

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Redkey buying new water meters

Funding will come from federal COVID relief dollars

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — The town purchased new, lead-free water meters with the bulk of its American Rescue Plan Act dollars.

It still has some money leftover from the project.

With the deadline to obligate ARPA funds looming next month, Redkey Town Council agreed Thursday to spend \$20,000 of its remaining dollars on additional equipment for reading the meters.

In September 2023, council OK'd a \$53,960 contract with Utility Supply Company of Indianapolis to install a new water meter system, 144 lead-free water meters and other equipment using American Rescue Plan Act dollars. (Per Indiana Department of Environmental Management regulations, communities were required to have lead-free systems by October of this year.) At that time, former town employee Randy Young planned to buy about 500 meters total, spacing the purchases out as employees were able to install the devices in homes.

Council president Brenda Beaty explained all of the water meters have now been purchased, leaving the village with approximately \$60,000 remaining in American Rescue Plan Act dollars that must be obligated by the end of the year.

She suggested purchasing a \$20,000 antenna from Utility Supply Company to connect with the meters. (The antenna had been considered originally, but officials were unsure if ARPA funds would be enough to cover it along with the other equipment.) Plans are for the antenna to be attached approximately 75 feet above ground on the town's water tower.

"It's something that we don't have to drive up and down the streets, (it's set up) where we just go to the water tower, and all of the meters will be read at one time," explained Beaty.

The antenna equipment also flags problems in the system, such as potential leaks at homes.

Council agreed to use ARPA funds to purchase the antenna.

Also, Beaty proposed using ARPA funds to buy a new town vehicle, referencing a quote she received for a 2022 Ford F-250 priced at \$39,500. She suggested the vehicle could be used for plowing snow.

Council did not vote on the purchase Thursday, with attorney Maura Hoff noting Beaty may seek quotes and bring them back to another council meeting for approval.

See Redkey page 2

Celebrating the season

A busy weekend of holiday events kicked off Friday evening with Christmas at the Courthouse and the Arts Place Holiday Benefit Auction. Pictured above, Diane Coldren of Portland laughs while chatting with her husband John as he was bidding during the auction in Goodrich Hall on the Jay County Campus of Arts Place. At right, members of the Jay County High School Patriot Edition show choir, including Lilly Johnson (foreground) sing during the Christmas at the Courthouse event that also included the lighting of the tree in the center of the courthouse staircase. Additional events this weekend include the Little Miss Winterfest pageant at 2 p.m. today at Fellowship Baptist Church and the Parade of Lights at 6:30 p.m. in downtown Portland. Dunkirk will launch its season of celebration with Feel the Warmth of Christmas on Monday evening in the downtown area, with Santa slated to arrive at 5:30 p.m.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Sentencing delayed indefinitely

By MOLLY CRANE-NEWMAN
New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Juan Merchan on Friday indefinitely adjourned President-elect Donald Trump's punishment for covering up a hush money payoff to porn star Stormy Daniels after his first election victory.

In a brief order, the judge confirmed Trump's sentencing would not go ahead next Tuesday and set a new schedule to consider arguments about how to proceed in light of his election win.

Merchan ordered Trump's lawyers to file their new motion to dismiss the case by Dec. 2. He

said the Manhattan district attorney's office must respond by Dec. 9.

The sentencing had not been expected to go forward next week after prosecutors and Trump's lawyers jointly requested a delay of all deadlines in the case following Trump's victory in the Nov. 5 presidential elec-

tion. Friday's ruling formally called off the proceeding.

The judge also indefinitely delayed his ruling on Trump's months-old motion to get the case dismissed based on the Supreme Court's July decision on presidential immunity. Trump has argued it should have barred prosecutors from show-

ing evidence concerning his time in office.

Trump's legal team this week previewed their new motion to get the case tossed, arguing that the decision made by voters on Election Day mattered more than that of the jury who found him guilty of felonies this year.

See Delayed page 2

Judge in Trump case sets hearing to consider new schedule for proceedings

Deaths

Mary Evers, 82, Fort Recovery
See page 2 for details.

Weather

The temperature in Jay County topped out at 45 degrees Friday. The low was 32.
Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the lower 30s. Expect mostly cloudy skies and windy conditions Sunday with a high in the lower 50s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available today. 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

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS girls basketball game against Winchester.

Wednesday — Photos from Feel the Warmth of Christmas in Dunkirk.



Redkey ...

Continued from page 1
Hoff added she would need to look into whether the purchase would qualify under ARPA spending guidelines. (In July, Redkey adopted an ordinance establishing the remaining American Rescue Plan Act dollars allotted to Redkey — at that time, approximately \$170,000 — as revenue replacement funds to be used for municipal purposes and updates to the town's personnel policies.)

Council also heard Thursday about developments with the December deadline imposed by Indiana Department of Environmental Management for updating the town's long-term control plan addressing combined sewer overflows (CSOs).

Utility worker Ted Kolodka talked about getting the public involved, suggesting the town create a committee. The group — he proposed members including the town council president, utility department workers and any others who may want to be involved in the process — would review the plan as well as related projects.

Addressing Choice One Engineer's master utility study plan approved by council in August, Kolodka talked about an estimated \$2 million project to make improvements to the service area on George Street and Bell Avenue. He said there's a significant increase

of water flow in those areas each time it rains.

"That tells you that there's a lot of stormwater that's going straight into the center of sewer; it also tells you that there's maybe some other things that are going on," he said.

He noted he's been looking into grants through Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs — they require a 20% match — and working with nonprofit membership association Alliance of Indiana Rural Water to find other available grants that could cover the town's match for the \$2 million project.

Kolodka talked about smaller projects that Redkey could do to reduce the amount of stormwater entering the town's wastewater system, including smoke testing, disconnecting wastewater lines from abandoned homes and replacing manhole covers.

Also, a proposal from council member Jim Phillips regarding utility payments died for lack of a second.

In May, Phillips proposed offering each Redkey household one month of free water, wastewater and trash services for their birthday. At that time, Beaty suggested holding off on a decision on the matter until the state had completed its audit on the town's finances.

Phillips read off numbers from Redkey's budget Thursday, saying

the town could afford to grant the free services for one month. He suggested it as a gift for Christmas to residents.

Beaty questioned if Phillips knew how much it would cost to offer free services for a month. Kolodka also pointed out the water department lost \$80,000 in 2023 and cautioned council about the gesture, noting it may impact the ability to apply for grants.

In other business, Phillips, Beaty, Floyd Life and Gavin Grady, absent Dave Dudelston:

- Learned Redkey was awarded \$166,134.75 in Community Crossings funds for 2025. The Indiana Department of Transportation grant can be used to resurface streets, among other road-related projects. Plans are to potentially pave sections of George, Elm, Sherman, Butler, Cleveland, Wayne and Ash streets. Beaty suggested the town could also look into adding some sidewalks with the money. (Redkey's match is \$55,378.)
- Were reminded Santa Claus will ride into town on a Redkey Fire Department truck at 6 p.m. Nov. 29 and set up at the gazebo in downtown Redkey.
- Briefly discussed renewing the town's insurance for employees with United Healthcare. Next year's rates for the town increased per employee by about \$175. Clerk-treasurer Gloria May said utility

worker Todd Miller is the only employee on the plan. Beaty noted he will no longer be on the plan, explaining he turned in his resignation letter Thursday.

- Were informed of a "sinkhole" on Indiana 1 (Meridian Street) at its intersection with Sheridan Street. Beaty noted that Indiana Department of Transportation should be coming in the next two weeks to fix the damaged section of the highway in town.
- Heard the town had four applicants for its town marshal position. (Former marshal Zach Moser resigned effective Oct. 22.) Beaty suggested hosting an executive session with police officer Jon Cave in the coming weeks to interview candidates.
- Heard from Beaty that Dunkirk is not interested in extending zoning regulations to Redkey. Council members in past meetings discussed joining forces with Dunkirk for zoning in town.
- Learned a community member has been gathering price estimates for repairing the town's clock tower. Plans are in the works to look for and apply for grant funding for the project.
- Signed an annual agreement with Redkey Fire Department for firefighting services.
- OK'd purchasing eight pallets of salt to be used on the streets over the winter.

Obituaries

Mary Jean Evers, Fort Recovery, Sept. 16, 1942-Nov. 21, 2024. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Paul Catholic Church, Sharpsburg, Ohio.

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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.

Capsule Reports

Commission OKs

Jay County Plan Commission approved two requests Thursday.

Plan commission approved an amendment to construction timelines on Scout Clean Energy's solar farm development plan for its Sun Chief Solar project, a 100-megawatt facility planned on approximately 1,200 acres northeast of Redkey. Per the new timeline, Scout must begin construction on the facility no later than Dec. 31, 2026, with completion set for no later than Dec. 31, 2027.

Also Thursday, commission members Michelle Penrod, Todd Skirvin, Steve Ford, Chad Aker and Scott Hiltfiker, absent Brad Daniels, Dru Mercer and Jeanne Houchins, approved a petition from Darrick Plummer of rural Geneva to re-zone two parcels in Pennville to be used for a mobile home park.

Plummer plans to convert the lot west of South Street just south of Max Drive and the lot south of Daily Lane into a mobile home park. Plan commission OK'd rezoning the roughly 12-acre plot from a single family residential to a multi family residential property.

Delayed ...

Continued from page 1
"Just as a sitting president is completely immune from any criminal process, so too is President Trump as president-elect," Trump lawyers Todd Blanche and Emil Bove, who Trump has tapped for top positions in the Department of Justice, wrote.

In separate filings to the judge this week, prosecutors said they planned to fight Trump's renewed efforts to get the guilty verdicts against him thrown out but conceded Merchan may need to consider pushing back sentencing until Trump is out of office in 2029.

"The People deeply respect the office of the president, are mindful of the demands and obligations of the presidency, and acknowledge that defendant's inauguration will raise unprecedented legal questions," prosecutors wrote.

"We also deeply respect the fundamental role of the jury in our constitutional system."

The Manhattan District Attorney's office declined to comment Friday. Trump spokesman Steven Cheung, in a statement, called Merchan's order "a decisive win for President Trump."

Trump, 78, was found guilty of 34 felony counts of falsification of business

records on May 30, stemming from his reimbursement to his ex-fixer Michael Cohen for paying off Daniels in the lead-up to the 2016 election, making him the first U.S. president to be found guilty of breaking the law. Cohen's \$130,000 payment to Daniels bought her silence about an alleged sordid sexual encounter with Trump at a 2006 golf tournament when she was 27 and he was 60.

Jurors found the payment to Daniels was part of a scheme carried out before the election that sought to hide unflattering information about his past from voters that also included hush money payoffs to former Playboy model Karen McDougal, who alleges she had a nearly yearlong affair with Trump, and a doorman at Trump Tower who claimed Trump had fathered a child with a housekeeper out of wedlock.

The criminal case was the only one of four brought against Trump after his first term that made it before a jury.

The DOJ is moving to wind down the federal cases accusing him of conspiring to subvert the results of the last presidential election that he lost to President Joe Biden and illegally holding on to sensitive classified documents after leaving office.

CR almanac

Sunday 11/24	Monday 11/25	Tuesday 11/26	Wednesday 11/27	Thursday 11/28
53/44	57/31	37/27	40/27	38/23
Mostly cloudy skies are expected Sunday with a low in the 40s.	Monday's weather looks like mostly cloudy skies with a 70% chance of rain.	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday.	Wednesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies.	Thanksgiving Day looks to be mostly cloudy with a 50% chance of rain and snow.

Lotteries

Hoosier
Midday
Daily Three: 8-2-2
Daily Four: 8-9-4-2
Quick Draw: 4-5-7-8-11-13-24-26-31-34-36-46-58-65-66-67-68-74-76-79

Pick 4: 0-2-7-4
Pick 5: 3-0-0-1-5

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$171 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$453 million

Ohio
Midday
Pick 3: 8-1-3

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.41
Dec. corn4.36
Wheat4.44

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.43
Dec. corn4.43
Jan. corn4.45

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn4.33
Dec. corn4.33
Beans.....9.72

Dec. beans9.72
Wheat5.15

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.25
Dec. corn4.26
Beans.....9.69
Dec. beans9.69
Wheat4.94

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.28
Dec. corn4.28
Beans.....9.47
Dec. beans9.54
Wheat4.84

Today in history

In 1804, President Franklin Pierce was born in Hillsboro, New Hampshire.

In 1863, the Battle of Chattanooga began during the Civil War. Union forces won the battle on the Tennessee River. Chattanooga had been a vital railroad site for the Confederacy.

In 1972, the Pennville High School boys basketball team scored a 79-70 victory over Redkey in the Dunkirk gym. IT was the first win of the season for the Bulldogs, who had opened 0-4.

In 2021, Indiana Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch announced that Jay County would be among the first three communities to participate in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP) administered by the state's Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St.
3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
7 p.m. — Dunkirk

City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Tuesday
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Wednesday
2 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners special session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Felony arrests

Resisting arrest
An Albany man was arrested after he crashed the car he was driving along county road 700 West about 10:28 p.m. Wednesday.

Ashton E. Branham, 19, was driving a 2004 Ford Mustang north on county road 700 West just west north of county road 300 South when he hit a dirt mound. Branham had been driving at a high rate of speed while driving away from police, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report.

He was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for resisting law enforcement and a Class C misdemeanor for criminal recklessness. Branham was released from Jay County Jail on a \$4,000 bond. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000, and the vehicle was towed.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

If you need a meal it will be delivered on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28, 2024. There will be no charge — it is *Free!* Please fill out the form and mail to one of the addresses below or call so we will know how many to prepare.

() YES I need a meal delivered on Thanksgiving Day
() I am a diabetic

Name _____
Address _____

ALL OF JAY COUNTY WELCOME
Drop off or mail to:

Asbury U.M. Church
204 E. Arch Street
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8464

Zion Lutheran Church
218 E. High St., PO Box 602
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8832 Mornings

Home delivery requests due by noon Wednesday

Do NOT put this flyer in mail boxes

34th Year of Caring and Sharing

SERVICES

Today
Starr, Duane: 11 a.m., Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery.
Wilkins, Rignia: 11 a.m., Downing & Gancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.
Martyn, David: 3 p.m., American Legion Post 211, 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.
McKibben, Gary: 8 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Wednesday
Evers, Mary: 10:30 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery.

Dec. 14
Compton, Gail: 2 p.m., Portland Elk's Lodge, 126 W. High St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
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Character Counts

East Elementary Students were recently awarded for demonstrating respect. Pictured at right are second graders, front row, Autumn Murphy, Maddie Theurer and Brooklyn Shawver and, back row, Jackson Abels, Carmen Laux and Eli Edmundson. Pictured below are first graders, front row, Karter Ward, Leander Ankrum, Bexley Brunswick and Raylin Nasby, and back row Gabriel White, Abe Theuer and Mabel Leonhard.



Photos provided

Friend watches marriage derail

DEAR ABBY: My best friend of 40 years, "Savannah," has been in a bad marriage for 20 of those. Her husband has cheated on her repeatedly. He can't keep a job, and he emotionally abuses her and her daughter. Now that she's finally fed up, he refuses to leave the house.

Dear Abby



Despite how bad his behavior has been, Savannah is doing nothing to move the divorce forward. She continues paying for his travel and includes him in family get-togethers in what she calls a "sacrifice," made at her daughter's request. It has been incredibly difficult to be supportive, hear about how harmful this has been, support her when she says she's getting out, and then hear that for one reason or another he's still there. When I challenge her and suggest she's making excuses for not progressing with the divorce, she becomes defensive and shuts down the conversation.

forward because she has you to dump on when the pressure becomes too great.

It may be time to stop focusing on what you can do to help Savannah and concentrate on what you need to do to help yourself. If that means stepping back and letting her find solutions to her problems without your help, don't feel guilty for doing it.

Over the last two years, she has taken to calling me twice a day, and becomes frustrated if I don't answer. I have asked her to stop telling me stories about her husband's behavior — which usually lasts a week or two. I am at my wits' end about how to be a good friend without taking on the stress of her horrible situation and feeling generally overwhelmed by her outreach. What can I do? — WEARY FRIEND IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ABBY: I have a wonderful, intelligent 19-year-old daughter. She's a junior in college in another city. She has always been extremely thin. We have taken her to doctors to address this. They discovered a vitamin deficiency and suggested she eat more nutritious foods with vitamins prescribed.

My question is, is it OK to push foods on her? She gets full immediately and doesn't always take her vitamins. I don't want her to distance herself from me by insisting she eat more. — MOTHERING MOTHER IN TEXAS

DEAR WEARY FRIEND: What you may need to do is accept that one of the reasons Savannah's dysfunctional marriage has lasted as long as it has is because she wants it to. She doesn't need to move

I do not recommend you "push" foods on her. If you do, it may cause her to rebel. I do, however, think it might be a good idea for you to do some research about eating disorders, because she may have one.

Community Calendar

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

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

Sunday
A BETTER LIFE - 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.

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
JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.
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.
A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'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.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

PORTLAND EAGLES — Will meet at 6 p.m., on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at the Eagles' lodge, 320 N. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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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Decide to become an organ donor

By KELLIE TREMAIN

Julie Brommer fought progressive and debilitating health issues for more than 40 years. Ultimately, she needed a new kidney to survive.

But then, late-stage colon cancer struck.

Pulled off the transplant waiting list, Julie had to be cancer free to be eligible for a transplant. She had just started a new major health battle when the unimaginable happened.

Her youngest son died unexpectedly.

While grieving, Julie also had to cope with a grueling weekly schedule of energy-zapping chemotherapy and radiation treatments and dialysis six days a week until her cancer finally subsided.

That happened for years until she was placed back on the waiting list.

Kellie Tremain



Then she waited. And waited. Until the day Julie's body had no more fight and gave her no more time. On June 29, 2022, surrounded by her family at her northern Indiana home, Julie Luann Brommer, 49, died.

Waiting.
Today, there are about 1,300 Hoosiers — and more than 104,000 people in the U.S. — who need a lifesaving organ transplant. Most need a new kidney, like Julie did. Tragically, in the U.S., 5,600 people die each year waiting — 17 people every day.

All are waiting simply because there are not enough donated organs for everyone who needs one.

That's why we're utilizing the latest technology and innovation to help ensure more donated organs are available for transplant. We have also significantly grown our clinical and professional staff to respond as quickly as possible when donation may be possible. Systems and operational procedures have been improved and strengthened to maximize organ donations and save more lives.

We have also fostered remarkable relationships with our hospital partners and transplant centers we serve in Indiana and throughout the U.S. These partnerships have led to an increased rate of referrals for donation, further increasing

the number of successful transplants.

And we are working to create a better understanding about how organ donation saves lives by leading educational programs that resonate with students and communities throughout Indiana, which have encouraged more Hoosiers to sign up to be organ donors.

Yes, Julie Brommer died waiting for a lifesaving kidney transplant.

During her wait, though, she was able to experience what giving the gift of life truly means, through her youngest son, Cody.

Cody was an organ donor. His gifts saved seven lives and restored sight to two others.

The legacy Julie's son left behind deeply fueled Julie while she faced her own mortality and hoped for a miracle.

What Cody accomplished in death made her proud, she said, and both physically and mentally stronger.

I share this story about Julie to simply ask you: Please help end the wait.

Take some time to learn more about how important it is to be an organ donor.

Talk about it with your family, friends and loved ones.

Hope is a powerful thing. My personal hope is that ultimately, you decide to join the more than 4.4 million Hoosiers who have signed up to be organ donors.

You may someday help end the wait for someone whose life depends on your selfless decision to say "yes."

Tremain is president and CEO of Indiana Donor Network. She can be reached at KTremain@INDonorNetwork.org.

Onion's purchase is positive outcome

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

In a fitting and just outcome, Infowars, the hateful tool of the odious Alex Jones, who profited from horrid lies about the murdered of children of the Sandy Hook school massacre, is now the property of The Onion, with the backing of the families of the slain boys and girls.

So now the world's leading "fake news" site, a place where comedy carries the day every day, controls a brand that with a straight face told hurtful, harmful, corrosive lies. Allow yourself to smile.

For those who need the whole story retold: Jones over many years built a media empire designed to make people believe that the worst fever-dream conspiracies of their imaginations were true, concocted by nefarious always-out-to-get-them political enemies.

He exalted in telling people that the attacks on New York City on 9/11 were an inside job, that the Boston Marathon bombing was staged, that a Washington, D.C., pizza parlor was a hub of human trafficking, and that government was putting chemicals in the water to manipulate humans' sexuality.

Along the way, he sold people dietary supplements, toothpaste and more he falsely claimed could cure diseases and bolster masculinity — disgusting lies sufficient on their own to make him a pariah.

After a classroom of first-graders and a half-dozen educators were murdered by a delusional young man armed with an assault rifle in Connecticut in December 2012, Jones went even lower: He called the children's deaths faked and their families crisis actors, feeding his listeners the poisonous falsehood that mothers and fathers and sisters and brothers enduring the worst agony of their lives were cynical pretenders.

When people who'd been fed this poison sent the families hate mail and death threats, the families didn't sit down and take it. They sued Jones and Infowars for defamation, and ultimately, heroically, yielded a judgment that he would have to pay out nearly \$1.5 billion. This required reducing his little empire to the rubble of bankruptcy — then selling the rubble at auction.

Few stories about the news media have happy

Guest Editorial

Jones over many years built a media empire designed to make people believe that the worst fever-dream conspiracies of their imaginations were true ...

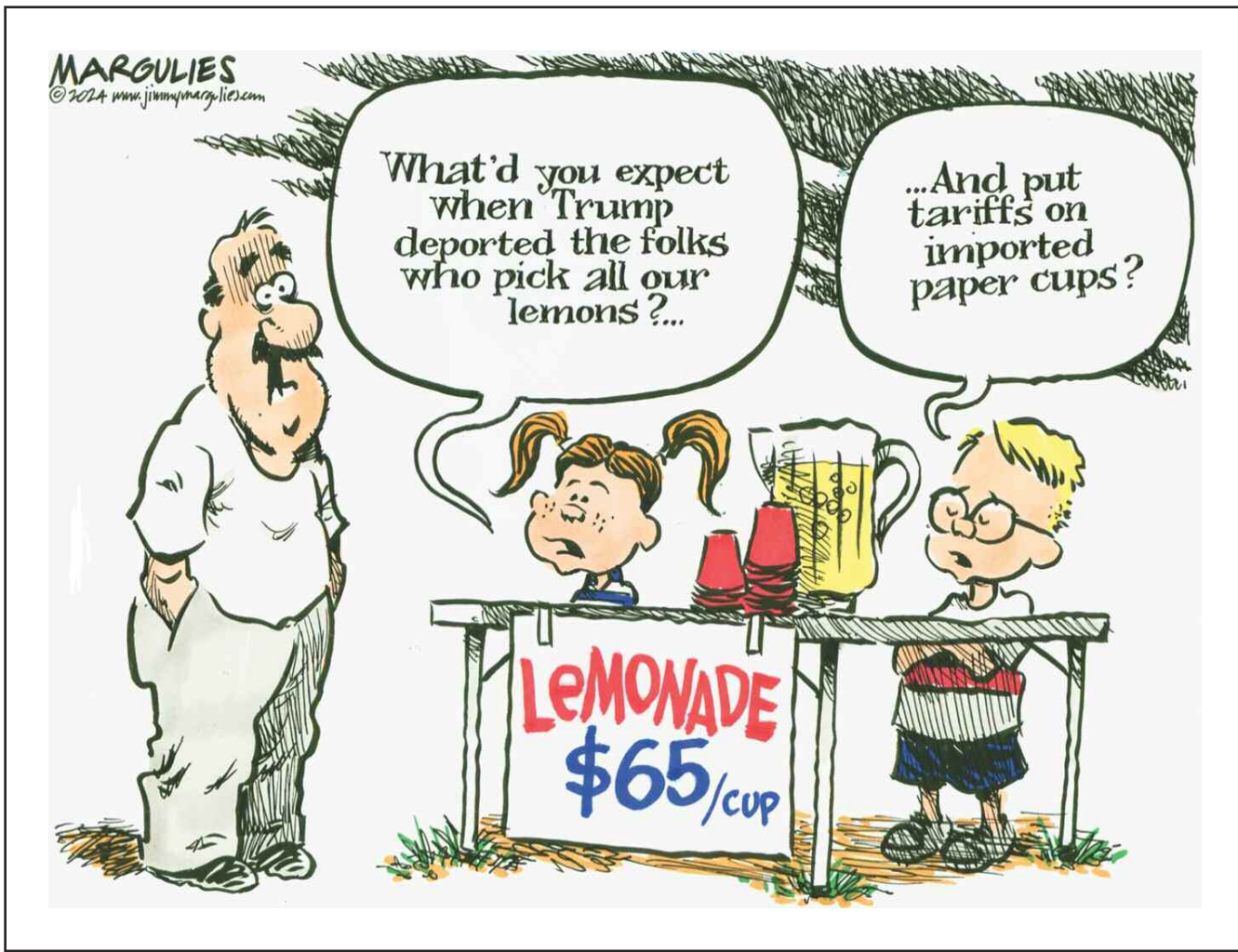
endings nowadays as trust is systematically breaking down and disinformation is growing like black mold in every online crevice. This one does have a positive outcome. The Onion, in a press release, proclaims it will now aim "to end Infowars' relentless barrage of disinformation for the sake of selling supplements and replace it with The Onion's relentless barrage of humor for good."

Everytown for Gun Safety, funded by Mike Bloomberg, will put advertising dollars into the new enterprise, spreading the important message about the dangers of firearms, a mission shared by The Onion, which highlights the absurdity of unnecessary gun deaths.

The Onion aims its barbs every time the United States, a place where guns are the closest thing we have to a national religion, suffers a mass shooting: "No Way to Prevent This," "Says Only Nation Where This Regularly Happens."

So soon enough the clever people who brought the world headlines like "World Death Rate Holding Steady at 100 Percent," "Drugs Win Drug War," "Area Man Passionate Defender of What He Imagines Constitution to Be" will be putting Infowars to good use.

Infowars is dead. Long live Infowars.



Dewey held a special place

By JOHN KRULL
TheStatehouseFile.com

Dewey owned me from day one. Our children had been beseeching my wife and me to get a dog for years. They were enamored with friends' pets and thought it would be fun to have a dog of their own in the house.

My wife signed on with them after some dedicated pleading. I was the last holdout. My reluctance sprang from my understanding of who would be taking the dog out in the wee hours to do its business.

But I couldn't stand in the way of something the people I loved most in the world wanted, so I agreed. We would get a puppy for my son's 13th birthday.

When we went to pick up our Cavapoo — half Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and half miniature poodle — we had to choose between a male and a female.

The female was quiet, demure and well-behaved.

The male, on the other hand, wanted to make friends with everyone. He played with and licked my daughter and son. He raced around my wife.

In a moment that made everyone laugh, he scrambled up my shirt and onto my shoulder so he could lap at my face.

His message was clear — "I'm your dog and you're my humans. Let's get going."

The kids chose him. We named him Dewey, after my late grandfather.

When we got him home, things worked out how I expected. When Dewey had to trot out in the dark, I was the one holding his leash in the back yard.

Given that he was going out every three hours at the start, this meant

John Krull



Dewey and I spent a lot of time together.

He charmed me from the beginning. I loved his energy, his sniffing curiosity about the world around him and his all-embracing spirit.

I came to love watching the sun come up with him while the rest of our family slept. I loved taking long strolls around our neighborhood with him, marveling at the way he wooed every walker he encountered.

Most of all, I loved him.

I've never been a man who has found inner peace easy to come by. Even though my demeanor often seems placid, my spirit always has been restless — and prone to private self-critiques that start at harsh and accelerate fast to self-loathing.

Dewey calmed me.

When he was sitting on my lap, sleeping beside me or sauntering along at the end of a leash I held, I could hear my demons go quiet for a time.

He could bring me peace.

At the start of the COVID pandemic, my younger brother started a losing war with esophageal cancer. I went to all my brother's doctors' appointments and medical visits with him, right up to the morning almost three years ago when he died in intensive care while holding my hand.

During a period of magical thinking — if I could just figure out a way to be smarter, tougher or more deter-

mined, my brother wouldn't have to die, I found myself believing at times — Dewey helped pull me back so I could hold it together.

He soothed my raging soul.

When my father and mother died, on the same day, a little more than a year after my brother did with me witnessing Mom's death, Dewey tethered me again.

Being with him brought stillness to the center of my being.

My wife and children teased me about the closeness I shared with Dewey. They said — accurately — that I went from being the lone holdout to the biggest pushover.

I didn't argue.

"It's Dewey's world," I said. "I'm just grateful to live in it."

Dewey died on a Friday evening not long after I came home from work.

After my wife and I played a game of fetch with him with his favorite toy, he wandered into a corner in my wife's home office, lay down and passed away, the veterinarian thinks from a heart attack.

When my wife and I found him, I rushed him to the vet, but it was too late.

Dewey was 10 years, seven months and 11 days old when he left this life. I kept it together until the vet confirmed he was gone.

Then tears streamed down my face, sobs coming like a flood bursting through a dam.

Dewey owned me from day one. He always will.

Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of *TheStatehouse-File.com*, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students.

The Commercial Review



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

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

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11-23 CRYPTOQUIP

IYGB VSV BYU TUNQATPURA
RGTFTU RGNYSQL YSN
ULEGEUFULB TSLE QAB QR?

BIULBD-RQAT-PGTTQB EQHV.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: INFLATION HAS REALLY JUMPED TO UNACCEPTABLE LEVELS THESE DAYS. BUT THAT'S JUST MY FIVE CENTS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals F

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to Halloween. Each number corresponds to cooking. (Hint: 10 = E)

A. 25 4 2 12 10 21 25 10 4 7 26
Clue: They make a meal

B. 7 25 19 25 4 2
Clue: Duration

C. 19 10 9 17 26
Clue: Dinner and breakfast are two

D. 20 12 10 20 9 12 10
Clue: Get ready

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cooking.

BERLDIO

Answers: A. Ingredients B. Timing C. Meats D. Prepare

GUESS WHO?

I am a politician born in Pennsylvania on November 20, 1942. I attended the University of Delaware and played half-back for the freshman football team. I served as a Delaware senator and went on to be President of the United States.

Answer: Joseph Biden

kids' corner

Book FACT:

This is a fictional story of book length, that often represents character and action.

Answer: Novel

How they say that in...

English: Word
Spanish: Palabra
Italian: Parola
French: Mot
German: Wort

11-25 CRYPTOQUIP

ZGOV LNUO URLQXCJ EQFGNDV
LGOOI CDO GQMMQVF DOCJJP
JNZ VNMOL, ZGCM KN MGOP
IDNKR XO? MZN ECCL.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DID THE RESOURCEFUL FARMER FASHION HIS ENGAGEMENT RING OUT OF? TWENTY-FOUR-CARROT GOLD.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Collection of writings
4. Movie rating
6. Timing of events
8. Jewish religious leader
9. Newspapers or magazines

DOWN
1. One who creates a written piece
2. A space in a home
3. Green onion
5. Start to move
7. Corrections

THIS DAY IN HISTORY
NOVEMBER 18

1498: Christopher Columbus first sights the island now known as Puerto Rico.
1888: American and Canadian railroads institute five standard continental time zones.
1963: The first push-button telephone goes into service.

NEW WORD

AUTHOR
the writer of a book, article or report

GET COOKING WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS
BAKE, BASTE, BEAT, BLANCH, BLEND, BOIL, BRAISE, BRINING, BROIL, BROWN, CARAMELIZE, CHOP, COOKWARE, CREAM, DEGLAZE, DICE, DREDGE, FOLD, FRYING, GRILL, JULIENNE, POACH, ROAST, SIFT

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A sure-to-win position

North dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A J 9 2
♥ 8 5 4 3
♦ A 9
♣ Q 10 9

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

EAST
♠ 7
♥ J 10 9
♦ 10 7 6
♣ J 8 7 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 10 8 6 5 3
♥ A Q 6
♦ K Q J
♣ —

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

Opening lead — king of clubs.
The finesse is a play that permits you to win a trick with a card lower than one held by an opponent. Under normal circumstances, a finesse has only an even chance of success. This probability is, of course, not to be sneezed at, but if an alternative play is available that offers better than a 50% chance, that play should be preferred to the finesse.
Consider this deal where West led the king of clubs against six spades.

Superficially, the slam seemed to depend on a successful heart finesse, so declarer, after ruffing the club lead and drawing a round of trump, unwisely led a heart to the queen, losing to the king. He later lost another heart trick to go down one. Actually, South had the slam in the bag from the word "go." West's king-of-clubs lead marked him with the ace as well, and this should have put declarer on the right track. Instead of pinning his hopes on the location of the king of hearts, South should have considered an entirely different approach that would have obviated the uncertainty associated with a finesse.
With the proper preparatory steps, South could have forced West to solve his problem for him. After ruffing the opening club lead and drawing trump, declarer cashes three diamonds, discarding the ten of clubs from dummy. He then crosses to dummy with a trump, leads the queen of clubs and discards the six of hearts on it.
West wins with the ace but is helpless. He must either lead a heart or yield a ruff-and-discard, so the heart finesse never enters the picture. By seeking an alternative to the finesse, declarer turns a 50% chance into a 100% certainty.

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Did You Know?

Children who love reading perform better in school overall. Plus, the more kids like to read, the more they tend to do it, becoming better at reading in the process.

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Typewriter

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Throat affliction
6 Willow
12 Wig
13 Small roles
14 Legendary "Jeopardy!" host
15 Sets straight
16 Rice wine
17 Inning ends
19 Sailor's "yes"
20 British gun
22 Right angle
24 1055, to Nero
27 "Pay — mind"
29 Sci-fi fleet
32 Ocean explorers
35 Fill up
36 Iowa city
37 "Mangia!"
38 Clean air org.
40 Jazz singer James

42 Ghana's cont.
44 Decorate anew
46 Authentic
50 Alleges
52 Mix-up
54 Surgeon's cutter
55 Peter in "Lawrence of Arabia"
56 Silver lining
57 Tales

DOWN
1 Crime lab fluids
2 Arduous journey
3 Yokels
4 Squeeze (out)
21 "— the season ..."
23 Candy-heart word
24 Rx writers

5 Sri Lanka export
6 "Shoo!"
7 Ravel's "La —"
8 Brit. record label
9 Attorney's charge
10 Theater award
11 Being, to Brutus
12 Score units (Abbr.)
18 Anonymous
21 "— the season ..."
23 Candy-heart word
24 Rx writers

25 Actress Salonga
26 November 11 honorees
28 Final part of Beethoven's 9th Symphony
30 "... cone — cup?"
31 Retired jet
33 Vigor
34 Follower (Suff.)
39 Ready to fight
41 Knight wear
42 Rights advocacy org.
43 Envelope part
45 Villa d'—
47 Black, in verse
48 Shakespeare title starter
49 Author Harper
51 Here, in Dijon
53 Actress Hagen

Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-23

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K Q J 10 7
♥ K J 10 3
♦ —
♣ A J 5

WEST
♠ 9 4
♥ 9 8 7 6
♦ 8 3
♣ K 10 9 7 3

EAST
♠ 6 5 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ J 10 4
♣ Q 8 6 2

SOUTH
♠ 8 2
♥ Q 5
♦ A K Q 9 7 6 5 2
♣ 4

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♦ Pass 2♠
Pass 4 NT Pass 5♠
Pass 5 NT Pass 6♥
Pass 7 NT Pass Pass
Dblc Redblc

Opening lead — nine of spades.
It's hard to believe this deal was played as described here, but it happened nevertheless. It occurred in the 1974 national mixed pairs championship in San Antonio.
Obviously, something went very wrong with the bidding when South wound up as declarer in seven notrump redoubled, missing an ace.
The fault is not hard to find. It can be traced to North's five-spade response to Blackwood, ostensibly showing three aces. North incorrectly treated his diamond void as the equivalent of an ace, and it was this departure from the straight and narrow that ultimately led South to bid seven notrump.
Despite this indiscretion, however, South made the grand slam and scored 2,930 points!
West had a difficult choice of opening leads and unluckily selected the nine of spades. A heart lead would have settled declarer's hash immediately — down one, 400 points — while the ten-of-clubs lead would have resulted in down five, assuming best defense, for a loss of 2,800 points!
But the nine-of-spades lead handed South the contract, since it established the eight of spades as an entry to his hand. After taking the first trick with dummy's ten, declarer simply crossed to the eight to cash his diamonds, which would otherwise have withered on the vine.
It is rare indeed for a player to lose 5,730 points because of the wrong choice of an opening lead, but that's precisely what it cost West for choosing a spade instead of a club as his opening shot.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Throat clearer
5 Wall St. debut
8 Radar dot
12 Hawaiian dance
13 French diarist Anaïs
14 Lighten
15 Needing liniment
16 Thanks-giving staple
18 Aspen topper
20 Long-legged wading birds
21 Biblical kingdom
23 Depot (Abbr.)
24 Clumsy walker
28 Pouchlike
31 Tax-collecting org.
32 — the above
34 Long. crosser

35 Funny person
37 Invalidate tot
41 Cabbage salad
42 Scents
45 Is real
49 Pro-truded
51 Tidy
52 Prefix with byte
53 Industrious insect
54 Words to Brutus
55 CEO's aide
56 Fish eggs
57 56-Across provider

DOWN
1 Cries of discovery
2 Twain's Finn
3 K thru 12
4 Chaos
5 Loads, as software
6 Deep hole
7 Burden
8 Suits
9 Muhammad's boxing daughter
10 "— It Romantic?"
11 Dowels
17 U.S. Army bases
19 Actress Jessica

22 Thaws
24 —
25 Part of TNT
26 Traveling shows for GIs
27 Casino wheel
29 Half- (latte option)
30 Pigs' digs
33 Linen source
36 Male feline
38 Cords
40 Talk and talk
42 Hammett pooch
43 Numbered rds.
44 Take to the sky
46 Third son
47 "Toodledo!"
48 Poker type
50 Family card game

Solution time: 21 mins.

Saturday's answer 11-25

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49
50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A K Q J 10 7
♥ K J 10 3
♦ —
♣ A J 5

WEST
♠ 9 4
♥ 9 8 7 6
♦ 8 3
♣ K 10 9 7 3

EAST
♠ 6 5 3
♥ A 4 2
♦ J 10 4
♣ Q 8 6 2

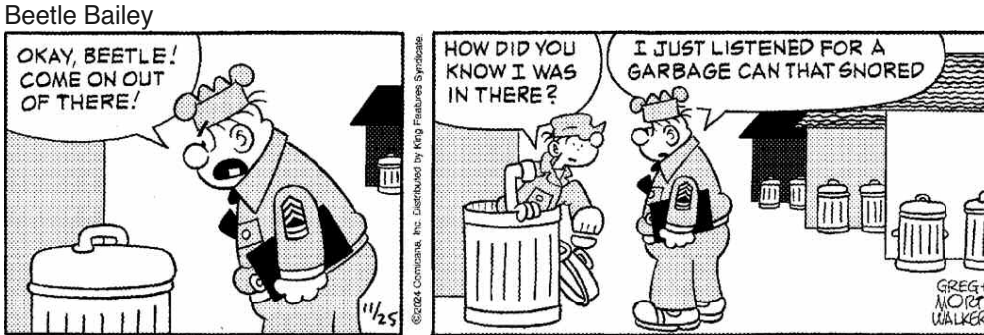
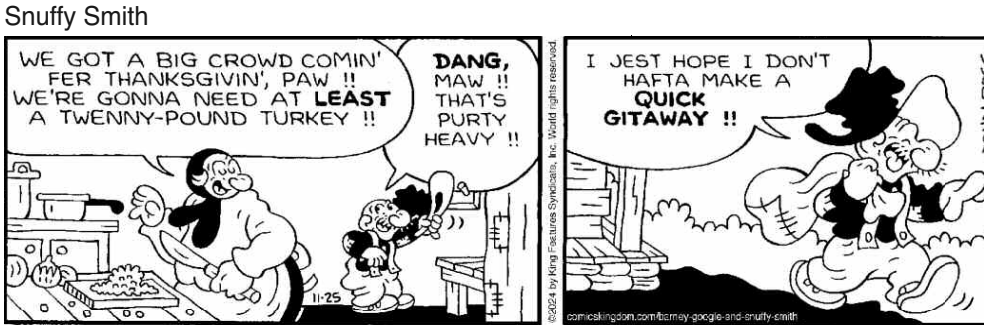
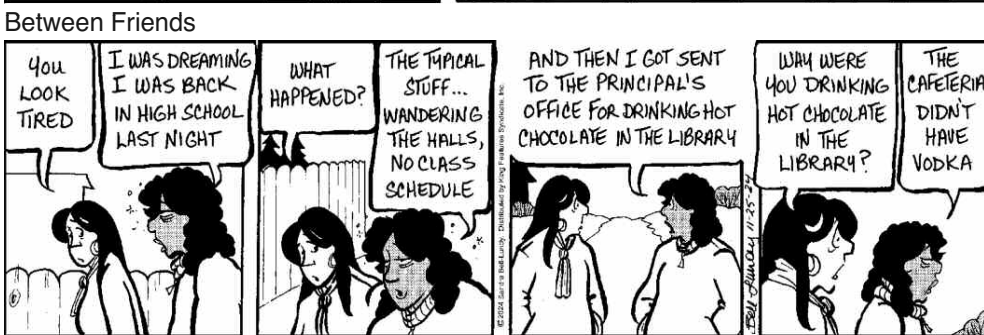
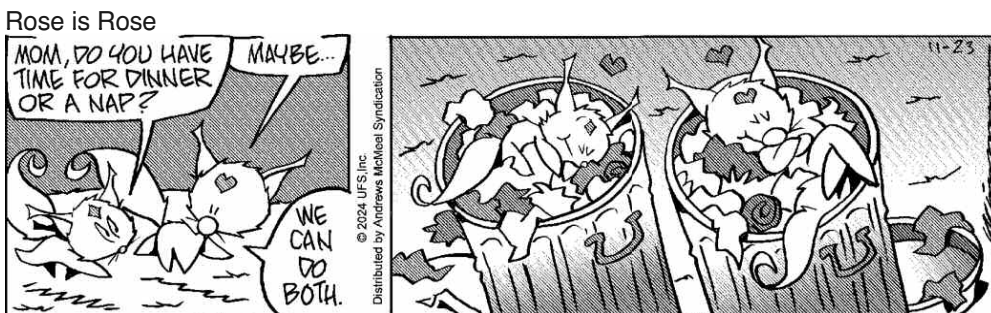
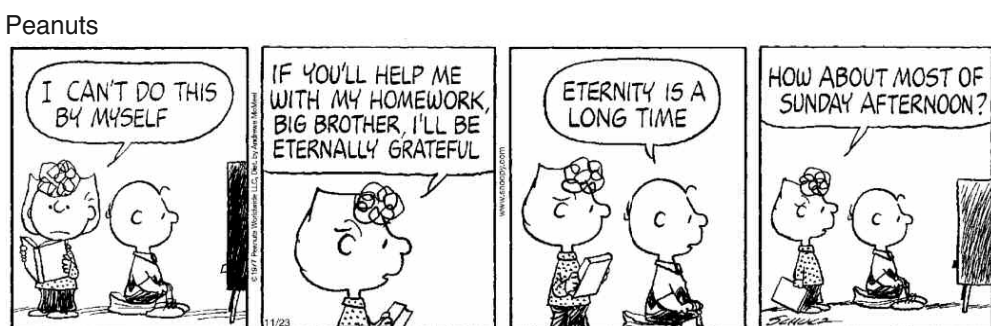
SOUTH
♠ 8 2
♥ Q 5
♦ A K Q 9 7 6 5 2
♣ 4

The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1♦ Pass 2♠
Pass 4 NT Pass 5♠
Pass 5 NT Pass 6♥
Pass 7 NT Pass Pass
Dblc Redblc

Opening lead — nine of spades.
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It is rare indeed for a player to lose 5,730 points because of the wrong choice of an opening lead, but that's precisely what it cost West for choosing a spade instead of a club as his opening shot.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48
49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57



We Deliver

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

Laughter

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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ized vehicles, real estate
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40 NOTICES

COMMUNITY THANKS-GIVING DINNER. Plan now to attend November 28, 2024, 1:00 pm. Asbury UM Church. All Jay County welcome. No charge for the meal.

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

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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. Black-top 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 photos.
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AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Jay Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2407-MF-000016 wherein Freedom Mortgage Corporation was Plaintiff, and Jeremy A. Brown, State of Indiana and Personal Finance Company, LLC were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost. I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 19th day of December, 2024, at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at Jay County Courthouse/3rd Floor - Main, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.

LOT NUMBERED FIFIT TWO (52) IN DENNEY'S SUBDIVISION OF THE NORTH HALF OF OUT LOT FIVE (5) IN BLOCK TWO (2) IN THE WEST ADDITION TO THE CHIT OF PORTLAND, INDIANA.
More commonly known as 721 W Walnut St, Portland, IN 47371-1740
Parcel No. 38-07-20-103-086.000-034
Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

Larry R. Newton, Jr.
Jay County Sheriff
BARRY T. BARNES,
Plaintiff Attorney
Attorney# 19657-49
FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.
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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Saturday November 23rd, 2024
TIME 10:00 A.M.
LOCATED: 6160 E 100 N
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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, Portable air compressor.
OWNER: Linda Arnold Estate, Michael Slusser PR
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STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2024 TERM
No. 38C01-24-ES-00005
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Notice is hereby given that Greg Lehman and Kellie Grile were, on the 19th day of November, 2024, appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the estate of Shirley Lehman deceased, who died on October 13th, 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 19th day of November, 2024.
Jon Eads
Clerk of the Circuit Court,
For Jay County, Indiana
HINKLE, RACSTER,
SCHEMENAUR & LANDERS
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TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Jay Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No.: 38C01-2407-MF-000014, wherein Park Tree Investments 25, LLC, was Plaintiff, and Estate of Lupe Bennett, was/were Defendant(s), requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 19th day of December, 2024 at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 120 N. Court Street, Suite 305, 3rd Floor Courthouse, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.

The West half of Lot 5 and part of the East half of Lot 6 in Block One (1) in Robert A. Andrews Addition to the Town of Redkey, said excepted part of said Lot 6 being described by metes and bounds as follows: Commencing at the Southeast corner of said Lot 6 in said Block I running thence West 20 feet more or less to the real estate owned by Nancy Reeves, thence North to the North line of said Lot 6; thence East to the Northeast corner of Lot 6; thence South to the place of beginning in Jay County, Indiana.

More Commonly Known As: 32 West Main Street, Redkey, IN 47373
38-09-14-404-09 1.000-031

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause #38C01-2407-MF-000014 in the Superior Court of the County of Jay

Larry R. Newton, Jr.
Sheriff of Jay County
Jennifer L. Snook
MARINOSCI LAW GROUP, P.C.
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PUBLIC AUCTION

LOCATED: 2119 S US 27, Portland INDIANA
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 7TH, 2024

10:00 A.M.
Open House: Sunday November 17th and Sunday November 24th 1-3pm, or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE
3 Bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch home containing 1390 sq ft finished living area. Black top driveway. Gas forced air 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.

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OWNER: Richard L Manor

TERMS ON REAL ESTATE: Cash w/ 10% non-refundable down at Auction, balance at closing. Final sale not subject to perspective buyer obtaining financing.

NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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Patriot progress



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School sophomore Sophia Thomas runs a half nelson on Columbia City's Alexa LaFever, eventually leading to the pin on Thursday. Thomas secured her third career victory by fall over LaFever to help the Patriots get past the Eagles 60-12.

Patriots see improvements from younger wrestlers in 60-12 victory

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

It wasn't the strongest freshman year for Sophia Thomas, finishing the year with only five victories.

The Patriot sophomore grabbed a win in her first four matches, but it was her fifth contest of the year that produced one of her best results.

Thomas won her second match of the year by fall with just three seconds remaining in the first period to add to the No. 3 Jay County High School girls wrestling team's 60-12 victory over the Columbia City Eagles on Thursday.

"I thought our girls wrestled great," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "Sophia Thomas came out and got a nice win. Our girls that were heavily favored got really nice wins. Maleah Parson's win was one of the bigger ones, she had one of Columbia City's better girls."

"Just really happy with our girls' effort and progress. I think they just keep improving and that's the path we have to keep them on. Make sure they don't get content and just keep grinding and keep plugging away."

The Patriots (4-0) won nine of 11 contested matches, including

Thomas' victory over Alexa LaFever in the 120-pound weight class.

Thomas fell behind early, as LaFever worked her way around her body for a takedown 17 seconds into the match. The JCHS sophomore got a point back on an escape four seconds later, but got taken down again to trail LaFever 6-1 with 1 minute, 25 seconds remaining in the first period.

Thomas stood up to escape a second time with 1:12 left on the clock. Thirty-six seconds later, she countered a shot from the CCHS freshman for a takedown of her own, cutting the deficit to 6-5. Thomas began to run a half nelson and turn LaFever over. With just three seconds remaining, Thomas got the Eagle on her back, eliciting an uproar from her teammates for the comeback victory.

"I realized the girl was more at my skill, so I knew it was possible to beat her," Thomas said, while noting it was LaFever's timidness that gave her confidence. "I tried pushing myself a little more to get the win because I knew it was possible."

Last season, Thomas had a 5-16 record while competing in the 105 weight class. With the move up to

the 120, she has worked a 2-3 record on the young season, with both victories coming by fall.

"It feels awesome, because last year I only got one real win by pin," Thomas said. "It just feels awesome that I'm finally improving and I'm actually getting to get wins this year. ... It'll give me a lot more confidence."

The Patriots got wins from another pair of less experienced wrestlers in Allison Tipton and Reagan VanSkyock.

Tipton, a first-year wrestler, got on the board early by countering a shot by Columbia City's Avah Hyden in the 125 contest. Once getting Hyden to the mat, it took 36 seconds to secure the pin.

VanSkyock, a freshman, faced off against Jaylynn Smith in the 140 match. She needed 22 seconds to circle around Smith for a takedown and 38 more for the fall.

"It wasn't really the moves, it was really the aggression," said VanSkyock. "I did a single leg into a half (nelson), but if I wasn't aggressive, none of that would have worked."

"It was definitely being aggressive, getting a tight grip and making sure I keep that tight grip," Tipton added. "(The win) definitely boosts your confidence and

helps you feel like you can keep pushing and keep getting better."

Myers also highlighted Parson's match with Hanna Maggard, who finished 16th in the rankings, in the 145 weight class. The two were hand fighting for nearly the first minute, and Parson was able to prevent giving up a takedown by moving the action out of bounds. Once back in the middle, Parson hit Maggard with a level-change double-leg takedown, which gave her good positioning to quickly get the CCHS senior on her back for the pin with 38 seconds remaining in the opening period.

Two Jay County freshmen came into Thursday's dual match undefeated. Brenna Ruble left the match 8-0 after pinning Alena Lang 1:10 into the 115-pound contest.

Amara Crawford wasn't as lucky facing off with No. 3 Michela Clifford. The JCHS freshman stayed even with the senior through the first period of the 190 match, but gave up points on a hand locking violation, an escape, a takedown where Clifford snapped her head down and eventually got pinned in 3:06.

Columbia City had two more ranked wrestlers, No. 6 Alexes

Spaulding (120) and No. 6 Vivian Parke (235), that did not wrestle in the match.

The only other loss came from Madison Gage in the 155 weight class. Gage trailed Eden Taylor 4-3 headed into the third and was forced to start on bottom. She fell with 1:10 left in the contest.

The Patriots got points from five other weight classes. They were:

- No. 8 Emily Manor pinning Fe' Waitihira 50 seconds into the second period of the 135 contest

- No. 1 Mallory Winner getting a forfeit in the 170 weight class

- No. 4 Katie Rowles taking the 100 match by fall 1:34 in over Emily Krider

- Tatianna Willis with a pin of Alyssa Driver with 23 seconds remaining in the opening period of the 110 battle

- No. 3 Lina Lingo securing the victory over Petyon Kinney by fall 36 seconds into the 130-pound match

"That's one of the most enjoyable things about coaching is watching girls make progress like that," Myers said. "Our upper level girls are making progress, our newer girls are making progress, but it's fun to see when things start clicking."

2024-25 Jay County boys basketball preview

Pictured is the 2024-25 Jay County High School boys basketball team. Front row from left are Benson Barnett, Drew Schemenaur, Zavier Hudson, Boston Barnett and Rylee Sollars. Second row are Brady Jetmore, Jayden Comer, Eli Dirksen, Jacob Monroe, Nick Snow, Brock Wasson, Aiden Phillips and Carter Fugiett. Third row are Kade Sommers, Gradin Swoveland, Cole Forthofer, Eli Petro and Tucker Griffin. Back row are Caden Gambill, coach Jerry Bomholt, assistant coaches Brogan Gary, Doug Arbuckle, Luke Goetz and manager Bailey Towell.



Fast facts

- The Patriots last earned a sectional title in 2010-11 and have only made the championship game twice since then. Jay County has won a total of three sectional games over the past 10 seasons.

- Jay County returns 36.4% of its scoring from the 2023-24 season after graduating five players and having two more choose not to come back.

- Coach Jerry Bomholt enters the season with a career record of 594-386 (.606 winning percentage), leaving him just six victories shy of 600 wins.

Projected lineup

Jayden Comer - Guard
Eli Dirksen - Guard
Carter Fugiett - Guard
Drew Schemenaur - Guard
Gradin Swoveland - Guard/Forward
Tucker Griffin - Forward
Aiden Phillips - Forward
Cole Forthofer - Forward/Center
Kade Sommers - Forward/Center

Key departures

Liam Garringer
8.4 ppg, 2.2 rpg, 2.0 spg, 1.9 apg

Trevin Dunnington
4.9 ppg, 2.8 rpg, 1.2 spg, 0.5 apg

Wesley Bihn
4.7 ppg, 2.8 rpg, 0.6 spg, 0.5 bpg

Ben Crouch
3.7 ppg, 2.4 rpg, 1.0 spg, 1.0 apg

Key returners

Gradin Swoveland
9.5 ppg, 4.3 rpg, 2.6 spg, 2.5 apg

Jayden Comer
3.8 ppg, 1.0 spg, 0.7 rpg, 0.7 apg

Eli Dirksen
2.9 ppg, 1.6 rpg, 0.5 spg, 0.5 bpg

Aiden Phillips
1.9 ppg, 2.5 rpg, 0.6 spg, 0.3 bpg

Games to watch

Saturday, Dec. 14, vs. New Castle
Tucker Griffin's previous team took down the Patriots twice last season, including in the sectional opener. This will be an early measure on if JCHS has improved.

Friday, Dec. 20, at Delta

Despite losing a large chunk of its production, Delta claimed the sectional title en route to a semi-state appearance.

Saturday, Dec. 11, vs. Adams Central

ACHS claimed the ACAC regular season and tournament crown without dropping a game in conference. If Jay County wants to make a run at the conference, it'll need to pick off the Jets.

Saturday, Feb. 1, at Blackford

The Patriots' former JV and assistant coach, Aaron Daniels has taken over the job in Hartford City this season. This will be his first time coaching against JCHS.

Coach Jerry Bomholt says

"This team has the most upside of any since they set the record (2021-22). We have size, we have shooters and we have pretty good ball handlers. If we can intensify our play defensively and rebound we'll be a very, very good basketball team. ... We feel like we have 10 kids we can get production from, so we're going to be a little bit deeper than we have in the past. And then there's ever a couple more kids that as the season goes may get a look from us. There's going to be a lot of competition for positions, a lot of competition for playing time. I've always felt like competition was a good thing. We really do have all the ingredients. We just have to make sure we play at a high level. It should be a lot of fun."

2024-25 Schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Tuesday, Nov. 26	Elwood	6 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 30	Richmond	6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 6	Woodlan	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 7	Fort Recovery	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 14	New Castle	6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 20	Delta	6 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 28	Wapahani	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	Muncie Central	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11	Adams Central	6:30 p.m.
Jan. 14-18	ACAC Tournament	TBA
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Hagerstown	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	South Adams	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Bluffton	6 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 1	Blackford	6 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 6	Southern Wells	6 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 14	Heritage	6 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 15	Yorktown	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 18	Hamilton Heights	6 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 21	Norwell	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 25	Winchester	6 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 28	Bellmont	6 p.m.
Home games in bold		

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Belmont Braves			
Girls varsity summary			
Bellmont (4-0)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Kitson	2-5	0-0	6
Barton	6-13	0-1	13
EBleke	6-13	0-1	13
Fuelling	0-0	0-0	0
Jarvis	2-8	0-2	4
Krueckeberg	2-6	1-2	5
Caffee	2-2	0-1	4
French	1-9	0-0	3
ABLEke	4-6	4-4	14
Converset	0-0	0-0	0
Laurent	1-2	0-0	2
MBleke	1-3	0-0	2
Borne	0-0	0-0	0
Totals	27-67	5-11	66
	.403	.455	
Def. rebound percentage:	.742		
Jay County (2-1)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Sibray	1-5	0-0	3
Newton	0-0	0-0	0
Schwtrmn	5-17	4-8	15
Hummer	0-4	1-2	1
Petro	0-3	0-0	0
Skirvin	1-1	0-0	2
Brunswick	1-5	0-0	2
May	2-3	0-0	5
Heath	4-11	1-1	9
Totals	14-49	6-11	37
	.286	.545	
Def. rebound percentage:	.600		

Score by quarters:
Bellmont 16 11 20 19—66
Jay Co. 8 5 8 16—37

3-point shooting: Belmont 7-30 (Kitson 2-4, ABleke 2-4, EBleke 1-5, French 1-5, Barton 1-6, Laurent 0-1, Jarvis 0-2, Krueckeberg 0-3). Jay County 3-11 (May 1-1, Schwieterman 1-4, Sibray 1-4, Hummer 0-1, Petro 0-1).

Rebounds: Belmont 44 (EBleke 8, Jarvis 7, Laurent 5, French 4, MBleke 4, Team 4, Fuelling 3, Kitson 2, Barton 2, Krueckeberg 2, ABleke 2, Caffee). Jay County 36 (Hummer 7, Brunswick 7, Heath 7, Team 5, Schwieterman 4, Petro 3, Sibray 2, May).

Assists: Belmont 16 (Kitson 4, EBleke 4, French 2, Converset 2, Barton, Jarvis, ABleke, Laurent). Jay County 8 (Hummer 3, Schwieterman 2, Petro 2, Brunswick).

Blocks: Belmont 4 (Laurent 2, Barton, EBleke). Jay County 1 (Brunswick).

Personal fouls: Belmont 12 (ABleke 4, Jarvis 2, French 2, Laurent 2, Caffee, MBleke). Jay County 10 (Heath 3, Sibray 2, May 2, Hummer, Petro, Brunswick).

Turnovers: Belmont 12. Jay County 23.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Hallie Schwieterman fights through contact from Belmont's Ashley Bleke on a drive during the 66-37 beating on Friday. Schwieterman was one of three Patriots with multiple field goals, leading the way with 15 points.

Deficit ...

Continued from page 1
By the start of the fourth quarter, Schwieterman was 5-for-16 from the field for 14 points, while the rest of her team was 3-for-19 to score seven.

"We didn't get into a natural flow to our offense," McIntire said. "Hallie had to create some things on her own."

"I think if we would have maybe done a better job of getting into our offense, then those other kids would have gotten some better looks and putting them in better positions and we didn't do a real good job of getting into the flow of our offense."

Jay County finished the game with 23 turnovers, most because of the offensive pres-

Patriots will be back in action against Winchester tonight

sure pushing the pace of the game.

On the other end of the floor, the Braves moved the ball more effectively, resulting in 16 assists. Emily Bleke and Kate Kitson each dished out four assists.

"We've got a bunch of girls that are pretty unselfish," Heim said. "We want to push the pace, we go 10, 11, 12 deep so we can run. That's been our game

plan so far and tonight we executed it really well."

Beyond winning the turnover and assist battles, BHS found more success on the offensive glass. It pulled down 18 offensive rebounds, double what Jay County grabbed, resulting in 15 second-chance points.

The Braves also found success defending the paint, having multiple girls collapse on ball han-

dlers and post players whenever the Patriots got a touch. In all, Belmont outscored Jay County 32-22 in the paint.

"I think it was just everybody not crashing the boards," said Heath, who got her first career start. "I mean, myself included. We all had a little trouble with that. ... We've just got to look for those outlet passes on the opposite blocks and at the 3-point line for those shots when they (collapse on us)."

Schwieterman finished as the game's high scorer with 15 points. Ashley Bleke followed with 14, all but three of which came in the second half. Belmont also had a pair of 13-point performances from Barton and Emily Bleke.

Heath followed Schwieterman

with a career-high nine points, and May finished with five as the only other Patriot with multiple field goals.

Jay County won't have much time to wipe the game from memory as it hosts Winchester less than 24 hours after the loss.

"We've got to come in tomorrow morning and get ready for Winchester," McIntire said. "(The freshmen) have never done this before, so we'll see how it goes. Tonight was a fast-paced game, so I feel like the kids put a lot of energy into tonight. So we'll see how they bounce back."

"I feel like, hopefully, we'll be fine to come in tomorrow, go over things we think Winchester is going to do and go from there."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys wrestling at Ben Davis — 8 a.m.; Girls swim at Westfield — 10 a.m.; Girls basketball (varsity only) vs. Winchester — 6:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Mississinawa Valley — 9 a.m.; Boys basketball scrimmage vs. Bath — 10 a.m.; Girls basketball at Arcanum — 6 p.m.

Monday
Jay County — Freshman boys basketball vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Richmond — 6 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Boys basketball vs. Elwood — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Middle school girls basketball at Versailles — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
12:30 a.m. — College basketball: North Carolina at Hawai'i (ESPN2)
1 a.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN)
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Chelsea at Leicester City (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Brighton & Hove Albion at AFC Bournemouth (USA)
12 p.m. — College football: Ole Miss at Florida (ABC); Indiana at Ohio State (FOX); Wake Forest at Miami (ESPN); Iowa at Maryland (BTN); SMU at Virginia (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — USL Championship soc-

cer: Rhode Island at Colorado Springs (CBS)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Tottenham Hotspur at Manchester City (NBC)
3:30 p.m. — College football: Kentucky at Texas (ABC); Penn State at Minnesota (CBS); Northwestern at Michigan (FS1); BYU at Arizona State (ESPN); Wisconsin at Nebraska (BTN); Colorado at Kansas (FOX)
4 p.m. — College football: Pitt at Louisville (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — College football: Army at Notre Dame (NBC); Baylor at Houston (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NHL: St. Louis Blues at New York Islanders (FDSN Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — College football: Alabama at Oklahoma (ABC); Iowa State at Utah (FOX); Texas A&M (ESPN)
8 p.m. — College football: Cincinnati at Kansas State (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — College volleyball: Wisconsin at Nebraska (BTN)
8 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Washington Spirit at Orlando Pride (CBS)
10:30 p.m. — College football: Air Force at Nevada (FS1)

Sunday
1 a.m. — Formula 1: Las Vegas Grand Prix (ESPN)
9 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Liverpool at Southampton (USA)
11:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester United at Ipswich Town (USA)
12:30 p.m. — La Liga soccer: Real Madrid at Leganes (ABC)

1 p.m. — NFL: Kansas City Chiefs at Carolina Panthers (CBS); Detroit Lions at Indianapolis Colts (FOX)
1 p.m. — College basketball: Villanova at Maryland (ESPN); Myrtle Beach Invitational (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — College basketball: Charleston Classic (ESPN)
3:30 p.m. — College basketball: Florida State at UMass Amherst (ESPN2)
4 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Notre Dame at USC (NBC); Washington State at Iowa (BTN)
4:25 p.m. — NFL: San Francisco 49ers at Green Bay Packers (FOX)
5:30 p.m. — College basketball: Myrtle Beach Invitational (ESPN)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Charleston Classic (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Myrtle Beach Invitational (ESPN2)

8:20 p.m. — NFL: Philadelphia Eagles at Los Angeles Rams (NBC)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Charleston Classic (ESPN)

Monday
1 a.m. — College basketball: Professional Fighters League (ESPN2)
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Memphis vs. UConn (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: West Ham United at Newcastle United (USA)
5 p.m. — College basketball: Colorado at Michigan State (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan vs. Virginia Tech (FS1)
7 p.m. — NBA: New Orleans Pelicans at Indiana Pacers (FDSN Indiana)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Green Bay at Ohio State (BTN)

8:15 p.m. — NFL: Baltimore Ravens at Los Angeles Chargers (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Xavier vs. South Carolina (FS1)
11:30 p.m. — College basketball: Dayton vs. North Carolina (ESPN2)

Tuesday
2 p.m. — College basketball: San Diego State vs. Creighton (TBS)
4:30 p.m. — College basketball: Oregon vs. Texas A&M (TNT)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Wagner at Georgetown (FS1)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Houston vs. Alabama (TBS); USC Upstate at Iowa (BTN)
9 p.m. — College basketball: Kansas vs. Duke (ESPN)
10 p.m. — College basketball: Southern Utah vs. UCLA (BTN)

10:30 p.m. — College basketball: Rutgers vs. Notre Dame (TBS)

Local notes

Final race
The final race in the Adams County 5K Challenge, the Rainbow Lake 5K Run/Walk, will take place on Nov. 26. Registration and check-in will begin at 8 a.m., with the race starting at the Limerlost Cabin in downtown Geneva at 10 a.m.
The race will cost \$20 if registered prior to the race, or \$25 with registration on the day of the race.
For more information or to preregister, visit adamscounty5kchallenge.com.
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To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**For Jay County Elementary Schools
September 23-27**


Monday: Main Menu: Mini chicken corn dogs **Sides for all meals:** Steamed carrot & broccoli medley
Alternate Entrees: Cheesy Italian pull apart, marinara sauce, cheddar BLT Salad, croutons

Tuesday: Main Menu: Mashed potato & chicken bowl **Sides for all meals:** Steamed carrot & broccoli medley **Alternate Entrees:** Cheesy Italian pull apart, marinara sauce, cheddar BLT Salad, croutons

Wednesday: NO School

Thursday: No School

Friday: No School



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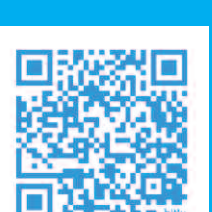
THE SOUND OF MUSIC

Music by RICHARD RODGERS
Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
Book by HOWARD LINDSAY and RUSSEL CROUSE
Suggested by "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp
Music and Lyrics for "Something Good" by Richard Rodgers

THE SOUND OF MUSIC
is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Shows are 7 p.m. December 5, 6, 7, 13 and 14,
and 2 p.m. December 15 at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland

Advance tickets:
\$10 for students and \$12 for adult
Available by visiting bit.ly/JCCTTSOM, by calling (260) 726-4809,
or at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

Deficit doubles

Jay County can't keep up with the Braves

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

The Patriots largest loss last season came at the hands of the Braves. The 17-point defeat came just six days following the Patriots' first loss of the 2023-24 season.

While they got some revenge on sectional nemesis Hamilton Heights last weekend, their margin of defeat against the Braves nearly doubled.

The Jay County High School girls basketball team got dealt its first loss of the season Friday, falling to the Bellmont Braves 66-37.

Bellmont (4-0) was one of only two teams to beat Jay County (2-1) last season in a 50-33 contest. (Hamilton Heights was the other as it topped the Patriots in the regular season and the sectional championship game.) That 17-point difference grew to 29 as the Patriots couldn't find an offensive rhythm.

"Well obviously Bellmont is a very good basketball team and very disciplined," said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire. "They got after us on the defensive end and I don't think we ever got into a very good rhythm offensively and that was a credit to them. ... I felt our kids played hard and we're not going to dwell on this loss."

The Patriots found a way to hang keep within striking distance of Bellmont through the first quarter. That was in large part because of the offensive lift from Hallie Schwieterman, who scored six of her team's eight points in the opening period. (She converted two three-point plays, while the other basket came from Amelia Heath on the offensive glass.)

Schwieterman opened the second quarter with a three that she dribbled into off of a screen by Raylin Hummer to pull Jay County within five points. The Braves then took complete control of the game with an 11-point run that included two baskets from Emily Bleke and one each by Kaitlyn Barton, Kamryn Jarvis and Oni Krueckeborg. Schwieterman snapped the run on a dive with 1 minute, 50 seconds, remaining in the quarter.

Bellmont coach Andy Heim said his team's goal was to keep the ball out of Schwieterman's hands as much as possible, leading to a full-court press that prevented the Patriots from getting any offensive rhythm.

See **Deficit** page 9



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Natalie May, a freshman on the Jay County High School girls basketball team, puts up a layup off of a baseline out of bounds play late in the first half of Friday's 66-37 loss to Bellmont. May finished as the Patriots' third-leading scorer with five points.

FRHS blanked in 2nd as it drops opener

Indians lose to 2023 state final four squad to start season

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians scored double-digit points in the first and third quarters.

It was the zero they posted in the second that buried them.

The Crestview Knights shut out the Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team in the second quarter as the Indians dropped their season opener 40-24 Friday.

Fort Recovery (0-1) trailed the Knights (1-0) by six after the opening period before getting blanked in the second. It faced a 26-10 halftime deficit and was not able to mount a comeback.

While the Indians struggled in the second period, Crestview extended its advantage as it hit two more 3-pointers after burying four in the first.

Kaci Gregory hit three long-distance shots in the opening period and another in the second en route to her team-high 15 points for the Knights, who finished the 2023-24 regular season ranked fourth in Division IV and won sectional, district and regional titles before falling to eventual state champion Fort Loramie in the state semifinal round. Ellie Kline, a senior, made one 3-point shot in each of the first three quarters as she followed her sophomore teammate with 14 points.

Kennedy Muhlenkamp and Karlie Niekamp finished with eight points each to lead Fort Recovery, which only scored a pair of buckets in the fourth quarter. Cameron Muhlenkamp had six points.

The Tribe, which dropped four of its first five last season, will get right back to the court tonight with a visit to Arcanum for the Trojans' season opener.

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