

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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Braun visits



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, who is the Republican nominee for Indiana governor, talks with children early Friday afternoon during a visit to Toddlerstown in Portland. Braun was completing his stops in all 92 counties, having visited Bluffton and Hartford City earlier in the day. His final county on the list was Adams later in the day.

Indiana gubernatorial candidate made visit to Toddlerstown in Portland on Friday afternoon

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Child care and early childhood education are among the key issues facing Indiana.

As he finished his visits to all of the state's 92 counties Friday, an Indiana gubernatorial candidate stopped at a local facility that is helping to address the shortage.

Republican U.S. Sen. Mike

Braun, who is running for governor against Democrat Jennifer McCormick and Libertarian Donald Rainwater, was in Jay County early Friday afternoon visiting Toddlerstown Early Learning Center in Portland.

Braun had been in Wells and Blackford counties earlier in the day and left Portland en route to Adams County, which

became the last on his tour of the state during his campaign. He closed the day with a fundraiser in Fort Wayne.

Most of his visits around the state, he said, have been to schools and businesses in search of best practices.

"It will give you a good feel for what's working in your own state where you need to do more of it," Braun said.

One of the areas of need for such efforts, he added, is in child care and early childhood education.

"Every county is looking for how to address it," he said. "And this place looks like it's hit it on the money. Everybody seems to be happy working here, parents like it and there's a waiting list to get into it."

See Braun page 2

Town will adjust policy

Council votes 3-2 to allow facial hair

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

Hair goes nothing. No more shaving it for later.

It's time to get to the root of an old policy.

Redkey Town Council agreed on a split vote Thursday to move forward with amending town policy to allow police officers to have facial hair.

Also regarding police, council shared former town marshal Zach Moser's resignation letter and discussed back pay for officer Jon Cave.

Per the town's personnel policy and Redkey Police Department's standard operating procedure, Redkey officers are not allowed to have beards or goatees. (Mustaches, however, are OK.) The policy on facial hair dates back several decades, explained officer Jon Cave.

He reached out to surrounding law enforcement agencies, including Jay County Sheriff's Office, Portland Police Department, Delaware County Sheriff's Office and Muncie Police Department, to learn more about what their policies allow on the topic.

Cave shared a list with council members of potential facial hair stipulations for officers, which require facial hair:

- Must not be longer than 1/4 an inch
- Must be well kept, trimmed and neat
- Is not allowed below the "Adam's apple line"

Additionally, special designs in facial hair, such as lines or shapes, would not be allowed.

Council then agreed — council president Brenda Beaty and council member "Watermelon" Jim Phillips dissenting — to move forward with amending the policy. Answering a question from board member Dave Dudelston, Beaty noted the list will need to be written up in ordinance form and voted on by council.

Phillips also read town marshal Zach Moser's resignation letter that was submitted Oct. 11.

"The reason for this resignation is due to select town board members repeatedly violating town policies when it comes to discipline procedures and attempting to terminate me without having any sort of discipline hearing," read Phillips. "I feel that I have been attacked due to personal reasons from select board members and many have shown repeatedly their willingness to violate policy and procedures to attack me on my job."

See Policy page 2

U.S. urges truce in Gaza

By DANA KHRAICHE and ABEER ABU OMAR

Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

The U.S. ramped up its calls for a cease-fire in Gaza, saying Israel's killing of the top Hamas leader had removed one of the main obstacles to peace.

Israel said it had eliminated Yahya Sinwar on Wednesday in the besieged Palestinian territory, just over a year after he ordered an attack on Israel that killed 1,200 people and his militants took about 250 hostages.

While killing Sinwar was one of Israel's top aims in its invasion of Gaza, along with attempts to rescue the hostages, it remains unclear whether his death will mark the kind of turning point in the broadening Middle East conflict that U.S. officials described on Friday.

U.S. President Joe

Biden said he's sending Secretary of State Antony Blinken to Israel as part of efforts to end the conflict. "Now is the time to move on," Biden told reporters after landing in Berlin. "Move on, move toward a cease-fire in Gaza."

Sinwar's death poses a new chance to seek a path to peace, Biden said in the German capital, where he's arrived to discuss with European leaders Ukraine's request for additional assistance.

Yet Israel is showing no appetite to stop fighting, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu saying "the mission before us is yet to be completed" despite Sinwar's death. Hamas should no longer be able to govern in Gaza, he said, and about 100 hostages still need to be rescued. Dozens of those captured are believed to be still alive.

Fall fun

Bristol Bruggeman, 6, paints a pumpkin Thursday at Jay County Public Library during its Fall into Fun event. The partnership with Jay County Farm Bureau offered pumpkin picking and painting, fall crafts, wagon rides, outdoor games and inflatables, as well as hot chocolate, apple cider and other snacks.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Deaths

Darrell Evans, 78, Shelburn
James Krieg, 76, Coldwater, Ohio
Dorcas Fields, 69, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 68 degrees Friday.
Skies will be sunny today with a high around 70. Expect a low in the lower 40s tonight. The forecast calls for highs in the 70s and sunny skies through Monday.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Parent-teacher conferences at Jay County Junior-Senior High School will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23, in the school commons. Parents should enter through Door 9.

Coming up

Tuesday — Coverage of the cross country and volleyball sectionals.
Wednesday — Details from next week's Portland City Council meeting.
Thursday — Coverage of Tuesday's Redkey Town Council special meeting.



Obituaries

Darrell Lee Evans

July 29, 1946-Oct. 15, 2024
Darrell Lee Evans, 78, Shelburn, passed onto his eternal rest on Tuesday at Gibson Family Center surrounded by his loving family.

He entered this life on July 29, 1946, in Olney, Illinois, born the son of Everett Dale Evans and Edna Schrader Evans.

Darrell married his loving and devoted wife of 59 years, Barbara Funk, on Sept. 18, 1965. He worked in the oil fields of Richland, Clay and other counties in Illinois before moving to Indiana for Texas Gas. He was a committed, loyal employee for Texas Gas until his retirement in 2006.

His home and family were always his first priority. He was

a hardworking, loving and deeply devoted family man. He enjoyed farm life, cutting hay, firewood and raising cattle, beekeeping and gardening. He was always eager to help his children on various projects around the family farm. His presence will be deeply missed by his loved ones.

Preceding him in death were his parents; a brother, Kenneth Evans; grandson Dale Evans; his brother-in-law Gerald Harvey; and sisters-in-law Rose Evans and Michelle Harp.

Those here to cherish his memory are his wife, Barbara Evans; children Dave and Jen Evans along with Darla and Wes Harmon; siblings Donald Evans and Carolyn Harvey; one grandchild, Adyn Harmon; sister-in-law Sally Slover; brothers-in-law Richard Funk and Gerald Funk; and many nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be 1 p.m. Monday with Pastor Brent

Wright officiating at Green Hill Cemetery in Noble, Illinois.

James Krieg

May 20, 1948-Oct. 16, 2024
James Krieg, age 76, of Coldwater, Ohio, died on Wednesday, Oct. 16, 2024, at Ohio State University Hospital.

He was born on May 20, 1948, in Celina, Ohio, to the late Hilbert and Julia (Fullenkamp) Krieg. On Sept. 4, 1971, he married Janet (Stelzer) Krieg and she survives in Coldwater.

He is survived by his two children, Mark and Tammy (Dues) Krieg of Portland and Sharon and Rick Alig of St. Anthony, Ohio. He is also survived by grandchildren Mitchell and Becky Alig, Carlie and Gabe Muhlenkamp, Kayla and Derek

Albers, Mila Alig, Katie and Aaron Loy, Jackson Lyons, Lucas Lyons and Nick Lyons; great-grandchildren Nora, Adeline, Kason, Elijah, Vivian, Dax and two on the way; and siblings and in-laws, Mike and Marty Krieg of Coldwater, Terri and Dave Kleinhenz of Maria Stein, Ohio, Kathy and Sam Mescher of Montezuma, Ohio, Ruth Krieg of North Star, Ohio, Mary Dirksen of Celina, and Dick and Judy Stelzer of Dayton, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by brother, Gary Krieg; and brother-in-law, Carl Dirksen.

Jim was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, the Coldwater Eagles, Coldwater American Legion and Knights of Columbus. He was an avid golfer at the Wabash Valley Golf Club in Geneva. He also loved woodworking, fishing at his pond and spending time with all his grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial will

be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 21, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Coldwater. Burial will follow in St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater. Friends may call from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 20, and from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Monday at Hogenkamp Funeral Home, Coldwater.

Condolences may be left at hogenkampfh.com.

Dorcas Fields, Portland, died Thursday at her home. No services are scheduled at this time.

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.

CR almanac

Sunday 10/20	Monday 10/21	Tuesday 10/22	Wednesday 10/23	Thursday 10/24
74/45	77/46	76/53	74/40	60/37
Another day of sun is expected Sunday. At night, cool temperatures.	Monday looks to be sunny with a high in the mid 70s.	There's a slight chance of rain Tuesday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Mostly sunny skies on Wednesday, when the high will be around 74.	Thursday looks to be sunny with a slight chance of rain.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 2-2-0 Daily Four: 6-0-8-5 Quick Draw: 8-9-11-12-15-21-22-24-32-33-38-39-43-46-58-60-68-71-72-80	Pick 3: 3-3-1 Pick 4: 9-0-4-5 Pick 5: 3-6-5-9-0	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$437 million
Ohio Midday	Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$185 million	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....3.57 Dec. corn3.85 Wheat4.73	Oct. beans9.58 Wheat5.23
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....3.55 Dec. corn3.85 Jan. corn4.04	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.54 Nov. corn3.56 Beans9.20 Nov. beans9.28 Wheat5.12
The Andersons Richland Township Corn3.55 Nov. corn3.55 Beans9.10	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....3.45 Nov. corn3.50 Beans9.05 Nov. beans9.15 Wheat4.93

Today in history

In 1667, author Jonathan Swift was born in Dublin, Ireland. Swift, who was also known by the pseudonym Isaac Bickerstaff, is best known for his 1726 novel "Gulliver's Travels."

In 1789, John Jay was sworn in as the first chief justice of the United States Supreme Court. Jay County was named after Jay and is the only county in the United States with that name.

In 1972, Eugene Clark of Berne, who was in custody for arson charges in Adams County, admitted to a series of arsons in Jay County that destroyed barns and houses, according to Jay County Sheriff Harold Loy.

In 2021, the Fort Recovery High School volleyball team clobbered Midwest Athletic Conference rival St. John's 25-5, 25-12, 25-21 in the opening round of the Division IV sectional tournament. The Indians, who were seeded fourth in the Van Wert District, would go on to fall to third-seeded Crestview in the sectional championship match. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, Jay County Country Living, 1194 E. 200 South, Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	
Tuesday 3 p.m. — Jay County Council special session, law library, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council special meeting, park cabin, 50 Mooney St.	
Wednesday 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.	

Braun ...

Continued from page 1
Toddler owners Wade and Susan Kohler greeted Braun, sharing details about their facility that opened in February. Initially planned to address the needs of their own Pioneer Packaging employees, the Kohlers have seen the depth of the need in the community.

The facility is filled to capacity with more than 50 children and has a two-year waiting list. (It is currently Level Three on Indiana's Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System, meaning it has planned curriculum for child development and school readiness, and is working toward the national accreditation required to reach Level Four.)

Braun toured the facility from its infant room to its space for school-aged children to its open gym area, talking with children and staff along the way.

During a brief interview with The Commercial Review following his tour, he identified property taxes as the key issue facing Indiana.

"They were in check before we had inflation," he said, blaming the federal government for borrowing and spending too much. "You can see how difficult it's been to reign it back in and it's popped everything up to where it's 25% more expensive than what it was pre-COVID."

He referenced his tax plan, which would allow deductions for homeowners and freeze property tax increases at 2% for seniors, low-income Hoosiers and families with children under 18 and 3% for everyone else.

Braun said he is not interested in proposals some state legislators have released that call for eliminating property taxes.

"Mine is for taking the aberration out of it that inflation caused," he said.

On healthcare, Braun called for a greater focus on prevention and wellness rather than remediation after health problems arise. He also advocated for helping Hoosiers become better healthcare consumers.

He noted education as another key issue, noting that it makes up about half of the state's \$22 billion budget. He discussed making government run more efficiently overall and working to create an environment that attracts native Hoosiers to stay home.

"I want to make sure parents are in the driver's seat for their own kids' education," Braun said. "Give them information for what the high-demand, high-wage jobs are, what four-year degrees are needed in our state, so that we don't push degrees

that export your kids to get a job outside of the state."

He also talked about the importance of affordable housing, rural broadband internet access and controlling the cost of electricity and water usage.

Braun closed his visit to Toddler town by chatting with Wade Kohler for a few minutes about a common interest — planting trees. The senator owns about 12,000 acres of land near Jasper with part of it planted in timber trees. Kohler runs his lumber and pallet manufacturing business and plants trees on his properties annually as well.

"You're about as crazy as I was," Braun said to Kohler as they discussed their passion.

He pointed to his experience as a business owner, school board member, state legislator and U.S. Senator as reasons to vote for him. He noted that three of his four children now work for the business he ran for 37 years, calling that situation "the American Dream."

"I think I've got a good feel for how to take a good state and make it better," said Braun. "I intend to be an accessible, entrepreneurial governor that looks at raising the lifestyle in Indiana in general as a great place to come back to raise your kids, your family, build your business."

Policy ...

Continued from page 1
Tensions have been boiling for the past few months between council members and the police department regarding employee conduct and interpretations of town ordinances. A motion from Phillips to remove Moser from his duties during council's Aug. 22 meeting died for lack of a second.

Phillips continued reading Moser's letter, which stated his last day will be Tuesday and that he will return town property to Redkey prior to that day.

Moser has been utilizing compensatory time for approximately three weeks, according to town officials, and plans to continue vacation time through his last day. Redkey is currently looking for applicants for the position.

Also Thursday, Dudelston questioned why utility worker Todd Miller — he started Oct. 20 — has not been given a drug test yet and noted it violated the town's personnel policy. Beaty pointed to recent issues with getting hold of a company to administer and evaluate tests. She said she had gotten the OK from Jay County Health Department to administer tests herself because she has her nursing license. She talked about a potential contract with Labcorp for failed tests.

Dudelston pointed out Cave rode along with Moser for a week prior to starting on the town's payroll while he waited for his drug test results. (Cave said he "job-shadowed" for the week.) Dudelston suggested the town compensate Cave for that week, and he made a motion to that effect, with Phillips seconding the motion. Council went into discussion before a vote

was taken, and after advisement from legal counsel, board members — Dudelston dissenting — voted to rescind the motion and table the topic.

In other business, council members Gavin Grady, Floyd Life, Dudelston, Phillips and Beaty:

- Heard from Linzee Funkhouser regarding the town's animal ordinance. She explained she faced a fine for owning chickens and questioned why the new ordinance hasn't taken effect yet. (Council agreed to move forward with amending the town's ordinance to allow hens in town.) Beaty explained the process involves writing up the new rule in ordinance form, a task that will be taken on by the town's new attorney Maura Hoff.
- Agreed to change town council's regular meeting to the fourth Tuesday of each month starting in January 2025.
- Approved the following: a one-year, \$533.91 contract with Perry Pro-Tech of Lima, Ohio, for providing ink and maintaining three printers at Redkey Town Hall; spending \$640 on replacing eight belts for machinery at the wastewater plant.
- Explained council will be reviewing the town's 2025 budget at 6 p.m. Tuesday and voting to adopt the budget at 6 p.m. Oct. 29. (Budget approval was originally scheduled for Thursday.)
- Tabled the following: discussion on a potential contract with Cave, agreeing to pay for his training at Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in January with the stipulation he work for the town for a number of years; a decision on how to address trash issues and after-hours activity at Redkey Morgan Park, with sug-

Capsule Reports

Exception granted

Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals approved a special exception Thursday regarding a new mobile home park in Pennville.

Darrick Plummer of rural Geneva is planning to convert the lot west of South Street just south of Max Drive and the lot south of Daisy Lane into a mobile home park. Located next to the existing Freedom Village Mobile Home Park, the roughly 12-acre plot is currently zoned as single family residential. Plummer asked the board for a special exception to combine the two parcels and create a mobile home park.

Pennville Town Council approved the request Sept. 10. Plummer will also need to seek approval from Jay County Plan Commission to rezone the property to multi family residential.

- Learned Redkey Fire Department will be receiving a truck from Rescue 19, the county emergency response group recently abolished by Jay County Commissioners.
- Listened to a report from utility worker Ted Kolodka, who talked about various developments at the water and wastewater plants. Kolodka noted the town will be flushing hydrants Oct. 28 through Oct. 30 and Nov. 1 through Nov. 8. He also welcomed residents to visit either plant for tours.
- Learned Miller Pipeline has completed its work, which required cutting into road surfaces. Road resurfacing on several streets — sections of Union, Mitchell, Washington and Oak streets as well as Delaware Avenue — should begin within the next week. Redkey received \$163,686.75 in Community Crossings funding last year for the project.
- Spoke with Mindy Weaver, Jay County Humane Society treasurer. Weaver referenced council's decision in September to terminate its animal control contract with the organization. She apologized for a lack of communication with Jay County Humane Society's board of directors. Amid discussion, she also noted the organization has taken calls from Redkey and currently has six animals from the town.
- Noted Halloween trick-or-treating hours are set for 6 to 8 p.m. Oct. 31.

SERVICES

Today

Bell, David: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Monday

Krieg, James: 10:30 a.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 120 E. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio.

Gray, Philip: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Evans, Darrell: 1 p.m., Green Hill Cemetery, Noble, Illinois.

Tuesday

Sneed, Roy: noon, Garden View Funeral Home, 10501 N. Indiana 3, Muncie.

Service listings provided by

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50th anniversary



Anita and Don Shauver - 2024

Anita and Don Shauver

The Shauvers are celebrating 50 years of marriage today.

Donald Shauver and Anita Lehman of Salamonica wed Oct. 19, 1974, at First Mennonite Church in Berne.

A lifetime resident of Jay County, Don Shauver retired from Portland Forge. Anita Lehman worked at CTS in Berne before serving as a childcare provider out of her home and later at Bright Beginnings in Portland.

They have three children: David Shauver of Fort Recovery, Gwen Bergman of Fort Recovery and Catherine Nolan of Montpelier. They also have nine grandsons, one granddaughter and seven great-grandchildren, with two grandchildren deceased.

Friends and relatives are invited to join the couple for an open house celebration from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. today at Salamonica Church of Christ.

Early detection can be crucial

Mayo Clinic News Network
Tribune News Service

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Breast cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in women across the U.S. And rates of the disease continue to climb, notably among younger women. A recent report from the American Cancer Society calculates that 1 in 50 women will develop invasive breast cancer by the age of 50.

Early detection through screening can lead to more treatable and curable breast cancers. In this Mayo Clinic Minute, Dr. Elizabeth Cathcart-Rake clears up confusion about who should be screened and when. Mayo Clinic recommends regular breast cancer screenings start at age 40. However, it's not a one-size-fits-all decision.

Dr. Cathcart-Rake says these decisions should be individualized because

some people may benefit from screening earlier.

"Based on personal history of either breast cancer or a pre-invasive type of cancer in the breast (or another lesion in the breast that increases risk — things like atypical ductal hyperplasia), a strong family history, a genetic predisposition to breast cancer or chest radiation prior to the age of 30," she says.

The standard screening at Mayo Clinic is a 3D mammogram, but self-exams are crucial to notice any new or persistent changes in the breasts or chest wall.

"If you feel a lump, especially a hard lump that doesn't move very easily, that's persistent over the course of weeks and seems to only be stable or even getting worse, that's absolutely a reason to come in. And I always tell folks and tell my patients that if it's something that's bothering you, I want to know about it," says Cathcart-Rake.

Boyfriend's son puts damper on romance

DEAR ABBY: After a lonely post-divorce decade, I have found a loving man whom I'll call "Drew." We share many of the same interests and values, and are enjoying this second chance at love and romance. We spend time at each other's homes, and my grown kids like having him around.

The challenge is the erratic and angry behavior of his 27-year-old son, "Adam," who lives in the building my boyfriend owns and resides in. Adam was previously diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Drew now says the diagnosis was inaccurate, and

Dear Abby



and complaining about neighbors who rent in the building. I have witnessed his disturbing and angry behavior and have made clear I will remove myself from the drama should things get heated in my presence.

What I'm struggling with is the passive way Drew is managing Adam's bullying and negative behavior. When Adam acts out, Drew is often sworn at, derided, manipulated and disrespected. The co-dependence and enabling in this father-son relationship prevents any chance of Adam attaining an independent life.

Drew becomes very defensive

when I speak about his son, and there is rarely agreement about how to handle a particular outburst. I'm not sure I can manage a future with him if his son comes as a package deal. Should I stay or should I go? — SEES WRITING ON THE WALL

DEAR SEES WRITING: Face it — Drew's mentally challenged son is part of a package deal. Your boyfriend has no intention of changing the dynamic between him and Adam because, unpleasant as it sometimes is, he won't shoulder the responsibility of being tough enough on him to

assign him more responsibility and less gaming time. How sad for all three of you. If you are satisfied with the status quo, you should stay. However, if you would like to be married and move in with Drew, I don't think it's in the cards, and you should step out of the picture.

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Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

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 RETIRED TEACHERS — Will meet at noon Monday, Oct. 21, at Richards Restaurant in Portland. All retired school employees are invited.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

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 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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 21-25

Monday: Main Entrees: Toasted Cheese Sandwich Alternate Entrees: Popcorn Chicken, Mini Whole Grain Biscuit, Cereal, Goldfish & Yogurt Fun Lunch Sides for all meals: Tater tots

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Chicken Nuggets, Macaroni and Cheese Alternate Entrees: Popcorn Chicken, Mini Whole Grain Biscuit, Cereal, Goldfish & Yogurt Fun Lunch Sides for all meals: Seasoned Peas

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Doritos Nacho Cheese Tortilla Chips, Seasoned Beef Taco Meat, Shredded Lettuce, Shredded Cheddar Cheese Alternate Entrees: Popcorn Chicken, Mini Whole Grain Biscuit, Cereal, Goldfish & Yogurt Fun Lunch Sides for all meals: Seasoned Refried Beans

Thursday: Main Entrees: Cheesy Baked Pasta Alternate Entrees: Popcorn Chicken, Mini Whole Grain Biscuit, Cereal, Goldfish & Yogurt Fun Lunch Sides for all meals: French Fries

Friday: Main Entrees: Classic Cheese Pizza Alternate Entrees: Popcorn Chicken, Mini Whole Grain Biscuit, Cereal, Goldfish & Yogurt Fun Lunch Sides for all meals: Seasoned Corn

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Politicizing our courts is a problem

By JOHN KRULL
TheStatehouseFile.com

So, the three justices on the Indiana Supreme Court up for retention in November now face an organized opposition from Hoosiers angered about Indiana's draconian abortion laws.

The three members of the state's high court — Chief Justice Loretta Rush and Justices Mark Massa and Derek Molter — also have a group of lawyers arguing that the trio should be retained and the judicial branch should not be politicized.

More on the first point in a moment.

As to the second point, well, sorry, but that horse left the barn a long time ago.

Once upon a time, most Americans considered the courts to be above or at least separate from partisan politics.

That is no longer the case.

For more than 50 years, the confirmation process for the U.S. Supreme Court and, ultimately, other federal courts has been a contentious process, one that has managed to erode both the prestige and the integrity of the judicial branch. Politicians from both parties have broken precedents, rewritten the rules regarding

John Krull



judicial confirmations and done everything they can to gain partisan advantages through court appointments.

It's easy to see why the pols did this, particularly with Supreme Court appointments.

A person who has a seat on the nation's preeminent court may serve for life. He or she also has awesome power that is almost unchecked by any conventional system of accountability — as Supreme Court Justices Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito recently have demonstrated.

Because the high bench is the ultimate arbiter of what is constitutional and what isn't, it determines the scope of individual rights, the parameters in which government may be exercised and basic questions of who wins and who loses in fundamental conflicts between Americans.

There are few, if any, positions

within government more powerful.

That's why, for much of our history, judicial appointments — particularly U.S. Supreme Court appointments — were determined by a process that was less raucous and more reverent than most proceedings associated with government in this country.

Presidents selected members of the bench — again, particularly members of the high bench — with the idea of gaining as close to universal support or consensus as possible in mind. If the commander-in-chief didn't approach it that way, then an appointment would be easy to block.

Far less than a majority in the U.S. Senate — just 41 out of 100 votes — could prevent a judicial nomination from moving forward.

It was, I suppose, just a matter of time before ambitious and unscrupulous leaders in the Senate realized that a majority that could block judicial nominations from going forward could use this power not to create consensus, but to give the party not in power disproportionate power.

That led to the creation of a so-called nuclear option — allowing

a nomination to move forward with only a bare majority — that soon became the normal option.

This has resulted in increasingly partisan and ideologically extreme nominations and appointments to the U.S. Supreme Court and the federal court system. With no institutional safeguards to encourage consensus candidates for lifetime appointments, the system now elevates jurists who too often recognize neither precedent nor common sense.

Worse, just as the rabid partisanship that long has dominated Congress now is contaminating state legislatures across the land, state court systems now have become more and more politicized.

This is not a good thing.

In the big picture, a politicized bench undercuts faith in the rule of law. Without faith in the rule of law, a self-governing society cannot function.

Closer to the ground, it also encourages otherwise intelligent people to make foolish choices.

In the case of the fight here in Indiana to remove three state Supreme Court justices, proponents of the move doubtless are tantalized by the prospect of hav-

ing Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jennifer McCormick make appointments to the bench, should she win.

The problem is that a McCormick victory is far, far, far from assured.

If she loses and the "don't-retain" crowd wins, Republican Mike Braun will make the appointments. Braun has the backbone of a wet tissue, so his running mate Micah Beckwith and Attorney General Todd Rokita likely will have loud voices in making the selections.

If that happens, we'll end up with a Supreme Court somewhere to the right of Genghis Khan.

The solution to this problem does not involve dragging the court further into the political process.

That's what got us into this mess in the first place.

Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.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.

Get rid of the electoral college

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

Tim Walz is right. So is Donald Trump. The Democratic vice presidential candidate wants to get rid of the antique Electoral College and the Republican ticket leader is going to campaign in dependably Democratic New York, at Madison Square Garden, which is better for democracy, even if it doesn't help in the Electoral College math.

Without the Electoral College, which pushes what should be a national contest for the White House into a few wavering states, candidates would campaign everywhere. Walz and Vice President Kamala Harris would be looking for votes in Texas and Florida, while Trump and his running mate JD Vance would be stumping in California as well as here. And the same goes for every state, as a vote anywhere is a vote worth wooing.

The Electoral College also produces minority presidents: Electoral College victors who lost the popular vote. It happened in 2000 and again in 2016. While the beneficiaries both years were Republican and the popular plurality losers were Democrats, it could be the other way.

Harris and Trump are polling neck and neck nationally. If she wins the key swing states, while he picks up votes spread across the country to gain the popular plurality, Harris will be the president and Trump will not be, giving him even more reason to not accept the results.

Both campaigns are now pursuing the exact same seven-state strategy: Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin along the Great Lakes; North Carolina and Georgia down South and Nevada and Arizona out West.

Once there was a 50-state strategy. In the election of 1960, the first after statehood for Alaska and Hawaii, Richard Nixon pledged to visit every state. He did, making it to Alaska in the final weekend, but he lost the election to Jack Kennedy. Spending time

Guest Editorial

and money in states you are sure to win or lose isn't a good way to allocate both resources, which are limited.

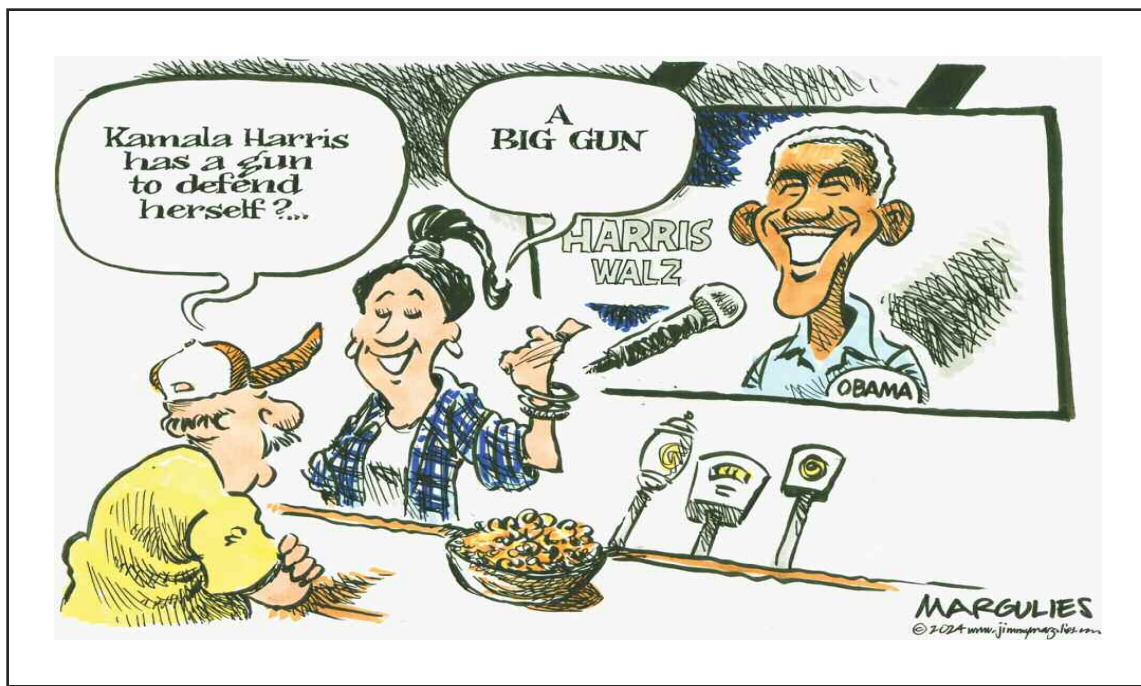
An extreme case was in 1988, when Democrat Mike Dukakis was trailing Republican George Bush (the father) in mid-October and he came up with an 18-state strategy, just enough to capture an Electoral College majority. Dukakis won 10 of them (plus D.C.) and some of the eight he lost were quite close, like Pennsylvania and Illinois. But say that he managed to squeeze victories in all of his eight missing states (the others being Connecticut, Vermont, Maryland, California, Ohio and Michigan) with the combined switch of 1,451,533 votes.

It sounds like a lot, but it's only 1.6% of the 90.6 million votes cast for the two major contenders. So instead of losing by 7 million votes, (8 percentage points) Dukakis would have lost by 4.2 million votes, (5 percentage points), but he still would have enough in the Electoral College to become president.

A much closer example was in 2004, when if Democrat John Kerry had another 118,601 votes in Ohio over George W. Bush (the son), Kerry would have won the state and the White House despite having 3 million fewer votes than Bush nationally.

So for both parties, it's better for everyone to leave the 18th century behind.

One remedy for the Electoral College is to amend the Constitution, which is very difficult, but in this instance there's a faster method: the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact. So far, 17 states, including New York, have joined. If four or five more join, the popular vote winner will always win the White House.



Gen Z will have an impact

By LAURA MERRIFIELD WILSON
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Voting is no longer a day, it is a season. And every season is accompanied by its own traditions and memories. One of my favorites as a political science professor in the fall has to be canvassing with my students in a nonpartisan effort to register voters in our surrounding neighborhoods. In the last several election cycles, we have walked the streets around the university, visited low-income housing neighborhoods, and been warmly welcomed by HOAs in neighborhoods with large populations of newly naturalized American citizens. There is something truly wholesome about seeing young people excitedly engaged in elections and eager to share that enthusiasm with others. The students vary in partisanship, political exposure, and previous political experience but they bond over the shared experiences in registering voters: fist-bumping when they help someone complete the registration form and cringing then laughing when they get the inevitable door slam.

Research illustrates the impact of personal conversations, making door-to-door canvassing among the most effective ways to conduct voter outreach. Even so, it is costly, taking what might seem like excessive time to walk from door to door, especially in an era where social media would enable hundreds of views in a matter of seconds on a video it took less than a minute to record. What I cherish most about this experience with my students is how it requires them to learn to talk about politics, in a generally neutral way, but with people who may have little in common with them. We reach prospective voters of different ages, ethnicities, some with different native languages, and some with different SES backgrounds than

Laura Merrifield Wilson



our own, and some who may loathe politics and anyone who dares knock on their door to speak with them about it.

Invariably, each year, we reach the door of one person who seems less than thrilled at our presence and proceeds to challenge whether students are really engaged. "Sure, you register voters, but do you educate them?" If it isn't said so bluntly, the vaguely phrased question is meant to imply as much. And it feels pointed to the student voter group specifically of all the voters in our community we aim to engage.

To assume younger voters make poorer decisions than older voters presupposes that limited exposure means a lack of understanding. My own experiences teaching students about the importance of voting and how to register voters, however, fails to support this assumption. When the League of Women Voters and the Marion County Election Board visited my classes, students asked genuinely thoughtful, sometimes complicated questions that illustrated to me more than simply a thorough understanding of the process. It demonstrates respect for the system of elections, reverence for the process, and a recognition of the innate value of free and fair elections in a democratic government.

There is a bias in my own experience that must be admitted; if a student genuinely has no interest in politics, they may choose not to enroll in my courses. Fair enough. But after

over a decade of teaching in higher education and at three vastly different institutions, I can say that I have seen some things change and some stay the same. College students today (the traditional college age 18-24) belong to Generation Z (born 1997-2012); they are digital natives, well-versed and equipped at using social media as an agent for political change. They are politically charged, as a group that came of age during "Me Too," "Black Lives Matter," the Trump and Biden presidencies, regular school shootings, the climate crisis, and Dobbs v. Jackson. Perhaps most interestingly, young women in Gen Z are outpacing men in engagement while the generation's young men are actually more conservative than their Millennial predecessors.

What hasn't changed? Regardless of their generation, younger voters are consistently underrepresented at the polls (though Gen Z turned out at higher rates in the 2022 congressional midterm relative to Gen X and Millennials at the same age). Politics impact them, of course, they just don't always realize it yet. While some believe that Gen Z could determine the outcome of this election, early data is less clear about whether their turnout will help the Democrats or Republicans. They are newly registered, excited, engaged, and prepared to play an important role in our democracy by voting.

Wilson is an associate professor of political science at the University of Indianapolis who specializes in the study of political behavior, state and local government, and campaigns and elections.

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"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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10-19 CRYPTOQUIP

EDVPHVJ PR OZKI ZL THC
FZCYKQC FZYT FRMQ, PTQ
ETHPQ DMYPHY OQDM CPDMPQU
PDIHVJ LRKDM-MRHUC.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHICH OF KING ARTHUR'S KNIGHTS DETERMINED HOW BIG THE ROUND TABLE WOULD BE? SIR CUMFERENCE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals U

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

Big and small screens

- Adam, Hoss and Little Joe were the names of the brothers on what TV show that launched in 1959?
- Actor Christopher Lloyd made his debut in what Best Picture-winning film starring Jack Nicholson?

(1) Bonanza (2) One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

10-21 CRYPTOQUIP

ZK UHYPIHCR DFPF EA
PWLPFN EN BQFZAS UEXYHA
KHF IESPX UTHLU, DHQXC RHQ
BEXX TZY E XHWUYZNT?

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WANTING TO BULK UP HIS MUSCLES MUCH MORE, THE WHITE ARCTIC BEAR STARTED TAKING POLAR-ROIDS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals C

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to Halloween. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 24 = A)

A. 15 19 24 23 17
Clue: Spooky

B. 25 23 3 24 25
Clue: Something pleasant

C. 26 5 5 23 6 3 14 14
Clue: Something to ring

D. 19 24 11 26 17
Clue: Sweets

Answers: A. scary B. treat C. doorknob D. candy

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to Halloween.

EVARIMP

Answer: Vampire



GUESS WHO?

I am an actor born in California on October 18, 1987. My father worked as an engineer and my mother as an admin. I was a class clown in school, but rose to fame playing a popular athlete in a musical about high school. I've starred in other movie musicals as well.

Answer: Zac Efron

Health FACT!

It is important to have this done at least twice a year for good oral health.

Answer: Dental cleaning

Crossword Puzzle

1		2			3	4
				5		
6			7		8	
				9		
10						

ACROSS

- Process of rotting
- Opposite of "off"
- They chew food
- Older than Jr.
- Use to drink a beverage
- Cleaning in between teeth

DOWN

- Relating to the teeth
- Maintain or tend to
- Thin or tight
- Doctor's suffix
- Examinations

Answers: Across 1. Decay, 3. On, 6. Teeth, 8. SR, 9. Straw, 10. Flossing. Down 1. Dental, 2. Care, 4. Narrow, 5. MD, 7. Tesis

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

OCTOBER 15

1878: The Edison Electric Light Company begins operations.

1956: FORTRAN, the first modern computer language, is first shared with the coding community.

1997: The Cassini probe launches from Cape Canaveral.

NEW WORD

AMALGAM

type of metal dental filling

HALLOWEEN WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

BONE, BOO, CANDY, CAT, COSTUME, DRACULA, GOBLIN, GRAVE, HALLOWEEN, HAUNTED, MONSTER, MOON, NIGHT, OCTOBER, PUMPKINS, SCARE, SCREAM, SKELETON, SPIDER, SPOOKY, TREAT, TRICK, VAMPIRE, WITCH

How they say that in...

English: Tongue
Spanish: Lengua
Italian: Lingua
French: Langue
German: Zunge

Did You Know?

Dental experts advise that a person should brush and floss their teeth at least twice a day. However, doing so more frequently can keep teeth even cleaner.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dental tools

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Mel of many voices
- H.S. juniors' exams
- Cash
- Pro-trading navels
- Have hopes
- Mexican painter Diego
- Half of bi-
- Top of a wave
- Docu-mentarian Burns
- TV jour-nalist Lisa
- Business mag
- Put on
- Epic nar-ratives
- "Crash" actor Don
- Paper Mate rival
- Very long time
- French roll

DOWN

- '50s Ford
- Bring up
- Sarajevo locale
- Making letters
- time (never)
- Batting stat
- Head honcho
- Speed-wagon
- Cash
- Hermits
- Gives way
- Priority system
- "Four Organs" composer Steve
- Sordid

11 Man- handles

13 "— bleu!"

18 Env. contents

21 Eva of "Green Acres"

23 Come-dian Sykes

25 Brack-eted word

27 Fair hirer, in ads

29 Hold dear

31 NFL great Tom

32 "Au —" ("So long for now")

33 "Amen to that!"

34 Diplo-mat's res.

36 Riil

37 Vigor

38 Un-fettered

41 Delta deposits

44 Roman 2600

45 Clinton's vice president

48 Yale grad

50 Actress Long

Solution time: 22 mins.

C	A	B	O	T	C	A	D	S	E	C
A	N	A	M	E	U	R	I	N	E	E
M	I	L	N	E	B	O	I	L	E	R
L	I	M	P	I	D	A	R	I	A	
A	B	E	S	R	S	U	D	D	E	R
P	A	R	S	A	M	E	N	D		
B	A	S	T	E	T	B	I	E	B	E
R	U	R	A	L	A	K	A	W	E	B
E	S	A	U	U	S	E	F	U	L	
B	U	T	L	E	R	S	T	R	E	V
U	A	E	P	A	L	E	G	R	E	T
S	L	S	A	L	E	R	E	S	E	T

Yesterday's answer 10-19

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The rabbit-in-the-hat trick

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q 8 3
♥ Q 6
♦ Q J 10 9
♣ A K 8 5

WEST
♠ 4
♥ J 9 5 2
♦ K 7 4 2
♣ J 10 9 2

EAST
♠ 10 7 6
♥ K 7
♦ 8 6 5 3
♣ Q 7 6 4

SOUTH
♠ A K J 9 5 2
♥ A 10 8 4 3
♦ A
♣ 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 2♣ Pass
2♥ Pass 3♠ Pass
6♣

Opening lead — jack of clubs.

A declarer can't pull a rabbit out of a hat if there isn't one in there, but sometimes the rabbit is there and declarer doesn't know it. As a case in point, consider this deal where South is in six spades and West leads a club.

Declarer wins with dummy's king and leads a diamond to the ace, followed by a low heart to dummy's queen. East wins with the king and returns a diamond, and South must

fail whatever he does next. He cannot successfully trump two hearts in dummy and eventually goes down one.

Oddly enough, after winning the opening club lead with the king, the play that offers the best chance to make the slam is to cash the ace of clubs at trick two and discard the ace of diamonds on it!

For practical purposes, this play assures the slam. It allows declarer to utilize dummy's Q-J-10-9 of diamonds and score three diamond tricks regardless of which defender has the king of the suit.

In the actual case, South leads dummy's queen of diamonds at trick three and discards a heart after East follows low. West takes the queen with the king but cannot stop South from scoring 12 tricks consisting of six spades, one heart, three diamonds and two clubs.

The outcome is the same if East has the king of diamonds. In that event, his king is trapped as the diamonds are led from dummy regardless of when he elects to play it, and declarer again scores three diamond tricks. Of course, when South sooner or later draws trump, he cashes the A-K before leading a third round to the queen to collect whatever diamonds remain in dummy.

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 7 5 3
♥ A 10
♦ 8 3 2
♣ A 4 3

WEST
♠ K 4
♥ Q 8 5 3
♦ A
♣ Q J 8 7 6 2

EAST
♠ J 10 9 6 2
♥ J 9
♦ K Q 7 5
♣ 9 5

SOUTH
♠ Q
♥ K 7 6 4 2
♦ J 10 9 6 4
♣ K 10

The bidding:
West North East South
1♠ 1♣ Pass 2♥
2♣ Pass 3♠ Pass 2♥
Pass Pass Dbic 3♥

Opening lead — queen of clubs.

In 1998, Rita Shugart of California, Andy Robson and Tony Forrester of Great Britain and Geir Helgemo of Norway won the Reisinger Board-A-Match Teams. An article in this space at that time pointed out that for Shugart in particular, the victory was a stunning accomplishment, since she was the first woman since Helen Sobel in 1957 to win the grueling three-day, six-session contest.

The feat was all the more remarkable in that the Shugart team con-

sisted of only four players rather than the usual five or six, so that all four had to play every board of the event with no substitution.

As if to prove this achievement was no fluke, the same foursome then went on to capture the 1999 Reisinger, winning by the near-record margin of eight boards!

In today's deal from the final, Shugart (North) and Robson displayed excellent judgment to reach the fine contract of three diamonds, which East doubled after his partner had opened and taken a second bid. Shugart's decision to pass three diamonds rather than return Robson to hearts proved decisive, as three hearts would have failed by at least one trick.

Robson won the club queen with dummy's ace and played the A-K and another heart, ruffing with dummy's eight. East overruffed with the queen and returned a club to South's king, and Robson ruffed another heart.

East could have overruffed dummy's deuce with the five (which would have held South to his contract), but he discarded instead, hoping declarer might eventually lose control of the hand.

After the deuce held, however, Robson simply started leading trumps and finished with an over-trick for a score of +870, losing only the three top diamonds.

Tomorrow: The trump echo.
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Price point?
- Micro-wave
- Sacred bird of Egypt
- Monu-mental
- Actress Longoria
- Zilch
- Director Ephron
- Bottom line
- Apoth-ecary measure
- Took off
- Spiced tea
- Business card no.
- Ornament- beetle
- Burn slowly
- Foe
- Garr of "Tootsie"
- Author Umberto
- Help a robber
- Rep
- Flying charge
- Daytona 500 acronym

DOWN

- Saw-bucks
- Per person
- Lass
- Buddhist sect
- Opposite of "sans"
- Trails
- WNBA team based in the Hoosier State
- "Cheers" setting
- Greek mountain
- Frodo's friend
- Record-setting NCAA basketball star who plays for the 7-Down

19 TV's Danson

21 Tennis feat

23 Golfer Trevino

25 C&W legend

26 Pt. of U.S.A.

27 Memory unit

28 Jazz great

29 Ginor-mous

30 Unrefined metals

31 — Victor

35 Sesame product

38 Eastern "way"

40 Reuben bread

42 Fab Four drummer

45 Took to court

47 "Zounds!"

48 Proboscis

49 Recipe arnts.

50 iPhone download

51 Singer Rawls

52 "— voyage!"

54 Physique

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	L	A	N	C	P	S	A	T	S	
M	O	O	L	A	H	O	U	T	I	E
A	S	P	I	R	E	R	I	V	E	R
U	N	I	C	R	E	S	T	R	I	C
L	I	N	G	I	N	C	W	E	A	R
S	A	G	A	S	C	H	E	A	D	L
B	I	C	E	O	N					
B	R	I	O	C	H	E	D	S	E	L
R	E	A	R	E	M	S	A	T	N	O
A	V	G	M	R	B	I	G	R	E	O
D	O	R	E	M	I	L	O	N	E	R
Y	I	E	L	D	S	T	R	I	A	G
R	E	I	C	H	S	E	A	M	Y	

Saturday's answer 10-21

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	
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	53							54				

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



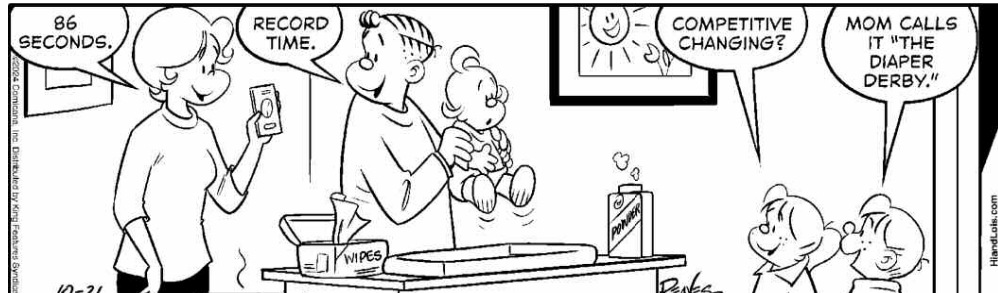
Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



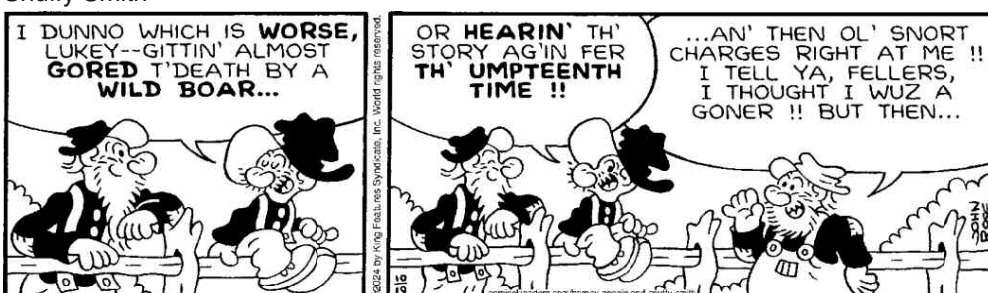
Blondie



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



We Deliver



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

Laughter

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

A
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40 NOTICES

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October 26th, 2024
9:30 A. M.
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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Auctioneers
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Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kayden Khayyata AU12400069

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 combination thereof.
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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 personal representative of the estate of Joseph Mack Nuckols deceased, who died on the 29th day of August, 2024, leaving a will. The estate will be administered without court supervision.
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 publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever 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
(765) 584-3241
Attorneys for Estate
CR 10-12,19-2024-HSPAXLP

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday October 19th, 2024
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 714 S VINE ST
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OPEN HOUSE Sunday Oct. 6th 1-3p.m. or for private showing phone auctioneers.
REAL ESTATE
2 bedroom home containing 896 sq. ft. finished living area. GFA with Central air . Attached 1 car garage. Newer roof, siding, windows. Alley access as well as on-street parking.
ANTIQUES-APPLIANCES-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
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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning
OCTOBER 26, 2024
9:30 A.M.
OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS – COINS – JEWELRY – HOUSEHOLD – TOOLS
Dining room table with extra board and 4 chairs; 4 drawer dresser; 3 drawer chest; 6 drawer tall dresser; cedar chest; Sonu Bravis TV; refrigerator; freezer; stove; Oak china cabinet; dresser; night stand; drophead desk; 4 drawer dresser; dresser with mirror; Wicker chest; 3 tier wicker stand; dropleaf table with 4 chairs; 3 drawer dresser with marble insert; Santa blow molds; glass blown ornaments; GOLD & SILVER JEWELRY: 14K men's ring with diamond, 10K men's ring with diamond, (5) 10K men's rings, 14K men's ring, 18K ladies ring, several 10K pins, 10K and 14K earrings, 14K bracelet, 585 bracelet, several 925 necklaces and bracelets, Sterling rings, Sterling pins, and other jewelry items; beer steins; cookware; McCoy; figurines; Lefton china; Kay guitar with case; Fiesta; Remington typewriter; 3 shelf cabinet; baskets; Fire King; Glass Bake; rooster cookie jar; 4' Christmas tree; Precious Moments; Hummels; kerosene lamps; lightning rods and balls; Carboy; Longaberger baskets; Coleman lanterns; CURRENCY & COINS: (26) \$1 Silver Certificates, (23) \$2 Bills, 1934A \$5 Silver Certificate, Morgan Dollars (1879, 1896, 1898, and 1921), Peace Dollars (1922 and 1923), Ben Franklin Half Dollars, Mercury Dimes, Indian Head Pennies, Buffalo Nickels, Steel Pennies, Roll of 1963 Uncirculated Pennies, and others; kitchen items; miniature jugs; dinnerware; entertainment center; large old scales; Aluminum Christmas tree; lots of cookbooks; Aladdin lamp with hand painted shade; hanging kerosene lamp; linens; pole lamp with Hobnail shades; lamp parts; primitives; large group of old lumber with old blue paint; plant stands; large assortment of Christmas decorations; wreaths; Singer Tiny Taylor sewing machine; quilt; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF COSTUME JEWELRY; crocks; Gene Stratton Porter books; Majolica pitchers; Silver Plate flatware; sewing machine in cabinet; kitchen chairs; rocker; table; lamps; afghans; picnic basket; Playboy magazines; frames; fishing poles; baseball cards; games; cookbooks; craft items; Jay County Yearbooks; Boyd's Bears; Matchbox cars; old toys; Pony Boy cap gun with holster; Coleman camp stove; kitchen utensils; Mobility cart; children's books; pictures; Angel décor; Cd's; vintage luggage; fold up wheel chair; inversion chair; tarps; desk; bowling balls; small kitchen appliances; Campbell Hausfeld pressure washer; Toro 5200 snow blower; Stanley planes; Winchester brace; Irwin bits; boat motors; Jacobsen Greens Mower; Tool Shop 6 gal shop vac; charger; nails; sanders; drills; trolling motor; Harley seats, handle bars, saddle bags, and windshield; cordless drill; scroll saw; Ryobi pressure washer; and other items not listed.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is only a partial listing as many of the items have been stored in boxes and the boxes have yet to be sorted. Please note that we will be running 2 rings.
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Panthers prove too much



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Alan Ortiz, a junior on the Jay County High School boys soccer team, tries to head a ball into the goal from a Dylan Marentes corner kick against No. 6 Park Tudor in the IHSAA Class 2A Regional 12 opener on Thursday. The Patriots hung around with the Panthers to be tied 1-1 through the first half, but couldn't match PTHS' three goals in the second.

Jay soccer fights injuries, falls in regional opener 4-1 to No. 6 Park Tudor

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

INDIANAPOLIS — The Patriots knew they needed to play a near-perfect game to take down the Panthers.

Despite a first-half mistake, they found themselves tied with their opponent at the intermission.

The second half didn't go the way they wanted. With three injuries and three goals given up, the Patriots saw their season come to an end.

The Jay County High School boys soccer team couldn't keep up with the No. 6 Park Tudor Panthers in a 4-1 loss during the IHSAA Class 2A Regional 12 opener on Thursday.

With the win, Park Tudor (16-3-1) moves on to play West Lafayette in the Regional 30 championship game on Saturday hosted by Concordia Lutheran.

While the Patriots (14-3) didn't manage to pull off the upset, coach Rodney Reynolds and his team were able to hold their heads high.

"I'm super proud of these guys," Reynolds said. "I don't think we came out and played our best game today. I think we can run with them."

"I think some injuries got in the way, so that really hurt. It seemed like when Ashton (Castillo) came out the momentum changed and we crumbled back there."

"Still, nothing to hold our heads down about. We got to the regional, played Park Tudor at

Park Tudor. They're No. 2 in the class (per Max-Preps) and we gave them a run for their money. We hung with them and just came up short."

The Panthers took a 2-1 lead after Miles Dubie found Elliott Scotten on a fast break 2 minutes, 25 seconds, into the second half. Just over five minutes later, Castillo went down with an injury after the referee signaled for the assistant referee to withdraw his flag for off-sides, determining Jay County had advantage.

Within minutes, the JCHS defense was calling for him to come back into the game, but he wasn't cleared to reenter.

"It's huge because when you take him out, you have to move somebody back," Reynolds said. "That slows things up a little. He has speed, he's level headed and knows how to run it back there. That's a huge loss."

The defensive line held strong for 23 minutes without Castillo, but eventually, Lorenzo Nofrini managed to score by crashing a shot by Connor Kacena-Merrell that Peyton Yowell batted away.

Two minutes after the third Panther goal, Jay County lost another defender, Brendan Runyan, and Yowell. The two collided while trying to stop a fastbreak, causing problems for Runyan's leg and Yowell's back. Freshman Rockland Beiswanger stepped in as goalkeeper for the Patriots, managing five saves and only giving up a

penalty kick to Bennett Ford with 1:38 left.

The Patriots were held down in most of the first half, but started to control the ball a little bit better in the second.

"I feel like we picked up the pace in the second half," said senior midfielder Dylan Marentes, who also commented on how Park Tudor's spacing and passing made them a difficult team to deal with. "We were attacking a lot better, but when they scored those two goals, I think our team just shut down."

Jay County had a handful of opportunities where they found Levi Muhlenkamp, the Patriots' career leader with 82 goals, but he couldn't convert as Gabe Sanich managed to make saves on the fastbreak tries. Sanich even saved two shots back-to-back after the score by Nofrini.

"There was a few where I (got where I wanted), but the goalie just made some fantastic saves," Muhlenkamp said. "And the defense were able to get up and get on me to make me feel pressure on the shot and they just did a great job with that."

While the Panthers held Muhlenkamp and Marentes down in the second half, the duo managed to score with 4:37 left in the first.

Down 1-0, Alan Ortiz threw the ball in to Muhlenkamp as Marentes raced ahead of the play. The seniors connected for a final time as Muhlenkamp executed a touch pass to Marentes,



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's backup goalkeeper Rockland Beiswanger jumps up to stop a free kick from Park Tudor's Connor Kacena-Merrell. Beiswanger came in and made five saves after Peyton Yowell left the game with an injury.

who put the ball in the right half of the net for the score.

"Levi and Dylan gave us a handful," said PTHS coach Andrew Kiernan.

"We did some homework on them beforehand and everyone knew what they had. They were legit."

"I think my defenders did a pretty good job with

Levi. Dylan probably gave us some more struggles in the middle, but either way those are both great players."

Park Tudor's first goal came 18 minutes into the game. After receiving a pass from Alex Cheng, Daniel Peyton sent a ball towards the net. Yowell geared up for Scotten to intercept the ball and redirect it, but the ball bounced past the PTHS senior and another defender to roll into the right corner of the net.

The 4-1 loss improved upon the 6-0 loss the Patriots had the last time they made it to the regional in 2022. They will lose seven players from the 2024 season, including five starters in Castillo, Marentes, Muhlenkamp, Cayden Buckland, Runyan and Iker Nelson and a rotation player in Osmar Gonzalez.

Both Muhlenkamp and Marentes were able to take a moment post game to reflect on their careers and being able to finish out with a sectional championship and regional appearance.

"It was great going to regionals," Marentes said. "It was a great feeling, but sad that it had to end this way."

"It's been a great season," Muhlenkamp said. "I'm just lucky enough to get these accomplishments, between the record, ACAC and then sectional wins. It's amazing. We always want more and more and we weren't able to get that tonight."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Volleyball sectional semifinal vs. Connersville at New Castle — 11 a.m.; Cross country sectional at Taylor University — 10:30 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Cross Country at district meet at Cedarville University — 10 a.m.; Volleyball sectional final vs. Twin Valley South at Arcanum — 10 a.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football sectional opener at Belmont — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football at Minster — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: West Ham United at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Brighton & Hove Albion at New Castle United (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Miami at Louisville (ABC); Nebraska at Indiana (FOX); Wisconsin at Northwestern (BTN); UCLA at Rutgers (FS1); Auburn at Missouri (ESPN); East Carolina at Army (ESPN2)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Arsenal at AFC Bournemouth (NBC)

1 p.m. — College football: Villanova at Maine (FOX)
1 p.m. — NWSL soccer: San Diego Wave at Kansas City Current (CBS)

3:30 p.m. — College football: Notre Dame at Georgia Tech (ESPN); Alabama at Tennessee (ABC); Michigan at Illinois (CBS)
3:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Nebraska at Ohio State (NBC)
4 p.m. — College football: USC at Maryland (FS1); Baylor at Texas Tech (ESPN2); Colorado at Arizona (FOX); Montana State at Portland State (NBC)

5:20 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: South Point 400 (USA)
7 p.m. — College football: LSU at Arkansas (ESPN)
7 p.m. — College volleyball: Indiana at Purdue (BTN)

7 p.m. — NHL: Carolina Hurricanes at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Georgia at Texas (ABC); Iowa at Michigan State (NBC); UCF at Iowa State (FS1); Kansas State at West Virginia (FOX)
8 p.m. — College football: South Dakota State at North Dakota State (ESPN2)
8:08 p.m. — MLB NLCS: New York Yankees at Cleveland Guardians (TBS)
10 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Colorado Springs at Monterey Bay (CBS)

10:30 p.m. — College football: TCU at Utah (ESPN)

Sunday
9 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester City at Wolverhampton Wanderers (USA)
11:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Chelsea at Liverpool (USA)
1 p.m. — NFL: Houston Texas at Green Bay Packers (CBS); Miami Dolphins at Indianapolis Colts (FOX)
1 p.m. — College volleyball: Florida at LSU (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — College volleyball: Stanford at Pitt (ESPN)
3 p.m. — Formula 1: United States Grand Prix (ABC)
3 p.m. — La Liga soccer: Sevilla at Barcelona (ESPN2)

4:25 p.m. — NFL: Kansas City Chiefs at San Francisco 49ers (FOX)
5 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Orlando Pride at Gotham FC (ESPN)
6:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Wisconsin at Michigan (NBC)
8:08 p.m. — MLB NLCS: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers (FS1)
8:20 p.m. — NFL: New York Jets at Pittsburgh

Steelers (NBC)

Monday
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Crystal Palace at Nottingham Forest (USA)
5:08 p.m. — MLB ALCS: Cleveland Guardians at New York Yankees (TBS)
7 p.m. — College soccer: UCLA at Maryland (BTN)
8:08 p.m. — MLB NLCS: New York Mets at Los Angeles Dodgers (FOX)
8:15 p.m. — NFL: Baltimore Ravens at Tampa Bay Buccaneers (ABC)

Tuesday
6 p.m. — NHL: Washington Capitals at Philadelphia Flyers (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: New York Knicks at Boston Celtics (TNT)
7:38 p.m. — MLB ALCS: Cleveland Guardians at New York Yankees (TBS)
8 p.m. — NHL: Winnipeg Jets at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — NHL: Colorado Avalanche at Seattle Kraken (ESPN)
10 p.m. — NBA: Minnesota Timberwolves at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)
11 p.m. — NHL: Los Angeles Kings at Vegas Golden Knights (ESPN)

Local notes

Final race
The final race in the Adams County 5K Challenge is the Rainbow Lake 5K Run/Walk, will take place on Nov. 26.
Preregistration can be done at adamscounty5kchallenge.com.

Turkey Trot sign-up open
Cooper Farms will be hosting its 17th annual Turkey Trot Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Cooper Farms Turkey Harvesting Plant in St. Henry, Ohio.
Participation costs \$15. All proceeds benefit EverHeart Hospice.

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

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

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



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Box score

Jay County Patriots
(2-7, 1-5 ACAC)
at Heritage (8-1, 5-1 ACAC)

Jay Co.	7	0	6	0	-13
Heritage	0	14	14	7	-35

First Quarter
JC — Rhysin Blowers 5 pass from Sean Bailey (A.J. Myers kick), 3:32.

Second Quarter
H — Lucas Weber 45 run (Cam Rauner kick) 8:15.
H — Zeke Litchfield 66 pass from Eli Tigulis (Rauner kick), 3:4.

Third Quarter
H — Litchfield 20 pass from Tigulis (Rauner kick), 8:48.
H — Weber 7 run (Rauner kick), 3:03.
JC — Benson Ward 34 pass from Bailey (fumble on kick), 1:04.

Fourth Quarter
H — Weber 72 run (Rauner kick), 2:02.

Team Statistics

	JC	JH
Rushes - yds	30-81	26-168
Comp-Att-Int	16-34-1	11-19-0
Passing yds	183	164
Total Plays	64	45
Total Offense	264	332
Punt ret - yds	1-4	0-0
Kickoff ret - yds	5-72	2-19
Ints - yds	0-0	3-63
Fumbles - lost	6-2	1-1
Penalties - yds	4-30	9-87
Sacks - yds	1-7	3-19

Individual Statistics
Rushing — Jay County — Sean Bailey 18-58, A.J. Myers 12-23. Heritage — Lucas Weber 14-189, Braden Walter 8-18, Eli Tigulis 4(-39).
Passing — Jay County — Sean Bailey 16-34-3 183. Heritage — Eli Tigulis 11-19-0 164.
Receiving — Jay County — Benson Ward 2-60, Ben Crouch 6-56, Grant Wendel 3-33, Brady Jetmore 1-21, Rhysin Blowers 1-5, Carter Fuggett 1-5, Isaac Dues 1-3, A.J. Myers 1-0.

JCHS senior quarterback Sean Bailey evades a tackle attempt by Heritage's Max Mirelez before turning upfield for a 21-yard rush. Bailey led the Patriot offensive effort with 58 yards on the ground and 183 through the air.

Figured ...

Continued from page 10
The home team didn't manage a score on its first drive, but the defense started to figure things out to stop JCHS. Heritage then put together a four-play drive that featured a trio of runs by Lucas Weber, including a 45-yard rush to the end zone.
Two more failed drives by Jay County gave Heritage the ball with 20.3 seconds left. HHS quarterback Eli Tigulis connected with Zeke Litchfield to move the ball up 12 yards. Tigulis went back to the well, feeding Litchfield deep down the right sideline for a 66-yard touchdown to go up 14-7 at the end of the half.
The home Patriots created

their first turnover of the game in the closing seconds of the first half, getting a fumble out of Vasin Ridgeway before jumping on the ball as the clock expired.
Heritage continued that trend in the second half, forcing four more JCHS turnovers.
The first came on the visiting Patriots' initial drive, as Killian McBride snagged a ball intended for Brady Jetmore to give HHS the ball at the 10-yard line. Three plays later, Litchfield was in the end zone, catching a 20-yard TD pass.
Another pick in the third quarter — this time by Braden Walter — gave Heritage the ball at the 11-yard line before Walter and

Weber pounded the ball into the end zone on the ground.
A third interception in the fourth quarter didn't set up a Heritage score, but Walter's grab at the HHS 2-yard line stripped Jay County of the chance to put a third TD on the board. (Jay County scored to end the third period with Bailey completing 5-of-5 passes for 71 yards. Benson Ward caught the 34-yard touchdown pass.)
A final turnover, a strip and recovered fumble, ended a 51-yard Jay County drive. Heritage scored on the following play with Weber breaking off a 72-yard run.
"It wasn't really a schematic issue or a playing hard issue,"

said HHS coach Jeremy Hullinger of the defensive mistake on the opening drive. "It was a man-for-man not getting the calls communicated down the line. Once we did that and got into our correct scheme. ...
"Five turnovers speak for themselves. Our guys are used to getting their hands on the ball and when they get their hands on the ball they usually come down with it."
Heritage had a balanced offensive performance, throwing for 164 yards and two TDs and carrying for 168 yards and three TDs. Most of Jay County's offensive work came through the air, as Bailey tossed two scores and

gained 183 yards on 16-of-34 passing.
While Jay County couldn't break through, it was in a threatening position all throughout the game.
"We came up here against a really good football team," Zgunda said. "We had plenty of shots to be in a position to win the game and just came up short. ... You've got to make plays to win and we'd love a couple of them back. I can't fault anyone on those, but we're not going to be able to win if we make turnovers like that."
Jay County will face off against a winless Belmont team in the sectional opener on Oct. 25 in Decatur.



The Commercial Review/Will Cash

Fort Recovery High School's Caden Grisez looks for a crease between two Anna Rocket defenders during the Indians' 49-6 loss to Anna on Friday. Fort Recovery has lost three out of its last four and is now 2-7 on the season.

Slow ...

Continued from page 10
Anna added insult to injury, scoring two more times in the third quarter through a 29-yard Shappie touchdown pass to Osborn and a 30-yard rushing touchdown by Wyatt Howell.
The Rockets also got a touchdown on special teams as the other Shappie brother, Aaron, took an 84-yard punt return for a touchdown.

"Reece Wendel always competes, always runs the ball hard," said Niekamp. "When we were able to get a hat on a hat, he was able to do some good things tonight."
Fort Recovery will look to bounce back next week in its final regular season game against Minster (7-2, 5-2 MAC).

"Our guys play hard every week," said Niekamp. "We've been punching above our weight class all year, every single game. We are going to keep playing hard and keep working to get better and see how much progress we can make in these next five days."

"We blocked well tonight," said Anna coach Nick Marino. "We protected Alex (Shappie) when we did throw it, and sealed the perimeter when we called screens, so overall tonight everything came from the guys up front."
Strong output from his receivers and backfield aided Shappie. Osborn ran for 64 yards off of 14 carries while hauling in three receptions for 78 yards. Aufderhaar also caught the ball four times for 64 yards.
With just 127 yards of offense from 39 plays and just one completion, Fort Recovery struggled.
Wendel was a bright spot for the Indians, rushing for 73 yards on 14 attempts as he accounted for more than half of Fort Recovery's production offensively.

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**Are You
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Sports

All figured out

Heritage turns tables on Jay Co. after long opening drive

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

MONROEVILLE — "Figure it out!"

Those were the words shouted from the home Patriots' sideline at the defense after giving up a 13-play, eight-and-a-half-minute scoring drive to open the game.

While the home squad still gave up 70 yards to the visiting Patriots through the rest of the first half, it got the job done to build a 14-7 advantage.

In the second half, the home Patriots certainly "Figure(d) it out," creating four turnovers to keep control of the contest.

The Jay County High School football team punched the Heritage Patriots, which finished 13th in this week's Class 3A Associated Press poll, but turnovers and big offensive plays powered HHS to a 35-13 victory.

"We're getting better and we feel like we can compete with anybody we play," said JCHS coach Grant Zgunda. "We don't get many explosive plays, so we've got to execute really well. I thought we started out well defensively and played pretty well. The score doesn't show that, but they're a good football team and we had some shots. We just didn't make plays when we needed. It's the same thing from the last few months."

Jay County (2-7, 1-5 Allen County Athletic Conference) executed on its opening drive to near perfection, marching 73 yards down field to get on the board first. Sean Bailey did a bulk of the work, rushing four times for 46 yards and going 5-for-5 for 24 yards through the air, including a 5-yard touchdown pass to Rhysin Blowers to cap off the score.

The opening drive was quiet, without excessive cheering from either fanbase and a nearly-silent Heritage defense, resulting in the "Figure it out!" line shouted by one of the coaches on the Heritage (8-1, 5-1 ACAC) sideline.

See **Figured** page 9



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Grant Wendel rises up to complete a pass, while Heritage's Braden Walter gets a hand on the ball to break up the play. While Wendel couldn't come down with the ball, he made two catches on a scoring drive in the third quarter.

FRHS unable to slow down Rockets

Efficient Anna hands Indians their 7th defeat

By **WILL CASH**

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Midway through the third quarter, on third-and-8, Anna ran an option play as quarterback Alex Shappie pitched the ball to running back Zach Osborn.

Osborn, on a race to the marker near the right sideline, was stopped just 1 yard short of the line of gain.

It brought up a fourth-down decision for Anna.

With the score at 28-6, Fort Recovery still could have had a chance to rally, especially with a momentum-swinging defensive stand.

Anna coach Nick Marino did not even think about punting in Fort Recovery territory and kept his offense on the field.

The Rockets ran the ball straight up the middle, picking up 2 yards and moving the chains.

Three plays later Howell hit Noah Aufderhaar on an out route to put Anna up 35-6, effectively putting a damper on any hope for Fort Recovery to come back.

Fort Recovery High School gave up 174 yards and four touchdowns to Shappie as it fell 49-6 Friday to the Anna Rockets.

"We knew defensively we had to be sound in a lot of areas, because they have tons of weapons over there," said FRHS coach Brent Niekamp. "We knew that they had a nice quarterback (Shappie) and their running back 31 (Osborn) were nice players."

Fort Recovery (2-7, 1-6 Midwest Athletic Conference) struggled all night offensively outside of a 72-yard touchdown drive that saw Reece Wendel finish it off with a 32-yard touchdown to make it 21-6 with 2:03 left in the first half.

It was the only ounce of momentum the Indians got throughout the night.

On the next drive, Anna (6-3, 4-3 MAC) wasted no time and strategically sliced through the Fort Recovery defense with a plethora of different screen passes and sweeps off the edge. Shappie ended the drive on a 7-yard passing touchdown to Keith Homan, capping off a 28-point first half for the Rockets.

"We struggled a lot blocking their front," said Brent Niekamp. "They did a lot of moving and a good job of getting through our gaps and getting tackles for loss."

Fort Recovery's defense could not get off the field throughout the night. The Rockets used a variety of different looks, scoring three times on screen plays.

"We overran the ball," said Niekamp. "Their running back (Osborn) was able to cut back across the pursuit, and we just couldn't make the tackle."

"We were aggressive blitzing tonight, and that gave us a chance to make stops every once in a while," he added. "But when those blitzers didn't get home, those turned out to be big plays, and that's kind of the risk and reward on that side of the ball."

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Introducing the 2025 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Finalists

For Jay County

(Top)
Madelynn Snow & Aubrey Millspaugh
(Bottom)
Morgan DeHoff, Ella Stockton and
Coryn Blalock

Congratulations!

