

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

The CR Recommends

By RAY COONEY, BAILEY CLINE, SCOTT SHAFFER, WILL CASH and LOUISE RONALD
The Commercial Review

The turning of the calendar to a new year often inspires us to try new things. But what to try? This marks the seventh year of The CR Recommends, which is our answer to that question.

Each year since 2019, we've invited our writers to share some of their favorite things. There is really no limit to what that might involve. It could be anything from the buzziest TV show or the award-winning movie to a specific meal at a local restaurant.

Our goal is to provide readers with variety — some items they may be familiar with and some that probably would never cross their path. Our hope from there is that you will take the opportunity to check out something new.

If one of the books, TV shows, podcasts, video games, musical artists or sandwiches below becomes a favorite of yours, great. If not, that's OK too. There's great benefit from trying new things and expanding our horizons.

Music "GNX"

If you love hip-hop, Kendrick Lamar's latest album is a must-hear. Following a summer during which he dominated with a rap feud with Drake and a Super Bowl performance announcement, Lamar dropped his sixth studio album. It's a masterpiece. Featuring rising artists like Left Gunplay and Dody 6, tracks like "squabble up" and "tv off" are catchy standouts. Lamar's signature style shines through, blending unique production and deep lyricism. Once again, he delivered a classic album that can be taken from 2024 into 2025. — Will Cash

"Killing Floor"

One of the more interesting musical collaborations I encountered recently was a recording of Howlin' Wolf's blues classic "Killing Floor." It is featured on an album from Slash of Guns N' Roses fame. The album has a number of blues and R&B classics played by the famed guitarist with special guests such as Demi Lovato, Chris Stapleton, Billy Gibbons and Iggy Pop. In addition to Slash, "Killing Floor" features Brian Johnson of AC/DC on vocals and Steven Tyler of Aerosmith on harmonica. If you are a fan of blues or classic rock, this song is worth a listen. — Scott Shaffer

Watchhouse

This folk duo is not new. But in the last couple of years, they were new to me. Formed in 2009 and known for years as Mandolin Orange, the duo of Andrew Marlin and Emily Frantz is quite simply easy to listen to. The voices of Marlin and Frantz blend together in a sound it's possible to imagine hearing while gathered on a front porch or around a backyard bonfire. There are plenty of great songs, including "The Wolves" and "Golden Embers" but my favorite is their cover of Bob Dylan's "Boots of Spanish Leather." — Ray Cooney

See **Recommends** page 5

Indiana Guard member killed in Iraq

Indianapolis man served in Operation Inherent Resolve

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A Hoosier deployed to Iraq as part of Operation Inherent Resolve with the Indiana National Guard died last week, as confirmed by the Department of Defense. Capt. Eric Richard Hart, of Indianapolis, was 34.

"The Indiana National Guard extends our heartfelt and sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Capt. Eric Hart who died in a noncombat incident while overseas serving with the 38th Infantry Division in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. Our thoughts are with them and the soldiers who worked and served alongside Capt. Hart. He was an integral part of our team and the Cyclone Division team as well. He will be missed. His death is under investigation, there is no additional information available at this time," the Indiana National Guard said in a release.

Hart died on Dec. 28 as a result of a "noncombat related incident," according to the brief release. He was assigned to the Headquarters & Headquarters Battalion, 38th Infantry Division based out of Indianapolis.

Operation Inherent Resolve is part of a joint task force effort aiming to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, "in order to enable whole-of-coalition governmental actions to increase regional stability," according to the Department of Defense's website.

See **Guard** page 2

Attacks raise security fears

By CHRIS STROHM, MYLES MILLER and AKAYLA GARDNER
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

A gruesome attack on revelers celebrating New Year's in New Orleans thrust U.S. domestic security back into the spotlight.

The tragedy, which killed at least 15 people and injured dozens more, set off panic in the historic French Quarter and postponed events, including a major football game. Hours later, a deadly explosion of a Tesla Cybertruck outside of President-elect Trump's hotel in Las Vegas further rattled Americans ringing in 2025.

The Las Vegas suspect has been identified as Matthew Alan Livelsberger, according to sources familiar with the probe. Livelsberger, who reportedly served in the U.S. Army, rented the Cybertruck through the Turo vehicle-sharing app — the same platform reportedly used by Shamsud-Din Jabbar, the suspect in the New Orleans attack.

Authorities are investigating whether the two attacks are connected, though no definitive link has been established.

Fifteen killed in New Orleans, cybertruck exploded in Las Vegas

The incidents, which are both being probed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, prompted statements from President-elect Trump, President Joe Biden and other senior U.S. officials.

Speaking to reporters Wednesday evening, Biden offered condolences to victims' families. "The situation is very fluid," Biden said, adding that the suspect in the New Orleans attack posted videos on social media indicating that he was inspired by ISIS. "The law enforcement intelligence community continue to look for any connections, associations, or co-conspirators."

As authorities combed through the macabre scene on Wednesday in New Orleans' historic French Quarter, they said

they discovered an ISIS flag with the Ford pickup truck that barreled through the crowd.

Two improvised explosive devices were found in the suspect's vehicle, according to a law enforcement official briefed on the developments who asked not to be identified. Additional potential IED's were also found in the city's French Quarter neighborhood, the FBI said.

The FBI also warned that Jabbar may not have acted alone. Officials said the 42-year-old from Texas exchanged fire with police and was killed at the scene.

By Wednesday afternoon, the FBI's investigation had expanded to Houston and authorities were asking people for help with any leads.

See **Attacks** page 2



Tribune News Service/AFP/Getty Images/Matthew Hinton

Police cordon off the intersection of Canal and Bourbon streets Wednesday in the French Quarter of New Orleans. At least 10 people were killed and 30 injured Wednesday when a vehicle plowed into a New Year's crowd in the heart of the thriving New Orleans tourist district, authorities said.

Deaths

Larry Barnes, 84, rural Winchester
Details on page 2.

Weather

The New Year's Day temperature in Jay County hovered between 30 and 36 degrees.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low of 13 with winds gusting up to 25 miles per hour. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with a high in the lower 20s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, the parking lot east of Redkey Post Office and the parking lot south of Salamonia Fire Station.

Coming up

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS boys basketball game against Muncie Central.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week's Portland City Council meeting.



Obituaries

Larry Barnes

July 21, 1940-Dec. 31, 2024
Larry D. Barnes, 84, of rural Winchester passed peacefully from this Earth on Dec. 31, 2024. He was born in Winchester, July 21, 1940, to Charles A. (Charlie) Barnes and Naomi R. Geeding Shockney. Larry spent most of his life in Randolph County. He was a 1959 graduate of White River High School where he served as the president of his FFA chapter his senior year. On Aug. 11, 1962, he married Marlene Ayres. They enjoyed 62 years of marriage and Marlene survives. Together they raised their family with horses, love and laughter. Larry also served his country.

He enlisted in the U.S. Army National Guard in April 28, 1963. He attended basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. He had six months of active duty. Then he was on reserve service until discharge on Nov. 15, 1968. Larry was the second-generation owner of Barnes Sewer & Septic. He assumed ownership of the business upon the death of his father Charlie Barnes in spring 1986. With that he envisioned the need for portable restrooms service to greater Randolph County and many surrounding counties. His daughter Shawnda and her



Barnes

family continue to serve these communities as the third-generation owners of the family business. Larry was a member of the UA Local 440 and a life member of Winchester Masonic Lodge #56 F & A Masons. He also was a member of the Fort Wayne Scottish Rite. Larry is survived by his children Shawnda (Robert) Bond and Dr. Andrea Barnes-Sinanon (Lynn Fisher); and four grandchildren, Austin Bond (Wylie), Brooke Bond (Dustin Schneider), Naomi Sinnamon and Eli Sinnamon; two great-grandchildren, Weston and Allison; one brother, Ed Shockney of Fort Collins, Colorado; and one sister, Jana Barnes of Winchester.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by funeral services at 1 p.m. at the Winchester Presbyterian Church, 201 E. Franklin St., Winchester, Indiana. Burial will be held in Fountain Park Cemetery, Winchester, Indiana, with Pastor Steve Conner officiating. Larry always wanted FFA members to have an FFA Jacket, even if they could not afford one. So, per Larry's wishes, in lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the FFA Blue Jacket Fund in Memory of Larry Barnes. Contributions may be made through the Community Foundation of Randolph County, 120 W. Wash-

ington St., Winchester, IN 47394, or randolphcountyfoundation.org. The family would also like to extend its appreciation to Keystone Hospice and Pine Knoll Rehabilitation Center in their time of need. Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries - Farmland Chapel. 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.

CR almanac

Saturday 1/4	Sunday 1/5	Monday 1/6	Tuesday 1/7	Wednesday 1/8
22/14	26/19	25/14	22/11	16/6
Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with wind chill values as low as zero.	Mostly cloudy on Sunday, when there's a 50% chance of snow during the day with a higher chance late.	Monday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a 40% chance of snow.	Another day of mostly cloudy skies with temperatures reaching nearly single digits.	Mostly sunny skies on Wednesday, when the low at night may hit 6 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball 6-12-28-35-66 Power Ball: 26 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$200 million	Daily Four: 3-7-1-0 Quick Draw: 4-7-12-14-17-20-22-23-25-29-32-38-53-54-63-69-72-73-74-78 Cash 5: 1-5-25-28-31 Estimated jackpot: \$202,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$42 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 3-2-7 Pick 4: 0-9-5-2 Pick 5: 0-7-3-2-4 Evening Pick 3: 3-8-1 Pick 4: 3-4-7-5 Pick 5: 9-4-5-9-8 Rolling Cash: 8-21-22-24-36 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 7-3-5 Daily Four: 5-2-8-1 Quick Draw: 1-2-4-11-12-18-20-23-28-31-34-35-38-41-54-55-69-71-76-80 Evening Daily Three: 7-5-3	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.63 Feb. corn4.65 March corn4.67	Feb. beans10.17 Wheat 4.97
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.62 Feb. corn4.65 March corn4.67	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.53 Feb. corn4.54 Beans.....9.99 Feb. beans9.99 Wheat4.97
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.56 Feb. corn4.56 Beans10.07	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.63 Feb. corn4.63 Beans.....9.82 March beans9.87 Wheat4.87

Today in history

In 1521, German priest Martin Luther was excommunicated by Pope Leo X. Luther's questions about Roman Catholic practices started the Protestant Reformation. (On the same day, in 1962, Pope John XXIII excommunicated Fidel Castro for changing Cuba into a communist state.)
In 1793, Lucretia Mott was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts. Mott became an activist in several reform movements, including abolition, temperance and she helped organize the Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls in 1848, launching the woman suffrage movement.
In 1959, Fidel Castro took command of Cuba. Two years later, the United States broke its diplomatic relations with the country.
In 1959, Alaska joined the United States, becoming the 49th and largest state.
In 2011, Jay County Commissioners granted a rollover of vacation time for a highway department employee. Superintendent Ken Wellman asked commissioners to roll over two weeks of vacation time for the department's road foreman, who wasn't able to take the time off because of weather-related work. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, 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.	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.
Tuesday 5:30 p.m. — Portland	



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Brian Cassella

Celebrating the new year

Parishioners carry a Virgin Mary figure in honor of Nuestra Señora Virgen de la Nube, Our Lady of the Cloud, during a New Year's Day procession through the Albany Park neighborhood after Mass at Our Lady of Mercy on the Northwest Side.

Attacks ...

Continued from page 1
Officials said they're working to determine any potential associations or affiliations Jabbar may have had with terrorist groups.
"We do not believe that Jabbar was solely responsible," Alethea Duncan, an FBI assistant special agent in charge in New Orleans, told reporters at a press conference. "We're aggressively running down every lead, including those of his known associates. That's why we need the public's help."
New Orleans is renowned for its New Year's celebrations, which draw thousands to the bar-lined French Quarter each year, with live music and fireworks. The city had been set to host college football's Sugar Bowl at the Caesars Superdome on Wednesday with a parade through the French Quarter. It was postponed until Thursday.
Meanwhile, in the Las Vegas incident, police said a Cybertruck pulled up to the entrance of the Trump

Las Vegas hotel and that smoke appeared from the vehicle before a large explosion. Authorities have said the driver is dead and there are seven with minor injuries.
Turo is a car-sharing marketplace that allows hosts to rent out their vehicles. A spokesperson for Turo said the company didn't believe either renter involved in the attacks had a criminal background that would have identified them as a security threat. The company is working with law enforcement authorities investigating both incidents.
Late Wednesday, Las Vegas authorities said there are no overt signs linking the explosion to international terrorism, but investigations are ongoing. "We are absolutely investigating any connection to what happened in New Orleans. We are not ruling anything out yet," Clark County Sheriff Kevin McMahon told reporters. "There is no further threat to our community."

Guard ...

Continued from page 1
Indiana National Guard Master Sgt. Jeff Lowry said there are about 70 troops supporting Operation Inherent Resolve, and they are part of the 600 assigned to a separate operation of Spartan Shield. Additionally, another 150 Hoosier Guardsmen from a maintenance company deployed earlier this summer, and prior to 38th division soldiers, also support Spartan Shield.
The guard's current leader, Maj. Gen. R. Dale Lyles, will retire from that leadership role in January. Gov.-elect Mike Braun appointed Brig. Gen. Lawrence "Larry" Muennich to succeed Lyles as Indiana's Adjutant General.

SERVICES

Today
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.

Tuesday
Barnes, Larry: 1 p.m., Winchester Presbyterian Church, 201 E. Franklin St., Winchester.

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

GREAT SELECTION

of newspaper roll ends

FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

GRAPHIC PRINTING

NEWSPAPERS

Publishers of

The Commercial Review Portland, Indiana	The News-Gazette Winchester, Indiana
The News and Sun Dunkirk, Indiana	The News Times Hartford City, Indiana

309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8141

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Winter reading challenge starts soon

Jay County Public Library's adult and teen winter reading challenge returns this month.

Taking Note

Challenge cards will be available at the library from Jan. 13 through March 1. Adults and teens must complete at least four spaces on their cards before turning them in for prize drawings, which include gift cards to Pizza Hut, Walmart or Bizy Dips.

All cards will also be entered into a grand prize drawing for a Kindle Paperwhite.

Other activities going

on at the library this month include:

- Finger knitting for kids: an after-school activity for children to craft scarves from 4 to 5 p.m. or 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Jan. 9
- Be heart smart: a multi-session series for individuals wanting to

learn how to help prevent heart disease with healthy lifestyle changes, at 6 p.m. Monday

Regional runner-up

A Trine University team that includes a Portland resident placed second in a regional competition.

Trine's ChemE Sports team placed second in their region at the October 2024 American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) National Student Conference in San Diego, California.

According to a release from Trine University,

the hybrid competition combined optimization and safety in scenarios based on a gas treating unit with a Distributed Control System.

Team members included junior Isaac Braun of Portland, senior Joshua Scott of Ossian, Jake Doyle and Aaron Phillips.

Dean's list

A Jay County High School graduate recently made the dean's list at an Indiana college.

Gage Sims recently earned a spot on the list

at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology for the fall semester.

Wellness initiative

There's a new educational program available for seniors in the community.

Wellness Initiative for Senior Education (WISE) is a six-week program for those 55 years old and older to learn more about themselves and make friends.

Participants will learn about the aging process and how to make healthy lifestyle choices, discuss

risk factors and behaviors to avoid, examine how alcohol, prescription medication and over-the-counter medications impact seniors differently and learn how to use tools to feel empowered about health.

Door prizes and free food will be available during each of the two-hour sessions that will be offered at Jay Community Center.

To learn more, contact Stephanie Patterson of Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition at (260) 251-3259.

Relative threatens to reveal victim's secret

DEAR ABBY: I was raped by a family member and, due to special circumstances, told no one except one other family member, who I swore to secrecy. She recently got mad at me because of my religious beliefs, and now she's saying if I pass away before she does, she's going to tell my grown children who assaulted me.

I'm praying she said it out of anger, but I'm scared because I know my children would harm the rapist, if not kill him, for what he did. I can't understand why this family member would say such a thing. What can I say or do to protect my secret? God has taken care of me, and my violator is locked up now for other reasons. — FEARFUL IN THE WEST

DEAR FEARFUL: When you told your relative about your rape, it was no longer a secret. Because you are now afraid she will tell your children, approach her by saying that if she follows through, you fear they will take revenge after he is released and, by doing so, ruin their own lives.

Dear Abby



.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband has cancer, and the doctors say he has maybe a year left. Before his diagnosis, we had friends we would hang out with and go to dinner with once or twice a month. Now I don't hear a word from them. They don't call or text to ask how we are doing. Is it my responsibility to get ahold of them? I feel like I'm all alone in this fight, and they don't seem to care. — INVISIBLE IN IOWA

DEAR INVISIBLE: What a sad letter. Please accept my sympathy for your husband's prognosis. This is a tragic situation, and not one that you and your husband should be facing alone. The absence of these friends may have less to do with lack of caring than

an overwhelming fear of cancer and an inability to face their own mortality.

Of course you can reach out to them. But after that, if they still can't step up, you might have better luck by joining a cancer support group. If you do, you will find you are nowhere near as alone as you think you are.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I need advice about getting in contact with my daughter. She's 22 and has a busy life. I understand her struggles with balancing all the day-to-day commitments, but she will not return my calls or texts. We have had a bruised past because of my divorce five years ago, but we have talked things through to where I feel we have been repairing old wounds.

Every time we are together, it's as if nothing has marred our relationship. I know she's young, but I need to know if I should be more persistent or just wait for her to eventually contact me. — WAITING PARENT IN WASHINGTON

DEAR PARENT: You didn't

mention how persistent you have been, but you won't become closer to your daughter if you hound her with requests for more contact. She may be busy, distracted or just self-centered. Text or call her once a month and you may have better luck getting a response.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I've been in a relationship with a man for the last five years. "Julian" came into my life after my husband passed. He is 65; I'm 45. Julian has two grown daughters, 36 and 27. The older one and I get along famously.

Amber is somewhat immature. She has two small kids, and she's her dad's perfect, precious, can-do-no-wrong daughter. The unvarnished truth is that Amber is a snotty, judgmental woman who thinks she's better than everyone. Because Julian wasn't there while she was growing up, his guilt makes it especially hard for him to see her for who she is.

Amber and I do not care for each other, and the cracks are starting to show. She is becom-

ing a bone of contention in the relationship because I cannot stand how she uses guilt to manipulate her dad. He was always a caring father and a good provider, if not always there physically.

I am at my wits' end. She is driving a wedge into an otherwise good relationship. When I try speaking with Julian, he will hear nothing against her. I get that it's his kid, but I am sick of her. The worst part is when she plays it off like she is innocent and perfect. Any advice? — HAD IT IN THE WEST

DEAR HAD IT: Yes, I do have some. As you stated, in Julian's eyes, his "little girl" is perfect and precious. You are not going to win this battle, so start backing off and find a new direction — or a new boyfriend. Please accept my sympathy.

.....

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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.

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.

Monday

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

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

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W.

Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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.



YOUR LOCAL FOUNDATION REPAIR AND WATERPROOFING EXPERT.

For a basement, crawl space, or slab foundation, we guide you on the right path to a healthy home.

Family owned and operated since 1996, we treat your home like our own.

BEFORE



AFTER

BEFORE



AFTER

OUR SERVICES

- Cracked or Bowing Walls
- Sump Pumps
- Settling Foundations
- Waterproofing & Encapsulation
- Concrete Leveling
- Craw Space Repairs
- Sagging Floors

CALL FOR YOUR FREE HOME INSPECTION
877-229-0197


ACT NOW!
UP TO \$600 off*

Offers can't be combined. Minimum purchase required. Please call for details.




*10% off any job over \$1,000. Up to a maximum of \$600. Coupons must be presented at the time of inspection. This offer may not be combined with any other offer. Limit one per customer. Valid through 12/31/2024.

BACKUP POWER. PEACE OF MIND.



POWERPROTECT
Standby Generators



BRIGGS & STRATTON
ENERGY SOLUTIONS

Get a Standard **7 YEARS** **\$849 Value** Warranty of

Call 1-877-798-0270

You Are Cordially Invited

to participate in our upcoming
Bridal Section.

Advertising Rates are as follows:

- full-page color — \$625
- full-page B&W — \$525
- 1/2-page color — \$425
- 1/2-page B&W — \$325
- 1/4-page color — \$275
- 1/4-page B&W — \$225

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

Billionaires stock administration

By **JIM HIGHTOWER**
OtherWords

Howard Lutnick wants to have his cake and eat it, too. Then, he intends to eat your cake.

Lutnick is another billionaire corporate huckster who was a campaign bagman for Trump, and now he's Trump's pick to become Commerce Secretary. But first, he's been tasked with picking hordes of corporate loyalists to be placed in Trump's government as friendly "regulators" of corporate hucksterism.

Jim Hightower



Convenient, huh? This is what Trump & Company mean by saying they'll make the government "efficient." Instead of corporate powers having to lobby regulators to get special favors,

corporate officials will become the regulators. That is so much smoother for Lutnick and his ilk, who look forward to four free-wheeling years of devouring our economy.

In choosing who to police corporate price gouging, workplace rules, bank rip-offs, and such, Lutnick has been calling Wall Streeters, Silicon Valley tech bosses, corporate giants, and billionaires, telling them to send their best operatives to Trump's regime. "Let's get them into government," he exults!

Notice that he's not calling any union leaders, consumer protectors, or other real public interest watchdogs.

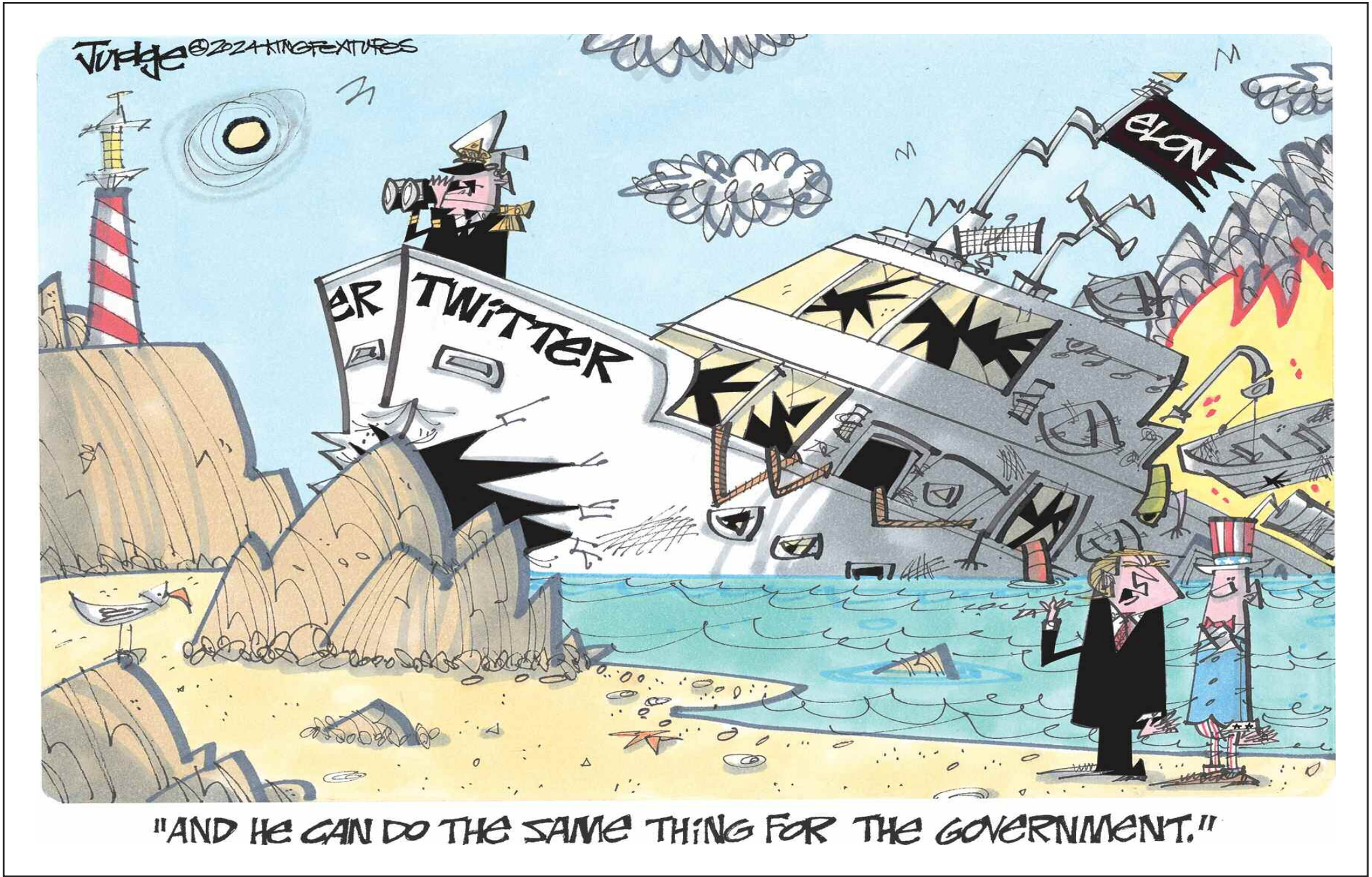
By the way, Lutnick himself is in line to profit from the corporate feeding frenzy he's now staffing. He is invested in everything from health care profiteers to cryptocurrency flimflams — and while he's been doing Trump's work, he's simultaneously been pushing Congress to do favors for his personal holdings.

But he insists that there is no

conflict of interest in his efforts. After all, he says with a straight-face, he holds his government policy meetings in separate rooms from his own business pleadings.

And that paper-thin wall of separation is Trump's new ethical standard for protecting us from raw corporate greed.

Hightower is a radio commentator, writer and public speaker. OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.



For Carter, presidency was prologue

Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

He left office in a stunning landslide defeat after a single term as the nation's 39th president. But Jimmy Carter wasn't done yet.

Instead of withdrawing quietly from public life as most former presidents have, James Earl Carter Jr. went to work. As a champion for democracy, human rights, public health and housing the poor, he has been credited widely, even from critics of his bumpy time in office, for producing the nation's "best post-presidency."

It certainly has been the longest. Jimmy Carter died Sunday in his home in Plains, Georgia, The Associated Press reported Sunday. He was 100 years old.

When the Carter Presidential Center at Emory University in Atlanta announced back on Feb. 18, 2023, that he was in home hospice care, the then-98-year-old was the nation's oldest living, longest-lived and longest-married president — and with the longest post-presidency. His beloved wife, Rosalynn, died on Nov. 19 and, after Carter's long stay on this earth even after that February announcement, many Americans are hoping that this famously loving couple now will be reunited.

"I am a farmer, an engineer, a businessman, a planner, a scientist, a governor and a Christian," he said in announcing his candidacy for the presidency in December 1974.

The times were right for Carter. He ran as an outsider, a little-known moderate and for-

Guest Editorial

mer Georgia governor against a crowded field of Democratic hopefuls hoping to take advantage of the public's desire for change after the Watergate scandal. A fiscally conservative former naval officer who taught Sunday school and was a critic of abortion, Carter seemed to be just what the party needed — and it worked.

Carter's acceptance speech to the Democratic National Convention touched all the right buttons, even quoting Bob Dylan. It was like a revival sermon for a new generation of post-Vietnam voters, offering comfort for the party's mostly Southern moderates and encouragement for Black voters, encouraged by Carter's support from the family of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders.

But, after his election, the honeymoon didn't last long. Carter repeatedly had problems working with Congress, even though his party held control of both houses. He even ran into such a bitter dispute with Sen. Ted Kennedy over the Massachusetts Democrat's proposed national health insurance plan that it led to Kennedy's challenging Carter in the 1980 Democratic primaries.

Kennedy lost that nomination battle, but the fight left the party

more divided and contributed to Carter's landslide defeat by Ronald Reagan.

What went wrong? Carter's rejection of business-as-usual politics made Watergate-weary voters roar with approval. But his fierce independence of mind and spirit, despite his calm and thoughtful demeanor, turned into a liability as he tried to work with Congress, even in those days when it was dominated by his fellow partisans.

But that independence of mind and spirit proved to be better suited to his post-presidency. He went to dozens of countries on teams of election monitors. He often wielded a hammer on Habitat for Humanity projects. He wrote a shelf of books, fiction as well as nonfiction. He taught Sunday school. He greeted many surprised Americans on airplanes with a warm smile.

Carter helped negotiate a 1994 agreement that suspended North Korea's nuclear weapons program (a deal that collapsed in 2002). The Carter Center, which he set up in 1982 in conjunction with Emory University to promote democracy, combat disease and resolve conflicts, helped win him a Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

He didn't shy away from taking provocative positions — as in 2006, when he accused Israel of inflicting "a system of apartheid" on Palestinians. Nor was he reluctant to criticize his successors, including Democratic ones: He faulted Barack Obama for failing to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and waiting "too long" to confront the security threat

posed by the Islamic State group in 2014.

Carter didn't mind if he ruffled feathers as long as he was advancing his principles. Historian Lewis Gould quoted "a prominent politician" who said, "Carter reminds me of a South Georgia turtle. He doesn't go around a log. He just sticks his head in the middle and pushes and pushes until the log gives way."

Often, the log did.

Elected in 1976 as a refreshing contrast to the ruthless, cynical Richard Nixon and the pleasant but underwhelming career politician Gerald Ford, Carter eventually saw his approval rating plummet and got only 41% of the vote in his reelection campaign against Reagan. Democratic candidates are fond of invoking the achievements of Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, John F. Kennedy and Franklin Roosevelt. They rarely mention Carter.

That's not surprising, given the turmoil and dysfunction that characterized the late 1970s. The economy was a never-ending nightmare: Carter presided over double-digit inflation, record interest rates, a recession and a gasoline shortage.

While in office, he showed little capacity to inspire most citizens the way he inspired his nominating convention. He had trouble working with Congress despite enjoying Democratic control of both houses.

In 1980, a campaign adviser wrote in a memo, "The public is now convinced that Jimmy Carter is an inept man." His overt Baptist faith and professions of

integrity — "I will never lie to you," he promised in 1976 — sometimes came across as self-righteous.

On the foreign front, things were no better: The Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979 despite his efforts to improve relations with Moscow, and critics blamed his defense cuts for emboldening the Kremlin. But nothing compared with the humiliation when Iranians invaded the U.S. embassy in Tehran and took 52 Americans hostage. When Carter ordered a military rescue, its failure became a symbol of his alleged incompetence.

On the other hand, his presidency hardly was devoid of achievements. His herculean efforts helped bring about a historic peace agreement between Israel and Egypt — effectively assuring the survival of the Jewish state by neutralizing its most formidable enemy.

He named Paul Volcker head of the Federal Reserve, and Volcker took the painful steps that vanquished inflation. They are familiar these days.

But Carter was undoubtedly a better ex-president than president. Just one accomplishment would warrant his inclusion in the history books: the near-eradication of the Guinea worm, a nasty parasite that once afflicted millions in Africa and is now almost unknown, thanks to a two-decade-old campaign led by the Carter Center.

Jimmy Carter didn't always have the right formula for making the world a better place. But to his eternal credit, he never stopped trying.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus
JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 151—NUMBER 178
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2025

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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

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

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days - \$3; Monthly auto-pay - \$10; 13 weeks - \$32; six months - \$60; one year - \$108.
City (walking - where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$11; 13 weeks - \$36; six months - \$68; one year - \$122.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$12; 13 weeks - \$44; six months - \$74; one year - \$140.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay - \$13; 13 weeks - \$49; six months - \$80; one year - \$151.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

Recommends ...

Movies

The Fall Guy

One of the most enjoyable experiences I had at the movie theater in 2024 was watching this flick starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt and based loosely on the 1980s TV series that starred Lee Majors as a stuntman who moonlighted as a bounty hunter. I was not really expecting much from this movie, but it surprised me. Comedy, action, romance — it has a little something for everyone and is a fun watch. Majors even makes a cameo. Even if you're too young to remember the TV show, there is much to enjoy with this film. — Scott Shaffer

The Wild Robot

My fiancé and I had been anticipating “The Wild Robot” with high hopes since they started airing previews for the film in spring, and it certainly delivered. “The Wild Robot,” based on the children’s book by Peter Brown, follows a robot, Roz, who becomes stranded on a deserted island. She must adapt to her new surroundings, which include a plethora of wild animals and braving the elements. Along the way Roz forms strong bonds as she discovers her full potential. The DreamWorks film’s animation style is also breathtaking — according to director Chris Sanders, matte painters colored the entire film. — Bailey Cline



Video games

Fields of Mistria

A new contender in the farming simulator genre, “Fields of Mistria” is now available in early access form on digital computer game distributor Steam. Although farming, ranching, cooking, mining and other “cozy game” essentials are a neat aspect in this game — the ability to wield magic for carrying out tasks is also handy — what makes “Fields of Mistria” stand apart from its competitors are its '90s anime-style characters and its clothing mechanics. The former perk is reminiscent of shows like “Sailor Moon.” There’s also an unfathomable amount of outfits you can create with the number of accessories available. — Bailey Cline

College Football 25

EA finally brought the ultra-popular game back in July, and they delivered a super fun experience. The gameplay is smooth, with realistic animations, lifelike audibles and play calling, and an amazing college atmosphere. This year’s edition features every player on all 134 FBS teams, marking the first time that has been the case in the game’s history. If you’re a sports fan who enjoys video games, this is a must-play for the new year. — Will Cash

Books

Agatha Christie

Although Agatha Christie died almost 50 years ago, her mysteries are as fresh as ever. In the busy weeks before Christmas, I picked up a book containing three Miss Marple stories originally published in the 1930s and '40s. Of course, the details of the crime are old-fashioned and quaint, but Christie’s fast, fun storytelling keeps things lively. I read all three in high school — yes, they were already old then — and have thoroughly enjoyed rediscovering them. I’m on the lookout for more. And I envy anyone who might be encountering Christie’s writing for the first time. — Louise Ronald

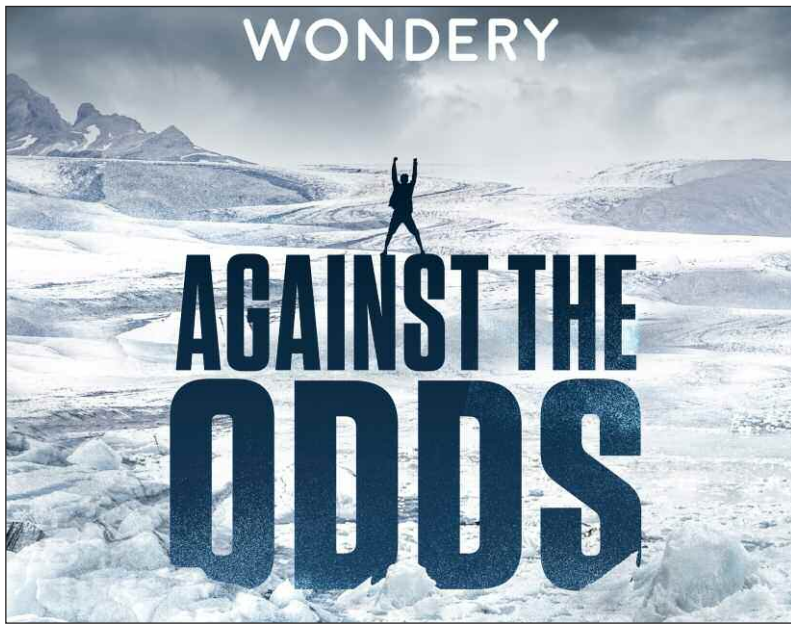
Echo Mountain

Admittedly, 2024 was a slow reading year — that’s something I plan to rectify in 2025 — so I reached back a bit for “Echo Mountain” by Lauren Wolk. This beautifully written book tells the story of a family seeking to start over by moving to the mountains of Maine after the ruin of the Great Depression. Life remains difficult in the mountains, especially after the patriarch is injured in an accident. Daughter Ellie thrives in the freedom of the landscape. Through her exploration of the mountain and general fearlessness, she finds ways to help her family. — Ray Cooney

Podcasts

Against The Odds

Every once in a while I’ll find myself searching the internet or my podcast app for something new, something different from the sports and news and trivia offerings that are typically in my feed. That’s what brought me to this podcast from “host-adventurers” Mike Corey and Cassie De Pecol. They share stories of survival, mostly, in harsh situations, shared in a reenactment style. Topics range from wildfires to polar exploration to cave rescues. My favorites have been about mountain climbing, from the tallest peaks of the Himalayas to Oregon’s Mount Hood. — Ray Cooney



Local

Gilbert Station beer cheese

We’ve been venturing into new places for some different tastes. Sports writer Andrew and I recently discovered Gilbert Station in Burkettsville, Ohio. While I’m not one who usually prefers burgers on a menu, Gilbert Station’s beer cheeseburger is delectable. The secret is the beer cheese — who doesn’t love a savory cheese? It’s also fabulous with the appetizers. Gilbert Station prides itself on its “Spank Burger,” a sandwich I have yet to try. Still, it’s hard for me to turn my eyes away from that burger loaded with golden goodness. Cheese, please. — Bailey Cline

Your local newspaper

Here’s a self-serving recommendation: Read your local newspaper. Did you know about the medieval castle made of balloons last Mother’s Day in Randolph County? Did you go to any of the free concerts at Hudson Family Park last summer? Try the new barbecue place in Dunkirk? Check out what’s happening at Arts Place in Hartford City? There are all kinds of local opportunities to expand your horizons, learn something new or simply have some fun. Graphic Printing Newspapers are a great resource for finding them. — Louise Ronald

Nippon offers 10-year promise

By JOSEPH S. PETE
The Times (Munster)
Tribune News Service

Nippon Steel is proposing not to reduce production capacity at any U.S. Steel mills like Gary Works or the Midwest Plant in Portage without federal government approval, according to a report.

The Japan-based steel-maker sent a new proposal to President Joe Biden, who has until Jan. 7 to decide whether to allow its \$14.9 billion acquisition of U.S. Steel. The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States warned the deal could pose a national security risk by leading to a decline in domestic steel production.

Citing anonymous sources, the Washington Post is reporting that Nippon Steel made a last-ditch proposal to the Biden administration to salvage the deal.

It proposed giving the federal government approval for 10 years on whether it would reduce production capacity at its steel mills and facilities in Indiana, Pennsylvania, Arkansas, Alabama, Texas and California. Nippon Steel also pledged to maintain production capacity at U.S. Steel’s Granite City Works in Illinois just outside St. Louis for two years.

Nippon Steel would have to invest billions of dollars on top of the \$2.7 billion it’s already pledged to make good on the promise. It would have to reline or repair blast furnaces and other production equipment at U.S. Steel mills, some of which date back more than a century.

Winter Sale

\$225
1/4 PAGE
COLOR AD

\$175
1/4 PAGE
B&W AD

Ask us about our Pick-Up rates!

*Rates do not apply to special sections *Ads must run in January

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

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

HE WAS ALWAYS SO SWEATY.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane

“Dolly’s throwing the broken pieces away without drying them.”

Peanuts

LISTEN, BEAUTIFUL, GET YOUR STUPID FIGURE SKATES OFF THE ICE! WE WANNA PLAY HOCKEY, SEE?

WE HAVE TEN HOCKEY STICKS HERE TELLING YOU TO “GET OFF THE ICE!”

OH, YEAH? COME ON AND TRY SOMETHING! ME AND MY COACH’LL TAKE YOU ALL ON!!

I THINK I’LL GO HOME... I HAVE SOME CHAIN LETTERS TO WRITE...

Rose is Rose

I PUT ON MY BOOTS AND TRUDGED UP HERE TO VISIT MY “LET THINGS BE” TREE.

BUT AFTER A QUICK LEAN... I REALLY DON’T HAVE THE ENERGY TO TRUDGE BACK HOME.

SO I GIVE A WAIVE...

AND MY RELIABLE CARRIER IS ALWAYS HAPPY TO ASSIST!

Agnes

MY NEXT NEW-YEAR IMPROVEMENT IS POSTURE.

POSTURE?

YES... I LOSE GRAVITY’S FIGHT FOR MY DEATH STAR-SIZED HEAD FREQUENTLY.

IT’S THAT LIMP NOODLE NECK OF YOURS.

WELL... THAT’S GOOD FOR MY SELF-ESTEEM.

WITH THAT NECK, IT’S A WONDER YOU HAVE SELF-ESTEEM AT ALL.

Hi and Lois

MOST OF THE BIRDS ARE GONE FOR THE WINTER, BUT MR. CARDINAL IS STILL HERE.

IT’S NICE OF HIM TO STICK AROUND AND CHEER ME UP.

Between Friends

DID YOU MAKE ANY RESOLUTIONS?

I’M GOING TO BE KINDER TO MYSELF.

I’M GOING TO STOP ALL THE NEGATIVE MENTAL CHATTER AND STOP RUMINATING OVER THINGS I CAN’T CHANGE.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

KIND OF THE SAME.

I’M GOING TO STOP FOLLOWING THE NEWS.

Blondie

SO, WHAT DID YOU DO ON YOUR DAYS OFF, MAYA?

OH, A LOT!

ALTHOUGH IT’D PROBABLY BORE YOU IF I TOLD YOU.

WHY’S THAT?

BECAUSE IT MOSTLY INVOLVED WATCHING TV, EATING AND NAPPING.

YOU AND MY HUSBAND WOULD GET ALONG!

Snuffy Smith

THIS IS TH’ THIRD TIME YA BEEN LATE FER SCHOOL THIS WEEK, JUGHAID !!

T’AIN’T MY FAULT, MIZ PRUNELLY !!

SANTA DIDN’T BRING THAT POCKET WATCH I ASKED FER !!

Beetle Bailey

WHAT’S THAT?

I SENT AWAY FOR THIS “MYSTERY MIRACLE” DEVICE TO HELP CURB MY APPETITE, BUT I’M NOT SURE ABOUT IT.

THAT COULD WORK.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone:
West North East South
1♦ 1♥ 2♦ ?

What would you bid with each of the following five hands?
1. ♠ AK983 ♥ Q74 ♦ 762 ♣ J8
2. ♠ AJ7 ♥ J5 ♦ KO9 ♣ KQJ63
3. ♠ 10 ♥ Q863 ♦ A65 ♣ AQJ83
4. ♠ AJ762 ♥ KJ6 ♦ — ♣ KJ985
5. ♠ KJ8753 ♥ 9 ♦ J83 ♣ 972

1. **Two hearts.** The best way to show heart support, which you have, is by raising hearts. A two-spade bid (not forcing) would tend to suggest lack of support for hearts, and there is no reason to think that spades would be a better trump suit. Partner did not open the bidding — he merely over-called, indicating a strong five-card or longer suit and more often than not less than opening strength — so a two-spade bid could easily lead to the wrong contract.

2. **Three notrump.** Partner must have values of some sort for his bid — whether in high cards, distribution, or both. Game must therefore be reached, whatever the nature of the hand.

Although three notrump appears to be the right spot, partner might have other thoughts and retreat to four hearts, which your well-rounded hand can also support. The important point is that you can’t bid only two notrump or three clubs, neither of which is forcing opposite an overcall.

3. **Four hearts.** If this hand doesn’t yield at least 10 tricks, you’d better get yourself a new partner. An alternative choice is three diamonds, a cuebid, to indicate slam possibilities.

4. **Three diamonds.** Here also you must get to game — and conceivably a slam — and the proper way of suggesting both possibilities is by a cuebid. Partner might cooperate by cuebidding in his own right to show interest in slam. If he merely bids three hearts, you will carry on to four hearts.

5. **Pass.** Here there is real danger of a misfit, so the wisest thing to do is to pass.

Two spades might work out well in a given case, but it could also lead to serious trouble. If partner does not have spades, the opponents might begin doubling and collect a fat penalty. There is a fundamental rule that in misfit hands, you should drop out of the bidding as soon as possible. Here, that time is now.

Tomorrow: Double-dummy problem.
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

1-3 **CRYPTOQUIP**

VPAETG GELF WELWMSLHLF P
FTR NQE’G PIETX XE IM
BSMGGMB HL P AELC’G SEIM:

“NM NHKK VSEWC RET.”
Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: WHAT DID THE TWO GOOD-NATURED NUTS ALWAYS SAY TO EACH OTHER UPON PARTING WAYS? “CASHEW LATER!”
Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 48 “Psycho” 3 Spanish 25 Sgt.’s cut
1 Lawyers’ director girlfriend 26 Cloud
gp. Alfred 4 Ride the setting
4 Radiator 52 Chemical waves 28 Rainbow
sound 5 Suave 30 Code-
7 Explosion suffix 6 Memoir breaking
12 Bottom 53 Petrify by Prince gp.
13 Ref 54 “QB —” Harry 31 Great
14 — Ababa (Uris 7 Infant weight
novel) 8 “Bad” 32 Green
15 Hindu 55 Cacoph- cholest- prefix
honorific ony 9 Com- 33 Mets’ div.
16 Obstruc- author motion 36 Ray of McDon-
tion Scott 10 Bracketed al’s
18 Work unit 57 Right word 37 Writing
19 Incursion 58 Mer- angle 11 Chiding instru-
20 Frog’s 58 Mer- sound 40 Treasure
relative maid’s 17 Painter stash
22 — Aviv home Salvador 42 Lab
23 Chumps 21 Slobber 42 Lab
27 Fan’s shout 23 Shoulder liquids
29 Owing money 1 Plus wrap 43 “The
31 Choir member animal 24 “You’ve Fraud”
author
34 Like 44 Justice — Smith
anchovies Kagan
35 Hour 45 Enjoy gum
follower 46 Power tool
37 Dog’s foot 46 Power brand
38 Yuletide tune 48 FDR 49 Post-op
39 GPS sugges- tion 49 Post-op area
41 Lounge about 50 Sailor
45 Toe woes 51 —
47 Nev. neighbor -Magnon

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	R	E	L	A	M	A	L	E	N	A
T	I	O	A	V	O	N	I	R	A	S
F	O	O	B	A	N	K	P	I	N	S
D	O	E	A	L	A	S	K	A	N	
S	U	B	T	L	E	E	L	Y		
A	L	L	S	E	A	E	N	S	E	
M	N	O	P	L	I	D	C	O	G	S
E	A	G	E	R	L	E	I	T		
L	E	D	S	C	A	L	I	A		
T	R	A	I	L	E	R	E	L	F	
R	O	T	C	B	I	R	D	F	O	O
E	T	T	A	T	O	N	I	O	V	I
F	I	N	N	S	T	A	N	D	R	S

Yesterday’s answer 1-3

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	

CONNECT WITH

THE WORLD AT HOME.

CALL US TODAY!
SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE!!

The Commercial Review
your daily newspaper
309 W. Main St. Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8141 www.thecr.com

Little JJ's Tree Service
Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding. Firewood available
765-509-1956

E and E Construction Amish Crew
BARN RESTORATION
Specializing in metal roofs, decks & more
FREE Estimates
260-301-1777

Wendel's
Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying, Residential & Commercial
Green Seal Approved
Dave Wendel
Ph. 260-726-4520
Cell 260-729-2797

Bricker's Flowers & More
414 N. Meridian St. Portland
Call or text to order 260-703-0304
Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday
9:30-3:00 Saturday

Dave's Heating & Cooling
Furnace, Air Conditioner, Geothermal Sales & Service
260-726-2138
Now accepting MC/Disc/Visa

BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W, Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

BAIL BONDS
Travis Weaver
260-726-3189
across street from Jail

MAY FINANCIAL GROUP, INC.
ACA Marketplace health insurance OPEN
ENROLLMENT November 1, 2024 to January 15, 2025
MATT FRANKS
your hometown agent
(260) 729-5200
111 W. Main Street, Portland, IN

GET IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
You never know what you might find in The Commercial Review Classifieds.
From a new car to a new home, to a new job, the Classifieds deliver!
Go to thecr.com or call 260-726-8141

ALASKA Heating & Cooling
www.alaskaheatingandcooling.com
Albany: 765-789-8036
YOU are the reason we are in business!
WE ARE CELEBRATING 29 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141

ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge.... \$12.40
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
Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication.
Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

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

60 SERVICES

J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC. Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

I SEAMSTRESS NANI HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, AppliquE, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders, Wedding & Prom Gowns. 260.766.9334

GOODHEWIS ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

90 SALE CALENDAR

48TH ANNUAL COLDWATER YOUNG FARMERS CONSIGNMENT AUCTION
Saturday February 8, 2025
The Coldwater Young Farmer Association will be conducting their annual farm machinery consignment auction at the Coldwater football stadium parking lot in Coldwater, Ohio.
For more information on consigning your farm machinery please call: Dusty Uhlenhake 419-733-3096
Rick Uhlenhake 419-852-0800
Machinery consigned by January 17, 2025 can be advertised

SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMMERCIAL REVIEW
up to **49% off**
Newsstand prices
Subscribe at thecr.com or call 260-726-8141

Wins ...

Continued from page 8

7. Rolling to Columbus

The Fort Recovery High School girls bowling team made it all the way to the state tournament for the first time in school history.

The Indians fought through a tough second game for their five starters to total 2,545 pins in the individual games, which was good enough for sixth place. They then struggled in the baker games, slipping all the way to ninth and missing the finals by just 13 pins. FRHS finished with 3,017 pins, while Rootstown claimed the final spot in bracket play with 3,030.

Kayla Heitkamp put together the strongest day with 545 pins in the individual games to tie for 21st place with New Bremen's Marina Nelson.

8. Best finish

In his final season as a Patriot, Caleb DeRome became the first boys golfer from Jay County High School to earn sectional medalist honors by shooting a 70 at Hickory Hills Golf Course.

DeRome's round of 70 finished just one stroke ahead of Christian Groves of Yorktown.

The JCHS senior made birdie four times on the second, fifth, 13th and 18th holes. On the 570-yard, par-5 18th hole, DeRome needed a long putt to drop to claim his first 18-hole event.

While the Patriots came up 14 strokes short of a regional berth, DeRome's score got him through as an individual.

9. First in MAC

In the first full season since the death of former coach Joe Bruns, the Fort Recovery High School girls golf team dominated the Midwest Athletic Conference to win its first conference title in program history.

The Indians swept the MAC during the regular season, going 8-0 and narrowly beating defending champion Minster by two strokes. To secure the outright MAC title, the Tribe put up the best score at the MAC tournament of 418



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Brooklyn Wyerick of the Fort Recovery High School girls bowling team releases her Storm Electrify during the individual games of the OHSAA Division II girls State Bowling Tournament — it was the Indians' first state appearance in school and program history — at H.P. Lanes in Columbus, Ohio. The lone senior in the Indians' starting lineup shot games of 185, 148 and 191 to help the Tribe to sixth place before it slipped up in the baker games.

strokes to beat St. Henry by one.

FRHS had four golfers make All-MAC teams, including Olivia Knapke and Mallory Evers making the first time, while Jeff Vaughn was named the MAC Coach of the Year.

10. Back to the regional

After making the move to the southwest district, Fort Recovery High School's volleyball team made a run to the regional tournament for the first time since 2020.

After being awarded the No. 3 seed in the Division VI Southwest 2 district, the Tribe cruised through its first two matches before upsetting a pair of No. 1 seeds — host Arcanum and Miami Valley Christian Academy — in three sets to claim the

district title. Fort Recovery has only made the regional two other times.

The Indians' run would end in the regional opener, as they fell to the Anna Rockets 25-18, 25-17, 22-25, 25-22.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls wrestling sectional at Muncie Central — 9 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Lincolnview — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Girls basketball (varsity only) at Yorktown — 10:30 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. Muncie Central — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. Versailles at New Bremen — 9:15 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. Versailles at New Bremen — 1:15 p.m.; Boys basketball at Botkins — 6 p.m.

TV sports

Today
4 p.m. — College Football First Responder Bowl: North Texas vs. Texas State (ESPN)
5 p.m. — College hockey: Michigan at Ohio State (BTN)
7 p.m. — College basketball: Iowa at Wisconsin (BTN); Wichita State at Temple (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — College Football Mayo Bowl: Minnesota vs. Virginia Tech (ESPN)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan State at Ohio State (FOX)
8 p.m. — NHL: Ottawa Senators at

St. Louis Blues (FSDN Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — College hockey: Penn State at Notre Dame (BTN)
9 p.m. — College basketball: Creighton at Marquette (FS1); Saint Joseph's at Saint Louis (ESPN2)
11 p.m. — College basketball: Nevada at New Mexico (FS1)

Saturday
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Newcastle United at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Everton at AFC Bournemouth (USA)
11 a.m. — College Football Bahamas

Bowl: Buffalo vs. Liberty (ESPN2)
11 a.m. — College basketball: Florida at Kentucky (ESPN)
12 p.m. — College basketball: North Carolina at Notre Dame (CBS); Dayton at George Washington (USA); DePaul at Villanova (FS1)
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: UCLA at Indiana (FOX)
12 p.m. — NHL: New York Rangers at Washington Capitals (ABC)
1 p.m. — College basketball: Arkansas at Tennessee (ESPN)
2 p.m. — College basketball: Baylor at Iowa State (CBS); UCLA at Nebraska (FOX); George Mason at Rhode Island

(USA); Butler at St. John's (FS1)
2:30 p.m. — College basketball: Arizona at Cincinnati (ESPN2)
3:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Wisconsin at Oregon (BTN)
4 p.m. — College basketball: San Diego State at Boise State (CBS)
4 p.m. — PGA Tour: The Sentry (NBC)
4 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Butler at Marquette (FS1)
4:30 p.m. — NFL: Cleveland Browns at Baltimore Ravens (ABC)
4:30 p.m. — College basketball: Vanderbilt at LSU (ESPN2)
5:30 p.m. — Women's college hockey: Ohio State at Wisconsin (BTN)

6 p.m. — College hockey: Mercyhurst at Minnesota (FOX)
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Stanford at Pittsburgh (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — NBA: Phoenix Suns at Indiana Pacers (FSDN Indiana)
8 p.m. — NFL: Cincinnati Bengals at Pittsburgh Steelers (ABC)
8 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan at USC (FOX)
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Cal at Clemson (ESPN2)
9 p.m. — College hockey: Michigan State at Wisconsin (BTN)
10 p.m. — NHL: Edmonton Oilers at Seattle Kraken (NBC)

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bearcreek Farms, 8341 N 400 E, Bryant, IN
January 6th, 2025
6:00 P.M.
75 Acres-Bearcreek Township
Jay County, IN
Parcel 1-55 acres with 53 acres of tillable ground. Soil types include Blount-Glywood, Pewamo and Glywood clay.
Parcel 2-20 acres of woods.
Parcel 3-Combination of Parcels 1 and 2.
Acreages are subject to pending survey. Farm has access off Highway 27.
For more information contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700
LANA NINDE, JULIE HUMMEL, CORBY BUBP AND CHRISTOPHER BUBP
Loy Auction AC31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bulp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
January 4th, 2025
9:30 A. M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS
3 pc queen size bedroom suit; 3 cushion Berne sofa; (4) twisted

90 SALE CALENDAR

wire ice chairs; Frigidaire refrigerator; Hummels; crocks; Vera Bradley; Sellers cabinet jars; ladies Victorian hitop shoes; Pfaltzgraff "Naturewood" set of dishes with accessories; Haviland Bavaria Germany set of dishes; barn door track; FRAMED POSTERS: Clint Eastwood, Face Off, Butch Cassidy and Indiana Jones; Hull Ware; Fenton basket; advertising tins; pottery wheel; Black & Decker sander; and other items not listed.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Doors will open at 8 a.m. day of auction for preview
CAMPBELL FAMILY AND
ARNOLD FAMILY
Loy Auction AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

REAL ESTATE AUCTION
Saturday, January 11, 2025
10:00 AM
Location of Sale: Bearcreek Farms
8341 N 400 E, Bryant, IN
Real Estate:
56.54 acres-Sec. 4
Bearcreek Twp. Property located East of 27 on Jay & Adams Co. Line. Selling 2 parcels & combinations.
Marilyn Hough, Owner
Sale conducted by Green Auction n 260-

90 SALE CALENDAR

589-8474.
See SoldonGreen.com for details and flyers.
Rob Green AU19500011

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

110 HELP WANTED

DUNKIRK FIRE DEPARTMENT IS currently seeking a full-time firefighter. Current hours are two 24-hour shifts a week with the possibility of overtime when required. Minimum requirements: Firefighter I & II certified, Emergency Responder, current CPR, HazMat Awareness, and a valid Driver's License. Applications are available at the Dunkirk Municipal Office.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

ALUMINUM SHEETS
23"x30", .007 thick.
Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax.
The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

190 FARMERS COLUMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamore.space.com

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocumis Salvage

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
The following will be sold for charges:
2381 E 200 N PORTLAND
On 01/21/2025 @ 10:00 AM
2002 FORD
3FAFP37342R113997 \$2,425.00
2009 CHEVROLET
1G1AT58H297161160 \$1,750.00
2012 GMC
1GKKRTED6CJ410686 \$1,880.00
2014 DODGE
2C4RDGBG4ER212976 \$1,800.00
2010 FORD
3FAHP0HA3AR422685 \$1,775.00
CR 1-3-2025 - HSPAXLP

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Auction will be held at Bearcreek Farms
8341 N 400 E, Bryant Indiana

JANUARY 6, 2025
6:00 P.M.

75 ACRES – BEARCREEK TOWNSHIP
JAY COUNTY INDIANA

Parcel 1 – 55 acres with 53 acres of tillable ground. Soil types include Blount-Glywood, Pewamo and Glywood Clay.

Parcel 2 – 20 acres of woods.

Parcel 3 – Combination of Parcels 1 and 2.

ACREAGES ARE SUBJECT TO PENDING SURVEY.

FARM HAS ACCESS OFF HIGHWAY 27.

Terms of Sale: 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction and balance at closing. Closing to be within 45 days of auction. Possession at closing. Sellers to provide Sellers Title Insurance and Warranty Deed. Buyer to assume taxes due and payable in May 2025 and thereafter. Any statements made day of auction will take precedence over previously printed or oral matter. For more information contact GARY LOY, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.

LANA NINDE, JULIE HUMMEL, CORBY BUBP AND CHRISTOPHER BUBP

LOY AUCTION AC#31600027
AUCTIONEERS

Gary Loy AU 01031608 Aaron Loy AU11200112
Travis Theurer AU 11200131 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069

CR 12-11,19-2024 1-3-2025-2024

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

in

The Commercial Review

CALL

726-8141

Winner wins top story

JCHS junior claimed third consecutive state girls wrestling title

By ANDREW BALKO and RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review Plenty of teams and individuals found postseason success in 2024. A handful of them even made it all the way to the state tournament.

While several of those teams and individuals found success at their respective state tournaments, only made their way to the top of the podium. That one athlete has also established a history of success.

Mallory Winner claimed the top spot on The Commercial Review's list of biggest sports stories for claiming her third consecutive state title in girls wrestling in 2024.

The rest of the top 10 is as follows:

2. FR baseball goes on a Cinderella run to the state championship
3. Construction on the Cleathouse and football field finished
4. Levi Muhlenkamp sets record for career goals
5. Anna Roessner cleans up at state track meet for Fort Recovery
6. Tony Wood and Cody Rowles cap off a successful season for JCHS boys wrestling
7. Indians girls bowling makes state tournament for first time
8. Caleb DeRome becomes first JCHS golfer to medal at sectional
9. The Tribe girls golf team won the Midwest Athletic Conference title
10. FR volleyball makes regional for third time

1. Third title

After an undefeated freshman campaign and a repeat title as a sophomore, Winner found herself back at the state tournament as a junior. To remain undefeated and claim her third consecutive state title, Winner had to go through No. 2 Rhaigyn Trenary, who the JCHS junior also beat in the semi-state title.

Winner set Trenary up, offering her leg out front and when the Eastside Blazer took a shot, Winner countered with a double-leg takedown. She did this once in each period and never relinquished control to win the 155-pound state title match and go 26-0 on the season.

2. Cinderella run

The sixth-seeded Fort Recovery High School baseball team found a late-season offensive spark to pull off upsets of second-seeded Crestview, and fourth-seeded Marion Local to win the Northwest 3 district championship. But the Indians weren't done, marching all the way to the state tournament in



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

No. 1 Mallory Winner of JCHS hits No. 2 Rhaigyn Trenary of Eastside with a cradle in attempt to work her to the mat during the 155-pound state title match at Kokomo High School on Jan. 12. Winner beat Trenary 6-0 to claim her third consecutive state championship.

Akron for the first time since 2016.

A strong effort from Alex Dues on the mound got FRHS past Hillsdale 3-1 to make the championship game for the first time in 71 years.

Fort Recovery scored two runs on Hiland – they were driven in by Caden Grisez and Caden Homan – but gave up runs on an error and two-out flyball to the right field wall to fall 3-2.

3. Field finished

Jay County High School debuted the Cleathouse this past fall and field this past fall. The \$6.1 million capital improvement project included a turf football and soccer field at Harold E. Schultz Stadium and the Cleathouse, a building beyond the north endzone that includes concessions, restrooms and locker rooms.

Construction of the building was completed by Mid-States Concrete and General Construc-

tion Co. of Jay County and the turf was installed by Sprinturf.

The field debuted with a 1-0 JCHS boys soccer victory over Muncie Central.

Jay County School Board has also approved the installation of new lights for the baseball and softball fields as the next facilities project.

4. Levi leads

In a season where Levi Muhlenkamp led the Jay County High School boys soccer team to a second sectional championship in three years, the senior broke Brad Horn's (Muhlenkamp's former coach) record for career goals.

Muhlenkamp found the net seven times in the regular season finale against Liberty Christian to surpass Horn's mark of 80 goals. The record-setting score came early in the second half on a corner kick, assisted by Dylan Marentes.

The senior finished his final

regular season with 81 scores throughout his career. He found the net one last time in 2024 to hit 35 goals on the season and set the new record at 82.

5. Runnin' Roessner

Anna Roessner capped off a breakout season with three medals at the OHSAA Division III state track and field tournament at Welcome Stadium. The Junior sprinter contributed 15 points from those events to lead the Fort Recovery High School girls track team to a 16th-place finish.

Roessner's best finish came in her third event, the 200-meter dash with a time of 25.09 seconds. She trailed just Izzy Zahn of Coldwater (24.48) and Iniya Charlton of Trinity (24.99).

In her other individual event, Roessner ran a 12.34 to place fifth in the 100 dash.

The FRHS junior also ran in the 4x100 relay with Paige Guggenbiller, Kiana Matsuda

and Mara Pearson to claim fourth with a time of 49.67 seconds.

Pearson, Trevor Heitkamp and Natalie Brunswick also competed in individual events, but didn't make the podium.

6. Senior state medals

Two of the most decorated wrestlers in Jay County High School history closed their careers in February by winning medals in the IHSAA Wrestling State Finals at the Ford Center in Evansville. Tony Wood took fourth place at 138 pounds by beating Blake Jones of Lawrence North in the opening round and Kyrel Leavell of Warren Central in the quarterfinal to extend his record to 46-0 before dropping his next two matches. Cody Rowles secured his state medal in the 126-pound bracket with a comeback 9-5 victory over Rochester's Layne Horn and went on to finish eighth.

See Wins page 7

Small Business Spectacular

Advertise your small business (30 employees or fewer) in all of our publications with:

Four 4x4 ads in The Commercial Review
Two 4x4 ads in The News-Gazette
One 4x4 ad in The News Times for
\$230

Or run two 4x4 ads in the publication(s) of your choice during January for:
The Commercial Review – **\$160**
The News-Gazette – **\$145**
The News Times – **\$120**

Rates do not apply to special sections.



THANKS
for supporting local business!

GRAPHIC
PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

Call (260) 726-8141 or email ads@theocr.com