

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## 2024 The year in photos

It's a tradition for The Commercial Review to share a recap of its top 10 local stories in the final newspaper published each year. On occasion, we've also reviewed our top 10 photos. This feature is designed not to highlight the most important, impactful or influential events of 2024, but rather to give readers a glimpse of what the year was like through what we consider to be some of our best photos of the year. This year's selection is mostly full of happy times, from athletic elation to fair activities to a variety of other moments that elicited smiles. Our top photo of the year is the one displayed above featuring former Indianapolis Colts and University of Notre Dame running back Robert Hughes wrestling a steer July 9 during the 3 Bar J Rodeo show at the Jay County Fair. See **Photos** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

At left, Jay County High School's Blake Collins battles with Eastbrook's Graeson Secret to win a header during the IHSAA Class 2A Sectional 23 championship on Oct. 12. The Patriots claimed their second title in three years after nailing 4-of-5 penalty kicks.

At right, Fort Recovery High School's Kayla Heitkamp holds up the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 2 District Championship trophy while her teammates celebrate around her on Oct. 26 at Butler. The Indians swept Miami Valley Christian Academy to clinch their first regional appearance since 2020.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Treasury breached by Chinese-backed hacker

By **JAMIE TARABAY** and **CRAIG TORRES**  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

The U.S. Treasury Department was hacked by a Chinese state-sponsored actor through a third-party software service provider, according to a letter the agency sent to Congress on Monday.

Treasury described the intrusion as a "major cybersecurity incident," since it was attributed

to a state-sponsored actor, according to the letter, which was reviewed by Bloomberg News.

Treasury was notified on Dec. 8 by a third-party software provider, BeyondTrust Inc., that a hacker had gained access "to a key used by the vendor to secure a cloud-based service used to remotely provide technical support for Treasury Departmental Offices (DO) end users," according to the letter.

The department is being assist-

ed by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the FBI, the intelligence community and third-party forensic investigators.

Based on available information, advanced hackers tied to China were behind the incident, according to the letter.

The Chinese embassy in Washington opposes U.S. "smear attacks against China without any factual basis," it said in an emailed statement. "The U.S.

needs to stop using cybersecurity to smear and slander China, and stop spreading all kinds of disinformation about the so-called Chinese hacking threat," it said.

BeyondTrust, which sells managed access software and other cybersecurity products, holds contracts with the federal government worth more than \$4 million, according to government data compiled by Bloomberg. In addition to Treasury, the data shows, BeyondTrust does business with

the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Justice, along with other agencies.

A BeyondTrust spokesperson said Monday night that a limited number of customers were involved, had been notified and were being offered support. The spokesperson added that law enforcement had been contacted and the company was supporting the investigation.

See **Breached** page 2

### Deaths

**Rodney Puterbaugh**, 90, Portland  
**Margo Havens**, 75, Vincennes  
**Diana Reading**, 73, rural Hartford City  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 46 degrees Monday. The low was 37.  
Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the lower 20s with a 40% chance of snow. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with the temperature steady in the lower 20s.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Public Library and Purdue Extension are partnering to present the "Be Heart Smart" series beginning next week. The first session is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday. To register, visit the library at 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or call (260) 726-7890.

### Coming up

**Friday** — A variety of recommendations from The Commercial Review's staff.  
**Saturday** — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.  
**Tuesday** — Results from the JCHS boys basketball team's game against Muncie Central.



# Obituaries

## Rodney Puterbaugh

Dec. 27, 1934-Dec. 28, 2024  
Rodney B. Puterbaugh, age 90, of Portland passed away on Saturday, Dec. 28, 2024 in IU Health Jay County Hospital.



Puterbaugh

He was born in Greenville, Ohio, on Dec. 27, 1934, the son of Dubois and Inez (Swank) Puterbaugh. Rodney was a 1952 Portland High School graduate, served in the U.S. Army and the Naval Reserves and was a member of the American Legion.

He was retired from Teledyne Portland Forge. He was an avid golfer; did auto restoration work

and enjoyed spending his winters in Florida.

Surviving are two sons, Curt Puterbaugh (wife: Missy) of Portland and David Puterbaugh (wife: Carmen) of Geneva; three grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a sister, Lora Lee Warner.

There will be no funeral services.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Memorials can be made to any Hospice. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

## Margo Havens

F. Margo Havens (Holdcraft), 75, born March 20, 1949, went to the Lord on Dec. 25, 2024, at Deaconess Hospital, Evansville, Indiana, after a long battle with several medical conditions.

Margo and her husband, Michael, resided in Vincennes, Indiana.

Margo was born and raised in Jay County, Indiana. She was a 1967 graduate of Redkey High School — “Go Wolves” — and was a Past Worthy Matron of Eastern Star Halfway Chapter 230. She was formerly employed by Indiana Glass, Dunkirk, Indiana; Sheller-Globe, Portland, Indiana; Jewish Community Center of Tidewater, Virginia; and Shawmut Bank, Springfield, Massachusetts.



Havens

She was a determined, strong-willed, kind and fun-hearted woman who enjoyed crocheting, plaster crafts and advocating for the wives and families of United States Navy servicemen.

Margo is survived by her husband and soulmate of over 43 years, Michael of Vincennes, Indiana; sister Paula Confer (husband: Al) of Dunkirk, Indiana; brother Roger Holdcraft (wife: Vivian) of Olivet, Michigan; three nieces, Dena Shaw, Michelle Lee and Kara Jo Chase (husband: Dave); great-nephew Cameron Shaw; great-great-niece Tatum Shaw; and godson Aaron Harbaugh.

Margo was preceded in death by her parents Marion and Mabel (Rathfon) Holdcraft.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Jan. 6, 2025, from noon to 2 p.m. at MJS Mortuaries – Redkey Chapel. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. Burial will be held in Pennville IOOF Cemetery.

Flowers are appreciated, as are donations to the Lewy Body Dementia Association (912 Kilian Hill Road S.W., Lilburn, GA 30047, or lbda.org/donate).

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries – Redkey Chapel.

**Diana S. Reading**, rural Hartford City, the sister of a Bryant woman, Sept. 10, 1951-Dec. 30, 2024. Services are scheduled for 11 a.m. Friday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

# CR almanac

Friday 1/3	Saturday 1/4	Sunday 1/5	Monday 1/6	Tuesday 1/7
<b>26/13</b>	<b>24/17</b>	<b>26/19</b>	<b>25/19</b>	<b>25/12</b>
Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Friday, when the high will be 26.	Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with wind chill values as low as zero.	Mostly sunny on Sunday, when there's a 40% chance of snow.	Monday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a 50% chance of snow.	Another day of mostly cloudy skies with another 50% chance of snow.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$178 million	Evening Daily Three: 2-7-0 Daily Four: 4-7-0-7 Quick Draw: 6-10-13-21-26-29-30-32-36-43-48-50-51-56-67-68-70-73-76-77
<b>Mega Millions</b> 3-7-37-49-55 Mega Ball: 6 Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	<b>Ohio</b> Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 3-1-6 Pick 4: 4-8-2-2 Pick 5: 9-6-8-2-2 Evening Pick 3: 0-9-8 Pick 4: 6-0-4-6 Pick 5: 2-6-8-0-3 Rolling Cash: 12-22-24-30-39 Estimated jackpot: \$252,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 2-8-1 Daily Four: 5-6-1-8 Quick Draw: 5-17-22-26-27-31-35-38-42-46-48-53-54-55-59-62-66-67-70-77	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.61 Feb. corn.....4.63 March corn.....4.65	Feb. beans .....10.00 Wheat ..... 4.99
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.60 Feb. corn .....4.60 March corn .....4.63	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.51 Jan. corn .....4.51 Beans .....9.91 Jan. beans .....9.91 Wheat .....4.94
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.54 Feb. corn .....4.54 Beans .....10.00	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.61 Feb. corn .....4.61 Beans .....9.75 Feb. beans .....9.75 Wheat .....4.90

## Today in history

**In 1788**, Georgia ratified the United States constitution. It became the fourth state to ratify the document, which today acts as supreme law for the U.S.

**In 1839**, French photographer Louis Daguerre snapped the first photo of the moon.

**In 1843**, “The Flying Dutchman,” an opera composed by Richard Wagner, premiered in Dresden, Germany.

**In 1959**, the Soviet Union launched Luna 1, the first spacecraft to reach the moon.

**In 1967**, Republican and actor Ronald Reagan was sworn in as governor of California. Reagan served two terms as governor before serving two terms as United States president.

**In 1981**, serial killer Peter Sutcliffe, the “Yorkshire Ripper,” was apprehended. Sutcliffe confessed to murdering 13 women and attempting to murder seven others. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

— The CR

## Citizen’s calendar

<b>Today</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor’s office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort	<b>Tuesday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.



# Photos ...

Pictured clockwise from upper left are:  
Lina Lingo of Jay County High School clasps her hands over her face after winning the 135-pound opening match over No. 9 Klaire Redwine on Jan. 12 during the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling state finals at Kokomo to clinch her first state medal.

Snow sprays in the face of Phynox Storie while sledding with friends Jan. 18 at Hudson Family Park in Portland.

The Jay County High School show choirs performed their competition shows in front of their home crowd March 4. Pictured Ellie Darnell (center) performs as part of Patriot Edition. Surrounding her, from left, are Tessa Miller, Ethan Garrison, Junior Blazquez and Gavin Hambrock.

A performer with Celestial Circus Productions of Dayton, Ohio, twirls batons on fire Dec. 13 at Jay Community Center in Portland.

JT Steinbrunner, 6, takes a whack at a vehicle during Holy Cross Family of Parishes’ tailgate Sept. 6 prior to the football game at Barrenbrugge Athletic Park in Fort Recovery.

Quinn Klaassen, 8, points out the beginning of the solar eclipse to her brother Kaden, 6, on April 8 at Hudson Family Park in Portland.

Flo Rida performs July 12 in front of the grandstands at Jay County Fair.



# Felony arrests

### Domestic battery

A Fort Wayne man was arrested for domestic battery.

Drew R. Hire, 32, 175 County Forest Drive, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

He was released on a \$4,500 bond from Jay County Jail.

### Habitual offender

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for habitual traffic violations.

Lane D. Allen, 39, 415 W. Walnut St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for being a habitual traffic violator.

He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

# Breached ...

Continued from page 1  
The Department of Defense, Department of Justice, and Department of Veterans Affairs didn’t immediately respond to separate requests for comment.

The hacker was able to remotely access certain Treasury workstations and “certain unclassified documents maintained by those users,” the department said in the letter to Senators Sherrod Brown and Tim Scott.

“The compromised BeyondTrust service has been taken offline, and there is no evidence indicating the threat actor has continued access to Treasury systems or

information,” a Treasury spokesperson said.

Disclosure of the breach comes as the White House continues to investigate what it says is a vast cyber-espionage campaign against U.S. telecommunications companies by Chinese state-sponsored hackers. On Friday, the White House said nine telecom firms had been impacted by the attacks, which have been attributed to a group Microsoft Corp. nicknamed Salt Typhoon.

The hackers allegedly spent months lurking inside American telecom networks.

## SERVICES

### Today

**Burk**, Joslyn: noon, Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.  
**Van Skyock**, Robert: 2 p.m., Green Park Cemetery, Portland.

### Friday

**Reading**, Diana: 11 a.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

### Monday

**Havens**, Margo: 2 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

Service listings provided by

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120 N. Meridian St.

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Photo provided

## Community volunteers

Mississinewa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution regent Kathy Selman (pictured at center) recently presented Mindy Weaver (left) and Julie Forcum of Jay County Humane Society with the organization's Community Volunteer awards for 2024.

# New Year brings with it new hope

DEAR READERS: Welcome to 2025. A New Year has arrived; the last one is safely behind us. As always, this New Year brings with it our hopes for a new beginning.

Today presents an opportunity to discard destructive old habits for healthy new ones, and with that in mind, I will share Dear Abby's often-requested list of New Year's Resolutions — which were adapted by my late mother, Pauline Phillips, from the original credo of Al-Anon:

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will live through THIS DAY ONLY. I will not brood about yesterday or obsess about tomorrow. I will not set far-reaching goals or try to overcome all of my problems at once. I know that I can do something for 24 hours that would overwhelm me if I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will decide to be happy. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. If my mind fills with clouds, I will chase them away and fill it with sunshine.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will accept what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those I cannot.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will improve my mind. I will read something that requires effort, thought and concentration. I will not be a mental loafer.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will be kind and courteous to those who cross my path, and I'll not speak ill of others. I will improve my appearance, speak softly and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today, I will refrain from improving anybody but myself.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will do something positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll quit. And I will get off the

Dear Abby



couch and take a brisk walk, even if it's only around the block.

**JUST FOR TODAY:** I will gather the courage to do what is right and take responsibility for my own actions.

And now, Dear Readers, allow me to share an item that was sent to me by L.J. Bhatia, a reader from New Delhi, India:

DEAR ABBY: This year, no resolutions, only some guidelines. The Holy Vedas say, "Man has subjected himself to thousands of self-inflicted bondages. Wisdom comes to a man who lives according to the true eternal laws of nature."

The prayer of St. Francis (of which there are several versions) contains a powerful message:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,

Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

And so, Dear Readers, may 2025 bring with it good health, peace and joy to all of us. — LOVE, ABBY

## Local blood drive draws 45 donors

Forty-five donors gave blood on Christmas Eve during the blood drive at Jay Community Center.

Donors included Andy Landon, Jill Hemmelgarn, Barry Weaver, Rita Reynolds, Michael Schmidt, Joyce Eldridge, Sharon Schoenlein, Doris Muhlenkamp and Sara Aufer.

Also Paula Barron, Dennis Negele, Stephen Fennig, Elizabeth Schoenlein, Jerry Zicht, Michael Timmerman, Freeda Osenbaugh, Kevin Keller, Duane Monroe, Rhonda Alig, Heather Ison and Gary McMillan.

Also William Link, David Hemmelgarn, Dale Wolford, Kimbra Blankenbaker, Talir

Ray, Jason Minnich, Ana Minnich, Vanessa Goodhew, Marsha Banter, Matthew Minnich and Nicole Butler.

Also Mary Laux, Ronald Laux, Larry Barnette, Lillian Johnson, Susan Myers, Jeffrey Marshall, Kathy Ayers, Steven Swingley, Chad Aker, Lorrissa Bousman, Lindzy Upp and Nicole Parks.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call

Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

**PORTLAND LIONS CLUB** — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

**FORGET-ME-NOT** — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

**Friday PAST RECOVERY**

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

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

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

**CINCINNATUS LEAGUE** — Will hold its next meeting at noon Friday, Jan. 3, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

### Saturday

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

**ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS** — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

**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.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

3	7	6	5	8	4	9	1	2
2	9	4	7	6	1	8	5	3
1	5	8	3	2	9	6	7	4
8	1	9	2	3	5	4	6	7
6	3	7	4	9	8	1	2	5
4	2	5	6	1	7	3	9	8
7	8	3	1	5	6	2	4	9
5	6	2	9	4	3	7	8	1
9	4	1	8	7	2	5	3	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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Big business card (3x3.5) — \$105

Business card (2x2) — \$52

Section will be distributed in The  
Commercial Review, The News Gazette  
& The News Times

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Deadline for ads is Monday, Jan. 20

Contact Lindsey at

L.Cochran@thecr.com

or (260) 726-8141

# Shooting at stop signs is dangerous

To the editor:  
I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the dangerous and reckless use of firearms to shoot at stop signs, a seemingly minor act of vandalism that nearly cost us our lives.

Recently, while my husband and I were watching TV in our home, a bullet entered our house and traveled 25 feet

## Letter to the Editor

through our family room. It shattered a glass patio door, scattering shards across the

room, then pierced a 3-inch wood panel, sending fragments flying. We were sitting just 3 feet from its path. If either of us had leaned forward at that moment, the outcome could have been catastrophic.

We found shell casings near a stop sign approximately one-quarter mile from our home, indicating that the shots were fired in that direction.

What may have seemed like harmless mischief to the shooter carried the potential for devastating, unintended consequences.

One of those bullets entered our home.

The point of submitting this letter is to inform the community of the unintended consequences of these actions. I see signs with bullet holes fre-

quently throughout the county. For those that engaged in this activity, you may well be unintentionally taking a life or causing great harm.

For those that hear of such activity, I urge you to take some action to prevent a tragedy.

Sincerely,  
Pauline Williamson  
Portland



# What might happen in the coming year?

By **CARL P. LEUBSDORF**  
The Dallas Morning News  
Tribune News Service

My prediction that President Joe Biden would drop out was a rare bright spot among last year's not totally serious predictions.

Undaunted, I try again by looking ahead to 2025:

### January

House re-elects Speaker Mike Johnson on third ballot after he agrees to make Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene assistant speaker. Outgoing President Biden commutes sentences of 1,250 non-violent drug offenders and pardons Donald Trump for "all past and future offenses." In his inaugural speech, Trump thanks "my friend, Joe Biden" for his service. Trump issues an executive order to begin deporting illegal immigrants. Boise State wins the college football title. Senate Intelligence Committee rejects Tulsi Gabbard's nomination as director of national intelligence. Robert F. Kennedy Jr. confirmed as Health and Human Services secretary on a 50-50 tie broken by Vice President JD Vance.

### February

Congress passes previously stalled legislation providing additional funds for immigration enforcement. Trump names Texas Gov. Greg Abbott as director of national intelligence, elevating his close ally Dan Patrick to governorship. Trump launches probe of mystery drone sightings. Detroit Lions defeat Kansas City to win Super Bowl for first championship in 67 years. KC's Travis Kelce retires and proposes to Taylor Swift. Twelve Demo-

**Carl P. Leubsdorf**



cratic state attorneys general file suit in Michigan federal court to block deportations. Democratic National Committee elects Rahm Emanuel as new chair.

### March

Trump imposes a 20 percent tariff on all U.S. imports. Stock market drops 20%. President rejects Elon Musk proposal to merge Army and Air Force, potentially saving \$500 billion. Trump invites Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to meet in Budapest to settle the war. Zelenskyy refuses. Trump vetoes congressional resolution extending federal funding, forcing a partial federal shutdown.

### April

In a stunning upset, Democrats win one of two special elections in heavily Republican Florida districts, cutting GOP House margin to 219-216. Trump signs a resolution to reopen government. Duke defeats Gonzaga to win college basketball title. Congress ends U.S. military aid for Ukraine. Zelenskyy agrees to meet Trump and Putin. Alexander Ovechkin finishes season two goals short of Wayne Gretzky's all-time National Hockey League record. Zelenskyy agrees to a ceasefire on current battle

### May

Trump rejects Musk's proposal to remove the cap on income subject to Social Security taxes, which would have raised taxes on wealthy participants but extended solvency of system. Taylor Swift accepts Travis Kelce proposal. Democrats score upset victory in special election for U.N. Ambassador Elise Stefanik's upstate New York House seat, cutting GOP margin to 218-217. Former Vice President Kamala Harris announces she'll seek California governorship in 2026.

### June

Former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo wins eight-way Democratic primary for mayor of New York City. Washington Capitals upset Dallas Stars to win their second Stanley Cup. Boston Celtics defend their NBA title. Trump rejects Musk proposal to cut veterans health benefits to save \$300 billion. Michigan federal court rules Trump deportation order unconstitutional. Administration seeks immediate Supreme Court hearing.

### July

Israel holds a war-delayed election and Prime Minister Bibi Netanyahu loses to a centrist coalition. Opposition Leader Yair Lapid, a former journalist, takes over. Trump announces the mysterious drones were launched by billionaire and White House adviser Elon Musk. Congress passes tax bill extending the 2017 Trump tax cuts and removing taxes on tipped income and Social

Security benefits. Congressional Budget Office projects \$4.2 trillion deficit for next year. Stock market hits new 2025 low.

### August

Deaths of two House members, one from each party, create vacancies cutting GOP margin to 217-216. Speaker Johnson fires head of Congressional Budget Office for "misleading projections." The Supreme Court schedules deportation appeal for October. In war-delayed Ukraine election, Zelenskyy is defeated by General Valeriy Zaluzhnyi, his top military leader. Trump's job approval dips below 50. Trump names Bettina Anderson as U.S. ambassador to Zimbabwe after reported breakup with Donald Trump Jr.

### September

Travis Kelce and Taylor Swift get married in KC's Arrowhead Stadium on national television before NFL opener. Trump presents Musk-Ramaswamy report to Congress, calling for \$150 billion in budget reductions, well short of their original \$2 trillion goal. Targets include the new FBI headquarters, the \$16 billion Hudson River Rail Tunnel, and the California high speed rail project. Musk resigns as unpaid presidential adviser and announces he will seek the Texas governorship. Ramaswamy resigns, announces candidacy for Ohio governorship.

### October

In Washington Capitals' hockey opener, Alexander Ovechkin scores hat trick to become all-time National Hockey League goals leader. Federal grand jury rejects Justice Department effort

to indict former Rep. Liz Cheney for "witness tampering" in Jan. 6 probe. Conservative Pierre Poilievre ousts Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Canadian election. New York Mets upset 2024 champion Los Angeles Dodgers in National League Championship Series but lose World Series to underdog Las Vegas Athletics.

### November

Democrat Abigail Spanberger elected governor of Virginia, continuing 48-year pattern of victories by the party that lost the prior presidential race. But Republican Jack Ciattarelli, narrow 2021 loser, scores upset in New Jersey. Democrats win both special House elections, overturning GOP's 218-217 majority. The Supreme Court upholds Trump executive order, and deportations begin. Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz resigns to become University of Minnesota football coach.

### December

Unemployment takes a sudden upward surge. Trump's job approval drops to 44. New House Democratic majority elects New York Rep. Hakeem Jeffries as first Black speaker. Massachusetts Rep. Katherine Clark becomes first female majority leader. Republicans oust Johnson, make Ohio Rep. Jim Jordan minority leader. Trump names former Speaker Johnson as ambassador to Pacific islands of Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, Nauru and Tuvalu.

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*Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. Email him at carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene**  
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
(419) 375-4680  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Kids vision and teen ministries: 6 p.m. Wednesday  
frnaz@frontier.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

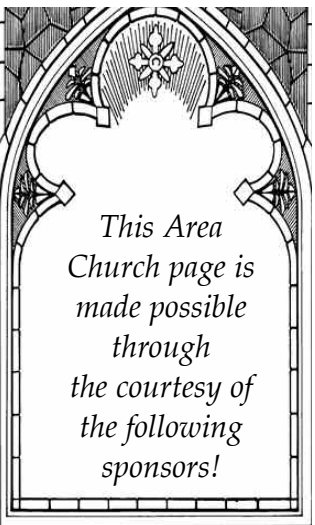
**Union Chapel**  
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant  
Interim Pastor Chris Kruckow  
(260) 849-0687  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

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

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

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

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



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**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly

THE HARDEST PART WAS TRAINING THE SQUIRREL.

**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane

1-2  
©2025 Bill Keane, Inc. Used by King Features Syndicate, Inc. www.familycircus.com  
"Billy, did you forget something last night?"  
Bill Keane  
JEFF KEANE

**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**Thirteen – the magic number**

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ Q 10 6 3  
♥ A K 4  
♦ Q 7 5 2  
♣ A 3

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

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

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J 9  
♥ Q J 2  
♦ A K 8 4  
♣ K 8

The bidding:  
South West North East  
2 NT Pass 3♣ Pass  
3♦ Pass 4 NT Pass  
5♦ Pass 5 NT Pass  
6♠ Pass 7♠

Opening lead – queen of clubs.  
Once declarer learns how the missing cards are divided, it should not be difficult for him to make all the tricks that can be made. For this reason, declarer tries whenever possible to avoid initiating any key suit before he learns all that he can about the enemy distribution.  
Consider this case where West leads the queen of clubs against seven spades. South sees at once that he can take all 13 tricks if the diamonds are divided normally (3-2), so he should devote all his energy to how he might overcome a possible 4-1 or 5-0 division in that suit.  
Accordingly, after winning the club with the king, he plays the A-K-J of spades, followed by a club to the ace. East surprisingly shows out of clubs, discarding a heart.  
This unexpected development provides South with a world of information about the East-West hands. West has so far shown up with eight clubs and two spades, and in order to learn more about West's other three cards, South now cashes the A-K-Q of hearts.  
When West shows out on the third heart, his original distribution is known to have been 2-2-1-8. Declarer next plays a low diamond to the queen, West producing the nine, and returns a diamond. After East follows low, South confidently finesse the eight to score 2,210 points, thanks entirely to his investigative card-reading.  
Note that it does not help East to split his honors on the second round of diamonds. If he plays the ten, declarer wins with the king, crosses to the queen of spades and leads another diamond to gobble up East's J-6 with the A-8.

**Peanuts**

OKAY, BEAUTIFUL, GET OFF THE ICE!! WE'RE GONNA PLAY HOCKEY!

HOCKEY?! GET LOST, NECKHEAD! I WAS HERE FIRST!!

YOU WOULDN'T LIKE TO GET HIT WITH A HOCKEY STICK WOULD YOU, BEAUTIFUL?

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE FORCE-FED A PAIR OF GOALIE PADS?!

**Rose is Rose**

HE'S GOT THE HEART OF A SONGBIRD!

**Agnes**

FIRST UP ON MY NEW YEAR'S LIST OF PERSONAL SELF-IMPROVEMENT, MY PERSONAL AMBIENCE.

GOOD! THAT'S SMELL, RIGHT?

EXCUSE ME?

BECAUSE YOU ARE A TAD MUSTY... NOT AS BAD AS A DEAD MOUSE, BUT NOT AS GOOD AS A LIVE ONE.

I'M SORRY?

NO NEED FOR APOLOGIES, AS LONG AS YOU ARE FIXING THE PROBLEM.

**Hi and Lois**

IRMA AND I ARE GOING ON A SKI TRIP.

DO YOU SKI?

NO, BUT WE'RE EXPERT APRES-SKIERS.

**Between Friends**

WELL - GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR TENURE, 2025!

ANY WORDS OF ADVICE?

JUST REMEMBER YOU'RE NOT IN CONTROL - PEOPLE ARE GONNA DO WHAT THEY'RE GONNA DO.

"WHAT WILL BE WILL BE"... WE ARE JUST A REFLECTION OF A PERIOD OF EVENTS.

- AND I THINK I WAS THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM.

**Blondie**

SO, WHAT'S YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

ARE YOU KIDDING?

I'M STILL WORKING ON LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION!

**Snuffy Smith**

AWRIGHT, WHO FILLED TH' PENCIL SHARPEN' WIF BUBBLE STUFF?!

**Beetle Bailey**

A SOLDIER HASTO LAY HIS LIFE ON THE LINE...

BUT IF YOU LIE REAL LOW, IT MIGHT SAVE YOUR LIFE.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.

1-2

**CRYPTOQUIP**

V Y I W N T N W Y K W M

F M M N - R I W S E K N R S W Q I D V I P Q

Q I P W M K I J Y M W Y K E S C M R

C I E W T R F V I P Q ? " J I Q Y K V D I W K E ! "

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOLKS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY ALWAYS REMEMBER THE GREAT MUPPET NAMED KERMIT. HE'S UN-FROG-ETTABLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals D

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Canine cry

4 Dalai —

8 Sultry Horne

12 Uncle, to Juan

13 Bard's river

14 401(k) relatives

15 Provider of free groceries

17 Lapel jewelry

18 Fawn's mom

19 Nome resident

21 Nuanced

24 English cathedral city

25 100%

26 Possi-don's realm

28 Follow

32 L-Q bridge

34 Cover

36 Gear teeth

37 Avid

39 Kauai souvenir

41 Last (Abbr.)

42 Con-ducted

**DOWN**

1 Justice Dept. agency

16 Speck

20 Pub pint

21 "Ditto"

22 Forearm bone

23 Snaky fish

27 Be sick

29 1997

Vanessa Williams film

30 Hybrid fruit

31 "Como — uted?"

33 Louisiana symbol

35 — Moines

38 Seminary subj.

40 Stranded during a blizzard

43 Unpaid bills

45 TV alien

46 Not kosher

47 Indian flat-bread

48 Envelope abbr.

49 Funny person

53 Genetic letters

54 Wilder's " — Town"

55 Insult, slangily

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

LEG	IMAM	BALI			
ISU	NOTI	ODES			
EPA	KEELS	SOVER			
VOCAB	KOI				
	SLOP	SNUBS			
HASHOVER	GNAT				
ECO	TUNAS	IRA			
RAFT	MAKEOVER				
BITER	LECH				
	TAB	UMAMI			
STARTOVER	LOS				
SIMI	NILE	VOL			
TEAS	DIMS	ADA			

Yesterday's answer 1-2

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					58		
59				60					61		

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# Sports

## Rough roller coaster

*Indians finish beneath St. Henry as 63-53 loss seesawed back and forth*

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

**FORT RECOVERY** — The Indians turned the ball over and allowed SHHS to rain in threes in the first quarter.

The Tribe dominated the paint on both ends of the floor in the second quarter to work its way back into the game.

The Indians offense started to stall in the third quarter as SHHS ramped up its defense to make all the difference in the game.

St. Henry ended on top of the roller coaster as the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team came up short 63-53 in the Ohio 119 Classic on Monday.

The game constantly seesawed between St. Henry (3-5) jumping out to a double-digit lead and the Indians (3-5) cutting it to a two-possession game or better.

“Our scouting report was they were all the same type of kid,” said FRHS coach Bob Leverette. “They can all drive and they can all shoot it, so be out there on the catch. We didn’t get out early and they hit some threes on us. We had that mountain to climb and we battled back to be down one at halftime.

“Then the third quarter it was the same thing. They got up 10, we battled back and then we got down 10 and battled back, so that

was kind of the story of the night.”

The first major swing lasted the first four minutes of the game. SHHS hit five 3-point shots and forced multiple Indian turnovers — Fort Recovery coughed the ball up 10 times in the quarter — to build a 21-6 advantage.

The Indians started to turn things around late in the opening period to cut the deficit to 10. They scored the final four points of the period on free throws by Grant Fortkamp and a Gavin Evers putback.

FRHS then put up the first nine points of the second period on a Colson Post triple, a drop step by Breaker Jutte, and free throws from Briggs Overman and Fortkamp to pull within one of St. Henry.

Landon Schwartz scored the first St. Henry basket of the quarter on a drive with 1 minute, 52 seconds, remaining. Brayden Heath followed with a transition basket, but Overman gave the Indians four more points to keep it a 1-point game at the intermission.

Overman often had the answer for the Tribe, scoring a game-high 21 points on 7-of-12 (58.3%) shooting.

See **Rough** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Briggs Overman, a senior on the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team, pulls up for a mid-range jump shot in the third quarter of Monday’s 63-53 loss to St. Henry in the Ohio 119 Classic. Overman led all scorers with 21 points in the game to help keep the Indians close before the closing minutes.

## Struggles in the second

*St. Henry’s 20-4 run in the second quarter spelled the Tribe’s demise*

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

**FORT RECOVERY** — A rough second quarter put the Tribe behind the eight ball.

The Indian seniors refused to give up easily and despite getting the game within six points, the deficit was too much to overcome.

The Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team suffered a 53-36 loss to St. Henry in the Ohio 119 Classic on Monday after a poor second quarter that had the Indians outscored 20-4.

“That’s been a problem for us this year, where we have a quarter a game where we get kind of stagnant,” said FRHS coach Tyler Deitsch. “Whether it’s giving up a lot of points or not scoring a lot of points. Tonight it was both. I mean, 20-4 in the second quarter, that’s really the difference in the game right there.

“Got down really big. Had to turn up the pressure in the second half. Fought all the way back and got it down to six, with not a really deep bench. Just super proud of the way the girls fight through and play tough.”

Fort Recovery (4-8) got out to an 11-10 lead over St. Henry (9-1) at the quarter break with a pair of baskets from Kennedy Muhlenkamp and Bridget Homan and a Makena Huelskamp three.

SHHS opened the second quarter with 15 unanswered points. In the six-bucket stretch, four of the St. Henry scores came from an assist, one was the result of a Leah Lefeld offensive rebound and the other was a left-handed drive by Morgan Baumer as the Indians forced the junior guard to her off hand.

FRHS finally ended the drought with a Homan hoop with 3 minutes, 20 seconds, remaining in

the period. Homan had the only other Tribe basket on a third-chance attempt, while St. Henry scored on a baseline-out-of-bounds play that benefited Lefeld and a Baumer triple. SHHS took a 30-15 lead into the intermission.

Fort Recovery turned the ball over on 46.7% of their possessions in the second quarter as it coughed it up seven times and only had eight possessions end with a shot attempt or a defensive foul.

“We talked about our energy and we’ve had a couple of starts that haven’t been as fast as we would like,” said SHHS coach Nate Uhlenhake. “It wasn’t a great start, but I thought in the second quarter we stepped up. We tried to set the tone with our defense and try to help lead that into our offense and get some better looks.”

See **Struggles** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School sophomore Cameron Muhlenkamp fights with St. Henry’s Addy Homan for a loose ball during Monday’s 53-36 defeat. FRHS previously lost to St. Henry 44-42 on Dec. 5.

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