

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Recovery royalty

Fort Recovery High School crowned Gavin Evers and Anna Roessner as its homecoming king and queen prior to the football game against Parkway on Friday. Evers made up for a poor kickoff by jumping on the ball and recovering it for the Indians after an offensive touch to help them secure a 36-24 victory. For more on the game, see page 10.

## Another insurance option reviewed

*Commissioners hear from UGS in latest presentation*

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

Jay County Commissioners have a decision to make regarding health insurance.

Commissioners heard from another insurance broker and third-party administrator during a special session Friday.

Representatives from Understand, Service and Innovate (USI) Insurance pitched a partially self-funded insurance plan to commissioners in August. The county's current insurance broker, OneDigital, brought in a representative of captive manager ParetoHealth to speak with commissioners Tuesday about another partially self-funded option.

Broker Steve Stockton of Bixler Insurance and Unified Group Services representatives David Swinford and Forrest Williamson met with commissioners Friday to share their options for a partially self-funded plan. The third-party health insurance administrator based out of Anderson handles approximately 298 cases on a partially self-funded basis. Portland has provided its employees health insurance plans on a partially self-funded basis through the group for nearly eight years.

"We're an independent TPA (third-party administrator), we don't work for UHC (United Healthcare) or Anthem. I always tell people we work for you," said Williamson, vice president of sales at Unified Group Services.

Williamson noted groups on partially self-funded plans can still have benefits and coverage as well as financial protections in place.

"What we want to do is help you create stability, give you control to create benefit plans that in the reality of it, meet your peoples' needs," he said.

Williamson talked about the importance of engaging with clients and serving their needs, starting with a dedicated claims account manager. He also noted his company has various programs available — one includes its Pharmacy Benefit Manager partnerships — to save money.

Swinford explained he visits Portland at least three times a year and sits down with city officials to discuss claims, benefits and other specifics with their health insurance.

"Customer service is the key," said Williamson.

Unified Group Services offered options with \$75,000 and \$100,000 caps for how much the county would need to pay on a high claim until insurance kicks in.

Both options projected the county's annual total cost for partially self-funded health insurance to come in between \$1.5 million and \$1.7 million.

See Insurance page 2

## Ivy Tech campus celebrates renovation

By ADRIAN MARTINEZ-DE LA CRUZ

The Times (Munster) Tribune News Service

EAST CHICAGO — The Ivy Tech Community College Lake County campus is celebrating the comple-

tion of a \$12 million renovation project that is giving a new look to its East Chicago site.

Ivy Tech leaders and local officials took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the occasion Wednesday

which featured food made by culinary students and an exhibit of paintings from local artists.

The upgrades include new exterior windows, lighting and furnishings, as well as the realignment of

the main stairway near the entrance of the building.

Additionally, the ceiling of the lobby has been cut out to create a two-story space, with an upstairs course that serves as a gathering space that includes

new study pods — sound-proof booths where individual students can work inside — and a dedicated space for Ivy+ Career Link — the community college's career development department.

## Israel continuing to weigh response

*Strikes on Hezbollah have been stepped up*

By DAN WILLIAMS and ABEER ABU OMAR

Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

Israel has yet to decide how to retaliate against Iran for last week's missile attack, according to an Israeli official, and remains under pressure from the U.S. and others to limit the severity of its response.

A security cabinet meeting on Thursday ended without a decision on what the response should be, said the official, who asked not to be identified discussing private deliberations. It's unclear if there are divisions within Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's coalition government or if it's biding its time.

Meanwhile, Israel stepped up strikes aimed at Tehran-backed Hezbollah in Lebanon, bombing Beirut overnight after two days of relative calm in the

Lebanese capital. The attacks killed 22 people and wounded 117, according to the health ministry, and are part of a campaign to degrade the militant group after more than a year of cross-border fire.

Israel says the air and ground assault on Lebanon is necessary because diplomatic efforts have failed to stop Hezbollah's missile and drone attacks. The offensive has so far killed hundreds of people and caused more than a million to flee their homes, according to the Lebanese government.

The United Nations peacekeeping mission in southern Lebanon said two of its personnel were injured on Friday by explosions near its Naqoura headquarters that were blamed on Israeli forces. One was taken to hospital. It's the second such incident involving the U.N. peacekeepers in the past two days.

The Israel Defense Forces said the peacekeepers were "inadvertently hurt during combat against Hezbollah." The IDF "expresses deep concern" and is conducting "a thorough review at the highest levels of command to determine the details."

France's foreign ministry summoned the Israeli ambassador and said the country's authorities "must explain themselves."



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Clinic cheer

Harper Wendel cheers during halftime of Friday night's Jay County High School football game against the Lapel Bulldogs. She was one of 98 girls who attended the JCHS cheerleading clinic this week and then joined the Patriot cheerleaders on the track at halftime Friday. For more on the game, see page 10.

### Deaths

Ray Paxson, 70, Penn Township  
William Montgomery, 82, Portland  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 77 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for a high in the upper 70s with a 20% chance of rain. Tonight's low will be in the mid 50s with a 60% chance of rain and winds gusting to 20 miles per hour.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Public Library will offer fall-themed take-and-make crafts for children ages preschool through sixth grade on Tuesday.  
The library will also host Fall into Fun from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday.

### Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS boys soccer sectional championship game.  
Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Jay County Commissioners meeting.  
Thursday — Details from next week's Redkey Town Council meeting.



# Insurance ...

Continued from page 1  
According to estimates from Unified Group Services, the county would pay about \$95,202 annually in administration costs. Under the \$75,000 cap, Jay County would pay a maximum \$1.08 million in claims annually. Jay County would pay a maximum \$1.187 million in claims under the \$100,000 cap. (Between the two options, Unified Group Services expects the county to have between \$860,000 and \$950,000 in claims next year.)

Commissioners president Chad Aker asked about “lasers,” which are higher deductibles applying to individuals with more claims or higher risk. (The individual’s plan stays the same, but the employer takes a financial hit.) Williamson explained companies can apply a “no new laser” policy with a rate cap — captive manager ParetoHealth offered that option in its informational

presentation to commissioners Tuesday — but clients pay for it in their premium. The other option, he said, is allowing lasers to avoid higher premiums.

“The goal with self-funding is to get your premium (down) and control your cost,” said Williamson. “Over 80% of lasers do not hit.”

He pointed to mitigation efforts as a way to avoid additional lasers, noting 60% of lasers are applied because of pharmaceutical costs.

Answering a question from commissioner Brian McGalliard, Swinford confirmed Portland has a no new laser policy but does pay more for its plan. McGalliard talked about the

benefits to having a local broker like Stockton, whose business is based out of Portland.

“The big key to me is having somebody like Steve ... that I can trust,” said McGalliard. “Really trying to figure this out — this is not what I do for a living. I need somebody like Steve, I (can) say, ‘Steve, advise me. Tell me what I need to do. What’s the best thing to do for the county? And then explain it to me.’”

Former Jay County auditor Nancy Culy — she returned to work as an employee in the auditor’s office in recent years — noted the county initially started doing business with its current broker, OneDigital, because of a past local tie within the company.

Williamson shared concerns about the county joining the ParetoHealth captive, saying clients are facing 19% increases next year. Looking at Jay County’s plan and size, he said, he

doesn’t think the county is a great fit for a captive group. He noted his company would evaluate captive groups annually to see if they make sense for the county’s needs.

McGalliard pointed to significant cost savings over the next several years if Jay County switched to a partially self-funded plan. Swinford said every four out of five years turn out positive and explained their goal is to help clients build a reserve for the year with harsher claims.

Stockton advocated for Unified Group Services.

“These guys, if you decide to move to them, they’re working for you, because it’s really your plan. They’re just facilitating it,” he said.

Commissioners McGalliard and Aker, absent Rex Journay, took no formal action Friday. They meet next at 5 p.m. Monday.

**“I need somebody like Steve, I (can) say, ‘Steve, advise me. Tell me what I need to do.**

**What’s the best thing to do for the county?**

**And then explain it to me.”**

—Brian McGalliard, Jay County Commissioner

## CR almanac

Sunday 10/13	Monday 10/14	Tuesday 10/15	Wednesday 10/16	Thursday 10/17
<b>74/44</b>	<b>58/34</b>	<b>54/33</b>	<b>59/35</b>	<b>65/40</b>
Sunday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a slight chance of rain.	Columbus Day looks to be mostly sunny with a slight chance of rain.	Sunny by day, with cool temperatures reaching into the low 30s at night.	Another day of sunny skies with near-freezing temperatures at night.	Thursday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high near 65 degrees.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 2-5-8 Daily Four: 1-2-4-3 Quick Draw: 10-16-23-24-31-32-37-39-45-52-53-55-58-60-64-65-66-68-75-79	Pick 3: 1-3-6 Pick 4: 2-4-4-8 Pick 5: 9-8-3-3-2
<b>Ohio</b> Midday	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$150 million

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....3.66 Dec. corn .....3.96 Wheat .....4.99	Oct. beans .....9.96 Wheat .....5.49
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....3.61 Dec. corn .....3.96 Jan. corn .....4.18	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.65 Nov. corn .....3.67 Beans .....9.51 Nov. beans .....9.63 Wheat .....5.39
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....3.61 Nov. corn .....3.61 Beans .....9.46	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....3.51 Nov. corn .....3.51 Beans .....9.36 Nov. beans .....9.51 Wheat .....5.19

## Today in history

In 1810, Munich, Germany, held the first Oktoberfest celebration. It involved a horse race to celebrate the marriage of the crown prince of Bavaria.  
In 1935, opera singer Luciano Pavarotti was born in Modena, Italy. He performed solo and as part of the “Three Tenors” along with Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras. He has won five Grammy Awards and a Kennedy Center Honor in 2001.  
In 1998, Matthew Shepard died in Fort Collins, Colorado, after being beaten and left in the cold by two men several days earlier in Laramie, Wyoming. He was lured to a local bar

and attacked because of his homosexuality. The play “The Laramie Project” chronicles his death through interviews with the residents of Laramie.  
In 2003, Kyle Carpenter scored both goals for the Jay County High School boys soccer team as it defeated the Anderson Highland Scots 2-0 to close the regular season.  
In 2021, Jay County High School graduate Garrett Krieg was hired as the South Adams boys basketball coach. Krieg, who played for the Patriots’ 2011 sectional championship team, had spent one year leading the Southwestern Spartans in Shelbyville.  
—The CR

## Citizen’s calendar

<b>Monday</b> 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of Trustees, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.	7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Park Board, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
<b>Tuesday</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.	
<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	

## Obituaries

### Ray Paxson

Ray D. Paxson, 70, Penn Township, Jay County, died Thursday at Persimmon Ridge. Arrangements are pending at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, Montpelier.

### William Montgomery

Jan. 12, 1942-Oct. 10, 2024  
William “Bill” A. Montgomery, age 82, of Portland passed away on Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, at his residence. He was born in Portland on Jan. 12, 1942, the son of Ivan and Maude (Sherry) Montgomery. He was married on Aug. 27, 1966, to Sally Shewell who survives.

Bill had worked for Joyce Dayton and the parks department for the City of Portland. He was a 1960 Poling High School graduate and enjoyed cars and fishing.



Montgomery

Surviving is his wife Sally; one son, Brian A. Montgomery (wife: Deborah) of Portland; one daughter, Kim Hinshaw (Kevin Sills) of Pennville; six grandchildren, Quentin Hinshaw, Jasmine Link (husband: Tony), Andrea Fortman (husband: Jeff), Danielle Engelbrecht (husband: Josh), Tabbi Wasson and Jeremy Wasson (wife: Kristy); and 18 great-grandchildren.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Cancer Society. Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is handling the arrangements. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.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 funeral homes or mortuary services.*

## Felony arrests

### Drug possession

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for possession of methamphetamine. Stanley L. Lemaster, 67,

4639 E. 700 South, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony. He was released from Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

### Nonsupport

A Huntington woman was arrested Wednesday for nonsupport of a dependent child. Jessica M. Butcher, 32,

336 E. Franklin St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony. She was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

## Capsule Reports

### Woman injured

A Portland woman sustained injuries to her head and eyes after she crashed into the back of the vehicles in front of her at the intersection of U.S. 27 and county road 800 North about 5:20 p.m. Tuesday.

Milise L. Beitler, 56, Portland, was driving a 2019 Jeep Cherokee south on the highway behind a 2019 Dodge Grand Caravan driven by 29-year-old Gabie Huntsman of Portland. Huntsman was driving behind a 2010 Ford Escape driven

by 24-year-old Jose L. Hernandez of Portland. According to a Jay County Sheriff’s Office report, Hernandez and Huntsman stopped waiting on a truck in front of them to turn onto county road 800 North. Beitler’s vehicle crashed into the back of Huntsman’s van, causing Beitler’s car to go off the west side of the highway into a ditch and strike a road sign, cross county road 800 North on the west side of the highway and stop in a bean field.

Beitler’s vehicle also struck the

back of the vehicle Hernandez was driving.

Beitler was administered a blood alcohol and drug test with results pending. Hernandez was arrested and preliminarily charged with a Class C misdemeanor for driving without a license. He was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$1,000 bond.

The vehicle Hernandez was driving — it’s registered to De La Cruz Hernandez of Portland — and the other two vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

### SERVICES

Today

**Faller**, Michael: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Kirkpatrick**, Lawrence: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Monday

**Vondrell**, Kenneth: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

**Whitenack**, Charlene: 11 a.m., Lawndale Cemetery, rural Ridgeville.

**Hurst**, Janice: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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## Character counts

Students were recently honored for displaying trustworthiness at East Elementary School. Pictured above, front row, are first graders Lillian Stanton and Avery Jutte and (back row) Ivan May, Wyatt Michael and Sage Dudley. Not pictured is first grader Yaro Nieto Trejo.

At top right are (front row) second graders Daniela Alig, Isla Cook and Starlynn Roser and (back row) Wyatt Kahlig, Parker Eley, Mason Hamilton and Connor Schmidt.

At bottom right are (front row) kindergarteners Camila Zuagg, Iris Gallegos, Owen Keen and Freddy Nibarger and (back row) Maria Nieport, Alex Lochtefeld, Otto Huelskamp and Mason Pfeifer.



Photos provided

# Once-supportive husband has become bitter

DEAR ABBY: Seventeen years ago, I had a mental breakdown. For the first three years afterward, my husband stood by me. The medications I was prescribed caused me to gain more than 100 pounds. I have tried diets, to no avail. I suggested to him that maybe we could hold each other and see where it led us. His reply was, "I'm no longer attracted to you. You knew when we married that I wasn't attracted to larger (fat) women." Since then, I no longer respect or value him. He has his room, and

## Dear Abby



I have mine on the other side of the house. We do absolutely nothing together.

When he comes to my bedroom, he doesn't knock. When I need to go through his room, I

always knock. He said, "This is my house, too, and I don't knock." I can't stand his arrogant ways. I still have to pretend we are married, but I don't feel it. He calls me "baby." I have expressed that I have no interest in pretending and have asked him to stop calling me that.

I'm on a fixed income. All of my retirement money is invested in this home and property. I pay all the bills. We haven't had sex in 14 years. I'm lonely for male companionship. I don't know how much longer I can

live this way, even though he didn't leave when I really needed him. Please advise. — NUMB IN ALABAMA

DEAR NUMB: It has been 17 years since you were prescribed the medications you have been taking, and there may have been improvements made in the intervening years. Contact the doctor who prescribed them and ask whether there is something newer that would allow you to lose some of the weight you haven't been able to lose.

It may help if you explain what those meds have done to the state of your marriage.

If adjusting your medication is not possible, you will have to decide how important male companionship is to you, because you may have to find it elsewhere. Consult an attorney and ask what you would wind up with if the house were sold and the money was split. After that, you may be in a better position to explore your options.

# Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

### Sunday

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'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.

**JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION** — Will meet at noon the second Monday of each month at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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

**DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP** — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

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

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

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

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

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For

more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

**REDISCOVERING JOY** — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

### 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.

**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.

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

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Friday's Solution

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

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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## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**For Jay County Elementary Schools  
October 14-18**

<b>Monday: Main Entrees:</b> Buttermilk Pancakes, Turkey sausage link, Syrup	<b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Hot smokey ham & cheese sandwich, Turkey cobb salad, croutons
<b>Sides for all meals:</b> Tater tots	
<b>Tuesday: Main Entrees:</b> Classic pepperoni pizza	<b>Alternate Entrees:</b> Hot smokey ham & cheese sandwich, Turkey cobb salad, croutons
<b>Sides for all meals:</b> Tater tots	
<b>Wednesday:</b> No School	
<b>Thursday:</b> No School	
<b>Friday:</b> No School	

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# Thank you for series support

To the editor:  
On behalf of the Arts Place Performance Committee, we would like to express our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to the fantastic success of our recent summer concert series.

## Letters to the Editor

This year's series was a celebration of music, community and the joy of summer. Featuring an incredible lineup of talented musicians, including Phil Dirt & the Dozers; Whoa, Man! Band, Celebrating Women in Rock; Liverpool Lads: A Beatles Tribute; and Sounds of Summer: A Beach Boys Tribute; the performances were nothing short of extraordinary. We were absolutely thrilled to witness the growing crowds with each concert as our community came together to share in the joy of live music.

We would also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the delicious food trucks that kept our concertgoers satisfied and happy. Payne's Food Truck, Mrs. P's Kitchen, Ryzone's Food Truck, The Scoop Station, Imagine Burgers Food Truck, Kona Ice, Pappie's Smokehouse BBQ and Ice-

burg Ice Cream all played a vital role in making our events a truly enjoyable experience.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors: Compass Wealth Solutions, The Portland Foundation and the City of Portland. Their contributions were instrumental in making these free concerts a reality for our community.

We hope that this summer concert series brought joy, fun and a sense of togetherness to our community. Thank you again for your unwavering support, and we look forward to seeing you for the 2025 Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series beginning in February 2025.

Sincerely,  
LeeAnn Miller and  
Laura Pieper  
Co-chairs  
Arts Place Performance Committee



# Braun reveals disregard

By JOHN KRULL  
TheStatehouseFile.com

Ah, Mike Braun. The Republican junior senator from Indiana and current GOP nominee for governor did something particularly Mike Braun-like the other day. He said something that revealed his almost complete disregard for history, law, justice and common decency.

Some Indiana reporters asked him if he would "be OK" with the U.S. Supreme Court deciding that the question of interracial marriage should be left up to the states.

Braun's answer was almost incomprehensible but indicated that he would be OK with the nation's high court taking decisions consenting adults currently make about whom they marry out of their hands and putting those choices instead in the hands of state legislators.

"Yes, I think that that's something — if you're not wanting the Supreme Court to weigh in on issues like that, you're not going to be able to have your cake and eat it too. I think that's hypocritical," Braun said.

Pressed later to clarify his gibberish, Braun muddled it even more.

"Earlier during a virtual press conference, I misunderstood a line of questioning that ended up being about interracial marriage. Let me be clear on that issue—there is no question the Constitution prohibits discrimination of any kind based on race. That is not something that is even up for debate, and I condemn racism in any form, at all levels and by any states, entities, or individuals," Braun said.

Sigh. Actually, the U.S. Constitution has been anything but clear about banning discrimination based on race.

As part of the compromise that made possible the Constitution's adoption, enslaved Black Americans were counted, for purposes of congress-

John Krull



based on race for the next 60 years.

Brown vs. the Board of Education in 1954 overturned the Plessy decision, but not so decisively that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 weren't required to ban wholesale forms of racial discrimination in America.

Nor have the 14th Amendment, the Brown decision, the Civil Rights Act and the Voting Rights Act been sufficient to convince the Republican candidate for president, a former president seeking to reclaim the office, from arguing that he will deport people based on their national origin from the United States even if they were born here. Nor have the amendment, the Supreme Court decision and those two landmark civil rights acts prevented Donald Trump from trying to deny voters, many of them Black, the right to cast their ballots.

Mike Braun, as a senator, has been one of Trump's staunchest supporters. As a gubernatorial candidate, he all but begged for the former president's endorsement.

Given Trump's uninformed and less than devout service to equal protection under the law, it's not surprising Braun slipped up and said the quiet part aloud.

But that makes it no less tragic.

Trump and Braun, you see, represent what once was called the party of Lincoln.

That's Abraham Lincoln, the president who won the Civil War, ended slavery and made the 14th Amendment possible.

.....  
*Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouse-File.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students. The views expressed are those of the author only and should not be attributed to Franklin College.*

# Previous cases lay out a framework

By JASON W. PARK  
The Charlotte Observer  
Tribune News Service

After college, I was saddled with a mental illness so severe that it became time to call in the cavalry.

My family, friends, physicians and professors supported my Ph.D. training, which ultimately put me back in the saddle. Now, I harness my horse sense and intellectual horsepower to outmaneuver all the wannabe school shooters out there.

The assailants at recent mass shootings in Santa Fe, Texas; Oxford Township, Michigan and Barrow County, Georgia, were minors when they committed their crimes. Identifying similarities in their accounts, across different times and places, is crucial to understanding their behavior. After careful deliberation, I came up with the following "Five C's," a strategic framework designed to thwart future school shooters.

### Catch

Law enforcement first identifies school threats. Social media, student peers, school teachers, nearby neighbors and family members are all sources of "leakage." The Texas shooter had Facebook pages of alarming images. The Michigan subject repeatedly expressed dangerous tendencies at school, and the Georgia assailant was paid a visit by the FBI for posting threats on the message board service Discord. Law enforcement has become adept at identifying credible threats and is the first line of defense against them.

### Commit

A Crisis Intervention Team could then detain potential aggressors for psychiatric evaluation. Civil commitment laws exist across the nation, although the specifics differ from state to state. If they are apprehended before they commit a crime, society should give these minors a chance to reform themselves.

### Confiscate

These shooters got their guns from Mom and Dad, not a gun shop. Red flag laws let police, family or acquaintances petition

Jason W. Park



a judge for a court order to seize a person's firearms temporarily. Red flag laws exist in 21 states. Every state needs a red-flag law, or a federal red-flag law, to prevent unfettered access to guns these young people once enjoyed.

### Criminalize

The parents of these shooters were or are being tried for ignoring warning signs of their sons' declining mental health, illegally buying a firearms for their underage sons or failing to secure the guns away from their son. Any of these charges should be grounds for imprisonment. The specter of incarceration corrects for a dangerous tendency in society: that in modern families, moral culpability is a separate, not shared, burden.

### Continue, convert

If these troubled youths' distress is addressed adequately, the red flag restriction (if one exists) expires and prosecutors decide they have no case, then the youngsters return home, the guns are given back and the parents dodge a bullet. But otherwise, the children should be remanded to child protective services, red flag terms should be extended and the parents should be formally arraigned.

These Five C's are a strategic framework custom-tailored to the tactical demands of Republicans (Commit), Democrats (Confiscate) and independents (Criminalize): a horses for courses approach. It may be a hard sell, but if meaningful legislation were passed, we would all be redeemed.

Remember, this is done in memory of the honored dead, so that school shootings may hopefully go the way of the horse and buggy.

.....  
*Park is a mental health advocate based in Los Angeles.*

# The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus  
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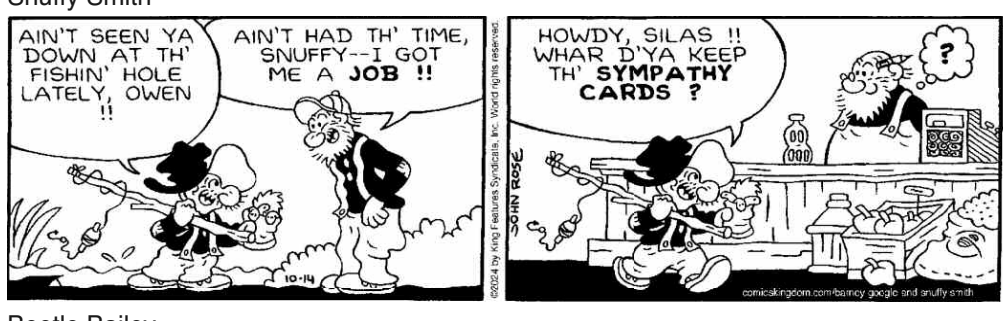
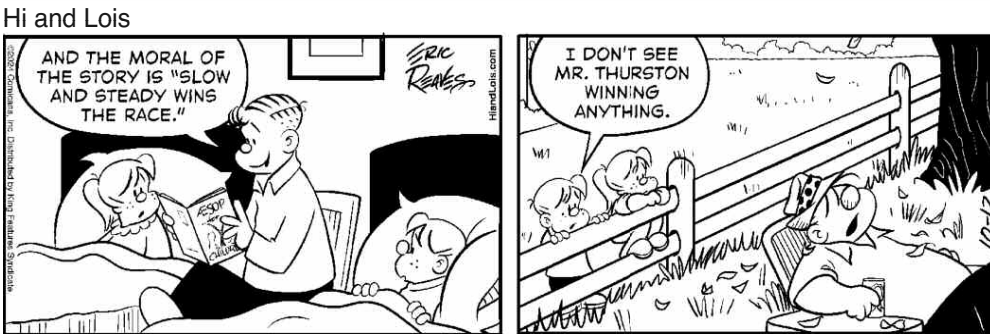
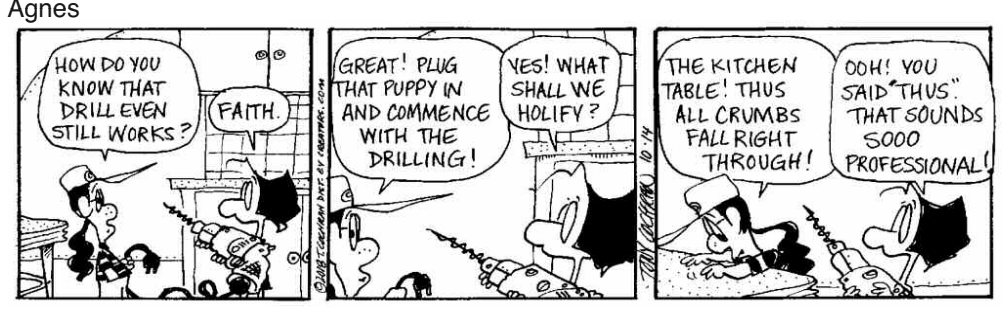
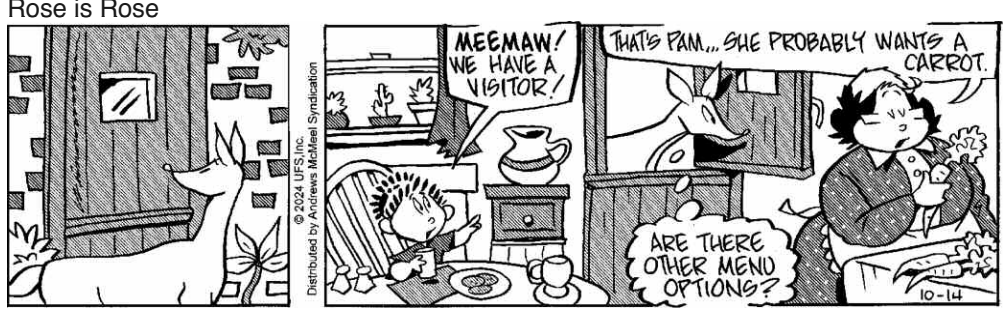
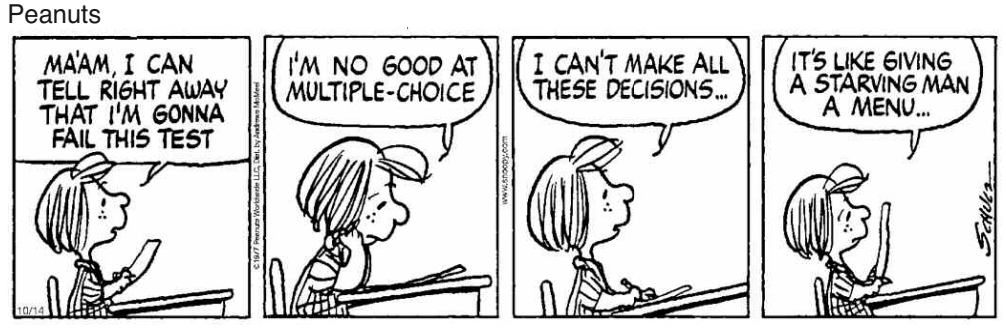
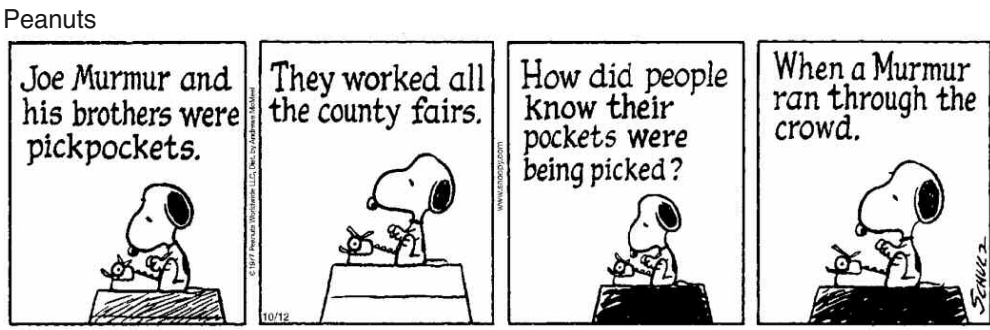
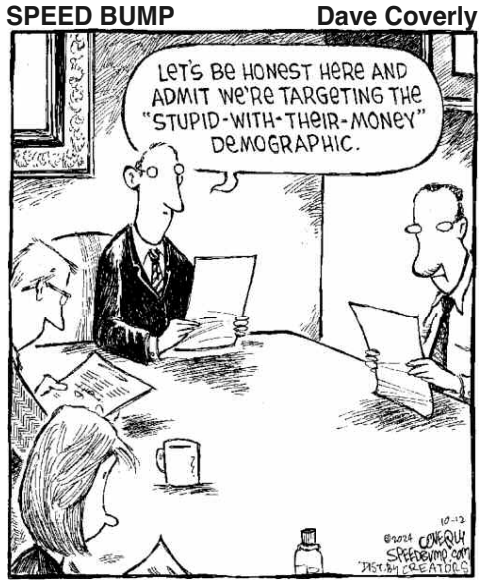
The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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

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

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# We Deliver

# Laughter



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

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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**00 CLASSIFIEDS**

**CLASSIFIED ADS**  
260-726-8141  
**ADVERTISING RATES**  
20 Word Minimum  
Effective 07/01/2018:  
Minimum charge....  
\$12.40  
1 insertion.....62¢/  
word  
2 insertions.....81¢/  
word  
3 insertions.....96¢/  
word  
6 insertions.... \$1.14/  
word  
12 insertions. \$1.52/  
word  
26 insertions. \$1.77/  
word  
Includes  
Online.....FREE  
Classified Display \$6.95/  
per column inch  
No borders or logos  
allowed on Classified  
Page  
Card of Thanks Up to  
100 words.... \$13.00  
In Memory Up to 100  
words.... \$13.00  
Advertising Deadline is  
12:00 p.m. the day prior  
to publication.  
Pre-Payment required  
for: Rummage sales,  
business opportunities,  
jobs wanted, boats and  
sporting equipment,  
wanted to rent, motor-  
ized vehicles, real estate  
and mobile homes.

**40 NOTICES**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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**J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC.** Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

**"SEAMSTRESS NAN" HOMEMADE** Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, Appliqué, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334

**GOODHEW'S ALL SEASON** Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

**Little JJ's Tree Service**  
Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding, Firewood available  
**765-509-1956**

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Sell It!  
**(260) 726-8141**

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RESIDENTIAL • VINYL  
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rgfence@yahoo.com  
**(765) 546-8801**

**BOOLMAN'S**  
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.  
Highway 67 W,  
Portland, Indiana  
**260-251-9735**

**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 2400 N 400 E  
Winchester, IN  
Saturday Morning  
October 12th, 2024  
10:00 A.M.  
**REAL ESTATE**  
3 bedroom, 2 bath,  
ranch style home 1232  
sq. ft of living area and 2  
car attached garage.  
Home has gas forced air  
furnace with central air,  
gas fireplace and a large  
rear composite deck  
with gazebo. 2 outbuild-  
ings. Property includes  
20 acres with 2 acres  
tillable, a pond and  
woods.  
**TRUCKS-MOWER-  
TOOLS**  
2020 Chevrolet Silvera-  
do LT Z71- 4x4 Crew  
Cab Truck. Truck is in  
immaculate condition;  
2000 Chevrolet SL;  
Simplicity 27hp Citation  
KT Zero turn lawn  
mower; Craftsman 10"  
table saw; tap & die set;  
Dewalt 12v 20 v charg-  
ers; DEWALT BATTERY  
TOOLS; Polaris front  
blade; and other items  
not listed.  
**VENDING MACHINE-  
PADDLE BOAT-HOUSE-  
HOLD GOODS-OLD  
ITEMS**  
Vending machine (cans);  
Playmate paddle boat;  
(2) ping pong tables;  
Maytag washer & dryer;  
Haler chest freezer;  
cedar chest; (2) Fire  
King Tulip bowls; Faber-  
ware; Pepsi clock; Coke  
sign; buggy seat; wagon  
wheels; milk cans; and  
other items not listed.  
**JAMES V. LEWIS  
ESTATE**  
By Dave Tillman Person-  
al Representative  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608  
Travis Theurer  
AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Eric Robbins  
AY12100020  
Kaden Khayyata  
AY12400069

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
SATURDAY OCTOBER  
12TH, 2024  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 715 E MAIN  
ST  
PORTLAND, IN.  
**OPEN HOUSE SEPT.**  
29TH 1-3PM. Both prop-  
erties will be offered at  
715 E Main St.  
**REAL ESTATE**  
715 E Main St.-3 Bed-  
room, 1.5 bathroom bun-  
galow containing 1984  
sq ft finished living area.  
Central air, Det. garage  
w/heated shop. Move in  
condition.  
660 E Water St.-2 Bed-  
room home containing  
936 sq ft finished living  
area, Central air 20" x  
24 " detached garage.  
**GUNS**  
Ruger security six  
357mag revolver, Sav-  
age hex barrel  
22cal.pump, Parker  
Brothers 12ga side by  
side with rabbit ears.  
Large lot of ammo.  
**ANTIQUES-FURNI-  
TURE-MISC**  
Cedar chest, Shoe shine  
box, Victor combination  
safe, Old Radios, Coke  
Cooler, Wooden Keg,  
Sofa and coffee table.  
**WOODWORKING-  
SHOP-MISC**  
Grizzly 10" table saw,  
Grizzly router, Power-  
matic 12" planer, roll  
away tool box, Utility  
carts and cabinets, V  
bottom aluminum boat  
and trailer, Fishing Poles  
and supplies, Several  
items not mentioned.  
**OWNERS; DONALD  
SUTTON ESTATE,**  
**HELEN (Toni) SUTTON**  
Note: Check Auctionsoft  
and AuctionZip for more  
photos.  
**SHAWVER AUCTION-  
EERING AND REAL  
ESTATE**  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver  
Lic. #AU10500168  
260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver  
Lic. #AU19700040  
260-726-5587

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday October 19th,  
2024  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 714 S VINE  
ST  
PORTLAND, IN.  
**OPEN HOUSE Sunday**  
Oct. 6th 1-3p.m. or for  
private showing phone  
auctioneers.  
**REAL ESTATE**  
2 bedroom home con-  
taining 896 sq. ft. fin-  
ished living area. GFA  
with Central air .  
Attached 1 car garage.  
Newer roof, siding, win-  
dows. Alley access as  
well as on-street park-  
ing.  
**ANTIQUES-APPLI-  
ANCES-MISC**  
Oak child's rocker,  
Bench with cast iron  
ends, School desk,  
Washboards, Old pap  
bottles, Indiana glass  
and other collectibles  
glassware, Willow tree  
figurines, Whirlpool  
refrigerator, (New) police  
scanner, (New) KERO  
Heat kerosene heater,  
Treadmill, elliptical, and  
exercise bike. Yard and  
garden tools.  
**OWNERS; SANDRA  
DRUMM, DECEASED.**  
By Lisa Bonifas and  
Amy Stephenson  
Note: Check Auctionsoft  
and AuctionZip for more  
photos.  
**SHAWVER AUCTION-  
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Foundation Replacement  
Leave Message  
**260-341-3023**

**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
THURSDAY, OCTOBER  
24TH, 2024  
TIME 5:00 P. M.  
LOCATED: Westlawn  
Business Center, 234 W  
Pearl St., Dunkirk, IN  
LAND  
170 Acres located in  
Richland and Jefferson  
Townships, Jay County,  
IN. To be offered in 5  
tracts or in any combina-  
tion thereof.  
Tract 1: 36.6 Acres with  
32.5 tillable located in  
Section 1, Richland  
Township, Jay County  
Indiana, with frontage on  
County Roads 400 S  
and 800 W.  
Tract 2: 44 Acres all til-  
lable in Section 6, Jeffer-  
son Township, Jay  
County Indiana with  
frontage on County  
Roads 400 S, 800 W,  
350 S.  
Tract 3: 36 Acres wood-  
ed in Section 6, Jeffer-  
son Township, Jay  
County Indiana with  
frontage on County  
Roads 400 S, and 350  
S.  
Tract 4: 20.5 Acres all  
tillable in Section 6, Jef-  
ferson Township, Jay  
County Indiana with  
frontage on County  
Road 350 S.  
Tract 5: 28.5 Acres  
wooded in Section 6,  
Jefferson Township, Jay  
County Indiana with  
frontage on County  
Road 400 S.  
**OWNER: MYRNA  
COOK ESTATE.**  
LeeAnn Hedges Combs,  
Trust Officer.  
**NOTE: Check Auction-  
soft and AuctionZip for  
more photos.**  
**SHAWVER AUCTION-  
EERING 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**  
Saturday October 19th,  
2024  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
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PORTLAND, IN.  
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Oct. 6th 1-3p.m. or for  
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auctioneers.  
**REAL ESTATE**  
2 bedroom home con-  
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ished living area. GFA  
with Central air .  
Attached 1 car garage.  
Newer roof, siding, win-  
dows. Alley access as  
well as on-street park-  
ing.  
**ANTIQUES-APPLI-  
ANCES-MISC**  
Oak child's rocker,  
Bench with cast iron  
ends, School desk,  
Washboards, Old pap  
bottles, Indiana glass  
and other collectibles  
glassware, Willow tree  
figurines, Whirlpool  
refrigerator, (New) police  
scanner, (New) KERO  
Heat kerosene heater,  
Treadmill, elliptical, and  
exercise bike. Yard and  
garden tools.  
**OWNERS; SANDRA  
DRUMM, DECEASED.**  
By Lisa Bonifas and  
Amy Stephenson  
Note: Check Auctionsoft  
and AuctionZip for more  
photos.  
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refrigerator, (New) police  
scanner, (New) KERO  
Heat kerosene heater,  
Treadmill, elliptical, and  
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is seeking a Human  
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retaining existing hires.  
Responsibilities: Screen,  
recruit, and interview  
potential employees, On-  
board and train new  
employees, Implement  
company culture, values  
and policies, Provide  
management with  
requested reports and  
documents, Run Payroll  
thru ADP, Accurately  
maintain employee files,  
Renew Insurance. Quali-  
fications: Knowledge of  
labor and employment  
laws, Ability to build rap-  
port with all employees,  
Strong organizational  
skills, Excellent written  
and verbal communica-  
tion skills, Other duties  
will be discussed during  
the interview. Please  
contact us at 260-766-  
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vice@tjxpservice.com.  
Salary up to \$55,000  
annually based on expe-  
rience.

**130 MISC. FOR SALE**

**APPLES-CIDER-PUMP-  
KINS** For Sale. Daily  
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Farms; 5679 Wabash  
Rd., Coldwater, OH. 419-  
942-1502

**PAPER END ROLLS**  
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**ALUMINUM SHEETS**  
23"x30", .007 thick.  
Clean and shiny on one  
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The Commercial  
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Portland 260-726-8141.

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UMN**

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New Holland 228 skid  
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Foam Cleaning  
For Quick Drying,  
Residential &  
Commercial  
Green Seal  
Approved  
**Dave Wendel**  
Ph. 260-726-4520  
Cell 260-729-2797

**250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Public Notice**  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING OF  
THE CITY OF PORTLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
Notice is hereby given that the City of Portland Redevelopment  
Commission (the "Commission"), being the governing body of the  
Portland Department of Redevelopment, on January 26, 2024,  
adopted Resolution No. 2024-1 (the "Declaratory Resolution") mak-  
ing certain proposed amendments to the declaratory resolution and  
economic development plan (the "Plan") for the City of Portland  
Economic Development Area (such amendments, the "Amend-  
ments"). The Amendments (i) remove the area described in the  
Declaratory Resolution as the "Hood Allocation Area" from the  
Portland Allocation Area and designate such area as its own sepa-  
rate allocation area and (ii) amends and restates the Plan.  
The Commission will conduct a public hearing on Friday, October  
25, 2024 at 8:00 a.m., (local time), at the Community Resource Cen-  
ter, located at 118 S. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371, to receive and  
hear remonstrances and objections from all persons interested in  
or affected by the Amendments. At the public hearing, the Com-  
mission will also determine whether the proposed Amendments  
are reasonable and appropriate when considered in relation to the  
Plan and the purposes of IC 36-7-14, and whether the Plan, with the  
proposed Amendments, conforms to the comprehensive plan for the  
City.  
The proposed Amendments can be inspected at the office of the  
Clerk-Treasurer, 321 N. Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana.  
CITY OF PORTLAND REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION  
CR 10-12-2024 - HSPAXLP

**250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Public Notice**

**NOTICE OF  
ADMINISTRATION**  
NO. 38C01-2410-EU-000025  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
JAY COUNTY, INDIANA  
Notice is hereby given that Beverly Nuckols was, on the 8th day  
of October, 2024 appointed per-  
sonal representative of the es-  
tate of Joseph Mack Nuckols de-  
ceased, who died on the 29th  
day of August, 2024, leaving a  
will. The estate will be admin-  
istered without court supervi-  
sion.  
All persons who have claims  
against this estate, whether or  
not now due, must file the claim  
in the office of the Clerk of this  
Court within three (3) months  
from the date of the first publi-  
cation of this notice, or within  
nine (9) months after the deced-  
ent's death, whichever is ear-  
lier, or the claims will be for-  
ever barred.  
Dated at Winchester, Indiana,  
this 8th day of October, 2024.  
Jon Eads  
Clerk of the Circuit Court for  
Jay  
County, Indiana  
COCKERILL & COCKERILL  
235 South Meridian Street  
P. O. Box 247  
Winchester, IN 47394  
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# Delta doubles down

*Patriots fall to Eagles by two goals for second time this season in sectional semifinal*

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

GAS CITY — Kendra Muhlenkamp wanted her team to leave everything out on the pitch.

Despite giving their entire heart to the game, the Eagles proved too much for the Patriots.

The Jay County High School girls soccer team's season came to a close on Thursday with a 3-1 loss to the Delta Eagles in the IHSAA Class 2A Sectional 24 semifinal at Mississinewa.

With the victory, Delta (14-4) advances to play the Yorktown Tigers in Saturday's sectional championship game at 1 p.m.

"The way we play should express the passion we have for the game and for each other," Muhlenkamp said. "They did that for all 80 minutes."

Even though the Patriots (11-6) battled to the bitter end, the Eagles' defense held them down, only making one critical mistake for a score.

The Delta back line, consisting of Sarah Bohanon, Brianna Jones and Makayla Thorpe, limited the amount of looks Jay County got at the goal. The times that JCHS did get to see the net, DHS goalkeeper Ruth Sherck made 11 saves to keep the game under the Eagles' control.

"Their backline was really strong," Muhlenkamp said. "They had (Bohanon), who was faster than all of our speedsters. That really hurts us, because a lot of our goals are long through balls and we go fetch it and we score. ...

"I think we made them work tonight, but we could have made them work more and open up more gaps."

The one mistake Delta made came with just under seven minutes left in the first half. Morgan DeHoff made a push toward the goal, and got taken out by Aubree Jarrells inside of the box. Aixa Lopez stepped up to take the penalty kick, and put it in the left half of the goal to tie things up at 1-1 with 6 minutes, 40 seconds, remaining.

While Jarrells made the mistake that led to the score, she got her team on



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Ariel Beiswanger makes a defensive stand against Chloe Newsome of Delta during the IHSAA Class 2A Sectional 24 semifinal game at Mississinewa on Thursday. The Patriots's season ended with a 3-1 loss to the Eagles.

the board with a goal at 18:19. The DHS junior picked off a DeHoff pass at midfield and dribbled all the way down the field with Jenna Dues on her hip. Goalkeeper Maleah Parsons came out to try and make the stop, but Jarrells slipped the ball through her hands.

During the regular season, Delta beat Jay County 2-0, with junior Jordan Bunch creating the offense both times. Based on that showing and the first half, Muhlenkamp changed her alignment to try and slow her down and help her team control the ball more.

"(Bunch) controlled most of their ball play in the first

half," Muhlenkamp said of the Eagles' leader in goals and assists. "I put Raylah (Newton) on her and went to a four-line defense, hoping that would allow us to keep the ball more on the offensive side.

"I did think it shut her down, but I think some of the other players on Delta stepped up and that hurt us."

While the change decreased the amount that Bunch got the ball, when she could attack, she was successful.

With the game still tied, the junior drove the ball down the right half of the field until she got within 10 yards of the end line. She

then crossed the ball to the left, where freshman Shiloh Bunch controlled it with her body before putting it in the net at 27:00.

Seven minutes later, Jarrells started a fast break with a through ball for Jordan Bunch. The junior shot from the left half of the field, finding the bottom right of the net to gain a 3-1 advantage with 19:51 remaining.

"It's very comforting (to have different players contribute)," said Delta coach Mason Turner. "Something I always tell my girls is, 'You might only get one or two opportunities during the game and we've got to capitalize. They did a good

job of capitalizing on those opportunities."

The loss marked the final soccer game for six Patriots, including scoring and assist leader Morgan DeHoff, midfielder Jayla Huelskamp, defenders Jenna Dues and Sophia Sprunger. Also graduating are Meredith Dirksen and Krishna Flores.

"I'd just want to shout out all the seniors on this team," Muhlenkamp said. "All of them have brought so much good energy and love on and off the field this year. I'm probably going to say it's a special group every year, but this group seemed a little bit extra special to me. ... But I guess that's just part of coaching."

## Jay swept by New Castle

The Patriots defense kept them in the match, but the offense couldn't keep up.

The Jay County High School volleyball team only managed 25 kills in their regular season finale against the New Castle Trojans, a 25-19, 25-15, 25-21 loss.

Jay County's setter, Paisley Fugiett, led the Patriots (11-11) with six kills. Fugiett also had 15 assists.

Behind her, the middle hitters, Maria Hemmelgarn, Mya Kunkler and Brenna Schmiesing, followed with four kills each.

Seven blocks helped keep Jay County in the match with New Castle (20-9). Hemmelgarn led with five assisted blocks, while Fugiett and Schmiesing each had three assisted blocks.

JCHS takes the loss with its sectional semifinal match at New Castle against Connersville looming on Oct. 19.

### Tribes drops

FORT RECOVERY — After snapping a six-match losing streak on

### Volleyball roundup

Tuesday, the Fort Recovery volleyball team finished the regular season with a 25-18, 25-14, 25-23 defeat at the hands of St. Henry.

Cameron Muhlenkamp led the Indians' offense with 11 kills. Brynn Willmann followed with six kills, while Karlie Niekamp and Bridget Homan each added five.

Niekamp's three blocks led Fort Recovery (9-13, 2-7 Midwest Athletic Conference).

Ellie Fullenkamp led St. Henry (18-4, 8-1 MAC) with 15 kills and eight blocks.

Other leaders for FHRS were Kayla Heitkamp with 23 assists, Kennedy Muhlenkamp with 15 digs and Kenna Dues with two aces.

The Indians will prepare for their sectional opener against Yellow Springs at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday at Arcanum.

## Rays start assessing damage to Tropicana Field

By **MARC TOPKIN**

Tampa Bay Times

Tribune News Service

The Rays on Thursday morning began the initial process of assessing the damage to Tropicana Field from Hurricane Milton, most notably the shredding of the roof.

"During the past couple weeks, our beloved city, region and state have been impacted by Hurricanes Helene and Milton. We are devastated by the damage incurred by so many," the team said in a statement. "Our priority is supporting our community and our staff. We are fortunate and grateful that no one was hurt by the damage to our ballpark last night. ...

"We ask for your patience at this time, and we encourage those who can to donate to organizations in our community that are assisting those directly impacted by these storms."

The first step will be to have an operations crew survey the stadium and work in collaboration with St. Petersburg police to secure the building.

Most visible was the shredding of the roof, which was caused by the high winds on Wednesday night. Only a few panels of the roof — made of "6 acres of translucent, Teflon-coated fiberglass" and supported by cables

connected by struts, and built to withstand winds of up to 115 mph, per the team — remained intact Thursday, with remnants seen on the field.

There was no other obvious structural damage to the building viewed from the outside.

Another issue is water damage, as Tropicana Field, which was built in the late 1980s and opened in 1990, does not have a drainage system.

That is also a factor in the repair plan as the team would not be able to play at the stadium without replacing the roof.

An obvious priority after the team assessments will be to determine if the stadium can be made playable for the 2025 season, which is slated to open March 27, with a six-game home stand against the Rockies and Pirates.

If not, the Rays could seek a temporary home, such as at a nearby minor league or college facility; the Blue Jays, for example, played regular-season games at their Dunedin spring stadium during the 2021 post-COVID season. Another option would be to relocate out of the Tampa Bay area on a temporary basis. Those decisions will be made in collaboration with Major League Baseball officials.

A new Rays stadium is planned to be built adjacent to the Tropicana Field site and be ready for the 2028 season, with groundbreaking slated for the next few months.

There were only a small group of people, less than 20, at the stadium at the time of the damage — some team security staff and some security guards from a private contractor. Most took shelter in one of the team clubhouses, with all safe and no injuries reported.

Crews of state contractors and Duke Energy personnel were based at Tropicana Field ahead of the storm to provide assistance with debris removal were moved on Tuesday in advance of the storm hitting. The stadium was not serving as a shelter, as was reported nationally, fueled by a photo that made the rounds on social media of thousands of cots on the field.

"As it became clear that there was going to be something of that magnitude that was going to be within the distance, they re-deployed them out of Tropicana," Gov. Ron DeSantis said at a news conference in Tallahassee. "There were no state assets that were in Tropicana Field, I think Duke also removed all their assets as well."



# 2nd ...

Continued from page 10

The win snapped a six-game losing streak, giving the Indians their first victory since they beat Wayne Trace 20-6 in week one. Despite the 48-day gap between triumphs — the losses came to teams with a combined 32-12 record — FRHS coach Brent Niekamp was pleased with the improvements his teams have made during the tough stretch to be in position to beat the Panthers (1-7, 0-6 Midwest Athletic Conference).

“I’m just really, really proud of those kids,” said Niekamp. “The resilience it took to battle through those weeks of really difficult games, to keep getting better, put themselves in a position to make plays in this game and then to get it done and fight through some adversity along the way.”

“I say it all the time, I love every day and every second I spend with these guys. Tonight they showed why, they’re just incredible.”

A strong rushing performance from Reece Wendel and Caden Grisez, as well as some work in the air, as Grisez connected with Isaac Roessner and Breaker Jutte, gave the Indians a 24-10 lead heading into the intermission.

The Panthers refused to go away in the second half. Despite only gaining 6 yards on their first drive of the third quarter, the defense showed up early to force a quick three-and-out and a turnover. The first stop led to a 36-yard pass from Brayden Bruns to Wyatt Carpenter and a 7-yard carry for a score by Landon Hamrick that pulled Parkway within a touchdown.

Fort Recovery’s second drive ended with Jaden Green inter-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School’s Reece Wendel pounds the ball into the end zone for a 2-point conversion during the Indians’ 36-24 win over Parkway on Friday. Wendel led the team with three touchdowns and 112 rushing yards to help snap a six-game losing streak.

cepting Grisez to give the Panthers the ball on the 9-yard line. Four plays later, Bruns hit Collin Langenkamp for a 5-yard touchdown pass and the kick by Jacoby Triplett tied the game at 24-24.

“Our kids were hungry,” said PHS coach Brian Schmidt. “We

didn’t have a real good second quarter at the end there. ... Our kids fought hard and they battled.”

The Indians (2-6, 1-5 MAC) finally got their offense back into rhythm near the end of the quarter. Grisez and Wendel, along

with a 5-yard encroachment penalty, moved them 53 yards down the field to end the third quarter. At the start of the fourth, FRHS reclaimed the lead with a 10-yard rush by Wendel.

“It’s all about finding creases,” Wendel said. “Our line did amaz-

ing. When we got in close proximity, they were able to square their guys up to make a little bit of a hole for me to get through.”

Following the score, Evers kicked the ball off the side of his foot, sending it into the ground to his right. Only a few yards forward, one of the Panthers touched the ball, but didn’t secure it, allowing the kicker to jump on the ball.

“We were just fortunate there,” Niekamp said. “That swung the whole game. Once we were able to get up two scores, then we could really use the clock to our advantage.”

The following drive ate up six minutes of the game before Grisez pushed a 1-yard rush into the end zone.

The Panthers picked up a first down before sophomore Breaker Jutte picked Bruns off to get the ball back and whittle the clock down to 39 seconds.

The play was one of two interceptions for Jutte. The first came with 20 seconds left in the first half. He then hauled in a 24-yard pass from Wendel before the junior punched the ball in for the score.

“I was just there on the spot doing my job,” Jutte said of the interceptions. “Just doing what coach told me to do and it worked out.”

The other first-half touchdowns for the Indians came from a 58-yard rush by Wendel on the first drive and a 10-yard pass from Grisez to Jutte in the second quarter. Wendel led all rushers with 112 yards and three TDs, while Jutte tied Parkway’s Carpenter with 56 receiving yards.

The Panthers’ scores in the first half came on a 28-yard carry by Luke Booher and a 40-yard field goal by Trey Anderson.

## Box score

Jay County Patriots (2-6) vs. Lapel Bulldogs (5-3)			
Lapel	7 0 0 7 — 14		
Jay Co.	0 0 6 6 — 12		
<b>First Quarter</b>			
L — Devin Craig 1 run (Braden Johnson kick), 8:55.			
<b>Second Quarter</b>			
No scoring			
<b>Third Quarter</b>			
JC — A.J. Myers 3 run (kick failed), 7:17			
<b>Fourth Quarter</b>			
L — Jaxson Cripe 11 pass from Craig (Johnson kick), 3:32. JC — Sean Bailey 59 run (run failed), 2:38.			
<b>Team Statistics</b>			
	L	JC	
Rushes - yds	22-32	36-189	
<b>Comp-Att-Int</b>	13-29-1	3-14-3	
Passing yds	106	38	
Total Plays	50	54	
Total Offense	138	227	
Punt ret - yds	0-0	0-0	
Kickoff ret - yds	2-51	3-33	
Ints - yds	3-28	1-10	
Fumbles - lost	1-0	3-2	
Penalties - yds	10-80	8-85	
Sacks - yds	1-2	4-39	
<b>Individual Statistics</b>			
<b>Rushing</b> — Lapel — Jack Miller 13-53, Jayden Lindsey 5-18, Devin Craig 4-(39). Jay County — Sean Bailey 13-134, A.J. Myers 20-50, Wyatt Foster 3-5.			
<b>Passing</b> — Lapel — Devin Craig 13-29-1 106. Jay County — Sean Bailey 3-14-3 38.			
<b>Receiving</b> — Lapel — Brice Burress 5-31, Jaxson Cripe 4-60, Reed Hamilton 2-12, Rylie Hudson 2-6. Jay County — Grant Wendel 2-19, Rhysin Blowers 1-19.			

# Short ...

Continued from page 10

Lapel’s first score was set up by a 32-yard heave from Devin Craig to Jaxson Cripe after Craig dropped the shotgun snap. Craig scored on a 1-yard run four plays later.

It’s other score was an 11-yard fade from Craig to Cripe two plays after a Patriot fumble.

After getting blanked in the first half, Jay County marched down the field to start the second half with A.J. Myers capping an 8-play, 70-yard drive with a 3-yard scoring run. But his low extra-point kick was blocked at the line to leave the score at 7-6.

Bailey’s long run — it was part of a 134-yard night for the quarterback

on the ground — accounted for the other TD.

But the Patriots were left to lament missed opportunities again, as well as the impact of five turnovers.

“Those things happen, but it’s unfortunate,” said Zgunda, whose team gave the ball away on two fumbles and three interceptions.

“And they just seem to happen at bad times for us the last few weeks. But we’re going to move on. That’s all we can do now.”

Jay County held the ball for the bulk of the second quarter, taking it with 11:55 on the clock and running 20 plays — it was assisted by a roughing the kicker penalty — to

get to first-and-goal at the 1-yard line. Bailey went forward on the first play but came up just short of the goal line. Runs on second and third downs went backward, and Bailey was picked off in the end zone on fourth-and-goal from the 6 with 1:15 to go.

“We just made a couple mistakes there,” said Zgunda, while reluctant to put too much focus on the series. “That one’s similar to last week with South Adams. We’ve got to have those.”

The Patriot defense limited Lapel to 32 rushing yards on 22 attempts. Those numbers were helped by four sacks of Craig, three of which came from senior Isaac Dues.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys soccer sectional championship vs. Eastbrook at Eastbrook — 7 p.m.; Volleyball at Union County — 9 a.m.; Cross country at ACAC Tournament at South Adams — 11 a.m.; Junior high volleyball at ACAC invitational at Adams Central — 9 a.m.; Junior high cross country at ACAC meet at South Adams — 10 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Cross country at Lions Meet at Coldwater — 9 a.m.; Middle school cross country at MAC championship at Coldwater — 9 a.m.

**Tuesday**  
Fort Recovery — Volleyball scrimmage at Lehman Catholic — 4:30 p.m.; Middle school football at Anna — 5 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**  
10 a.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: Drive For The Cure 250 (USA)  
12 p.m. — College football: South Carolina at Alabama (ABC); Missouri at UMass Amherst (ESPN2); Clemson at Wake Forest (ESPN); Washington at Iowa (FOX); Wisconsin at Rutgers (BTN)  
12 p.m. — UEFA Nations League soccer: Scotland at Croatia (FS1)  
12:30 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Bank of America Roval 400 (USA)  
2 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Bank of America Roval 400 (NBC)  
2 p.m. — Horse racing: Carrera de Caballos (FS1)  
3:30 p.m. — College football: Texas at Oklahoma (ABC); Stanford at Notre Dame (NBC); Cal at Pitt (ESPN); Cincinnati at UCF (ESPN2); Penn State at USC (CBS); Pur-

due at Illinois (FS1); Memphis at South Florida (ESPN)  
4 p.m. — College football: Arizona at BYU (FOX)  
4 p.m. — College volleyball: Illinois at Michigan State (BTN)  
4:38 p.m. — MLB Divisional series: Detroit Tigers at Cleveland Guardians (TBS)  
6 p.m. — College volleyball: Maryland at Minnesota (BTN)  
6 p.m. — IMSA SportsCar Championship: MOTUL Petit Le Mans (USA)  
7 p.m. — College football: Florida at Tennessee (ESPN); Washington State at Fresno State (FS1); North Texas at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — College football: Ole Miss at LSU (ABC); Ohio State at Oregon (NBC)  
8 p.m. — College football: Iowa State at West Virginia (FOX)  
8:08 p.m. — MLB Divisional series: Kansas City Royals at New York Yankees (TBS)  
9 p.m. — College football: Minnesota at UCLA (BTN)  
10:15 p.m. — College football: Idaho at Montana State (ESPN2); Kansas State at Colorado (ESPN)

**Sunday**  
1 p.m. — NFL: Indianapolis Colts at Tennessee Titans (CBS); Arizona Cardinals at Green Bay Packers (FOX)  
1 p.m. — College volleyball: Texas at Kentucky (ESPN)  
1 p.m. — College basketball exhibition: Michigan State vs. Northern Michigan (BTN)  
2 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Bank of America Roval 400 (NBC)  
3 p.m. — PGA Jr. League championship (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at New York Liberty (ABC)  
4 p.m. — NHRA: Texas Fall Nationals (FS1)

4:25 p.m. — NFL: Detroit Lions at Dallas Cowboys (FOX)  
5 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Seattle Reign FC at Utah Royals (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — NBA preseason: Minnesota Timberwolves at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — College volleyball: UCLA at USC (BTN)  
8 p.m. — NHL: Seattle Kraken at Dallas Stars (ABC)  
8:15 p.m. — MLB NLCS: New York Mets at TBA (FOX)  
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Cincinnati Bengals at New York Giants (NBC)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA preseason: Phoenix Suns at Denver Nuggets (ESPN)  
**Monday**  
4:08 p.m. — MLB NLCS: New York Mets at TBA (FOX)  
6 p.m. — NBA preseason: Minnesota Timberwolves at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — NBA preseason: Memphis Grizzlies at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
7:37 p.m. — MLB ALCS: New York Yankees vs. TBA (TBS)  
8:15 p.m. — NFL: Buffalo Bills at New York Jets (ABC)

**Tuesday**  
7:30 p.m. — College football: Troy at South Alabama (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NHL: Minnesota wild at St. Louis Blues (ESPN)  
7:37 p.m. — MLB ALCS: New York Yankees vs. TBA (TBS)  
8 p.m. — NHL: Seattle Kraken at Nashville Predators (ABC)  
10 p.m. — NHL: Philadelphia Flyers at Edmonton Oilers (ESPN)

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# Two points short

## Missed chances hurt Jay against Bulldogs



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School senior Isaac Dues chases down Lapel quarterback Devin Craig during the first half Friday night. Dues had three sacks as the Patriot defense limited the visiting Bulldogs to 138 yards, but JCHS still fell to a 14-12 defeat.

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

First and goal from the 1 — no points.

Two unsuccessful point-after-touchdown attempts.

Five turnovers.

Jay County High School's football team did a lot right Friday, including stifling the Lapel Bulldogs' offense for most of the night. But more missed opportunities and miscues left them short of a Senior Night win as they fell 14-12.

"Really, we scored the same touchdowns. Missing the extra point and then you're being the sticks. We almost get it in down there. There's just so many plays like that in our season so far, and in this losing streak, there's just too many to count," said JCHS coach Grant Zgunda, whose team has now dropped five straight. "We've gotten better in a lot of areas. But these penalties and turnovers and things like that, they're just killing us."

Even after being stopped at the goal line late in the first half and fumbling to set up Lapel's second touchdown late in the fourth quarter, the Patriots (2-6) had a chance. Trailing 14-6, quarterback Sean Bailey ran right for a first down, turned the corner, zoomed down the sideline and then cut back toward the center of the field in the 15 yards as he outran the defense for a 59-yard touchdown.

Trailing by two, Jay

County lined up for a 2-point conversion try. Bailey faked a handoff up the middle and then spun to his right, sprinting toward the pylon. But a couple of Bulldog defenders were able to push him out of bounds just before the goal line.

The Patriots got the ball one more time after Lucas Strait blocked a punt with 1:26 to go. But Bailey's pass deep down the right sideline to Grant Wendel was tipped by Marcus Page and then picked off by Reed Hamilton. The sophomore started to return the ball but then smartly went to the ground at the urging of senior Rylie Hudson and Lapel was able to kneel out the time remaining.

"I thought the D-line played well," said Lapel coach Tim Miller, whose squad stopped a three-game losing streak to improve to 5-3. "Linebacker-wise, Jayden Lindsey and Isaiah Young, those two just fly to the football. And our secondary has been rock solid getting us the ball off turnovers all season."

Points were at a premium as Jay County gained 222 yards but was hurt by turnovers and the goal-line stop while the Patriots limited Lapel to 138 yards of offense. (Both teams were plagued by severe penalty problems, with the former flagged eight times for 85 yards and the latter 10 times for 80 yards.)

See **Short** page 9

## Indians earn 2nd win

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

**FORT RECOVERY** — A flat start for the Indians in the third quarter and some offensive adjustments left a window open for the Panthers.

After an initial three-and-out to start the half, the Panthers found the end zone twice to tie the game.

When Gavin Evers missed the better part of the ball on a kickoff after the Indians took the lead again, sending it a little short of 10 yards forward, there was opportunity for the visitors again. However, one of the Panthers touched the ball, and Evers jumped on his mistake to keep the ball in the

home team's hands. From there, the Tribe ate away at the clock.

A pair of fourth-quarter touchdowns nullified Parkway Panthers' comeback attempt and helped the Fort Recovery High School football team to a 36-24 homecoming victory Friday night.

See **2nd** page 9

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