

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

On to the final

Karlie Niekamp (left) of the Fort Recovery High School volleyball team races over to celebrate with Cameron Muhlenkamp after the Indians took down the host Arcanum Trojans 25-17, 25-18, 25-20 in the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 2 district semifinal Wednesday. FRHS will face Miami Valley Christian Academy on Saturday with a trip to the regional on the line. For more on the match, see page 8.

Watson, Monroe running in south district

Candidates share ideas on JCDC, other issues facing county

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Both candidates want to establish more unity in the community.

Their plans to address the issue differ.

Democrat Blake Watson and Republican Duane Monroe will face off in the race for the Jay County south commissioner district seat Nov. 5.

A 2001 Jay County High School graduate, Watson, 42, received his associate's degree in human services and bachelor's degree in social work from Indiana University East of Richmond. A resident of rural Richland Township, Watson also earned his master's degree in gerontology from University of Indianapolis. He served as curator of Dunkirk Glass Museum for about four years and deputy director of Jay County Visitors and Tourism Bureau for about six years. He has been working for Retter Farms' poultry egg facility in Jefferson Township for the last five years. He's served on various boards, including Indiana University East Alumni Association Board of Directors, IU East Social Work Association Board of Directors, Jay County Visitors and Tourism Bureau Commission, Jay County Chamber of Commerce and Jay County Historical Society.

Monroe, 49, graduated from Jay County High School in 1993. The rural Portland resident earned his associate's degree in applied science from Ivy Tech Community College in 2005 and works as a journeyman lineman for Jay County REMC. Monroe served for about 24 years on Jefferson Township Advisory Board and has been on the county's road committee for about a decade.

Monroe won the Republican primary for the south district commissioner seat in May, defeating incumbent Brian McGalliard. In the 2020 Republican primary, he lost to McGalliard in a three-way race that also included Barb Street.

Monroe said he's running for office to make a difference in the community. He pointed to tensions between commissioners and Jay County Development Corporation as one example.

"(I'm running to) just build a relationship mostly," said Monroe. "I feel like it's kind of been broken."

"I just think, in general, everybody working together is the key," he added.

Watson said he's running for office to be an advocate for the middle class in Jay County.

See District page 2

State voting already clears 500,000

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana Secretary of State Diego Morales said Wednesday there is strong early voter turnout across the state — with more than half a million Hoosiers already casting their ballots.

"With Election Day quickly approaching, we're excited to see so many Hoosiers actively participating in the election process," Morales said. "I'm calling on every eligible Hoosier who hasn't voted yet to make their plan to vote and ensure their voice is heard in

this important election. As Hoosiers, we have a responsibility to shape the future of our communities, our state, and our country."

There are 4,841,433 registered voters in Indiana. With just 11 days left

before Election Day, it appears the state will eclipse early voting for 2022.

That year, total "absentee" voting reached 713,421. That includes in-person votes cast early, at 542,709, and votes cast by

mail, at 158,822. The rest were by fax, email or traveling board.

In 2020, the total absentee vote was 1,937,200 — but that number is higher because rules were eased to allow more voting by mail due to the pandemic.

Voting in person early was 1,355,960. The rest were by mail (563,726), fax, email and traveling board.

Early in-person voting is available through Nov. 4. On Election Day, polls open at 6 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. local time.

Hoosiers can check their registration status, find polling locations, and see a sample ballot at IndianaVoters.com.

Voters can also text 'IN' to 45995 to report an issue at a polling site, find information about voting locations/hours, or ask questions about election security.

Jay County early voting hours
8:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
8 to 3 p.m. Saturday
at Jay County Courthouse

Turkey strikes in Syria and Iran

Nearly 50 targets hit in retaliatory attacks

By SELCAN HACAOGU
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Turkish airstrikes hit 47 targets in northern Iraq and Syria in retaliation of a deadly attack in the capital that it's blamed on Kurdish militants.

Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said both assailants in Wednesday's attack on state defense firm Turkish Aerospace

Industries in Ankara were members of the outlawed Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK. Besides the attackers, five people were killed and 22 were wounded in the incident.

Turkish warplanes and drones struck targets in Iraq and Syria overnight in an air campaign over an unusually large area. Strikes will likely continue in the near future, officials familiar with the matter said, asking not to be identified because of the sensitivity of the matter.

Targets included dozens of Syrian positions held by the Kurdish YPG, which Turkey says is a PKK affiliate, around three towns near the border, the people said.



Tribune News Service/The Detroit News/Daniel Mears

Tower climb

State Rep. Denise Mentzer and Macomb County executive Mark Hackel rappel down a live burn tower Wednesday at Macomb Community College's Public Service Institute in Clinton Township, Michigan.

Deaths

John Brush, 73, Uniondale
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 70 degrees Wednesday. The low was 48.

Tonight's low will be around 40. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with a high in the upper 50s. Sunday's high will be around 60, with lows in the 30s through the weekend. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

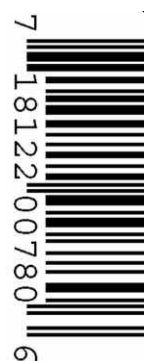
Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — Coverage of the JCHS football sectional opener against Bellmont.

Tuesday — Results from Jay County runners at the cross country regional meet.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Jay County Commissioners meeting.



Obituaries

John Brush

May 20, 1951-Oct. 19, 2024

John "Jack" Wesley Brush, 73, of Uniondale, Indiana, went to be with the Lord on Oct. 19, 2024, surrounded by the beauty of his beloved farm. His sudden passing serves as a reminder of life's preciousness and the joy he found in all of God's creation.



Brush

Born on May 20, 1951, in Hicksville, Ohio, to Lawrence and Bivere Brush. Jack proudly graduated from Hicksville High School in 1969. He had a deep respect for a job well done, embodying "Jack of all trades" as a badge of honor earned through his relentless work ethic. Jack worked hard to build a life he was proud of.

Jack discovered his passion for horses early on, achieving his dream of owning his own farm

by buying his own land in 1978 with his first wife. Together they had a son, Christopher, and daughter, Lindsay, who joined him on his journey of developing his equine dreams. Jack started training horses as a side job. Over the years, Jack worked in many positions to provide for his family but his passion and joy was always in the horse business.

After a downsize at the factory he worked at, he finally decided to chase his dreams and became a full time horse trainer. In 1992, he was able to add an additional twenty-five acres to his farm and he began to build the life he had always dreamed of as he formed Bit by Bit Farms Inc.

His reputation as a gifted trainer spread throughout the community, drawing people in for lessons from miles away. Beginning in his youth, he began training horses in 4-H and would continue on to mentor countless youth, inspiring the next generation of horse lovers. He became a profes-

sional trainer and judge, training many world champions. A walk through his home would show many trophies, buckles, awards, accomplishments and photos showcasing the horses he trained, owned and showed. Jack was a member of many equine associations and clubs, including PtHA, APHA, POA and AWhA, along with many 4-H clubs. With nothing but his name and address, people would turn up from hundreds of miles away to learn from the best. When you saw the big white barn with the green roof, you knew you were at the right place.

Jack first met Dr. Patsy Detamore, the love of his life, in 2002 as he taught her children how to ride and trained their horse. A beautiful friendship developed which evolved to them dating in 2003. They had 21 committed years together, 11 of which were spent as husband and wife. Jack and Patsy continued to build their dreams together to make a

life they both loved and were proud of. Tending to their garden and his family were chores he was happy to take on. They enjoyed their farm, their children, their grandchildren, their animals and, most importantly, each other.

Jack attended the First Baptist Church in Ossian, Indiana. A good husband, father, grandfather, friend, neighbor and mentor, he was full of knowledge and always willing to lend a hand or advice.

Jack always said he would stop working when he was dead, but those who love him know he is just getting started on his to-do list in heaven. Known for his quick wit, he always had a joke ready, reminding everyone to find joy even amidst life's challenges.

Jack is preceded in death by his parents, Lawrence and Bivere Brush; brother Mancil Brush; and sisters, Garcille Pieper and Lawrence Brush.

Loving survivors include his wife and soulmate, Dr. Patsy Detamore-Brush; children, Lindsay Brush and Christopher Brush; Patsy's children, Benjamin Detamore, Sharon Detamore, Samuel Detamore and Rachel Detamore; three grandchildren, Nicholas John Brush, Matthew Lawrence Brush and Olivia Grace Brush; step-grandchildren Anthony Detamore, who lived with his grandparents for three years, and his 3 siblings; nieces Kim Carson, Cathleen Quezada and Stephanie Brush; and one nephew, Carl Pieper.

In honor of Jack's wishes, a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Those wishing to make a memorial contribution in Jack's honor may give to the Wells County 4-H association.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Glancy-H. Brown & Son Funeral Home in Warren, Indiana.

CR almanac

Table with 5 columns: Saturday 10/27, Sunday 10/28, Monday 10/29, Tuesday 10/30, Wednesday 10/31. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Lotteries

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

Markets

Table listing market prices for Cooper Farms Fort Recovery, ADM Montpelier, POET Biorefining Portland, and The Andersons Richland Township. Includes prices for corn, beans, and wheat.

Today in history

In 1415, King Henry V led the English army to victory over French forces at the Battle of Agincourt during the Hundred Years' War. In 1940, basketball coach Bob Knight was born in Massillon, Ohio. In 1964, the Rolling Stones made their first appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show. In 2021, Dunkirk City Council approved the use of \$84,647.30 in American Rescue Plan Act funds to purchase and install a new liner, lifeguard stations and grates for the city pool. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Table listing community events for Today, Monday, and Tuesday, including meetings and hearings.

District ...

Continued from page 1 "I'm running for the single mother, the single father, the factory worker in Jay County, the small family farmer," he said. "I want to be a voice for those folks, you know, a positive voice to move this community forward."

Watson's goals include establishing a better grasp on democracy and equity within the community.

He noted that, if elected, he'll work in a bipartisan fashion with other commissioners, pointing out he would be the minority party in the group.

"To me, democracy in Jay County is on life support," he said. "Checks and balances (are) so important. It's pivotal that we have two healthy parties that are able to be engaged and compete, you know, at the national, county and local level."

Addressing ongoing talks between JCDC and the county, Monroe noted he's supportive of a working relationship moving forward. He added that he believes he was chosen as the Republican candidate partially because of his stance on the issue.

"I'm for JCDC and what it stands for," said Monroe. "I'm going to support it ... they need to have a relationship, they need to work together. It obviously hasn't been working together."

After listening to folks while campaigning, Watson voiced some concerns from others about JCDC's operations, specifically its board of directors and decisions it has made.

"I think we need to hit the reset button," he said.

Monroe noted recent news from Jay County Highway Department about the county's aging timber bridges. (Portions of two county roads are currently closed because of unsafe bridges.) He talked about look-

ing into cost-saving efforts for addressing damaged bridges and pointed to those repairs or replacements as a priority.

"If there is money out there, then that's probably what we need to work on first, in my opinion," he said. "And honestly, I feel like that's what the county is for, is to maintain what we have and not try to make something that we don't (have)."

Watson shared plans to make sure police are properly funded and contribute toward community safety and drug addiction rehabilitation initiatives. He shared his support for Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition.

"As county commissioner, I definitely look forward to working with those folks too, you know, to turn the tide of all the issues surrounding addiction in Jay County, and that's a part of moving this whole community and county forward," he said.

Watson would like to restructure how commissioners appoint representatives to boards, suggesting they advertise open positions to find a candidate and get the community involved. He would also like to propose moving commissioners' meetings to a more convenient time for the public to be able to attend.

Monroe questioned the county's ability to pay for ongoing developments with building infrastructure for housing — an estimated \$25.5 million project — on the county's 68 acres on the west edge of Portland.

"We can't afford a \$1.1 million bridge," he said. "How can we afford \$25 million?"

He noted there is a need for housing in the community but again voiced a desire for the county to prioritize maintaining its assets first.

Watson talked about a need to bring more residents into Jay County to expand the tax base. He believes most

folks in Jay County want to see the 68 acres developed but pointed to other potential housing projects across the community. Referencing his platform, he advocated for equity regarding additional housing measures.

"We can't just focus on one area in Jay County, there has to be a balance throughout the entire county as far as economic development, which includes housing," he said.

Discussing county council's choice in September to not allocate economic development income tax (EDIT) funding in commissioners' 2025 budget, Monroe expressed support. (Funding will still be available, but must be requested via additional appropriations.)

"I was glad because I would like to be held accountable for my decisions on any kind of money making decisions," Monroe said. "If I got an idea to do something, I would want them to be on board with it anyway."

Monroe wants a chance as a commissioner to give it his best effort.

"Whatever I do, I try to be the best at that task," Monroe said. "With that being said, I'm going to do my best, and I'm a community people type person anyway, so, and I love Jay County. I've lived here my whole life, I don't want to see anything per se change, but I do want to see things change."

For Watson, his campaign for the seat comes down to bringing a new voice to the table.

"I know there's a lot of people hurting out there financially, and, you know, having issues such as housing, addiction, raising (grandchildren)," he said. "I want to bring governance to Jay County that reflects the people's issues and is responsible also on how, you know, I would go about decision-making involving issues surrounding the county and the people in it."

SERVICES section listing events for Friday, Saturday, and Oct. 29, including Stephen, Bechtol, and Pendleton.

Felony courts

Residential entry A Tennessee man was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty to residential entry in Jay Superior Court.

Trevin W. Miller, 34, 433 Dockery Branch Road, Sevierville, pleaded guilty to residential entry, a Level 6 felony, and admitted to be a habitual offender. He was sentenced to 1,460 days in Indiana Department of Correction — his sentence was doubled because of the habitual offender enhancement — and given 130 days credit for time served. Miller was assessed \$189 in court costs.

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Redkey Police Department is accepting applications for full-time Deputy Marshal. Must have high school diploma or GED. Would like experience. Applications may be picked up at the Redkey Town Hall. Applications must be turned in before October 25, 2024.

Mom kept at distance

DEAR ABBY: I'm the mom of an 18-year-old daughter, "Leia." We have always tried to keep the lines of communication open with our children, and we have what I think is a strong, positive familial bond.

My best friend recently informed me that Leia has an Instagram account that's publicly accessible. I can't find her account when I search, which means she has me blocked. The account was created three years ago when she was a minor. I'm not happy with this. When asked back then, Leia told us repeatedly she didn't have an Instagram account — but I always suspected she did, as most young people her age are engaged in social media.

I would like Leia to unblock me so I can see her beautiful pictures. I'm not a harsh critic or negative person, though Leia often interprets my comments that way. I think she has blocked me because she considers any observations or comments I might make to be parental surveillance. I've told her, repeatedly, that I'm not trying to keep tabs on her.

We have always given our kids what we think is a high level of personal freedom. I just want to see the beautiful images she posts. How do I gently bring this up to her, and ask her to allow me to see her account? —

Dear Abby



BLOCKED IN NEW YORK
DEAR BLOCKED: I don't advise you to ask your now-adult daughter to unblock you from her social media. You stated that Leia often interprets your comments and observations as critical and invasive, which may be the reason she blocked you in the first place. Because you long to see her "beautiful pictures," ask your good friend to show them to you on her computer or her cell-phone. That way your curiosity will be assuaged, and Leia won't feel invaded.

.....
DEAR ABBY: I was in a relationship with "Marvin" for 30 years, many of them as a married couple. He has many vices — drinking and being abusive were the main issues.

Our divorce was final two months ago. Marvin's behavior was so poor that if I had told anyone, they would have lost respect for him, and he would have most certainly lost his job. So, I kept his secrets at my

own expense. If I had shared what was actually going on, Marvin would have faced the consequences. It was isolating and lonely.

I have been hiding this shame for so long that, now that we are divorced, I'm not sure what to tell people. I want to tell the truth about what I experienced, but I don't want it to seem like I am just badmouthing my ex. How can I open up without seeming bitter? — HELD BACK IN WASHINGTON

DEAR HELD BACK: It's time to speak frankly to someone. The office of a licensed therapist would be a good place to start. Your doctor or your health insurance company can refer you to someone qualified.

If you want to ensure that you won't be regarded as a "bitter divorcee," confide in your closest friends. When you do, explain that you know you should have spoken up sooner, but you were afraid that if you did, Marvin would lose his job, which would have had a negative impact on both of you.

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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 Dear-Abby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Jay County library hosts spooky events

Jay County Public Library has a few spooky events coming up next week.

Adult horror lovers have the opportunity to enjoy a double feature film and dinner from 5 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the library. Fearful Films Cinema includes a Halloween-themed meal along with showings of "The Creature from the Black Lagoon" and "Dracula" from 1931. Make reservations by calling or visiting the library.

Ghouls are taking over the community room from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday. Visitors to the library may take a self-directed tour through creepy estate rooms. The walk-through experience doesn't include actors or jump scares, but it is recommended for ages 8 and up. Children ages 12 and younger must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Also on Halloween, the library will give out books, bookmarks and candy to trick-or-treaters from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday.

After School Art Club

Another After School Art Club night is coming up in a few weeks.

Jay County Campus of Arts Place will be offering Thanksgiving fabric scrap wreath crafting sessions from 4 to 5 p.m. Nov. 6 for third and fourth graders and from 4 to 5 p.m. Nov. 13 for fifth and sixth graders. Pre-registration is required, and the cost is \$5 to reserve a spot.

Also, the club will offer self-portrait ornament crafting sessions from 4 to 5 p.m. Dec. 4 for third and fourth graders and from 4 to 5 p.m. Dec. 11 for fifth and sixth graders. To learn more, visit Arts Place in Port-

Taking Note

land, call (260) 726-4809 or email visualarts@myartsplace.org.

Museum hosting

The David Owsley Museum of Art at Ball State University is showcasing The Art of Elizabeth Catlett from the Collection of Samella Lewis through Dec. 20.

Lewis was a professor emerita of art history at Scripps College in Claremont, California. He was a student under Catlett, a sculptor and printmaker recognized as one of the most significant African American artists in the 20th century, in the 1940s.

"Elizabeth Catlett was my friend and my mentor in art," wrote Lewis. "She is the reason that I began to see and think creatively. When I first met Elizabeth in 1941, my attempts at making art were strictly based on visual concepts of the European models. Upon my graduation from high school, it was my good fortune to receive a scholarship to study at Dillard University, where Elizabeth was the art professor. I shall always remember her as being my mentor who was responsible for my life in art."

The museum is located at 2021 W. Riverside Ave., Muncie, in the BSU fine arts building.

It is open from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday. Admission is free.

Community Calendar

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

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

Saturday
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.

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

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

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

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

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. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday
WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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

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Preserve programs, protect families

By T.G. TURNER
OtherWords

When I was a kid, I had no idea we were low-income. My single mom had a decent job as a regional rail conductor, and she'd sometimes take me to the movies or on vacations.

But she had trouble finding child care — the cost was simply too high, especially because she had to go to work so early in the morning. In the end, my mom had no choice but to take me to work with her.

As a kid, I enjoyed it. It seemed normal and fun to me — until I was the one with bills to pay.

Even working multiple jobs, our household income isn't enough to make ends meet for my four kids and me now. I remember once, when we couldn't pay the electric bill and the lights went out, I told my kids we were "camping in the dark," trying to make it feel like an adventure.

There are millions more like us. There's a nationwide shortage

T.G. Turner



of affordable housing, and the federal minimum wage isn't enough for a full-time worker to afford a market-rate two-bedroom apartment anywhere in the country.

I've been fortunate to have help buying food for my family through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Though it keeps my kids from going hungry, it's not enough — and my children have various disorders that require special diets, which are unaffordable with the modest SNAP benefits we receive.

Housing and health are further barriers to thriving. Due to toxic

conditions in our low-quality rental apartment, my youngest has lead poisoning and lives with life-threatening seizures — he had his first at just nine months old.

Since then, all my children have been diagnosed with a seizure disorder and asthma — conditions that have deeply impacted our day-to-day lives. Managing their health has required constant attention, but it's taught me the importance of being vigilant and resilient in the face of adversity.

Which is good, because we've had no shortage of that.

We were on the waitlist for a safer Section 8 apartment, but the wait became longer and longer. Eventually, I learned that the housing office had made a clerical error in my street address and sent my acceptance letter to the wrong address — and I lost my place on the list.

So we became homeless — and because shelters wouldn't keep

families together, we had to get a room in a hotel that didn't have air conditioning and didn't allow cooking. People who've never experienced this kind of hardship don't know the obstacles we face, even as we work hard and try everything in our power to do our best for our kids.

These obstacles are political choices about how we as a nation invest our tax dollars.

Programs like SNAP benefit not only families but also society as a whole. The SNAP program acts as a stabilizer on a wobbly economy during a downturn because it puts money in people's pockets to buy more food, generating income for agriculture industries and creating more jobs. A few years ago, its economic multiplier effect was gauged at producing \$1.54 billion for every \$1 billion invested.

The solutions to poverty — such as more robust investment in programs like SNAP, affordable housing, and well-paying

jobs — benefit all of us. These are the common sense solutions, the rising tides that lift all boats. Giveaways to the uber-wealthy and corporations don't.

We need to use our voice — and our vote — to make sure people who represent the interests of families, children, workers, and a more equitable economy are the ones making decisions about where to put our hard-earned tax dollars.

When we all do better, we all do better. Life may throw you curveballs or put mountains in your way. Often, it's out of our control. But making common sense investments in what's best for all of us is something we can control — at the ballot box. Vote.

Turner is a mother and an anti-poverty advocate with RESULTS from Philadelphia.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.

It's time to pass a federal shield law

Las Vegas Review-Journal
Tribune News Service

Forty-nine states, including Nevada, have enacted some version of a "shield law," preventing the government from forcing reporters to reveal their notes or sources. It's well past time that the folks inside the Beltway followed suit.

Shield law protections give life to the First Amendment. If the government can compel reporters, editors and other members of the media to divulge confidential sources or research files, this will effectively discourage whistleblowers and others from coming forward, undermining the ability of the press to hold public officials accountable for questionable or even illegal acts.

Allowing the government to do an end-run around the Bill of Rights is anathema to a free and healthy democratic republic.

"For the press to be truly free, as the First Amendment guarantees," said Tim Wheeler, who chairs the Society of Environmental Journalists Freedom of Information Task Force, "journalists need to be able to safeguard the confidentiality of sources whose information helps hold government to account."

There are few elected officials in our nation's capital who would publicly offer an opposing viewpoint. Yet Congress for decades has been unable to muster the will to pass a shield law, enshrining these vital First Amendment protections at the federal level. That must change.

This year has brought encouraging developments. In July, the House passed the PRESS Act without a dissenting vote. One of the bill's sponsors, Rep. Jamie Raskin, a Democrat from Maryland, explained to Quill, a publication from the Society of Professional Journalists, that the legislation "is an attempt to draw a line around journalists to protect their work and their information from government intrusion and harassment. There are exceptions in the legislation for cases of terrorism and threats of imminent violence and harm, but absent that, the PRESS Act protects journalistic privilege."

Unfortunately, the measure has since stalled in the Senate despite enjoying

Guest Editorial

Allowing the government to do an end-run around the Bill of Rights is anathema to a free and healthy democratic republic.

support from a bipartisan coalition — and time for action is running out on the current Congress.

The Hill reports that Sen. Tom Cotton, an Oklahoma Republican, has helped block the proposal by opposing a unanimous consent vote. He has previously voiced concerns about the PRESS Act leading to "a floodgate of leaks damaging to law enforcement and our nation's security." Other observers believe Sen. Cotton's intransigence is the result of a general animosity toward left-leaning journalists.

Neither objection passes muster. The legislation is ideologically neutral, protecting reporters and editors regardless of their politics. As for compromising law enforcement or national security, that's absurd. A greater danger would be to erode the very freedoms that protect American citizens from the perils of government overreach while shielding the state from scrutiny.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, who has supported the bill, should make it a priority as the session winds down, even if that means less time for other Democratic priorities. We trust it will pass overwhelmingly, with Nevada's two senators, Jacky Rosen and Catherine Cortez Masto, on board. Congress has fiddled for long enough on this important legislation. The time to act is now.



Battle remains at our heart

By DAVE ANDERSON
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

It is useful to think about the presidential election with a framework that emphasizes the old tension between isolationism and interventionism.

In many ways, the Republicans represent the isolationist camp, and the Democrats represent the interventionist camp. Of course, the exact words that are used to label the camps will not be satisfactory to everyone: right vs. left, libertarian vs. progressive, individualist vs. communitarian. Yet the old isolationist/interventionist theme has divided the nation for nearly 250 years.

Since its founding, America has struggled with the desire among some to be isolated from the rest of the world and the desire among others to be integrated with the rest of the world. We were, in the early years of the republic, quite isolated from the rest of the world by virtue of our geographic location. The colonists left the Old World to get away from it and were determined, and the revolutionaries among them wanted to create a new kind of country.

Both world wars brought into sharp focus our pull toward isolationism because the public did not want to be engaged in European conflicts. We entered World War I in 1917 and World War II in late 1941, and in each case our presidents, Woodrow Wilson and Franklin Roosevelt, had to work for years to prepare Congress and the people themselves for U.S. involvement in overseas wars.

Our tension between isolationism and intervening to make the world safe for democracy is quite evident today, since we struggle over what America should do regarding Russia and Ukraine, Israel and the Palestinians, Iran, China, North Korea and NATO.

A second tension is between conservative versions of capitalism —

Dave Anderson



which favor free markets, modest forms of regulation and minimum forms of redistribution of wealth and income — and versions of a mixed economy and social democracy that rely on major forms of government intervention into the private sector.

Progressives and liberals in the United States, ranging from President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris to Sens. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., and Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., stand for a strong interventionist government regarding both domestic and foreign policy. Conservative politicians ranging from former President Donald Trump to Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La., favor an America that, though it should defend countries like Israel, should not get too involved in the affairs of most countries and should be minimally interventionist in economic policy as well.

Government, for the conservatives and Trumpians, is not designed to implement major economic or social programs. It is, however, interventionist when it comes to protecting individuals from intrusions by the government, notably regulation of guns and programs that would, in their view, violate the basic gender or sexual identity of a person, especially young people. At its most extreme, some MAGA supporters support a strongman leader who would psychologically and physically force opponents to conform.

The battle between isolationism and interventionism is confusing to

say the least. While conservatives generally are in favor of less intervention in the economy when it comes to providing equal opportunity for all, they tend to be interventionist when it comes to various social issues, including their belief that the government should intervene in women's reproductive rights.

The overall tension typically relies on two different models of citizenship. The isolationist camp favors a view of persons as independent from each other with capacities to be self-determining beings. The interventionist camp favors a view of persons as fundamentally social beings, who, though they are capable of being self-determining, must rely on a strong interventionist federal government for the means — ranging from food and housing to information technology and health care — to realize their potential.

The debate will certainly not be solved soon and certainly will continue well beyond this election. It would be helpful if the media brought this historic tension to the fore. Hitting the public, especially in debates, with policy contrasts one after another is useful but also exhausting for citizens. The battle needs to be elevated to a more illuminating level.

However, there is one component of the isolation-vs.-intervention theme that is not debatable: No one should intervene in the rule of law or free and fair elections. Any candidate who suggests otherwise imperils our democratic republic and should not be trusted with our sacred vote.

We all should be partisan about only one thing: democracy.

Anderson edited "Leveraging: A Political, Economic and Societal Framework," has taught at five universities and ran for the Democratic nomination for a Maryland congressional seat in 2016.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Purdue, FDA join in safety study

Study is focused on salmonella prevalence, persistence

By STEVE KOPPES

Purdue Ag News
WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue University and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have embarked on a multiyear study of salmonella prevalence and persistence focused on the cantaloupe-growing region of southwest Indiana. Growers in the region are assisting with the statewide study to extend their decades-long focus on food safety.

The study also includes a farm in central Indiana, four Purdue-operated farms in northwest Indiana's Tippecanoe County, and the Southwest Purdue Ag Center near Vincennes. Researchers are sampling air, soil, water and animal scat while also taking weather data to better understand what environmental conditions may encourage the survival, growth and spread of pathogens. They are even considering the possible role of bee pollination in the process.

In recent years, similar studies have been conducted following outbreaks linked to produce in Arizona, California and Florida and earlier outbreaks traced to the Delmarva Peninsula of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.



Purdue Ag News/Tom Campbell

Food science student researchers, from left, Amanda Dziedzic, Hannah Conklin and Melissa Suarez cut down a piece of cloth placed near a chicken lot on a local farm. The cloth will be evaluated in the lab to see if airborne Salmonella is coming off the chicken lot.

Indiana's cantaloupe production ranked sixth in U.S. as of 2018, according to the most recently available data collected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. That year, Indiana growers planted 1,800 acres of cantaloupe with a production value of \$8.6 million.

"The growers want to participate in this study because of their commitment to do everything they can to keep their produce as safe as possible," said Amanda Deering, associate professor of fresh food produce safety. Deering leads Purdue's part in the study

with Scott Monroe, Purdue Extension food safety educator at the Purdue Extension Food Safety Training Hub near Vincennes. Purdue's Food Entrepreneurship and Manufacturing Institute students are also helping with the research at Purdue's Animal Sciences Research and Education Center, Student Farm and the Throckmorton Purdue Agricultural Center, which includes Meigs Farm.

The new study focuses on how pathogens move in the environment and may contaminate produce before harvest. Contamina-

tion can also arise during transportation or at the retail outlet. Most people handle several cantaloupes before making their selection, transferring whatever was on their hands to the produce, Deering noted. "Do you ever take the first cantaloupe you touch out of the bin? Probably not," she said.

Indiana cantaloupe growers have a history of tapping the expertise of Deering, Monroe and other specialists from the Safe Produce Indiana team in Purdue Extension, who work closely with the Indiana State Department of

Agriculture and the Indiana Department of Health to address food safety issues in Indiana.

Last year Deering's team tested various cantaloupe sanitizers in her lab with human pathogens. Indiana growers wash their produce in sanitizer before sending it to a packing house. Deering's team found that a combination of sanitizers worked better than what the growers had been using.

"I gave them the data, and they all switched to the new sanitizer treatment," she said. "It's their livelihood, so they take it seriously."

Corn, soy are straining storage capacity

Fast Company Magazine

U.S. farmers are harvesting two of the largest corn and soybean crops in history at the fastest pace in years, straining their physical capabilities and their grain storage capacity.

The massive influx of crops is testing growers who are already grappling with grain prices near four-year lows, stiff competition for global export sales and farm incomes that are down 23% from a record high just two years ago.

Many Midwestern farmers still have grain left in storage from 2023, after they refused to sell a record corn crop due to low prices. Now, dry weather is accelerating this year's

harvests and forcing grain handlers in some areas to store corn outside, rather than in storage bins.

"It has been fast and furious," Brent Johnson, a corn and soybean farmer in Ashland, Illinois, said of harvesting.

Weeks of warm and dry weather across the Corn Belt this autumn sped up crop maturity and enabled

combines to keep rolling. As a result, farmers harvested 47% of the country's second biggest corn crop in history by Oct. 13, topping the five-year average of 39%, according to U.S. data.

The harvest of the record-large soybean crop was 67% complete by Oct. 13, the fastest pace since 2012, when a major

drought limited production.

Jeff O'Connor, who grows corn and soybeans near Kankakee, Illinois, said his employees only had a couple of half-days off to rest in the past month due to rapid harvesting.

"My people and equipment would like a break," he said.

As soy harvesting winds down, farmers are moving on to corn, which typically yields more than three times as much grain per acre than soybeans. At some Midwest elevators, the flow of corn from the fields has been filling up storage, causing long lines of trucks waiting to dump their loads.

In Shell Rock, Iowa,

ethanol producer POET is storing corn on the ground, local farmer Caleb Hamer said, adding that he dumped some of his harvest on a pile that looked like it held 1.5 million bushels.

"We are harvesting a crop too fast for our storage infrastructure. That's the biggest thing," said Chad Henderson, founder of Wisconsin-based Prime Agricultural Consultants.

Quick harvesting and localized storage squeezes are forcing farmers to consider selling some crops for less than it cost to produce them. Yet corn futures prices are signaling they should hold the grain for a few months, if possible.

On the Chicago Board of Trade, benchmark Decem-

ber corn futures were trading at a roughly 22-cent discount to the May 2025 contract. That means farmers could earn 22 cents a bushel by selling their corn for deferred delivery in May.

Still, growers should not store their harvest without booking any sales and risk a deeper market downturn, CoBank economist Tanner Ehmke said.

Chris Gibbs, who grows corn and soybeans in Ohio, said he has not made any advance deals to sell his autumn harvests for the first time in 48 years of farming.

"My marketing plan is to keep my head down and wait for an opportunity to come along, which is a very poor plan," Gibbs said.

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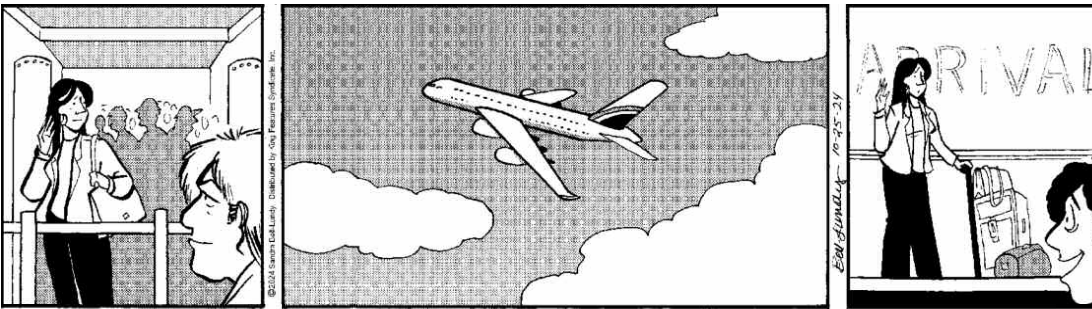
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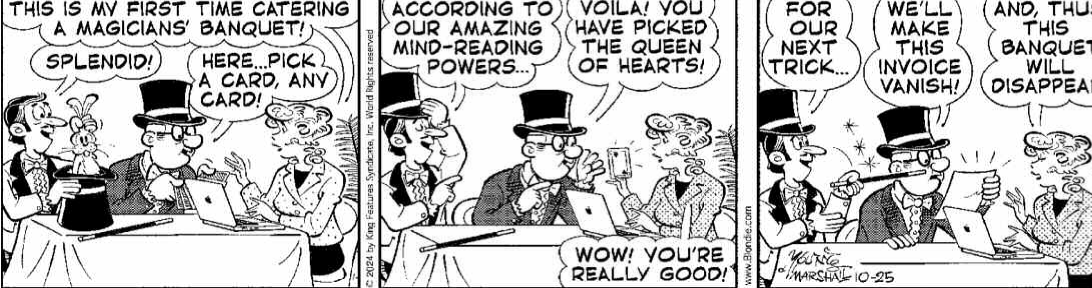
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10-25

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C G H D Q, Q C L V M Q E V F N R F, C Z E C

YESTERDAY'S CRYPTOQUIP: IF I TOLD A ONE-LINER ON THE SUBJECT OF AN ARM BONE, I RECKON THAT COULD BE A HUMERUS JOKE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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Tribe topples Trojans

Indians sweep top-seeded Arcanum in district opener

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

ARCANUM, Ohio — The Trojans took the first two. The Indians stormed back to tie the match up. In the end, the Trojans came away with the win.

That's how the regular season matchup went the Trojans hosted the Indians.

When the Indians made a return visit in the playoffs, there were immediate concerns when the first serve of the match by Grace Fry ricocheted off of Trinity Rammel for the first point. But the Indians took over from there, never giving up more than two consecutive points in the first two sets and getting lifts from their seniors to power the third.

The third-seeded Fort Recovery High School volleyball team swept the No. 1 seeded host Arcanum Trojans 25-17, 25-18, 25-20 in the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 2 District semifinal on Wednesday.

The victory earns the Indians (12-13) a match with the top-seeded Miami Valley Christian Academy Lions (20-5) at 8 p.m. on Saturday at Butler in Vandalia, Ohio.

"The atmosphere was amazing today," said FRHS coach Travis Guggenbiller. "My bench, the crowd was fantastic, but my seniors made damn sure that this game was going to be won by us. It's just nice to see that this season."

Fort Recovery saw the Trojans early in the regular season, dropping the match 25-23, 25-17, 14-25, 16-25, 15-11 on Aug. 31.

The Indians dropped the first point Wednesday, but immediately took control by taking nine of the next 11 points. They scored on three Arcanum (19-4) errors, two Kenna Dues aces off of Trojan libero Cameron Garbig and kills from Karlie Niekamp, Cameron Muhlenkamp, Bridget Homan and Kennedy Muhlenkamp.

"Our mindset, that was a big difference," Guggenbiller said. "We came ready to play today. We weren't going to let a ball touch the ground. We knew we were the better team and were trying to prove something here."

"Our biggest focus today was 'You take care of it. There's no



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Kayla Heitkamp, a senior on the Fort Recovery High School volleyball team, takes a rare swing at the ball during the Division VI Southwest 2 district semifinal at Arcanum on Wednesday. The setter had three aces and 28 assists in the sweep.

one going to stop you. You are in control of your destiny.' Those girls just came with that mindset."

After the Tribe's initial run, it was able to whittle away at the Trojans, trading points before taking the first set.

FRHS never had a major run in the second set, but strung three points together twice — first time came on a kills from Kennedy Muhlenkamp and Brynn Willmann and a block from Willmann and Heitkamp to go up 6-4 and the second came

from kills by seniors Niekamp and Kennedy Muhlenkamp and a third ace from Dues to close the set — while never allowing Arcanum to more than two consecutive points in the first or second sets.

See **Topples** page 7

Sights set on state

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

During his freshman season, Caleb Garringer's trip to the regional meet was mostly about experience.

He finished right in the middle of the 250-runner field.

This time, he's heading to the meet with the goal of a state berth. And he has some company with Terre Haute hopes as well.

Garringer and Dash Thacker of Jay County High School are within striking distance of the state finals as they lead a group of Patriots who will compete at 10:30 a.m. Saturday in the regional cross country meet hosted by New Haven at Huntington University.

"They've put the work in," said Jay County coach Bruce Wood following the sectional races at Taylor University. "I know they both get a little extra miles on top of what we do. That's what happens when you do that — work hard and you get some rewards for it. They're getting down to that state-qualifying time range. If they have a great race ... we could see another week out of them."

The entire JCHS girls team will run at the regional meet following its runner-up sectional finish, and Joseph Boggs joins Garringer and Thacker as a regional qualifier for the boys.

The top five teams and top 15 individuals on non-advancing teams Saturday will move on to the state finals, which will be contested Nov. 2 at LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course in Terre Haute. That's a tall order in a field that will feature 25 teams and another 75 individuals for a field of 250 runners.

See **Sights** page 7

Ohtani's 50th HR ball sells for \$4.4M

By **CHUCK SCHILKEN**
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Shohei Ohtani became the first MLB player to have 50 home runs and 50 stolen bases in a season last month.

The home run ball that gave the Dodgers superstar that distinction has set a record of its own.

Goldin Auctions announced Tuesday night that the coveted collectible sold for \$4.392 million, an amount that far surpasses any sum paid for a baseball. The previous record was \$3.05 million, which was paid in 1999 for Mark McGwire's 70th home run ball from the previous season.

The final cost for the Ohtani ball includes the winning bid of \$3.6 million plus an additional 22% buyer's premium.

It remains unknown who will pocket the cash. That's for the courts to decide.

Ohtani hit the milestone home run during the seventh inning of a 20-4 win over the Miami Marlins at LoanDepot Park on Sept. 19. A mad scramble for the historic ball ensued among the fans in the left-center field, with a man identified in court documents as Florida resident Christian Zacek emerging with the valuable memento.

Days later, Goldin Auctions announced the ball

would be up for bid starting Sept. 27.

On Sept. 26, Broward County resident Max Matus filed a lawsuit in Florida's 11th Judicial Circuit Court against Zacek, fellow Florida resident Kelvin Ramirez and Goldin Auctions, claiming ownership of the ball and seeking an injunction to prevent the defendants from selling it.

In response to an emergency injunction filed by Matus, a judge ruled that the auction could start as scheduled but the "Defendants will not sell, conceal or transfer the 50/50 Ball pending the Court's ruling on Plaintiffs' Motion." The bidding started at \$500,000.

A second lawsuit was filed in the same court Sept. 27, with Broward County resident Joseph Davidov claiming ownership of the ball. Matus, Zacek, Ramirez and Goldin Auctions were named as defendants.

Earlier this month, Zacek, Matus and Davidov agreed to allow Goldin Auctions to continue with its sale of the item, and then allow the courts to decide which of them will receive the proceeds from the sale. Goldin Auctions and Ramirez were dismissed as defendants in both cases.

According to the agreement, the proceeds of the sale will be deposited into an account pending the litigation.

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