

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## State-worthy smiles

The Jay County High School girls wrestling team claimed second place out of 54 teams at the IHSAA Regional 3 hosted by Alexandria-Monroe on Friday, with five Patriots moving on to the state finals at Corteva Coliseum at Indiana State Fairgrounds on Jan. 17. At left, No. 5 Katie Rowles grins after winning her 100-pound ticket round match to make it back to the state tournament for the first time since 2023. Above, the five Patriots to make the state tournament pose together. From left are Brenna Ruble (120-pound weight class), Rowles, No. 1 Mallory Winner (170), No. 6 Lina Lingo (135) and No. 11 Tatianna Willis (110).

## Bill would restrict social media

*Younger than 17 would need parental consent*

By CASEY SMITH  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A new bill seeks to further restrict Hoosiers under age 16 from creating social media accounts without “verified” parental permission.

Indiana Senate Bill 11, authored by Republican Sen. Mike Bohacek, would require a social media operator like Facebook or TikTok to restrict a minor from accessing the site if they did not receive “verifiable parental consent” from the minor’s parent.

As currently drafted, the bill would additionally allow parents and legal guardians to sue social media providers if their child accesses a site without consent.

Indiana’s attorney general could also issue a civil investigative demand if the office has “reasonable cause to believe” the law was violated. If a social media operator “fails to implement a verifiable parental consent method,” the attorney general would further be allowed to ask a judge to step in and stop a minor from accessing the site, and request a civil penalty of up to \$250,000 for each violation, according to the bill.

The bill was heard Wednesday in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Chairwoman Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, said the bill is expected to be amended and voted on by the committee next week.

“We’re not trying to regulate content, of what’s going on the various social media sites — that’s not what we’re trying to do,” said Bohacek, of Michiana Shores.

See Restrict page 2

## L.A. fires showing signs of easing

By HANNAH FRY,  
NATHAN SOLIS,  
GRACEY TOOHEY,  
RICHARD WINTON  
and REBECCA ELLIS  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — An unprecedented four-day fire siege that damaged or destroyed more than 12,000 structures and killed at least 11 people showed signs of finally easing Friday as winds lessened and firefighters began to contain the infernos.

Los Angeles County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone said crews were in their best position yet to get a handle on the blazes — though

### *Better weather, outside help have led to a better outlook*

still with a long way to go. The Palisades fire was 8% contained and the Eaton fire was 3% contained as of Friday afternoon, according to fire officials.

In addition to better weather, the fight has been aided by a stream of firefighting help from far and wide and the ability to use water-drop-

ping aircraft, which were grounded by high winds during the first day of the fires.

Despite the progress, officials warn of much more pain and anguish ahead.

It is expected to take some time to determine the death toll from this week’s Los Angeles

firestorms. Officials confirmed five people were killed in the Palisades fire and six in the Eaton fire, but L.A. County Sheriff Robert Luna said those numbers are likely to rise.

“We do, unfortunately, anticipate that deaths will go up because of the destruction that we’re seeing,” Luna said. “We’re not able to get in there in a manner — because it’s still not safe — to really do a thorough search.”

On Friday, the Los Angeles County medical examiner identified one of the victims as Victor Shaw, of Altadena. Officials said Shaw, 66, died of smoke inhalation and had suffered burn injuries.

## Farewell to Carter

### *Funerals in D.C., hometown Plains memorialize former president*

By JEREMY REDMON,  
ERNIE SUGGS  
and MIRTHA DONASTORG  
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution  
Tribune News Service

Washington, D.C., and then tiny Plains, Georgia, said goodbye to former President Jimmy Carter Thursday.

First, President Joe Biden honored him at a state funeral in the nation’s capital, remembering his longtime friend as a man of character and a patriot who “showed us what it means to be a practitioner of good works and a good and faithful servant of God and of the people.”

“To young people — to anyone — in search of meaning and purpose, study the power of Jimmy Carter’s example. I miss him,” Biden said moments before gently placing his hand on Carter’s flag-draped casket.

The nation’s 39th president and a former Georgia governor, Carter died on Dec. 29 after nearly two years in home hospice care. Carter, the only Georgian ever elected to the White House, received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002 for advancing peace, democracy and human rights.

Biden eulogized Carter on the final day of a nearly weeklong series of memorial events that began and ended in southwest Georgia. From Plains to Atlanta to the U.S. Capitol and back, Carter’s final journey featured sharply contrasting themes from his 100 years on the planet.

The first of his two funeral services was held in the nation’s capital, where Carter served as president from January 1977 to January 1981. His second funeral service took place in his tiny hometown Plains, where he lived for decades in the same modest ranch-style house with former first lady Rosalynn Carter until she died in 2023.

See Carter page 2



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Haiyun Jiang

President Joe Biden touches the casket after delivering remarks Thursday at the state funeral of former U.S. President Jimmy Carter at Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. Biden declared the day a national day of mourning for Carter, the 39th President of the United States, who died at the age of 100 on Dec. 29 at his home in Plains, Georgia. Following the state funeral, Carter’s remains will be returned to Plains, where he will be interred after a private family service.

### Deaths

Jacob Lykins, 52, Anderson  
Stacy Bennett, 48, Portland  
Oddrie Guntle Jr., 84, Portland  
Jennifer Schisler, 68, Pennington  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 27 degrees Friday. Snow began falling in the afternoon, with a total accumulation of 3 to 4 inches expected. Today’s forecast calls for a high in the upper 20s with winds gusting to 20 miles per hour. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County High School’s Senior Honors Night is scheduled for 7 p.m. May 5. Any organization or individual interested in presenting an award or scholarship at this event should contact the JCHS guidance office. Forms can also be picked up at the high school. The deadline is Feb. 6.

### Coming up

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS boys basketball game against Adams Central.  
Wednesday — Coverage of next week’s Dunkirk City Council meeting.  
Thursday — Details from the opening round of the ACAC basketball tournament.



# Obituaries

## Jacob Lykins

June 18, 1972-Jan. 8, 2025  
Jacob Lykins, 52, Anderson, a relative of Bryant residents, died Wednesday at his home.  
Arrangements are pending at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

## Stacy Bennett

Nov. 17, 1976-Jan. 10, 2025  
Stacy J. Bennett, age 48, passed away on Friday, Jan. 10, 2025, at her home in Portland.  
Stacy was born on Nov. 17, 1976, in Jay County, the daughter of Edward E. Mast Jr. and Debbie

(Aker) White. Stacy married Timmy Bennett on Oct. 16, 2010, and he passed away on Sept. 26, 2014.  
Survivors include:  
Her mother — Debbie White, Portland, Indiana  
Two sisters — Stephanie Harris, Portland, Indiana, and Kellie Potter (husband: Jacob) Dunkirk, Indiana  
One brother — Jeffrey Mast (Fiancé Suzzanne), Montpelier, Indiana



Bennett

Three stepbrothers — Tim Ray (wife: Shelly), Albany, Indiana, Brian Ray (wife: Lone), Ridgeville, Indiana, and Mark Ray (wife: Betsy), Winchester, Indiana  
Three stepsisters — Amanda Shobe (husband: Dan), Hobart, Indiana, Amelia Newhouse (husband: Derek), Greenwood, Indiana, Anna Fosnaugh (fiancé: Ben), Portland, Indiana  
Nieces and nephews — Ali Harris, Tristan Harris, Derrick Potter, Kaylee Potter, Andrew Potter, Lennox Mast, Ila Turner and Raevynn Turner.

Several step-nieces and step-nephews  
She was preceded in death by her father Edward Mast Jr.; and stepmother Barbara E. Mast.  
Burial will follow at a later date at Center Cemetery West of Portland.  
Arrangements are entrusted to Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home.  
Condolences may be expressed at williamson-spencer.com  
**Oddrie Guntle Jr.**, Portland, July 19, 1940-Jan. 8, 2025. Services are scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday at

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.  
**Jennifer Schisler**, Pennville, Sept. 4, 1956-Jan. 9, 2025. Services will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.  
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*The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city, 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

Sunday 1/12	Monday 1/13	Tuesday 1/14	Wednesday 1/15	Thursday 1/16
<b>32/21</b>	<b>25/9</b>	<b>14/5</b>	<b>18/11</b>	<b>28/23</b>
Mostly cloudy on Sunday, when the low will be in the mid 20s. Winds may be 10 to 15 mph.	Monday's weather looks to be mostly cloudy with temperatures nearing single digit degrees late.	Mostly sunny on Tuesday, with the low at night hitting single digits.	Wednesday should be mostly sunny with wind chills reaching as low as -10 degrees.	Thursday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with wind chill values as low as five below late.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 6-3-7 Daily Four: 5-6-3-9 Quick Draw: 2-3-7-8-9-10-11-20-33-45-47-48-50-59-60-63-67-72-76-79	Pick 4: 5-8-9-8 Pick 5: 8-5-0-5-5
<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 9-5-9	<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$263 million
	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$77 million

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.60 Feb. corn .....4.62 March corn .....4.64	Feb. beans .....10.01 Wheat .....5.10
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.60 Feb. corn .....4.63 March corn .....4.65	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.51 Feb. corn .....4.51 Beans .....9.93 Feb. beans .....9.96 Wheat .....4.94
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.53 Feb. corn .....4.53 Beans .....9.94	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.60 Feb. corn .....4.60 Beans .....9.69 Feb. beans .....9.74 Wheat .....4.74

## Today in history

In 347, Roman emperor Theodosius I was born in Mediolanum (now Milan, Italy). He led the eastern Roman empire from 379 to 392 and then led both the east and west for the next three years.  
In 1755 (or 1757), the first treasury secretary of the United States was born on the Caribbean island of Nevis. (Alexander Hamilton claimed his birth year as 1757 but paperwork recorded after his mother's death indicate it was 1755.)  
In 1861, Alabama became the fourth state to secede from the Union in the lead up to the Civil War. South Carolina was the first to secede on Dec. 20, 1860, followed by Mississippi and Florida.  
In 2013, Kyle Cook was announced as the new executive director of Jay Community Center. Cook is a 2006 graduate of Ball State University who then also worked at (and now co-owns) Cook's Nursery in Portland.  
In 2022, Raven Myers of Portland was arrested for attempted murder after she allegedly cut her 2-year-old daughter's wrists. Myers pleaded guilty in September 2022 to a Level 3 felony for serious bodily injury and will serve up to nine years in prison.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St. 6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Park Board, village	hall, 201 S. Main St.
<b>Tuesday</b> 6 p.m. Redkey Town Council executive session, park cabin, 50 Mooney St. 6 p.m. — Ridgeville Town Council, Ridgeville Fire Department, 302 N. Walnut St.	
<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	
<b>Thursday</b> 6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	

# Carter ...

Continued from page 1  
Friends and family praised Carter at Washington National Cathedral, an English Gothic house of worship with flying buttresses, pinnacles and vaulted ceilings. Later Thursday, Carter was memorialized at the much smaller Maranatha Baptist Church in Plains. The former president taught Sunday school there for decades and even mowed the grass.  
Among the hundreds of mourners who attended the service at the cathedral were former presidents George W. Bush, Bill Clinton and Barack Obama; President-elect Donald Trump; and world leaders, including Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. The private service at Carter's church in Plains accommodated far fewer people, including relatives

and friends who may be less famous but who were no less dear to the former president.  
The memorial events started in the morning at the U.S. Capitol, where Carter lay in state. Accompanied by a U.S. military honor guard, his remains sat atop a platform that was built in 1865 to support Abraham Lincoln's casket.  
At the cathedral, Ford's son, Steven, read a eulogy written by the late Republican president.  
"As for myself, Jimmy, I am looking forward to our reunion. We have much to catch up on," Steven Ford recited from his father's tribute. "Thank you, Mr. President. Welcome home, old friend."  
Country music stars Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood performed "Imagine," John Lennon's song about a utopian world.

Andrew Young, Carter's ambassador to the United Nations, read Scripture before calling Carter "something of a miracle."  
"I don't mean this with any disrespect, but it is still hard for me to understand how you could get to be president from Plains, Georgia," said Young, also a former congressman and Atlanta mayor. "I have known President Carter for more than half of my life. And I never ceased to be surprised, I never ceased to be enlightened, I never ceased to be inspired by the little deeds of love and mercy that he shared with us every day of his life."  
Other speakers included Ted Mondale, the son of the late former Vice President Walter Mondale; Stuart Eizenstat, Carter's chief White House domestic affairs adviser; and Carter's grandchildren.

Jason Carter said his grandparents were "small-town people who never forgot who they were and where they were from, no matter what happened in their lives." Driving home his point, he vividly described their home in Plains, joking "it looks like they might have built it themselves." His grandfather, he added, "was likely to show up at the door in some 70s short-shorts and Crocs."  
"It was like thousands of other grandparents' houses all across the South. Fishing trophies on the walls. The refrigerator, of course, was papered with pictures of grandchildren and great-grandchildren," Jason Carter said. "And demonstrating their Depression-era roots, they had a little rack next to the sink where they would hang Ziploc bags to dry."

# Restrict ...

Continued from page 1  
"We're looking to see, is just the fact that social media itself — regardless of the content that's inside of it — is that, in and of itself, creating the mental health issues that we're having right now with a lot of our kids? And I believe that's what it is."  
The bill would be effective on July 1, if passed.  
During the 2024 session, state lawmakers approved Senate Enrolled Act

17, requiring pornography websites to verify user ages. They hoped to keep children from accessing pornography, but adult content companies sued, arguing the law would be costly to implement and violate First Amendment and privacy rights.  
A federal judge blocked enforcement last June before its intended July effectiveness date, but an appeals court later rolled back the preliminary injunction. The law is currently

in effect while the litigation continues.  
Current bill language specifies that "verifiable parental consent" could be obtained "through a method that is reasonably designed to ensure that the person providing the consent is a parent or legal guardian of the minor user." The proposal also mandates social media providers to establish a procedure to allow a parent or legal guardian to revoke their consent.

# Capsule Reports

**Pole hit**  
A Winchester man crashed into a crosswalk pole at the intersection of Meridian Street and Industrial Drive in Portland about 8:30 a.m. Friday.  
Stephen J. Hollinger, 63, was driving a 2013 Freightliner Cascadia east on

Industrial Drive when he began turning south onto Meridian Street (U.S. 27).  
The side of the semi truck hit the pole next to the road.  
The vehicle Hollinger was driving is registered to Pioneer Transport of Portland. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

# Felony courts

**Dealing drugs**  
A woman was sentenced to serve a decade in prison for dealing narcotics.  
Shauna B. Manor, 30, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to the Level 4 felony. She was sentenced to 10 years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served. Manor was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.  
She was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completion of a substance abuse treatment program, the court would consider modifying her sentence. As part of her plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: a Level 5 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance and a Level 6 felony for unlawful possession of a syringe.

but 64 days suspended and given four days credit for time served. Fields was ordered to serve his sentence on home detention and placed on probation for 301 days. He was fined \$1, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$50 domestic violence prevention and treatment fee.  
As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for strangulation and a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana were dismissed.

### SERVICES

**Sunday**  
**Hunt**, Ruth Ann: 1:30 p.m., Covenant Presbyterian Church, 415 N. Main St., Springboro, Ohio.

**Monday**  
**Guntle**, Oddrie: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Tuesday**  
**Schisler**, Jennifer: 6 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

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# Dunkirk church closing doors

A Dunkirk church closes its doors this month. First American Baptist Church, 427 S. Main St., will hold its final service at 2 p.m. Jan. 19 with pastor Doug Gregg delivering the sermon. The church has been in service for approximately 154 years. Community members are invited to attend the final service, which will include a freewill offering to be used for a memorial fund.

## Taking Note

### Completed degree

A Portland resident recently finished her degree at Trine University in Angola. Olivia Rowles completed requirements at the end of the fall semester for a mas-

ter of science degree majoring in criminal justice.

### President's List

Three Jay County residents were recently named to Trine University's President's List. Locals on the list for the Angola college included Isaac Braun of Portland, a chemical engineering major, Jennifer DeBoy of Dunkirk, a criminal justice major, and Trevor Shaneyfelt of Portland, an education studies major.

# Cheating boyfriend breaks girl's heart

DEAR ABBY: My 18-year-old daughter recently broke up with her boyfriend. She caught him on the phone talking with another female, and there were other signs of his cheating as well. She's devastated, and so am I. I really liked the guy, but he obviously didn't care for my daughter or her feelings.

I told my daughter everything will be OK in time. But there are many memories of him, so it's hard for her. He sent her a message to apologize, but afterward, he blocked her. He also blocked her on Instagram. She doesn't understand why. I said maybe the other girl told him to or he doesn't want anything to do with her anymore. How can I help my daughter through this crisis? — LOVE HURTS IN NEW YORK

DEAR LOVE HURTS: Suggest to your daughter that if she has mementoes of this romance, she should get rid of them or put them somewhere she won't see them. The same is true for music that reminds her of him. People get past these painful experiences by staying busy and not allowing themselves time to brood. Encourage her to socialize with friends and remain active. As to why this young man apologized and then blocked her, I'm guessing he apologized because he felt guilty, and then blocked her because he wants to move on.

DEAR ABBY: Our daughter and son-in-law live with us. She's painting the interior to update our 27-year-old house and wants to update the cabinets at her expense. Every time she tries to make things look better, her daddy gets angry and accuses her of trying to take over "his" house before he's dead. (This is not true.) He

## Dear Abby



says if you ask anyone, they would agree with him. I say he's wrong. What do we do? — SPRUCING UP IN INDIANA

DEAR SPRUCING UP: If your daughter and her husband wish to paint and install new cabinets only in the area of the house they occupy, your husband should contain his anger. If your daughter is trying to do more than that with the idea that at some point, she will inherit the place, your husband's anger may be justified. You are all adults. Find a way to discuss this and reach a compromise.

DEAR ABBY: My mom is starting to drive me crazy. She thinks that in order for me to consider myself a successful career woman, I need a job that has steady, consistent hours, offers health benefits and has a retirement plan.

I have a job, but because of the pandemic, my hours are temporarily staggered. I have no benefits, but I can manage that stuff (insurance and retirement) on my own. How do I make my mom understand that and stop treating me like a little kid with no plans for my future? — AT WITS' END IN MARYLAND

DEAR AT WITS' END: It's a mother's job to worry about her children, so be patient with her. If your reassurance isn't enough to stop her comments, show her the paperwork that supports your case.

# Blushing bride receives honor

By NORMAN WINTER  
Tribune News Service

The blushing bride and her eye-catching straps put on quite the show last year. It's so true, and I can imagine editors everywhere having palpitations as The Garden Guy goes rogue with seductive humor. Now that I have your attention, I am talking about Heart to Heart, Blushing Bride, Proven Winners "Caladium of the Year" for 2025. It is a strap-leaf variety hence the reference to "her straps." The last few years I have been growing more caladiums than anytime in my life. One thing is certain, they are tough as nails and will perform in the garden until a killing frost. We basically think of caladiums as two types: fancy, which are heart-shaped, and strap, which are elongated and narrow but normally producing more leaves. Heart to Heart Blushing Bride is a variety for sun or shade. I still find gardeners who haven't tried sun-tolerant caladiums in the sun, refusing to believe. In other words, the gardener believes they will fry in the sun and thus plant in the shade. Nothing is wrong with planting in the shade; they are just missing out on an incred-

ible opportunity if they indeed have sun available. I had the opportunity to visit with Chad Harrison at the Young's Plant Farm Annual Garden Tour last June in Auburn, Alabama. Chad is the East Coast regional sales manager for Abbott-Ipco, the parent company for Classic Caladiums. Chad excitedly took me around pointing out the dazzling selections growing in full sun. Among those showing out was Heart to Heart Blushing Bride.

The color was a saturated deep pink, even looking red with green margins. It reached about 21 inches tall. All of the varieties growing in full sun were worthy of a magazine cover. But be sure to know if your caladiums can take full sun before you plant.

Caladiums are native to Central and South America where temperatures and humidity are high. That sounds like a perfect match for my west Georgia climate. I love caladiums, both in containers and in beds. I usually plant jumbo bulbs using a Twist 'n Plant auger on the end of a cordless drill. You can plant dozens in very little time.

Heart to Heart Blushing Bride is an award-winning caladium

from the get-go. You will want to plant your bulbs using an 8- to 10-inch spacing. Wait until the soil has warmed before planting. But now is a great time to start sourcing.

As a young horticulturist, I found myself satisfied growing caladiums in partnerships with impatiens, but now I seek out those opportunities with hydrangeas, reblooming azaleas, hostas, garden phlox and coleus. So last year I planted Heart to Heart Blushing Bride with Shadowland Miss America, the Proven Winners "Host of the Year" for 2025. Perfecto Mundo Double Red azaleas and Tuff Stuff Ah-Ha hydrangeas were close by.

Jumbo caladium bulbs really represent some of the best value for your garden dollar. The garden becomes an oasis while your gazebo or tiki hut is transformed to a tropical paradise, all by adding caladium bulbs.

Norman Winter, horticulturist, garden speaker and author of "Tough-as-Nails Flowers for the South" and "Captivating Combinations: Color and Style in the Garden." Follow him on Facebook @NormanWinterTheGardenGuy.

# Community Calendar

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

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

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

**Monday**  
PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will

meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

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

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

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, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at noon the second Monday of each month at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E Walnut St, Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

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. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

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

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second and fourth Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio. For

more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

**Tuesday**  
COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 729-7000.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

## Friday's Solution

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

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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**WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?**

**For Jay County Elementary Schools January 13-17, 2025**

**Monday: Main Entrees:** Chicken tenders **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni panini, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** French fries

**Tuesday Main Entrees:** Beef nachos **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni panini, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned refried beans

**Wednesday: Main Entrees:** Pepperoni Pizza Pasta Bake **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni panini, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned mixed capri vegetables

**Thursday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheeseburger in bun **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni panini, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** BBQ baked beans

**Friday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheese pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni panini, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Roasted broccoli

**george family DENTISTRY**

112 North Ship Street, Portland, IN (260) 726-4710

# Prudence should guide legislature

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)  
Tribune News Service

As the 124th Indiana General Assembly begins its work, one word summarizes Hoosier hopes for this session: prudence.

That is, the art of employing reason, good judgment and caution, here, in creating and passing legislation.

Foremost this session will produce the state budget for the next two years. Increases in Medicaid expenditures and school funding will dominate talks.

Much of this will fit into Gov-

## Hoosier Editorial

elect Mike Braun's agenda for tax relief, health care, public safety, government efficiency and workforce development. Policy discussion will be forthcoming as lawmakers hone their agendas.

But, we must remember, it took a few sessions for Gov. Eric

Holcomb's Next Level agenda to gain a foothold.

With the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump, there might well be a tendency among Indiana legislators to align state goals with Trump's agenda. Some legislators might try to score points with the White House.

Thankfully, as of the first week of the legislature, only a handful of bills overtly scream, "Mr. Trump, please look at how we're in your corner."

Specifically, there's Senate Bill 172, which prohibits law officers from refusing to cooper-

ate in the enforcement of immigration laws, making their choice a misdemeanor. Also prohibited is anyone in Indiana from adopting a policy that bars cooperation with immigration laws. That section of the bill is aimed at any entity that might establish a safe haven for immigrants.

House Bill 1074 prohibits any provider of financial services from refusing services to a retailer solely because the retailer sells firearms. It's an attempt to curtail corporate activism.

Leaning in the other direc-

tion, Senate Bill 18 predicts the elimination of the Environmental Protection Agency and its residual impact on state agencies. The bill would enable cities and towns to establish a local air pollution control agency.

Though we await debate on such bills, the legislature should avoid partisan skepticism.

Hoosiers expect General Assembly leaders to rein in crystal-ball legislation. Legislators must give careful consideration to how legislation would impact Hoosiers.

In a simpler word, they must exercise prudence.

## Imagination must match AI significance

By KEVIN FRAZIER

The Fulcrum  
Tribune News Service

In 1933, Dr. Francis Townsend penned a Letter to the Editor for the Long-Beach Press-Telegram.

His radical, simple idea — to give \$200 a month (now, about \$4,800) to seniors, on the condition that they spend it all before their next payment — spawned one of the largest citizen movements the nation had experienced up to that point.

A congressional caucus was even formed in response to the movement. Soon, states took up similar proposals, such as the "Ham and Eggs" initiative in California, which would have provided each resident over 50 with \$30 per week.

Though the Townsend Plan and its state equivalents failed, the Social Security Act may not have been passed nor later amended to be made stronger if it were not for this one doctor's letter and the movement it inspired.

How best to ensure the economic resilience of Americans is again atop Congress's agenda and at the center of the presidential election. This is unsurprising, given public concern about the state of the economy. More than a third of Americans identify economic issues as the main problem facing the country. This sizable coalition has remained consistent for more than two years, which suggests that piecemeal progress in addressing economic instability has not alleviated the public's worries.

Forecasts of ongoing economic uncertainty suggest that the public will remain interested in any and all proposals to increase both the nation's financial footing as well as their individual economic security.

Advances in artificial intelligence and its rapid adoption across numerous professions justify continuing unease. Early signs of economic chaos brought on by AI have already appeared. Video game makers, for example, have slashed their workforces. Artists, musicians, and other content creators have warned that they're experiencing dips in business.

So far, the proposed solutions have been partial and insignificant. Some states, for instance, have passed legislation to reduce the use of digital

Kevin Frazier



replicas that might cut into the potential earnings of performers. Such targeted legislation, while necessary, lacks breadth and boldness.

The scale of our legislative imagination must match the significance of technological, social, and economic changes already underway. Few doubt that AI is indeed heralding a new era.

Life in just a few years will likely look remarkably different.

AI agents — think AI systems that can act on your behalf, proactively accomplish tasks, and pursue long-term goals — will upend many daily activities and, by extension, many jobs and companies.

Rather than get caught flat-footed by these changes, we need creative ideas of how to maintain and protect our core values, norms, and institutions. The bare minimum is the sort of status quo legislation we've seen in various states.

We can, should, and must dream bigger.

AI is already creating new classes of haves and have-nots.

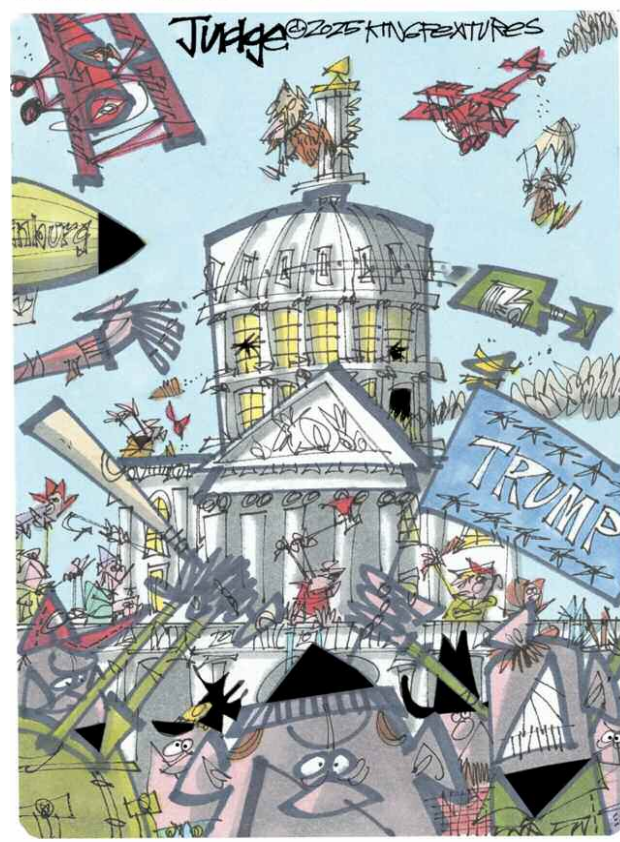
The divide between these two groups will increase if inaction or insignificant solutions remain the norm. Now is the time to think about novel ways to empower and support those who find themselves on the wrong side of innovation.

What new institutions, supports, and opportunities will we create so that more people and more communities thrive rather than merely survive in the age of AI?

I have offered a few of my own ideas via other essays and articles. You should do the same — now is the time as DC is soon to experience a change of hands. Without people like Dr. Townsend daring to share their novel solutions, we may have never realized a better future.

.....  
Frazier is adjunct professor at Delaware Law and affiliated scholar in emerging technology and constitutional law at St. Thomas University College of Law.

IN RESPONSE TO PEOPLE WHO SAY ALL POLITICIANS ARE THE SAME:



JANUARY 6TH, 2021



JANUARY 6TH, 2025

## Road ahead is uncertain

By JOHN KRULL

TheStatehouseFile.com

ON THE ROAD — Back roads haunt me.

I'm driving now through Vermont and upstate New York, working my way back home from a visit with family in the Green Mountains just south of the Canadian border.

It's a cold day, with temperatures dipping into the teens and topping out only in the low 20s with a stiff wind blustering down from the north, its 20 miles-per-hour gusts buffeting my squat, heavy car as we roll along. Heavy snow is expected to blow in by mid-afternoon, making travel difficult.

A smarter man might stick to the freeways, even if they do add miles to the distance he'd need to cover, because of the safety in numbers more heavily trafficked thoroughfares provide.

But I've never been able to resist the allure of quiet country and the blue highways the writer Williams Least Heat-Moon made famous 40 years ago. Given half a chance, I'll steer my way toward and wander along them, content as an old dog who has found a warm patch of sunlight in which to rest.

The road on this brisk day meanders along the contours of Lake Champlain, passing through tiny Vermont villages with small shops and lovely homes, many of their chimneys trailing wood smoke into the air.

Once over the bridge that crosses the lake and connects Vermont and rural New York, the landscape becomes still more remote. The sign welcoming visitors to the Adirondack Park sits beside the road not long after a traveler enters the state.

I know this country a little bit. My wife's extended family has had a presence here for more than a century. When our children were

John Krull



young, we often brought them here to acquaint them with part of their heritage and to savor the beauty of a part of the country distinct from the Midwest.

On those visits, we'd hike along mountain trails as a family and eat simple meals, many prepared over a firepit. In summer, I'd begin each day with a long swim in a high-country lake so cool and clear it cleansed the soul as well as the body.

The road winds through small communities, some only a cluster of three or four homes, and the signs point to communities with names that echo from an earlier era.

North Creek.  
Speculator.  
Johnsburg.

This is not my land — as far as I know, none of my ancestors ever settled in these evergreen-stacked mountains — but our trips here always reminded me of the times I spent with my grandfather in the hills of Southern Indiana.

My mother's people, descendants of Scots Irish immigrants fleeing the crown's oppression, settled in the knobs just before the War of 1812 began. For much of the 19th century, they scratched out homes and livings in a country that was beautiful to see but hard to farm.

My mother insisted I spend time down there working in the fields with my grandfather. He'd been the first of his family to leave what we called the home place when he earned his college degree. He

returned after my grandmother died to live with his sister, also widowed, as their days dwindled down.

Those stays with Grandpa taught me not to make false distinctions between town folk and country folk, to assume that one sort of existence was simpler or less morally complicated than another.

Virtue, I learned, has many homes.

So, sadly, does vice. The road twists, following a mountain stream that surges over rocks that were there long before I was born. Snow blankets the ground.

We live now in a nation divided between urban and rural communities. It is a division I struggle to understand, because if there ever was a relationship between parties dependent upon each other, this is it.

There also is the question of shared heritage. My story is not unusual. Stretch back far enough and every family's tale begins somewhere in the country.

The snowfall comes in without warning, falling heavily, the wind whipping it in swirls. The whirling snowflakes almost hypnotize and blind the eye.

I glance in the rearview mirror. Not far back, the road behind me is clear and easy to discern.

The road ahead, though, is obscured by a shifting curtain of white, the path forward uncertain and laden with possibilities both good and bad.

Thus, it always has been. Thus, it always will be.

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

# The Commercial Review



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"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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## 1-11 CRYPTOQUIP

QZONAQDY IMAOK WGZW HAUAWU  
JABU ZOB LZKANZYCYC LZJMU  
WGML IMNPLM LPFM GPOMUW:  
WGM WFDWG QZAF C.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** IF ONLY A PERCENTAGE OF WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS CHEEKY, HOW ARE YOU SPEAKING? PARTLY PERTLY.  
**Today's Cryptoquip Clue:** G equals H

**CRYPTO FUN**

Solve the code to discover words related to dog training. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 24 = A)

**A. 20 13 24 12 1**  
Clue: Controls pet

**B. 26 19 4 4 24 9 10**  
Clue: Give an order

**C. 12 24 7 13 25 2**  
Clue: Caution

**D. 19 3 13 2**  
Clue: Follow commands

### Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

#### In office

- Who was the first man born in the 20th century to serve as vice president?
- William Henry Harrison served just 31 days as president. Who is the only other president to serve less than one year in office?

(2) James A. Garfield  
(1) Richard Nixon

## 1-13 CRYPTOQUIP

QWLB TNP QJBM MN GJMGW  
PR NB MWL DJMLYM VNYUR,  
JDQJTY JYH J VJXELBLX. MWLT  
HBNQ JDD MWL EUXM.

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** FANCIFUL BEING THAT VISITS KIDS AND MAGICALLY MAKES THEM BECOME MORE HONEST. THE TRUTH FAIRY.  
**Today's Cryptoquip Clue:** Q equals W

### DOG TRAINING WORD SEARCH

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

**WORDS**

- ACQUIRE
- ADAPTATION
- AGGRESSION
- ALPHA
- ANXIETY
- AROUSAL
- BARKING
- BEHAVIOR
- BEHAVIORIST
- CLICKER
- COLLAR
- CONDITIONING
- DESENSITIZATION
- DISTRESS
- DOMINANCE
- ENVIRONMENT
- FEAR
- FOCUS
- INHIBITION
- LEAD
- MODIFICATION
- POSITIVE
- REINFORCEMENT
- TRAINER

### WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to dog training.

**Y S T A**

Answer: Stay

### GUESS WHO?

I am a member of the British royal family, born in England on January 9, 1982. I studied art history as a student, and I met my future husband at school. We dated for nine years before getting married in 2011. I am known for supporting a number of charities.

Answer: Catherine, Princess of Wales

### kids' corner

### World FACT:

This celebration occurs in many Asian countries and prominently features animals.

Answer: Chinese (Lunar) New Year

### Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.

### Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

NULRA 1 2 3 4  
EDAARP 5  
YRAE 6  
OLCROS 7 8

J T H T

Answer: Enjoy the lanterns

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

JANUARY 11

1789: The first American life insurance company is incorporated in Philadelphia.  
1908: Grand Canyon National Monument is created.  
1935: Amelia Earhart becomes the first person to fly solo from Hawaii to California.

### NEW WORD

**LUNAR**  
determined by the moon

### Did You Know?

Chinese New Year is the longest Chinese holiday, as it lasts 16 days. However, only the first seven days are a public holiday.

### Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dragon puppet

## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Ark legal shoes
- Con expert games
- French novelist
- Heckler's weapon
- "Delta Wedding" author
- Defeated in a footrace
- Govt. stipend
- Roly-poly
- Roast VIPs
- Golf pegs
- Docs' org.
- Lap dog, for short
- Former First Daughter
- Most sore
- 401(k) alternative
- Med. plan
- Popeye's veggie

**DOWN**

- Repaired shoes
- Mal de mer
- "Golden" tunes
- Before
- "Grace-land"
- The Browns, on scoreboards
- Tex-Mex treat
- "I, Robot" author
- Leg joints
- Hosiery shade
- Milan's La —
- Tolerate
- Brilliant
- Chew out
- Invoice fig.
- "Little Women"
- Matriarch
- Pancake towers
- Milan's La —
- Tolerate
- Brilliant
- Chew out
- Invoice fig.
- "Little Women"
- Matriarch
- Pancake towers
- Remote locations?
- Halt
- iPod model
- Asia's — Darya river
- Keypad trio

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 1-11**

## Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

### Look before you leap

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 8 6  
♥ 6 5 4 2  
♦ J 10 5  
♣ K 8 4 3

**EAST**  
♠ Q 10 9 5  
♥ Q J 10 8  
♦ 7  
♣ J 10 7 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A J 4 3  
♥ A K 7  
♦ A K 6 3  
♣ A Q

The bidding:  
South West North East  
3 NT Pass Pass Pass  
Opening lead — four of diamonds.

Three notrump looks so easy to make on today's deal — especially after an opening diamond lead — that the casual player might well ask "What's the problem?" Yet it contains a trap that would very likely ensnare many unsuspecting declarers.

After the diamond lead, South pauses briefly to count his winners and sees nine in plain view — one spade, two hearts, three diamonds and three clubs. Having made this determination, he puts up dummy's jack of diamonds, which holds, and cashes the A-Q of clubs.

It is at this point that South begins to realize that his initial assessment of his prospects might have been premature. The difficulty lies in the fact that although dummy's king of clubs is the game-going trick, there is no way to reach dummy to collect it.

Try as he might, South will find himself fighting a losing battle. If, for example, he tries to get to dummy by leading his remaining low diamond toward the 10-5, West takes the queen, leaving South with the lone A-K opposite the 10.

The solution is not really difficult, provided declarer negotiates the first hurdle. Before he plays to the opening trick, he should note the blockage in the club suit and take immediate steps to resolve that problem.

This can be done easily by playing the five of diamonds from dummy rather than the jack or ten. East's seven is taken with the king, and the A-Q of clubs are cashed. South then leads a low diamond toward the J-10.

West can take his queen now or later, but the result is the same in either case. Nine tricks are assured, regardless of what the defenders do.

What the deal points up is that the natural impulse to play high from dummy at trick one must be curbed until the hand is examined as a whole. In other words, look before you leap!

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## Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

### Famous Hand

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ K Q J  
♥ A 10 8 4 3  
♦ A 10 9 6 3  
♣ A 10 9 6 3

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

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K J 9 8 5 2  
♥ A 10 4  
♦ K  
♣ 8 7

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass  
4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass  
6 ♠

Opening lead — king of clubs.  
An intriguing feature of team bridge is that one deal can produce two entirely different results and yet yield virtually no swing.

Consider this case from a match between Mexico and Canada in 1993. When Peter Herold and Jim Dickie of Canada sat North-South, they reached six spades as shown.

West led the club king to dummy's ace. Dickie crossed to the diamond king, cashed the A-K of spades and returned to dummy with a heart to discard his club loser on the dia-

mond ace. He then led a club, which East ruffed, but declarer overruffed and conceded a spade to make the slam for 1,430 points.

At the other table, with Mexico sitting North-South, things took a completely different turn when the bidding went:

South West North East  
1 ♠ 2 ♣ Pass Pass  
Dble Pass Pass Pass  
After Canada's Mike Strebinger overcalled with two clubs, North, Gonzalo Herrera, playing negative doubles, passed to await developments. Miriam Rosenberg elected to reopen with a double rather than rebid her seven-card spade suit, and everyone passed.

Herrera cashed the K-Q of hearts and the diamond ace, felling his partner's king. South ruffed the diamond continuation and cashed the A-K of spades, North discarding the heart jack and a diamond.

Herrera ruffed the third round of spades and led another diamond for South to ruff. Rosenberg played the heart ace, and North discarded his last diamond when West ruffed with the queen. Herrera took the jack of clubs with the ace and led the ten to hold declarer to just two tricks — down six, 1,400 points!

The final tally after all this excitement? By losing 1,400 points at one table and gaining 1,430 at the other, the Canadians gained all of 1 IMP on the deal!

Tomorrow: Quantitative analysis.  
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## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Soak (up)
- "Nova" channel
- South Pacific nation
- Grouch
- Ump's call
- Tehran's country
- Rights org.
- Peyton's brother
- Dweeb
- Spars
- Boast
- Prom outfit
- TV detective
- Remington
- Shirt parts
- Flynn of film
- Frankfurt fellow
- Cleaning cloth
- Fine cotton
- "Shake —"
- (Taylor Swift hit)
- "Be serious!"

**DOWN**

- Con job
- Killer whale
- Buddies
- "The Raven" writer
- Future tulip
- Mixes up
- Crime-solving aids
- Rage
- Pickle holder
- Hoosier st.
- Crunchy candy bar
- Minivan alternative
- Con-sumed
- Gen — (baby boomer's kid)
- One of HOMES
- Linda, Calif.
- Mideast airline
- Tibia's place
- Jared of "Panic Room"
- Cupid's alias
- Droop
- Tiara jewel
- Service charge
- Capote nickname
- Wartime riveter
- Boy, in Barcelona
- Showy flower
- Scrabble piece
- Singer Ono
- Last letter in London
- Chemical suffix
- Actress Long
- Prohibit

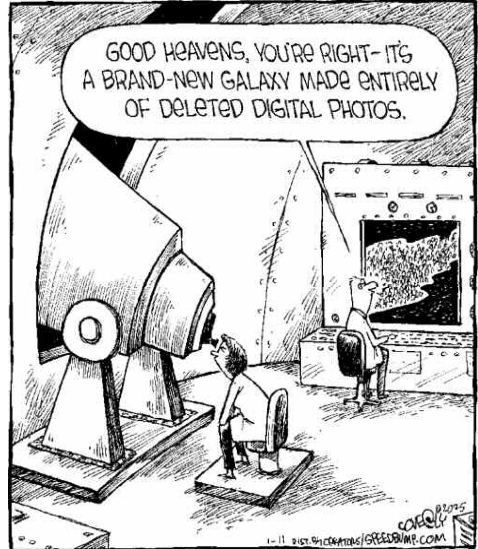
**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**Saturday's answer 1-13**

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

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

**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



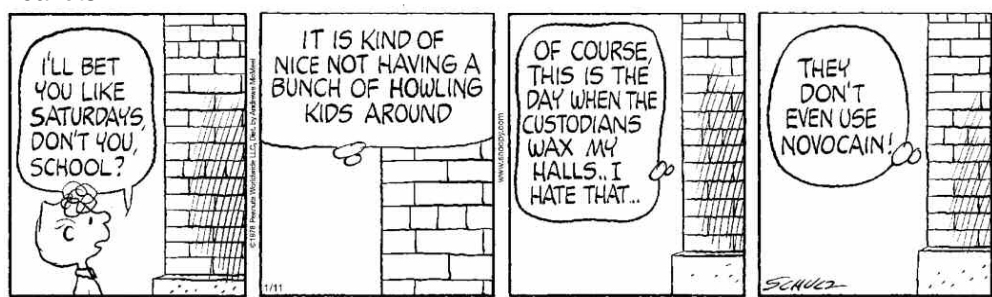
**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Peanuts



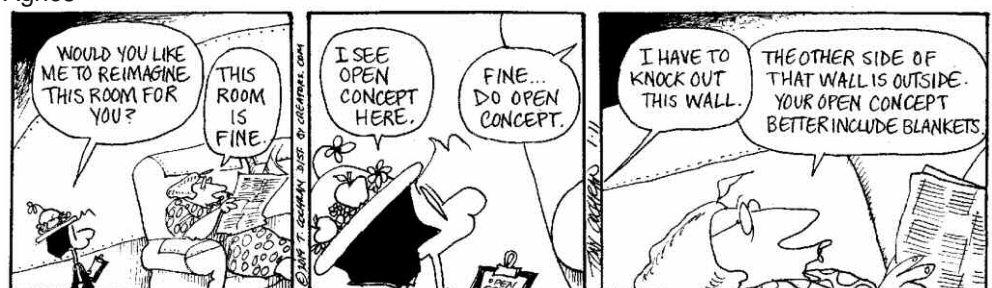
Rose is Rose



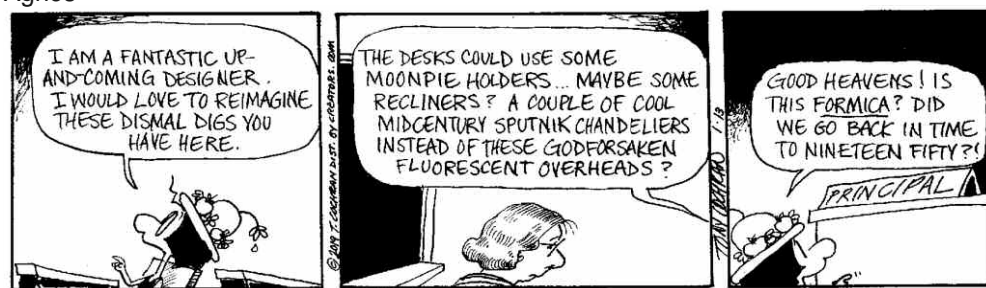
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



Blondie



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



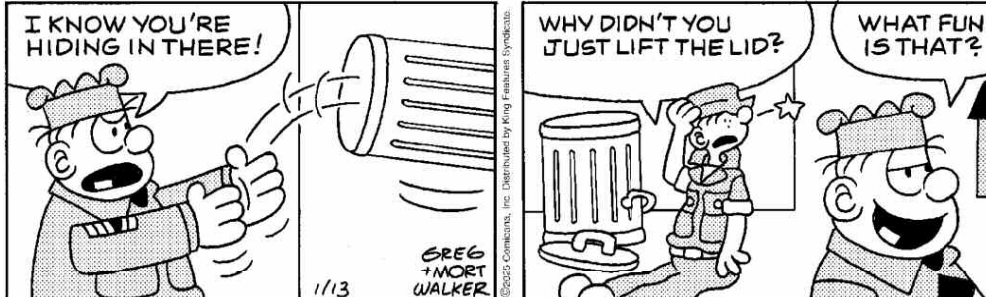
Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



# We Deliver

# Laughter

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

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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**CASSIFIED 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  
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business opportunities,  
jobs wanted, boats and  
sporting equipment,  
wanted to rent, motor-  
ized vehicles, real estate  
and mobile homes.

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not be responsible for  
more than one days  
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**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**48TH ANNUAL  
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TION**  
Saturday February 8,  
2025  
The Coldwater Young  
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consignment auction at  
the Coldwater football  
stadium parking lot in  
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Anna 260.264.1319  
Auction Manager

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp Exhibi-  
tion Hall at the Jay  
County Fairgrounds, 806  
W Votaw St., Portland,  
IN  
January 18th, 2025  
9:30 A. M.  
**MODERN HOUSEHOLD  
GOODS-OLD & COL-  
LECTORS**  
Sealy Ease king size  
adjustable bed with dual  
controls; Whirlpool side  
by side refrigerator, nice;  
cedar lines wardrobe;  
kirby sweeper; (2) Lazy  
Boy leather recliners;  
Tempus Fuguit grandfa-  
ther clock; gas fireplace  
logs with mantle; Ken-  
more refrigerator, GE  
Turbo freezer; Smith  
Bros. 3 cushion sofa;  
pedal sewing machine;  
IU collectibles; Thomas  
Kincaid pictures; brass  
fire extinguisher; and  
many other items not  
listed.

**CAR-MOWERS-TOOLS**  
2000 Buick Century  
Custom 4 door sedan  
car w/92,090miles; Mur-  
ray riding lawn mower;  
Sanborne 200V upright  
air compressor; Craft-  
sman 10" belt drive table  
saw; fishing poles; MB  
Century tool box; ladies  
bicycle; Trek menís  
bicycle; and many other  
items not listed.  
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**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**REAL ESTATE  
AUCTION**  
Saturday, January 11,  
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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  
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**REAL ESTATE PUBLIC  
AUCTION**  
Located: 935 W Walnut  
St,  
Portland, IN  
January 14th, 2025  
6:00 P. M.  
This residential property  
offers a 2 bedroom  
home with approximate-  
ly 892 square feet of liv-  
ing space. Additional  
features of the home  
include 1 full bath, new  
gas forced air furnace  
with central air, new  
water heater, vinyl sid-  
ing, asphalt shingle roof,  
and concrete patio with  
covered canopy. Prop-  
erty also has a 22í x 22í  
detached garage and  
fenced in back yard.  
This property would  
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starter home or rental  
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For more information or  
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260-224-4200  
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**260 PUBLIC AUCTION**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds,  
Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning  
**JANUARY 18, 2025**  
9:30 A.M.  
**MODERN HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
Sealy Ease king size adjustable bed with dual controls; GE washer & dryer, like  
new; Whirlpool side by side refrigerator, nice; Oak table with 6 upholstered  
chairs and matching china hutch; cedar lines wardrobe; 6 drawer dresser; 5  
drawer chest; rocker/glider with footstool; Oak lamp stand; wash stand with  
pitcher and bowl; 3 pc. queen size bedroom suit; vanity stand; jewelry chest;  
quilt rack; Shark sweeper; Dirt Devil sweeper; Kirby sweeper; (2) lighted corner  
china cabinets; (2) Lazy Boy leather recliners; marble top lamp stand; day bed  
with trundle bed; (2) parlor lamps; Tempus Fuguit grandfather clock; Lazy Boy  
recliner; LG flat screen TV; ILife floor sweeper; gas fireplace logs with mantle;  
table with 4 rolling chairs; Charles Schneider 3 cushion sofa; Samsung TV; glider  
rocker with footstool; Kenmore refrigerator; GE Turbo freezer; GE refrigerator;  
GE upright freezer; GE gas cook stove with electric start; Amana washer;  
Hotpoint dryer; GE microwave; Smith Bros. 3 cushion sofa; Oak secretary with  
glass doors; 9 drawer dresser with mirror; blanket chest; table with 4 chairs;  
rocker; 6 drawer dresser with mirror; 5 drawer dresser; bookcase; retro barrel  
back swivel chair; Oreck sweeper; Sylvania DVD player; patio table with 2  
chairs; knee hole desk with chair; glider; wood bench with iron ends; pedal  
sewing machine; IU collectibles; Seyfert's pretzel jar; Crystal bells and  
compotes; urns with metal stands; Eden Pure heater; Thomas Kincaid pictures;  
rugs; high chair; porch swing; glider; outdoor metal settee with 2 matching  
tables; brass fire extinguisher; jewelry; lamps; Noritake set of dishes; Keurig;  
cast iron skillets; Kitchen Aid toaster; Sunbeam steamer; cookware; bakeware;  
Pyrex; rotisserie; tea pots; cookbooks; Precious Moments figurines; Cuisinart 14  
cup coffee maker; cookware; flatware; utensils; Hall bowl set; Coke trays; oil  
lamp; Willow Tree figurines; Mobility Plate flatware with box; cement figurines;  
aluminum lawn chairs; lamps; decorations; bedding; games; books; toys;  
luggage; figurines; volleyball set; plasticware; Hoover carpet cleaner; camping  
chairs; and many other items not listed.  
**CAR - MOWERS - TOOLS**  
2000 Buick Century Custom 4 door sedan car with 92,020 miles, VIN #  
2G4WS52J7Y1244585, A CLEAN CAR; Murray riding lawn mower; Craftsman  
self propelled push mower; Sanborne 200V upright air compressor; Craftsman  
5/22 electric start snow blower; Craftsman 10" belt drive table saw; Dewalt  
Sawzall; Pro-Tech mitre saw; Dirt Devil pressure washer; shop vac; Yardman  
snow blower; lawn sweeper; metal cart; fishing poles; hand sprayers; Craftsman  
chisels; Car Quest suction gun; 2 wheel dolly; Craftsman electric trimmers;  
aluminum ladder; yard tools; Dremel; disc belt sander; swivel vice; floor jack; K  
& F bench grinder; drill bit set; hand saws; MB Century tool box; B & D 6.5 amp  
hammer drill/driver; Craftsman and Master Mechanic sockets; rachets; clamps;  
pliers; Craftsman wrenches; screwdrivers; hammers; aluminum step ladder; lawn  
sweeper; ladies bicycle; hose & reel; rakes; shovels; pruners; Trek mens bicycle;  
extension cords; level; step ladder; belt hand sanders; and many other items not  
listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** This auction offers a nice variety of exceptionally  
clean items. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview.  
Please note that we will be running 2 rings a portion of the day.  
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CR 1-11-2025

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
935 W Walnut Street, Portland Indiana  
**JANUARY 14, 2024**  
6:00 P.M.  
**HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
This residential property offers a 2 bedroom home with approximately 892  
square feet of living space. Additional features of the home include 1 full  
bath, new gas forced air furnace with central air, new water heater, vinyl  
siding, asphalt shingle roof, and concrete patio with covered canopy.  
Property also has a 22' x 22' detached garage, and fenced in back yard. This  
property would make an excellent starter home or rental investment property.  
**Terms of Sale:** 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction with balance due at  
closing. Closing to be within 45 days of auction. Possession at closing.  
Sellers to provide Owners Title Insurance and Warranty Deed. Buyer to  
assume taxes due and payable in May 2025 and thereafter. Any inspections  
need to be made prior to auction date and will be at the buyer's expense. Any  
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Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160, KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-  
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# Patriots pulverize



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Lauren Fisher of Jay County High School swims the butterfly leg of the 200-yard individual medley in a double dual meet with Celina and Coldwater on Thursday. Fisher finished second in the event and the 100 butterfly, while helping the 200 medley relay team and 200 freestyle relay team to top finishes. The Patriots' depth lifted them past Celina 152-72 and Coldwater 134-75.

## Jay County dominates Celina and Coldwater in second meet of 2025

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

While the girls picked up a win on Tuesday, neither of the Patriots teams felt quite satisfied with how they opened up in 2025.

Two days later, they turned the page in dominant fashion.

The Jay County High School swim teams utilized their depth to pulverize both the Celina Bulldogs and Coldwater Cavaliers on Thursday in the second meet following a 10-day gap over winter break.

The meet was scored as if it were two head-to-head matchups for each team. The biggest margin of victory came from the Patriot boys whooping Coldwater 145-40. JCHS also took down Celina 135-66, while the Bulldogs bested Coldwater 76-42.

The girls team beat Celina 152-72, while defeating Coldwater 134-75. (Coldwater's girls bested Celina 91-86.)

"We had a rough start to the week, so they responded really well mentally to be able to get up for this meet," said JCHS coach Matt Slavik, whose team split with Belmont on Tuesday. "It's always fun having a cross-boarder kind of competition. ...

"The biggest thing I noticed tonight over any other swims is having fun. It's a grind. We're at school a lot over break and there's a lot of training going on and a lot of tired people. So, it's just exciting to see how well they swam tonight."

The boys team (4-5) bounced back after losing to Belmont by 20 points on Tuesday. Jay County claimed victories in half of the events, and earned second place in the six races they didn't win.

Freshman Carson Westgerdes put together one of the strongest performances, win-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County's Max Klopfenstein finishes off the 500-yard freestyle during Thursday's double-dual meet. Klopfenstein's runner-up finish was one of eight as the Patriots' depth that pushed them past Coldwater 145-40 and Celina 135-66.

ning the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2 minutes, 4.25 seconds, and the 100 breaststroke in 1:13.44. Other individual victories came from Peyton Yowell in the 100 freestyle (56.41 seconds) and Bryden Carter in the 1-meter diving (161.65).

After not claiming any of the relays against the Braves — including losing the 200 freestyle relay by 0.07 seconds

— JCHS got two wins from relays. Matthew Fisher, Westgerdes, Cooper Glentzer and Yowell teamed up to open the meet with a win in the 200 medley relay (1:52.43) and Lincoln Clamme replaced Fisher on the winning 400 freestyle relay team (3:49.36).

"It felt really good because last meet on Tuesday, we didn't win any relays," Westgerdes said. "It was a great bounce

back to come back and win both of those."

The girls team (6-3) found similar success with six first-place finishes and six runners-up.

Maddy Snow — one of six seniors honored during the meet — started Jay County off with a win in the diving after amassing 188.35 points. Fellow senior Aubrey Millsbaugh also claimed a top finish in the 50 freestyle, hitting the wall in just 28.91 seconds.

"The seniors got to pick our events for tonight," said Millsbaugh. "I'd like to get better at my sprints so I thought 'Let's go for it and see what I can do.'

"It was really exciting because it was one of the first events I've won this year, so to get another on senior night was really special. It was also my first time going under 29 seconds without being in a tech suit, so that was exciting."

Other top individual finishes came from Brooklynn Byrum in the 200 freestyle (2:21.09) and Avery Wentz in the 100 backstroke (1:11.64).

The girls also had a pair of relays that finished first. Wentz, Lauren Fisher, Byrum and Sophia Hoevel combined to swim a 2:06.62 in the 200 medley relay, while Kaitlyn Fisher replaced Wentz in the 200 freestyle relay (1:54.46).

While winning six events each went a long way for the Patriots, their depth secured the victories over Celina and Coldwater. JCHS took second in 16 events, including all 12 events it didn't win, and third in eight races.

"The key for us to be successful is having kids finishing in the top four spots and they came through tonight," Slavik said. "Having a little bit more depth than the teams coming here worked to our advantage tonight. There have been a couple of meets where it didn't really work to our advantage because they've had more depth."

"It was nice to see, as far as our depth, we had about 78% (of swimmers hitting) season best times. The biggest ones coming from our third and fourth-place finishing kids, so it was a great night as far as that goes."

## Tribe takes OT win

FORT RECOVERY — The Cardinals hit four free throws in overtime.

The Indians only hit one.

But it was two field goals that made the difference.

The Fort Recovery High School girls basketball team edged out the New Bremen Cardinals 42-41 for an overtime Midwest Athletic Conference victory on Thursday.

The Tribe (6-8, 2-3 MAC) gave up four free throws to Marina Nelson of New Bremen (3-10, 1-4 MAC) in the overtime period. Karlie Niekamp split a pair of her own, but Cameron Muhlenkamp and Makenna Huelskamp each provided hoops to give the Indians the edge.

Bridget Homan led the FRHS offense with 12 points, most of which came in the second half. Niekamp followed behind with 10

### Local roundup

points, nine of which were scored in the first quarter.

Kennedy and Cameron Muhlenkamp finished with nine and seven points, respectively, while Huelskamp added four.

Nelson led the Cardinals with 17 and Stella Patch had a strong second half to finish with 13.

Fort Recovery had a slow second quarter with only one basket by Kennedy Muhlenkamp, but a strong defensive showing in the first quarter held NBHS to three points on a Sophia Tangeman triple.

### Tribe topped

The Jay County Junior High School girls

basketball team took down the Fort Recovery Indians on Thursday.

The eighth grade team beat the Tribe 37-29 behind 15 points from Karsyn Schwieterman, while seven seventh graders contributed to a 24-14 win for the Patriots.

Claudia Dirksen and Charlee Peters both followed Schwieterman with eight points in the victory for the eighth grade team. Kendall Schemenaur added four points, while Alyvia Schwieterman rounded out the scoring with two.

Boo Towell's nine points was a team-high for Jay County in the seventh grade matchup. Brenna Weitzel also put up multiple baskets, scoring six points.

Bella Barnett, Ali Luna, Arabella Link and Emmi Clark all had two points, while Bristol Kahlig contributed one.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys wrestling team state — 9 a.m.; Swim Jay County Invitational — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. Adams Central — 6:30 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball vs. Adams Central — 6:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling vs. New Bremen at Celina — 4:30 p.m.; Swim at Jay County Invitational — 10 a.m.; Girls bowling vs. New Bremen at Celina — 4:30 p.m.

**Monday**  
Fort Recovery — Middle school boys basketball at Minster — 5 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Swim at Yorktown — 6 p.m.; Girls basketball ACAC tournament at South Adams — 6 p.m.; Boys basketball ACAC tournament at South Adams — 7:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball vs. St. Henry — 6 p.m.; Swim vs. St. Henry at Greenville YMCA — 6 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. Minster — 5 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Boys wrestling vs. Homestead — 6:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Minster — 6 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. South Adams — 5 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Notre Dame at Duke (ESPN); Creighton at Butler (FOX); Louisville at Pitt (ESPN2); USC at Illinois (BTN)  
1 p.m. — College basketball: San Diego State at New Mexico (CBS)  
1 p.m. — NHL: Boston Bruins at Florida Panthers (ABC)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: UConn at Georgetown (FOX); Iowa State at Texas Tech (ESPN); BYU at TCU (ESPN2)  
2:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at Wisconsin (BTN)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Florida at Arkansas (ESPN); Georgia Tech at

SMU (ESPN2); Xavier at DePaul (FS1)  
4:30 p.m. — NFL Playoffs: Los Angeles Chargers at Houston Texans (CBS)  
6 p.m. — College basketball: Tennessee at Texas (ESPN); Oklahoma at Georgia (ESPN2)  
6:30 p.m. — College hockey: Minnesota at Ohio State (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NHL: Columbus Blue Jackets at St. Louis Blues (ABC)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: Alabama at Texas A&M (ESPN); Indiana at Iowa (FOX)  
10 p.m. — College basketball: UCF at Arizona (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)

**Sunday**  
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan State at Northwestern (FOX); Nebraska at Purdue (BTN)  
1 p.m. — NFL Playoffs: Denver Broncos at Buffalo Bills (CBS)  
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Texas at South Carolina (ESPN)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Washington at Michigan (BTN)  
3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: N.C. State at Stanford (ESPN)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Oregon at Penn State (BTN)  
4 p.m. — PGA Tour: Sony Open (NBC)  
4:30 p.m. — NFL Playoffs: Green Bay Packers at Philadelphia Eagles (FOX)  
5 p.m. — College basketball: UAB at Florida Atlantic (ESPN)  
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Texas A&M at Oklahoma (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers (FDSN Indiana)  
6 p.m. — PVF volleyball: Omaha Supernovas at Grand Rapids Rise (FS1)  
8 p.m. — NFL Playoffs: Washington Commanders at Tampa Bay Buccaneers (NBC)  
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Penn State at USC (BTN)

**Monday**  
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Aus-

tralian Open (ESPN2)  
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: UCLA at Rutgers (FS1); Minnesota at Maryland (BTN)  
8 p.m. — NFL Playoffs: Minnesota Vikings at Los Angeles Rams (ABC)

**Tuesday**  
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Liverpool at Nottingham Forest (USA)  
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Villanova at Xavier (FS1)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers (TNT)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Texas A&M at Kentucky (ESPN2); Saint Louis at VCU (CBS)  
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Minnesota at Maryland (BTN)  
7 p.m. — TGL golf: Los Angeles Golf Club vs. Jupiter Links Golf Club (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — NHL: Calgary Flames at St. Louis Blues (FDSN Indiana)  
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Providence at Creighton (FS1)  
9 p.m. — College basketball: Miami at Duke (ESPN)  
10:30 p.m. — College basketball: Iowa at USC (FS1)  
11 p.m. — College basketball: Baylor at Arizona (ESPN)

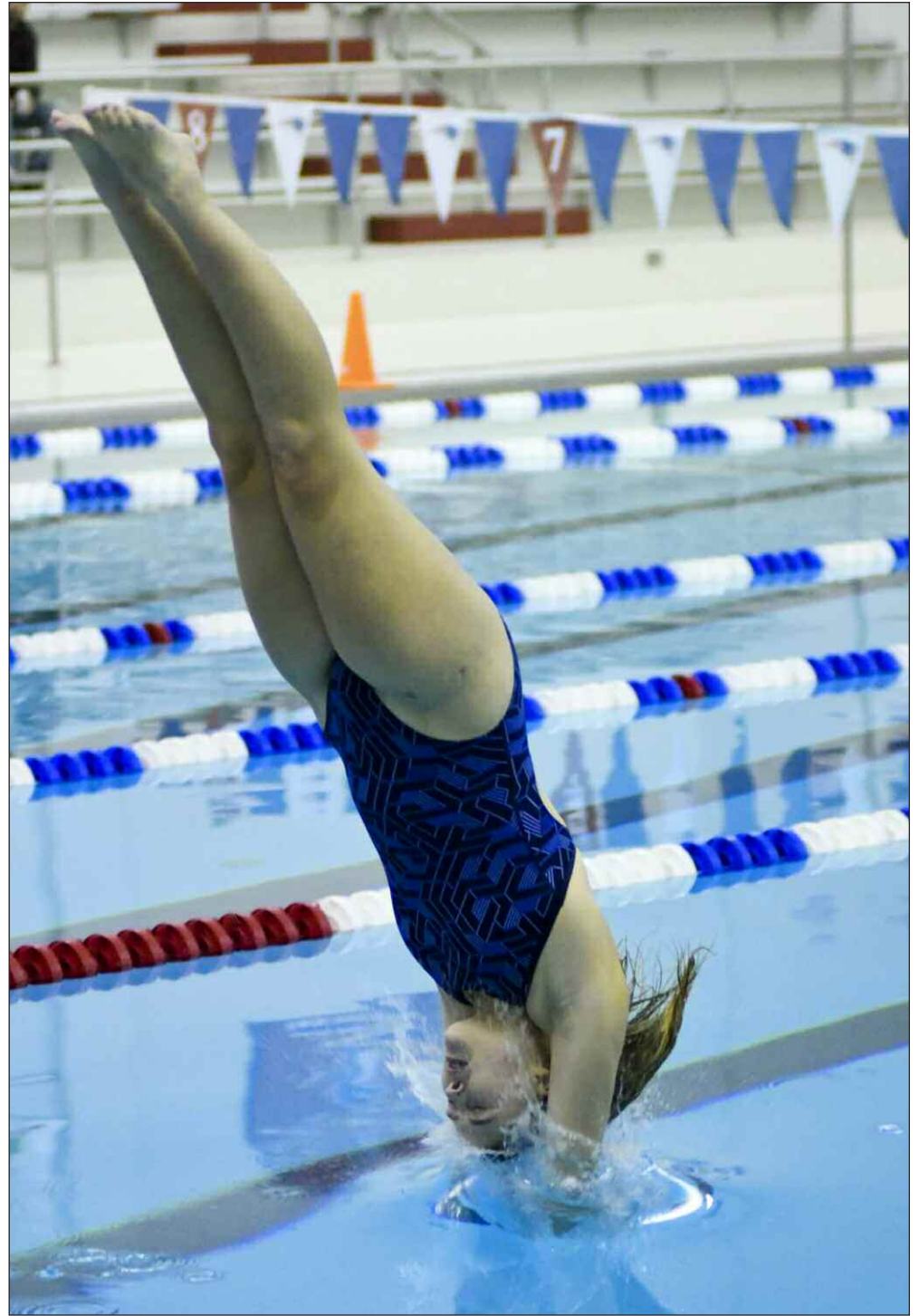
**Wednesday**  
3 a.m. — Grand Slam tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)  
2:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Aston Villa at Everton (USA)  
6 p.m. — NHL: Carolina Panthers at Buffalo Sabers (TNT)  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Kansas at Iowa State (ESPN2); Seton Hall at Butler (FS1)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA: New York Knicks at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — College basketball: Penn State at Michigan State (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — NHL: Edmonton Oilers at Minnesota Wild (TNT)  
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Seton Hall at Marquette (FS1)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Miami Heat at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)





The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School's Bryden Carter spins over the pool during Friday's Jay County Invitational diving competition. He finished in fourth place among the group of 10 divers.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Maddy Snow of Jay County hits the water on her front one-and-one-half that secured her second place in Friday's diving competition. The meet served as a measuring stick as she begins the run toward the Allen County Athletic Conference Championships and sectional meet.

## Snow ...

Continued from page 10  
The invitational continues today with swimming events beginning at 10 a.m., weather permitting.  
Snow battled through a hip injury for the bulk of her junior year, still managing to finish as the sectional runner-up to earn a regional berth. She had surgery to correct the issue following the season.  
She was sitting third Friday night just 1.25 points behind Meredith after the preliminary round but pulled ahead by 5.3 in the

semifinals. That margin proved just enough.  
Snow was able to hold on thanks in part to her front one-and-one-half, her final dive.  
"It's always been something that I could count on," she said. "I like to put that last because I know I can nail it."  
Carter had a consistent evening, putting himself fourth after preliminaries and holding that spot. He pulled away from Norwell's Chavis Grayson and Centerville's Sheldon Smith

while finishing less than 12 points behind Sam Peterson of Norwell for third place.  
The biggest key to him continuing to improve, Weitzel said, is simply time on the board.  
"Really just getting reps in," said Weitzel. "Last year he started late toward the end of the year. And then this year he's had some hiccups. Really just getting, I think that's the best thing that he can do. He's got it all there. He's got the tools."

## Regional ...

Continued from page 10  
Through the first two periods, neither Winner nor Kwaleh could get an advantage. The JCHS senior chose to start the third on bottom and work for an escape to win.  
Winner nearly stood up twice in the first 30 seconds, but got brought back to the mat each time. At the 1:14 mark, Kwaleh got warned for stalling before being brought to the center of the mat. That's when Winner made her move, getting a wide base and escaping when Kwaleh tried to flip her over.  
"She was really strong and heavy handed and I have not seen that much this season, so I was caught off guard," Winner said. "I told myself that I had to wait for the pressure to ease off. I know she wasn't going to be able to keep forward pressure the whole time, so I had to just weather the storm and wait for my opportunity."  
For the last 56 seconds, Winner just needed to pass the Falcon's shots to let the clock run out and claim the 170 regional title and reach 99 career wins.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

No. 1 Mallory Winner of Jay County attempts to stand up and escape the control of Perry Meridian's No. 11 Lydia Kwaleh during the 170-pound regional title match on Friday.

While reaching state is nothing new for Winner, a pair of Patriots punched their ticket for the first time, resulting in an overflow of emotion.  
No. 11 Tatianna Willis (28-7) rolled through Beech Grove's Danica Ray (20-9) to reach the 110 ticket round. The senior got an early 3-0 advantage on Bishop Chatard's Alexa Moore (6-10) and extended it to 7-0 with 34 seconds left in the first period. Willis got called for a full nelson with 22 seconds remaining, but made up for it by putting Moore on her back 13 seconds later.

Brenna Ruble (33-7) — a JCHS freshman — quickly dispatched Haylee Malston (6-14) of Alexandria with a 32-second pin to get to Nashira Stark (13-8) of Warren Central in the 120-pound ticket round. Ruble circled around Stark after 33 seconds for a takedown that led into a cradle for the pin (46 seconds) and a state berth.

Following their ticket rounds, both girls were overcome with emotion.  
"I knew the girl was going to be okay but I could win it," Willis said. "I don't think it really hit me until Lina (Lingo) gave me a hug and the tears started to flow. It's exciting. It took forever but I'm here."  
"I was very happy and I think

my emotions got control of myself," Ruble said. "I usually don't cry when I win a match but I cried. I was just proud of myself and proud of my other teammates and that just came out."  
Willis and Ruble both lost by fall in the semifinal — the former to No. 6 Monica Alvarado (23-2) of North Central and the latter to Marion's Alana Montgomery (21-6) — before bouncing back to claim third seeds at state. Willis got ahead of Perry Meridian's Leeah Shelton (15-8) before closing out with a fall in 2 minutes, 38 seconds. Conversely, Ruble fell behind 8-0 to Olivia Lemus (22-8) of Roncalli before executing a risky reversal that led to a pin in 3:36.  
While the first-time state qualifiers had some tears of joy to cry, a returner had some tears of frustration.  
After missing out in 2024, No. 5 Katie Rowles (31-5) made it back to the state finals. The JCHS junior had a bye in the first round before punching clinching her spot at state with a 1:13 pin of Franklin Central's Gracie Meeks (24-11).

Rowles' tears of frustration came after taking a comeback loss in overtime of the 100-pound semifinal to No. 7 Aniah Delgado (27-4) of Perry Meridian. She bounced back with a 12-second pin of Greenwood's Violet Roell (17-11).  
Anxiety and the stress of being faced with their final regional meet and potentially the last matches of their careers resulted in some tears being shed. No. 6 Lina Lingo (30-8) and No. 9 Emily Manor (29-8) were examples of that.

While Lingo dealt with the stress, she punched her ticket in the 135-pound bracket with a 14-2 major decision over Warren Central's Nyomi Myers (9-10) and a 51-second pin against Richmond's Ambria Tate (14-10). Lingo lost to No. 2 Kyla Johnson (12-0) of Southport in the semifinal before pinning Beech Grove's A'maya Miller (22-10) in the third-place match.  
Manor saw her career come to an end at the hands of No. 1 Maddie Marsh (17-0) in the 140-pound ticket round after an early double-leg takedown led to a pin.  
Along with Manor, No. 5 Amara Crawford (35-5) cried some tears of heartbreak. The freshman held a 2-0 advantage over Triton Central's Zoie Gray (15-4) before the Tiger spun a reversal directly into a pin.  
Maleah Parsons (27-9) also had a lead before losing the 145 ticket-round contest to No. 15 Kenniya Alexander (27-11) of Franklin Central. Parsons developed a 5-2 advantage before Alexander utilized a headlock to takedown and pin the JCHS senior.

"It's a bummer because, as a coach, you're feeling pretty good about the match and then it goes another way," Myers said. "For those girls, their season is over. Fortunately, they're both underclassmen, so they'll get another crack at it. So they'll just need to learn from that position, get better and never take anything for granted."  
Also competing for Jay County at the regional but falling in the opening round were Allison Tipton (12-13) and Madison Gage (20-15).

## Tribe falls to NBHS

NEW BREMEN, Ohio — A slow third quarter did enough damage to hurt the Indians.

After scoring only two points in the third period, the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team lost to the New Bremen Cardinals 51-47 on Friday.

The Indians (3-8, 1-3 Midwest Athletic Conference) held a 27-18 advantage at the intermission that got wiped away by a slow third quarter. The Cardinals (7-5, 2-2 MAC) outpaced FRHS 13-2 with the only Tribe bucket coming from Gavin Evers, the team's leading scorer with 12.

Gavin Dickie led New Bremen with 20 points, while Gavin Quellhorst added 13.

### Local roundup

#### Tigers top

BLUFFTON — Despite a 32-point performance by Hallie Schwieterman, Jay County's girls basketball team fell to the Bluffton Tigers 75-45 on Friday.

Schwieterman was the only player from Jay County (7-8, 2-2 Allen County Athletic Conference) with more than one made basket, hitting 11 in total.

Three Tigers (14-2, 5-0 ACAC) reached double figures, with Isabella Stout putting up a team-high 23.

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# Sports

## Roaring regional

JCHS gets five of 10 wrestlers through to state in emotional meet

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

ALEXANDRIA — The tears flowed on Friday.

Some tears were shed due to stress and anxiety.

Some tears were shed due to frustration and heartbreak.

Some tears were shed due to elation and shock.

But for Mallory Winner, it was just another day at the office.

Winner was one of the five Jay County High School girls wrestlers that made it through the first IHSAA sanctioned Regional 3 hosted by Alexandria-Monroe on Friday as the Patriots finished second.

The 10 Patriot wrestlers combined to earn 115 points, which was good enough for second place out of 54 teams at the regional. Only Franklin Central managed more points, scoring 133 for the regional crown.

To reach that score, eight of the 10 JCHS competitors made it to the ticket round, and five more punched their tickets to make it to the inaugural IHSAA State Finals at Corteva Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds on Jan. 17.

"It kind of goes both ways," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "To get five girls to state is awesome. They competed really well and I'm proud of the girls that made it.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

No. 6 Lina Lingo of the Jay County High School girls wrestling team runs a double wrist bar on Dyomi Myers of Warren Central during the 135-pound opener during the IHSAA Regional 3 at Alexandria-Monroe on Thursday. Lingo punched her ticket for the second consecutive season before claiming third place in her weight class.

"Realistically, you come in here and want to push every girl through. So whenever a girl's season ends, all of them put in a lot of time and a lot of hard work, that's always a bummer.

"You're bummed for

them, but you're also pretty happy for those girls who were able to punch their ticket to state."

While plenty of wrestlers shed some tears at AMHS, the top-ranked Winner (32-0) was one of

a handful of the dry-eyed Patriots. The three-time state champion rolled through her first three rounds of the 170-pound bracket with first-period pins against Dashauna Gammage (5-13) of Richmond, Warren Central's

Kimberly Bautista (19-9) and Franklin Central's Sadie Tilden (27-12).

Winner hit a slight snag against No. 11 Lydia Kwaleh (17-4) of Perry Meridian in the 170 championship match.

See Regional page 9

## Snow uses meet to gauge progress

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Outside, the region was getting its first measurable snow of the winter.

The evening was a different kind of measuring stick for Maddy Snow.

Competing in her first 11-dive meet since her surgery in the spring, Snow finished as the runner-up for the host Patriots on Friday night in the Jay County Invitational.

Snow's 299.3 points put her behind champion Taylor Heaston (356.4) of Centerville. She edged Norwell's Emerson Meredith by just 0.2 points for the No. 2 spot.

"It wasn't the best that I could have done, but I'm still happy with it," she said. "For me not being in this meet last year, I was just seeing where I was going to be at for sectionals."

Bryden Carter of JCHS was fourth out of 10 divers in the boys competition with 234.95 points. Adams Central's Damon Light won with 377.42.

"I think it was great. I think they showed up and they were happy to be here, and that positive attitude made a world of difference," said Jay County diving coach Sawyer Weitzel. "I think they did great. And they were motivating each other the whole time, and I think that positive spirit just helps them along."

See Snow page 9

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