

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Leaving JCDC



Jay County Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards speaks during the 2022 Launch Jay! business pitch competition at Jay County Junior-Senior High School. Richards submitted his letter of resignation as executive director Monday. His last day on the job will be Nov. 15, though he plans to continue to assist with ongoing efforts such as the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0.

The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Executive director resigning effective Nov. 15 to become production manager at Sonoco in Portland

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Jay County Development Corporation will be looking for a new leader.

The organization announced in a press release Tuesday afternoon that executive director Travis Richards submitted a letter of resignation Monday.

His last day in the role will be Nov. 15. He will start a new job as

production manager at Sonoco on Nov. 18.

“For me, it’s all about more time with the family,” Richards said Wednesday. “My schedule here in this role has gotten more and more full over the past couple years. My oldest turns 16 in December and I’ve decided I need to be more intentional with my time at home with my family. That’s the main driver for me.”

The Jay County Development Corporation executive committee planned to meet Thursday to discuss the hiring process to fill the executive director role. They hope to present a plan to the full board at its regular meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5.

“I understand wanting to take time for family and I commend Travis for that, because you cannot get the years back when

you’re missing evenings and sports events and family time,” said JCDC board president Angela Paxson. “It’s very understandable why he decided to step back ... from JCDC.

“Travis has given so much time to help this community grow. It’s going to be very hard to find someone to fill his shoes.”

See **Leaving** page 2

Redkey OKs its 2025 budget

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — The town has a budget.

Redkey Town Council approved its 2025 budget Tuesday.

Next year’s budget before “home-ruled funds” comes in at \$598,536, approximately \$111,000 more than the current year’s budget.

At previous meetings, council discussed the budget totaling \$791,822. That amount accounts for \$193,286 in “home-ruled funds” not reviewed by Indiana Department of Local Government and Finance. (Those funds are included but marked separately in the budget document approved by council Tuesday.) “Home-ruled funds” in Redkey’s budget for 2025 are \$157,836 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars, \$25,000 in local income tax dollars, \$7,350 in economic development income tax dollars and \$3,100 for police special education.

Most of the increase in next year’s budget goes into its general fund. Redkey’s 2025 budget includes about \$480,000 in the general fund, up approximately \$102,000 from the current year.

Redkey initially considered approving its 2025 budget after a public hearing Oct. 15. (According to the notice to taxpayers on Indiana Gateway, the website used for budgets by Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, Redkey hosted its public hearing Sept. 19. Redkey’s notice for the Oct. 15 meeting described it as a special meeting.) At that time, council members and town employees voiced questions about changes to the budget for next year. Council decided to push back its budget approval to take a closer look at it.

See **Budget** page 2

Morales pushes back at criticism

Secretary of State has been questioned over status reviews

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Secretary of State Diego Morales, facing mounting criticism over a decision to review the citizenship status of more than 585,000 registered voters, fired back in a two-page letter Tuesday — maintaining that the move is meant to foster trust in the election process.

He likened the state’s citizenship verification process for some to an “honor system” and said local election officials had reached out with concerns.

“I’m sure virtually no

respectable Hoosier would try to sneak into a Taylor Swift concert, or attend a Colts game, or board a commercial airline, without a ticket, or carrying a prohibited item,” Morales wrote. “Still, despite our trust in people’s honesty, it’s virtually unquestioned that everyone attending a concert or game, or boarding an airplane, will be asked for their ticket and screened for dangerous, prohibited items. Asking everyone is not discriminatory, accusatory, mean-spirited, or unpatriotic — it’s basic common sense.”

But voting advocates disagree, saying that some eligible Hoosiers could be removed from the voter roll in violation of the National Voter Registration Act.

“Efforts like this put thousands of eligible voters at risk of being intimidated or unfairly removed from the rolls,” said Ami Gandhi, Director of Strategic Initiatives and Midwest Voting Rights Program at Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, in a release.

Cutting concrete

A construction worker cuts into concrete while working Wednesday on the northeast curb at the intersection of Meridian and Main streets in Portland.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Deaths

Mary Hardesty, 75, Ridgeville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 79 degrees Tuesday. The low was 63.

The forecast calls for a 50% chance of rain tonight with lows dipping into the upper 30s and winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Skies will be sunny Friday with a high in the upper 50s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

A Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee meeting has been scheduled for 5 p.m. Monday in council chambers at the fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

Coming up

Friday — Jay County United Way has launched its annual campaign.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS football sectional semifinal game.

Tuesday — Jay County native is on staff for gubernatorial candidate.



Leaving ...

Continued from page 1
Richards described his departure as a "soft exit," saying he will be involved on a limited basis to support the board as it goes through the hiring process and to follow through on initiatives that are underway.

"The main thing is so we don't drop the ball on any of the critical projects that we have moving right now," he said, mentioning the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0, projects in Dunkirk and upcoming tax abatement requests. "We just don't want a gap in some of those key services."

Richards has served as Jay County Development Corporation's executive director since November 2018. He took over the role following the departure of Bill Bradley that summer to

become president/CEO of the LaGrange County Economic Development Corporation.

He said he was not actively looking to make a move but was approached when the position came open at Sonoco. He initially thought he was not interested, but ultimately decided to apply.

"The opportunity came to me," Richards said. "For the most part, I really didn't think I was going to make an exit."

Richards is a Jay County High School graduate who earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Tri-State University. Prior to joining Jay County Development Corporation, Richards was the plant manager at the Fort Recovery Industries casing plant in Portland.

Looking back at his six years

leading Jay County Development Corporation, Richards said he is proud of expanding the organization's role in the community.

"I'm just so proud I was able to bring Jay County to folks across the state," he said. "I was really excited when I was asked a couple of years ago to present at an IEDA (Indiana Economic Development Association) conference talking about rural leadership and I was able to talk about Jay County through the decades and share our story."

He referenced other efforts, including involvement in Indiana Bond Bank's Flipping Finance Challenge, starting the Launch Jay! business pitch competition and expanding other small business activities. He also noted the county's selection as one of the inaugural partici-

pants in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), through which it received \$1 million that is going toward an owner-occupied rehabilitation program to install new roofs and make other home upgrades.

"We've ventured into new territory in my time here," Richards said. "We were kind of able to expand the horizons of what the role was."

"One of the biggest things for me is I have managed to make new friends and colleagues all across the county and the region and even in other parts of the state. To me, that's been the coolest thing about the job."

Richards' departure will leave the county without executive directors for both Jay County Development Corporation and Jay County Chamber of Commerce. (Former chamber execu-

tive director Tabby Sprunger resigned this summer but has continued to assist the organization on a limited basis during the transition period.)

Jay County Development Corporation and Jay County Commissioners have been at odds for more than two years, with commissioners in May sending an email as part of contract negotiations that demanded Richards be removed from his role. Commissioners pulled back on that demand a few days later, but the county and JCDC have yet to be able to come to a contract agreement. (As a result, the county has provided no funding for JCDC's operations this year.)

Paxson expressed concern that the current situation without a contract and funding from the county could make the hiring process difficult.

CR almanac

Friday 11/1	Saturday 11/2	Sunday 11/3	Monday 11/4	Tuesday 11/5
56/35	63/46	70/60	72/63	72/51
Another day of mostly sunny skies with highs in the upper 50s.	Mostly sunny on Saturday, when the high will be in the low 60s.	There's a chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly cloudy.	Monday's forecast shows a 60% chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies.	Mostly cloudy skies on Tuesday, when there's a 50% chance of showers.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$39 million	Evening Daily Three: 0-2-4 Daily Four: 8-7-7-8 Quick Draw: 6-9-10-15-16-24-26-32-35-36-39-47-51-55-61-67-71-73-74-80
Mega Millions 16-22-26-36-56 Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$281 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 6-7-0 Pick 4: 6-6-1-7 Pick 5: 5-3-7-8-5 Evening Pick 3: 1-1-2 Pick 4: 8-7-7-8 Pick 5: 1-6-6-2-4 Rolling Cash: 1-3-4-20-21 Estimated jackpot: \$150,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 9-8-3 Daily Four: 6-6-1-7 Quick Draw: 2-3-4-10-15-16-23-27-36-38-45-46-47-52-54-56-58-61-74-80	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....3.92 Dec. corn.....4.02 Wheat.....4.75	Nov. beans.....9.35 Wheat.....5.25
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.00 Dec. corn.....4.12 Jan. corn.....4.20	ADM Montpelier Corn.....3.82 Nov. corn.....3.82 Beans.....9.46 Nov. beans.....9.46 Wheat.....5.15
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....3.97 Nov. corn.....3.97 Beans.....9.35	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....3.87 Oct. corn.....3.87 Beans.....9.37 Jan. beans.....9.37 Wheat.....5.10

Today in history

In 1517, Martin Luther posted his "Ninety-five Theses," a manifesto that prompted the Protestant Reformation.

In 1818, the Spanish Flu killed 21,000 United States residents in one week.

In 1922, Benito Mussolini took over as prime minister of Italy, becoming the first fascist dictator in Europe of his time. (Four years later, 15-year-old Anteo Zamboni made an assassination attempt on Mussolini. Zamboni was lynched for the act.) — The CR

In 1926, Harry Houdini died from peritonitis. The renowned magician and escape artist had suffered a stomach injury.

In 1941, Mount Rushmore National Memorial was completed in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The project sculpting presidents' heads into the mountain took nearly 15 years.

In 2014, Fort Recovery High School football team ended its regular season with a shutout defeat, 20-0, to the Versailles Tigers.

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5 p.m. — Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Tuesday 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.
Thursday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.	

Obituaries

Mary Hardesty

Sept. 26, 1949-Oct. 28, 2024
Mary A. Hardesty, age 75, of Ridgeville passed away on Monday, Oct. 28, 2024, at her home.

She was born in Portland on Sept. 26, 1949, the daughter of Charles and Martha (Brown) Hodge. She was married on Nov. 9, 1993, to William Hardesty who survives.

Mary was a waitress and had worked many places including Norm's Place and Koffee Kup Diner, both in Portland. She loved to play bingo, travel and go camping.

Surviving are her husband

William; one son, Noah Teeter (wife: Brenda) of Portland; stepson Nathan Hardesty (wife: April) of Excelsior Springs, Missouri; one daughter, Delissa Anderson of Florida; two brothers, Jeff Hodge of Portland and Danny Hodge (wife: Linda) of Portland; one sister, Teresa Stein (husband: Fred) of Portland; eight grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-granddaughter.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Lauranna Teeter; two



Hardesty

brothers, Jerry and Russell Hodge; and grandson Isaiha Martyne

The family will receive guests from 4 to 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 31, at the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.



Photo provided

ISTA assists

Indiana State Teachers Association officials visited Jay County Junior-Senior High School recently, joining Jay Classroom Teachers Association in support of its members who lost personal items in their home or classroom during the Sept. 22 tornado. Pictured, from left, are ISTA UniServ director Alene Smith; JCHS teacher Kyle Love, Julie Grant, Ryan Fritze, Kerri Wright, Matt Goldsworthy, Abby Homan (JCTA president), Sophia Fugiett, Cathy Fugiett, Darian Jones, Carissa Allred (JCTA treasurer), and ISTA treasurer Diana Reed.

Capsule Reports

Intersection injuries

Two women were injured after a vehicle accident at the intersection of Indiana 1 and Indiana 67 about 4:32 p.m. Wednesday.

Cassie R. McClure, 38, Hartford City, was driving her 2007 Pontiac G6 north on Indiana 1 when she

stopped at its intersection with Indiana 67.

She didn't see the west-bound 2019 Ford Mustang driven by 49-year-old Christina F. Franks of Montpelier on Indiana 67, and McClure drove into the side of the vehicle Franks was driving.

McClure complained of chest pain, and Franks complained of neck pain. McClure was taken to IU Health Jay in Portland, and Franks was taken to IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Franks was cited for driving without a valid

license and driving with an expired license plate. The vehicle she was driving is registered to Theresa Prince of Portland.

Both vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Felony arrests

Drug possession

A Portland man was arrested Wednesday for drug possession.

James E. Miller, 26, 510 E. Water St., was preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for possession of methamphetamine and obstruction of justice.

He was being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Arson

A rural Portland woman was arrested Wednesday for arson and other charges.

Julie E. Smith, 38, is charged in

Jay Circuit Court with a Level 4 felony for arson, two Level 6 felonies for neglect of a dependent and a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15% or more.

She was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$25,000 bond.

Budget ...

Continued from page 1
Clerk-treasurer Gloria May created the budget with help from consulting agency Local Government Services, which has been providing assistance to May's office since April. Janet Alexander of Local Government Services met with council — absent Dave Dudelston and Floyd Life — and town employees during a 3-hour public meeting Oct. 22, explaining the budgeting process and discussing Redkey's budget for 2025.

Town employees weren't shown the 2025

budget until a few weeks before the state's deadline to adopt a budget for the next year. (All Indiana governmental reporting units have until Nov. 1 each year to file the following year's budget with the state.) Firefighter Mark Leavell advocated Tuesday for the clerk-treasurer's office beginning the budgeting process in June or July next year.

"We need to ... get this done earlier, because, I think Janet did a great job of putting it together to get us by with the state, but there was absolutely

no local input from any local departments on this budget," he said.

"Maybe that's my fault because I was new," responded May, who took office in January. "That's probably my fault, and I take that responsibility, and next year, I'll know more, and I'll get it to you sooner."

"Well I know I've made a lot of mistakes this year, but I was new and I didn't have a lot of training," she later added. "I plan on doing better next year."

Council then agreed to approve the budget.

SERVICES

Friday
Wagner, Beverly: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Lutheran Church, 1010 W. Monroe St., Decatur.

Monday
Wendel, Elmer: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery.

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

Alcove Holiday Show begins in November

The Alcove Artists' Collective will open its show to the public next month.

The Alcove Holiday Show is slated for Nov. 14 through Dec. 17 at Blackford County Arts Center, 107 W. Washington St., Hartford City. Hours of operation will be from noon to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 1 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays. The show will begin with an open house from 5 to 7 pm. Nov. 14.

Also, Alcove Artists' Collective will be painting from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Nov. 9 in John Jay Center for Learning's lobby.

Homestead solutions
Windowsill gardening

Taking Note

doesn't have to be hard. Emily Kring of Jay County Purdue Extension Office will be presenting on how to green a space with windowsill gardening at 6 p.m. Nov. 7 at John Jay Center for Learning.

The event is a collaboration between John Jay Center for Learning and Purdue Extension Office of Jay County.

To reserve a spot, call the extension office at (260) 726-4707.

Waechter presents

Come out and learn about military history from a first-hand perspective.

The Friends of Fort Recovery Library will be presenting an evening with Jim Waechter, a local Vietnam War veteran and co-founder of the Museum of the Soldier in Portland, starting at 6 p.m. Nov. 12 at Fort Recovery Public Library. The program is free and open to the public.

One of a kind

These items are one of a kind.

Fort Recovery Historical Society and Project Recovery host their annual One of a Kind Auction from 5 to 9 p.m.

Nov. 3 in the auditorium at Fort Recovery Elementary Middle School. This year's theme is "Americana," specifically the history, folklore, cultural heritage and geography of Fort Recovery and the United States.

Some Auction Items featured at this year's event include a week at a Mystic Dunes Florida Condo, a seven-day stay at Siesta Keys, Ohio State University and Indianapolis Colts football tickets, an Indiana Beach lakehouse rental, a bowling party at Miracle Lanes and pool party and pavilion rental at Ambassador Park.

The auction supports Fort Recovery historical site maintenance, educa-

tional endeavors and the village's Visitors Center.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased from Be You Boutique or Fort Recovery Historical Society and Project Recovery.

Masquerade ball

Tickets are available for a new event at Jay County Fairgrounds this year.

Peer Addiction Support Team (PAST) Recovery Services is organizing a masquerade ball from 6 to 11 p.m. Nov. 2 at the Bubp building, 806 E. Votaw St., Portland. There will be dinner, dancing, a silent auction and recovery spotlights. The event will serve as a charity fundraiser for assisting individuals in

their recovery. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$50 per couple. They're available at Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition.

Unlock the box

Fort Recovery Public Library is putting on a different twist on escape rooms.

Unlock the Box, an "escape room in reverse," will be offered at the library from Nov. 2 through Nov. 11. Participants can use hidden clues in the room to solve puzzles and riddles, leading them to unlock keys and unravel a mystery, according to a press release from the library. Registration is ongoing for this year's free event, "A New Sheriff In Town."

Affection for shorter man has grown with time

DEAR ABBY: I dated a colleague when I was 22 but broke it off because I couldn't deal with the fact that he was several inches shorter than me. I did not tell him why. I just said, "It's me, not you."

I am now in my 60s, have had a successful career, never married and see online that he became a distinguished researcher. In his online picture, he looks like a sweet older man, and I would give anything to reconnect with him. Would this be foolish? Was I too insensitive at 22 to understand that I hurt him? Do you think he would forgive me if I got in touch with him now? He lives far away, so an in-person meeting would be out of the question in the near term. Would an email be OK? He's in his early 70s and not married.

— STUPID THEN IN OHIO
DEAR 'STUPID': At 22, you weren't insensitive; you were shallow. Look at this from that man's perspective. What is he

Dear Abby



supposed to think when he receives an email 40 years after a colleague dumped him by saying, "It's me, not you"? Remember, as successful as he is now, he is not any taller. My advice is to leave it alone, find someone you can be physically attracted to who lives geographically closer, appreciates how successful you have been in your career and is open to a relationship.

DEAR ABBY: I am a childless 70-year-old man. Every year around the anniversary of my brother's death, some relatives

get together and travel to his hometown to celebrate him. We have a remembrance at the cemetery and go to Mass together on Sunday. We also go out for meals and drinks. There are three generations involved now, the youngest of the kids being 10.

This year, my cousin's son and his wife had a baby. We're all happy for them. A couple of days ago, I sent a group text on our family thread saying I didn't think it was a good idea to take an infant on this trip. I explained that I felt it would distract from the purpose of the get-together. Well, my cousin is offended and won't tell me why. I carefully worded my message so I didn't say anything negative. Was I wrong? — TRADITIONALIST IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR TRADITIONALIST: You wrote that the purpose of this get-together is for the family to honor your deceased brother and celebrate his life

together. When you posted your message on the family thread, did you expect your cousin's son and his wife to skip the event and stay home with their baby? Their baby is part of the family and may be too young to be without their mother. While your carefully worded message reflects your feelings, it was out of line, and I can see why it upset your cousin.

.....
A NOTE TO PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN: If your little ones will be out trick-or-treating tonight, please be sure they are supervised to assure their safety. Happy Halloween, everyone! — LOVE, ABBY

DEAR ABBY: It's been five years since my position as professor at a small graduate school ended. I was forced out after 30 years of teaching, and two years

short of my announced retirement date. I did nothing wrong. The reasons given were vague. Being deprived of a solid explanation hurt me deeply.

There was no severance pay and no benefits. I lost a substantial amount of income at a crucial point in my life, but no one seemed to give that a thought. For a long time, I was heartsick. I cannot yet find it in myself to forgive the dean and the president of the school. But somehow, I feel I should. How do I get unstuck? I've moved on in many ways, but I just can't forgive. — HURTING STILL

DEAR HURTING: Here's how to get unstuck: Find a competent attorney who specializes in wrongful termination and discuss what was done to you. Follow the attorney's advice, and when you are properly compensated, you are likely to be in a far more forgiving mood than you are today.

Community Calendar

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

Today

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior; and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Friday

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.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon Fri-

day at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

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.

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 - BRIANNA'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.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

These rates are **ONLY** for our Nov. 27 Thanksgiving edition

Full-page color - **\$525**
(only four available)

Full-page black and white - **\$425**

Half-page color - **\$350**
(only three available)

Half-page black and white - **\$300**



Purchase one of our Thanksgiving COLOR special ads and run the same ad a second time in November at a discounted rate.
(\$400 for second full-page color, \$200 for second half-page color)

Contact Lindsey at
L.Cochran@thecr.com
or (260) 726-8141



The Commercial Review

Embrace the changing U.S. family

By **YOUNGJIN KANG**
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Blended families or bonus families (also known as stepfamilies), whether they are formed through parents' remarriage or living together, are common. More than 10 percent of minor children in the United States live with a stepparent at some point.

Both presidential candidates are stepfamily members. Donald Trump has five children from three marriages. Vice President Kamala Harris has two stepchildren through her marriage to Doug Emhoff.

Almost half of Americans have at least one step relative. As blended families are common in reality, stepfamily stories were the repertoire of the early Disney fairy tales including Cinderella, Snow White, and Hansel and Gretel.

Youngjin Kang



There are plenty of more recent examples of stepfamily stories in movies and TV shows including "The Parent Trap," "Enchanted," "Modern Family" and "The Sound of Music."

In the new reality series "Wayne Brady: The Family Remix," actor Brady shares the difficulty and joy of building healthy relationships in blended families.

Unfortunately, many pop culture stories reinforce the idea of blended families as broken. This

idea comes with the trope of a wicked stepmother or an abusive stepfather. The traditional family ideology that the biological family of four is the cultural norm is more than entrenched in our lives.

In her 2016 book, "The Way We Never Were: American Families and the Nostalgia Trap," author Stephanie Coontz writes that this unrealistic cultural expectation has affected every way of building, connecting and thinking about family relationships although it has never existed in American history.

In recent interviews, Harris contends hers is not a "typical" stepfamily with a wicked stepmother having a terrible relationship with her stepchildren. Still, Trump and vice presidential candidate JD Vance have attacked Harris for not having biological children on her own,

often describing her as "a childless woman."

These ideas are irrational and make many stepfamily members, as well as members of other nontraditional families, feel disrespected and discouraged. It is concerning that voters may share the same line of thought without carefully exploring the presidential candidates' qualities, policy proposals and visions that will affect the future of the United States and people's wellbeing.

It is time to stop spreading family hostility. Enough is enough.

It is also time to update the notion of family in this country and around the world. According to recent research, in the United States in 2023, there was an average of 1.94 children under 18 per family, a decline from 1960 when the average was

2.33 children under 18 per family.

More than half of all families with children in the U.S. in 2022 were female-led with children under 18, data shows. More than 40% of households in the U.S. have children under 18 living there.

This country has a long way to go to make progress on accepting a more flexible definition of family and challenging the traditional norm against a modern family life in America. Family comes in various forms and structures. Where love flows, family begins.

Kang is an associate professor and Human Services Program lead in the School of Public Management and Policy at the University of Illinois at Springfield. King is also a public voices fellow through The OpEd Project.

Lessons must become law

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
Tribune News Service

Despite the scale and complexity of last year's Norfolk Southern train derailment disaster in East Palestine, Ohio, there is bipartisan legislation in Congress that may actually codify some of the lessons learned from the tragedy — creating lasting changes and taking steps towards preventing future tragedies. However, since the Railway Safety Enhancement Act's (RSEA) introduction this July, the bill hasn't advanced in the legislature.

The February 2023 accident derailed 38 train cars, including 11 tanker cars carrying hazardous materials which then ignited, threatening the residents of East Palestine. The chaotic aftermath and containment efforts included a planned detonation which sent up a massive black plume of smoke that wafted across the region.

Besides addressing some of the brass tacks failures, the RSEA attempts to tackle more systemic issues that have plagued the freight railway sector for decades, like modernizing the movement of information across private and public agencies and combating the retaliatory system for reporting rail safety hazards.

After the accident, important information on the train's contents wasn't passed on to local emergency personnel for roughly an hour, a critical window during which response was crippled and evacuations were delayed. The RSEA provides funding for an app which will show emergency responders what hazardous chemicals are moving through their communities in real time, a long-overdue modernization of communications that allows existing data to be shared more seamlessly.

The measure also creates a Confidential Close Call Reporting System, which employees of large freight companies can use to report safety issues confidentially. For years, railroad union officials have described an environment in which reporting safety issues was punished. The RSEA will ensure that professional rail engineers will no longer fear reprisals for insisting on safety.

Guest Editorial

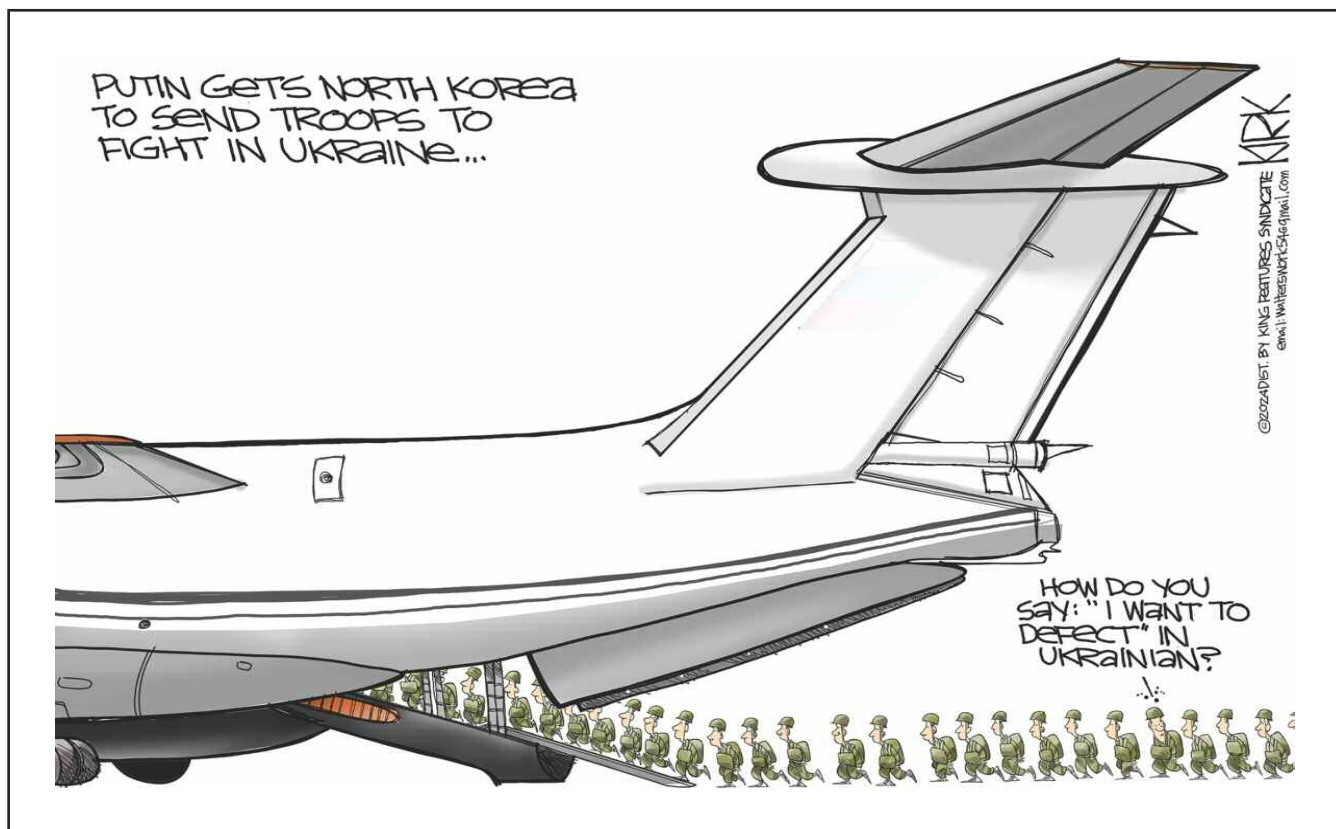
These important legislative updates will finally codify many recommendations put forth by the toothless National Transportation Safety Board.

These important legislative updates will finally codify many recommendations put forth by the toothless National Transportation Safety Board. As the Post-Gazette has uncovered, many of these recommendations stagnate in committee for years. For example: The NTSB first questioned the reliability of the tanker car that ignited during the East Palestine Derailment way back in 1991, when a study showed their alarming propensity to spill during accidents.

Despite continuous blocking from Senate Republicans, the RSEA has bipartisan sign-offs from the current Biden administration as well as former President Trump, both of Pennsylvania and Ohio's senators (including vice presidential nominee Sen. JD Vance) and many industry labor unions — including the one representing Norfolk Southern workers.

Among the House co-sponsors is U.S. Rep. Chris Deluzio, D-Aspinwall, who also recently introduced important legislation to enforce existing rules giving Amtrak passenger trains priority over freight along the country's rail network. His involvement is only natural: 95% of his constituents live within five miles of the derailment site.

It will soon be two years since the East Palestine disaster. That anniversary should not pass before the lessons of the accident are put into law.



Navalny never lost hope

By **ROBIN ABCARIAN**

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

If you've ever wondered what it's like to die by nerve agent — the kind of poison Russian President Vladimir Putin is known to use against his enemies — I highly recommend Alexei Navalny's posthumous memoir, "Patriot."

The story begins in the summer of 2020. Navalny, the charismatic Russian opposition leader and anti-corruption crusader, is on a plane en route to Moscow from Siberia, where he had been organizing candidates to run against Putin's United Russia party. He is watching an episode of "Rick and Morty" on his laptop when he is stricken midair. He isn't in pain, but his body and brain just seem to slowly shut down. The physical world no longer makes sense.

Soon, he is on the floor of the plane's galley, lying on his side and staring at a bulkhead. He has been poisoned, he tells a flight attendant, and he is about to die.

"Spoiler alert," he writes. "Actually I didn't."

The plane makes an emergency landing, and after a two-day pressure campaign spearheaded by his wife, Yulia Navalnaya, Russian authorities allow Navalny to be flown to Berlin, where he will spend 32 days in a hospital, 18 of them in a coma.

Unlike in the movies, however, he didn't suddenly wake up.

"The whole process," he writes, "was like a long-drawn-out and highly realistic journey through the circles of hell."

A famous Japanese neurosurgeon was frequently at his bedside. The doctor shared a haiku that he had written in memory of his son, who had died in his arms at the age of 2. The poem so moved Navalny that he cried for days.

Later, Navalny discovered that there was no Japanese neurosurgeon, no dead toddler and no haiku. He had hallucinated the entire

episode, even the poem that made him weep.

"When I'm asked what it's like to die from a chemical weapon, two associations come to mind," Navalny writes. "The Dementors from 'Harry Potter' and the Nazgûl in Tolkien's 'Lord of the Rings.'"

His memoir is divided into two parts: an autobiography beginning with his birth in Ukraine and early disillusionment with his government, starting with its lies about the 1986 nuclear catastrophe at Chernobyl, which forced his family to move when he was 10; and a prison diary kept over the course of his three-year confinement at the hands of Putin.

Navalny's enduring idealism, optimism and humor — even as he suffers terribly in a penal colony in the Russian Arctic nicknamed "Polar Wolf" — are striking and inspiring.

"It's a real Russian spring day," he wrote on April 3, 2023. "That is, the snowdrifts are up to my waist, and it's been snowing all weekend."

He fought to stay hopeful, and he refused to let Putin imprison his mind the way he had imprisoned his body in freezing "punishment cells." He called his coping strategy "prison Zen," imagining his incarceration as a kind of "space voyage."

"One day, I simply made the decision not to be afraid," he writes.

After his nine-year sentence for a variety of trumped-up "extremist activities" was extended an additional 19 years, he understood that he would probably die behind bars.

"I knew from the outset that I would be imprisoned for life," Naval-

ny writes, "either for the rest of my life or until the end of the life of this regime."

The Russian authorities announced in February that Navalny had collapsed after a walk and died. No specific cause of death was ever confirmed, but he had been severely weakened by the 2020 poisoning, at least 300 days of solitary confinement in a punishment cell and a lack of adequate medical care.

Navalny could have avoided his imprisonment and death at 47. After he was poisoned, he could have stayed in Germany, or any Western country, with his wife and two children. On principle, however, he returned to Russia, to his country, his home, his mission.

"Our miserable, exhausted motherland needs to be saved," he wrote on the two-year anniversary of his incarceration. "It has been pillaged, wounded, dragged into an aggressive war and turned into a prison run by the most unscrupulous and deceitful scoundrels. ... I'm not going to surrender my country to them, and I believe that the darkness will eventually yield."

Navalny's widow has been promoting "Patriot." She told the BBC that she hopes to return to Russia to carry on her husband's pro-democracy work and run for president one day. Until Putin is gone, however, she would risk meeting the same fate as her husband — arrest, imprisonment and death.

Appearing on "The View" on Thursday, Navalnaya was asked whether she had a message for American voters. Her response was diplomatic: Don't take anything for granted, she said. "You are still living in democratic country ... and just make the right choice."

Her husband was far more pointed in a letter to a friend last year.

"Trump's agenda and plans look truly scary," Navalny wrote. "What a nightmare."

He knew better than most.

Robin Abcarian



The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

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

Bellefontain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

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

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

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

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

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

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

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

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

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

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

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

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

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

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

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

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

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

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

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

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

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

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

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

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Fred Stevens
(765) 369-2676
redkeynaz.org
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

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

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjkc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

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

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

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

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

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

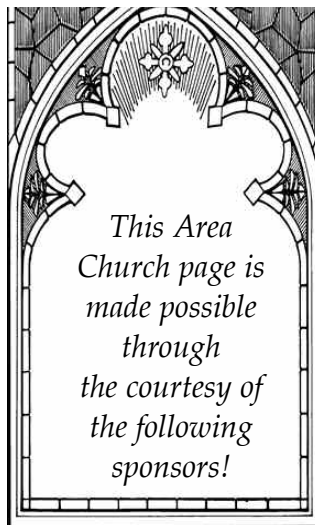
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris Kruckow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



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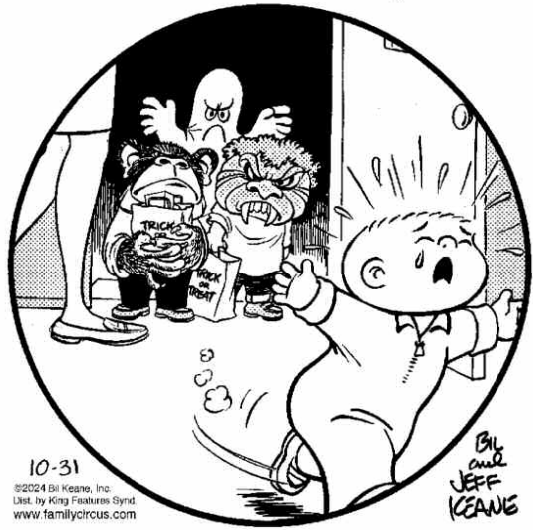
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By Bil Keane



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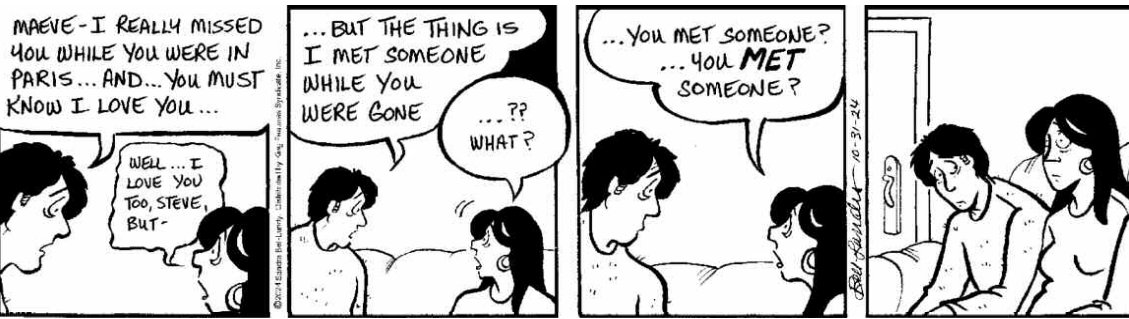
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East-West vulnerable.

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♥ 8
♦ 10 7 3
♣ K Q 10 7

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

EAST
♠ A 10 8 7
♥ 9
♦ A 9 8 5
♣ 8 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ —
♥ K Q J 10 7 4 3
♦ 6 2
♣ A J 9 2

The bidding:
North Pass East 4♥ South West Pass

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The backbone of good defense is partnership cooperation. The defenders often start the play knowing little about their combined resources, but from then on they exchange as much information as they can in order to get the most out of whatever assets they have.

should find it necessary to make an unusual play, his partner is expected to grasp its meaning.

Here is a typical case. West leads the king of diamonds against four hearts doubled, and East signals for a continuation by playing the nine. West does not have to obey the signal if he thinks a continuation is not wise, and, in the actual case, West switches to a club. He is hoping to negotiate a club ruff, either immediately or eventually, and thereby gain a trick for the defense.

Declarer wins the club in dummy and leads a trump to the king. West ducks the king but takes the next trump with the ace as East discards a low diamond.

West now leads a low diamond to East's ace, and East — if he has faith in his partner and realizes why he switched to a club at trick two — returns a club for West to ruff. As a result, South goes down one. Observe that if West blindly obeys East's diamond signal at trick one and continues the suit, or if East fails to appreciate the import of the club switch at trick two and plays another diamond or tries to cash the ace of spades, South makes four hearts doubled.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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10-31 CRYPTOQUIP

WGQW VKC PU VZZL QW IHQIFPRV
KB WHPIF-ZH-WHTQWTHU
NPWG NZHLBXQC. GT'U WGT

GQXXZNTTR BKR-FPRV.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I ASSUME THAT GHOSTS MUST LOVE GOING UP TO HIGHER FLOORS IN ELEVATORS. IT LIFTS THEIR SPIRITS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals T

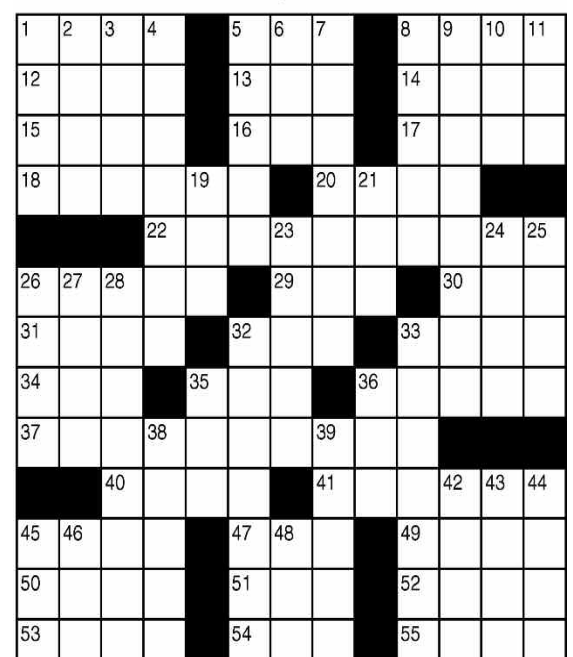
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------|---------------------|
| ACROSS | 34 "Today" rival, | 52 Luau strings | 11 Hamilton bill |
| 1 Night light | briefly | 53 Org. | 19 "Rocks" |
| 5 Prune | 35 Damage | 54 Compass dir. | 21 Invoice fig. |
| 8 Emporium | 36 Decrees | 55 Evergreens | 23 Chic again |
| 12 Golf target | 37 Disney film in which Bette Midler plays a witch | 40 Actress Swenson | 41 Sports venues |
| 13 Pig-poke link | 45 Maxi's opposite | 47 Spill catcher | 49 Actress Gershon |
| 14 Writer Wiesel | 49 Actress Gershon | 50 Golden Fleece ship | 51 Texter's chuckle |
| 15 Perched on | 50 Golden Fleece ship | 51 Texter's chuckle | |
| 16 Jazzy style | 51 Texter's chuckle | | |
| 17 Animated figure | | | |
| 18 Empty talk | | | |
| 20 Swiss river to the Rhine | | | |
| 22 Horror film parody of 2000 | | | |
| 26 Waste maker | | | |
| 29 Chow down | | | |
| 30 "SNL" cast member — Nwodim | | | |
| 31 Rap-scallions | | | |
| 32 Dol. fractions | | | |
| 33 Wee songbird | | | |

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 10-31



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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 7758 E SR 67, Bryant, IN
Saturday Morning
November 2nd, 2024
10:00 A. M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS- OLD ITEMS
GE upright freezer; (2) Lazy Boy recliners; 1950's china cabinet; patio table with chairs; storage trunks; wine chiller old sideboard; wagon wheel table; cedar chest; small table with glass feet; printer table; Budweiser mirrors; Wagner & Griswold cast iron skillets; Landman collapsible camper; and many other items not listed.
MULE-TRAILER-TOOLS
Kawasaki 550 gas mule with dump bed; 12' x 6' trailer with ramp; JD aireator; (3) 20" old barn beams; electric power washer; metal racks; yard roller; 10 pieces OSB; pegboard; hitch with sway bar; and other items not listed.
ERNIE & NORMA WHITACRE
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aron Loy AU11200112
Kayden Khayyata AU12400069

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'Make them earn everything'

The Patriots need a clean game for shot at upset of Knights

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

The Patriots snapped a six-year sectional drought, securing their first postseason win since 2017 on Oct. 25.

If they want to make their first sectional final appearance in 16 years, they will have to go through the Knights.

They know they will need a clean game and can't beat themselves if they want a chance. While they are coming in as the underdogs, they are looking to utilize that mentality to set out for the upset.

The Jay County High School football team will take on the reigning Class 2A state champs Bishop Luers Knights on Friday in the IHSAA Class 3A Sectional 28 semifinal on Friday.

A victory for either team would advance them to Nov. 8's sectional championship game hosted by the winner of Delta and Mississinewa. It would be the Knights' first sectional appearance in Class 3A after moving up for competitive balance. If Jay County makes the final, it would be the first appearance since 2007 when Tim Millsbaugh's team beat Muncie South before falling to Bishop Dwenger in the regional. (The Knights have only missed the sectional championship game once in the same time span.)

According to JohnHarrell.net, Jay County comes in as 25-point underdogs, while Calpreps.com has the Knights winning 41-0.

"We've always been underrated," said JCHS running back A.J. Myers. "Everyone thinks, 'Look at the record, we're 3-7.' But look at our games. We play some really good teams and we've had some really close games with some really good teams. You've got to use that as motivation to keep yourself going every single day."

See **Make** page 9



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Garrett Bennett pulls in a catch during the 42-7 victory at Belmont in the sectional opener on Oct. 25. The Patriots will host Bishop Luers in their first sectional semifinal since 2017.

Winter swim team successful in opener

MUNCIE — The season is officially underway, and the tankers are coming in strong.

The Jay County Winter Swim team opened its season on Saturday at Delta High School, with two high point winners and 10 tankers that combined to make 26 divisional cuts.

Carsyn Guggenbiller led the way for Jay County as the 10-and-younger high point winner by winning five events, four of which she made state cuts in, while the other one was good enough for a divisional cut. Her state cuts came in the 50-meter freestyle, 50

backstroke, 50 breaststroke and 50 butterfly. Her divisional cut was in the 100 freestyle.

Hayden Guggenbiller matched Carsyn Guggenbiller by being the 8-and-younger high point winner. She claimed first place in the 100 individual medley, 25 butterfly and 25 backstroke.

Addisyn Champ and Grant Glentzer followed Guggenbiller with four divisional cuts. Champs cuts came in the 50 freestyle, 200 IM, 50 backstroke and 100 breaststroke. Glentzer's times from the 50 freestyle, 200 IM, 100 back-

stroke and 100 freestyle qualified.

Gabby Gibson (200 IM, 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle) and Maria Laux (50 freestyle, 100 backstroke and 100 freestyle) each made three divisional cuts.

Five more tankers made divisional cuts. They were:

- Cooper Glentzer in the 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle
- Kali Wendel in the 50 freestyle and 100 freestyle
- Roz Diller in the 100 breaststroke
- Isla Kaiser in the 50 freestyle
- Emme Thurer in the 50 breaststroke

Detroit Lions player Jameson Williams under investigation

By **NOLAN BIANCHI**
The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

DETROIT — Detroit police are investigating a traffic stop involving Detroit Lions wide receiver Jameson Williams, according to a source with knowledge of the investigation.

Williams was briefly detained and then released by Detroit police officers earlier this month after two guns were found in a vehicle driven by his brother during a traffic

stop for allegedly speeding near Conner and Jefferson, according to WXYZ-TV. The police department has since launched an investigation as to why Williams was released. It also has submitted a warrant request to the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office over the stop.

According to the WXYZ report, Williams was riding in the passenger seat of a car driven by his brother on Oct. 8 when the two were pulled over during a traffic stop.

Williams' brother disclosed to officers that there were two guns in the car: one registered to him and the other to Williams.

Williams' brother, whose gun was in the backseat of the car, has a concealed pistol license (CPL), according to the report. Officers found Williams, whose gun was under the passenger seat, did not have a CPL, which resulted in him being placed in handcuffs at the scene.

See **Williams** page 9

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday December 7th, 2024

TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 2119 S US 27

PORTLAND, IN.
OPEN HOUSE Sunday Nov. 17th & Sunday Nov. 24th 1-3p.m. or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE
3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch home containing 1390 sq. ft. finished living area. Blacktop driveway. GFA with Central air. 19' x 25' attached garage, and an 18' x 24' detached garage. Nicely situated on two lots containing 1.65 acres in a prime location.

ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD-LAWN AND GARDEN
12' x 10' portable storage building. Oak pie safe, Kitchen cabinet, (2) Childs rockers, Parlor table, Garden plow, Parry Buggies thermometer, (2) 3 cushion sofas, Kenmore upright freezer, Whee horse 520-H riding mower with 48" cut and snowblower, Craftsman 10" table saw, Porch Swing, 3 hole dog box for pickup truck, Garage and shop tools. Several items not to mention.

OWNER: Richard L. Manor
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more

90 SALE CALENDAR

photos.
SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday November 16th, 2024
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 5691 S 600 E (Gas City), Marion, IN
LOADER-TRACTORS-TRUCKS-COMBINES
Case W14 wheel loader with material bucket, Bobcat MT 52 with Kubota diesel and material bucket, Kubota L35 tractor with loader and backhoe, International 1256 tractor with cab, weights, and duals, 1960 Reo Gold Comet Grain truck with 16' bed, International 6 row corn head with cart.

FARM EQUIPMENT-MISC.
Steiger 9 shank disc chisel, JD 7000 12 row planter, Cross Plains folding drill, International 1190 haybine, New Holland hayliner 68 sq. baler, News idea single axle PTO manure spreader, Cross double chain elevator, Bench with Ammco 1000 break lathe and grinder, Electric golf cart, Large auction, several items not mentioned.
OWNER: Max Kirkwood

90 SALE CALENDAR

Estate, by Steve Kirkwood
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday November 23rd, 2024

TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 6160 E 100 N Portland, IN
OPEN HOUSE Sunday Nov. 10th 1-3p.m. or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE
3 bedroom home containing 1150 sq. ft. finished living area. GFA with Central air. 30 x 40 pole barn. Several recent updates. Nicely situated on 2 acres.
ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD-MISC
Knock down wardrobe, Wall, mantle, & came back clocks, Christmas blow molds, GE Washer & dryer, Frigidaire upright freezer, Howard Miller grandfather clock, Barcalounger lift chair (new), Leather loveseat with matching chair (new), Electric guitar, Line amp., 3pt post hole auger, Roll-away tool box,

90 SALE CALENDAR

Portable air compressor. OWNER: Linda Arnold Estate, Michael Slusser PR

Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

PUBLIC AUCTION
Wednesday, November 6th, 2024
6:00 pm

Location: 3233 E 1000 S Geneva, IN
This charming ranch home sits on 1.5 acres with over 1400 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, & 2 baths. Open concept kitchen, dining, & living area. It has a 2 year old central air and furnace. 40x80 pole barn with electric and an insulated room with loft storage above it. Appliances are staying.

Owner: Greg Mitchey
For complete sale bill see auctionzip.com or mizlehman.com
Miz Lehman
Realtors/Auctioneers,
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Berne, IN
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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2024 TERM
In the Matter of the
Unsupervised
Administration of the
Estate of:
DONNA J. OLVEY, Deceased
No. 38C01-2410-EU-00030
NOTICE OF
ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Ranaola L. Lawhead was, on the 28th day of October, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Donna J. Olvey deceased, who died on September 24, 2024.

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 Portland, Indiana, this 28th day of October, 2024.
HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorneys for
Personal Representative
Jon Eads
Clerk of the Circuit Court,
For Jay County, Indiana
CR 10-31,11-7-2024 HSPAXLP

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READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Make ...

Continued from page 8
Defensively, the Patriots (3-7) know they will have their hands full trying to contain the athleticism of Bishop Luers (6-4).

The Knights have found success both passing and running the ball, with the bulk of their touchdowns coming from the latter.

While he has only had 15 touches since the BLHS loss to Bishop Dwenger in week No. 7, Daryea Williams leads the team with 149 carries for 983 yards and 11 touchdowns. While Williams has operated as a fullback the past three weeks, Dee Houge has played a bulk of the snaps as the tailback. Houge currently has 401 yards and three TDs on 49 carries.

"They're pretty fast so it would be huge to stop them," linebacker Isaac Dues said about dealing with the Knights' run game. "Everyone just has to do their job."

Bishop Luers also boasts a balanced passing game with five receivers catching the ball eight or more times and each having 110 yards or more.

Daveon Surry leads the way with 17 receptions, 173 yards and one score.

Jayce White has manned the quarterback position for the Knights the past two games. He has completed 20-of-43 passing attempts for 295 yards and two TDs. Devin Patterson led BLHS under the center for a bulk of the year, completing 54-of-96 throws for 574 yards and four TDs.

"They're athletic, they've got some burners at wide receiver and just speed everywhere," said JCHS coach Grant Zgunda. "Defensively, giving up big plays has and that has been our Achilles heel all year. At critical times, we'll give up a huge play and we can't let those things happen."

The Patriots will also have to deal with a defense that has sacked opponents 26 times, picked the ball off 21 times, recovered 10 fumbles and blocked three field goals.

During the season, the Patriots have been picked off eight times and lost nine of 19 fumbles.

"Their defense causes

chaos," Zgunda said. "They've got a defensive tackle that's really good, speed everywhere, they blitz a lot. We're going to have to deal with that if we're going to win."

Zgunda said a key to weathering the Knights' defense will be finding a balance between throwing and running the ball.

While Bishop Luers' schedule includes plenty of tough opponents - like Class 4A No. 10 Leo, a 5A school in North Side and two 6A schools (Northrop and Homestead) - they have dropped a game to South Side, a team that hasn't won more than two games since 2018.

"Anybody can beat anybody on any given night," Zgunda said. "It sounds like coach speak but it's really that simple, you've got to play clean offensively not not give them short field position."

"Let me put it this way, we've got to make them earn everything they get. That's the sum of the whole thing. We can't throw a pick-six or give up a kickoff return for a touchdown or a 70 yard pass play."



Runnin' Reese and Roessner

The Fort Recovery High School cross country team's season came to a close Saturday at the OHSAA Division III Regional meet at Troy. Pictured above, senior Anna Roessner races near the part of the course that takes the form of a horseshoe in the third mile. Below, Reese Diller sprints alongside Russia's Quinn Hoying in an attempt to reach the finish line first.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Williams ...

Continued from page 8

The Lions released a statement to The Detroit News on Tuesday, saying: "Jameson made us aware immediately that he was a passenger in a routine traffic stop on October 8th. We discussed the incident with him and have kept the league informed of what we know. We understand he was released without incident or citation."

The statement continued: "It is now our understanding that the Detroit Police Department is revisiting the matter. Jameson has hired an attorney, and we will not be commenting further out of respect for the legal process."

Todd Flood, the attorney for Williams and his brother, released a statement to WXYZ that read: "On October 8, my clients were pulled over for an alleged traffic violation. During the course of the stop, my clients were both cooperative and respectful with the police officers. With the two pistols that were found in the vehicle, they were both properly registered and the driver in the vehicle had the proper credentials to carry them. We have cooperated with law enforcement and will continue to do so."

Flood could not be immediately reached for comment by The Detroit News.

In response to a request by The News for

a comment on the traffic stop involving Williams, the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office confirmed it received a warrant request that is being reviewed but did not confirm the name of the person it involves.

Officer Justin Hearn, a spokesman for the Detroit Police Department, released a statement to The Detroit News on Tuesday night after being asked about the Williams traffic stop: "This investigation continues to evolve, and new information has come to light that we are actively addressing. We take every investigation seriously, especially when new allegations and facts emerge, and we are committed to acting in a swift and transparent manner. Once new facts are confirmed, we make the necessary changes in our decision-making process. Let it be clear: No one in the City of Detroit is above the law. Anyone who commits a crime will be held accountable, regardless of their position or status."

Williams is serving a two-game suspension for violating the NFL's Performance Enhancing Substances policy. He served the first game of his suspension in Sunday's 52-14 win over the Tennessee Titans and will not be eligible for reinstatement until after Sunday's game against the Green Bay Packers at Ford Field.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Volleyball regional opener vs. Anna at Northmont — 7 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Football sectional semifinal vs. Bishop Luers — 7 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Football regional opener at Marion Local — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today
7 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at Philadelphia Flyers (FSDN Indiana)

7:30 p.m. — College football: Tulane at Charlotte (ESPN); North Carolina Central at South Carolina Central (ESPN2)

7:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Iowa at Ohio State (BTN)

8:15 p.m. — NFL: Houston Texans at New York Jets (FOX)

8:30 p.m. — NBA: Houston Rockets at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)

9:30 p.m. — College volleyball: USC at UCLA (BTN)

Friday

11:30 a.m. — College cross country: Big Ten Cross Country Championships (BTN)

2:30 p.m. — Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix (ESPN2)

4 p.m. — Horse racing: Breeders Cup (USA)

6:30 p.m. — College volleyball: Purdue at Maryland (BTN)

7:30 p.m. — College football: South Florida at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — College football: San Diego State at Boise State (FS1)

7 p.m. — NBA: Orlando Magic at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN)

7 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Zip Buy Now, Pay Later 200 (FS1)

8 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at New Orleans Pelicans (FSDN Indiana)

8:08 p.m. — MLB World Series: New York Yankees at Los Angeles Dodgers (FOX)

9 p.m. — College volleyball: Nebraska at Wisconsin (BTN)

9:30 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN)

10:30 p.m. — USL Championships: Sacramento Republic at Las Vegas Lights (FOX)

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.

.....
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Ads must run in November

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Ages 1 - 4 Winner

Ages 5 - 7 Winner



Bristol Dunn - 3



Piper Eley - 6

Ages 8 - 10 Winner



Rozlyn Hambrock - 10

1-4 CATEGORY:

- Archer Eley - 3
- Bristol Dunn - 3

5-7 CATEGORY

- Zeke Langenkamp - 5
- Sophia Jellison - 7
- Nora Castillo - 6
- Mila Byron - 5
- Bridget Lay - 6
- Aubrey Millr - 5
- Maddox Miller - 5
- Madison schmiesing - 5
- Payzlee Dunn - 7
- Piper Eley - 6

8-10 CATEGORY

- Owen Hudson - 10
- Albert Graber - 8
- Carmen Laux - 8
- Radlee Chowning - 8
- Melanie Laux - 10
- Bella Barnett - 10
- John Swartz - 9
- Rylie Miller - 10
- Emma Miller - 8
- Brettlynn Barnett - 9
- Rozlyn Hambrock - 10

**HALLOWEEN
COLORING CONTEST.**

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We would also like to mention all of the kids who did a *spooktacular* job this year!

Your pictures gave us smiles and decorated the walls of the office the last few days.

Thanks for all your hard work and participation!

**STAY SAFE ON THE
STREETS WHILE
COLLECTING YOUR TREATS!**

