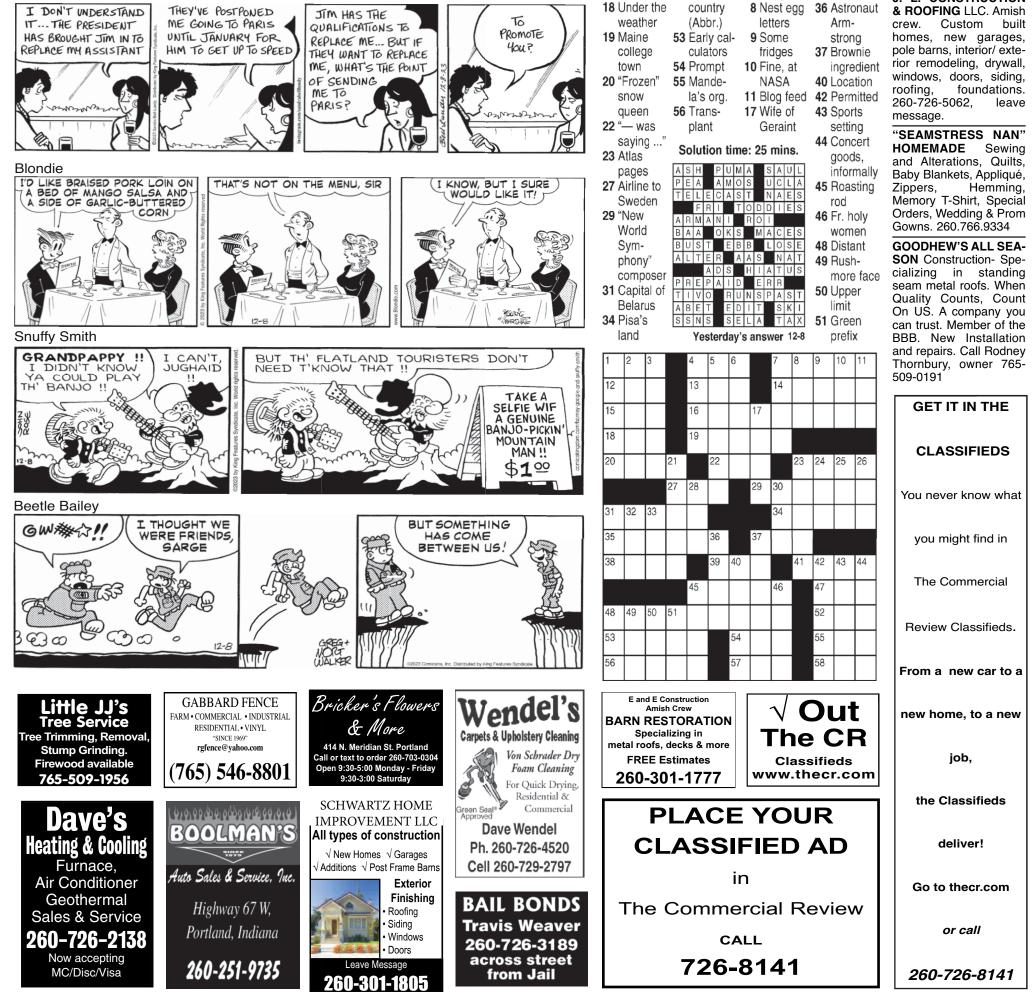


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Between Friends





Contract & By Steve Becker

Test your play

ruff a club, then lead the king of diamonds. South wins with the ace, but whatever he returns you lose only two diamonds and a heart.

only two diamonds and a heart. **2. The only threat** to the contract is if North has the king of spades and more than four hearts, since with any other distribution you can't lose more than four tricks

after trying the spade finesse. You start by assuming that North's seven is his fourth-best heart, which

means he may have led from K-Q-8-7-x, K-10-8-7-x or Q-10-8-7-x. (With K-Q-10-7-x, the normal lead

would be the king.) The best way of dealing with these three possibilities is to go up

these three possibilities is to go up with the acc at trick one. This approach fails in the first case but succeds in the other two cases (even if the spade finesse loses) by blocking the defenders' hearts whenever South started with K-x or Q-x. Ducking the opening heart lead in these two *cases* would allow South to win and return a heart, unblocking the suit and defeating the contract if North has the king

the contract if North has the king

you can win any return by South, play the A-K of clubs and ruff a club in dummy, draw trump and then lead a heart to the ten. Even if South wins with the jack, you score the rest of the tricks. **1. You are declarer** with the West hand at Four Spades, and North leads the queen of diamonds. How would you play the hand? WEST E. EAST ▲ A K J 7 3 ♥842 ▲ Q 10 8 6 2 ♥ A Q 10 5 ♦ K 3 Alternatively, if North shifts to a heart at trick two, you rise with the ace, draw trump, play the A-K and

♣A K 9 **2. You are declarer** with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the seven of hearts. How would you play the hand? WEST EA EAST

| ** E.S I | | LASI |
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| 🛦 A J 9 6 | | ♠Q 10 5 |
| ♥J93 | | ♥A 6 4 |
| ♦ A 9 7 | | ♦ K 5 4 3 |
| 🕭 A K 8 | | ♣Q 9 2 |
| | * * * | |

1. Superficially, it might seem to make no difference whether you cover the diamond with the king or not. But to make sure of the con-tract, you should duck the queen. It is reasonable to assume that South has the ace, and once this is granted, the contract is cold if you let North's queen hold the first trick. The problem with the king play is that South will win with the ace and return a diamond, allowing North to win and shift to a heart. If it turns out that South has both the king and jack of hearts, you will eventually lose two hearts and two diamonds and go down one. But if you duck the first diamond, you're safe against any attack. If North continues the suit,

12-8

Tomorrow: Hidden chance. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc

of spades.

CRYPTOQUIP

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: MY UNCLE DISLIKES SWEETS BUT LOVES VEGETABLES, SO THIS YEAR WE'RE GETTING HIM A BIRTHDAY CUKE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals Q

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer ACROSS 35 Like 57 UFO pas- 21 Plus 1 Peach native sengers 23 Fluttery center llamas — -di-dah 58 insects

37 Nursery 4 Addams 24 Altar in DOWN cousin cry the sky 7 Humidor 38 Bitty 1 Sprite 25 Bud biter 2 Volun-26 Cloud item **12** — Jima 39 Clean air teer's setting 13 Actress 28 Alias org words Long 41 Bridge 3 Works abbr. 14 Two-tone coup hard 30 By way of 31 Pericookies 45 Opera 4 Data odical, for 15 Noon, 5 Royal legend on a Beverly crowns short 6 Mexican sundial 47 Before 32 Hostel 16 Goalies' 48 Humiliat-33 Secretentrees protecing fall 7 Crooner protecting tors 52 Berlin's Perry doc. country

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Sports



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

From distance

Alexis Sibray of the Jay County High School girls basketball team hoists a 3-pointer in Tuesday's 64-13 win over Muncie Central. While the shot didn't fall off Sibray, the sophomore scored her first points of the season on a fast break early in the fourth quarter.

NYY

Continued from page 8 Without King, the Yankees have a rotation vacancy, maybe their No. 2 behind Gerrit Cole.

The Yankees also lost rotation depth by packaging two right-handers who impressed during their rookie opportunities last season, Jhony Brito and Randy Vasquez.

Brito's best work was as a reliever, and while he prefers starting, he probably was ticketed for a role where he'd be asked to get six, seven or eight outs a couple times a week. That's where King flourished the last two seasons before his move to the rotation and it's one that somebody needs to fill in 2024.

The Yankees lost one of their best minor-league arms, too. They were falling in love with Drew Thorpe, who had an amazing 2023 in going 14-2 with a 2.52 ERA over 23 starts at two levels, the first 18 in High A, then five in Double-A. The Padres potentially added a future ace.

The lone position player headed to San Diego is a catcher the Yankees will miss. Kyle Higashioka was in the organization since he was drafted as a high school senior in 2008 and was a useful No. 2 the last four seasons. He hit a few homers, caught a couple perfect games and brought joy to everyone around him because he's a very friendly man.

Here's how the Yankees can replace the five players headed to San Diego:

Replacing King

A Yoshinobu Yamamoto signing would trump the loss of King, but there are six others in the running to sign the recently posted 25-vear-old Japanese ace, who might get a deal north of \$300 million.

The Yankees are confident that they'll prevail, but the Mets can outbid them and the Dodgers are threats because their pockets are deep and Yamamoto grew up rooting for them. The Giants, Blue Jays and two others are in contention, too.

If Yamamoto signs else-

into spring training will outings last season makes be Cole, Carlos Rodon, Nestor Cortes, Clarke Schmidt and perhaps a lesser free-agent signing.

The Yankees are considering re-signing Frankie Montas to roll the dice that he'll stay healthy and be the rotation force that he was for a few years in Oakland. Internal options include Luis Gil, who is fully recovered from his 2022 Tommy John surgery, and two high-ceiling prospects who finished last season in Triple-A, Clayton Beeter and Will Warren.

Medium-money free agents that could appeal to the Yankees include Mike Clevinger, Michael Wacha, Jack Flaherty and Tyler Mahle.

Replacing Brito

Brito was used for twoplus relief outings 11 times and he pitched to a 1.32 ERA in those outings, allowing six runs over 41 innings.

How are they replacing that?

Won't be easy.

Maybe another Latino rookie can handle the role. Venezuelan righty Yoendrys Gomez mostly has been a starter in the minors, but so has Brito.

Gomez has the arm, the stuff and he looked good working two scoreless innings in his big-league debut last September.

Beeter is another minorleague starter with a big arm who could get a shot to be a long-relief man in a nine-man bullpen.

Replacing Vasquez

The Yankees undoubtedly are going to have to turn to Triple-A for a fill-in starter now and then again in 2024.

season, This past Vasquez performed this tough task well after going into the year with no experience above Double-A.

Gil and Beeter are on the 40, so they're the obvious early contenders. Both will get chances to position themselves for 2024 bigleague opportunities in spring training.

Warren doesn't have to where, the Yankees' on- be on the 40 yet, but his paper rotation heading 3.61 ERA over 21 Triple-A .742 OPS.

him a legit contender for a first big-league call-up at some point in 2024.

Replacing Thorpe

Chase Hampton might be a name you start to hear a lot next year. The 6-2, 220pound righty already is the Yankees' top pitching prospect in MLB Pipeline's top 30 after getting to Double-A in his first pro season.

The 2022 sixth-round pick out of Texas Tech didn't have a long leash last season, but he made the most of his 106.2 innings over 20 starts with Hudson Valley and Somerset by going 4-3 with a 3.63 ERA and а 145/37strikeout/walk ratio.

Hampton has only nine Double-A starts, so he could start 2024 back in Somerset. But a good showing in spring training could lead to him opening in Triple-A. Either way, he has the potential to push for a big-league debut sometime next year.

Replacing Higashioka

It seemed inevitable that Higashioka's long run in the organization would end this winter.

Higashioka didn't have a good 2023 season behind the plate, his hitting was nothing special and his salary is expected to more than double from \$2.3 million to \$5 million next season. The Yankees have two younger and cheaper catching options in Ben Rortvedt and Austin Wells.

Rortvedt is out of options and was Cole's personal catcher late last season, so he's the early favorite to start the 2024 season as the No 2 behind Jose Trevino with Wells in Triple-A.

Wells is a far better hitter than Rortvedt and could rake his way back to the big leagues at some point. His throwing needs work, but he did OK behind the plate after getting a first call-up last September and his left-handed bat played up. In 19 games, he was productive with four homers and 13 RBI while batting .229 with a

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Girls basketball at Adams Central - 6 p.m.; Boys wrestling ACAC Duals at Jay County - 6 p.m.; Swim vs. Bluffton and Minster -

Saturday, December 9

Jay County — Boys wrestling ACAC Duals at Jay County – 9 a.m.; Girls wrestling at Lebanon – 9 a.m.; Boys basketball at New Castle - 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Swimming at Trotwood - 6 .m.; Girls bowling vs. Parkway at Pla-Mor Lanes-9:15 a.m.: Boys bowling vs. Parkway at Pla-Mor Lanes - 1 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Bradford - 6 p.m.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, DECEM-BER 9TH, 2023 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South. FARM TRACTORS-FARM EQUIP.-CON-STRUCTION EQUIP. -TRUCKS-TRAILER-VEHICLES- RIDING MOWERS-ATVS-ATTACHMENTS-MISC. NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS UNTIL 5p.m. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023. Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad. **TERMS: CASH OR** GOOD CHECK NOT **RESPONSIBLE FOR** ACCIDENTS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SHOWS AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com -Auctioneer ID #4243

TV sports

Today 12 p.m. — PGA Tour: World Champions Cup

(ESPN) 6:30 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Minneso-

- ta at Ohio State (BTN) 7 p.m. - NHL: St. Louis Blues at Columbus Blue Jackets (Bally Indiana)
- 9 p.m. College football: Furman at Montana (ESPN2)
- 9 p.m. Men's college hockey: Penn State at Wisconsin (BTN)
- 10 p.m. NBA: Los Angeles Clippers at Utah Jazz (ESPN)

Saturday 10 a.m. — Premier League: Burnley at

Brighton & Hove Albion (USA) 11:30 a.m. — Men's college basketball: Syra-

- cuse at Georgetown (FOX)
- 12 p.m. Men's college basketball: Illinois at Tennessee (CBS); Kentucky at Penn (ESPN2); Florida Gulf Coast at Minnesota (BTN); Cal at Butler (FS1)
- 12:30 p.m. Men's college basketball: Troy at Dayton (USA)
- 12:30 p.m. – Premier League: Arsenal at Aston Villa (NBC)
- 12:30 p.m. Bundesliga soccer: RB Leipzig at Borussia Dortmund (ABC)
- 1:30 p.m. Men's college basketball: Alabama at Purdue (FOX)
- 2 p.m. Men's college basketball: Louisville
 at DePaul (FS1); Auburn at Indiana (ESPN2)
 2:30 p.m. College football: North Dakota

110 HELP WANTED

State at South Dakota (ABC)

- 3 p.m. Men's college basketball: Hofstra at Saint Louis (Bally Indiana)
- 3 p.m. College football: Army at Navy (CBS) 3:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wisconsin at Arizona (ESPN)
- 4 p.m. Men's college basketball: Arkansas at Oklahoma (ESPN2); Clemso at TCU (FS1)
- 4 p.m. MLS: Los Angeles FC at Columbus Crew (FOX)
- 5:15 p.m. Men's college basketball: Missouri at Kansas (ESPN)
- 6 p.m. Men's college basketball: Ohio State at Penn State (BTN)
- 7 p.m. Men's college basketball: UCLA at Villanova (FOX)
- '— Men's college basketball: Rut-8.30 nm gers at Seton Hall (FS1)

8 p.m. - NHL: St. Louis Blues at Chicago Blackhawks (Bally Indiana)

- 8 p.m. Men's college hockey: Ohio State at Minnesota (BTN)
- 8:30 p.m. NBA in-season tournament (ABC) 9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Notre
- Dame at Marquette (FOX) 10 p.m. — Boxing: Robeisy Ramirez - Rafael
- Espinoza (ESPN) 10:30 p.m. - Men's college basketball: UC
- Irvine at San Diego State (FS1) 11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Gonzaga
- at Washington (ESPN2)

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

90 SALE CALENDAR **90 SALE CALENDAR PUBLIC AUCTION**

TUESDAY DECEMBER

19TH, 2023

TIME 5:00 P.M.

LOCATED: 4023 S 800

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296 Acres offered in

tracts and combinations.

Tract 1: 116 Acres in

section 7 Jefferson

Township, Jay County

with 74.83 acres tillable

balance being confine-

ment buildings, shop

buildings, house, and

wooded.

Tract 2: 120 Acres in

section 7 Jefferson

Township, Jay County

with 90 acres tillable bal-

ance

frontage.

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tillable.

Note: Open House

25th from 1-4pm, and

Friday Dec 1st from 3-

5pm.

Or for private showing

phone auctioneers.

COURT ORDERED

AUCTION SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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110 HELP WANTED

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THE TOWN OF RED-**KEY WILL** be accepting applications for a Town Marshal position. Requirement, must have training. Applications may be picked up at Redkey Town Hall by calling 765-369-2711 during business hours to make an appointment for pick up. Office Hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and Wednesday 8 am to 12 noon.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Part Time-

15 hours per week Monday-Friday. 9 Hours per week in the summer Monday/Wednesday/Friday. If interested call 260-726-5751

130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30",.007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial

Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

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

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230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the City of Portland, Jay County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of the City of Portland at their meeting place at the City of Portland Council Chambers, 1616 North Franklin Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, on December 18 at 5:30 p.m. will consider the following additional appropriation in excess of the budget for the current year. 1101-005-326 Plan Commission \$2,7352204-001-232 Park Gas \$650 2204001-322 Park Utilities \$2,550 1101-007-472 Police Equipment \$36,990 1101-003-116 General Insurance \$90,400 Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be

referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the additional appropriations.

Lori Phillips Clerk-Treasurer City of Portland

CR 12-8-2023 -HSPAXLP



150 BOATS, SPORTING EQUIPMENT WANTED USED MEC

Schwieterman named HL freshman of the week, see Collegiate checkup

Friday, December 8, 2023

Sports

www.thecr.com

Jay County hosts ACAC duals today, see Sports on tap

The Commercial Review

Page 8



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Applying pressure

Jay County High School's Breanna Dirksen swipes away the ball from Muncie Central's Taj Isom during the 54-13 win by Jay County. The Patriots forced 40 turnovers in the contest.

Schwieterman continues to excel

Two weeks ago, Renna Schwieterman started her first collegiate game.

As each game passes, she is making coach Maria Marchesano's decision look better and better.

The 2023 Jay County graduate followed up a strong week since being entered into the starting rotation, with three more solid games for the Purdue Fort Wayne women's basketball team.

Schwieterman is also starting to receive league recognition, being named the Horizon League freshman of the week for averaging 12 points per game, 4 rebounds per game, shooting 52.95 from the floor, helping Purdue Fort Wayne to a hot start in league play and being the second-leading scorer among freshmen in the league.

Collegiate check-up

Since being named a starter, the Mastodons (7-2, 2-0 Horizon League) have gone on a five-game winning streak that includes wins against Horizon League foes Oakland (84-66) and Wright State (71-60).

Schwiterman opened up league play on Nov. 30 against the Golden Grizzlies by dropping 10 points on 4-of-7 shooting with one steal and one block.

On Dec. 3, she was the team's leading scorer with 14 points as it took uate did not take a shot in down the Raiders. She the contest.

added six rebounds to her line score as well.

She played a seasonhigh 29 minutes in the contest as well.

During the two game stretch she shot 44.4% beyond the arc.

Dealing with foul trouble on Wednesday, Schwieterman scored six points in a 57-46 win over Bellarmine. She had three rebounds, an assist and a steal as well.

She currently sits fourth on the team in points per game at 10.1.

Olivia Patch FRHS — 2020

Played five minutes in the Hillsdale College women's basketball team's 88-52 win over Ohio Dominican on Dec. 2.

The Fort Recovery grad-

Freeney inducted

Former Colt is in college Hall of Fame

By EMILY LEIKER

syracuse.com Tribune News Service SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse football great Dwight Freeney was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame this week.

two-time unanimous first team All-Big East pick.

Freeney finished ninth in 2001 Heisman Trophy voting. He was named co-Defensive Player of the Year with fellow hall of famer Ed Reed (Miami), and he was a finalist for the Bednarik, Lombardi and Nagurski awards.

"I think for me, I just played every play like it was my last," Freeney said. "You never know when it's gonna be over. Us defensive linemen, we like to have a certain mentality. You gotta come around that corner like something's wrong with ya, and you have to Freeney and the 17 other make the offensive tackle player inductees, plus the feel like, 'There's somefour coach inductees, were thing wrong with this kid. He won't stop.' That was my mentality." Freeney's name can still be found in both NCAA ing some of Freeney's record book's and among Syracuse's top 10 lists. He was drafted No. 11 overall in the 2002 NFL Draft by the Indianapolis Colts, for whom he played 10 seasons and won a Super Bowl with in 2007. Freeney also had stints with San Diego, Arizona, Atlanta, Seattle and Detroit. He retired in 2017 as a seven-time Pro Bowl pick and a three-time first team All-Pro.



recognized with plaques at the 65th NFF Annual Awards Dinner.

A highlight reel featurbiggest plays, including sacks against Michigan's Tom Brady and Virginia Tech's Michael Vick, was played prior to him receiving his plaque.

This year was Freeney's third time on the college hall of fame ballot.

Syracuse's star defensive end from 1998-2001, Freeney was a unanimous first team All-American in his final collegiate season. He was a

NY can replace haul sent for Soto

By RANDY MILLER nj.com Tribune News Service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Days of Yankees and Padres haggling over what Juan Soto's return should be finally ended early Wednesday afternoon. As the Rule 5 Draft was taking place and these mostly uneventful Winter Meetings were coming to an end, an agreement was made, a 2-for-5 that would send a generational talent to the Bronx.

Aaron Judge would be getting a superhero sidekick.

The only holdup was the Padres signing off on the medicals for Michael King and three other pitchers coming their way.

Brian Cashman and Aaron Boone waited for a couple hours before checking out of the Gaylord Opryland Resort and heading to Nashville International Airport. They waited there for an hour, then spent 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours in the air flying from Tennessee to New York. When their jet landed, they checked their phones and discovered the

wait wasn't over.

Fixing the Yankees

A few hours after day turned to night, the Padres finally were content that they weren't getting damaged goods and told the Yankees around 10:30 New York time that it was a done deal.

These are exciting times for the Yankees because they're getting a 25-year-old superstar, but this was no steal of a deal.

During his Winter Meetings media availability this week, Cashman was right in saying you have to give to get.

To get Soto for maybe just one season in a corner outfield spot and two-time Gold Glove winner Trent Grisham for fourth-outfielder duties, the Yankees reluctantly agreed to include Michael King as the centerpiece of their offer. King was a great multi-innings reliever for most of the last two seasons, then even better last August and September when he was starting games.

See NYY page 7



Dec. 7, 8, 9, 15 & 16 @ 7pm and Dec. 17 @ 2pm www.myartsplace.org ~ 260-726-4809 Arts Place ~ 131 E. Walnut St. Portland, IN

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