

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Christmas cheer

Fort Recovery High School cheerleader Trinity Rammel performs during halftime of Friday's boys basketball game against the Parkway Panthers. The FRHS cheerleaders danced to Christmas tunes for their halftime performance. For more on the game, see page 10.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Redkey looking to change ordinances

*Town may allow chickens, implement fines for tampering*

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — Chickens may be allowed in town starting early next year.

Redkey Town Council introduced a draft of an amended animal ordinance Thursday.

Also Thursday, during a nearly two-hour meeting, council introduced plans to amend the town's ordinance regarding tampering with water meters and agreed to spend the town's remaining \$6,000 American Rescue Plan Act dollars on installation of the new water meter antenna.

Redkey town attorney Maura Hoff noted the amended animal ordinance draft includes rules for owning hens. (Per the ordinance, roosters are still not allowed.)

"Female chickens shall be allowed to be kept within the town of Redkey with all of the following requirements and restrictions," read Hoff.

Rules stipulate there may be no more than six hens on any parcel of land within town limits. Hens must be completely and securely enclosed in a coop or a securely fenced area no larger than 100 feet. The coop must be kept sanitary and in the rear of the yard.

Also, dead chickens must be immediately removed.

Answering a question from council, Hoff and officer Jon Cave explained the rules regarding chickens are modeled after similar ordinances in other municipalities.

Hoff noted she also made a few minor changes while reviewing the animal ordinance to avoid conflicts with state and federal law.

Council agreed — absent Gavin Grady — to introduce the ordinance Thursday, with Hoff noting the amended legislation will need to be advertised and will go up for approval next month.

She said the ordinance will be on file at the clerk-treasurer's office for residents to read the details and suggest amendments if desired.

Council also agreed Thursday to introduce an amendment to the water ordinance addressing unauthorized access to water meters.

The new ordinance, which will need to be advertised and reviewed for approval next month, outlines penalties for residents who tamper with their water meters.

Council member Dave Dudelston questioned if the town has had the issue come up. Beaty noted there have been residents who, after their water is turned off by the town because their water bills are not paid, manually turned their water back on.

Currently, residents are not allowed to be in their water pits, with access limited to town employees and designated officials.

Hoff pointed out the amendment gives the town "more teeth" when dealing with residents violating the ordinance.

Per the draft amendment residents who tamper with their water meters will be fined as follows: first offense, \$150; second offense, \$300; and third offense, \$400. Answering a question from Dudelston, Hoff noted fines are not to exceed \$500, but there are exceptions to the minimum fines.

"If it's a first offense and it's egregious, you can go up to \$500, but the minimum is \$150," she explained.

See Redkey page 2

## Commission contributes, pushes city

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

The city's redevelopment commission is willing to contribute to assist with the extension of a water line.

Its members feel the city should have further responsibility as well.

Portland Redevelopment Commission on Friday agreed to contribute \$1,500 toward connecting a new water line to water meters at the Hawkins Galleria and its annex.

Emily Goodrich, who owns the building, returned to the redevelopment commission to request funding assistance for the water line. She had visited its October

### Goodrich requested assistance with problematic water line

meeting, explaining that a "shoot-off" of a water line that goes to a display window at Patriot Sportswear has been the subject of frequent problems. She has been advised that there is no longer a way to fix the "shoot-off" anymore and can no longer be repaired, requiring a new line to water meters inside the building that

serve Patriot Sportswear, Patriot Fitness and Blessings Photography. At that time, she said she had been advised by the city's water department that running a new line would be her responsibility as the building owner.

Since then, Portland water department superintendent Doug Jackson agreed to run a new

water line along the alley north of the Hawkins building and to its northeast corner. But, the city has said it is the responsibility of the building owner to extend the line from the exterior of the building to the meters inside.

Goodrich told the redevelopment commission Friday that she has quotes of \$7,000 and \$8,000 to connect the line to the meters.

Commission members Rusty Inman, Reda Theurer-Miller, Joe Johnston, Dave Teeter and Mike Simons discussed the situation, noting that the building is an anomaly because the meters are on the interior of the building whereas most are on the exterior.

See Commission page 2

## House passes funding measure

*Legislation includes extension of farm bill*

some Republicans to give 366 votes for passage to the temporary funding bill. Thirty four Republicans voted against the bill.

After two earlier failed attempts, Speaker Mike Johnson offered a "Plan C" to avoid a government shutdown. The U.S. Senate votes next, which will likely occur today. If that happens, the shutdown would technically begin at midnight, but if the Senate approves the bill, the American public likely would experience minimal effect.

The Plan B package went down in flames Thursday because of opposition from Democrats and 38 conservative Republicans opposed to raising the debt limit.

See Funding page 2

By TIA MITCHELL and MICHELLE BARUCHMAN  
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House voted late Friday to approve a package funding the government through mid-March and providing emergency aid for homeowners, businesses and farmers affected by recent natural disasters.

Democrats joined

## Hudson's house

Hudson May, 5, puts icing on his gingerbread house Tuesday at Jay County Public Library. May and his siblings decorated sweet treats during the library's free gingerbread event.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

### Deaths

Donna Smith, 95, Portland  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 36 degrees Friday. There was about a half-inch of snow before noon with precipitation turning to rain later in the day.

Expect mostly sunny skies today with a high in the upper 20s. The low tonight will be 16.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Cruis'n the HoliJay Lights at the Fairgrounds continues this weekend with the display open from 6 to 9 p.m. tonight and Sunday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Admission is free will donation.

### Coming up

Tuesday — Results from today's JCHS girls basketball game at South Adams.

Thursday — Coverage of the East Central Indiana Classic wrestling tournament.





# Redkey ...

Continued from page 1  
Dudelston suggested amending the cost of the fine to \$500, but his amendment failed on a split vote.

Hoff noted the fines may be adjusted in the next month before council approves the ordinance, noting Thursday's decision was solely on whether to consider the amendment next month. Council then agreed to introduce the ordinance.

Also Thursday, council OK'd spending the town's remaining \$6,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars on installing the new antenna for the town's water meters onto the water tower.

Council spent most of its ARPA funds over the last few years on replacing the town's meters with lead-free water meters and related equipment. In November, Beaty said the town had about \$60,000 in remaining funds left. Council agreed at that

time to purchase a \$20,000 antenna from Utility Supply Company to connect with the meters. Plans are to install the antenna about 75 feet above ground on the water tower. It should flag problems in the system, such as potential leaks at homes.

Beaty noted the town also purchased a new vehicle with ARPA funds. (Last month, she shared a quote for a 2022 Ford F-250 priced at \$39,500.)

She explained Thursday the original \$20,000 quote for the antenna did not include installation fees, which could range anywhere from \$6,000 to \$10,000. Council then agreed to spend the remaining \$6,000 on the installation.

In related business, Beaty noted the light that shines on the water tower is not working. She contacted the tower's maintenance representative, who she said informed her the tower was

struck by lightning and that it will take two to three weeks to get the necessary parts to repair the light.

Also, utility worker Ted Kolodka explained he is working with Indiana Financing Authority to look into grants for utility improvements, specifically funding to help meet a requirement imposed by Indiana Department of Environmental Management regarding two combined sewer overflows (CSOs) in town.

Beaty noted the town needs to have a plan for addressing the IDEM violation by Dec. 31. If it doesn't, IDEM could place a water ban on Redkey, meaning it wouldn't allow new hookups to the system until the issue is addressed.

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

•Approved a three-year contract with Bill Tressler Backhoe

and Trenching at a 3% increase each year.

•Suspended the rules to approve and adopt the 2025 salary ordinance, which includes 3% raises for town employees — that excludes the utility worker, who instead will jump from \$18 an hour to \$20 an hour to meet requirements for training reimbursement through Alliance of Indiana Rural Water — and council members.

•Voted, with Beaty dissenting, not to pay a \$175 claim for a locksmith opening the door to the old fire station. The decision came after a heated discussion about Phillips hiring a locksmith to gain access to the building owned by the town, with council members and others in the crowd disagreeing on whether it was legal to do so. (The building has been used in recent years as storage for Redkey Fire Department, which previously occupied the

space.) Phillips agreed for the town not to reimburse him for the cost, saying he would consider it a "Christmas present to the town."

•Decided on a split vote not to pay a \$27.48 claim for pavers Life purchased and installed at Trudy Kauffman's home on Bell Avenue. Life and Dudelston explained water stands on Kauffman's sidewalk, making it difficult for her to get out of her home. A community member in the crowd asked if council would pay for installing pavers at other folks' homes. Life and Dudelston voted in favor, with Beaty and Phillips dissenting. Clerk-treasurer Gloria May also dissented.

•Asked Hoff to look into whether Indiana law supersedes a town ordinance that says town residents may not live in campers on their properties.

•Approved \$219,230.25 in other claims.

## CR almanac

Sunday 12/22	Monday 12/23	Tuesday 12/24	Wednesday 12/25	Thursday 12/26
<b>32/24</b>	<b>42/34</b>	<b>41/33</b>	<b>45/37</b>	<b>51/41</b>
Mostly sunny. Otherwise, cold, with temperatures in the high teens during the day.	Mostly sunny on Monday when the high will be in the upper 30s. Chance of rain.	Tuesday's weather looks to be mostly cloudy with a 20% chance of rain.	Christmas Day looks to be cloudy with a 20% chance of rain in the morning.	Thursday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a 20% chance of rain.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 1-6-7 Daily Four: 4-2-1-7 Quick Draw: 11-14-16-17-20-27-35-44-46-49-51-53-55-60-64-70-72-75-77-80	Pick 3: 5-4-3 Pick 4: 5-2-3-3 Pick 5: 7-0-5-4-7
<b>Ohio</b> Midday	Estimated jackpot: \$88 million
	Estimated jackpot: \$862 million

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.51 Jan. corn .....4.50 Feb. corn .....4.53	Jan. beans .....9.80 Wheat .....4.83
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.49 Jan. corn .....4.53 Feb. corn .....4.55	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.40 Jan. corn .....4.40 Beans.....9.66 Jan. beans .....9.66 Wheat .....4.78
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.43 Jan. corn .....4.43 Beans.....9.70	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.50 Jan. corn .....4.50 Beans.....9.45 Jan. beans .....9.50 Wheat .....4.73

## Today in history

In 1898, Marie and Pierre Curie discovered radium, a radioactive metal element. Radium was used to treat cancer.

In 1891, the first game of basketball was played by 18 students in Springfield, Massachusetts.

In 1911, professional American baseball catcher Josh Gibson was born. Gibson, also known as "the Black Babe Ruth," became famous for his home runs and was elected to the Hall of Fame in '72. He is credited with slamming a 580-foot home run in 1967 at Yankee Stadium.

In 1937, the classic Walt Disney film inspired by a fairy tale, "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," first premiered in theatres.

In 1968, Apollo 8 launched from Cape Kennedy. The first human spaceflight to the moon, it completed 10 lunar orbits before returning to Earth.

In 2015, Portland City Council rejected a change to the payroll ordinance that would have granted outgoing clerk-treasurer Mickey Scott pay for her remaining personal and sick days from when she was a city employee. Some council members argued the action would set a precedent for all city workers, and four of seven members voted against the ordinance amendment.

— The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Mooney St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. <b>Jan. 2</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
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## Obituaries

### Donna Smith

Nov. 7, 1929-Dec. 18, 2024  
Donna Smith, age 95, a former resident of Portland, passed away on Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2024, at Allisonville Meadows in Fishers, Indiana.

Donna was born Nov. 7, 1929, in Erie, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Donotus and Blanche (Unger) Kirsch. Donna owned and operated H&R Block in Portland, Dunkirk and Berne for 30 years. She was a member of the National Antique Doll Dealers Association and owned Donna K. Smith Antiques in Portland.

She married Theodore Smith on May 30, 1951, and he passed away on June 16, 2005.

Survivors include:  
Her children — Valerie Ryan, Erie, Pennsylvania, and Heather Hedges (husband: Bruce), Fishers, Indiana  
Five grandchildren — Emily, Kara, Lydia, Andrea and Kathryn  
Five great-grandchildren — Kaitlyn, Jack, Nathaniel, Ellie and Julia  
She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; a daughter, Regina Marie Smith; and siblings



Smith

Virginia Schenker and Fred Kirsch. Private services will be held on Monday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Burial will follow at Salamoniam Cemetery in Salamoniam, Indiana. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.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.

## Commission ...

Continued from page 1  
(Goodrich noted that the meters were put inside before she owned the building.)

"I feel like there's responsibility on the city's part ..." said Inman.

Teeter agreed.  
"I feel like, really, the city dropped the ball on this," he said.

The city can argue all they want that they don't go inside buildings," Johnston said later, "but they put the meters inside the building."

Inman reminded the commission that it typically funds projects at a 20% contribution, which based on the average of the two estimates would be \$1,500.

The commission ultimately voted unanimously to contribute \$1,500 to the project and asked Goodrich to return to the city's board of works to seek additional assistance.

The meeting was also scheduled as the bid opening after the commission put out a request for proposals for the Hood Building. (The building is the home of The Graphic Printing Company.) No proposals were received.

Inman noted that there is now a 30-day waiting period, after which the commission can begin negotiating with a developer of their choice.

In other business, the commission:

•Received a report from Portland Main Street Connect that noted that planters and Christmas lights were placed, collaboration on a historical/cultural trail is continuing and plans are being discussed for a spring clean-up day. Johnston complimented the Christmas decorations.

•Heard the financial report, which shows the commission has a total of \$999,107.04.

•Noted that its 2025 regular meetings will be at 8 a.m. Fridays Jan. 24, April 25, July 25 and Oct. 24.

## Capsule Reports

### Fell asleep

A Portland teen fell asleep while driving on U.S. 27, causing an accident about 6:20 p.m. Thursday.

Sylas B. Wenk, 17, was driving his 2007 Pontiac G6 south on the highway when he fell asleep at the wheel. Wenk's vehicle crossed the center line and went off the east side of the road, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. His vehicle came to a stop in a tree line, the report says.

Wenk told police he hit his head. He was examined by medics at the scene before being released.

His vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

### Intersection crash

A Markle man drove in front of a Portland man, causing a collision at the intersection of Indiana 26 and county road 700 West about 5:50 p.m. Wednesday.

Jeremy D. Stacy, 47, was driving a 2012 Chevrolet Impala on county road 700 West when he began to turn onto Indiana 26. At the same time, Bruce G. Hiatt, 76, was driving a 2006 Dodge Grand Caravan west on the highway. Stacy didn't see Hiatt's vehicle and drove in front of him, causing Hiatt to crash into Stacy's car.

Hiatt was taken to IU Health Jay for a chest injury.

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

## SERVICES

Today

**Fennig, Aaron:** 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

## Funding ...

Continued from page 1  
By contrast, this latest proposal only includes temporary government funding, \$100 billion in disaster relief and \$10 billion in aid for farmers.

U.S. Rep. Buddy Carter, R-Georgia, said he believes this approach is the best way forward as lawmakers look for a way to fund the government ahead of a planned holiday recess.

"I cannot go home without disaster relief," he said. "If I leave this building without disaster relief, I'll

go somewhere, but it won't be home."

His GOP colleagues, Reps. Andrew Clyde and Rich McCormick, voted against the deal. Clyde said he wants to pass disaster aid to help Georgians affected by Hurricane Helene, but he won't sign off on new spending that is not coupled with budget cuts elsewhere.

"I cannot in good conscience vote for legislation that adds \$110 billion to the deficit," the Republican wrote on X.

**Thank You**  
For all our friends, family, and neighbors who visited the funeral home and offered their sympathy. Thank you for the cards, floral arrangements, memorial donations. Thank you to Penrod Funeral Home, Pastor Darrell Borders and Westchester Church Women for the meal. This was all deeply appreciated.  
The Lloyd Knittle Family

**DJ's Discount Delights**  
(Treasures, Trinkets, and more at Bargain Prices)  
**December "Blow out"**  
Clearing for 2025 inventory  
All items (excluding pies) **50% off**  
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Hours: Thurs, Fri & Sat 11:00-4:00

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Photo provided

## Firefighters honored

Portland Evening Optimist Club recently honored Portland firefighters for their service to the community with a carry-in supper at the Portland Fire Department. Firefighters were also presented with a thermal beverage tumbler. Pictured are members of the Portland Evening Optimist Club and firefighters with Portland mayor Jeff Westlake and fire chief Mike Weitzel.

## Santa riding into town

Santa Claus is coming to town this weekend for two Jay County municipalities.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus will visit Pennville Volunteer Fire Department, 105 N. Washington St., from 7 to 9 p.m. today.

Also, Santa Claus will be riding around Ridgeville on a fire truck starting at noon Sunday. Santa Claus will stop at Ridgeville homes where families have gathered outside.

**Taking Note**

## Fiance blowup reveals relationship's future

DEAR ABBY: I've been with my boyfriend for a year and a half. We broke up for a while, but got back together and have been doing great, and we got engaged six months ago. Last week, we had a huge fight, where all my bottled-up resentment came out. I have tried to communicate my needs, but while he changes briefly, things always revert back to the same. We're supposed to get married in nine months at his parents' place, but after the fight, thinking we were done, he told them all our issues. Now they want us to postpone the wedding, saying we're unstable. I had no issues with his parents before this. They loved me. I'm furious that he ran to them instead of

*Dear Abby*



working things out with me. I feel like he did us a massive disservice by blabbing to his parents.

I have been asking for couples counseling for months, and he always refused — until now. I'm no longer sure I want to marry him. I feel like his parents have crossed a boundary, and so has he. What should I do? — HOLDING IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR HOLDING: Be glad this has happened. Your relationship with your fiance IS "unstable." You now know that when things become difficult, he will run to his parents rather than try to work it out with you.

If this is a deal-breaker and you no longer wish to marry him, tell him it's over. **HOWEVER, if you think counseling could help the two of you communicate better, take him up on "his suggestion" and get a referral to a licensed professional who can give you premarital counseling. It's an investment that could pay off in many ways.**

.....

DEAR ABBY: I love cats and dogs. We have one of each. Both are indoor pets. My problem is my wife and daughter have filled our home with cat and dog paraphernalia of all shapes and sizes. There are seven dog and cat beds in the master bedroom, five in the spare bedroom, four in our daughter's bedroom, three in the living room and one in the kitchen (because our cat supposedly likes to watch my wife cook).

There are also cat trees scattered about, a four-story cat cage, and cat and dog toys strewn across the floors. There are packets of cat and dog treats everywhere. I just love stepping on them while barefoot at night. Am I unreasonable to suggest that

our cat and dog need not be treated like royalty? I suspect they'd be just fine with one bed each — you know, like us humans. — OVERRULED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR OVERRULED: It appears your wife and daughter have gone overboard trying to ensure that the furry family members are comfortable. A compromise is definitely in order, particularly regarding areas that YOU spend the most time in — like your bedroom, living room and kitchen. It would also be considerate if someone made sure the floors are cleared of toys and treats before bedtime so you won't be injured on your way to the bathroom.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

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

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

### Sunday

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

### Monday

**PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS** — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

**PING PONG** — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

**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.

### Thursday

**LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES** — Free and confidential consultations

with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

**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.

**DEMENTIA SUPPORT GROUP** — Meets at 5:30 p.m. at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre, 200 N. Park St., Portland.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Friday's Solution

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

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



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**DECEMBER Specials**

**1/2-page color ad** (including Christmas Greetings) **\$500**

**1/4-page color ad** (including Christmas Greetings) **\$375**

**Four 3x5 ads** **\$335** (regular price - \$780)

Ads must run in December.

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

**GRAPHIC PRINTING**  
NEWSPAPERS

**The Commercial Review**



# Arts Place committee offers thanks

To the editor:  
A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the 42nd Annual Holiday Benefit Auction at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place such an incredible success.

Held on Friday, Nov. 22, this year's auction raised a generous \$13,960, a testament to the generosity and community spirit of Jay County. Your contributions drive our mission to cultivate a vibrant arts culture, nurture local talent and share the transformative power of the arts with all.

The funds raised will directly support vital programs like MusicWorks, ArtWorks and Arts in the Parks, as well as exhibitions and performances at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place and the Hudson Family Park amphitheater. These initiatives enrich lives, strengthen our community and spark creativity, and they would not be possible without your steadfast support.

## Letters to the Editor

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated donors and enthusiastic bidders who made this event such a success. My sincere thanks also go to the staff at Arts Place: executive director Carolyn Carducci, Jay County Campus center director Shawnda Roussey and team members Amanda Chaffins, Teresa Penrod, Greg Ashley and Allison Smiley. Special recognition is due to the Holiday Benefit Auction Committee — Anni McClung, Bonnie Maitlen and Mary McCord — as well as members of the Arts Place board of directors for their tireless work behind the scenes.

We are also deeply grateful to the many businesses and individuals whose generosity added to the evening's success. A special thank you to Jay County Beverage for providing refreshments, Loy Real Estate and Auction for its invaluable services and local favorites like Mrs. P's, Kuhn's Den, Dick's Pizza, Greek's Pizzeria, Pizza Hut, Pizza King and Payless Pizza for their contributions. Our appreciation also goes to Rob Weaver at WPGW, Bailey Cline at The Commercial Review, and community groups like the JCHS German Club, Jay County Wrestling Club, Jay County Civic Theatre, Jay County Chamber of Commerce and Youth Service Bureau for their invaluable support.

To the businesses, artists and private donors who contributed unique and creative auction items, thank you for your generosity and vision. And to our bidders, whether loyal support-

ers or first-time attendees, your spirited participation brought the evening to life.

Once again, thank you for being an essential part of the 42nd Arts Place Holiday Benefit Auction. Your support continues to make a lasting impact on the arts in our community, and we are immensely grateful. Mark your calendars — we can't wait to see you at next year's auction on Friday, Nov. 21, 2025.

With warm appreciation,  
Kristen Gibson  
2024 Holiday Benefit Auction committee chair

## Support appreciated

To the editor:  
At this time of the year, we look forward to the holidays and the new year. Here at Arts Place, we are grateful for all the good will and fortune that has been bestowed upon us.

Just recently, the Portland Rotary Club funded our project

to paint a new 10-foot by 18-foot projector wall. This new screen enhances the picture quality for the background of Jay County Civic Theatre shows and for Arts Place's free movie series. Special thanks to Lee Osteen for his expertise and hard work in improving the theater experience for our patrons.

Did you know that Arts Place offers a free movie series? Our free Christmas movie series began Dec. 16. There will be a 2025 summer series, too. A shout out to our free movie sponsors: US Aggregates, Cook's Nursery, Edward Jones – Drew Houck, and Dynamic Business Solutions.

We are overwhelmed with gratitude of our continued support from the community.

Thank you, all.  
Sincerely,  
Shawnda Roussey  
Jay County Campus center director

# Drone sightings merit a more urgent response

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

It's been a month since reports began coming in about waves of mysterious drones appearing in the night skies over the East Coast.

Eyewitnesses have posted more than 5,000 videos and other accounts of such sightings. Most are centered on the New Jersey area, but unusual drone activity has popped up in Ohio, California and elsewhere.

Is this the work of Iran, China, Russia or another one of our enemies who are on an espionage mission testing our vulnerability to a high-tech aerial attack?

Are they cases of mistaken identity? Some of the more closely scrutinized sightings have turned out to be manned airplanes and helicopters that mass contagion has turned into "mystery drones."

Or are these sightings a reflection of the increased use of drones for commercial and recreational purposes?

We don't know the answer, and that's more worrisome than the drones themselves.

The Biden administration has had four weeks to figure out what's going on, but has shown little interest in doing so.

The chronically feckless Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas assures us the drones are not being launched from an Iranian mothership off the Atlantic Coast, as has been rumored. He brushes off concerns from local officials and members of Congress, suggesting what's being seen is normal activity that is getting undue attention because of public hysteria.

Former New Jersey Gov. Christ Christie calls B.S. on that explanation, saying the secretary is "just wrong."

"I lived in New Jersey my whole life," Christie says. "This is the first time that I noticed drones over my house."

Until Mayorkas and other officials can tell us what the drones are, they can't say for certain what they aren't.

**Nolan Finley**



Even if there's nothing sinister behind the increased drone activity, it has had a deleterious effect.

The giant Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, was forced to shut down for four hours over the weekend due to intense drone activity in the region. The base is a critical piece of the nation's air defense network.

An airport in Orange County, New York, also had to close briefly because of drones in its airspace.

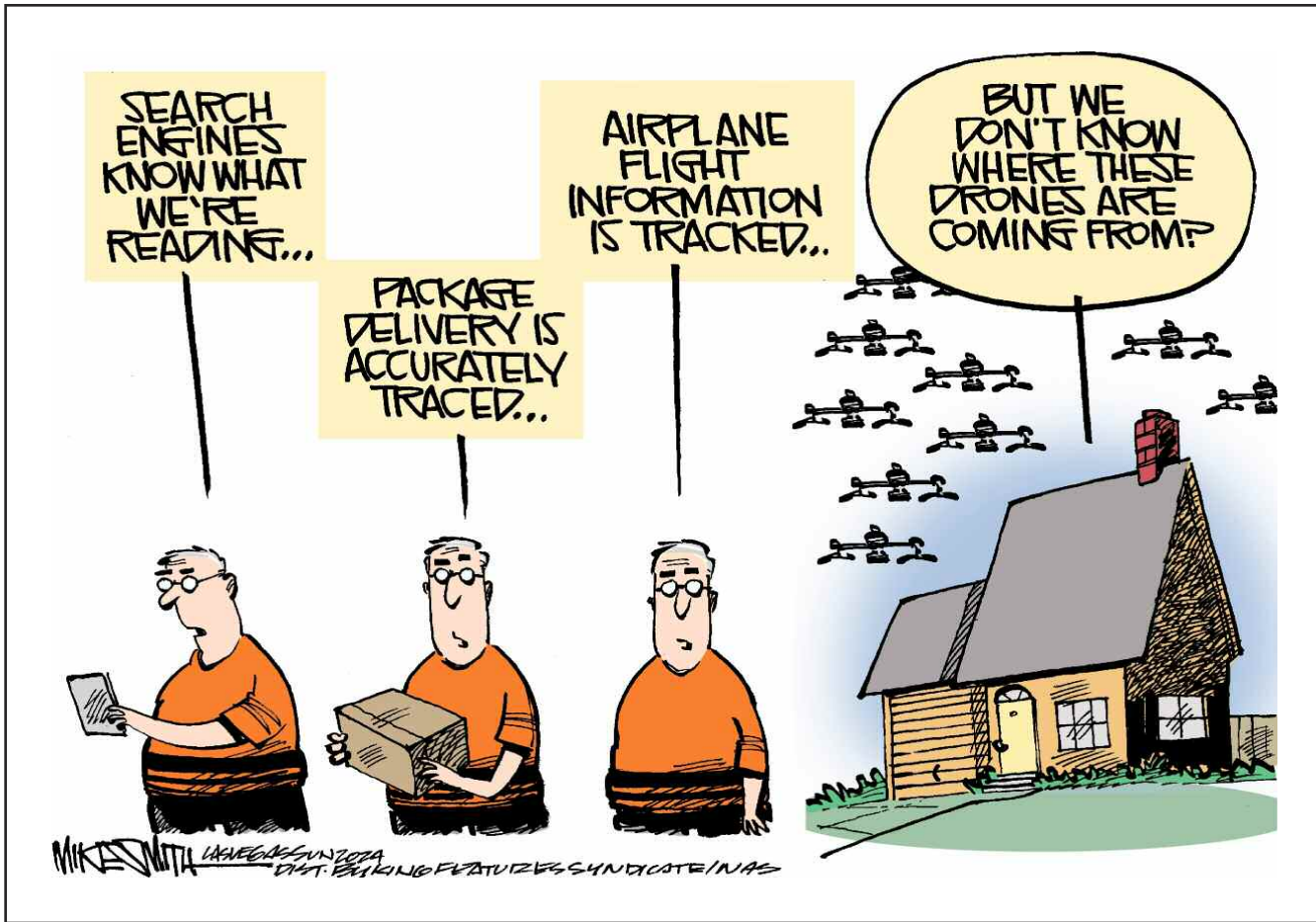
And two men were arrested for operating unauthorized drones near Boston's Logan International Airport. If nothing else, the threat such a heavy drone presence presents to commercial air traffic merits a serious response.

Federal officials say they will increase surveillance and analysis of the drone sightings in hopes of producing a definitive answer, perhaps this week. Congress has been promised a briefing by Mayorkas.

But four weeks have already gone by without determining whether the drone sightings are legitimate, and if so, if they are a national security threat.

That's the same lack of urgency the Biden administration exhibited when the Chinese weather and/or spy balloon was allowed to drift unmolested across the full length of the country before being shot down.

If nothing else, what's been exposed already is a vulnerability to unconventional attacks on the homeland. And while our enemies may not be responsible for what's currently happening above our heads, they now know that if they should decide to get frisky with drones or balloons our skies are wide open.



# Books write upon our souls

By **JOHN KRULL**  
TheStatehouseFile.com

One of life's underrated pleasures is that of reading an old, old book.

For the past few days, I've been working my way through an aged copy of Ralph Waldo Emerson's "Representative Men."

This particular volume I picked up at a used bookstore in Concord, Massachusetts. Its artfully ribbed spine caught my eye when it sat on the shelf. When I plucked it from its spot, its decorated leathery cover and pleasing heft seduced me.

It was published as part of a set of Emerson's works by a London house, George Routledge and Sons, Limited, in 1899. On the inside of the front cover, there is a bookplate—presumably from the original owner, one Elisha Rhodes Brown.

A little bit of research told me that Brown was born in Providence, Rhode Island, on March 28, 1847. He was part of the family that helped build Providence and lent its name to Brown University.

He migrated to Dover, New Hampshire, late in his adolescence. He worked for a short time as a printer, then briefly clerked in a store before becoming a teller at the Stafford National Bank.

From that perch, he climbed the ladder until he became president of the bank when he was 50, a position he held until he died on Christmas Day, 1922, when he was 75.

The most prevalent photo of him shows a severe-looking gentleman wearing wire-rim glasses and a dark suit of material that looks as heavy as a tarp. His hair is parted in the middle, and he has a mousetail-style beard with no mustache.

He looks every inch the sober 19th-century man of business.

He must have been a bookish fellow,

**John Krull**



too. Emerson's writing never has been the stuff of light diversion.

I haven't read Emerson since my graduate school days decades ago.

Back then, I didn't care much for Transcendentalism's sage. His almost promiscuous use of semi-colons made his prose seem distant and affected, so arch that it made it difficult for me to engage with his thinking.

Now, though, that I've moved to a later season of my life, I find Emerson's style less dense and more inviting. This makes it easier to appreciate his insights, the movement of his agile mind at work and at play.

His breakthrough thought, of course, was a sense that the divine was not something separate from us, but something all around us and part of us. In other words, God was transcendent, embodied in every aspect of creation.

Thus, he elevated a walk in the woods to being a spiritual act. A hike became an ambulatory form of prayer.

Emerson's inclusive theology sparked a kind of revolution in the 19th century, one that spread across the faith traditions and lingers to this day.

We now pray to a far less distant God in part because of Emerson's nature-inspired and more intimate notions of the sacred and the divine.

I've always been fascinated by the physical history of books.

As I read this particular tome, its weight comfortable in my hands, I could not help but wonder what prompted Elisha Rhodes Brown to buy his Emerson set more than 100 years ago.

Did he have a fascination with Transcendentalism?

Or did he just love books?

Did he have a library in his home with a comfortable chair where, after spending a workday calculating balances and authorizing or rejecting loans, he fed the part of his soul that banking did not? Or did he settle himself in a parlor with his book in hand?

Did he read Emerson for pleasure or out of some sense of spiritual hunger?

Did this book bring him peace or set his spirit on a quiet quest?

This is the beauty of old books.

If the spine of this volume hadn't spoken to me in a Massachusetts bookshop, I likely wouldn't have started reading Ralph Waldo Emerson again. I wouldn't have thought afresh about the idea of a transcendent divinity whose presence is within and all around us.

Nor would I have encountered Elisha Rhodes Brown or contemplated the arc of his life, a life that ended on Christmas Day 102 years ago.

Books tell us two stories.

One comes from the words on the pages.

The other can be found in the lines they write upon minds, hearts and souls as they work their way through time.

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

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

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12-21 CRYPTOQUIP

FPM HGEETMG KZEIGW ZU T  
QJGGEG EJZK'E SPUWZS LZX  
IJG HZUIJ ZL WGQGHFGX:

"EGTEZU'E MXTIPUME!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD ONE CALL CHICKEN NUGGETS SERVED AT A COMPETITIVE SPRINTING EVENT? TRACK MEAT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals G

**CRYPTO FUN**

Solve the code to discover words related to cold and flu. Each number corresponds to cooking. (Hint: 6 = E)

**A. 5 25 8 10 10 20 6 5**  
Clue: Runny nose

**B. 10 6 7 6 17**  
Clue: Elevated temperature

**C. 24 9 11 6 5**  
Clue: Body soreness

**D. 14 24 20 24 8 5 6**  
Clue: Unwell

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to cold and flu.

VSEIRSU

Answers: A. sniffles B. fever C. coughs D. mucus

**GUESS WHO?**

I am a comedic actor born in Canada on December 17, 1946. In high school I used humorous campaign posters to win the student council race. I've worked alongside fellow Canadians and am known for my thick eyebrows and glasses. My most iconic role was as an awkward dad in a movie about teenagers and virginity.

Answer: Eugene Levy

**kids' corner**

**SPORTS FACT:**

This popular winter sport is played on ice and involves hitting a puck into a net.

Answer: ice hockey

12-23 CRYPTOQUIP

XYIO IST EIAT MJAB OYIO  
BICOI'B UJOOUT YTUMTSB BCIM  
XJOY OYTJS GXC ATUUMYGCTB?

TUEJTB.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: BIG MESSAGE POSTED ON A CHEESE SHOP'S WINDOW FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER: "SEASON'S GRATINGS!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals L

**Crossword Puzzle**

**ACROSS**  
1. Unexpected, beautiful things  
5. Fluid from eye  
6. -fi, book type  
7. Move on hands and knees  
8. Winter yard friend

**DOWN**  
1. Cold season  
2. Animal that provides milk  
3. Orderly columns  
4. A bit cold

**THIS DAY IN HISTORY**  
DECEMBER 19

1785: 24-year-old William Pitt the Younger becomes the youngest Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

1972: The last crewed lunar flight, Apollo 17, returns to Earth.

1998: Bill Clinton is impeached by the United States House of Representatives.

**NEW WORD**  
**MERCURY**

a metal used in thermometers and barometers

UNDER THE WEATHER WORD SEARCH

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

**WORDS**

ARTHRITIS  
BACTERIA  
COMMON COLD  
COVID  
DISEASE  
E-COLI  
FUNGAL  
HEPATITIS  
HOOKWORMS  
ILLNESS  
INFECTIOUS  
INFLUENZA  
MIGRAINE  
PAIN  
PARASITE  
PERTUSSIS  
SALMONELLA  
STOMACH BUG  
STREP THROAT  
THRUSH  
TOXOPLASMOSIS  
TRANSMISSIBLE  
TUBERCULOSIS  
VIRUS

**WORDS**

ARTHITIS  
BACTERIA  
COMMON COLD  
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PARASITE  
PERTUSSIS  
SALMONELLA  
STOMACH BUG  
STREP THROAT  
THRUSH  
TOXOPLASMOSIS  
TRANSMISSIBLE  
TUBERCULOSIS  
VIRUS

**How they say that in...**

English: Shovel  
Spanish: Pala  
Italian: Pala  
French: Pelle  
German: Schaufel

**Did You Know?**

When it snows, hills around many neighborhoods can become ideal spots for sledding. It is important to wear a helmet.

**Get the PICTURE?**

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Sledding child

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Cheech's partner  
6 Living things  
12 Asian sultanate  
13 Tinsel-town trophies  
14 Aspirin's promise  
15 Actor Kutcher  
16 Move, in Realtor lingo  
17 Head, to Henri  
19 "— show-time!"  
20 Bird beaks  
22 "Hamilton" actress  
24 — jiffy  
27 Partner  
29 Winter blanket  
32 Heart of a small town  
35 Thick chunk

**DOWN**  
1 Manitoba tribe  
2 Ship's frame  
3 Leek's kin  
4 Formerly known as  
5 Present holders  
6 Gravy vessel  
7 Road twists  
8 German pronoun  
9 The "N" of NPR  
10 Cavern, poetically  
11 Taxpayer IDs  
12 "It's c-c-cold!"  
18 Reverses  
21 "— fan!"  
23 Buck-eyes' sch.  
24 Hosp. hookups  
25 Zero  
26 Type of menu  
28 Day-dreamer  
30 Acapulco gold  
31 Drench  
33 Wall St. deal  
34 Gal. fractions  
39 Mixes up  
41 Astro-naut's milieu  
42 Tiny bit  
43 Ball-points  
45 Nota —  
47 Utah city  
48 News story intro  
49 Montreal summer  
51 However  
53 "I'm not impressed"

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

Yesterdays answer 12-21

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

**Crime doesn't pay**

East dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ A K  
♥ Q 4 3  
♦ K Q J 9 7 6  
♠ 9 2

**WEST**  
♠ J 7 2  
♥ J 10 9 5  
♦ 8 4  
♣ A 10 8 6

**EAST**  
♦ Q 6 5 4  
♥ 6  
♦ 10 5 3  
♣ Q J 7 5 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ 10 9 8 3  
♥ A K 8 7 2  
♦ A 2  
♣ K 3

The bidding:  
East South West North  
Pass 1♥ Pass 3♦  
Pass 3♥ Pass 3♠  
Pass 4♦ Pass 4♥  
Pass 4NT Pass 5♦  
Pass 6♥ Dble Pass  
Pass 6NT Dble

Opening lead — jack of hearts.

It doesn't pay to be greedy in bridge, and today's hand is a prime example. After South arrived at six hearts, West decided to double. West would, of course, have defeated the slam had he simply passed and led the ace of clubs.

Realizing that West's double of six hearts probably was based in part on the expectancy of scoring one or two trump tricks, South ran

to six notrump, which West doubled again. The double would still have been successful had West led a spade or a diamond. But instead, he led the jack of hearts, and after that the slam could not be defeated.

South took the heart jack with the ace and returned the eight of hearts, forcing West to cover with the nine. Declarer won with dummy's queen and then cashed six diamonds and the ace of spades, producing this position:

North  
♦ K  
♥ 4  
♦ 9 2

West  
♥ 10 5  
♣ A 10

East  
♦ Q 6  
♣ Q J

South  
♥ K 7  
♣ K 3

When declarer next cashed the king of spades and discarded the club three, West was in bad shape. He had to keep both of his hearts, whereupon South conceded a club to West's ace. West then had to return a heart from his 10-5 to declarer's K-7, and the slam was home.

And so, instead of collecting a quiet 100 points by passing six hearts, West wound up with a resounding minus of 1,680. Crime doesn't pay.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**  
1 Computer brand  
5 Light touch  
8 Jr. year exam  
12 Smoke an e-cig  
13 Chef Garten  
14 Cape —, Portugal  
15 Warning sign  
16 Holiday mantel-piece decor  
18 Tot  
20 Assault  
21 Villain's blemish  
23 Pensioned (Abbr.)  
24 Amassed  
28 Iranian money  
31 Compass dir.  
32 Anglo-  
34 Pen tip  
35 Classic Fords  
37 Comedian/actress  
39 Entreat

**DOWN**  
1 Acknowledge  
2 Showed up  
3 Slender weapon  
4 Fame  
5 Louis Arm-strong  
6 Santa — winds  
7 Brazilian rubber  
8 Babbling type  
9 Short recital  
10 Outlet letters  
11 Chore  
17 USPS delivery  
19 High-land refusals

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

CHONG BEINGS  
BRUNEI OSCARS  
RELIEF ASHTON  
RELO TETE ITS  
NIBS SOO  
INA MATE SNOW  
VILLAGES SQUARE  
SLAB SECT LOT  
COS MASS  
WPA TBS P POLE  
HERBIE IMARET  
INTURN SECEDE  
TSETSE THEME

Yesterdays answer 12-23

12-21 CRYPTOQUIP

FPM HGEETMG KZEIGW ZU T  
QJGGEG EJZK'E SPUWZS LZX  
IJG HZUIJ ZL WGQGHFGX:

"EGTEZU'E MXTIPUME!"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD ONE CALL CHICKEN NUGGETS SERVED AT A COMPETITIVE SPRINTING EVENT? TRACK MEAT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals G

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

**Famous Hand**

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♦ A Q 8 5 3  
♥ K 8  
♦ 9 5 2  
♣ A K Q

**WEST**  
♦ 7 6  
♥ J 6 5  
♦ A K Q J 8 6  
♠ 7 6

**EAST**  
♦ K J 10 2  
♥ 2  
♦ —  
♠ J 10 9 8 5 4 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ 9 4  
♥ A Q 10 9 7 4 3  
♦ 10 7 4 3  
♣ —

The bidding:  
West North East South  
3♦ Dble Pass 4♥  
Opening lead — king of diamonds.

This deal occurred in the 1972 World Bridge Olympiad. It was played at 18 tables, and at most of them South got to four hearts and went down one. This came about when West led the king of diamonds and continued with the A-Q-J.

It is hard to fault those declarers who ruffed the fourth diamond with dummy's king and later lost a trump trick to West's jack. From their viewpoint, after West had shown up with six diamonds and East with none, it seemed far more

likely that East would have the jack of hearts than West. East had 13 cards that might include the jack, while West had only seven.

Some declarers, after ruffing high in dummy, next finessed the ten of hearts; others cashed the A-Q, hoping the jack would fall. Either way, their hopes were dashed, and they went down one.

The most remarkable outcome occurred when Italian stars Giorgio Belladonna and Walter Avarelli held the North-South cards. Their bidding went:

West North East South  
3♦ Dble Pass Pass(!)  
Pass

Even though Belladonna's double of three diamonds was intended as a takeout, Avarelli elected to pass. This extraordinary action proved highly remunerative. Belladonna cashed the A-K of clubs, on which Avarelli discarded the 9-4 of spades in that order.

Belladonna thereupon led the ace and another spade, ruffed by South. Avarelli played the ace and another heart to North's king, and Belladonna exited with the queen of clubs. Declarer thus scored only his six trump tricks, losing a further heart trick at the end, and the Italian pair wound up with 800 points on their side of the ledger instead of minus 100!

Tomorrow: The end justifies the means.

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12-23 CRYPTOQUIP

XYIO IST EIAT MJAB OYIO  
BICOI'B UJOOUT YTUMTSB BCIM  
XJOY OYTJS GXC ATUUMYGCTB?

TUEJTB.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: BIG MESSAGE POSTED ON A CHEESE SHOP'S WINDOW FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER: "SEASON'S GRATINGS!"

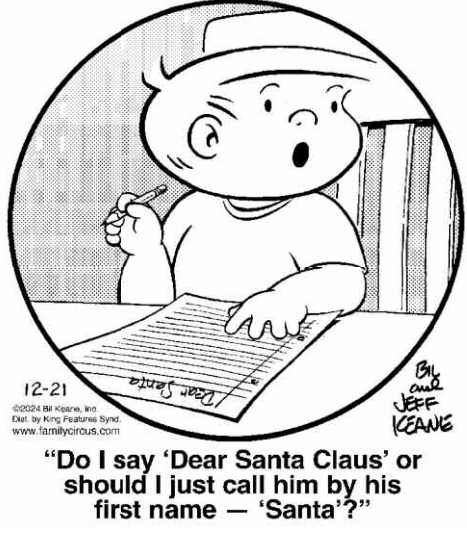
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals L



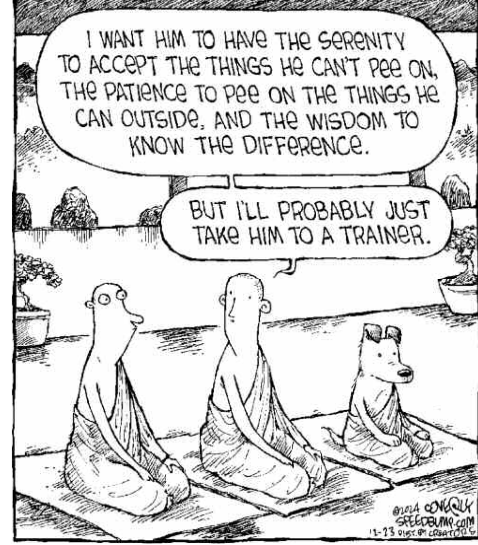
### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



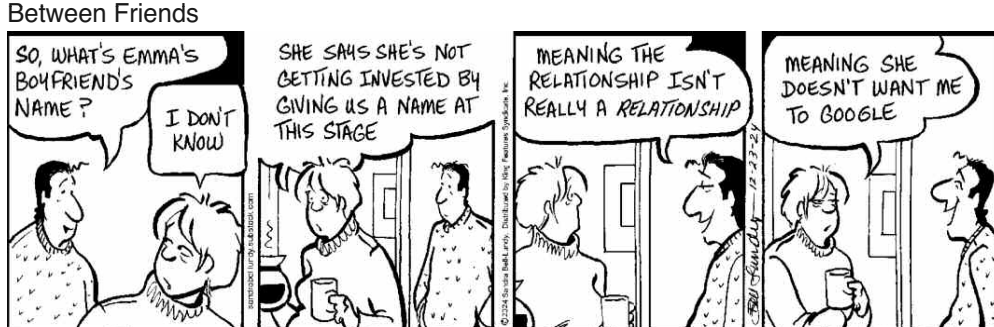
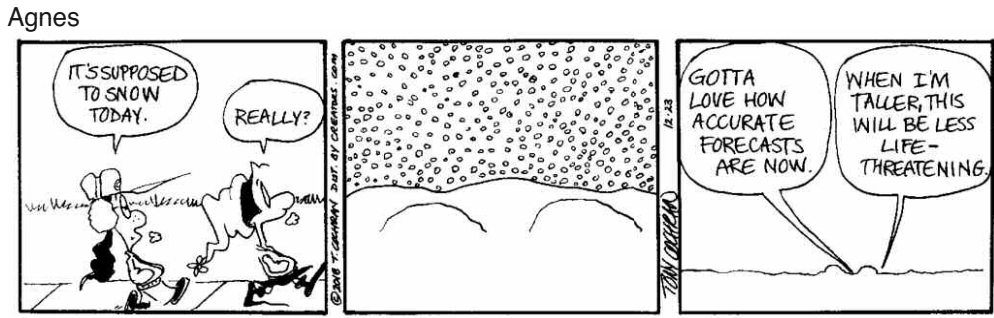
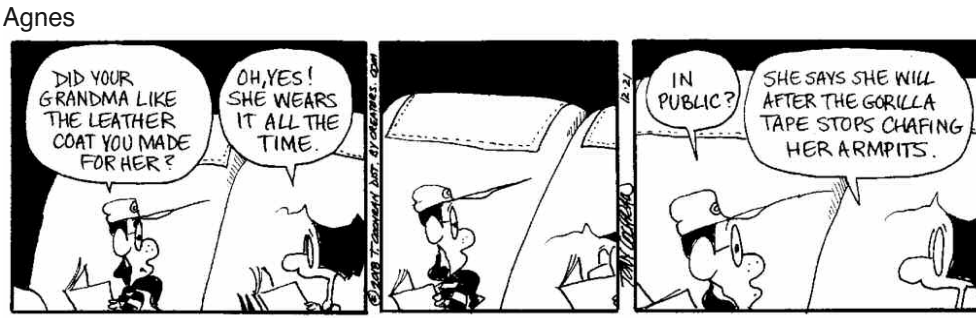
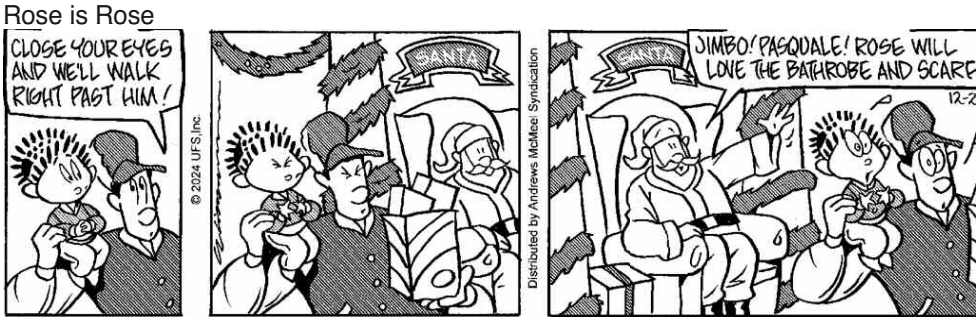
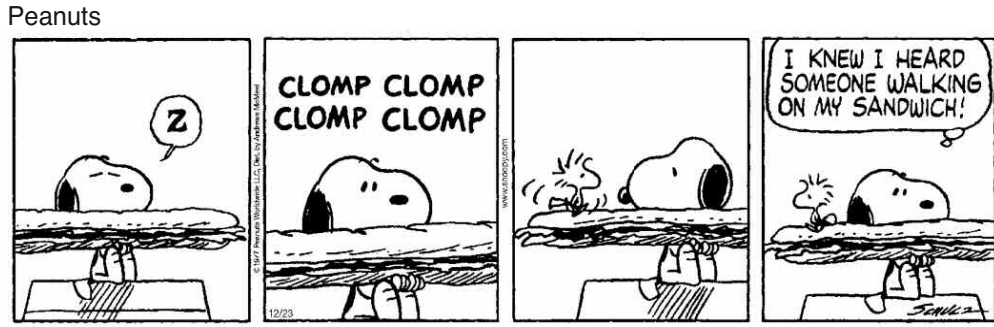
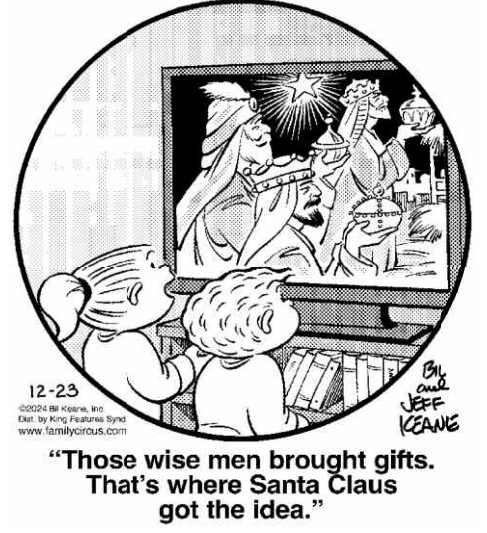
### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



**We Deliver**

Laughter

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

The Commercial Review We Deliver



**00 CLASSIFIEDS**

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1 insertion.....62¢/  
word  
2 insertions.....81¢/ word  
3 insertions.....96¢/ word  
6 insertions.... \$1.14/  
word  
12 insertions. \$1.52/  
word  
26 insertions. \$1.77/  
word  
Includes  
Online.....FREE  
Classified Display \$6.95/  
per column inch  
No borders or logos  
allowed on Classified  
Page  
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100 words.... \$13.00  
In Memory Up to 100  
words.... \$13.00  
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sporting equipment,  
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**40 NOTICES**

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copy. We try hard not to  
make mistakes, but they  
do happen, and we may  
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windows, doors, siding,  
roofing, foundations. 260-  
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sage.

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**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
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Farms, 8341 N 400 E,  
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JAY COUNTY, INDIANA  
Notice is hereby given that Patricia A. Starr was, on the 12th day of December, 2024 appointed personal representative of the estate of Duane Lee Starr deceased, who died on the 18th day of November, 2024, leaving a will. The estate will be administered without court supervision.  
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.  
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 12th day of December, 2024.  
JON EADS  
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Jay County, Indiana  
COCKERILL & COCKERILL  
235 South Meridian Street  
P. O. Box 247  
Winchester, IN 47394  
(765) 584-3241  
Attorneys for Estate  
CR 12-21-28-2024 HSPAXLP

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# Overtime swing

## Schwieterman leads comeback to beat New Castle in OT

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review

NEW CASTLE — The Trojans had four chances to end the game in regulation. Four times the ball clanked off the rim, keeping the Patriots hopes alive.

The Patriots executed their tipoff play to near perfection to get on the board first in the overtime period.

From there, Hallie Schwieterman put the game away.

Jay County High School's girls basketball team came back to beat the New Castle Trojans 64-54 in overtime thanks to 30 points from Schwieterman and an intensified effort on the defensive end over the final 12 minutes.

"I'm just so pleased," said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire, whose team picked up its third straight victory to get back above 0.500 for the first time since Nov. 23. "To come in here tonight, in this gym, which or a bunch of freshmen can be intimidating, didn't play our best in the first half and yet we were still close enough to win the ball game and just gutted it out.

"Just so proud of Hallie. I just felt like she kept a calm demeanor throughout the whole game and I could just hear her talking to the girls and that became contagious. I felt like the girls were going with her lead and she just stepped up and showed that leadership tonight."

The Patriots (6-5) entered the fourth quarter down nine points, but clawed their way back to tie the game at 52 on a Schwieterman free throw with 2 minutes, 24 seconds remaining in regulation.

Neither team could buy a basket over the final two minutes. On Jay County's final possession of regulation, Alexis Sibray drove baseline from the left corner before finding Elizabeth Brunswick in the high post. Brunswick's shot came up short, Mallo-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Natalie May puts up a layup in the Patriots' 64-54 overtime win at New Castle on Thursday. The Patriots have now won two games in OT this season and have gotten back above 0.500.

ry Owens pulled down the rebound for the Trojans (1-10) and got fouled by Sibray who was trying to get a tie up with 0.6 seconds left.

Owen's first free throw hit the left side of the rim and bounced off to the right, giving Jay County some lift as McIntire called a timeout to ice the second free throw. The second bonus shot came off the front of the rim right back to Owens, who immediately started to put it back up and got fouled by Raylah Newton to give NCHS two

more free throws with 0.3 seconds.

The third and fourth free throw had the same results, and while Owens came back down with another offensive rebound, time ran out before she could get the shot off.

Jay County couldn't have had a better start to overtime.

Amelia Heath tipped the ball to Newton on the left half of the front court, and the junior found Brunswick cutting to the front of the rim to give the Patriots their second lead

of the game at 54-52. (The only other lead came with 2:28 remaining in the third quarter at 38-36 before New Castle went on a 13-2 run to finish the period.)

"Honestly, we set it up where she was supposed to tip to (Brunswick), but they had her guarded," McIntire said. "Smart decision on (Heath's) part to tip to Raylah. Raylah took good care of the basketball and made a good decision and (Brunswick) finished. Just good team basketball."

From there Schwieterman took over:

Box score			
<b>New Castle Trojans vs. Jay County Patriots</b>			
<b>Girls varsity summary</b>			
<b>Jay County (6-5)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Sibray	2-5	2-2	8
Newton	0-0	0-0	0
Schwtrmn	7-18	14-18	30
Petro	1-2	0-0	3
Brunswick	6-12	4-7	16
May	0-3	0-0	0
Heath	3-6	0-0	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19-46</b>	<b>20-27</b>	<b>64</b>
	<b>.413</b>	<b>.741</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .500</b>			
<b>New Castle (4-9)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Lanzer	3-15	6-10	13
Orr	4-12	2-2	14
Cunningham	0-1	0-2	0
Platts	0-0	0-0	0
Arthur	5-22	1-2	14
Owens	2-5	2-6	6
Minyard	3-7	1-2	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17-62</b>	<b>12-24</b>	<b>54</b>
	<b>.274</b>	<b>.500</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .655</b>			
<b>Score by quarters:</b>			
<b>JCHS</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>NCHS</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>17</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>— 54</b>
<b>3-point shooting:</b> Jay County 6-16 (Sibray 2-3, Schwieterman 2-7, Heath 1-1, Petro 1-2, Brunswick 0-1, May 0-2). New Castle 8-31 (Orr 4-12, Arthur 3-13, Lanzer 1-5, Cunningham 0-1).			
<b>Rebounds:</b> Jay County 35 (Schwieterman 8, Heath 6, Team 6, Brunswick 5, Sibray 4, Petro 4, Newton 2). New Castle 44 (Minyard 13, Lanzer 12, Owens 9, Team 6, Orr 2, Cunningham, Arthur).			
<b>Assists:</b> Jay County 11 (Schwieterman 5, Brunswick 3, Sibray, Newton, Petro). New Castle 12 (Lanzer 4, Arthur 4, Orr 2, Cunningham).			
<b>Blocks:</b> Jay County 4 (Heath 2, Sibray, Brunswick). New Castle 2 (Owens, Minyard).			
<b>Personal fouls:</b> Jay County 21 (Sibray 5, Petro 5, Newton 3, Brunswick 3, May 3, Schwieterman 2). New Castle 19 (Lanzer 5, Minyard 5, Cunningham 3, Arthur 3, Orr 2, Owens).			
<b>Turnovers:</b> Jay County 19. New Castle 17.			

The JCHS sophomore already had 22 points entering the overtime after playing a key role in leading the comeback. Following Brunswick's bucket, Schwieterman finished a defensive stop by pulling in a rebound, something the Patriots struggled with throughout the game, and came back down to the other end of the floor to get to the free throw line. She did the same thing on the following possession, hitting three of the four free throws to go up 57-52.

JCHS got four more points on a pair of Brunswick free throws and a transition layup after Schwieterman plucked the ball away. The Trojans finally got on the board in the overtime period with 1:15 remaining on a baseline floater from Carlee Lanzer. But Schwieterman hit three of four more bonus free throws to put the game away.

"I've always been very competitive and I don't know if that come from having two older sisters," Schwieterman said. "I don't know but my dad has always taught us to be com-

petitive and if you're going to do something, do it all the way. If you can win, go for it and win."

Schwieterman acted as an emotional leader, particularly on the defensive end of the floor. Jay County gave up 13 or more points in the first three periods and gave up three or less in the final two. She finished with game highs in points (30) and assists (five) and had a team-high eight rebounds.

This wasn't the first time the Patriots were in this position, as their game against Adams Central went into overtime as well. Jay County managed to beat the Jets by three in that victory and it pulled from that experience when going into the extra period with New Castle.

"I think the kids drew from their experience with Adams Central," McIntire said. "When we went to overtime, they came into the huddle and they were confident. ... We just dug our heels in, got determined and just pleased with their effort and a lot of people stepping up and doing what they needed to do."

## Finish ...

Continued from page 10

Evers pulled in the rebound and hit his foul shots to finish off an 8-0, game-ending run for Fort Recovery.

"It was a great team effort," said FRHS coach Bob Leverette, whose team opened with consecutive road losses to Jay County, Fort Loramie and Bradford. "I'm just super proud of our guys. They've been grinding. So, yeah, just super happy."

Brody Barga was big in the paint for the Indians, especially early, as he grabbed eight of his game-high 15 rebounds in the opening quarter. He also scored a team-best 14 points on 6-of-9 shooting.

He led an efficient effort overall for Fort Recovery's offense, which shot 52.5% from the field. Grant Fortkamp, who did all of his scoring in the first half, and Jutte followed Barga with 10 points apiece.

"There were a lot of easy baskets Fort Recovery got," said PHS coach Doug Hughes. "It didn't matter if they were out of bounds, it didn't matter if we lost our man. It was not a good defensive effort at all by Parkway."

The Panthers closed the gap quickly after falling behind 10-

2 in the first three minutes and the game went back-and-forth the rest of the way. Fort Recovery was up by one at the half, then trailed by two heading into the final quarter.

Trevor Stearns scored most of his game-high 17 points for Parkway in the paint while adding six rebounds and three assists.

Samples and Jacob Bruns added 11 points each.

### Junior varsity

Fort Recovery held on for a 43-40 victory as a couple of 3-point tries by the Panthers missed in the final five seconds.

The game went back and forth, with the Indians trailing by two after the first quarter but taking a two-point lead into halftime. They fell behind by two with a period of play before reclaiming the advantage and then barely avoiding overtime.

Hudson Overman was the lone Indian to finish in double figures, scoring six of his team-best 11 points in the final period.

Doug Bihn was next with eight points, while Braylon Dilworth scored seven and Brady Evers finished with six.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Fort Recovery High School sophomore Grant Fortkamp gets fouled by Ethan Pond of the Parkway Panthers during the first quarter Friday night. Fortkamp scored all of his 10 points in the first half as the Indians went on to pick up their first win of the season, 53-48.

## Third ...

Continued from page 10

Jay County will have more than a week to try and turn things around before it travels to face Class 2A No. 1 Wapahani on Dec. 28.

"It's more up to them than it is anything else, whether they want to (turn it around)," Bomholt said. "A week ago we were there, but the scary part of it is, we never sustained any six-eight days in a row. Until you get that, we can't take the next step."

### Junior varsity

Jay County couldn't stave off the Eagles as Delta surged in the fourth quarter to beat the Patriots 53-45.

The Patriots (5-1) got saddled with foul trouble in the fourth quarter, resulting in three players fouling out and only having four available to finish off the final 1 minute, 36 seconds. The foul trouble also led to eight made free throws, fueling a 19-point final period for Delta.

Kade Sommers led JCHS with 17 points, followed by Brock Wasson with 13.

Chase Philips ended as the game's leading scorer with 21 points.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

#### Today

Jay County — Girls wrestling at Findlay — 11 a.m.; Girls basketball (varsity only) at South Adams — 7 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Parkway at New Bremen — 9:15 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. Parkway at New Bremen — 1:15 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Ansonia — 4:30 p.m.

#### Monday

Jay County — Boys wrestling ECIC tournament — 9 a.m.; Swim vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. St. John's (varsity only) — 6 p.m.

### TV sports

#### Today

7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer:

Manchester City at Aston Villa (USA)  
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Nottingham Forest at Brentford (USA)  
12 p.m. — College Football Playoff: SMU at Penn State (TBS)  
12 p.m. — College football: South Dakota State at North Dakota State (ABC)  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Chattanooga at Indiana (BTN); Marquette at Xavier (FOX); Princeton at Rutgers (FS1); Syracuse at Maryland (ESPN)  
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Duke at South Florida (ESPN2)  
12:30 p.m. — College basketball: Mississippi State at Memphis (CBS)  
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Arsenal at Crystal Palace (USA)  
1 p.m. — NFL: Houston Texans at Kansas City Chiefs (NBC)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Florida Atlantic at Michigan State (FS1); Fair-

leigh Dickinson at Minnesota (BTN); Wake Forest at Clemson (ESPN)  
3 p.m. — College basketball: UCLA at North Carolina (CBS)  
3:30 p.m. — College football: South Dakota at Montana State (ABC)  
4 p.m. — College Football Playoff: Clemson at Texas (TBS)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Villanova at Creighton (FS1); DePaul at Northwestern (BTN)  
4 p.m. — PGA Tour Champions: PNC Championship Pro-Am (NBC)  
4:30 p.m. — NFL: Pittsburgh Steelers at Baltimore Ravens (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — College basketball: Purdue at Auburn (ESPN)  
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa State at Oklahoma State (ESPN2)  
5:30 p.m. — College basketball: Ohio State at Kentucky (CBS)

6 p.m. — College basketball: Utah at Iowa (BTN)  
8 p.m. — College Football Playoff: Tennessee at Ohio State (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: Oregon at Stanford (BTN)  
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: USC at UConn (FOX)  
8:30 p.m. — NAHL hockey: New Mexico Ice Wolves at Lone Star Brahmas (CBS)  
**Sunday**  
9 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Chelsea at Everton (USA)  
11:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Liverpool at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)  
1 p.m. — NFL: Tennessee Titans at Indianapolis Colts (CBS); Detroit Lions at Chicago Bears (FOX)  
1 p.m. — College basketball: Illinois

at Missouri (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Detroit Mercy at Wisconsin (BTN)  
3 p.m. — College volleyball National Championship: Louisville vs. Penn State (ABC)  
3 p.m. — College basketball: Brown at Kansas (ESPN); Oregon State at Charleston (ESPN2)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Southern at USC (BTN)  
4:25 p.m. — NFL: San Francisco 49ers at Miami Dolphins (CBS)  
5 p.m. — College basketball: Loyola Chicago at Oakland (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Sacramento Kings (FDSN Indiana)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Georgetown at Seton Hall (FS1)  
8:20 p.m. — NFL: Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Dallas Cowboys (NBC)  
9 p.m. — College basketball: Nebras-

ka at Murray State (ESPN)  
11:30 p.m. — College basketball: Charlotte at Hawaii (ESPN2)  
**Monday**  
11 p.m. — College football Myrtle Beach Bowl: Coastal Carolina vs. UTSA (ESPN)  
2:30 p.m. — College football Famous Idaho Potato Bowl: Northern Illinois vs. Fresno State (ESPN)  
8:15 p.m. — NFL: New Orleans Saints at Green Bay Packers (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Golden State Warriors (FDSN Indiana)  
10 p.m. — College basketball: Seattle at Washington (BTN)  
**Tuesday**  
8 p.m. — College football Hawaii Bowl: South Florida at San Jose State (ESPN)





**We hope your holiday season  
is filled with warmth  
and great joy!**

As we wrap up 2024, we are especially appreciative of the trust and support of the communities we serve. Our commitment to quality reporting and service to our neighbors remains as strong as ever, and we wish everyone peace and good health in 2025 and beyond.

## **The Commercial Review**

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# Sports

## Threes in the third

*Patriots give up flurry of triples as they fall 60-44 to host Delta*

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — The Patriots held a lead at the quarter break.

By halftime, they found themselves down two.

Eight minutes of gameplay later, they stared up at a 17-point deficit.

The Jay County High School boys basketball team gave up 24 points in the third quarter thanks to some strong shooting from the Delta Eagles behind the 3-point arc in Friday's 60-44 loss.

Prior to Friday, the Patriots (3-3) had just pulled above 0.500 by stringing together wins against Fort Recovery and New Castle. Despite winning the last two games, JCHS coach Jerry Bomholt wasn't particularly impressed with the way his team practiced in the days leading to the game at Delta (5-1).

"I mean it's just like you turn a switch on, then off," he said. "It's a little bit about how we practiced. ... We had a horrible practice last night, just God-awful. We at least had six to seven practices where we felt pretty good about what we were trying to do. We beat Fort Recovery and New Castle but then we went right back and went sour."

Jay County held a 10-9 lead after the first quarter thanks to getting three shots inside the paint and a Tucker Griffin three that came off of a paint touch and a hammer pass from Jayden Comer. The Patriots only trailed 24-22 entering the intermission because of Comer scoring eight points on a pair of threes and a fadeaway jump shot. (The Jay County sophomore finished as the team's leading scorer with 12 points, followed by Tucker Griffin with 10.)

The third quarter turned the tide of the game, as the Eagles dominated the period 24-9. Delta



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School's Eli Dirksen puts pressure on Delta's Ryan Lynch during Friday's 60-44 loss. Dirksen scored six points to start the fourth quarter, but JCHS couldn't overcome the deficit.

shot 9-for-13 (69.2%) overall and 6-for-9 from distance (66.7%). Bronson Edwards — the DHS second-leading scorer with 18 — tallied 10 of those points with a pair of layups and a pair of triples.

On the other end of the floor, the Patriots shot 3-for-9 (33.3%) while turning the ball over six times.

The kill shot came in the final four minutes of the period. Jay County had just cut the deficit to six points after Griffin knocked down two foul shots. The Eagles responded with an 11-0 run to finish the period. DHS poured in three consecutive 3-pointers from Jordan Furney — he was the

game's leading scorer with 22 points — Edwards and Lucas Bragg, with the first two shots being assisted by Cooper Bratton and the final one by Furney. The final two points came on an Edwards post up that claimed a 48-31 lead for the Eagles.

Eight of the nine third-quarter field goals were the result of assists. Delta finished with 15 assists, with Bratton and Furney each dishing out five.

"The ball movement was really good, but some of it is as simple as just make shots," said DHS coach Mark Detweiler. "We made shots which led to getting our defense set and then it was better.

Defense is a little bit different when the ball is coming off the rim and it's in transition. When the ball goes through the net, it's amazing the impact it can have for you to get things locked in defensively."

Eli Dirksen gave the Patriots a little bit of life to start the final period by making three of the first four shots, but they couldn't get the game within single digits.

Along with the struggles defending the 3-point arc — they gave up 10 3-pointers in total — the Patriots struggled to take care of the ball, coughing the rock up 20 times.

See Third page 8

### Box score

Delta Eagles vs. Jay County Patriots				
Boys varsity summary				
Jay County (3-3)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Comer	5-11	0-0	12	
Schemenaur	0-1	0-0	0	
Fugiett	0-0	0-0	0	
Barnett	0-2	0-0	0	
Petro	0-1	0-0	0	
Dirksen	3-4	0-0	6	
Forthofer	4-4	0-0	8	
Phillips	3-4	0-0	6	
Griffin	3-8	2-2	10	
Swoveland	0-4	2-4	2	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18-39</b>	<b>4-6</b>	<b>44</b>	
	<b>.462</b>	<b>.667</b>		
Def. rebound percentage: .773				
Delta (5-1)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Bratton	2-4	0-0	5	
Bragg	3-10	0-0	9	
Edwards	7-10	2-2	18	
Furney	8-14	2-2	22	
Ramsey	0-0	0-0	0	
Lynch	0-3	0-0	0	
Peters	0-3	0-0	0	
Morey	0-0	0-0	0	
Ritchie	1-1	0-0	2	
Utsler	1-1	0-0	2	
Brwn-Pgsly	1-1	0-0	2	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23-47</b>	<b>4-4</b>	<b>60</b>	
	<b>.489</b>	<b>1.000</b>		
Def. rebound percentage: .556				
Score by quarters:				
Jay Co.	10	12	9	13 — 44
Delta	9	15	24	12 — 60
3-point shooting:				
Jay County	4-19	(Griffin 2-6, Comer 2-8, Schemenaur 0-1, Dirksen 0-1, Barnett 0-2), Delta 10-29 (Furney 4-8, Bragg 3-9, Edwards 2-4, Bratton 1-3, Peters 0-2, Lynch 0-3).		
Rebounds:				
Jay County	25	(Team 5, Comer 4, Swoveland 4, Dirksen 3, Forthofer 3, Griffin 3, Phillips 2, Petro 1), Delta 15 (Edwards 7, Team 4, Bratton, Bragg, Furney, Brown-Pugsley).		
Assists:				
Jay County	9	(Comer 3, Griffin 3, Swoveland 2, Fugiett), Delta 15 (Bratton 5, Furney 5, Edwards 2, Bragg, Lynch, Peters).		
Blocks:				
Jay County	3	(Swoveland 3), Delta 0.		
Personal fouls:				
Jay County	13	(Barnett 3, Forthofer 3, Comer 2, Petro 2, Schemenaur, Dirksen, Swoveland), Delta 13 (Edwards 4, Bratton 2, Bragg 2, Brown-Pugsley 2, Furney, Peters, Ritchie).		
Turnovers:				
Jay County	20	Delta 10.		

## FTs finish 1st W

*Evers redeems himself to seal victory*

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review  
FORT RECOVERY — The Indians weren't having much success cashing in on free-throw opportunities.

They had missed three opportunities to convert three-point plays. With a chance to seal the game, Gavin Evers was off the mark on two foul shots.

When the opportunity for redemption came, he was ready.

Evers snagged the rebound off of a Xavier Samples missed 3-point attempt that would have tied the game and then returned to the line to cash in two free throws and seal the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team's first win of the season — 53-48 over the Parkway Panthers.

"It felt good," said Evers, who added that he had two words — "don't miss" — running through his mind

as he stepped to the line in the closing moments. "You've just got to trust in yourself."

Parkway (2-5, 0-2 Midwest Athletic Conference) held a slim lead for about a nine-minute stretch of the second half but the game began to turn when a pass slipped through the fingers of Wyatt Carpenter and out of bounds with just over four minutes to go. Colson Post then buried a game-tying 3-pointer for the Indians (1-3, 1-0 MAC) on the other end.

The visitors reclaimed

the advantage on a 3-point-er of their own with 3:15 left, but they never scored again. Breaker Jutte's back-door basket off of an assist from Briggs Overman gave FRHS the lead for good with 2:31 on the clock, and Jutte added a pair of free throws just over a minute later.

There was a chance for the Panthers to pull even after Evers missed his foul shots with 29 seconds left, but Samples was off the mark on a potential game-tying 3-pointer.

See Finish page 8

### Box score

Fort Recovery Indians vs. Parkway Panthers				
Boys varsity summary				
Parkway (2-5, 0-2 MAC)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Stearns	8-15	0-0	17	
Bruns	4-7	0-0	11	
Triplet	0-3	0-0	0	
Samples	3-8	3-4	3	
Carpenter	0-1	0-0	0	
Pond	1-8	1-1	6	
Hughes	0-2	0-0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18-46</b>	<b>4-5</b>	<b>48</b>	
	<b>.391</b>	<b>.800</b>		
Def. rebound percentage: .750				
Fort Recovery (1-3, 1-0 MAC)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Overman	3-7	0-1	7	
Post	2-3	0-0	6	
Jutte	5-10	0-1	10	
Barga	6-9	2-3	14	
Dilworth	0-0	0-0	0	
Evers	2-5	2-5	6	
Fortkamp	3-6	2-2	10	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21-40</b>	<b>6-12</b>	<b>53</b>	
	<b>.525</b>	<b>.500</b>		
Def. rebound percentage: .759				
Score by quarters:				
Parkway	12	16	14	6 — 48
FRHS	14	10	11	13 — 53
3-point shooting:				
Parkway	8-20	(Bruns 3-4, Samples 2-5, Stearns 1-2, Triplett 0-3, Pond 0-4), Fort Recovery 5-11 (Post 2-3, Fortkamp 2-4, Overman 1-2, Jutte 0-1, Barga 0-1).		
Rebounds:				
Parkway	25	(Samples 8, Stearns 6, Triplett 3, Bruns 2, Carpenter 2, Hughes 2, team 2), Fort Recovery 28 (Barga 15, Jutte 4, Fortkamp 3, Overman 2, Evers 2, Post, Dilworth).		
Assists:				
Parkway	9	(Stearns 3, Bruns 2, Carpenter 2, Pond, Hughes), Fort Recovery 7 (Overman 2, Barga 2, Post, Jutte, Evers).		
Blocks:				
Parkway	0	Fort Recovery 3 (Barga 2, Evers).		
Personal fouls:				
Parkway	17	(Bruns 3, Carpenter 3, Hughes, 3, Stearns 2, Triplett Samples 2, Pond 2), Fort Recovery 10 (Jutte 3, Overman 2, Evers 2, Barga, Dilworth).		
Turnovers:				
Parkway	6	Fort Recovery 9.		

## Tribe falls in fourth

ROCKFORD, Ohio — The Panthers only had 16 points through the first three quarters. They matched that mark in the fourth quarter alone, while the Indians' offense pattered out.

The Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team faltered in the fourth quarter to lose to the Parkway Panthers 32-29 on Thursday.

Fort Recovery (3-6, 0-3 Midwest Athletic Conference) outplayed the Panthers (5-2, 2-1 MAC) in the first three quarters to develop a 24-16 advantage.

The 3-point line ended up being the downfall of the Indians as Parkway nailed four triples and added a 2-pointer and a pair of free throws to complete the

comeback. Megan Nichols led the way with eight points, while Megan Hughes had three of her game-high 13 and Brityn Bruns scored four of her nine points.

While PHS poured in 16 points, Fort Recovery only managed to put five up on the board.

FRHS' best quarter came in the second as Makenna Huelskamp and Kennedy Muhlenkamp scored 11 points.

Huelskamp finished as the Indians' team leader with 10 points. Bridget Homan, Karlie Niekamp and Kennedy Muhlenkamp all added five, while Cameron Muhlenkamp and Emma Schmitz each made one basket.