

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Carving out a dream



Photo provided

Myles Nasby of rural Ridgeville works on one of his chainsaw art pieces. Nasby, along with several area partners, is hosting the Jay County Chainsaw Carving Invitational and Vendor Fair this weekend at Jay County Fairgrounds. It will run from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, with an auction at 3 p.m. Sunday.

Inaugural Jay County chainsaw invitational runs today through Sunday at fairgrounds

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Myles Nasby does most of his chainsaw carving at his rural Ridgeville home on the Jay-Randolph County line.

He's carved at the Jay County Fair for the last three years.

And he's traveled to various carving events to compete and display his work over 20 years.

"It's always been a dream of mine to put one on myself," Nasby said.

That dream will become reality this weekend as he hosts the Jay County Chainsaw Carving Invitational and Vendor Fair at Jay County Fairgrounds.

The event will feature a total

of seven carvers, including Nasby. They will carve as many pieces as they can over a three-day period — noon to 6 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday.

Those pieces will then be sold during an auction beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday.

The carver whose pieces draw the most overall money in the auction will win the top prize of \$800. Second prize will be \$400.

The goal is for the auction proceeds to cover the cost of the event with some money left over to contribute back to the community.

See Carving page 2

Busy fairgrounds

Jay County Fairgrounds will be busy with various activities scheduled for this weekend. Details are below.

Jay County Chainsaw Carving Invitational and Vendor Fair

Noon to 6 p.m. today
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday (Auction to follow at 3 p.m.)

Jay County Fair Cards Coins Comics and Collectibles Show

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Bubp Building

Jay County Cancer Society Survivor Cruise-in and Carnival

Cruise-in — 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday
Carnival — 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday

Jay County Fair sunflower maze

Daylight hours Saturday and Sunday

Updates made for Sun Chief facility

Solar farm construction scheduled to begin in June 2025

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Sun Chief Solar could be the first solar project to break ground in Jay County.

Jay County Council amended its economic development agreement and tax abatement Wednesday with Scout Clean Energy for the company's proposed 100-megawatt facility northeast of Redkey.

Sun Chief Solar, to be located on approximately 1,200 acres near Scout Clean Energy's Bitter Ridge Wind Farm, first moved through Jay County governmental proceedings about three years ago.

Like other prospective solar farms — in Jay County, they include Skycrest Solar planned in Penn and Jackson townships, Rose Gold Solar planned north of Dunkirk and New Jay Solar planned east of Dunkirk — Sun Chief has been working through the regional transmission organization PJM interconnection's process. Energy companies across the country are experiencing delays amid the process, said Scout Clean Energy east region associate project manager Spencer Micali.

In April 2022, PJM Interconnection announced plans to revamp its analysis process for new electricity services joining the power grid, leading to delays for project studies and approvals. Projects have been divided into three queues, and Sun Chief Solar's application has been sorted into the "fast track."

Scout Clean Energy expects to receive confirmation of PJM Interconnection's study analysis by Sunday.

See Updates page 2

County offices damaged

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

The recorder's office has moved, temporarily.

A water leak at Jay County Courthouse last week led to damage in both Jay County Recorder's Office and Jay County Prosecutor's Office.

While repairs are underway, Jay County Recorder's Office is operating out of Jay County Commissioners' room on the second floor of the courthouse.

Jay County recorder first deputy Angela Byrum walked into the office on the morning of Sept. 4 to find standing water. A part of the ceiling had caved in with water leaking out of it.

"There was flooding everywhere," said recorder Melanie Upp.

Officials believe the source of the water was a sink drain

Water leak forced move for recorder's office staff

in Jay Circuit Court's office. Hays + Sons Complete Restoration of Muncie is handling the water removal, as well as testing samples to ensure there is no asbestos or mold in the area.

Until the company is finished, Jay County Recorder's Office has been blocked off to the public and employees.

Water also seeped into Jay County Prosecutor's Office on the first floor of the courthouse, specifically the room

used by chief deputy prosecutor Zec Landers. He's been working out of a different part of the office since the incident.

Courthouse superintendent Bruce Sutton explained the building's drains are approximately 105 years old. Made from galvanized steel, the pipes can deteriorate over time.

Sutton has coordinated re-lining some of the courthouse's pipes in recent years to extend their lifespan.

See Damaged page 2

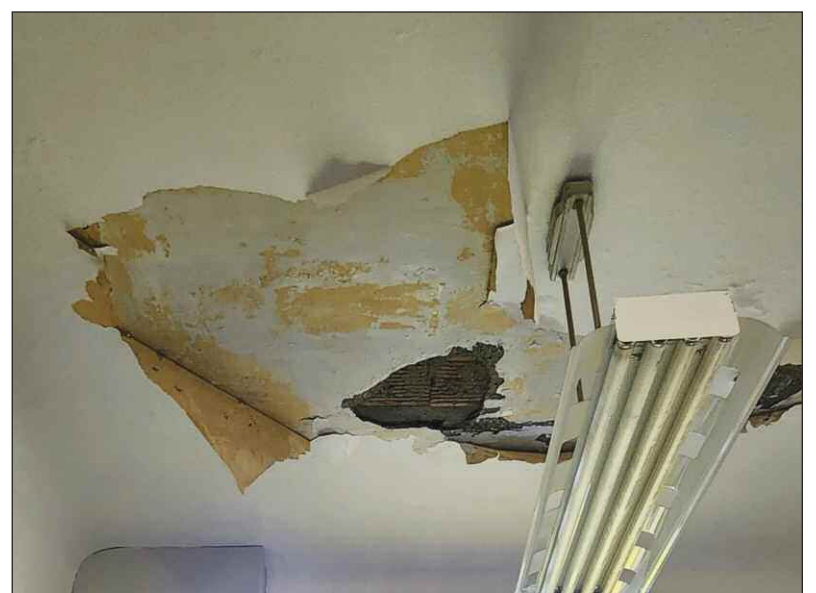


Photo provided

A water leak last week caused damage, including ceiling damage pictured above, to the recorder's office and prosecutor's office at Jay County Courthouse. The recorder's office staff has temporarily relocated to the commissioners' room on the second floor of the courthouse.

Deaths

Rhonda Clubs, 54, rural Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 degrees Wednesday. The low was 54.

Tonight's low will be in the lower 60s. The forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Saturday with a high in the mid 80s and a slight chance of showers in the afternoon.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

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.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS football game at Adams Central.

Tuesday — Coverage of the Jay County High School boys tennis invitational.

Wednesday — Reporting from Monday's Jay School Board meeting.



Carving ...

Continued from page 1
“This year being the first year, it’s kind of hard to judge how well everything is going to go,” said Nasby, who has lived in east-central Indiana for about eight years. “That’s definitely the main goal for this event is that the event ends up paying for itself and then I can give back to an individual or an organization every year.”

In addition to the chainsaw artists — Derek Richardson of Kentucky, Chaz Chiafos of Indiana, Jeff Coss of Iowa, Josh Miller of Delaware, James Brin-

ley of South Carolina and Rachael Mirth of Kansas will join Nasby — the event will also feature vendors, kettle corn and other activities. Vendors will be set up in the Women’s Building. Hand carvers, though not part of the auction competition, are also scheduled to attend. And Valhalla Axe Hall of Redkey will offer axe throwing.

Nasby is a second-generation chainsaw carver, following in the footsteps of his father Rick. He sold his first piece when he was 13.

“Carving was how I got my money through high school,” said the Columbus, Indiana, native.

He worked in construction and excavating following graduation from Indian Creek High School while continuing to carve on the side. A year ago, he made chainsaw carving his full-time profession.

“I was getting so busy with it,” said Nasby. “It’s still booming.”

The chainsaw invitational came together as Nasby made connections in the community.

He mentioned Jay County Chamber of Commerce, Jay County Visitors and Tourism Bureau, Chad Fifer of Fifer services and Jay County Fair Board.

“Everybody pretty much came together,” Nasby said. “It was ... a team effort really on everybody’s part. It’s kind of like a dream coming true right now to be able to put one of these events on and try to give something back to the community — something else for everybody to do and try to bring more people from outside into town.”

The chainsaw invitational, a free event, is part of a busy day at the fairgrounds that also includes a Jay County Fair Cards Coins Comics and Collectibles Show from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday in the Bubb Building, the Jay County Cancer Society Survivor Cruise-in from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday with carnival games from 5 to 7 p.m. and the fair board’s sunflower maze (daylight hours). The carvers will be set up in the open area east of the Farmer’s Building.

CR almanac

Saturday 9/14	Sunday 9/15	Monday 9/16	Tuesday 9/17	Wednesday 9/18
86/63	85/61	84/61	82/62	83/60
Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high in the mid 80s.	There's a chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Another chance of showers under mostly sunny skies.	Tuesday looks to be partly sunny, with the low at night dipping to 62.	Another day of mostly sunny skies on Wednesday, when the high may be 83.

Lotteries

Powerball 10-12-55-65-67 Power Ball: 3 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$152 million	Daily Four: 5-1-2-1 Quick Draw: 2-3-6-12-32-35-36-42-46-52-54-60-61-62-67-68-69-71-74-75 Cash 5: 17-32-33-35-38 Estimated jackpot: \$468,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 8-9-7 Pick 4: 2-7-6-2 Pick 5: 8-5-4-0-5 Evening Pick 3: 5-7-1 Pick 4: 5-7-5-6 Pick 5: 3-5-4-7-7 Rolling Cash: 11-12-16-22-27 Estimated jackpot: \$150,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 1-3-2 Daily Four: 3-5-0-7 Quick Draw: 4-5-7-9-12-13-15-17-29-31-35-41-44-46-47-49-52-54-59-69 Evening Daily Three: 5-1-2	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....3.44 Oct. corn3.49 Wheat4.50	Oct. beans9.54 Wheat 5.25
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....3.55 Oct. corn3.55 Dec. corn3.80	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.45 Oct. corn3.51 Beans.....9.52 Oct. beans9.52 Wheat5.03
The Andersons Richland Township Corn3.52 Oct. corn3.52 Beans9.54	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....3.35 Oct. corn3.35 Beans.....9.32 Oct. beans9.71 Wheat4.95

Today in history

In 1598, Phillip III was crowned king of Spain and Portugal. He was known for his extravagant spending that made Spain’s economic problems worse.

In 1759, British forces defeated the French in the Battle of Quebec.

In 1848, American railroad foreman Phineas Gage survived an accident in which an iron rod shot through his skull and destroyed most of the left frontal lobe of his brain.

In 1972, Jay County Hospital Board voted to apply for a room rate increase through the Blue Cross agency. If approved, the rate would go up by about 6%.

In 2021, Jay County Commissioners agreed to hold on to at least 30% of the county’s federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to serve as matching funds for the state’s Enduring Legacy Program (HELP). The county, which was chosen to be one of the first HELP participants, could be awarded as much as \$1 million from Indiana Office and Community and Rural Affairs.

—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Monday 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recov-	ery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St. Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, municipal airport, 661 W. 100 North. Thursday 6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.
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Obituaries

Rhonda Clubs

Sept. 17, 1969-Sept. 9, 2024
Rhonda Clubs, age 54, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Sept. 9, 2024, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Rhonda was born Sept. 17, 1969, in Muncie, Indiana, the daughter of Frank and Rosalie (Hughes) Songer.

Survivors include:
Her children — Nichole Wagner (husband: James), Portland, Indiana, Paul Clubs, Portland, Indiana, Jonathon Clubs (wife: Breanna),

Montpelier, Indiana. Quentin Guntle, Portland, Indiana, and Erica Guntle, Muncie, Indiana

Siblings — Robert Songer (wife: Nickie), Portland, Indiana, Sam Songer (wife: Bonnie Jo), Davenport, Florida, and Cathy Fancil, Dunkirk, Indiana
Brother-in-law — Harold Christian
Sister-in-law — Norma Songer
Several grandchildren



Clubs

She was preceded in death by her siblings Laura Adams, Emogene Overstreet, Don Songer, Larry Songer, Gerald Songer, Johnny Songer, Burma Massengale, Ruth Tomey and Lois Christian; her parents Frank and Rosalie Songer; and her grandmother Dona Roode.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

A service to celebrate her life will follow at 6 p.m. on Tuesday at the funeral home.

Damaged ...

Continued from page 1
Jay County Commissioners approved an \$8,750 contract July 29 with NuFlow Indy of Greenwood to make repairs to the toilet drain in Jay Circuit Court Office’s private restroom. Sutton noted in recent years the county has re-lined toilet drains in Jay Circuit Court’s jury room restrooms and in the restroom between the clerk’s and recorder’s offices.

Officials won’t be able to fully investigate the cause of the leak or damage until

Hays + Sons is finished with its work.

“We’re waiting on it to dry out,” explained Sutton, noting trash cans and barrels are still collecting water from the leak.

Byrum quickly rushed to get help from others in the building after discovering the damage in the recorder’s office Sept. 4. Helpers put trash cans under the hole in the ceiling and covered equipment with trash bags.

“We covered as much as we could,” Upp said.

At least one table in the recorder’s room has been ruined, noted Upp. She also pointed to potential damage to a large scanning machine, as well as the evident damage to the ceiling, walls and floor. A few books had water on the covers, but Upp believes they were able to dry them out quickly enough to avoid severe water damage.

Information technology employee Randy Cleaver moved computer equipment into the commissioners’ room, converting the

table formerly used for commissioners’ meetings into a desk for Upp and Byrum. Some of their other equipment, including a printer, has been shifted into the public seating area in the room.

Although they’re currently unable to offer the public access to books from the recorder’s office — those are still located in the dry parts of the office — Jay County Recorder’s Office is still providing recording services, such as recording property deeds.

Updates ...

Continued from page 1
The proposed timeline for Sun Chief also anticipates an interconnection service agreement to be in place by May 15, with construction to follow in June. Hopes are to have the solar farm operational by summer 2026.

Despite other prospective solar farms in Jay County starting the process sooner, noted Micali, Sun Chief could be the first among them to begin construction.

Scout requested a two-year extension to the timeline in its economic development agreement and 10-year tax abatement with the county, stipulating construction must begin no later than Dec. 31, 2026, with the work to be completed no later than Dec. 31, 2027.

Scout will save about \$3.8 million in property taxes with its 10-year tax abatement approved in November 2021. The company will provide about \$1.3 million in economic development payments to the county, and its facility is projected to result in additional \$38.9 million in assessed value. It is projected to generate more than \$24 million in property taxes over its 35-year life.

Per the updated economic development agreement, the company has also agreed to provide the county its first economic development payment no later than six months following the start of construction. (Previously, the first payment was due no later than 15 days after commercial operations begin.)

Council member Harold Towell noted prospective solar projects in Jay County have been delayed several times over the last few years. He asked what the county and residents will get out of the delays.

County attorney Wes Schemenaur explained the first economic development payment will come in potentially next December, which is around the same time it would have been received with Sun Chief’s previous timeline. He and Micali noted the changes were made to avoid reopening negotiations.

Council approved the amendments on a 3-1 vote with Towell dissenting. Jeanne Houchins and

Randy May were absent from the meeting.

Also, council agreed to move forward with advertising a rate change for local income taxes in 2025.

County auditor Emily Franks suggested decreasing the levy freeze rate by 0.05% and increasing the public safety rate by up to 0.1% to account for the addition of three new correctional officer positions at Jay County Jail next year. Council agreed to move forward with the change, which will be formally voted on by October.

In other business, council members Faron Parr, Matt Minnich, Cindy Bracy, Dave Haines and Towell:

•Discussed but took no formal action on adding a third heavy equipment operator position to Jay County Highway Department. Superintendent Bob Howell advocated for the additional worker. Amid discussion, council learned the highway department’s budget in 2025 sits at approximately \$5.1 million in expenses, with only approximately \$3.9 million expected to come in from taxes and the state. The \$1.2 million shortfall will be covered by the department’s cash reserves.

•Approved amending the salary ordinance for the remainder of the year, adding \$2,500 stipends for Jay County Clerk on even years and Jay County Audi-

tor every year effective retroactive to Aug. 25 and increasing wages for the following positions: full-time caseload assistant public defender, \$3,269.23 per pay effective retroactive to July 1; part-time caseload assistant public defender, \$2,615.38 per pay effective retroactive to July 1; chief public defender, \$4,522.73 per pay effective retroactive to July 1; assistant highway superintendent, \$27.89 per hour effective retroactive to Aug. 11; and Jay County Country Living director, \$26.45 per hour effective Sept. 23.

•Agreed to decrease an assistant public defender’s salary in 2025 from \$40,732 \$38,774.20 to fit in line with suggested wage increases from consulting firm Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele. (Franks noted the increase still amounts to about a 10% raise.)

•OK’d bumping the assistant highway superintendent’s pay in 2025 to \$29.54 per hour from \$28.70 to keep an 85-cent pay difference from the road foreman position.

•Made the following additional appropriations: \$178,500 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars for a contract with Ritter Strategic Services for work related to switching to Indiana Integrated Public Safety Commission’s radio system; \$13,200.36 (Towell and Bracy dissenting) to Run-

dell, Ernstberger Associates for planning development of the county owned 68 acres on the west side of Portland; \$6,248 for replacing a totaled Jay County Sheriff’s Office vehicle; \$4,938.40 in wages for Jay County Highway Department; \$4,000 for appointed doctors or physicians at Jay County Superior Court; \$2,500 in wages for Jay County Auditor’s Office; \$2,044.45 and \$1,598.80 out of grant funding for a new desktop and laptop computer for the nurse at Jay County Sheriff’s Office.

•Heard from Jay County assessor Robin Alberson about plans to host an informational meeting about abatements with Indiana Department of Local Government and Finance from 1 to 4 p.m. Oct. 3 at Community Resource Center in Portland.

•Approved several transfers, including \$15,142.40 in Jay County Highway Department’s budget from the highway clerk wage fund to the assistant superintendent wage fund and \$7,000 in Jay County Country Living’s budget from the financial coordinator fund to the county home superintendent fund.

SERVICES

Today

Wilson, Betty: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Banta, Mark: 2 p.m., West Lawn Cemetery, Geneva.

Saturday

Huey, Regina: 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Monday

Ramseyer, Janet: 5 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Tuesday

Clubs, Rhonda: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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Heritage Festival slated for end of month

Jay County Historical Society will host its annual Heritage Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, and Sunday, Sept. 29.

The 2024 festival salutes Jay County youth, including sports, scouting, 4-H and other groups.

Entertainment for the weekend includes opening ceremonies at noon both days and musical performances by Dalton & Delaney at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Ken Bantz at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Todd Berry at 12:30 p.m. Sunday and Cross Country Connection at

Taking Note

2:30 p.m. Sunday. The event will also include historical displays and re-enactors, crafts, horse and wagon rides, food and activities for children.

For more information, visit jaycountyhistory.org.

Tickets available

A John Denver imper-

sonator is taking the stage in Fort Recovery in a few weeks.

It's not too late to buy tickets.

Ted Vigil will perform a tribute concert to John Denver at 2 p.m. Sept. 22 in the Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School auditorium.

Advance tickets are \$20, or \$25 at the door the day of the show.

Tickets are available in-person at Kaup Pharmacy, Fort Recovery, or by calling (937) 375-3034.

Profits from the show will go toward renovations

at Fort Recovery Morvilius Opera House. For more information about Vigil, visit tedvigil.com.

Yoga event

Minnetrasta Museum and Gardens will host Yoga is for Everybody at 1p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28.

The class, which will be held on the east lawn, will be led by nurse Che'Reese Anderson. It is designed for participants 13 and older.

"We believe that yoga is a practice for everyone, regardless of your experience level, body type, or

background," said Anderson. "This event is about embracing our shared humanity and celebrating the strength, flexibility, and peace that resides within each of us."

Attendees should bring a yoga mat or beach towel and wear comfortable clothing.

Youth Cafe

Training for youth workers will be available next month.

Youth Service Bureau of Jay County, IU Health Jay and Meridian Health Services are partnering to

host an Indiana Youth Institute Youth Worker Cafe on social media, technology and mental health.

The free event is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St., Portland.

Lindsey Kusy, a licensed counselor, will discuss video games and social media and their impact on mental health. She will provide tips on creating a healthy technology plan for youth.

To register, visit iyi.org and click on "events."

Couple stunned after learning friends' beliefs

DEAR ABBY: We are a male couple celebrating 34 years of partnership. We recently took a cruise, during which we met four straight couples traveling together who welcomed us into their group. It was a pleasant experience, and we were delighted to make friends with whom we anticipated sailing again. In fact, the group booked a future cruise onboard and insisted we join them.

Upon returning home and making the obligatory social media connections, we were stunned to discover extremist views propagated by multiple members of the group, including, but not limited to, dangerous falsehoods about and disparagement of gays. One of them said gays should be banished from society. Our reaction was one of disbelief, given the warmth with which we were treated during the cruise.

With true colors now revealed, we intend to cancel the booking made onboard, but we are at odds as to how or whether to explain the decision. I am angry and ready to rumble, while my pacifist husband says we should let it go. Any insights you can offer

Dear Abby



will be appreciated. — CONFLICTED AT SEA

DEAR CONFLICTED: Hang onto your temper. You would be within your rights (as well as the parameters of etiquette) to contact the people and ask if they still feel this way about gay people after the cruise. If the answer is yes, ask why they would invite you and your partner to travel with them again. While you're at it, express that the comments they posted were untrue, uncalled-for and hurtful, and that you will not travel anywhere with them again.

DEAR ABBY: My next-door neighbor "Hank's" wife died 2 1/2 years ago. My husband passed away 18 months ago. I would see Hank at church and would always ask how he was

doing. I'd also see him sitting outside in his backyard crying and talking to his dogs. So, I decided to occasionally take him whatever I had cooked — pot roast, meatloaf, etc. His grown kids would come on Saturday to take him out to eat and maybe spend a couple of hours with him. They all work and have their own families.

Hank eventually invited me out to dinner, and we became friends. As soon as his daughter found out we were dating, she put a stop to it. She controls her daddy. Hank and I see each other less and less often now, and she has even found him another woman friend. Hank calls and tells me he misses me and our conversations. Part of me feels like moving on. The other part wants to continue our friendship. Any advice will be appreciated. — THWARTED IN TEXAS

DEAR THWARTED: I don't know what it is about you that Hank's daughter doesn't like or finds threatening. You won't know unless you ask Hank. While you are at it, tell him you miss him, too, and would like to continue seeing him. You and Hank are both adults and should be able to

see each other if you both wish.

DEAR ABBY: My son is engaged to a girl we all love, but recently, there's been an issue. My husband was at their house while my son's fiancée was finishing up getting ready for their date night. (They live 10 minutes from us, and my husband has been there often since his retirement.) When she was done, she came downstairs, told my husband they were leaving and ordered my son to follow her to the car. My son said nothing at the time. This upset my husband greatly because he values time with our son, who's our only child.

Later on, my husband and I spoke with her, saying we didn't appreciate her attitude. She countered by saying they had a reservation and my husband rambles and is oblivious to the concept that other people don't always have the time to engage with him. She then brought up several instances in which my husband made my son late for something. When we asked our son, we were shocked to find he agreed with her! He said he did-

n't want to bring it up himself because it made him uncomfortable. My husband does like to talk, but I hardly see it as an issue.

Abby, I'm worried. I find her behavior grossly inconsiderate. I don't want my son marrying some bossy woman who will order him around and refuses to see our side. She said she'll speak with us about this further only if we agree to see a counselor to discuss "all our issues." I didn't know we HAVE issues. My son has never said anything before, but when we asked, he said he agreed with her. What do we do? — FLABBERGASTED IN-LAWS

DEAR IN-LAWS: Take a step back and stop trying to defend your husband and your son, who should have spoken up before his fiancée felt she had to. If you want a relationship with your son and his future wife, take her up on her suggestion to visit a family therapist together. If you do, it may give each of you an opportunity to air your grievances and to work out an agreement that may satisfy all of you and prevent more problems of this sort in the future.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Saturday

LOCAL'S MARKET — Will be held from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in June through October in the parking lot at Jay Community Center in Portland. For more information, contact Bill Cook.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRIGANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

Monday

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

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

EUCHRE — Will be

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

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

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIGANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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

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Follow lead of younger generation

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Tribune News Service

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There are two words often used when reflecting on the 9/11 attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people 23 years ago this Wednesday: Never forget.

“Honor those lost, recapture the spirit of unity, be vigilant — Never Forget, Always Remember,” reads a passage on the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial.

For those of us who witnessed and experienced that horrific day in real time, there

Guest Editorial

is little chance of ever forgetting.

But as the country continues in this critical remembrance, a new generation has also taken up the mantle.

Younger family members of victims and others who weren't alive when the attacks happened, or were too young to remember, have nevertheless stepped up to continue the all-important recognition of what

was taken — from their families, and from this country.

Callaway Treble, 18, has been reading names of victims at observance events for the last five years. His aunt Gabriela Silvina Waisman was killed on 9/11.

“We use the term ‘never forget’ for 9/11 all the time, but keeping that in practice and making sure we actually don't forget that thousands of people died in an attack on our country, that's extremely important,” Treble told the Associated Press recently. “So I feel like it's our responsibility to do that.”

After 23 years of memorials, it might be possible for some of us to feel the panic from that day just a little less — to be lulled into the monotony of another

anniversary without stopping to consider the ever-present depth of what these attacks took from our fellow Americans. We must not let time dull the memories of the victims, and we can look to these younger family members for inspiration.

Capri Yarosz, 17, never knew her uncle Christopher Michael Mozzillo, who was a New York firefighter.

“I think often about how, if you were still here, you would be one of my best friends, looking at colleges with me, getting me out of trouble with Mom and Dad, hanging out at the Jersey Shore,” Yarosz said at a memorial event last year, according to the AP.

She and her family should have had those moments with

Mozzillo. They should not have had to remember him through a homemade baby book or by remarking “Chris would have loved that” on a frequent basis.

We all continue to owe 9/11 victims and their families remembrance and reflection, just as we should always be reflecting and learning from our country's reaction to the attacks as well. Our government also continues to owe victims' families more information and accountability relating to Saudi Arabia's alleged involvement with 9/11 hijackers. Even 23 years later, there is still new information to uncover as we continue our remembrances.

Like this younger generation, we must recommit ourselves to two words: Never forget.

Candidates agree on marijuana law

By PAUL ARMENTANO
OtherWords

At a time when voters and politicians are historically divided, there is one issue that Americans largely agree upon: It's time to legalize marijuana.

Months ago, Vice President Kamala Harris tweeted that “Nobody should have to go to jail for weed.” Despite her past opposition to marijuana legalization, she's since become the first major presidential nominee to endorse it.

In a more recent social media post, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump opined, “We do not need to ruin lives and waste taxpayers' dollars arresting adults with personal amounts of it (marijuana) on them.”

That's significant coming from Trump, who as president was on record supporting violent drug war crack-downs abroad and who appointed longtime anti-marijuana zealot Jeff Sessions to be his first Attorney General.

One look at recent polling data and it's clear why the two candidates are finding common ground on cannabis. According to Gallup, 70 percent of U.S. adults believe that “the use of marijuana should be legal.”

That's an increase of 19 percentage points since 2014, when Colorado and Washington became the first states to implement adult-use cannabis legalization. Twenty-four states have now done so — and no state has ever repealed marijuana legalization.

The public's support is bipartisan. Nationwide, 87 percent of Democrats, 70 percent of independents, and 55 percent of Republicans support legalization. In important swing states like Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, legalizing marijuana similarly enjoys majority support.

It's easy to see why. The initial push for cannabis criminalization, which began in earnest in the early 1900s, had little to do with any legitimate concerns about public health or safety. Rather, the move to ban marijuana and to criminally prosecute those who consume it was based primarily upon myths and xenophobia.

Today, nearly half of all drug-related arrests nationwide are for marijuana. This is a tremendous waste of time and resources that most Americans believe ought to be reprioritized toward targeting more serious crimes.

In addition, those arrested and prosecuted

Paul Armentano



for violating marijuana laws face a litany of life-long consequences — including a criminal record and the lost opportunities that come with it. Those arrested are disproportionately young people and socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Criminalization, despite its longevity, has failed to disrupt the illicit market or discourage marijuana use. By contrast, teens' use of marijuana has plummeted since states have begun regulating marijuana sales. In addition, survey data finds that most cannabis consumers in legal states obtain their goods from licensed retailers, not from underground street dealers.

Legalization has also provided notable economic benefits for state governments. Since 2014, retail sales of adult-use cannabis products have generated more than \$15 billion in tax revenue, which has funded school construction, affordable housing, and other services.

Given the success of legalization and the overt failures of marijuana prohibition, it's hardly surprising to see the presidential candidates weighing in.

It's notable, however, that it's taken this long for them to publicly tout the issue. Trump previously mused that statewide legalization resulted in “big problems” in states like Colorado, while Harris urged California voters to reject a 2010 legalization ballot question.

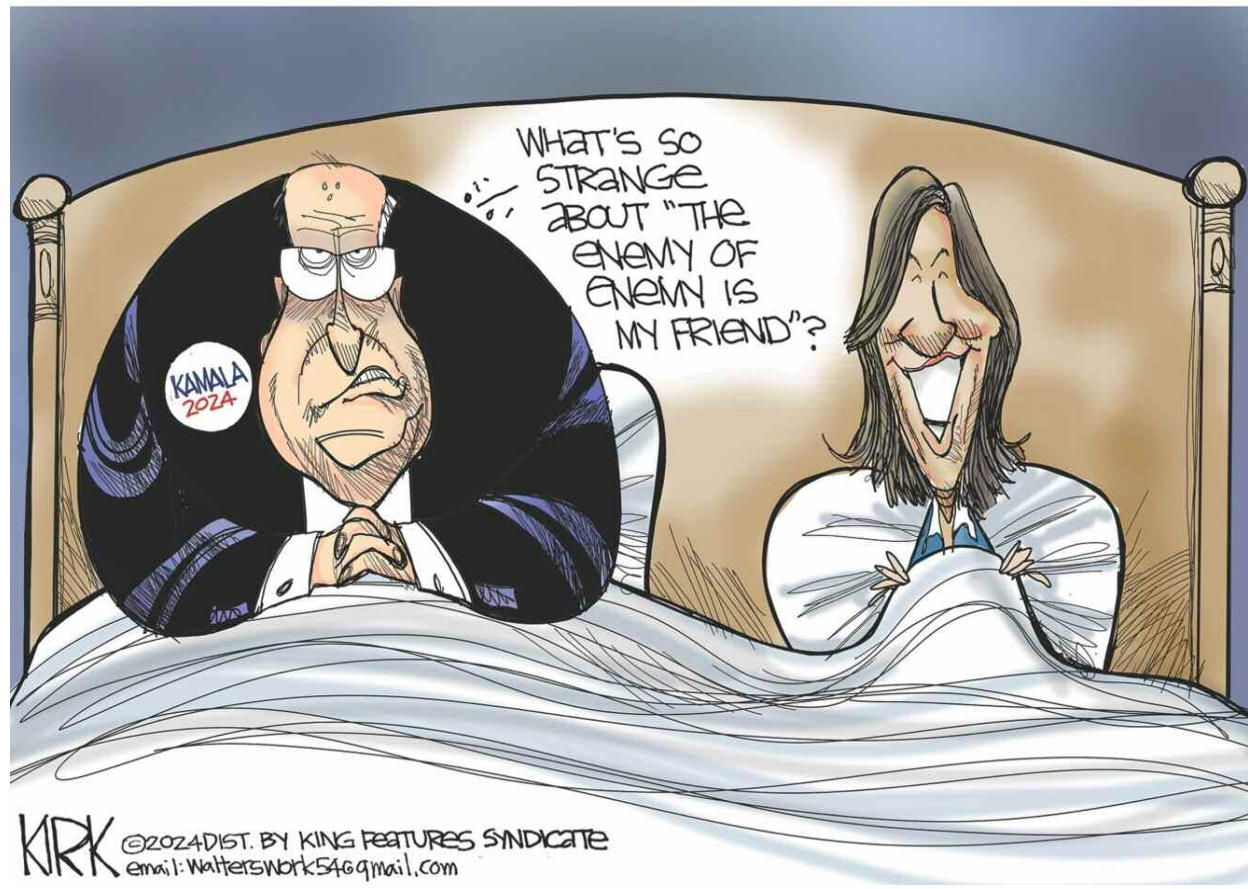
But times have changed, and politicians are adapting accordingly. In an election where every vote counts, both Trump and Harris wisely see advocating for marijuana policy reform as an opportunity to connect with a wide range of potential voters.

It's just further proof that an issue once considered to be a political hot button has since gone mainstream.

Armentano is the Deputy Director for NORML, the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

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Policy power is limited

By DAVE ANDERSON

The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Candidates for president of the United States typically run for office as though they were running for prime minister in a parliamentary democracy where their own party would have a clear majority in parliament. In such systems, which make up the vast majority of democracies in the world, the prime minister has enormous power to set policy.

In the United States, you would think that presidents are prime ministers because they always talk about what “I” will do as president based on where “I” stand on a great range of issues. While the president admittedly has much more power to set foreign policy, all major domestic policies must be passed by Congress. Indeed, Congress makes laws, while the president and the Cabinet execute them.

Presidents, however, can issue executive orders, which have increased in the past 20 years. Those can be overturned by Congress or the Supreme Court, or revoked by the president who issued them or future presidents. Presidents also have the power to nominate federal judges and Supreme Court justices (subject to Senate confirmation), and voters should definitely be thinking about this function of the presidency when they vote.

The race between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump has lately been focused on where the candidates stand on specific policies. What is Harris' view about fracking and border control? What is Trump's view on abortion and tariffs? It is important to hear what the candidates say about these issues. But it is much less important than you think.

Whatever a candidate says, even if it is entirely candid and truthful, what matters in the end is what the

Dave Anderson



president and Congress will get done together. Congress cannot make laws without the president's approval, unless it enjoys the supermajorities necessary in both chambers (which actually almost never happens) to override a veto.

In addition to hearing where the candidates stand on policies — immigration, gun safety, climate change, health care, child care and paid parental leave, abortion, and a host of foreign policy issues — the public needs to learn about how the potential president would work with Congress. Candidates need to tell the public how they would negotiate with Congress, even if they have control of both chambers because it still frequently takes 60 votes to pass a major policy bill in the Senate.

We need to learn about past success the candidate has with working with members of their own party as well as the opposition party. We need the candidate to talk about concepts like compromise, putting yourself in the other person's shoes, and schmoozing as this relates to both domestic and foreign policy. These qualities are really part of what political scientists traditionally have called the character of the candidate rather than their policy agenda. Indeed, an old debate exists about whether campaigns should be policy-centered or character-centered. They should probably be neither, since both topics are important.

Yet beyond this general distinction, candidates must paint pictures

or visions of the future as they imagine it as well as create conditions for citizens to hear the future. Yes, our culture, as various philosophers and literary critics have noticed, is too focused on ocular metaphors. Especially in these times of intense polarization in Washington and considerable though less polarization across the country, citizens want to hear and not just visualize the future. What we hear or will hear can affect our feelings as much or certainly more than what we see or will see.

Hearing arguments, fighting, crying and screaming can have a greater impact on us than watching people argue or looking at a chart of projected revenues for the country and changes in the system of taxation.

Getting more answers from Harris and Trump on immigration policy, health care, fracking and abortion is important. But the other issues combined outweigh these details on where they stand on policies, since, unlike prime ministers with clear majorities, the next president will surely have to negotiate and compromise with Congress in order to pass major policies.

The budget can continue to be moved through with reconciliation, and modest majorities in both houses would enable the president to negotiate with their own party to get this done. Yet it is not likely that either Trump or Harris will have modest majorities in both houses. And even if they do, the major domestic policies will, unless the filibuster is scrapped, require 60 votes, and it will take a highly skilled president to work with the Senate to reach that threshold.

Anderson has taught at five universities and ran for the Democratic nomination for a Maryland congressional seat in 2016.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Land prices hit record highs

By ASHVINI MALSHE
Purdue Ag News

Indiana farmland prices have continued the trend of record highs in 2024, according to the latest Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey results.

The survey is conducted out of the Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics. It includes estimates of the market value for bare poor-, average- and top-quality farmland in December 2023, June 2024 and a forecast for December 2024.

The average price of top-quality farmland reached \$14,392 per acre, a 4.8% increase from June 2023. Average- and poor-quality farmland also saw gains, with prices increasing 3.7% and 4.4% to \$11,630 and \$9,071 per acre, respectively.

“While farmland prices increased between 2023 and 2024, survey respondents noted that much of the growth appears to have taken place in the latter half of 2023,” said Todd Kuethe, the Schrader Endowed Chair in Farmland Economics at Purdue and the survey’s author. “A number of forces, such as high interest rates and lower farm incomes, are placing downward pressure on prices, but the limited supply of land is keeping prices firm.”

The change in farmland prices varied significantly across regions and quality grades. The southwest region experi-



Purdue University/Tom Campbell

The Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey results released last month showed that Indiana farmland prices have reached record highs this year. The average price of top-quality farmland reached \$14,392 per acre, a 4.8% increase from June 2023.

enced exceptionally high appreciation rates, especially for top- and average-quality land, while the southeast region saw the most pronounced declines across all quality grades. Top-quality land in the southwest now sur-

passes the central region in price per acre. However, the central region continues to hold the highest values for average- and poor-quality land.

Kuethe also noted that respondents expect a modest decline in farm-

land prices through the rest of 2024, though prices are anticipated to remain slightly above those from June 2023. Additionally, land transitioning out of agricultural production surged in value by 21.6%, driven by

large-scale development projects, while recreational land prices dipped slightly. Statewide cash rents saw minimal changes, with some variation across regions, reflecting broader trends in land values.

The Department of Agricultural Economics conducts the Purdue Farmland Value and Cash Rents Survey each June and it is published in the quarterly publication Purdue Agricultural Economics Report.

Corn-shaped seed pellets boost habitat

By KRISHNA RAMANUJAN
Cornell Chronicle

Crop fields are low in biodiversity, but farmers may soon be part of the solution thanks to a Cornell innovation that allows growers to use corn or other crop seed planting machines to plant strips of milkweed or wildflowers next to their fields.

Cornell researchers are currently working with industry partners to scale up a multiseed pellet technology that are the same shape and density as corn seeds, so they work in planters.

As a proof of principle, the team began with milkweed seed pellets, as described in a 2023 paper, and have now expanded to corn-shaped pellets for milkweeds and wildflowers. They recently planted the pellets at a Cornell research farm in Freeville, New York, which will allow the seeds to break dormancy in the winter and sprout and emerge in spring of 2025. Improvements in the pelleting technology are being pursued to make sure the pellets work efficiently in the planters, as an earlier version proved too large for planting equipment.

“Typically, milkweed plants are

Effort is intended to promote biodiversity in fields to help monarch butterflies and bees

grown out from seedlings and then transplanted, a process that has limited farmer adoption of flowering strips near cornfields,” said Antonio DiTommaso, professor in the Soil and Crop Sciences Section in the School of Integrative Plant Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. “And, you know, using transplants is OK for small areas to be planted, but it’s still time-consuming and costly.”

DiTommaso, John Losey, professor of entomology in CALS, and Alan Taylor, professor of seed biology and technology at Cornell AgriTech in CALS, have worked together to develop the pellets, called Multiseed Zea Pellets.

Scientists and government agencies have long advocated for

farmers to plant wildflower buffer strips to counter low biodiversity around crops. That lack of biodiversity leads to fewer beneficial insects and the loss of the ecosystem services they provide, such as pollinating plants to increase yields or attracting predator wasps or ladybugs that prey on crop pests.

The seed pellet idea began somewhat casually a decade ago, when DiTommaso and Losey discussed whether farmers could simply add milkweed or wildflower seeds in their corn, soybean or small grain planting machines. But they soon realized seeds in these planting machines require an intended, uniform size and density.

“You’re not going to ask farmers to buy another piece of equip-

ment to plant wildflowers, even if a grower is very supportive and believes in the cause,” DiTommaso said.

That was when they came up with the idea of developing seed pellets with the same shape and density that planters use.

“It allows farmers to now plant with the standard planting equipment that they already have,” Losey said.

The pellets — which each hold multiple seeds of a single species — have been formulated with three different milkweeds (common, swamp and butterfly) and three kinds of wildflowers (purple coneflower, wild bergamot and black-eyed Susan).

Led by Taylor, the researchers used 3D-molding technology to simulate the corn seed’s size and shape. The pellets are composed of diatomaceous earth, wood powder and maltodextrin, a digested cornstarch that acts as a binder. They then add water to make a dough, and fold in seeds — three seeds per pellet for milkweed.

The original idea was that these pellets could be included in bags of corn seeds, an idea called “a refuge in a bag,” and could

then be interspersed between crops in fields.

They soon had to shift their thinking, as 95% of corn and soy is Roundup Ready, meaning the crops are resistant to glyphosate herbicide for controlling weeds, and in the process also kill beneficial wildflowers and milkweeds.

In order to truly improve biodiversity, large-scale plantings of milkweed and wildflower strips are required.

“Not that there’s anything wrong with people planting milkweed in their backyards, but we need them at the landscape level,” DiTommaso said. Experts suggest that refuges should encompass up to 20% of a farmer’s field to have a significant effect. Until a viable alternative to Roundup Ready crops exists, refuge plants will need to remain as buffer strips next to crop fields.

“When I’m talking to farmers, and I say, you could use the same planter to put this down, they look at me, they’re listening,” DiTommaso said. “This idea was born out of almost abstract discussions a decade ago, and now, it’s happening.”

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Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Six Diamonds, and North leads a trump, South following suit. How would you play the hand?

WEST: ♠A, ♥A Q, ♦A K 9 8 6 4 3, ♣7 6 2. EAST: ♠Q 7 4 2, ♥J 5, ♦Q J 10, ♣A K J 3.

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump, and North leads the three of clubs. South wins with the ace and returns the jack to your king. How would you play the hand?

WEST: ♠K Q J 2, ♥A Q 9, ♦A K Q, ♣K Q 9. EAST: ♠5 3, ♥J 7, ♦J 10 9 8 6 3, ♣8 6 5.

1. There are many ways to make the slam if the opposing cards are divided favorably — for example, by a successful heart or club finesse; by ruffing two of dummy's spades in the hope of dropping the king; or by finding a singleton or doubleton queen of clubs. However, to capitalize fully on all of these chances, you should play to the hand in this order: Win the diamond, cash the ace of spades and cross to dummy with a trump. Ruff a spade, lead a club to the king and ruff another spade. If the king of spades has not appeared, cross to the ace of clubs and lead the queen of spades. If South discards or follows low, you can assure the slam by discarding your last club. North wins with the king but is helpless. Whatever he returns, you are sure to acquire your 12th trick. If South covers the queen of spades with the king, ruff it and lead a club toward dummy's J-3. If North follows suit, you are home; if he shows out, you still have the heart finesse to fall back on. All told, your chance of making the slam by this sequence of plays is better than 95%.

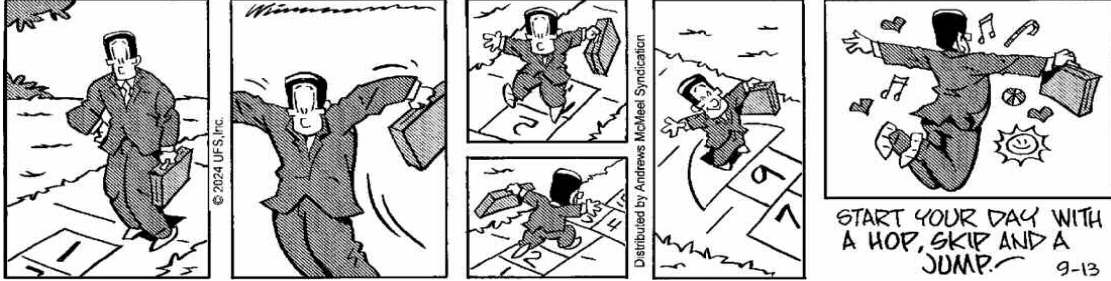
2. Cash the A-K-Q of diamonds and then play the queen of hearts. This assures the contract regardless of how the opposing cards are divided. Thus, if the queen of hearts loses to the king, dummy's jack of hearts becomes an entry that will enable you to score six diamonds, two clubs and a heart for nine tricks. If the defenders hold the queen of hearts to hold (in order to deny you an entry to dummy's diamonds), you counter by shifting to the king of spades and forcing out the ace. This also yields nine tricks consisting of two spades, two hearts, three diamonds and two clubs.

Tomorrow: Eliminating the luck factor.
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Peanuts



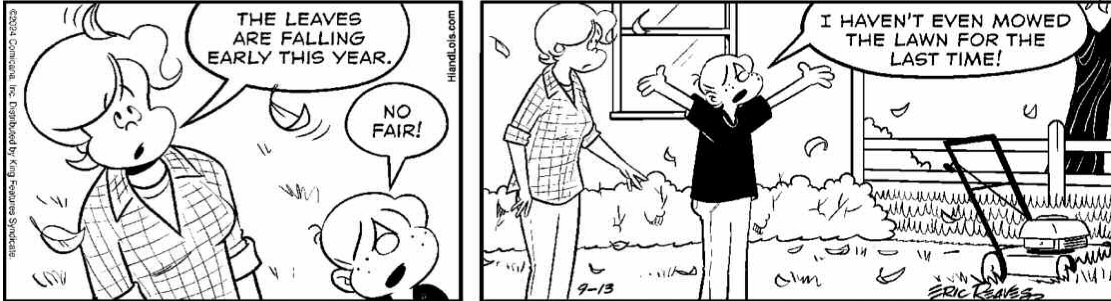
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



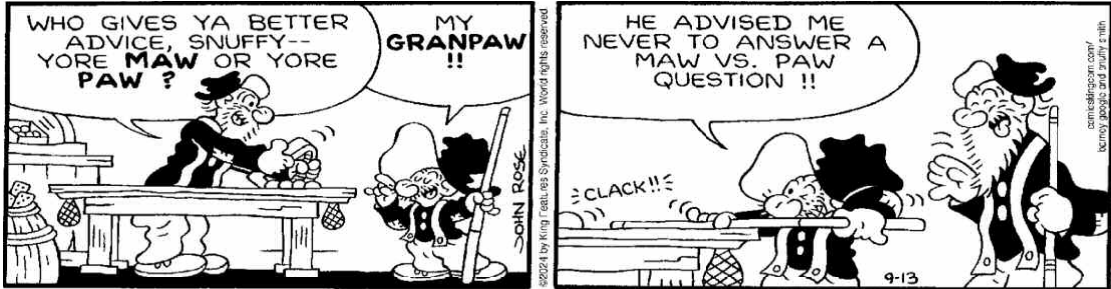
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



9-13 CRYPTOQUIP

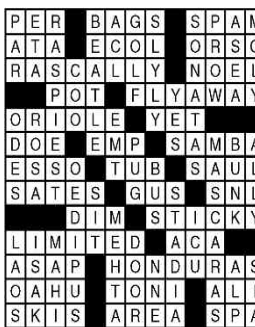
AEDV R WMSMRBP QGWWRVUDB
BTIEDU CGBARBU IAMCHSP MV
QGWFRH, AERH ARI ED? HED

ITBXMVX XDVDBRS.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A FELINE NEEDS TO ORDER GOODS FROM HOME AND HAVE THEM DELIVERED, COULD IT USE A CAT-ALOG?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals W

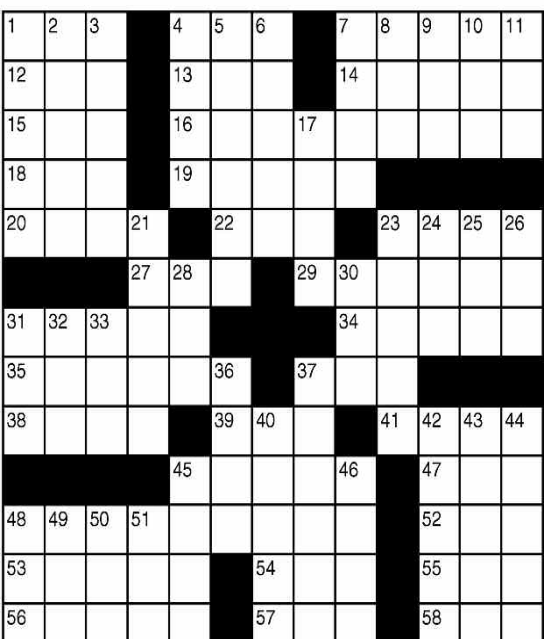
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 '60s chic
 - 4 Roman mover
 - 7 Stranger, slangily
 - 12 Jurist
 - 13 Coach
 - 14 Brown shade
 - 15 Science room
 - 16 Basic seasoning
 - 18 Big bird of Australia
 - 19 Sidestep
 - 20 Pre-college exams
 - 22 Gallery display
 - 23 Ready for harvest
 - 27 Lynx, for one
 - 29 Prolific inventor
 - 31 Turning point
 - 34 Gawked at
 - 35 Canyon come-backs
 - 37 Wildebeest
- DOWN**
- 1 Bulls and rams
 - 2 44th U.S. president
 - 3 Opening night
 - 4 Info boss
 - 5 Necktie
 - 6 Partner of parts
 - 7 Regretted
 - 8 Early hrs.
 - 9 Cagers' gp.
 - 10 Costa — Sol
 - 11 Leftover bit
 - 17 Low-calorie
 - 21 Skeddadle
 - 23 Construct
 - 24 Oahu or Maui (Abbr.)
 - 25 "The Raven" writer
 - 26 Finale
 - 28 Chowd down
 - 30 Mafia boss
 - 31 Vigor
 - 32 "Rocks"
 - 33 Pre-DVD format
 - 36 Dines
 - 37 Net defender in hockey
 - 40 Dorm alternatives
 - 42 Stag
 - 43 Apollo's birth-place
 - 44 Canary snacks
 - 45 Small fastener
 - 46 Corvette roof option
 - 48 Texter's "Wow!"
 - 49 Neither here — there
 - 50 Hosp. area
 - 51 Resistance unit

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Yesterday's answer 9-13



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90 SALE CALENDAR

ONLINE ONLY-COMMERCIAL REAL Estate Auction Tuesday, September 24th 10AM
Located: 030 E 500 S Portland, IN
OPEN HOUSE: Monday, Sept 16th from 10am-12pm
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

19,008 sq. ft. building, 352' long x 56' wide, 16' ceiling height, Wood heater & LP Furnace, fully insulated with aluminum ceiling and side walls.
6" Concrete Floors with drains, Office Area, Situated on 3.4 +/- acres, Year built 2002.
OWNERS:
JACKIE & SHARON WALL
Krueckeberg Auction / Realty
260-724-7402
Josh Krueckeberg
AU# 19800008
AC # 31500055
Note: See Terms on Website
www.kjauction.com

Insight ...

Continued from page 8
That brings me back to the question.

Am I the new Rick Reed?

Is Andrew?
Is Will?

The answer is more complicated than a simple yes or no.

When the newspapers were all separate entities, each had their own one-man sports department. Even after we consolidated the papers under a single umbrella last May, it made sense for Rick to continue to focus on Randolph County athletics as he had for more than four decades, though coaches and athletes started to see myself and Andrew around here and there.

Following Rick's retirement, our process is changing. No longer will we have one sports writer who focuses on The Commercial Review, one who focuses on The News-Gazette and one who focuses on The News Times.

Instead, Andrew, Will and I, and some freelancers, will act as a single sports team covering athletics throughout our coverage area. This

change in strategy is designed to allow us to provide the best sports coverage we can across the board. (It also is nice for our young writers to get experience with a wider variety of athletes and coaches and to have their stories read by a wider audience.)

We will look at all 10 of the high schools we cover — for the record, that is now Blackford, Delta, Fort Recovery, Jay County, Monroe Central, Randolph Southern, Union (Modoc), Union City, Wapahani and Winchester — as a whole. There will be a focus on what I've referred to as our "crossover" schedule — games, meets and matches that include two or more of the schools on our list. By attending those events, we'll be able to reach more local athletes and provide more extensive coverage across the board. (As we've begun to employ this method, there have been times when a single event resulted in stories and photos for all three newspapers.)

The new system also allows us to take advan-

tage of oddities in scheduling.

Wednesday, Aug. 28, was an example. Wednesdays are generally quiet on the sports calendar. On that particular day, Jay County, Delta, Blackford and Fort Recovery had no events scheduled. But there were events happening in Randolph County. So on that night, Andrew headed to Winchester to see the host Golden Falcons take on Union City in boys tennis while I went to Modoc to watch Union and Monroe Central play volleyball.

Under the previous system, only one of those events could have received coverage. By working together as a single unit, we were able to write about and take photos of more teams.

So, as we move forward, you'll see me, Will, Andrew and some freelancers at sporting events across The Graphic Printing Company's territory.

The ultimate goal is to provide you, our readers, the best overall sports coverage we can.

We feel the best way to do that, as with most goals, is together, as a team.

Roundup ...

Continued from page 8

For the first time in her career, Jaycee Rowles scored for the Patriots by putting up a career-best 56. She did particularly well on the par-3s, finishing with a bogey on both.

Brooklynn Bright contributed the final score of 60, while Erin Aker's 65 didn't impact Jay County.

LeFevre leads

HARROD, Ohio — Fort Recovery's boys golf team finished second of four teams in a meet Tuesday at Colonial Golfers Club.

The Indians put together a team score of 177 strokes, falling short of Leipsic (165) by 12. Allen East and Arcadia trailed behind with 184 and 198, respectively.

Reece LeFevre provided the low score for Fort Recovery (8-6) with his round of 41. He trailed Allen East's Levi Clum, who shot a 33, for match medalist honors.

Eli Lennartz and Caleb Smith also kept their scores below 50, as

they added rounds of 42 and 44.

Both Keegan Muhlenkamp and Riley Grieshop shot 50s to round out the Indians' team score.

Drew Backs shot a 52 that didn't play into the final result.

Pats sweep Jets

MONROE — The Jay County Junior High School football team escaped Adams Central on Tuesday with a 14-13 win in the seventh grade game and a 14-6 win for the eighth graders.

Paul Campofiore led the offensive effort in the seventh graders (2-1, 1-1 ACAC) with a pair of touchdowns and a field goal.

Braylon Slator, Fletcher Post and Murphy Link led the defensive effort. Slator racked up four tackles, two for losses, and a forced fumble. Both Post and Link had interceptions, the latter coming at a key moment late in the game to seal the victory.

The eighth grade team (1-2, 1-1 ACAC) kicked things off with a

defensive touchdown, as Kenton Cochran hit the quarterback to force a fumble that Logan Wendel recovered for a 40-yard TD.

The Patriots scored in the second quarter on a 50-yard pass from Brady Millsbaugh to Walter Campofiore.

Spikers beat Tigers

The Jay County junior high volleyball teams took care of the Bluffton-Harrison Tigers on Tuesday with the seventh graders winning 25-14, 25-22 and the eighth graders claiming a 25-9, 25-8 victory.

Ava Dame led the seventh grade team with six aces. A team-high five digs came from Bella Barnett, while Cady Henry and Harper Kunkle had one kill each.

Kenady Lyons destroyed the Tigers from the service line with 12 aces in the eighth grade match. She also led in assists with four.

Kali Wendel's four kills led Jay County.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Tuesday
Jay County — Football at Adams Central — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football at St. Henry — 7 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Cross country at Randolph Southern Invite — 9 a.m.; Volleyball at Noblesville — 9 a.m.; Boys tennis in Patriot Invitational — 10 a.m.; Girls soccer vs. South Adams — 10 a.m.; Girls golf at ACAC tournament — 11:30 p.m.; Junior high volleyball at Woodlan — 10 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf at Nate Niekamp Invite — 9 a.m.; Cross country at Troy Twilight — 6:30 p.m.; JV football vs. St. Henry — 10 a.m.; Middle school volleyball at Ansonia — 10 a.m.; Middle school cross country at Troy Twilight — 6:30 p.m.

TV sports

Tuesday
5:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Azerbaijan Grand Prix (ESPN2)
5 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Watkins Glen International (FS1)
7 p.m. — College football: UNLV at Kansas (ESPN)

8 p.m. — College football: Arizona at Kansas State (FOX)
8:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Minnesota Twins (Bally Indiana)

Saturday
4:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Azerbaijan Grand Prix (ESPN2)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester United at Southampton (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Leicester City at Crystal Palace (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Alabama at Wisconsin (FOX); LSU at South Carolina (ABC); Memphis at Florida State (ESPN); North Texas at Texas Tech (FS1); Oklahoma State at Tulsa (ESPN2); Arkansas State at Michigan (BTN)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Everton at Aston Villa (NBC)
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: Solheim Cup (NBC)
1 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Go Bowling at The Glen (USA)
3 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Mission 200 at The Glen (USA)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Texas A&M at Florida (ABC); Tulane at Oklahoma (ESPN); Notre Dame at Purdue (CBS); West Virginia at Pitt (ESPN2); Oregon at Oregon State (FOX); Nevada at Minnesota (BTN)
4 p.m. — College football: Troy at Iowa (FS1)

5:30 p.m. — College football: North Dakota State at East Tennessee State (ABC)
7 p.m. — College football: UTSA at Texas (ESPN)
7:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Minnesota Twins (Bally Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — College football: New Mexico at Auburn (ESPN2); Georgia at Kentucky (ABC); Air Force at Baylor (FS1); Colorado at Colorado State (CBS); UCF at TCU (FOX); Eastern Illinois at Northwestern (BTN); Indiana at UCLA (NBC)
10:30 p.m. — College football: San Diego State at Cal (ESPN)

Local notes

JC Tumbling hosting
JC Tumbling and gymnastics will host an open gym on Saturday, Sept. 21. The event will start at 9 a.m. and last two hours. Admission costs \$10 and all proceeds go to the JC Flipsters competitive gymnastics team.

Outing announced
The Rocket Rally for 18 holes golf tournament is set for Sept. 29 at Portland Golf Club with a 10 a.m. start time.

The tournament still has space for up to six more teams. It costs \$240 per team that includes green fees and cart rental.

There will also be a fellowship meal at the Greazy Pickle at 3 p.m. following the outing. Hole sponsorships are also available with a minimum of \$100 for the spot. The Rockets are also collecting items for a Facebook Auction and raffle prizes for the golf outing. Items need to be donated by Sept. 20 so that the auction can go live on Sept. 23. To sign up a team, inquire about a hole sponsorship or donate an item, contact coach Randy Miller by calling (260) 703-2003 or Sam Murdock by calling (260) 251-5514.

Final races
The first of the final three races of the Adams County 5K Challenge is the Catch Your Breath While You Dash for Diabetes on Sept. 14. The race will start at Adams Memorial Hospital at 1100 Mercer Avenue, Decatur. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and will cost \$25, with the race starting at 9 a.m. The Callithumpian Center will follow on Sunday, Oct. 4. Preregistration is \$20 and can be done at adamscounty5kchallenge.com. The race will begin with a \$10 fun run at 1:30 p.m. before the 5K at 2 p.m.

Turkey Trot sign-up open
Cooper Farms will be hosting its 17th annual Turkey Trot Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Cooper Farms

Turkey Harvesting Plant in St. Henry, Ohio. Participation costs \$15. All proceeds benefit EverHeart Hospice.

The race will begin at 10 a.m. There will be splits at each mile of the 3.1-mile course. There will also be chip timing for participants operated by Speedy Feet.

Water will be provided throughout the race, as well as a to-go turkey meal at the end. You can register by visiting bit.ly/cooperfarmsturkeytrot, or search for "Cooper Farms Turkey Trot 5k" on speedy-feet.com.

Classic set
The 11th Annual Adams Health Foundation Golf Classic is set to be held today at Wabash Valley Golf Club.

Teams of four can participate for \$400, with tee times at either 7:30 a.m. or 1 p.m.

Included are an 18-hole round of golf, a best, non-alcoholic beverages, a cooler bag and lunch. All proceeds go to school healthcare scholarships and community health. For more information, contact Kim Trombley by emailing kim.trombley@adamshealthnetwork.org or by calling (260) 724-2145 ext. 13062.

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

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION

Saturday September 28th, 2024
TIME 10:00 A.M.

LOCATED: 1854 W SR 28,
RIDGEVILLE, IN.

MOWERS-TRAILER-SHOP TOOLS

Grasshopper 725K with 1453 Hours, JD 345 riding mower with 54" cut. Single axel utility trailer, Bullsens 1050 garden tractor, Craftsman roll around tool box, Chainsaw sharpener

8 chain link panels, Dewalt and Craftsman battery powered tools.

GUNS

Rugar 22cal single 6 pistol, Ruger 9mm with clip, Deutsche-Waffen model 1908 military rifle bolt action w/sight, Ammo, knife sets.

ANTIQUES-FURNITURE-MISC

Sessions mantel clock, Trunk, Child's chair, Setee, Galvanized Tubs, Indiana glass, & other collectible glassware, Longaberger baskets, Overstuffed chair, Linden wall clock, Glider Swing, Fishing poles & supplies.

OWNERS: MAX WINNINGHAM, DECEASED
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE

AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229

Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2024
TIME 10:00 A. M.
LOCATED: 3646 N 200 E
DECATUR, IN

VEHICLES-TRAILER-GENERATOR-TOOLS

2008 Ford Explorer XLT, 2007 Chevy Impala LT, 2005 Continental Cargo 20ft. enclosed trailer with ramp door, Agri-Fab- 38 inch law sweep-

90 SALE CALENDAR

er, Delta 10 inch table saw, Homecraft planer, portable scaffolding, and garden planter.

COMMERCIAL APPLIANCES-ANTIQUES-MISCELLANEOUS

Garland gas stove, Hobart dish washer, Cadco steam table, Bunn coffeemaker, Chefmate meat slicer, Commercial washer & dryer, barber chairs and dryers, grinding wheel, 3 cushion sofa and loveseat, telescope, Brinks combination safe, & karaoke system.

OWNER: ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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www.auctionzip.com

PUBLIC AUCTION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21TH, 2024
TIME 10:00 A. M.
LOCATED: 1136 N 550 W PORTLAND, IN

VEHICLES-GUNS

1967 Chevrolet Camero (non running), 2018 Chevy Colorado quad cab 4x4 with 32,000 miles, 1987 Chevrolet S10, 1992 Jeep Wrangler, Case NF tractor, Smith & Wesson model 22A Cal. camo with peep sight, Ruger 57 5.78x28 cal. w/clip, Bay-

lor 12 guage side by side, Large lot of ammo, Reloading equipment, Compound bows and arrows.

ANTIQUES-HOUSEHOLD-GARAGE ITEMS

Drink Royal Crown Cola Thermometer, Crank telephone, Handmade quilts, Pie Safe, Vintage tricycle, Violin, Banjo, Crocks, 5 gallon milk cans, pull type combine, steel wheel spreader,

90 SALE CALENDAR

Wood stoves, Rally rear tine tiller, Go cart frames, Yard roller, Large lot of hardwood lumber-oak and walnut, Collectible coins.

OWNER: Darry Rowles Estate-

Lydia Rowles Executor NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE

AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229

Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587

www.auctionzip.com

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 3652 N 600 E Montpelier, IN
Saturday Morning
September 14th, 2024
9:30 A.M.

OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Whirlpool washer & dryer, Whirlpool side by side refrigerator, Lighted china cabinet, boar head and fish mounts, 1910 Bluffton Street fair medallion, card tables, pressure cookers, and other items not listed.

2016 JEEP-4 WHEELER-MOWERS-TOOLS

2016 Jeep Compass 4x4 with 73,000 miles, log splitter, Simplicity 3110 mower (non running), John Deere 56 mower (non running), trolling motors, fishing poles, tackle boxes, and many other items not listed.

LYLE TOWNS
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer
AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
Saturday, SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
9:00AM
Location 891 W 650 N, Bryant, IN 47326
Real Estate:
*3 +/- acres *2305 sq. ft. building
*1125 sq. ft. basement
*24'x48' pavilion. Personal property to follow;
*Cub Cadet
mower*snow blower*picnic table.
Community Christian

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 3652 N 600 E Montpelier, IN
Saturday Morning
September 14th, 2024
9:30 A.M.

OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS

Whirlpool washer & dryer, Whirlpool side by side refrigerator, Lighted china cabinet, boar head and fish mounts, 1910 Bluffton Street fair medallion, card tables, pressure cookers, and other items not listed.

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mower*snow blower*picnic table.
Community Christian

Out The CR
Classifieds
www.thecr.com

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: Woman's Building Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN
Thursday Afternoon
September 19th, 2024
5:00 P.M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS

Lazy Boy electric lift chair, 3 cushion sofa, vanity dresser, king size bed, Lazy Boy leather recliner, Webcor stereo/record cabinet, 5 gallon crock, old eyeglasses, Toys: Tonka car hauler, Tonka dump truck, Ford Bronco, Tonka bulldozer, Lincoln Logs, Walt Disney School Bus lunch pail, McCoy vase, Fire King, old ball gloves, and other items not listed.

MOWER-TOOLS

Craftsman LT2000 riding mower, Husky 1650 psi power washer, Craftsman toolbox, Craftsman 12 amp edger, tree saw, furniture clamps, cement urns, and other items not listed.

Auctioneers Note: Please note we will be running 2 rings. Doors will be open day of auction at 4:00 p.m.

CHARLES SANDERS, Deceased

SHIRLEY SANDERS, MARGARET PATTERSON, Deceased

Loy Auction
AC#31600027
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Community Christian

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Rob Green AU19500011
Bill Liechty AU01048441

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Sports

Sports coverage will have team approach

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

Are you the new Rick Reed?

That's a question Andrew Balko and I have heard from folks multiple times while covering Randolph County sporting events over the last few weeks.

The answer is yes, and no.

Before explaining that contradictory notion further, let's offer some background.

For most of their history, The Commercial Review (Portland), The News-Gazette (Winchester) and The News Times (Hartford City) were under separate ownership, each employing a sports editor. For more than 40 years, Rick held that role for The News-Gazette. For 20-plus years, it was me or Chris Schanz at The Commercial Review.

Under previous ownership, Rick was also put in charge of The News Times sports section.

Rays of Insight



There has been even more change recently. First, The Graphic Printing Company, longtime publisher of The Commercial Review, bought The News-Gazette and The News Times from Community Media Group in May 2023. Then, early this spring, Rick let me know he was planning to retire. He finished up his duties at the end of June.

Since Rick shared his plans, we have been looking for a new sports writer. In Rick's absence, Andrew and I have been filling in as best we can.

We recently hired Will Cash, who is expected to begin his new role with us within the next few weeks.

See **Insight** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Lloyd gets a look

Jay County High School freshman London Lloyd puts the pressure on Wapahani's defense early in the Patriots 9-1 win on Tuesday. Lloyd scored her second career goal and notched her first assist in the dominant win.



2024

Jayland Trotting Association

Race Schedule

Saturday, September 21, 2024

11:00 a.m. Post Time

FREE GATE FREE GRANDSTAND



Jay County Fairground
Portland, Indiana

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Saturday



Portland Veterinary Clinic

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<http://www.portlandvet.net> • Christian Bader DVM

Snow consistent, Patriots regress

The Patriots started to get on a roll, but two days later they regressed.

After shooting season-best scores on back-to-back days, Jay County High School's girls golf team slipped up on Wednesday to allow South Adams to pull off a 209-216 victory.

Jay County's scores from the previous two days both would have beat the Starfires' score on Wednesday as the Patriots shot a 202 on Monday and a 197 on Tuesday.

Maddy Snow stayed consistent, managing a round of 47 to take home match medalist honors. She

Local roundup

parred the 289-yard, par-4 10th hole and added four bogeys as well.

Megan Yoder finished one stroke behind Snow to provide the Starfires' top score.

Bailey Towell's round consisted of four bogeys en route to a 53 for the second-best Jay County (2-8, 1-4 ACAC) score.

See **Roundup** page 7

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