

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## CR recommends

By RAY COONEY, BAILEY CLINE, RICK REED and SCOTT SHAFFER

The Commercial Review

Are you in a rut?

Do you need something new to listen to, watch, eat or play?

We're here to help.

In its sixth edition this year, The CR Recommends is our contribution to the endless lists — best books, best TV shows, best movies, best music of the year — that publications churn out because they are well-read and they can be done in advance so employees can take some time off during the holidays.

What you'll find in our version is a variety of recommendations from our staff suggesting TV shows, musical artists, movies, video games, books, food and other items. Our hope is that after reading this piece, you'll try something new. Maybe it will become your new favorite. But even if it doesn't, at least you'll have expanded your horizons.

### Movies

#### Elemental

This Disney and Pixar film took my heart and wrapped it in a warm hug. I've watched "Elemental" ([movies.disney.com/elemental](https://movies.disney.com/elemental)) probably half a dozen times since its June release. The story follows Ember, a hot-headed young adult preparing to take over her father's shop. She meets Wade, the cool, charismatic love interest. The only problem — she's fire and he's water. Literally. While the "forbidden love" is a blatant metaphor for interracial dating, there's more to their world. "Elemental" demonstrates the pressures of living up to familial expectations, making your mark on the world and honoring your culture. — Bailey Cline

#### Guardians of the Galaxy: Volume 3

When Marvel Studios first announced 2014's "Guardians of the Galaxy" many fans collectively thought, "Who?" Now, thanks to the films directed by James Gunn, these then obscure characters have become some of the most loved in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. This year saw the release of "Guardians of the Galaxy: Volume 3," Marvel's best film of the year, which provides the touching backstory of Rocket, voiced by Bradley Cooper. While there are still plenty of humorous moments, Rocket's tragic past is touching and may induce a few tears. — Scott Shaffer

### Video games

#### Coral Island

Farming simulators have become one of my favorite pastimes — apparently, I'm not alone. "Coral Island" started with a Kickstarter campaign in early 2021, drumming up more than \$1.6 million in pledges from 36,374 backers. After a few years in development, "Coral Island" ([stairwaygames.com/coral-island](https://stairwaygames.com/coral-island)) released its 1.0 version in November. Like other popular farming games, "Coral Island" allows the player to build their own farm in a welcoming community.

What makes this game unique is its ties to the ocean and the impact pollution can have on a seaside town. — Bailey Cline

See **Recommends** page 6

## Legislation coming

### Child care bills expected to be filed

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
[indianacapitalchronicle.com](https://indianacapitalchronicle.com)

Indiana lawmakers expect to file and advance significant child care legislation during the upcoming session, after years of advocacy from Hoosier parents, child care providers and worker-strapped businesses.

But it's unclear how ideas with price tags will fare in a non-budget year, with leaders intent on keeping the state's coffers firmly shut.

Sen. Ed Charbonneau, the architect of numerous expansive pieces of health care legislation, admitted he was surprised when his health-focused interim committee was tasked with finding solutions to the lack of available and affordable child care.

"It certainly opened my eyes to how big an issue it is," he told the Capital Chronicle. "... Child care is an infrastructure issue for the state of Indiana because it affects every aspect of our economy."

He plans to carry a bill incorporating as many of the 10 recommendations as possible. Some come with a cost.

See **Legislation** page 2

### NYE sunset

Fireworks light up the sunset at the beach in Avalon, New Jersey, on New Year's Eve 2023.



Tribune News Service/nj.com/Matt Dowling

### Deaths

Lois Dietz, 91, Portland  
Eileen Daugherty, 94, Berne  
Gladys Bell, 75, Bryant  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a New Year's Day high temperature of 36 degrees. The low was 32. Tonight's low will be in the mid 20s. Expect mostly sunny skies Thursday with a high in the lower 30s.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Portland Board of Works will hold its first meeting of 2024 at 4 p.m. Thursday at the mayor's office in city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. The agenda includes an agreement with IWM Consulting Group of further work at the former Sheller-Globe site.

### Coming up

**Thursday** — Coverage of this week's Portland City Council meeting.

**Friday** — FRHS senior signs to jump at Marshall University.

7 18122 00780 6

Legislation ...

Continued from page 1
Assuaging Indiana's child care crisis will "take money," said Charbonneau, R-Valparaiso. But he wants the bill he files to come back clean: \$0.
"I don't want to take a chance on the bill moving along — and everybody happy — (and) it get skewed because of the fiscal impact," he said.
But he said he believed — personally — that the bill could be among leadership's priority bills. Leaders have said there will be fewer this session to signal a "less is more approach."
Indiana's 4,195 regulated child care providers can serve about 206,000 kids when operating at full steam. That's according to data from Brighter Futures Indiana, a partnership between the state's Family Social Services

Administration (FSSA) and Early Learning Indiana.
But those providers would meet just 41% of the demand, as an estimated 502,000 Hoosier children may need child care.
And some providers aren't running at full capacity.
Early Learning Indiana, for example, manages 13 early learning centers in Marion and Tippecanoe counties. It serves 1,000 children daily, said President and CEO Maureen Weber — but 15% of its seats are closed off as staffing challenges strangle operations.
"It's a challenge for our bottom line and our mission," she said.
Parents who can find open seats may encounter costs that eat up significant chunks of income.
Full-time child care costs a

stunning \$660 monthly on average in Indiana, according to Brighter Futures. The calculation includes all age groups; care for infants (\$790 monthly) is the most expensive and drops as children age.
The average annual cost was just 6.4% of the median Floyd County household income — the lowest — and 15.8% of the median Delaware County household income — the highest.
Lawmakers last session raised income eligibility for two key child care subsidies, growing the pool of parents who qualify, and raised reimbursement rates to providers.
They also authorized expansion grants to providers alongside a new employer-sponsored child care fund and employer child care expenditure credit.

Legislative leadership has signaled an appetite for more change.
"Frankly, we've regulated ourselves into this problem," House Speaker Todd Huston said at a November session preview.
Charbonneau's interim committee heard four hours of presentations, testimony and discussion in August.
Committee members and stakeholders coalesced around recommendations split into four categories.
1. To speed up a third-party evaluation of the child care system, the group suggested moving up the Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee's (ELAC) due date and having FSSA adjust its regulations sooner.
ELAC released the first evaluation on the state's quality ratings

system — with initial recommendations for new standards — in December. The second evaluation is in progress.
FSSA's Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning said it was "working with a vendor to develop external and internal policies that drive consistency and equity across programming types, while remaining compliant with federal regulations" and that it's still reviewing recommendations from the interim committee and a licensing workgroup.
"The interim study recommendation accelerated that timeline because I do think there's an urgent need to streamline the requirements for early learning settings," said Weber, who also chairs ELAC.
See Legislation page 6

CR almanac

Table with 5 columns: Thursday 1/4, Friday 1/5, Saturday 1/6, Sunday 1/7, Monday 1/8. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts (33/20, 37/26, 38/26, 37/27, 41/27) and brief weather descriptions.

Lotteries

Table listing lottery results for Powerball, Mega Millions, Hoosier, and Ohio. Includes estimated jackpots and winning numbers for various draws.

Markets

Table listing market prices for Cooper Farms, POET Biorefining, and The Andersons. Includes prices for corn, wheat, and beans.

Today in history

In 1521, German priest Martin Luther was excommunicated by Pope Leo X. Luther's questions about Roman Catholic practices started the Protestant Reformation.
In 1962, Pope John XXIII excommunicated Fidel Castro for changing Cuba into a communist state.
In 2000, the final original "Peanuts" comic strip was published following the death of creator Charles Schultz. His creation had run for 50 years.
In 2011, Jay County Commissioners granted a rollover of vacation time for a highway department employee. Ken Wellman asked commissioners to roll over two weeks of vacation time for the department's road foreman, who wasn't able to take the time off because of weather-related work. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Table listing community events for Thursday and Monday. Includes meetings of the Board of Works, Jay School Board, and Dunkirk City Council.

Obituaries

Lois Dietz

Dec. 10, 1932-Dec. 29, 2023
Lois Elaine Dietz, age 91, of Portland passed away on Friday, Dec. 29, 2023, in Persimmon Ridge Health-care.

She was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on Dec. 10, 1932, the daughter of Harold and Winifred (Miner) Hudson. She was married on Oct. 11, 1975, to John "Bud" Dietz and he passed away on July 6, 2014.



Dietz

Lois was a waitress and bartender having worked for Portland Moose Lodge and Portland Elks Lodge. She also was owner of The Spot restaurant. She was a member of Moose Lodge, V.F.W. and American Legion. She enjoyed playing bingo.
Surviving are three sons, Clyde Corle (wife: Pat) of Dayton, Ohio, Roger Corle (wife: Vicki) of Portland and Randy Corle (wife: Brenda) of Herford, Pennsylvania; one brother, Bud Miner of Yorktown, Pennsylvania; seven grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.
Funeral services will be Friday, Jan. 5, 2024, at 3 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Nan Weesner presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be from 1 to 3 p.m. prior to the services.
Memorials can be made to Jay County Humane Society.
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Eileen Daugherty

Nov. 10, 1929-Dec. 18, 2023
Eileen Rose (Graber) Sprunger Daugherty, 94, of Berne, Indiana, passed away Monday, Dec. 18, 2023, at Swiss Village in Berne.

She was born on Nov. 10, 1929, to Henry P. and Adella (Habegger) Graber at the home farm in Monroe Township, Adams County. She was born just after the stock market crash that began the Great Depression. Her family owned a farm north of Berne. She worked hard with her dad in the fields during the summer, which instilled in her a strong work ethic. Fluent in Swiss dialect, she did not speak English until she started first grade in the one-room school, north of Berne.



Daugherty

Eileen was the second-oldest of the four siblings. In 1947, Eileen graduated second in her class from Monroe High School. In 1949, after dating one year, Eileen married the love of her life, Marvin Dale Sprunger. They were married on June 11, 1949, at the First Mennonite Church in Berne. Immediately after the wedding, Eileen and Marv set up house in Fayetteville, North Carolina, where Marv was stationed at Fort Bragg. Once discharged, they moved back to Berne and started Custom Floor & Wall, which they operated for 25 years until Marvin's death in 1985.

Eileen and Marv had two daughters, Carol (1951) and Gloria (1953). Eileen was active in Mother's Club in the 1950s. Eileen and Marv were founding members of Grace Bible Church in the 1960s. Eileen loved the Lord and taught Good News Club when the girls were young. She taught Sunday School and was church organist at Grace Bible Church for many years. She also served on the board of Evangelism Explosion, along with Marv, for several years.

Marvin passed away in August 1985. One year later, Eileen sold Custom Floor & Wall and moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to be near Gloria and her family. Eileen loved Tulsa and became active in the leadership of Bible Study Fellowship. She loved singing in the church choir at First United Methodist Church and her small group at Fellowship Bible Church, which became her church home.

In 1987, Eileen became the division secretary for Waddell & Reed Financial Services in Tulsa. She retired in 1997 after 10 years. Later in 1997, Eileen began volunteer work at Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa, and soon was hired by Hillcrest to work in the gift shop, which she loved. She stayed at Hillcrest for five years.

In 2001, Eileen met Bill Daugherty of Pennville, Indiana, and they were married in February 2002. She enjoyed traveling and accompanying The Christianaires, Bill's Southern Gospel Quartet. Bill passed away in 2017, and once again, Eileen was widowed.

After a terrible farm accident in 2016, Eileen spent two months in rehab at Swiss Village. In late 2016, Eileen and Bill moved to Swiss Village, where she lived until her passing. Upon moving back to Berne, Eileen once more became an active member of Grace Bible Church where she served as part-time organist. She loved her small

group and especially her pastor and wife, Jeff and Becky Gaskill.
Eileen's greatest joy was spending time with her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. They gave her such joy, and she prayed for each individually every single day. Eileen was an avid reader, and music was her love language. She also mentored many people in her 94 years.

In addition to the loss of Marvin and Bill, Eileen was preceded in death by her parents, Henry and Adella Graber; stepmother Rachel Graber; sisters Evelyn Rich and Delores Moser; brother Don Graber; grandson Jeffrey Pyle; and son-in-law Sidney Sokolsky.

Eileen is survived by her two daughters, Carol (Allen) Pease of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Gloria (David) Newman of Tulsa, Oklahoma; stepsons Ron Daugherty of Indianapolis and Don Daugherty of Plymouth, Indiana; four grandchildren, Kavan Pyle of Pittsburgh, Katie (Seymore) Shaw of Fort Worth, Texas, Natalie (David) Leonard of Thompson's Station, Tennessee, and Lindsey (Brian) Meek of Bixby, Oklahoma; and six great-grandchildren, Sydney and Journey Shaw, Ella Kate and River Leonard, and Harper and Hudson Meek. Also, sister-in-law Nancy Graber; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A celebration of Eileen's life will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Jan. 8, 2024, at the Swiss Village Chapel, 1350 W. Main St., Berne, Indiana, with visitation prior to the service in the Swiss Village Chapel, from 10 to 11 a.m. Burial will follow at M.R.E. Cemetery in Berne, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Grace Bible Church, Berne, Indiana, or Gideon's International.

Arrangements are by Zwick & Jahn Funeral Homes, Yager-Kirchofer Chapel of Berne, Indiana.

Gladys Marie (Middaugh) Bell, Bryant, July 14, 1948-Dec. 28, 2023. Services will be at 2 p.m. Thursday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge.

They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

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

Felony arrests

Drug possession
A Portland woman was arrested Thursday for drug possession.
Shannon N. Riley, 40, 942

Shady Hollow Lane, was preliminarily charged with for possession of paraphernalia.
She was being held on an \$11,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Three were arrested for kidnapping

DODGEVILLE, Wisc. — Three people from South Dakota have been arrested in Wisconsin and charged with kidnapping, and an 11-year-old girl from Wells County is now safe.
Zachary Delozier, 27, Edgemoor, South Dakota, and Sara Gaudino, 23, and Isaiah Schryvers, 24, both of Rapid City, South Dakota, were each arrested on warrants for kidnapping of a minor, according to a news release from the Iowa County, Wisconsin Sheriff's Office.
"The 11-year old child was safely removed from the vehicle and three adults were taken into custody," the release said.

Advertisement for Dorrance Publishing Services. Text: "Become a Published Author with Dorrance. We want to read your book! Our staff is made up of writers, just like you. We are dedicated to making publishing dreams come true. Complete Book Publishing Services. FIVE EASY STEPS TO PUBLICATION: 1. Consultation, 2. Book Production, 3. Promotion, 4. Distribution, 5. Merchandising and Fulfillment. Call now to receive your FREE Author's Guide 888-965-1444 or www.dorranceinfo.com/hoosier"

Advertisement for Window Nation. Text: "EXCLUSIVE MONEY SAVING OFFER. 0% DOWN, 0% PAYMENTS, 0% INTEREST FOR 2 YEARS AND BUY 2 WINDOWS GET 2 FREE! SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME CONSULTATION TODAY! WINDOW NATION. Call (866) 553-0725"

SERVICES
Wednesday
Young, Clara: 1 p.m., Brown-Butz-Diedring Funeral Service & Crematory, 515 E. 53rd St., Anderson.
Thursday
Bell, Gladys: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.
Friday
Dietz, Lois: 3 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Monday
Daugherty, Eileen: 1 p.m., Swiss Village Chapel, 1350 W. Main St., Berne.
Jan. 14
Williams, Helen: 4 p.m., New Life Ministries, 415 S. Helen St., Portland.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS, 120 N. Meridian St., Portland, Indiana 47371, (260) 726-9201, progressiveofficeproducts.com



# NYT seeks to protect journalism

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Services

The New York Times is not content to let OpenAI and Microsoft get rich using the newspaper's web content for artificial intelligence like ChatGPT without paying and sued this week in Manhattan federal court.

We don't know if the pun on the word "content" is particularly funny or if an AI robot would be inclined to such wordplay, but we do know it was written by humans, us, the people behind the words and pictures of the Daily News.

And having people, not machines, tell the human stories of the city and the world for other humans to read should stay that way.

We could have asked ChatGPT to write an editorial about how it

## Guest Editorial

is bad that ChatGPT lifted wholesale without paying from a newspaper to teach itself how to replace newspapers. However, while AI doesn't get tired of gimmicks, real people do.

The Times alleges in its lawsuit that ChatGPT was fed huge numbers of articles produced by the paper's website to allow the program to learn using the "large language model." As the complaint states, "an LLM works by predicting words that are likely to follow a given string of text based

on the potentially billions of examples used to train it."

For teaching material, "the training set was comprised of 45 terabytes of data — the equivalent of a Microsoft Word document that is over 3.7 billion pages long." Not all of that was from the Times, but the work of that newspaper and website, like the works of this newspaper and website, are copyrighted and can't just be lifted.

When OpenAI began it was a nonprofit, sharing with all its creations for the betterment of humankind. But the humans in charge didn't need AI to learn about the profit motive and they changed to a proprietary system to sell. No more sharing from them and customers have to pay. But they get to borrow and not pay?

They could have used non-copyrighted works for their classroom, like the collected plays, poems and sonnets of Shakespeare. That would be perfectly legal, but ChatGPT would then write and speak like an Englishman of 400 years ago. Such sterner stuff is Greek to me in this brave new world and not a wild-goose chase melted into thin air. Would star-crossed lovers be a tower of strength or get short shrift?

Or they could have borrowed without any limits from Mark Twain, who during his lifetime fought furiously for laws for copyright protections. But Twain died in 1910 and all his creations are now free to use for everyone. Under U.S. law, current copyright protection

lasts for the life of the author plus 70 more years.

Other works have a 95-year shield, like Walt Disney's 1928 "Steamboat Willie," the first appearance of Mickey Mouse, which will enter the public domain on Monday, Jan. 1. Sound recordings are protected for 100 years.

Craigslist, Google and Facebook vacuumed up revenue from the press, devouring classifieds, display ads and circulation. Now another internet invention, AI, is threatening the press itself. As the lawsuit says, "if the Times and other news organizations cannot produce and protect their independent journalism, there will be a vacuum that no computer or artificial intelligence can fill." And yes, we meant to play on the word "vacuum."

# Erskine can teach us a lot

By KIM DODSON

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

"We could all learn a lot from Jimmy."

This loving statement is shared by Betty Erskine, mother of Jimmy Erskine and wife of baseball legend Carl Erskine, in the documentary, "The Carl Erskine Story: The Best We've Got." I find myself hearing that over and over in my head.

I am not much of a baseball fan but I am a sucker for a good love story, small town people making it big, and definitely stories that highlight the achievements of people with disabilities. When award-winning filmmaker Ted Green reached out to me a few years ago to talk about producing a documentary about Carl Erskine, I was thrilled and curious to learn how all that Carl and his family encompass would be made into a ninety minute film.

If you have not yet seen the documentary, I encourage you to. Don't go in thinking you will only learn about Carl's baseball career and his friendship with Jackie Robinson. While that is an important part of Carl's story, there is so much more. Thanks to Ted Green's masterful work, you will come away with a wonderful sense about the difference that can be made in the world through kindness, respect, and the willingness to learn from others.

The Carl Erskine story goes beyond baseball to share how the birth of his and Betty's son, Jimmy, impacted not just their family, but countless families and individuals with disabilities.

When Jimmy was born with Down syndrome in 1960 the Erskines were instructed to place him in an institution and move on with their lives. They were having none of that.

Jimmy joined his brothers and sister at home and became an integral part of his Anderson, Indiana community. That act led so many to learn from Jimmy and other children whose parents refused a doctor's instruction to institutionalize their loved ones.

Those children, along with Jimmy, showed that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) truly can

Kim Dodson



live, learn, work and play in communities throughout the country if given the opportunity. The documentary shares the story of how the Erskines and other pioneering parents were inspired by their children to come together to form what is The Arc today in order to ensure their children had those opportunities. Their neighbors, classmates, church members, and employers have come to learn that people with IDD really are not so "different" and that they bring value to their schools, community, and places of work.

Too often we connect ourselves with people who think the same as us and see things from the same vantage point. Think about what could happen if we all reach out to those who are "different" from us. Some of my favorite lawmakers are those that I don't always agree with, but I respect their willingness to be educated to think differently or view an issue from a different lens. I also come away with new perspectives. I don't think that happens often enough these days. It is what I think about when I hear Betty Erskine say, "We could all learn a lot from Jimmy."

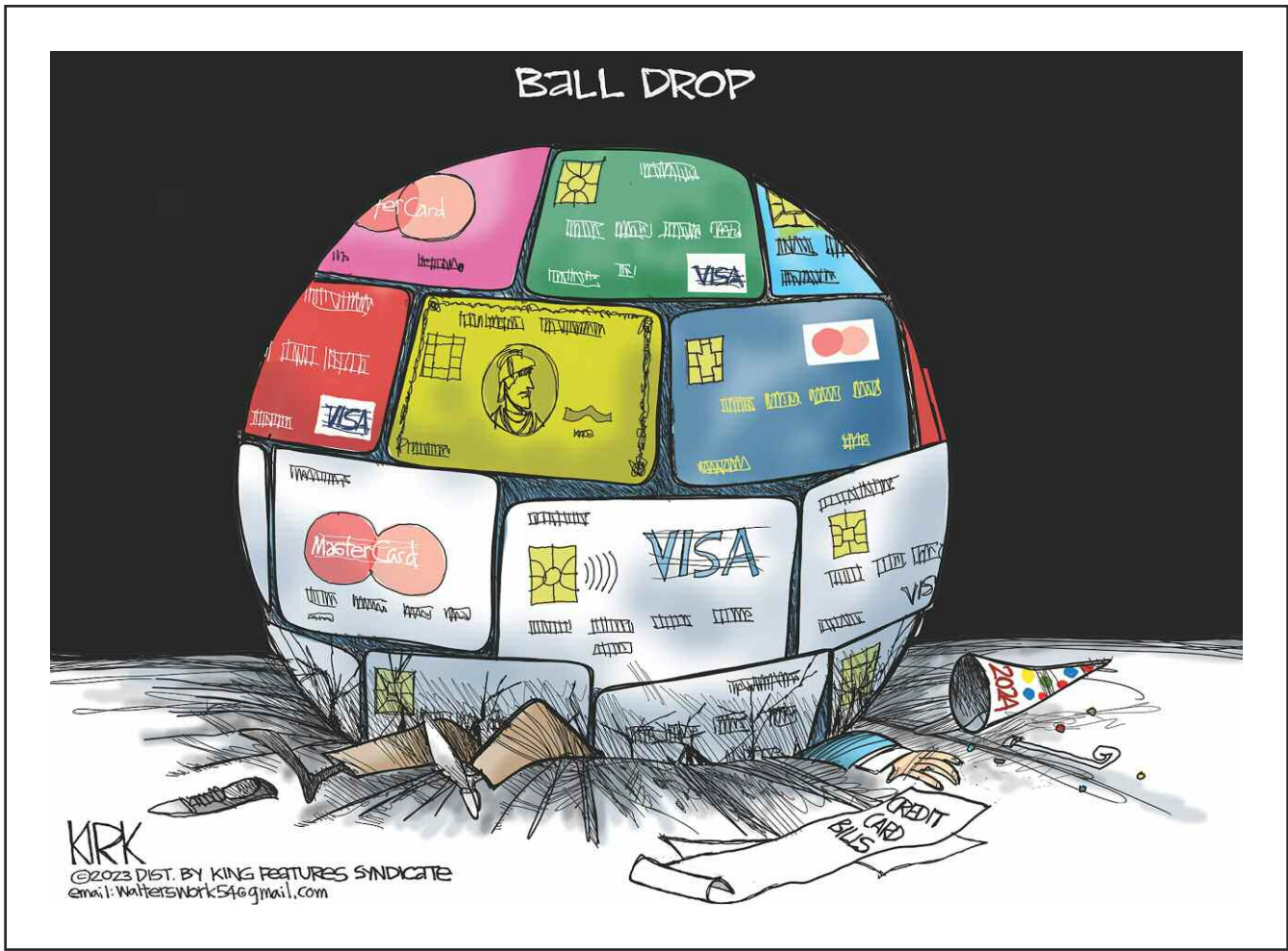
My message is, we can all grow and learn from people who are different than us and challenge us to see things from a new perspective. Who knows what positive changes may happen by taking that simple step.

Jimmy Erskine passed away earlier this month. At the time he was born, few imagined the difference his life of perseverance, love and kindness would make.

"We could all learn a lot from Jimmy."

.....  
*Dodson has served as the Chief Executive Officer of The Arc of Indiana since July 2015.*

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



# Ukraine needs support to win

By BERNARD-HENRI LEVY

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, has said it many times: If Western military support were to falter, the Ukrainians would continue to fight.

They would do it alone if need be, their backs to the wall, at a terrifying human cost.

They would be in largely the same situation they were in during the first phase of Russia's full-scale invasion. After all, the Ukrainians had to wait months to more than a year for the United States to provide the weapons they needed. During those long months, the courage of the Ukrainians and the talent of their commanders were enough to hold off a Russian military whose troops still were fresh, motivated and sure of themselves.

In a worst-case scenario in which Congress continues to refuse to approve the funds requested by President Joe Biden and Europe follows suit in withdrawing support, the conflict would revert to those early stages. And the Ukrainian forces, which I've observed for two years while making three documentaries from the front lines, would shift to a long and grueling war of resistance.

But they would not lay down their arms. This war is existential. Of this I am sure.

So here's the question: Given that the war will go on, are we going to prolong the fighting or shorten it?

Are we going to allow civilian deaths to pile up or try to minimize them?

Will the United States, for vile political reasons, let the conflict fester and encourage authoritarian and anti-American forces throughout Europe? Or will it decide to come to the aid of its natural and reliable allies in Ukraine?

What message will the country

Bernard-Henri Levy



choose to send to imperial China, neo-Ottoman Turkey and an Iran racing toward the nuclear threshold? Will America welcome a multipolar world in which unchecked dictatorships once again lay down the law? Or, having abandoned its allies in Kabul, Aleppo, Erbil and Yerevan, will the country pull itself together behind Kyiv because it's never too late to correct a series of mistakes?

If it's the latter — if enough Republicans reconnect with the spirit of Reagan and enough Democrats remain faithful to that of Kennedy; if they want the world's people to know they are right to rebel and to dream of liberal democracy — then American and allied aid must urgently flow to Ukraine.

European Storm Shadow cruise missiles must be delivered to the Zaporizhzhia region to enable the men and women of the 47th Separate Mechanized Brigade — which took the village of Robotyne last summer in bold commando operations — to push south past Russian fortifications toward occupied Verbove, Tokmak, Berdyansk and the Azov Sea.

Ukrainian drone pilots — who have demonstrated since the early days of the war that no Russian ammunition depot, naval base or ship in Crimea is out of their reach — must receive the long-range U.S. Army Tactical Missile Systems, known as ATACMS, promised since September, which they need to fully open the Black Sea.

F-16s, whose arrival near Donbas is equally overdue, are an essential

complement to the artillery and infantry units working to liberate the Bakhmut and Avdiivka zones and the routes in and out of Donetsk and Luhansk.

To the south, in the Kherson zone, which was liberated more than a year ago by unassisted Ukrainian forces, the need is for river-crossing gear, amphibious equipment and light Bradley tanks. That would enable the Ukrainian commandos under the command of Maj. Gen. Andriy Kovalchuk to expand the operations I watched them conducting on far too small a scale to the eastern side of the Dnipro River, near the villages of Krynyky, Kozachi Laheri and Korsunka.

Additionally, Ukraine needs an "iron dome" worthy of the name to replace the mobile anti-aircraft units I accompanied in makeshift pickup trucks as they chased drones headed for major Ukrainian cities, trying to shoot them down with bazookas. I have been saying since Day 1 that helping the Ukrainians close the sky is essential.

For the most part, these weapons are readily available in American and European stockpiles. They come at a cost, of course. But that cost is far lower than that of a defeated Russia to go after a NATO country and force a full-scale U.S. and European intervention.

Our defense budgets today are half what they were during the Cold War — and of what they will have to be if we allow Russia to become an offensive threat again. While we hesitate to pay our respects to international law in dollars, the Ukrainians are paying in blood.

.....  
*Levy is a philosopher, author and filmmaker. His latest documentary from the front lines of the war on Ukraine, "Glory to the Heroes," recently was released nationwide.*

# The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus  
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

**RAY COONEY**  
President, editor and publisher

**LOUISE RONALD**  
Board chair

**TONIA HARDY**  
Business manager

**BRIAN DODD**  
Production manager

VOLUME 150-NUMBER 158  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to [letters@thecr.com](mailto: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.

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."  
—Thomas Jefferson

Subscription rates  
Internet-only: Three days - \$3; Monthly auto-pay - \$10; 13 weeks - \$32; six months - \$60; one year - \$108.  
City (walking - where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$11; 13 weeks - \$36; six months - \$68; one year - \$122.  
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$12; 13 weeks - \$44; six months - \$74; one year - \$140.  
Mail: Monthly auto-pay - \$13; 13 weeks - \$49; six months - \$80; one year - \$151.  
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

# Communication seminar scheduled

Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host an assertive communication seminar next month.

Portland's Bonnie Maitlen will lead "Assertive Communication: The Pathway to Getting What You Want and Need" from 9 to 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, at John Jay Center for Learning. Joining her will be Kevin D. Logeman and Roberta Fiore-Kittell of Optimum Impact Coaching.

The presenters will discuss topics including what keeps people from behaving assertively, four dimensions of assertive communication, comparing communication styles and creating an action plan.

Registration for the event is \$49.

For more information, or to sign up, visit [optimumimpactcoaching.com](http://optimumimpactcoaching.com).

## Reid donates

Three Randolph Coun-

## Business roundup

ty schools were among those to receive grants recently from Reid Health Community Benefit.

Reid donated a total of \$11,000 to 10 high schools, including Winchester Community, Union City and Randolph Southern. The funding will be used for athletic supplies for prevention or care for sports-related injuries such as athletic tape, rehabilitation equipment, rehydration drinks, coolers, contact solutions and disinfectants.

"We recognize the importance for our schools to have access to the athletic supplies that

help keep their student-athletes safe," said Jess Przybysz, director of Reid Health Community Benefit and Engagement, in a press release.

## Solar plant OK'd

The Michigan Public Services Commission last week gave approval for Indiana Michigan Power to construct Lake Trout Solar Plant.

The facility near Montpelier is expected to be capable of powering up to 73,500 homes. The facility will be the largest solar plant owned by Indiana Michigan Power parent company American Electric Power.

It will connect to the power grid that serves Indiana and Michigan.

Indiana Michigan Power has contracted with EDF Renewables to build the new facility. It is expected to be operational sometime in 2026.

## Limiting visitors

Indiana University Health began limiting visitors recently.

The limits were put in place following a rise in cases of flu and other respiratory illnesses.

All IU Health hospitals, including IU Health Jay in Portland, IU Health Blackford in Hartford City and IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, began limiting visitors last week. Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis already had restrictions in place.

The restrictions limit patients to two visitors at a time. Visitors younger than 18 or with flu or COVID-19 symptoms will not be admitted. Masking is suggested for all visitors.

## Purchase complete

Indianapolis pharmaceuticals firm Eli Lilly last week completed the

purchase of POINT Biopharma Global Inc.

Lilly purchased the radiopharmaceutical company for \$1.4 billion. The company focuses on cancer treatments.

"Next generation radioligand therapies hold great promise for delivering meaningful advances against a range of cancers and we are excited to enter this space through the addition of POINT," said Jacob Van Naarden, Lilly executive vice president, said in a press release. "We welcome POINT colleagues to Lilly and look forward to working together to build on their work as we create this new capability within Lilly. In time, I hope we can bring several new radioligand therapies to patients with cancer and improve their outcomes."

## Hosting events

The Central Indiana

Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce will host the 2024 Indiana Safety and Health Conference Feb. 26, through 28.

Former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and current NFL analyst Terry Bradshaw will be the featured speaker for the conference. The event will also include the Indiana Forklift Rodeo speakers, a 10-hour course for general industry, an innovation showcase and the governor's workplace safety awards luncheon.

For more information, or to register, call (800) 824-6885 or email [events@indianachamber.com](mailto:events@indianachamber.com).

.....  
*Does your business have news to share? Email us at [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com) to be included in our weekly business roundup.*

# Unions eager for more gains in '24

By ALEXANDRA SKORES

The Dallas Morning News  
Tribune News Service

If 2023 was a historic year for workers with gains in pay and new contracts, how much longer can the momentum last in an economy that can't decide if it is roaring or trudging along?

From a 148-day Hollywood writers strike to a United Auto Workers walkout to the ongoing contract negotiations from air carriers under contract negotiations, unions found power in 2023 they haven't had during decades of shrinking union membership and rollbacks in worker pay and benefits.

"It's been a tremendous, even historic, year for union workers with unprecedented victories," said Benjamin Sachs, Kestnbaum professor of labor and industry at Harvard University's Law School.

It's an even stronger win for overall support of labor unions, according to Gallup. Approval for labor unions hit 67% in 2023 after support fell to an all-time low of 48% in 2009. Researchers believe this trend will continue, leading to a stronger influence among the labor work groups and their respective employers.

Lydia Saad, director of U.S. Social Research at Gallup, said that since 1936 Gallup has asked whether Americans approve or disapprove of labor unions. Approval was fairly strong in the first few decades when union membership was high, but it fell significantly in the 70s and 80s, and all the way through the 90s. Often, Saad said, perceptions of labor unions are affected by economic circumstances.

"When the economy isn't doing well, people are not as generous in their view of labor unions



Tribune News Service/The Dallas Morning News/Shafkat Anwar

UAW members cheer as employees walkout from the Fort Worth Parts Distribution Center on Sept. 22 in Roanoke, Texas.

because there's some feeling among Americans that (unions) are not helpful to the economy," Saad said.

Last year, approval peaked at 71% and remains close this year at 67%.

"People paid attention," Saad said. "They were sympathetic with workers, which is somewhat unusual in the history of our trends."

Here's a look at this past year's union movement and what is to come in the new year.

It was a "year of strikes,"

according to Kate Bronfenbrenner, director of Labor Education Research and senior lecturer at Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

"Across every industry from entertainment to logistics to auto to health care to aviation — big strikes are notable because not only were they very large and overwhelming ... they had these huge wins," Bronfenbrenner said.

Hollywood's actors, all 60,000 members represented by the Screen Actors Guild-American

Federation of Television and Radio Artists, reached a tentative three-year deal in November with executives from top entertainment companies including Disney, Netflix, Warner Bros. Discovery and Universal, who all had a direct hand in negotiations.

The United Auto Workers strike erupted this fall for six weeks among the three big automakers, GM, Ford and Stellantis. There are over 5,000 workers at GM's Arlington assembly plant who returned to work in

October with a generous contract.

"Once again, we have won several astonishing victories. For the past several weeks, analysts and pundits were crying that our union was going too far, that we were demanding too much," said Shawn Fain, UAW president in October. "We didn't listen to them, and we never let up. The result is one of the most stunning contract victories since the 1930s."

According to industry analysts, the negotiations won the workers pay and cost-of-living raises that would top 30% by the time the contracts expire in April 2028. Workers would get an immediate 11% pay bump upon ratification.

"I think what's happening with the UAW in the aftermath of the strike and all the other strike victories are going to inspire more workers to organize," Bronfenbrenner said.

Earlier this year, after months of negotiations and threats of a strike that would have shaken the U.S. economy, UPS and the union representing 340,000 UPS workers reached a tentative agreement in July. The five-year agreement raised wages for all workers, created more full-time jobs and included workplace improvements like installing air conditioning in trucks, according to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

"We've seen an increase in organizing activity," Bronfenbrenner said. "Most of these gains are getting back things that unions have lost."

Union leadership at major airlines across the country also were in contract negotiations this year, including Dallas-based Southwest Airlines and Fort Worth-based American Airlines.



**Local  
Businesses  
&  
Services**

**Fortkamp Foam**  
3216 Wabash Road  
Fort Recovery, OH 45846  
419-852-1390  
[Fortkampfoam.com](http://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.allcircuitelctrical.com](http://www.allcircuitelctrical.com)

**Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition**  
100 N. Meridian St.,  
Portland, IN 47371  
260-251-3259  
Email:  
[jcdpcccontact@gmail.com](mailto:jcdpcccontact@gmail.com)

**Dunn Family Dental Care**  
110 W. North St.  
Portland, IN 47371  
260-726-8007

**Brigade You're safer with us**  
1976 W. Tyson Road,  
Portland, IN 47371  
(260)766-4343  
[brigade-electronics.com/en-us](http://brigade-electronics.com/en-us)

**Williams Auto Parts, Inc.**  
1127 Detroit Ave.  
Portland, IN  
8-5:30 Mon-Fri,  
Closed Sat & Sun.  
Used auto parts  
since 1951  
(260) 726-8001  
[www.williamsautoparts.com](http://www.williamsautoparts.com)

**Ohio Valley Gas**  
129 E. Main St.,  
Portland  
260-726-8114  
[www.ovgc.com](http://www.ovgc.com)

**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](http://www.ehomeidea.com)

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

# Recommends ...

Continued from page 1  
**Lego Star Wars: The Skywalker Saga**

This game covers all three trilogies of the “Star Wars” saga in a video game format acted out by Lego versions of your favorite characters. The game takes a bit of a tongue-in-cheek approach with a few slight changes to the beloved films. There are over 300 playable characters, 100 vehicles and 23 planets to explore. The game is forgiving, making it a natural for non-gamers and youngsters. An excellent way for “Star Wars” fans to enjoy some fun with their children or grandchildren, playing together in that galaxy far, far away. — Scott Shaffer

**Blog**

**Ish Mom**

A friend of mine is busy. Her youngest child is learning to walk. Her oldest is around 10 and on the autism spectrum. In between are two more. How does she cope? She writes a blog. “Ish Mom” (ishmom.com) offers reviews of books and make-up products, suggestions for crafts and games that have been a hit with her kids and a weekly “dump” of memes she has found insightful or amusing. But its primary focus is parenting — serious advice about parenting. The writer is intelligent, thoughtful and smart enough not to assume that all her readers are parents. She makes me laugh and she makes me think. Hard. — Louise Ronald

**Music**

**Shannon Clark & the Sugar**

It’s always fun to stumble onto a new favorite artist. It’s even more exciting when you find out that artist is kinda, sorta, almost local. That was my experience with Shannon Clark and the Sugar (shannonclarksugar.com), a country band from Darke County, Ohio. Shannon and Brittany Clark were involved in the music industry in their younger years but stepped away following the death of their second daughter. They eventually would return to music as a healing tool, and their band was born when oldest daughter Navie joined. They opened for Tim McGraw in 2022. Start with “This Old World.” — Ray Cooney

**Iron Maiden’s Senjutsu**

Throughout our lives, most of us tend to favor music that was popular when we were teens. As we age we tend to lose interest in new music. For those of us who grew up during the 1980s and enjoyed that era’s hard rock and heavy metal can do both. Since the coronavirus pandemic, a number of groups have put out new music. In late 2021, Iron Maiden released its 17th album “Senjutsu.” This album sounds as good, if not better, than anything they’ve released since singer Bruce Dickinson’s return to the band in 1999. Their Days of Future Past tour is scheduled to continue in 2024 focusing on songs from the new album as well as 1986’s “Somewhere in Time.” Dickinson has also released a sin-



Photo provided

Shannon Clark & The Sugar is a Greenville, Ohio, band that opened for Tim McGraw in 2022. The group is made up of husband and wife Shannon (third from left) and Brittany Clark (left), their daughter Navie (right) and cousin by marriage Joey Howard.

gle ahead of his upcoming solo album “The Mandrake Project.” — Scott Shaffer

**The War and Treaty**

In the last six months, I’ve listened to a lot of music from artists I had never heard of previously. The War and Treaty (thewarandtreaty.com) is now a new favorite. The husband-and-wife duo of Micheal Trotter Jr. and Tanya Trotter that was founded in 2014 in Michigan is both powerful and soulful. They count blues, soul, R&B, gospel, country, folk and rock all as influences. As I write about them, I can hear Tanya luring in listeners with the first phrase of their song “Take Me In.” Other favorites are “Five More Minutes” and “Dumb Luck.” — Ray Cooney

**TV**

**ER**

This annual piece is usually more about new things we’ve found, but for this one I’m reaching back to an old favorite I rediscovered. Having re-watched some other shows enough, I decided to try the 1990s medical drama that was a favorite during my teen years. “ER” (nbc.com/er) is even more than I remembered it to be. On average, it is a strong TV medical drama. At its best, it is a heart-pounding action movie with life-or-death consequences. Episode seven of season two — “Hell and High Water” — is a prime example. — Ray Cooney

**Streaming stars**

Here are a three of my five-star picks that are sure to add the word “binge” to your vocabulary. 1) “The Queen’s Gambit” (Netflix)

— You don’t need to know, or even care about, chess to enjoy this intriguing seven-episode series. 2) “Fargo” (Hulu) — If you enjoy dark comedies, unexpected plot twists and turns, and sitting on the edge of your seat, this one is for you. 3) “Poker Face” (Peacock) — Imagine if you could tell if someone is lying to you. If you enjoy a good mystery, Columbo-style, check this one out. — Rick Reed

**Food**

**Patty melt at The Chocolate Moose**

Talking with Connie Ronald about this piece, I mentioned some of my favorite previous suggestions came from her late husband Jack recommending a specific dish rather than just a restaurant. The patty melt at The Chocolate Moose (thechocolate-moose.com) in Farmland popped into my head. When I mentioned it, Connie’s eyes lit up. She said she and Jack used to split a patty melt on their Saturday dates. It’s a sandwich done right — a burger patty with grilled onions and Swiss cheese on rye bread. Give yourself time to take in the 1950s diner ambience and enjoy a milkshake. — Ray Cooney

**Area attraction**

**The Reid Center**

Richmond has a jewelry box. A Tiffany jewelry box. Three stories high. It was built in 1904 as Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, a gothic structure with more than 60 Tiffany Studio stained-glass windows. After declining attendance forced the church to close, a local consortium recreated it as



Marvel Studios

“Guardians of the Galaxy: Volume 3” features the backstory of the character Rocket, who is voiced by Bradley Cooper. The movie is nominated for a Golden Globe for cinematic and box office achievement and a Grammy Award for best compilation soundtrack for visual media.

The Reid Center (reidcenter.org), noon concerts every other Wednesday. The noon concerts are free and offer a great opportunity to see the windows in their full daylight glory. — Louise Ronald

# Legislation ...

Continued from page 1

She was optimistic the idea would become binding and was planning accordingly.

“The new date, I believe, requires us to have that done by May 1 of next year. So it will be receiving our full attention in the first quarter,” Weber said.

2. To ease the system’s workforce shortage, the committee recommended making child care workers at licensed programs categorically eligible for public child care subsidies, allowing Hoosiers to seek tuition and fee coverage for child care credentials under the existing Workforce Ready Grant, and reducing certain workforce age requirements.

Indiana has previously focused largely on the demand side of the child care shortage equation, said Samuel Snideman, a vice president of government relations for the United Way of Central Indiana. The organization leads the Early Education Works Coalition.

“We can’t serve more families if providers can’t open seats,” he said. “... All the subsidies in the world don’t mean anything if there’s no place to use them.”

Weber said child care

workers often struggle to find care for their own children while they’re on the job. Making them all eligible for federal Child Care and Development Block Grant money or state On My Way Pre-K vouchers could help.

Snideman added that the change could entice back workers who left the industry because of their own care responsibilities or low wages.

“If the state doesn’t want to get involved in actual pay conversations around what child care workers make, it’s really important that we find ways to get and keep more money in child care workers pockets so that they can still have a decent quality of life,” he said.

3. To expand access in “hard-to-serve” areas, the committee proposed piloting a micro-center model, in which one “hub” handles administrative services for a multitude of small centers. FSSA should also allow background checks done at one of a provider’s locations to be valid at its other locations, and should establish mobile fingerprinting, the committee said.

4. And to boost data-informed decision-making, FSSA should publish

a monthly data dashboard and — along with the Department of Revenue — document the outcomes of the employer-sponsored child care fund and expenditure credit. The group suggested that the Indiana Economic Development Corp. provide lawmakers updates on child care support funds associated with a major state economic development grant program and a recent federal microchip law.

Key lawmakers have repeatedly said they want to keep the budget closed. And a surprise \$1 million hole in Medicaid funds discovered in December could cement that approach, with Senate Appropriations Chair Ryan Mishler commenting, “That’s why we have a budget every other year.”

Snideman, for his part, called himself “perhaps pathologically optimistic” for anticipating substantial bipartisan support.

Others were more skeptical.

“I hope we can start to really move the needle. I don’t see it happening this year, unfortunately,” Hamilton said. “In the next budget cycle, we need to make big steps forward if it’s not going to happen this year.”

# Brides



full-page color – **\$625**

full-page B&W – **\$525**

1/2-page color – **\$425**

1/2-page B&W – **\$325**

1/4-page color – **\$275**

1/4-page B&W – **\$225**

Big business card (3x3.5) – **\$100**

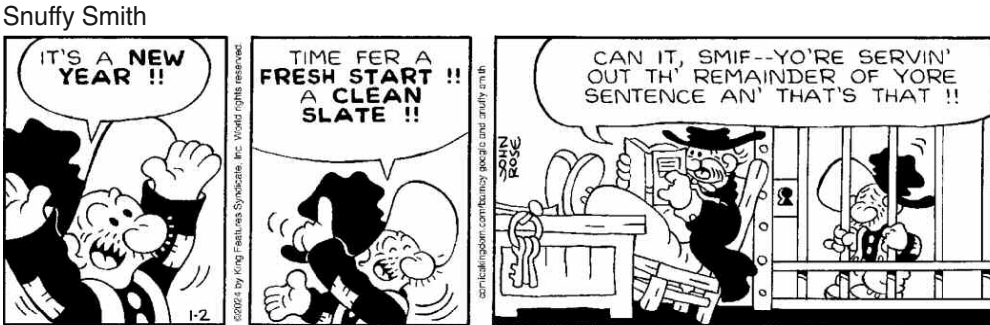
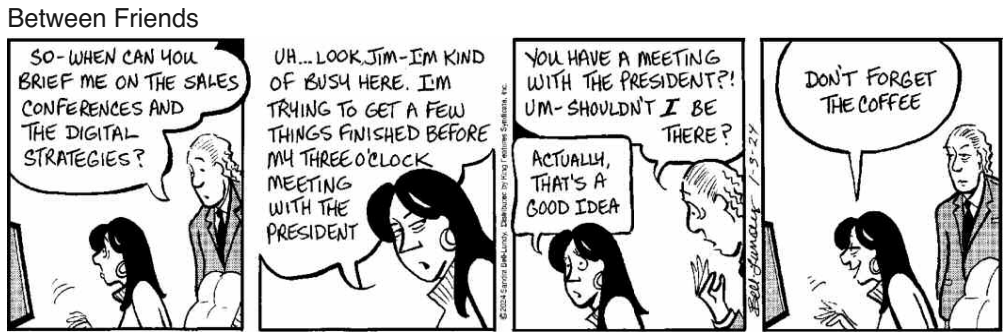
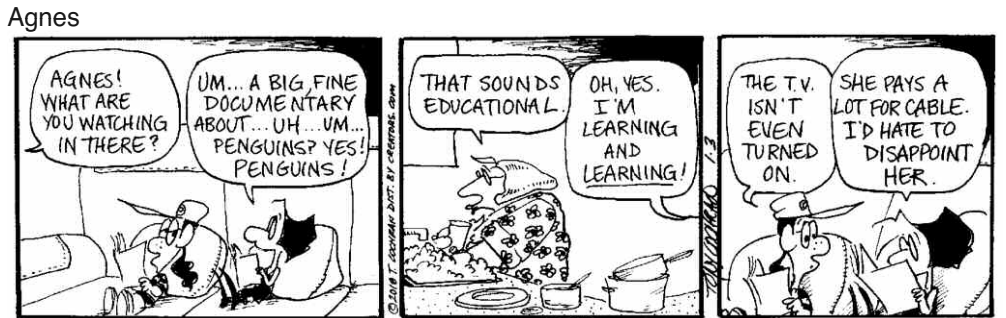
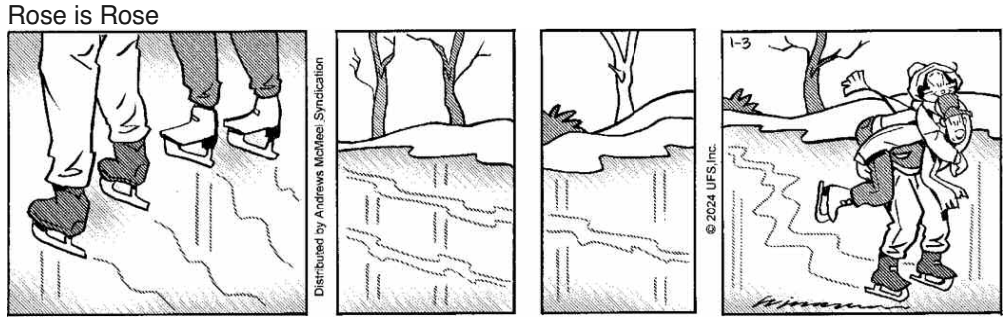
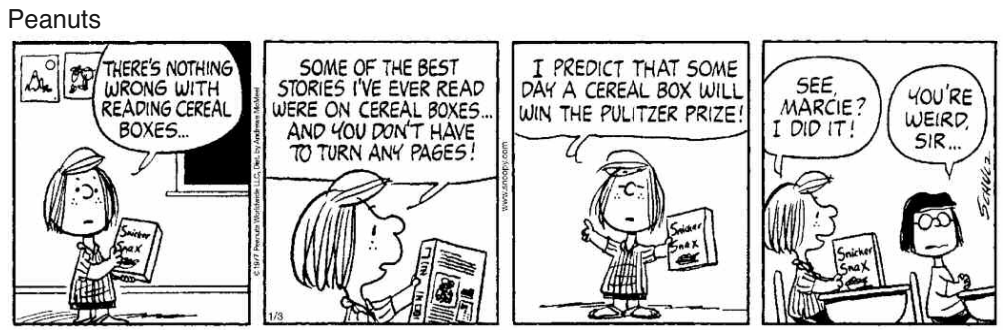
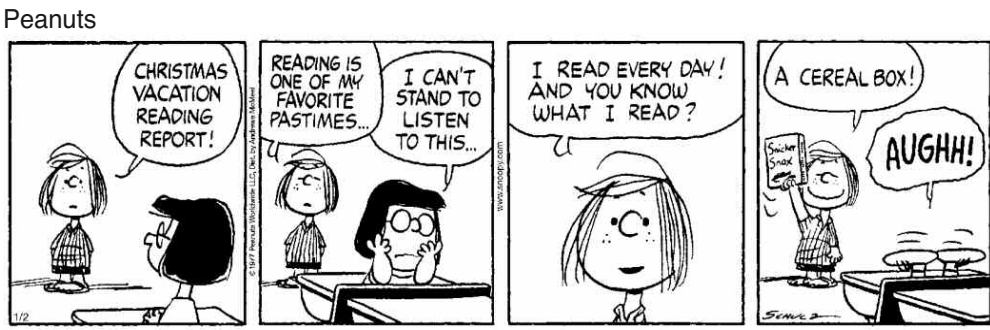
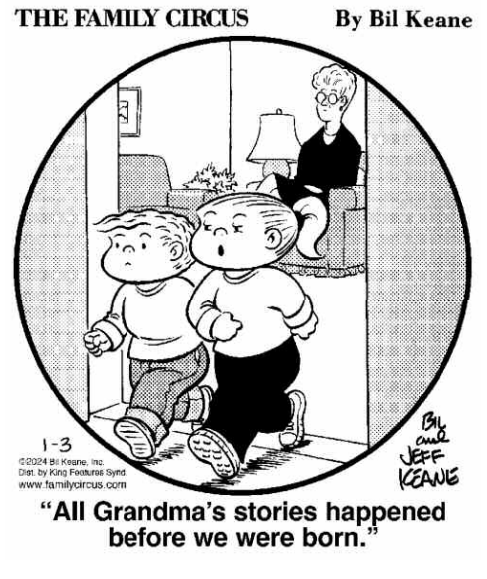
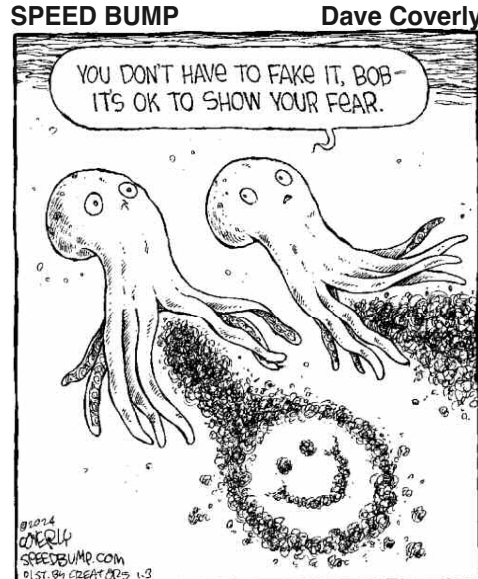
Business card (2x2) – **\$52**

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

*Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.*

*Deadline for ads is Jan. 17*

Our brides special section will be distributed in  
 The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester),  
 The News Times (Hartford City) and The News and Sun (Dunkirk)



**We Deliver**

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

**Laughter**

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*







The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Aiden Phillips drives the baseline in the first quarter of the Patriots' 55-36 loss at Muncie Central on Saturday night. On a night when Phillips didn't play in the junior varsity game, the sophomore tied Wesly Bihn for a team-high three rebounds as the Bearcats dominated Jay County on the boards 34-19.

# Glass ...

Continued from page 10  
Demarkis Cole collected the most offensive rebounds for Muncie Central with eight. He added one defensive rebound to give him nine total.

Cole also scored a game-high 25 points by shooting 9-for-16 (56.3%) from the field and 5-for-9 (55.6%) at the free throw line. In the third quarter, Cole went on a 8-0 run individually from the 3-minutes, 48-second mark when he scored a transition layup until 2:10 when he got a putback on another fast break. The other two baskets came off a 3-point play in which he was fouled on a drive by Westly Bihn and another transition opportunity.

"He's a stat-sheet stuffer and does a little bit of everything," MCHS coach Justin Ullom said. "Some nights it's 20 points, some nights it's 10 points, but he's always active. He's always deflecting, rebounding, getting steals and he's turned into a vocal leader here the last week."

The Patriots started the game off strong in the first quarter, even developing a 14-9 lead. Levi Muhlenkamp and Liam Garringer both hit a pair of threes to get things rolling for Jay County.

Once again, the second quarter is where the game took a turn for the worse for the Patriots.

Four Patriot turnovers and five Bearcat offensive rebounds gave Muncie Central ample opportunities for easy baskets, while Jay County's only points came off baskets by Gradin Swoveland and Trevin Dunnington.

While giving up five offensive rebounds, Jay County ended up with only one team defensive rebound on a ball that landed out of bounds after a missed shot.

"We'd make a play, get a stop, but give it right back to them, don't get anything out of it and then they'd go down and get a score," Bomholt said. "If you do that three or four times, there's eight points and that changes the game wholeheartedly."

"We just don't have the basketball mentality to make it up. Now, if we could score, it'd be different, but we just missed so

Box score			
<b>Muncie Central Bearcats vs. Jay County Patriots</b>		<b>Score by quarters:</b> Jay Co. 14 6 6 10—36 Mun. Ct. 9 19 16 11—55	
<b>Boys varsity summary</b>			
<b>Muncie Central (5-5)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Hiatt	0-0	0-0	0
Cook	1-3	1-4	3
Taylor	4-6	0-0	10
Cole	9-16	5-9	25
Wells	1-4	2-2	5
Reynolds	0-1	0-0	0
McNabb	1-6	1-2	4
Strange	1-6	1-2	4
Douglas	1-1	2-2	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19-43</b>	<b>12-21</b>	<b>55</b>
	<b>.442</b>	<b>.571</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .520</b>			
<b>Jay County (2-6)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Nichols	2-3	0-0	5
Mhinkmp	2-5	0-0	6
Edwards	0-1	0-0	0
Fugjett	0-3	0-0	0
Garringer	3-8	0-2	8
Dunnington	1-6	0-0	3
Crouch	3-7	1-4	7
Phillips	0-1	0-0	0
Bihn	0-0	0-0	0
Swoveland	2-4	2-2	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13-38</b>	<b>3-8</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>.342</b>	<b>.375</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .833</b>			
<b>3-point shooting:</b> Jay County 7-21 (Muhlenkamp 2-4, Garringer 2-6, Swoveland 1-1, Nichols 1-2, Dunnington 1-4, Edwards 0-1, Crouch 0-1, Fugjett 0-2). Muncie Central 7-16 (Taylor 2-3, Cole 2-4, Wells 1-1, Strange 1-3, McNabb 1-4, Reynolds 0-1).			
<b>Rebounds:</b> Jay County 19 (Phillips 3, Bihn 3, Team 3, Muhlenkamp 2, Fugjett 2, Garringer 2, Crouch 2, Edwards, Dunnington). Muncie Central 34 (Cole 9, Cook 6, McNabb 5, Taylor 4, Wells 4, Strange 3, Team 2, Douglas).			
<b>Assists:</b> Jay County 8 (Muhlenkamp 3, Garringer 2, Dunnington, Crouch, Swoveland). Muncie Central 10 (Taylor 4, Cook 3, Strange 2, Wells).			
<b>Blocks:</b> Jay County 6 (Dunnington 2, Crouch 2, Muhlenkamp, Bihn).			
<b>Personal fouls:</b> Jay County 19 (Garringer 5, Nichols 4, Crouch 3, Bihn 3, Muhlenkamp, Dunnington, Phillips, Swoveland). Muncie Central 13 (Cole 4, Douglas 3, Wells 2, Strange 2, Cook, Taylor).			
<b>Turnovers:</b> Jay County 19. Muncie Central 17.			

many layups and free throws. ...

"Our goal tonight was to get the game to the fourth quarter where we had a chance to win. We didn't. We started off really well, but once again, in the second quarter we're turning it over and they're scoring."

The Patriots gave up three different runs of eight or more points, pushing the Bearcats' lead to 47-28 going into the final period.

Despite working a lot on handling ball pressure, Bomholt said the Patriots continued to struggle with turnovers. In the third quarter alone, JCHS coughed up the ball nine times.

Bomholt would ideally like his team to turn the ball over fewer than 10 times in a game, but couldn't do that against MCHS as it finished with 19.

Along with the loss, the Patriots had some more bad news. After making his first varsity start a week prior, freshman Jayden Comer will be sidelined while recovering from an appendectomy.

The loss saw some slight improvements from the previous defeats to Class 3A No. 5 Delta and Class 2A No. 1 Wapahani. The

Patriots assisted on only four field goals in those games combined. On Saturday, they had seven assists. Defensively, they gave up fewer threes, as the Bearcats only hit seven opposed to Wapahani's 12.

"Did we make a little bit of progress? Yeah, a little bit," Bomholt said. "But not enough to satisfy us. We've got a lot more work to do."

### Junior varsity

A dominant second half propelled Jay County to a 41-21 win over Muncie Central on Saturday in the junior varsity game.

The Patriots (6-2) held an eight-point lead going into halftime. Their defense suffocated the Bearcats in the third quarter as a pair of layups by Cole Forthofer, a basket and a pair of free throws from Eli Dirksen won Jay County the quarter by an 8-0 margin.

In the fourth, the Patriots hit five shots for 11 points to ice the game while the Bearcats could only muster seven points.

Forthofer and Dirksen both reached double-digits with 13 and 10 points, respectively. ZaTavion Smith was Muncie Central's leading scorer with 10.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Swim vs. Celina and Coldwater — 6 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball at Anderson — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Fort Recovery — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Selma — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Versailles — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball at Versailles — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. Jay County — 5:30 p.m.

### TV sports

6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Seton Hall at Providence (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Louisville at Virginia (ESPN2); Rutgers at Ohio State (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
7:30 p.m. — NHL: New Jersey Devils at Washington Capitals (TNT)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Chicago Bulls at New York Knicks (ABC)  
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Xavier at Villanova (FS1)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Stanford at UCLA (ESPN2); Indiana at Nebraska (BTN)

**Today**  
10 p.m. — NBA: Miami Heat at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)  
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Fresno State at San Diego State (FS1)

**Thursday**  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Cleveland State at Wright State (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Michigan at Indiana (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NHL: Pittsburgh Penguins at Boston Bruins (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at San Antonio Spurs (TNT)  
8 p.m. — NHL: Vancouver Canucks at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: North Texas at Wichita State (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Nebraska at Wisconsin (BTN)  
9:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Colorado at Arizona (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Golden State Warriors (TNT)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Utah at Arizona State (ESPN2)

**Local notes**  
Tryouts scheduled  
Tryouts for A League of Our Own Independent Baseball League is hosting a tryout at the Mojo-Up Sports Indoor Complex in Noblesville on Jan. 30.  
Anyone 19-years-old or older that is looking for the opportunity to continue playing baseball can try out.  
The league begins play on Aug. 31 and runs through Oct. 19, playing 50 games in 50 days.  
To sign up or for more information on the league, visit [www.aloo247.com](http://www.aloo247.com), call (205) 264-1468 or email [411@aloo247.com](mailto:411@aloo247.com).

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to [sports@theccr.com](mailto:sports@theccr.com).

60 SERVICES	90 SALE CLAENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	130 MISC. FOR SALE	200 FOR RENT	260 PUBLIC AUCTION
sage. <b>"SEAMSTRESS NAN" HOMEMADE</b> Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, Appliqué, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334	Dusty Uhlenhake 419-733-3096 Rick Uhlenhake 419-852-0800 Machinery consigned by January 17, 2024 can be advertised <b>PUBLIC AUCTION</b> Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN Saturday Morning January 6th, 2024 9:30 A.M. MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS — OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS (2) leather electric reclining loveseats; (2) Smith Bros leather electric reclining chairs; leather ottoman; Whirlpool chest freezer; popcorn machine with cart; Pyrex; Holiday Barbie dolls; 1:24 scale cars; die cast metal cars and trucks, some are banks; Coca Cola semi carriers; Coca Cola clock, trucks, etc; and many other items not listed. JEWELRY - CURRENT - COINS 18K ladies ring; 14K ladies ring; 10K ladies cameo ring; MORGAN SILVER DOLLARS: 1922 and 1923 Peace Dollars;	30+ Franklin Half Dollars (1951 thru 1959); (15) — 1964 Kennedy Half Dollars; Steel Pennies; Buffalo Nickels; V Nickels; Wheat Pennies; and other coins not listed. GUNS — AMMO — TOOLS Glock 22 — 40 caliber; Glock 27 — 40 caliber; Glock 17 — 9 mm; Smith & Wesson revolver; AMMO: 20 boxes - PMC 44 Remington Mag; 5 boxes — 243 Winchester; and many other items not listed. PATRICIA JOYCE WILSON, Owner & PETERSON FAMILY, Owner Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112	<b>PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE</b> Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information. <b>ALUMINUM SHEETS</b> 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. <b>190 FARMERS COLUMN</b> <b>WANTED FARMLAND TO RENT</b> 4th Generation Geneva farmers looking for farmland to cash rent near Geneva/Bryant/Berne. You decide payment dates. Don't wait, last year we filled up. Call Steve at (419) 376-4456 <b>AG RENTAL</b> Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309	<b>LEASE SPACE</b> 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, <a href="http://www.sycamorespace.com">www.sycamorespace.com</a> <b>230 AUTOS, TRUCKS</b> <b>WE PAY CASH</b> for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage	<b>47th Annual Coldwater Young Farmers Consignment Auction</b> Saturday, February 10, 2024 The Coldwater Young Farmer Association will be conducting their annual farm machinery consignment auction at the Coldwater football stadium parking lot in Coldwater, Ohio. For more information on consigning your farm machinery please call: Dusty Uhlenhake 419-733-3096 Rick Uhlenhake 419-852-0800 Machinery consigned by January 17, 2024 can be advertised CR 1-3,10-2024
<b>47TH ANNUAL COLDWATER YOUNG FARMERS CONSIGNMENT AUCTION</b> Saturday February 10, 2024 The Coldwater Young Farmer Association will be conducting their annual farm machinery consignment auction at the Coldwater football stadium parking lot in Coldwater, Ohio. For more information on consigning your farm machinery please call:		<b>100 JOBS WANTED</b> <b>AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR</b> any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.	<b>READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE</b>	<b>SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMMERCIAL REVIEW</b> up to <b>49% off</b> Newsstand prices Subscribe at <b>theccr.com</b> or call <b>260-726-8141</b>	<b>PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD</b> in The Commercial Review CALL <b>726-8141</b>

# 13 Patriots move on

Five Patriots are regional champions, eight more also advance to semi-state

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

There wasn't a lot of suspense to be found Saturday.

With girls wrestling adding a round to the state tournament series this year, virtually everyone was guaranteed to advance through the regional. The day's competition was mostly about wrestlers putting themselves in a good position for the semi-state.

For the most part, the Patriots did just that.

The ninth-ranked Jay County High School girls wrestling team racked up five regional champions — Mallory Winner, Katie Rowles, Calie Yates, Lina Lingo and Emily Manor — and won the team title on their home mats.

"I like to refer to it as the wrestling roller coaster, where you feel good about something and the next thing you know you're feeling kind of crummy," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "All of our girls are still alive, so that's a good thing. You give yourself a chance to wrestle into next week and give yourself another chance to advance."

"That's the most important part, even though some of those matches we'd like to have back."

With the top four wrestlers in each weight class advancing to Friday's semi-state at Rochester, only a handful of wrestlers were eliminated Saturday. One wrestler (Lexi Edwards of Muncie Central) had no competitors while six weight classes had just two wrestlers and another four had only three.

The host Patriots scored 58 points to win the regional by 17 over Blackford. Muncie Central

(35) was third in the field of eight teams.

It was the second regional title in a row for Jay County, which also won amongst a much larger contingent last season prior to the tournament's expansion.

"I thought we had a great day," said JCHS assistant coach Troy Jacks. "We are advancing everybody. We seem to have just put it together — got a few champions, a few runners-up — I just couldn't be more proud of the girls."

The Patriots dominated at 155 pounds — it was the busiest weight class of the day with six competitors — where two of their wrestlers squared off in the championship match. Two-time defending state champion and top-ranked Mallory Winner (18-0) pinned teammate Madison Gage (6-9) in 1 minute, 5 seconds, for the regional title after finishing off Monroe Central's Chelsea Erwin in 43 seconds in the semifinal.

Gage earned her runner-up spot with a pair of pins of her own, topping Blackford's Laurel McVicker in 1:11 in the opening round and Muncie Central's Amaya Stoudimire in 2:16 in the semifinal.

No. 7 Katie Rowles (26-4) was the only other JCHS wrestler who needed multiple victories to earn her regional title. She powered her way through the bracket, needing just five seconds to take down Maria Oliphant of Monroe Central before pinning her in 23 seconds and then finishing off Blackford's Madison Henderson in 1:43.

"I felt pretty good," said Rowles. "I've been working for this all season. ..."

"I moved my feet well and I kept clearing ties that I didn't



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School sophomore Calie Yates pins Courtney Thrash of Muncie Central during Saturday's regional meet. Yates won the regional championship at 120 pounds and the host Patriots repeated as the team champions.

want, that weren't going to help me win the match."

13th-ranked Lina Lingo (20-8) took care of business against Muncie Central's Akira Jones, getting behind her at the 1:20 mark for the first points of the match. She was up 7-1 when she finished off Jones in 2:32.

Yates wrestled a wild back-and-forth match to decide the 120-pound bracket, scoring the first points before falling behind 8-5. She closed the second period with a reversal and five near fall points and was up 14-8 in the third when

she pinned Courtney Thrash of Muncie Central in 4:26.

"I was really excited to see Calie Yates, a first-year girl, come out and win the regional," said Myers. "She had a battle there. ... She said, 'I was not gonna lose that match.' You love to hear that."

In the only match at 140 pounds, Manor got a takedown and three-point near fall about a minute into the match. She caught Learah Rollins of Muncie Central in a cradle in the second period to win in 2:59.

"I think Emily Manor wrestled awesome today coming back from and injury," said Jacks. "She wrestled real sharp. ..."

"She wrestlers so wiry. She commanded on her feet. She wrestled great on top. ... It was an overall, total good match."

Also advancing were Willow Hardy at 125 and Sydney Huffel at 190 in second place; Sophia Thomas at 105, Ellie Wendel at 120 and Maleah Parsons at 145 in third; and Tatianna Willis at 115 and Tessa Miller at 170 in fourth.

## Patriots struggle on the glass against Bearcats

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — It's been a rough go for the Patriots in the first half of the season.

Sometimes it's the 3-point line that kills them. On other days, it's turnovers.

This time, it was the offensive glass.

The Jay County High School basketball team struggled to secure the ball after missed shots, giving up 14 offensive rebounds to the Muncie Central Bearcats in a 55-36 loss Saturday that extended their losing streak to five.

"It's been a breakdown every time," Jay County coach Jerry Bomholt said. "Here's our problem, we find the most inopportune time to do things wrong that costs us."

The Bearcats (5-5) dominated Jay County (2-6) on the boards. The total margin showed Muncie Central outrebounded Jay County 34-19. A more telling way of looking at the rebound totals comes in the form of 13 defensive rebounds for the Patriots and 14 offensive rebounds for the Bearcats, meaning Muncie Central pulled

down more of its missed shots than Jay County could.

"We just missed so many assignments," Bomholt said. "There's a block-out area you're supposed to be at. We had to move some people and they didn't even come close to getting to the right vicinity to get them blocked off."

Three offensive rebounds resulted in trips to the foul line, one was kicked out for a three and four more were put right back up and in, totaling 15 second-chance points.

See Glass page 9

## Indians' comeback falls short to Lancers

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians had a massive fourth quarter.

They were nearly unstoppable in the final period of the game. The team defending them wasn't their real opposition at that point, but rather, it was the clock.

Despite putting together a 20-point fourth quarter, the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team fell to the Lincolnview Lancers 54-45 Saturday.

The Lancers (4-4) got out to an 11-point first half lead. They held the Indians (4-5) at bay in the third while extending their advantage to 13 at 38-25.

Rex Leverette and Briggs Overman led the comeback for Fort Recovery with eight points each in the final period.

Lincolnview kept pace just enough to maintain the lead by hitting 12 of 16 free throws.

Overman led FRHS with 16 points while Rex Leverette added 12.

Cal Evans was the only Lancer to hit 10 points, but Kreston Tow Reide Jackson and Steven Smith all had nine. Smith scored five of his points in the fourth while Jackson had four.

Knapke leads

CELINA, Ohio — Three Indians rolled 200 games as the Fort Recovery boys bowling team eked out a 2,648-2,601 victory over the New Bremen Cardinals on Saturday at Plaza Lanes in Celina, Ohio.

Owen Knapke led the way for Fort Recovery (5-1, 3-1 Midwest Athletic Conference) with an average pinfall of 193. He shared the match-high game of 209 with fellow Indian Lucas Acheson. In the first

### Fort Recovery roundup

game, Knapke shot a 177 while Acheson had a 170.

Evan Keller also had a 200 game, following it up with a 156.

The top bowler for the Cardinals (3-2, 2-2 MAC) was Caden Wente who averaged a 178 by rolling a 154 and 202. Carson Keller also broke the 200 mark with a 201.

The Indians and Cardinals tied in baker with 945 pins over five games.

Girls stay perfect

CELINA, Ohio — The baker games propelled the Fort Recovery girls bowling team to a 2,244-2,005 victory over the New Bremen Cardinals on Saturday morning.

The Indians (3-0, 3-0 MAC) shot nearly 200 pins better than the Cardinals (1-4, 1-3 MAC), beating them 843-647. FRHS rolled a 225 and 172 in games one and two. New Bremen's high was a 158 in the final game.

Deanna Brown and Brooklyn Weyerick led the way for the Indians with average pinfalls of 149 and 148.5, respectively. Brown knocked down 162 in her first game, which was also the high for the FRHS individual bowlers.

Marina Nelson led the Cardinals with games of 178 and 150 pins for a 164 average.

**Portland's Largest Selection of FRESH CUT QUALITY MEAT**



**FISHER**  
MEATS  
SINCE 1954



**AWARD WINNING MEATS**

While supplies last, no rain checks

Fisher Gift Cards available for purchase! They can be used at either Portland or Muncie locations and never expire.

<p><b>Pork T-loins</b> \$3.99/lb <i>tenderized &amp; Butterfly cut</i></p> <hr/> <p><b>Boneless Pork Chops</b> \$3.69/lb <i>American &amp; Butterfly cut</i></p>	<p><b>Prime to Choice T-Bones</b> \$12.99/lb</p> <hr/> <p><b>Boneless Country Style Ribs</b> \$3.19/lb</p>
--	--

Macaroni Salad .....\$2.99/lb  
Provolone Cheese .....\$5.99/lb

<p><b>Ground Round</b> (90-95% lean) <b>\$4.99/lb.</b></p>	<p>Frozen, Marinated Boneless <b>Chicken Breasts</b> assorted flavors <b>\$4.99/lb.</b></p>
--	---

**From Fisher's Smokehouse**

<p><b>Beef Hot Dogs</b></p> <p>Buy One <b>FREE</b> Get One</p>	<p><b>Macaroni &amp; Cheese Loaf</b></p> <p><b>\$5.39/lb.</b></p>
--	---

\*while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register

**300 W. Walnut St., Portland, IN**  
(260) 726-7355  
Monday - Friday 8 am-5 pm • Saturday 8 am-1 pm • Closed Sunday

*Call your order in today!*

*Freezer bundles are also available. They offer the perfect mix of our most popular cuts of meat in quantities small enough to not crowd your freezer or cramp your budget. Save time and energy with call ahead ordering and have your order ready to go when you arrive.*

**www.fishermeats.com**