The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Court crew

Jay County High School will crown its homecoming king and queen during halftime of Friday night's football game against the Woodlan Warriors. Pictured above, front row from left, are king and queen candidates Emma LeMaster, Ashton Castillo, Morgan DeHoff, Alan Navarro and Grace Yowell. Middle row are Dylan Marentes, Coryn Blalock, Jasmine Esparza and Jase Walter. Back row are Duston Muhlenkamp, Maddy Snow, Ben Crouch, Natalie Carreno and Austin Curtis. Homecoming festivities Friday begin with a parade at 5 p.m. in downtown Portland. The game will start at 7:30 p.m.

Child care shortage is costing state

By WHITNEY DOWNARD Indiana Capital Chronicle

indianacapitalchronicle.com

The lack of affordable child care options in the state is costing the state — not just on an individual level, but also in terms of "economic potential," according to a new study from the Indimerce and Early Learning Indiana.

billion each year, of ents with young children a direct result of childwhich \$1.17 billion can be who miss work or class care-related issues."

Report says lack of options has price tag of \$4.22 billion annually

ana Chamber of Com- linked to annual loss in because of child care The price tag is \$4.22 include the 57% of par- who left the workforce "as

tax revenue. Other costs problems. Or the 40% of to economic productivity parents, mostly women,

"Childcare access and affordability issues continue to hold back the Hoosier workforce and future economic growth for our state," said Indi-

and CEO Vanessa Green Sinders in a statement. "This report brings into focus just how important it is to solve these childcare challenges. While daunting, we see creative solutions emerging across Indiana and we're confident that through sustained advocacy and collaboration, we can keep making progress to help our citizens and employers."

See Costing page 2

Gulley: Months and millions

Superintendent sees significant rebuilding project ahead

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

A chunk of insulation sits in the hallway from Door 28 on the south side of Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

Carpeting is wet and ceiling panels are missing, exposing wiring above.

Desks in classrooms along the southeast corner of the building are covered in debris while sunlight shines through from above.

Clean-up efforts continued Wednesday morning at the junior-senior high after the building sustained significant damage during Sunday night's tornado.

"You can see what is very rare for me to see sunlight," said Jay School Corporation superintendent Jeremy Gulley, looking up at the sky through areas of the ceiling not yet covered by a tarp while walking through the building Tuesday afternoon.

The short-term goal remains to get students back into the building Monday — classes were canceled on Monday this week followed by e-learning Tuesday and remote learning Wednesday through Friday — with Gulley planning to provide another update to parents and students Thursday afternoon. (The ability to bring back students hinges on getting the heating, ventilation and cooling system up and running.) The long-term will be a much bigger undertaking.

"In my opinion, it's months and millions.' Gulley said.

See Millions page 5

Anything goes (wrong)

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

Anything could happen in the play that goes wrong.

Jay County Civic Theatre pres-

ents "The Play That Goes Wrong" at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place.

Director Brad Younts describes "The Play That Goes Wrong" as a classic British

"The concept is the audience is coming to see an amateur theatre company's production of a murder mystery, and everything that could possibly go wrong during a show does indeed go wrong," Younts said. "The comedy comes from watching the cast and crew do their best to ensure that the show goes on.

The battle cry for the people on stage is definitely, 'the show must," added Younts, a Winchester native.

The slapstick comedy follows actors and actresses in fictional Cornley Polytechnic Drama members began building the set

Farce features actors desperately trying to make sure the show continues

Society's production of a 1920s murder mystery. Characters are fighting to keep the set in one piece, with various tricks — they include misplaced props, catching items on fire and other controlled accidents — throughout the show. They're also engaged in various conflicts with one another to keep the play moving

"It is probably the most physically demanding show that isn't a musical that I've ever worked must go on,' emphasis on the on," said Younts, who co-wrote and produced award-winning Musical of the Living Dead" in Chicago about 15 years ago.

Jay County Civic Theatre

before the cast started rehearsals in an effort to give performers ample time to rehearse with the interactive set.

(We did that) so they could rehearse with all of those bits and pieces and figure out where it was safe to stand or where a bit needed to happen, how far they could stretch their bodies to get from point A to point B, that helped us determine where things would hang on the set,' Younts said.

The show also pokes fun at theatre archetypes, he added, with each character representing exaggerated stereotypes within the theatre community.

See **Wrong** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Jay County Civic Theatre members Ric VanSkyock and Chad Mills hold the set of "The Play That Goes Wrong" together as VanSkyock reaches for a telephone prop Tuesday during dress rehearsal at Arts Place. Shows for Jay County Civic Theatre's production of the slapstick comedy are slated for 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday.

Deaths

David Hudson, 64, rural Portland Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 77 degrees Tuesday. The low was 63 and there was about 0.15 inches of rain.

There is a 20% chance of rain tonight with a low of 60. Conditions will be cloudy and windy Friday with a high in the mid 70s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Historical Society will host its Heritage Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Jay County Historical Museum, 903 E. Main St., Portland. The 2024 festival salutes Jay County youth. The event features musical performances, historical displays, crafts, horse and wagon rides, food and activities for children.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS football homecoming game against Woodlan.

Tuesday — Photos from the weekend's Heritage Festival at Jay County Historical Museum.



Wrong ...

Continued from page 1 Ric VanSkyock performs as Max Bennett, who plays Cecil Haversham.

personable, not many friends, but being part of the drama society, he's able to come out of his shell and become bigger than life, and he likes the attention of the audience, he likes it when they laugh and they clap,'

Little Mermaid" and "Shrek the Musical.'

"Max is a loner, he's not very Rankin stars as conceited actress Sandra Wilkinson, who plays Florence Colleymoore.

"Sandra wants nothing more than to be the big showstopper, but the show keeps stopping her," said Rankin.

Although Rankin has been said VanSkyock, who has involved in community theatre starred in past Jay County Civic productions for more than 20 Maleficent in Jay County Civic Theatre productions including years, she noted it's her first Theatre's production of "Dis-

comedy show.

'It's been a big learning curve Hartford City resident Becca and really fun to stretch myself as an actress," she said.

Mandy McIver — she stars as Dennis Tyde, who plays the murder mystery's butler, Perkins said it's the hardest show she's done.

McIver has been involved with various civic theatre productions over the years, including as tive, and to see people enjoying it

"Miracle on 34th Street," "The time performing in a physical ney's Descendants: The Musical." She said the physical aspects, tied in with pacing and keeping an accent, have made "The Play That Goes Wrong" more of a challenge than when she performed in 'Xanadu" at six weeks pregnant.

"I'm most looking forward to hearing the audience reaction," McIver said. "We know it's funny ... so I'm excited to hear it from the fresh eyes, the fresh perspecas much as we're enjoying doing

Tickets are available for \$12 for students and \$14 for adults. They may be purchased by visiting bit.ly/JCCTTPTGW, calling (260) 726-4809 or going to Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

The Commercial Review

"I can't wait for the audience to see how much fun this show is," Younts said. "The cast has been having a blast doing it, they've been working very, very hard to make sure that all of this precision feels spontaneous, and I can't wait to hear that first

CR almanac

9/27	9/28	9/29	9/30	10/1
77/60	77/60	76/58	77/57	73/42
Friday's forecast shows a slight chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies.	Another chance of rain. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low of 60.	There's a chance of rain on Sunday under mostly cloudy skies.	Mostly cloudy skies with a chance of thunder-storms.	There's a chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high of 73.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated

jackpot: \$223 million

Mega Millions

1-6-10-23-27 Mega Ball: 18 Megaplier: 5 Estimated jackpot: \$77 million

Hoosier

Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 1-9-3 Daily Four: 7-9-0-2 Quick Draw: 7-8-11-12-20-23-31-34-37-41-43-53-54-56-58-59-61-62-63-65

Evening Daily Three: 7-2-5 Daily Four: 2-9-7-8 Quick Draw: 5-8-14-16-23-32-34-36-43-46-48-49-50-53-58-68-70-75-79-80

Ohio

Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 6-9-7 Pick 4: 6-0-6-9 Pick 5: 3-6-0-2-4 Evening Pick 3: 3-0-1 Pick 4: 0-6-0-5 Pick 5: 4-5-7-8-4 Rolling Cash: 4-6-7-9-34 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000

Oct. beans9.94 Wheat 5.37

Markets

Cooper rains	
Fort Recovery	
Corn	.3.6
Oct. corn	.3.6
Wheat	.4.6

Cooper Farms

PUE I Biore	rining
Portland	
Corn	3.63
Oct./Nov. corn	3.63

Dec. corn3.9
The Andersons
Richland Township

1110 / 111401 00110				
Richland	Township			
Corn	3.63			
Oct. corn	3.63			
Beans	9.94			

4.04	montpono	
	Corn	3.65
ng	Oct. corn	3.65
15	Beans	
0.00	Oct. beans	10.00
3.63	Wheat	5.15
3.63		
3.93	Heartland	
	St. Anthony	
	Corn	3.48
ship	Oct. corn	
3.63	Beans	9.77
0.00	T 1	10.10

ADM Montpelier

Today in history

In 1774, John Chapman, known as "Johnny Appleseed," was born in Leominster, Massachusetts. He earned the nickname for planting nurseries and individual apple trees across 100,000 square miles of wilderness and prairie in the Chapman Midwest. owned land in Fort Wayne where he planted a nursery that produced thousands of seedling apple trees.

Īn 1888, poet T.S. Eliot Thomas born was Stearns Eliot in St. Louis Missouri. He won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1948 and was famous for works including "The Waste Land" in 1922 and "Four Quartets" in 1943.

In 1981, tennis player Serena Williams was tives to attract residents born in Saginaw, Michigan. Her 23 Grand Slam

singles titles are more than any other individual in the open era. Seven of her Grand Slam finals victories came over her sister Venus.

Jan. beans10.16

Wheat5.07

In 2013, the Jay County High School girls soccer team tied the Yorktown Tigers 2-2. Yorktown had defeated the Patriots in each of the previous two sectional championship games, but JCHS would go on to top the Tigers 1-0 for its first sectional championship a few weeks later.

In 2022, Jay County Commissioners

approved moving forward with MakeMy-Move, an initiative that offers financial incenwho work remotely.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday

5:30 p.m. — Jay Coun-Country Living Advisory Board executive session, Jay County Community Center Town Council, Schoolsenior area, 115 E. house Community Cen-Water St., Portland.

6:30 p.m. — Jay Countv Country Living Advisory Board, Jay Community County Center senior area, 115 E. Water St., Portland.

Tuesday

5:30 p.m. – Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

7 p.m. — Salamonia

Wednesday

7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council public hearing and meeting, Pennville Town Hall, 105 N. Washington St.

Obituaries

David Hudson

Jan. 16, 1960-Sept. 20, 2024 David Hudson, age 64, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Friday, Sept. 20, 2024, following an accident in Portland.

David was born Jan, 16, 1960, in Decatur, Indiana, the son of Warren and Virginia (Morehous) Hudson. He graduated from Jay County High School in 1978.

David worked at Maitlen Motors in Portland, Joyce Dayton in Portland and Aumann Auctions in Nokomis, Illinois, and has worked the past 20 years

Engine and Tractor Association, of which he was a member.

Survivors include:

Two sisters — Patricia Hudson, Portland, Indiana, and Sheryl Hudson, Portland, Indiana

Several cousins

Visitation will be held on Monday, Sept. 30, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home.

groundskeeper for Tri-State Gas and burial will follow at Salamonia Cemetery in Salamonia, Indiana.

> Memorials may be directed to Jay County Historical Society.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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 funer-Pastor Joe Hines will officiate al homes or mortuary services.

In for landing

A 1970 United States Army helicopter prepares for a landing Saturday afternoon at Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland during the Military Indiana Vehicle Preservation Association's Military Vehicle Show and Swap Meet. Attendees could purchase tickets to ride on the aircraft provided by Columbus Indiana Huey.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Continued from page 1 down the state's economic performance and hampers future job growth, the study concludes. Relative to other states, Indiana ranks 27th in the nation for labor force participation the same rank the Hoosier State has for its unemployment rate, which sits at

The organizations note that high-quality child care has another benefit: boosting the future academic performance of the state's youngest Hoosiers. Studies have linked high-quality child care with improved literacy rates — the same scores that plummeted in recent years following the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Hundreds of thousands of Hoosier children need high-quality early learning experiences to thrive in school and beyond," said Maureen Weber, the president and CEO of Early Learning Indiana, in the release. "For the business community, this report shows a two-fold impact as parents are forced to leave today's workforce while tomorrow's workers cannot reach their full potential. We will continue our work with partners in government, business and the philanthropic community to ensure high-quality early learning opportunities for all Indiana children."

The study, which includes several personal stories from surveyed families, is part of a nationwide partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation analyzing the "untapped potential" of more than a dozen states.

Recent reform at the state level — including philanthropic efforts — "are promising," the report adds, but "the survey results show that there is more work to be done to maximize Indiana's economic potential.'

Though the state has and seats available but not enough. Only 61% can be served with existing capacity.

Broadly speaking, the \$4.22 billion in untapped economic potential falls into two categories: workplace disruptions such as worker absenteeism and employee turnover — and lost tax dollars from unearned wages.

Parents missed an average of 14 days of work related due to child care disruptions per year absenteeism that cost employers \$906 million annually. Others left the entirely, workforce whether voluntarily or involuntarily, and turnover cost employers another \$2.14 billion.

"The \$4.22 billion in lost economic value for Indiana each year is not an abstract number.

See **Costing** page 5

SERVICES

Today

Neumayr, Kay: 10 a.m., St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 407 Perry St., Attica.

Clack, Sandy: 5 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday Bartlett, Michael: noon, Bartlett Pond, 550 N. 1025 West, Pennville.

Monday Hudson, David: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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



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Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Fall into fun this October at library

Jay County Public Library will be offering free fall festivities in Taking October.

The library and Jay County Farm Bureau have activities set up for families inside the building at 315 N. Ship St., parking lot from 5 to 7 p.m. Oct. 17. Activities include "bobbing" for ious fall-themed snacks. apples, pumpkin picking and painting, fall crafting and creating mini apple pies. There will also be teens and adults in Octo-

Note

Portland, and in the west wagon rides, outdoor games, a bouncy slide and corn maze, as well as var-

> hosting a reading and watching challenge for

choose from three categories — reading, watching a TV series or watching movies — and comcorresponding cards, which must be turned in for a drawing by Oct. 31.

Other upcoming events at the library include:

Money Matters: Stay Scam Safe — Learn how Also, the library is to safely use technology to reduce scam risks at 6 p.m. Oct. 1

•Paws and Pages —

ber. Participants may Children may read to and next month. Mammogra- will be interpreted by apy dog during a time slot spurred by the hospital's between 4 and 5:30 p.m. radiology department,

> •Adult Craft Night — Adults are invited to paint and create pumpkin-themed crafts while sipping on apple cider starting at 6 p.m. Oct. 8

Mammography Night

Adams Memorial Hospital is hosting a special women's health event sages. All mammograms

aims to encourage women to prioritize their health with 3D screening mammograms. The event is slated for 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Oct. 14 at the hospital in Decatur.

Attendees will have access to health screenings and education as well as complimentary refreshments and mas-

play with a certified ther- phy Night, an initiative board-certified radiologists from Summit Radiology in Fort Wayne.

Eligible individuals in

financial need may qualify for a free screening, a service offered through an Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness grant.To schedule a mammogram for the event and

to inquire about financial eligibility, please call the central scheduling office at (260) 724-2145 or (260) 589-3913.

Longtime affair reaches new, uncertain era

DEAR ABBY: I have been in love with a married man for more than 16 years. It started before he married, but I was married at the time, so he married her. He always told me he wouldn't leave his wife, but I hoped he would.

Three weeks ago, I told him I could no longer go on this way and to have a great life. Two weeks later, he emailed me asking if he was still in my heart and said he was having doubts about his marriage. We live 400 miles apart, but I drove to see him last weekend.

He told me he loved me, which he's never admitted before, and said he isn't sure what he's going to do. Now I don't know what to do, either, or how to act. Do I keep moving on to find someone else in case he doesn't pick me, or contact him so he doesn't lose sight of me? — HURTING HEART IN VIRGINIA

Dear Abby



This person told you he would never leave his wife, and for 16 years he has stuck to his word. He told you he loves you BECAUSE YOU DREW THE LINE. This is his attempt to reel you back into a relationship that is headed nowhere. PLEASE, for your own sake, keep moving and do not contact him again.

DEAR ABBY: Nine years ago, I severed all ties with my mother-in-law after she accused my husband of sexually assaulting his sister when she was in her teens. His sister died nine

she was diagnosed with schizo- especially in social situations. phrenia. Since then, I have not spoken to his mother. However, arms around as if I have two two of my children are recently married. I'm starting to feel guilty for not telling her that her two grandchildren got married. Should I say something to her? — FEELING GUILTY IN **ILLINOIS**

DEAR FEELING GUILTY: I do think you should speak to her. It is a shame that she has lost both of her children. If you think it would make her feel better, you and your husband could tell her about the weddings — but only in the context of healing the breach that may have been created because of a delusion suffered by your late, mentally ill sister-in-

DEAR ABBY: My 21-year-old grandson is a dramatic and He'll roll his eyes or flap his heads. He's actually mean-spirited. I'm not sure how to handle it. Should I simply ignore him, or should I confront him with how I feel? — MISERABLE GRANDMA IN OHIO

DEAR GRANDMA: You should definitely tell him how you feel if you haven't already done it. He's acting like an overgrown adolescent. If his behavior continues, avoid him, if possible, as you would any other person who treats you with disrespect.

P.S. Also give serious consideration to "avoiding" him on his birthday, at Christmas, during graduation and any other gift-giving occa-

arrogant know-it-all. My issue married, but I'm looking to get final rather than tie the knot DEAR HURTING HEART: years ago from starvation after is that he's disrespectful to me, an annulment or divorce. I have again on the rebound.

met a woman I am falling for. She knows my marital status and feels the same way about

I promised her my marriage would be over within eight months, but she feels that with my divorce, my wife should leave even if I move out and rent out my portion of the house. (My soon-to-be ex and I currently live on opposite sides of the house.) Do you agree? — MAKING CHANGES IN NEW YORK

DEAR CHANGES: Whether or not I agree is irrelevant. The person who should be answering this question is the attorney who will represent you in the divorce. If you really plan to leave the marriage, make an appointment NOW to discuss it.

P.S. And, please, give your-DEAR ABBY: I am currently self time after the divorce is

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To subnews@thecr.com.

Today

LAWYERS LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public at (260) 251-8792. Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics includ- SOCIETY custody. divorce. guardianship, landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

SMART RECOVERY focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and liv-

Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOVmit an item, email ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen

> MISSISSINEWA CHAP-TER OF THE NATIONAL $_{
> m OF}$ THE DAUGHTERS OF THE tenant- AMERICAN REVOLU-TION — Will meet at the Jay County Historical Society at 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 26. Any questions, please call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 5:30 A group for those strug- p.m. at Persimmon Ridge gling with addiction that Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

Friday

PAST RECOVERY SERVing a balanced life meets $\,$ ICES $\,-\,$ Peer $\,$ Addiction at 11 a.m. each Thursday Support Team recovery in the IU Health Jay Out- support group meets at 10 patient Behavioral Health 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 ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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 BREAK-FAST 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.

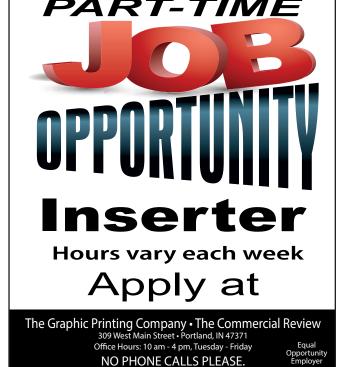
BREAD OF LIFÉ COM-MUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland.

Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONY-MOUS — 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.

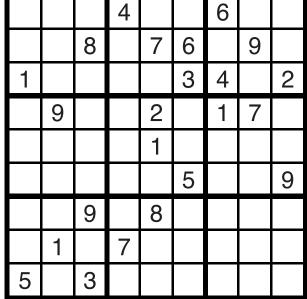
Tuesday

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOV-ERY 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.





Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

7 9 8 3 6 8

How's the economy in your county?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

How is the economy in your county?

That's a question that requires answering two more questions. What's the economy? And which county is yours?

Is your county the place where you work or the place where you live? Or is it the place where you grew up?

Is the economy the production of goods and services? Or is it the income of the people living in a

Here's a simplistic answer: the economy depends on what we get from working. Not included are some important items we think little about: the money we and our employers pay into government insurance programs (Social Security, Medicare and such).

Excluded here are earnings by of Indiana's 92 counties.

Eye on the Pie



proprietors, as well as dividends, interest and rent often not enjoyed by workers. That's the net earnings of a county in which people work, and pretty close to take home pay before income tax withholding.

Added are earnings from commuting elsewhere to work and deducted are earnings commuters take out of the county. That leaves us with the net earnings of the workers living in each

The heart of any economy is what its workers are able to earn. They may work and live there, or they may bring in dollars earned elsewhere. It was once the reason for economic development pro-

Yes, residents of a county may benefit from the dividends, interest and rent they accrue from inheritance or savings. Likewise, they may benefit from Social Security and other government transfer programs.

But maximizing those sources is not the reason we educate children, seek to reduce unemployment or insist on equity in taxa-

By this measure, in 2012, four counties, (Hamilton, Hendricks. Boone and Lagrange) were the

IM GOVIY,

ULTIMATE

Why is this figure of any leaders in Indiana, each with more than 70% of their personal income arising from working. By 2022, Boone County fell out of that elite group as it became a showplace for warehousing with many out-of-county workers.

Least reliant on working in 2012 were the counties of Fayette County (53%), followed a quartet at 55% (Wabash, Blackford, Crawford and Grant). By 2022, Wabash and Fayette fell below 50% while the quartet just named also declined in their reliance on work for income.

Jay County came in at 65.6%. Adjacent counties were as fol-

Adams - 66.9% Blackford - 55.3% Delaware – 55.9% Randolph - 58.9% Wells - 62.6%

What should be done about making working more important to our county economies? The state's past economic gurus said, "We need highly educated people to occupy highly paid jobs." It's an old horse and wagon issue. What we might find faster are better paying jobs for Hoosiers of all education lev-

We are concerned about what we call "rural" counties, but many such counties have welldeveloped, long-neglected cities. Fayette, Grant and Wabash are a few deserving to be hubs of new jobs that will raise incomes of workers throughout regions.

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@gmail.com.

Anti-immigrant lies are not helpful

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Tribune News Service

It was always a given that dehumanizing rhetoric around immigration would intensify as the election presidential approached. Unfortunately, in the turn to dangerous lies about established communities of immiin American grants towns, it has gotten much worse — and, in Western Pennsylvania, closer to home — than even most cynics expected.

Lies about Haitian immigrant communities in Springfield, Ohio, and Charleroi, Pennsylvania, are helping nobody, and hurting everybody. They are exacerbating the usual but manageable tensions in changing communities and hurting the cause of integration. In so doing, they are holding back American towns that have been held back for too long, and which are now experiencing a burst of life and hope from hard-working immigrants fleeing a devastated society.

In fact, in Charleroi in particular, the overheated about immigrants has sure of the glass factory its identity for over a century, and provides over 300 jobs.

Instead, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, along with allied social media accounts, has seized on an influx of immigrants, largely from the embattled Caribbean nation of Haiti, as a grave threat to the community. Estimates vary, but in recent somewhere vears between several hundred and 2,000 Haitians have settled in the Mon Valley borough, whose 2020 population of about 4,000 represents a roughly 65% decline from its peak a

century ago. The allegation is that is conniving with shadowy business interests to intentionally swamp Charleroi with immigrants, either (at best) heedless of the disruption this causes the community or (at worst, in a small-town America -"Great nod to the Replacement" conspiracy theory) for the direct purpose of displacing native- scapegoat immigrants, born Americans. This even though it will help has been made even more no one.

Guest **Editorial**

dramatic by baseless suggestions that waves of thefts of pets have fol-

The reality is much Valley, and so hired a vetted legal immigrants.

tion of 1,000 to 2,000 would bring Charleroi to and deceptive rhetoric population figures not seen since the 1980s, overshadowed a far more which represents a chalimportant disruption for lenge to city services that the town: the looming clo- are accustomed to decline that has given the town no one expected, and which would never have happened without immigrants filling job openings and starting busi-

> nesses of their own. Bartolotta ical future.

Charleroi's recovery is jeopardized not by immigration, but by the closure of the glass plant that has sustained Charleroi for a century. Known for producing the Biden administration Pyrex kitchenware, the plant is now, through a complicated series of acquisitions, controlled by a private equity firm. This is a clear case of modern economic systems working against and this is where political

more prosaic. As the area's Republican state senator, Camera Bartolotta, explained on social media, a local business owner had struggled to find workers in the Mon firm who recruited and This began a chain of migration from Haiti to Charleroi. While there have been tensions, as there are in any community when newcomers arrive with different appearances and languages and habits, they have been manageable. Charleroi is not being

An increase in populabut also a turnaround

born and immigrant populations — from cruel and deceptive attacks, attracted the ire of major Trump-aligned media accounts, which are threatening her polit-

But it's much easier to

lowed Haitian migration.

Meanwhile, for defending Charleroi as a whole — that is, both its nativehas social

attention should be paid.

GOAL 15 TO KEEP THE GOVERNMENT open for another FEDERAL agencies three months government open!

We should aim for boring politics

By KEVIN FRAZIER

The Fulcrum

Tribune News Service American politics is anything but boring. That's not a good thing. A stable, even dull political order is a worthy goal. Just as the Founders ditched a political order that seemed to create, rather than solve, crises, we should look for ways to reduce chaos, turmoil and incompetence.

Chaos — real or imagined — creates excuses for politicians to advance extreme proposals. Amid the Korean War, President Harry Truman attempted to seize control of most of the country's steel mills. Congress had frequently refused to grant the executive the authority to take such drastic action. Truman persisted, and it's hard to blame him. An ongoing conflict puts incredible pressure on the president to do all that they think is necessary to secure victory (and maintain the public's support).

Thankfully, the Supreme Court used an expedited process to hear a legal challenge to Truman's aggressive act and denied the seizure. Ideally, though, such a rush job would not be required. Conflicts are unavoidable. Clashes between the branches, however, can be reduced by increasing deliberation among key officials and investing in sce-

nario planning for bad outcomes. Turmoil — real or imagined breeds resentment that chips away at our sense of community. Political instability marked by swings between extreme partisan positions creates a sense that the government is incapable of focusing the needs of the people. Frustration arising from that inattention would ideally unify everyone to achieve mutual goals, but greater partisanship is usually what comes from gridlock. People

Kevin Frazier



that promises to deliver just that. It surprise comes as no that researchers analyzing recent economic downturns have found that "group polarization, rising inequality, and economic decline may be strongly connected." Stemming any of those sources of turmoil is a step in the right direction. For instance, identifying, electing and reelecting folks willing to work across party lines can reduce excessive polarization. There's a reason the history books celebrate politicians like Sen. John McCain, who found ways to collaborate with Democrats and Republicans.

Incompetent governance—real or imagined — gives private interests a chance to accumulate excessive power by usurping public authority. When the government appears ineffective, private actors — be they corporations, oligarchs or interest groups — are quick to step in and fill the vacuum. The result is a system where public resources are funneled toward private gain, and public officials become beholden to those who wield economic power. This erosion of public trust in government competency opens the door for corruption, cronyism and regulatory capture, all of which deepen public disillusionment.

Worse still, when government fails to deliver basic services or respond to crises, the people turn to private solutions that are often inequitable and undemocratic. To prevent incompetence from empowseeking certainty turn to the party ering private interests, we must low.

double down on investing in building and maintaining robust public institutions that can effectively serve the common good.

All these concerns are not new. In fact, chaos, turmoil and incompetence are why early Americans ditched the Articles of Confederation for the Constitution. Victory over the British did not result in immediate tranquility. Mobs, county committees and loyalists to the crown all made governing difficult. Obstinate states, unwilling or unable to contribute to national efforts, likewise hindered a smooth start to the new country. This status quo was unacceptable to the Founders. They were quick to see that so much unrest could undermine their bold project before it even reached its teenage years. To accelerate the maturation of the nation and to increase the odds of its success, James Madison and others designed a system to quell polit-

ical winds from blowing in trouble. We can and should heed the lesson learned by our forefathers. Simple steps can go a long way toward making politics a little more boring. To start, let's shorten the election period. The seemingly endless campaign cycle diminishes the odds of officials having the time and energy to focus on the task of actually governing. Another easy step would be to remove cameras from the Senate and House floor — freed from the pressure to try to make speeches go viral, legislators might engage in more substantive conversations. These are just a couple ideas many more should be explored. A more boring America is possible and desirable.

Frazier is an assistant professor at the Crump College of Law at St. Thomas University and a Tarbell fel-

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Millions

Continued from page 1 An EF-1 tornado with winds of up to 110 miles per hour caused

extensive damage at the southeast corner of the junior-senior high. It included ripping holes in the roof and displacing air handlers for the HVAC system. Water and HVAC fluid poured into the interior of the building.

The scope of the work to repair the junior-high wing and IMC (library) that sustained the bulk of the storm damage was unclear less than 48 hours after the tornado hit. (Insurance adjusters have been on site to start the evaluation process.) What is clear is that it will be extensive.

"I see whatever's happening there as significant," said Gulley. "And to me, that could mean any of the things we're talking about flooring, gridwork, sub-deck structure ... roof, HVAC, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, fire detection, fire suppression.

"We just got a project." A structural engineer has inspected the building and indicated it is structurally sound, he

Returning students to the school will involve utilizing unused classrooms, including those with teachers on prep periods, as well as open spaces such as the gym and its balconies, auditorium, auxiliary gym, commons, pool hallway and adjacent breezeway. He's asked superintendents who have reached out offering support if they could provide mobile screens and whiteboards on wheels to help facilitate makeshift classrooms.

Gulley added that areas of the junior-senior high and East Elementary School were once "open concept," similar to what some students will experience when they return to the building.

"So the notion that we're open isn't exactly unusual to us," he said as junior-high administrators worked in their own "open concept" setting in the commons Tuesday afternoon. (Electricity is currently off in the office area.) "It is unusual to the kids; maybe not their parents.

Gulley said he had been told by insurance adjusters to initiate the acquisition of mobile classrooms, though he had asked for confirmation in writing as well.

A Jay School Board special meeting has been scheduled for 5 p.m. Monday at General Shanks to consider a resolution authorizing various actions related to the tornado damage. The resolution names the superintendent or his designees as purchasing agents for the school corporation and directs them to take "any and all actions they deem necessary or desirable to address the damages It also calls for the superintendent to consult with the board president when immediate action is not necessary, and to inform the board about actions taken.

The project is in the clean-up stage, evident from the rumble of generators and whoosh of vacuums during a walk-through. Staff from Servpro, a firm specializing in clean-up and restoration work following water and fire damage, was working on putting a tarp over the damaged area of the roof, sealing broken doors and windows, drying out and vacuuming liquids, and general cleaning. The firm expected to have its part of the job done this week.

To get students back to school, the HVAC system needs to be functioning. Valves for the systems were expected to be delivered Wednesday.

During an impromptu meeting outside the building Tues-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Clean-up efforts continue at Jay County Junior-Senior High School following a Sunday tornado that caused significant damage. Pictured, debris covers desks in a classroom along the south side of the building with the ceiling still open after the storm ripped holes in the roof.

day afternoon, Jay Schools facilities director Gary Cagle explained that the system needs to be pressurized once repairs are complete. Then it will need to run for a couple of days to get the air out to prevent future problems.

Gulley indicated that his goal is to give workers and the HVAC system time.

'If I need the weekend, we're going to use the weekend," he said. "If we have to use every available hour over the weekend to give that system a chance to

bring itself up to full functionality, I'm going to allow that time.'

Students need to be in school, he said, not only for the value of in-person learning but also for the other support such as meals and extracurriculars that are provided.

"I think the people want to be in school," Gulley said. "I do think we need to get them back. Kids get fed there ... We need to be in school and we're going to be in school just as soon as I can get the (HVAC) system up.

While Servpro handles the

work that is its specialty, Gulley emphasized that local contractors have been key as well. Mid-States Construction and Muhlenkamp Building Corporation have both been on hand in the building, and Fifer Services worked on removing the debris from trees on the grounds.

"My local contractors get me going this week," he said. "The recovery of that building, that portion of the building, that's months.'

"We had local people here where we needed them.



Golden **Davis**

Randy Davis of Redkey was among honored those Tuesday with Golden Hoosier Award during an event at the Indiana Statehouse. Davis was honored for his lifetime of service, including as a pastor, providing McDonald's gift cards to veterans faith-based and addiction support group founding A

Costing

Continued from page 1 Each dollar lost due to insufficient childcare is a dollar that will not be used to fund a single mother's education, provide for a child, or put food on a struggling family's table," the report said. "The annual loss to the state of Indiana is certainly eye-opening; compounded over decades, and measured in unaddressed terms of human need, it becomes staggering."

One-in-four parents reported quitting a job due to child care issues, while are not only leaving the another 21% said they dropped from full-time work to part-time employment. Another 15% were fired, 11% turned down a promotion and 19% turned

Those who leave the ment officials, businesses

workforce or interrupt and parents: "What could their schooling due to child care issues damage their earning potential down the road.

"Women bear the brunt

of the childcare-related economic losses; women with children earn slightly less than males with children earn, even after controlling for job and qualifications. The study revealed that women are also more likely than men to quit a job to care for a child...,' the report found. "Translated, this means women workforce at higher rates but are also being penalized with a higher opportu-

nity cost for doing so." The survey ends by posing a question to stakeholders, including governIndiana do with an additional \$4.22 billion each year?"

Survey results completed by 609 Hoosier parents of children under the age of six were gathered in March 2024 for the report and then used to craft a model to estimate the economic cost of the child care shortfall. Though the study broke down some data by gender, it did not do so for race or ethnicity.

Just over three-quarters of those parents, or 77%, paid for child care, telling researchers they primarily picked their provider based on affordability. Low-income families are defined as those earning under \$30,000 while highincome families earn more than \$100,000.

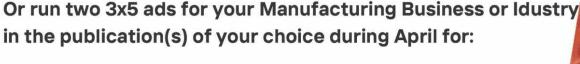


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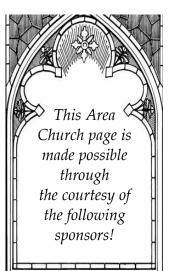
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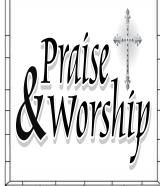


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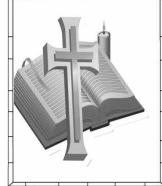
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address.

All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist

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

Bellefountain United Methodist 440 S. 600 East

Pamela Freeman Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends 80 E. 650 South

Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul

Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East

Ava Gannon (260) 726-2373 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan 209 S. Hendricks St.

Paul VanCise (260) 997-6231 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist

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

Christ Chapel

2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery Recovery (419) 733-1469 christchapelfr.com

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)

8472 S. 800 East, Union City Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy

797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland Nanette Weesner

(260) 766-9334 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren

Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland Kevin McClung (260) 729-7295

Services: 10 a.m. Church of

the Living God South Broad

Street, Dunkirk Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m.

Collett Nazarene

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

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

Cornerstone Church of

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

Dunkirk Nazarene

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

Evangelical Methodist

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

Fairview United

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

Faith Community

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

Family Worship Center 200 E. Elder St., Portland Ronald Willis (260) 726-4844

Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday thefamilyworshipcen-

Fellowship Baptist

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

First American Baptist

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

First Church of Christ

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

First Community Baptist 341 S. Meridian St., Red-

key Everett Bilbrey Jr. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6

First Free Will Baptist 12369 W. 600 South,

p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

Dunkirk Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian

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

Fort Recovery Church

of the Nazarene 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Revs. Brad and Kate

Ratliff (419) 375-4680 Services: 10:30 a.m. frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist

309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Rev. Carol McKay (304) 617-0101 Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel

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

Geneva First United Methodist

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

Geneva Nazarene

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

Gilead Church

County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec

Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren

Indiana 1 and Indiana 26 Earl Doll (260) 731-4477 Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street

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

Holy Trinity Catholic 7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage

Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m.

Hopewell of Life Ministries

Saturday

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

Immaculate Conception Catholic 506 E. Walnut St., Port-

land Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage (260) 726-7055 Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk

Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6

Kingsley Full Gospel

p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Stuart Phillips

403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt (419) 375-4153 Services: 4:30 p.m. Satur- **The ROCK** day, 9 a.m.

Mary Help

of Christians

Mount Tabor Community Church

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

Mount Zion United Methodist

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

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine

4017 W. 200 South Randy Smith (260) 251-2406 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship

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

New Life Ministries

415 S. Helen St., Portland Dr. Kav Fairchild (260) 223-2961 Services: 4 p.m. drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant **United Methodist**

5905 S. Como Road Neil Butcher (765) 499-7838 Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian

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

Oak Grove **United Methodist**

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

Pleasant Hill

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

Portland Church of Christ

1217 W. Votaw St., Port-Bob Graham (260) 726-7777 Bible class: 9:15 a.m. Services: 10:20 a.m. Bible School: 6 p.m. Wednesday portlandcoc.com

Portland First

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

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

Praise Chapel

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

Redeemer Lutheran

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

Redkey Faith Ministries

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

Christian

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

Redkey United Methodist 122 W. Main St.

Lori McIntosh (765) 369-2085 Services: 10:30 a.m. **Redkey Church**

of the Nazarene 801 W. High St.

Fred Stevens (765) 369-2676 redkeynaz.org Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 ail.com p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life

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

1605 N. Meridian St., Portland Matt Ransom (260) 726-7474 Services: 10 a.m.

matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia **Church of Christ**

3900 S. 600 East **Bruce Phillips** (260) 335-2017Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries

228 S. Meridian St., Port-Dave Keen (260) 251-8792 Mike Eads (260) 703-0733

Services: 10:30 a.m. St. Joseph Catholic

1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-

St. Mary's Catholic

346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk Rev. Kevin Hurley Services: 5 p.m. Šaturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic 517 Meiring Road, Fort

Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt

Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic

Sugar Grove Nazarene 3984 N. 550 West, Portland Pastor Mike Heckman (615) 517-1017 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:30 a.m. Bible study: 6 p.m. Wed-

Sugar Grove Church

nesday

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

17920 Indiana 167,

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

templebaptistin.com The Church

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

churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran 301 N. Wayne St., Fort Robin Owen (419) 375-4498 Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sun-

pastorrobino@gmail.com

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

Services: 10:15 a.m.

portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel 6200 N. 375 West, Bryant Interim Pastor Chris Kruchkow (260) 849-0687

Services: 10:20 a.m., 6

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene

County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line) Fred Stevens Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner County roads 200 North

and 500 West

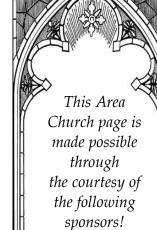
Steve Rogers (260) 251-1113 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. West Walnut

Church of Christ 204 W. Walnut St., Port-

land Gil Alicea (260) 726-4691 Services: 10 a.m. westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical **Lutheran Church** Robin Owen

218 E. High St., Portland (260) 726-8832 zionlutheranportland@gm Services: 10:30 a.m.



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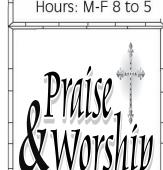
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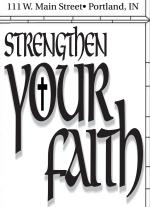


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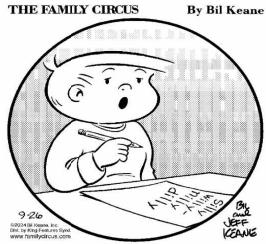


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"Can I change my name, Mommy? 'Billy' has some stupid rhymes.

Peanuts









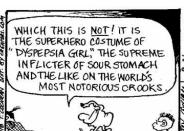






Agnes







Hi and Lois





Between Friends



Helen-There's been a change of plans ... extending my stay in Paris for two weeks .. traveling with Benoit thru France - talk soon



SWEETHEART?







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Contract & By Steve Becker

A word about probabilities

East dealer Neither side vulnerable

NORTH

A 2

▼8 4 ♦ Q 7 4 ♥ J 10 9 6 2 ♦ 9 3 **♦** J 10 9 8 ◆93 ◆K73 SOUTH ◆K653 ◆AK75 ◆AO ♣Q 10 9 ♣A J 8

The bidding: East South West Pass Opening lead iack of spades. The subject of percentages in bridge poses a mental hurdle for many players. Like it or not, though, bridge is essentially a game though, bridge is essentially a game of probabilities, which gives those who familiarize themselves with basic percentages a decided edge over those who don't.

Take this case where you are in three notrump and West leads a spade. To make the contract, you must score at least four diamond.

must score at least four diamond tricks, so you take the first spade in your hand in order to preserve the ace as a later entry to dummy. If you now cash the A-Q of diamonds and lead a spade to the ace, in effect hoping to score all five diamond

tricks, you eventually go down one.

This is unlucky — but surprising
— because the probability of a diamond division that will allow you to score four tricks on this approach is only about 54%. This includes the 36% chance of a 3-3 division in the suit, plus an additional 18% if either defender was dealt the single-

ton or doubleton jack.

But if instead you start by cashing the ace of diamonds and then overtake the queen with the king (plan-ning to concede a diamond on the third round of the suit), your chances of making the contract rise

This is because you retain not only the 36% chance of a 3-3 break, but also because you make four tricks in the suit whenever either opponent was dealt the J-x, the singleton jack or the 9-x — which will happen about 33% of the time.

In the actual case, after East's

nine falls on the king, you next play dummy's ten to force out the jack. This establishes dummy's 8-6, and you finish with nine tricks.

you finish with nine tricks.

It is true that if East had the doubleton jack of diamonds, or if the suit proved to be divided 3-3, the approach would cost you a trick. However, you should be happy to risk a 30-point loss for the sake of elevating your chance to make the contract from slightly better than 50-50 to one that makes you more than a 2-to. I sworite. you more than a 2-to-1 favorite.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

9-26 **CRYPTOQUIP**

URD, GLWG FPU CJRD ABCRRC

TWYFR ZAGU EYJN

DJPGL JE NATWB. LR'D GLR

FRBJWB WYGAZTR.

19 Where

flows

21 Baseball

great

22 Caught

24 Folk

Young

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singer

Phil

27 Year in

28 "The

Cancún

Voice"

coach

31 Kanga's

kid

32 Prohibit

seeing

McEntire

the Styx

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: APPLE HAS BEGUN DESIGNING A NEW HIGH-TECH CAR, BUT THEY REALLY DON'T WANT TO INSTALL WINDOWS. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

36 '50s 56 Supplies 16 Parched **ACROSS** 1 "Mamma with staff 20 president 37 Enfold Lingus Mia" DOWN 38 Peculiar 22 Serpengroup 40 Circle 1 Queens 5 Kimono tine stadium 23 Corn conties ratio 9 Harpy **41** "Top name coction 24 Scrap 12 Beholds Chef" 2 Existed 13 Mentor 3 Karate 25 Bill's host 14 Sense of Lakshmi eve partner 43 Mouthed 4 Jellied 26 Elvis hit self entrees **27** Slightly **15** Tech off to work-47 Paul 5 Curved 29 Fluffy stations Newman molding scarf 30 Swiss **17** Confilm 6 Grey-48 Just swell ducted hound peak

35 Pirates' 18 Complete 51 Comvehicle motion 7 Annoy potation 8 Japanese 37 Insight 52 Skin care fish dish 39 Western brand 9 Cherished 53 Garfield's resort 10 Pulitzer pal lake 54 Comic winner 40 Salary Notaro James **41** Excellent, 55 Diminu-11 Pantheon in slang tive suffix members 42 German

car name

43 Terrier

type

drink

Brock-

ovich"

blue?

(Abbr.)

50 — King

Cole

46 Turns

49 Last

44 Fizzy

45 "—

Solution time: 24 mins.

33 MSN rival 34 Go sight-Yesterday's answer 9-26

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PAC-12 sues **Mountain West**

By ADAM HILL

Las Vegas Review-Journal Tribune News Service

The battle for conference survival between the Pac-12 and Mountain West has moved from the boardroom to the courtroom.

The Pac-12 filed a lawsuit against the Mountain West in federal court Tuesday, hoping to vacate the so-called "poaching fees" that were part of a scheduling agreement between the two leagues.

The agreement required the Pac-12 to pay the Mountain West a fee if it added a school from the Mountain West, with the amount escalating for each additional defection. The Pac-12 alleges the Mountain West asked for \$43 million after Boise State, Colorado State, Fresno State and San Diego State announced their intention to leave the Mountain West for the Pac-12 for the 2026-27 school year on Sept. 12.

The Pac-12 also alleges the Mountain West signaled its intent to ask for more money after Utah State decided to leave for the Pac-12 on Monday. The Pac-12 referred to those fees as "invalid and unenforceable" in the lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of California.

UNLV remains a membut it is evaluating its options. It could soon this naked restraint on become the sixth Moun- competition.'

Realignment drama escalates as MVC imposes "poaching fees"

tain West program to jump to the Pac-12.

hinges on the claim that the Pac-12 had little leverage when the scheduling agreement was announced Dec. 1, 2023. The deal came about when Oregon State and Washington State were the last two remaining Pac-12 schools thanks to conference realignment, leaving them with few options when it came to filling out their football schedules.

The Pac-12's departures included Oregon, UCLA, USC and Washington (Big Ten), Arizona, Arizona State, Colorado and Utah (Big 12) and Cal and Stanford (ACC)..

"The Poaching Penalty saddles the Pac-12 with exorbitant and punitive monetary fees for engaging in competition by accepting MWC member schools into the Pac-12," the lawsuit states. "The MWC imposed this Poaching Penalty at a time when the Pac-12 was desperate to schedule football games for its two ber of the Mountain West remaining members and had little leverage to reject

One reason the lawsuit was filed in California is Part of the lawsuit likely because the state has case law that strongly supports ruling against punitive actions that suppress competition, such as poaching fees and non-compete

The Pac-12 was able to file in federal court because it claimed the Mountain West was in violation of antitrust laws.

The lawsuit goes on to state the Mountain West is already receiving enough compensation for the Pac-12 defections in the form of exit fees. Each school leaving the conference has to pay the Mountain West between \$18 million and \$20 million.

"To the extent the MWC would suffer any harm from the departures of its member schools, these exit fees provide more than sufficient compensation to the MWC," the suit claims. "There is no reason why the schools' new conference should be responsible for compensating the MWC further, or why such penalties should apply to only one competitor conference: the Pac-12.'



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County freshman Brilyn Wilmore tries to control a ball that's headed out of bounds late in the second half of Tuesday's 2-0 loss to Delta.

Shutdown

the second half. The improved control of the ball finally paid off 8 minutes, 10 seconds, into the second period.

Jordan Bunch brought the ball down the field before passing it off to Aubree Jarrells. JCHS goalkeeper Maleah Parsons came out and successfully blocked Jarrells' shot, but Bunch continued downfield and received a pass from Nila Johnson that she put in to go up 1-0.

Two minutes later, Bunch would come up big

The DHS junior read the ball well off of a goal kick from Parsons, intercepting it near the 30-vard line and took a few dribbles before passing it off to Jarrells again. This Delta's a top contender in Sept. 29.

The Eagles got more tage of a one-on-one to put quality looks at the goal in the ball in the left half of the goal for the score.

goal, I just felt like we were always one step too slow for so many possessions," Muhlenkamp said. "There was scary times, they could have scored a couple more goals. ... Our mindset got shredded a little bit."

Despite taking the loss, Muhlenkamp did point out several positives her team can take away from Tuesday. She saw her team's aggressiveness to attack the ball improve from previous games, while also proving they can hang around with a sectional opponent.

get the score we wanted, but it did show us —

Continued from page 10 time, Jarrells took advanthe sectional — that we can win the sectional this year," Muhlenkamp said. It's not like they beat us "Ater they scored that 10-0. Sometimes being the underdog in a situation, when it comes to sectional time, isn't a bad thing. We're going to play hungry and connect when we really have to."

The Patriots will get to take a crack at another potential sectional opponent tonight as they travel to Yorktown. They won't face the Mississinewa Indians or New Castle Trojans during the regular season.

Jay County will also learn on Sunday if they will get another chance at the Eagles early on, or if they will have to wait "Obviously we didn't until the later rounds as the IHSAA hosts the sectional show at 7 p.m. on

The Jay County Junior High tennis Winchester on Saturday.

team hosted Bluffton, Hagerstown and

Continued from page 10

Roundup

Hemmelgarn, Warvel lead

Finn Hemmelgarn and Grady Warvel led the way for the Patriots, each finishing with perfect 4-0 records.

Macy DeHoff also put up a perfect record, winning all three of her match- ton both earned one win.

Jay County — Boys tennis vs. South Adams -

5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Yorktown - 6 p.m.; Junior

high cross country at Wes-Del - 5 p.m.; Junior

high volleyball at Union City - 5:30 p.m.; Junior

Fort Recovery — Volleyball vs. New Knoxville -

5:30 p.m.; Middle school football vs. New Bre-

men - 5 p.m.; Middle school volleyball at Marion

Friday

Jay County — Football vs. Woodlan - 7:30

Fort Recovery — Football at New Bremen - 7

Today

3:10 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Col-

high football at Richmond – 6 p.m.

Local - 5 p.m.

TV sports

Sports on tap

es, while Elly Byrum also notched four wins to finish 4-1.

Job Dirksen, Grant Glentzer and Parker McCoy all finished 3-1 on the day, while Claudia Dirksen and Maria Laux each went 3-2.

Players with two victories were Arman Solis, Jace Vance, Henry Dirksen, Paul Dirksen and Madie Clark.

Bentley Brunswick and Jackson Den-

Francisco Giants (Bally Indiana)

Local notes Outing announced
Rocket Rally for 18 holes golf

10:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Illinois at

2:20 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Chicago tournament is set for Sept. 29 at Portland Golf Club with a 10 a.m. start time. 5:30 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Kansas 2

The tournament still has space for up to six more teams. It costs \$240 per team that 7:30 p.m. — College football: Virginia Tech at includes green fees and cart rental. 8 p.m. — College football: Washington at Rut-

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

Murdock by calling (260) 251-5514.

Grand opening set

The Jay County Clubhouse will host a grand opening from 4 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5. The new sports facility is located at 822 S. 500 West, Portland, The event will include door prizes, raffles, food and refreshments.

The Clubhouse will be offered discounts on premier memberships as well.

Final races

The second-to-last race in the Adams County 5K Challenge is the Callithumpian

Canter on Oct. 8. A fun run will start at 1:30 p.m., with the 5K follow at 2 p.m. at the River Greenway.

Preregistration is \$20 for the 5K and \$10 for the fun run until Sept. 23. Admission will be raised to \$25 and \$15 after Sept. 23. adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

Lake 5K Run/Walk, will take place on Nov. 26.

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 register can by visiting bit.ly/cooperfarmsturkeytrot, or search for "Cooper Farms Turkey Trot 5k" on speedy-

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7:30 p.m. — College football: Army at Temple (ESPN)

Friday

12:30 p.m. — WNBA: Connecticut Sun at Indi-

- College volleyball: UCLA at Nebras-

College volleyball: Ohio State at

8:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series:

9 p.m. — Boxing: Mikaela Mayer vs. Sandy Ryan (ESPN)

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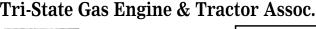
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Sports

Jay Volleyball gets back on track with sweep of SAHS, see story below

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Second half shutdown

Delta controls second half as it holds Patriots scoreless

By ANDREW BALKO The Commercial Review

matchups three against the Eagles during Muhlenkamp's Kendra tenure.

While they didn't manage to score, multiple close attempts in the first half implied the Patriots continue would streak.

to be a different story.

wind in the second half to take down the Jav County High School girls soccer team 2-0 on Tuesday, notching Delta's victory since 2021.

matchups since Muhhelm, Jay County (7-5) has beaten Delta (9-3) by at least two goals. That includes a sectional game during the 2022 postseason that Jay County won 4-0.

The Patriots looked as if they would continue that trend with a strong first half, despite failing to finish a handful of potential scoring opportunities. With a new life in the second half, the Eagles took full advantage of the first-half shutout to flip all the momentum.

"My halftime speech kind of revolved on we can be better than this team," said JCHS coach Muhlenkamp. "There was a lot of situations that we didn't score the goals and we should have. I thought we looked dominant in the first half, but something switched. I don't know if it was mentality. I don't know if Delta just got some kind of extra wind that we didn't see in the first half, but it led to them scoring 2-0."

Delta made seven key saves against Jay County

in the first half. Goalkeeper Ruth Sherck made The Patriots have won three diving saves with two coming in the first 15 minutes and one on a shot from London Lloyd with 32 seconds remaining.

While not a save, Sherck also had a key defensive play by coming out of the goal to put pressure on freshman Raylin Hummer, resulting in her shot sail-The second half proved ing wide left of the goal.

Another key save in the The Delta Eagles caught first half came from Delta's Shelby Riggin, who cleared the ball away from the goal on a corner kick that was out of the Sherck's reach.

With Delta owning a In the first three majority of the possession in the second half, Sherck lenkamp took over at the and the defense didn't have as much work to do to keep the Patriots scoreless, but Sarah Bohanon had a pair of nice plays in which she ran down Hummer on a 1-on-1 fast break to clear the ball before she could take a shot.

"Bohanon and Sherck back there do a great job and are kind of our rocks," said Delta coach Mason Turner. "Sarah has always been kind of a staple in our defense and so she does a really good job of playing that center back and covering. We knew they would be trying to play some of those direct passes to get those one-on-one moments, so Sarah was well prepared and aware of that and did a good job. ...

"Ruth does a great job in the goal, making sure if Sarah gets beat, she's coming out and working the angle. Trying to make sure she's cutting off that shot and does a good job defensively as a goalie, getting big and saving those shots.'

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School junior Aixa Lopez uses her body to shield the ball away from Delta's Jordan Bunch on Tuesday. Bunch scored a goal and assisted another in the Eagles' 2-0 win over the Patriots.

block out

- The Patriots got off to a hot start in the Allen County Athletic Conference before slipping up against

Adams Central. When facing another Adams County team, the Patriots blocked out the Starfires'

chances. The Jay County High School volleyball team recorded 13 blocks in a 25-20, 25-23, 25-20 triumph over the South Adams

Starfires on Tuesday. Mya Kunkler led the Patriots (8-7, 3-1 ACAC) with four blocks in the victory. The other middle blockers, Brenna Schmiesing and Maria Hemmelgarn, combined for five blocks. Elizabeth Barnett added two, while Hallie Schwieterman and Paisley Fugiett each added one.

Schmiesing also fueled the team took down the South

Local roundup

offense with nine kills. Hemmelgarn and Barnett each followed with seven, while Kunkler and Schwieterman added

Other statistical leaders were Fugiett with 25 assists, Brenna Bailey with 15 digs and Barnett and Lani Muhlenkamp each with one ace.

Pats down Starfires

The Jay County Junior High School eighth grade football Adams Starfires 26-8 on Tues-

Logan Wendel powered the offense for the Patriots, scoring three touchdowns. The first came on the ground with a 3yard rush for the score.

The second time he found the end zone came on a 40 yard pass from quarterback Brady Millspaugh.

Wendel's final TD came as the result of a defensive play on a 50-yard pick six.

The only other Jay County touchdown came from Rayden Sollars on a 5-yard pass from Millspaugh.

Andrew Suman led the Patriots defense with an interception and a fumble recovery.

Runners dominate

The Jay County junior high of the top five.

cross country team dominated Muncie Southside on Tuesday, taking all five of the top spots in both races.

Southside didn't have enough players to compete as a team in the meet.

Sam Wiggins paced the boys with a time of 11 minutes, 31 seconds. Following Wiggins, was Caison Lloyd, crossing the finish line in 12:44.

The next three finishers for the boys were Ango Kato (13:05), Logan Fifer (13:25) and Carter Lloyd (14:07).

Gracie Rowles won the girls race, clocking in at 14:41. Abby Rowles followed suit in 15:28. while Kenzie Bentz (16:59), Alexis Tipton (17:25) and Allie Rowles (17:43) made up the rest

BERNE — The Jay County Junior High volleyball teams both fell to the South Adams Starfires on Tuesday.

The eighth grade team was defeated 25-22, 25-22, while the seventh graders took a 25-20, 25-21 loss.

Kenady Lyons led the eighth grade team (8-3) offensively with two kills. She also had an ace and a block.

The top defensive effort came from Kylee Timmerman with 10 digs.

The leaders for the seventh grade team (6-5) also had two kills and 10 digs. Brenna Weitzel provided the offense, while Bella Barnett contributed defensively.

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We have a busy schedule of special sections and pages coming up.

Mark your calendar NOW.

Harvest

Wednesday, Oct. 23 - UNIV*

Randolph County girls basketball

Tuesday, Nov. 5 - N-G*

Randolph County boys basketball

Thursday, Nov. 21 - N-G*

How to cook a turkey

Tuesday, Nov. 26 - N-G* DEADLINES ARE ONE WEEK PRIOR

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*UNIV = appears in all Graphic Printing Newspapers, CR = The Commercial Review, NG = The News-Gazette, NT = The News Times, NS = The News and Sun