

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## That way

Referee Randy Miller of Portland makes a call Friday night during the Class 1A Sectional 56 semifinal game between Lincoln and the host Randolph Southern Rebels. Meanwhile in Connersville, the Jay County High School girls basketball team's season came to an end with a 59-36 loss to the Delta Eagles. For more on that game, see page 10.

## County asks for more information on radio systems

*Commissioners are considering standalone possibility*

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Jay County Commissioners have a decision to make regarding radios.

Do they continue to move forward with joining Indiana's Integrated Public Safety Commission's (IPSC) statewide radio system, or do they take a step back and also look into costs and specifics for installing a standalone system?

Commissioners met with Barry Ritter and other representatives of Ritter Strategic Services on Thursday to discuss potentially altering the county's contract. Commissioners didn't make a decision Thursday, noting they will revisit the topic at their meeting Monday.

Commissioners president Chad Aker brought up the topic at commissioners' meeting Jan. 27, suggesting the county look into a standalone system. (The IPSC system is specifically intended for public safety entities, with non-emergency personnel allowed only in emergencies.)

Commissioners approved a \$178,500 contract with Ritter Strategic Service in July to move forward with planning, procurement, engineering, project management and other work related to switching to the statewide system. The decision followed an earlier Ritter Strategic Services study conducted on the county's emergency responder

radios, with the company recommending Jay County switch to the IPSC system.

Barry Ritter explained that his company has received a proposal from Motorola for tower sites — the IPSC has a 20-year contract with the company to set up equipment for the system — as well as proposals from other vendors for pagers and other equipment. Ritter Strategic Services plans to negotiate prices with vendors before finalizing costs.

Aker contacted Ritter recently about looking into a radio system that non-emergency responders, such as Jay County Highway Department, could use. He mentioned issues the department has had with its radio system.

"If we go forward with a public safety system with what we've proposed here, now the county's got to turn around and look at another system, it could be a million dollars, half a million, two, we don't know," he said. "With a stand-alone system, you can control who uses that and who doesn't use that."

Ritter asked for a direction on how the company should proceed, noting a change in scope for the contract would be required if the county wishes to also look into a standalone system. (The adjustment would cost an additional \$39,000.)

Commissioner Duane Monroe asked a series of questions, including whether the state will continue to utilize the same system 10 years from now — Ritter noted Indiana has a 20-year contract with Motorola, although he said he doesn't know how many years are left on the contract — and shared concerns about the system being tied to phone lines in the event of a weather emergency.

See **Radio** page 2

## Judge puts hold on USAID forced leave

By DAVE GOLDINER  
New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

A federal judge Friday put a temporary hold on President Donald Trump's bid to put thousands of American USAID workers on forced leave as he moves to effectively kill the nation's main foreign aid

agency. District Court Judge Carl Nichols ordered the Trump administration to hold off on gutting the venerable aid agency until he has a chance to consider a suit that calls the lightning-quick action illegal and unconstitutional.

The ruling paused orders to

about 2,200 American USAID staffers telling them to return home from their posts in scores of countries around the globe immediately or face firing.

Nichols called his temporary restraining order "very, very limited" and said it was designed to protect those work-

ers who could suffer irreparable harm from the rushed action by the Trump administration.

Around 10,000 American USAID workers altogether have been told they are going to be placed on forced leave soon.

Fewer than 300 officials at the USAID's Washington, D.C.

headquarters had been told to keep working as Trump made no effort to hide his plan to shut down the agency entirely.

The Trump administration also suspended all programs run by USAID for what it called a review process, effectively firing around 5,000 local workers.

## Lawmakers pitch for programs set for cuts

By WHITNEY DOWNARD  
Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Nearly 100 Hoosiers trekked to the Indiana Statehouse Thursday, many seeking to convince lawmakers to restore funding lost under Gov. Mike Braun's budget proposal.

With tight forecasted revenues, Braun opted to curtail agency expenses in favor of state tax relief. Testimony on Thursday responded to Braun's budget; House lawmakers will introduce their own version next week.

Dozens pitched a bevy of programs slashed or elimi-

nated by Braun, from dual-language classrooms and juvenile recidivism prevention to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library and the direct flights program. Testimony lasted six hours before the House Ways and Means Committee.

"I knew ... this was going to be a very challenging year for all of us," summarized Denny Costerison, who spoke on behalf of the Indiana Association of School Business Officials.

Costerison said he'd testified on the budget each year since 1981. He kept his comments brief, recognizing the few publicly available

details on school funding, but promised lawmakers he'd continue advocating on behalf of Indiana's schools.

Others said they were "grateful" for their flat funding, like Emily Bryant with Feeding Indiana's Hungry, who said that food banks would continue to receive \$2 million under the proposed budget.

In the face of grim revenue projections, some pointed to untapped opportunities: such as increasing taxes on cigarettes and alcohol purchases to fund mental health shortfalls.



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Whitney Downard

Terry Spradlin, the executive director of the Indiana School Boards Association, listens to a Ways and Means committee member on Thursday.

### Deaths

Ruth Gillett, 104, Portland  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 32 degrees Friday. The low was 27.

Rain and snow are expected today with a high in the mid 30s and winds gusting to 20 miles per hour. Expect a high in the mid 30s on Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

The Jay County High School and Fort Recovery High School bands will host their winter concerts at 2 p.m. Sunday.

### Coming up

Tuesday — Coverage of Saturday's Third House Session.

Wednesday — Details from Monday's Dunkirk City Council meeting.

Wednesday — Results from the diving regional at Hamilton Southeastern.





# Radios ...

Continued from page 1  
Dylan Griffith of Ritter Strategic Services noted the system utilizes microwave and fiberoptic cables, which are incorporated underground and in the air. If one pathway were to fail, the system would reroute to other paths.

Aker emphasized he would like to be provided with more than one option for the county to pursue regarding radios, specifically pointing to a need for the highway department to be connected.

Commissioners referenced a few county officials in the

audience and asked for their opinions.

Jay County Council president Matt Minnich noted the county went with Ritter's recommendation to move to the IPSC system originally. He also expressed interest in the county having more than one option to look at for its radio system, asking Ritter if he could gather information such as costs, and pros and cons comparing the IPSC system to a stand-alone system. Ritter confirmed he could, noting it may add another three or four months to the timeline.

Aker said he foresees the county needing to look into a new system for the highway department regardless. He suggested amending the scope of the work, whether it be for a different system for the highway department or a stand-alone system for all departments. He then asked for council member Harold Towell's thoughts.

Towell questioned if IPSC allows non-public safety entities on its bandwidth. Ritter clarified it doesn't allow non-public safety entities on the system for day-to-day opera-

tions but does allow them in emergency situations.

Jay County Emergency Management Agency director Samantha Rhodehamel noted she received a text from a Motorola representative, who was watching the livestream of the meeting. According to the representative, she said, under IPSC's new director it has started allowing county highway departments to join the system.

Aker questioned whether that rule may change in the future when IPSC has another director. Ritter said he would

need to verify whether IPSC is now allowing county highways on its system. (It does allow Indiana Department of Transportation on its bandwidth but previously did not allow county highway departments.)

Commissioners asked Ritter to look into the matter and share his findings with them before their meeting Monday.

Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton reminded commissioners the clock is ticking.

"Just remember, the longer we wait, the more we're going to jeopardize public safety, and the taxpayer," he said.

## CR almanac

Sunday 2/9	Monday 2/10	Tuesday 2/11	Wednesday 2/12	Thursday 2/13
<b>33/20</b>	<b>34/27</b>	<b>33/20</b>	<b>28/19</b>	<b>24/12</b>
Mostly cloudy on Sunday, when there's a slight chance of rain.	Monday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with highs in the lower 30s.	Tuesday's forecast shows a 40% chance of snow under mostly cloudy skies.	Mostly cloudy skies on Wednesday with a 30% chance of snow.	Thursday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of snow late.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 1-3-4 Daily Four: 6-1-6-8 Quick Draw: 8-10-15-17-24-27-30-43-45-49-50-53-57-58-59-64-71-73-75-79	Pick 3: 9-2-6 Pick 4: 6-2-9-6 Pick 5: 2-7-0-5-2
<b>Ohio</b> Midday	<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$133 million
	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$94 million

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.92 March corn .....4.97 April corn .....5.05	March beans .....10.62 Wheat .....5.41
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.99 March corn .....5.06 April corn .....5.16	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.92 March corn .....4.95 Beans .....10.53 March beans .....10.57 Wheat .....5.60
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....4.93 March corn .....4.93 Beans .....10.57	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.88 March corn .....4.88 Beans .....10.37 March beans .....10.42 Wheat .....5.36

## Today in history

In 1587, The Queen of Scots, Mary, was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle. At 44 years old, she was killed for planning to assassinate Elizabeth I.

In 1828, Jules Verne was born in Nantes, France. Verne wrote the popular titles, "A Journey to the Centre of the Earth," "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," and "Around the World in Eighty Days."

In 1834, chemist Dmitri Ivanovich Medeleev was born in Tobolsk, Russia. He developed the periodic table of elements.

In 1879, Time zones were introduced by Sandford Fleming.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was founded. Since then, more than 130 million children and young adults have participated in the organization's youth programs, not including another 35 million adult volunteers carrying out the group's mission.

In 1915, "The Birth of a Nation" opened at Clune's Auditorium in Los Angeles. It was the first 12-reel film in America.

In 1931, James Dean was born in Marion, Indiana. The actor is most famous for his role in "Rebel Without a Cause" as Jim Stark. Dean died shortly before the movie's release in 1955 from a vehicle accident in California.

In 2016, seven wrestling team members finished in the top four during the IHSAA wrestling regional tournament at Jay County High School. —The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, community room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board, living facili-	ty, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
<b>Tuesday</b> 10 a.m. — Dunkirk Police Pension Board, city building, 131 S. Main St. 6 p.m. — Ridgeville Town Council, Ridgeville Fire Department, 302 N. Walnut St.	

## Obituaries

### Ruth Gillett

April 1, 1920-Feb. 6, 2025  
Ruth Gillett, age 104, a resident of Portland, passed away on Thursday, Feb. 6, 2025, at IU Health Jay Hospital in Portland.

Ruth was born April 1, 1920, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Albert and Birdie (Mangus) Degler. She graduated from Portland High School and married Harold Gillett on Feb. 16, 1940. They were married 68 years and he preceded her in death in 2008.

Ruth helped Harold with his contracting business in Wayne Township and was a seamstress. She

was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church and an original member of the Jay County Hospital Auxiliary.

Survivors include her children, Linda Borgerding of Springhill, Tennessee, Jim Gillett (wife: Pam) of Greenfield, Indiana, and Vickie Arford of Portland, Indiana; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 1 to 2 p.m. at Williamson-



Gillett

Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 2 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at IOOF Twin Hill Cemetery in Pennville.

Memorials may be directed towards Asbury United Methodist Church in Portland.

.....  
*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.*

## Felony arrests

### Drug possession

Two Portland residents were arrested Monday for possession of drugs and related charges.

Desiree N. Walker, 31, 1237 N. U.S. 27, was preliminarily charged with three Level 6 felonies for theft, possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a common nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She was being held on a \$7,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Rex M. Livingston, 26, 1237 N. U.S. 27, was preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a common nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He was released on a \$3,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

### Theft

A Portland woman was arrested Tuesday for theft.

Linda F. Piercy, 37, 109 N. Middle St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony. She was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Unlawful possession

A Dunkirk woman was arrested Monday for unlawful possession of a syringe.

Jennifer L. Jones, 38, 5337 S. 1150 West, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

She was released from Jay County Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

## Capsule Reports

### Pole hit

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a Portland man crashed into a pole along Division Road about 4:40 a.m. Thursday.

Gerson E. Vera Perez, 29, was driving his 2021 Toyota Corolla east on the road just west of county road 200 East when

he lost traction on the road. He began sliding across the road and struck a utility pole. His vehicle spun three times after hitting the pole and stopped in a ditch north of the road.

The pole, which is registered to Jay County REMC, was snapped in half. The vehicle was towed.

## Felony courts

### Unlawful possession

Three Indiana residents were sentenced to jail for unlawful possession of a syringe.

William J. Gallo Jr., 35, 305 W. Race St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to the Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 1.5 years in Jay County Jail and given credit for time served.

Gallo was assessed \$189 in court costs. As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: two Level 5 felonies for possession of a narcotic drug and possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana.

Jacki N. Reed, 522 Madison St., Decatur, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to the Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with at least nine months suspended and given credit for time served.

She was placed on probation, assessed \$189 in court costs. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Anthony D. Kelsey, 36, 3405 S. Grant St., Muncie, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and given 260 days credit for time served. Kelsey was assessed \$189 in court costs.

HIGH QUALITY TILLABLE ACRES | BLACKFORD CO, IN

ONLINE at halderman.com

# AUCTION

Thursday, February 13th, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm ET

**PROPERTY LOCATION:**  
4 miles north of Dunkirk, IN approximately 528 S 800 E, Hartford City, IN 47348 in Jackson Twp, Blackford Co.

**77+/- total acres**

TRACT BREAKDOWN: 66.9% Tillable • 6% Woods • 4.1% Other

Rick Johnloz: 260.827.8181 | Jason Johnloz: 260.273.9177  
Craig Springmier: 937.533.7126

HALDERMAN REAL ESTATE & FARM MANAGEMENT 800.424.2324 | halderman.com

Auctioneer: Russell D. Harmeyer IN Auct. Lic. #AU1000277.  
HRES IN Auct. Lic. #AC6920019  
HLS# RAJ-13078, Farm: Joe William Daily Trust

## SERVICES

### Today

**Walker, Connie:** 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Wright, Jacquelyn:** 11 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 301 Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

**Litmer, Shirley:** 1 p.m., Fort Recovery Knights of Columbus Hall, 1300 Commerce St., Fort Recovery.

### Monday

**Gillett, Ruth:** 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

### Tuesday

**Hayden, Earl:** 11 a.m., Bryant Wesleyan Church, 209 S. Hendricks St., Bryant.

**Fidler, Bruce:** 4 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Service listings provided by

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

## Jay County Soil & Water Conservation District

Annual Meeting/Program - Wednesday, February 26, 2025  
6:00 PM - Bob Schmit Memorial Building  
Jay County Fairgrounds

## Guest Speaker - Joe Caudell Department of Natural Resources' Deer Research Biologist.



Joe will talk about the deer population estimate project that DNR is currently working on and how EHD affects deer population.

The dinner/program is free & everyone is encouraged to attend.



## 50th anniversary



Chris and Don Whitenack - 1975

### Chris and Don Whitenack

The Whitenacks are celebrating their 50th anniversary today.

Don Whitenack and Christine Knapschafer wed Feb. 8, 1975, at Salomonia Church of Christ.

Chris Whitenack retired from Jay School Corporation after serving as a teacher at General Shanks Elementary School. Don Whitenack, now retired, worked as a farmer.

The lifelong Jay County residents have three children: Michelle Weitzel (Chad) of Portland, Eric Whitenack of Portland and Angela Whitenack of Portland. They also have two grandchildren.

They planned to celebrate with their children.



Don and Chris Whitenack - 2025

## Alcoholic wants to be there for grandchild's birth

DEAR ABBY: I am an adult child of an alcoholic. My mother is a mean drunk. While growing up, I had to act as her therapist and deal with her co-dependency. I have been lucky to have processed a lot of the trauma in therapy and to have a loving and healthy family of my own now. We actively avoid Mom after 3 p.m. because I don't want my kids subjected to her cruelty. I do not think it is healthy for them to be around abusive, inebriated people.

I am pregnant. My mom has always wanted to be in the delivery room for a birth. However, I would rather she not be in the delivery room with us. I don't want to be around her when she's drunk because of her tendency to make everything about herself, cause drama and upset me. I'd rather not have to deal with her narcissism while giving birth.

We had our first child during the COVID pandemic, so we

### Dear Abby



had an excuse to not have her there. The birth was extremely traumatic, and we are lucky that our child made it. My godmother wants to be in the delivery room, since she could never have her own kids. I'd love for her to be there. We are very close and get along great. How do I broach the issue of wanting my godmother there but not my alcoholic mother? — DELIVERING THE NEWS

**DEAR DELIVERING:** Here's how: Stop pussyfooting around the subject and be completely honest with your mother. This birth experience is for YOU, not

for her. The patient needs to be calm and relaxed and not be exposed to any toxic energy BECAUSE AN INCREASE IN THE BLOOD PRESSURE OF THE MOTHER CAN NEGATIVELY AFFECT THE BABY. If your godmother provides the emotional support you need, you should have her with you, and make no apologies for it.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: My friend "Cindra" has two children. Both are homeschooled and not able to do many things on their own. Cindra and I have very different views and philosophies on raising children. My children are about the same age as her kids. Since her kids were babies, she has allowed her daughter and son to co-sleep with her and her husband.

Cindra's daughter is now 11, and her son is 9. The girl has started puberty, and it seems inappropriate for the kids to

still be co-sleeping with their parents at this age. I care for her kids, and I'm concerned about their well-being. Should I confront Cindra about this? Or would I cross the line by doing so? — ANOTHER MOTHER IN TEXAS

**DEAR MOTHER:** Parents have the right to raise their children as they see fit, as long as there is no abuse. Now that the daughter is at the point where she's becoming a young woman, she may WANT to have some privacy. I don't see anything to be gained by mentioning this subject to Cindra.

.....  
DEAR ABBY: My grown daughter is a bum magnet. All of her relationships have the same outcome. The bum stays with her until he gets a better situation. The current one has been the longest, going on for several years. It was difficult to get her to admit that he's

abusive. She confided she's afraid at times. His hobby of drawing pictures depicting extreme violence worries me that he may act out someday. Any suggestions about what I can do to help her? — CONCERNED MOM IN CALIFORNIA

**DEAR MOM:** Mentally healthy adults do not spend their spare time fantasizing about extreme violence. They also don't abuse their significant others. Please remind your daughter that continued involvement with someone who abuses her and makes her fearful is risking her safety or her life.

If she's living with him, she needs to move. If he's living with her, she should call the toll-free number of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-7233 or visit [thehotline.org](http://thehotline.org) and ask for help in forming a safe escape plan.

## Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

### Today

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

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

**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., Port-

land. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

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

### Sunday

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

### Monday

**PORTLAND BREAK-**

**FAST 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.

**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.

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

**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. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

**PREGNANCY CARE CENTER** — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The cen-

ter 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-in appointments are accepted.

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

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

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

**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](mailto:rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com).

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Friday's Solution

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

Be prepared before the next power outage.

**It's not just a generator. It's a power move.**

Receive a free 5-year warranty with qualifying purchase\* - valued at \$535.

Call 866-953-2203 to schedule your free quote!

**GENERAC**

\*Terms and Conditions apply.

### WHAT'S REALLY IN YOUR WATER?

Leaf Home Water Solutions will test your water for contaminants and make recommendations to ensure you get the cleanest, crispest water possible in your home.

**15% OFF** Entire Purchase\* **AND** **10% OFF** Seniors & Military

SOLUTIONS FOR CITY & WELL WATER - INCLUDING SALT-FREE OPTIONS

**CALL FOR FREE WATER TEST**  
855-966-4836 | Promo Code: 402

**LEAF HOME WATER SOLUTIONS** **ASSEMBLED IN THE USA**

\*One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. Offer valid at time of estimate only. License/Registration# MI 262100627, MN PC799379, NC 87823, L 33946, PA PA172050, TX 44085, WI 1423690.

### WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Elementary Schools  
**February 10-14, 2025**

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

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

**Wednesday: Main Entrees:** Rotini pasta, creamy alfredo sauce, marinara sauce, diced chicken **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni pizza, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Roasted broccoli

**Thursday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheeseburger in bun **Alternate Entrees:** Mozzarella and pepperoni pizza, 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 pizza, pizza sauce, PB&J and cheese fun lunch **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned mixed capri vegetables

**Jay Community Center**  
115 E. Water St.  
Portland • (260) 726-6477



# Shutdown is illegal and bad policy

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

There are two things very wrong with Elon Musk and his quasi-official DOGE shutting down the United States Agency for International Development, appropriately called USAID: 1) Musk has no authority (and neither does President Donald Trump) to abolish a congressional established government entity and 2) foreign aid, which is what USAID does, is a cost-effective investment that helps America's international economic and security posture.

Musk claims that USAID is gone and has been folded into the State Department. Brand new Secretary of State Marco Rubio claims now to be acting head of the agency; is this technically true? Who knows?

Under what authority, exactly,

## Guest Editorial

is Musk operating when his staff kicks USAID workers off their systems and tries to close the doors? This is an extraordinarily basic question that has not been answered in any level of detail or depth, and no, simply saying the president wants him to do it is not sufficient to take actions like forcing staff to give his DOGE staffers access to classified information that they are not legally permitted to see.

In fact, the president himself also lacks the authority to shut

down a U.S. government department that was created by Congress, and to refuse to spend money that Congress has already appropriated for its functions. We are once again forced to remind everyone, including the GOP members of Congress who are apparently happy to stand by and watch their own authority be usurped and consolidated, that the president is not a king.

USAID is a bad target. We get that many American voters are ambivalent or downright hostile to the idea of sending funds abroad. But beyond some of our moral responsibilities as a nation of great power and influence, this isn't just charity for its own sake. Going back decades, foreign aid has been a terrific investment; we would not have been able to count on economically robust, stable and, impor-

tantly, friendly Europe and Japan without the breadth of the Marshall Plan and other rebuilding efforts.

The Marshall Plan's formal name was the Economic Cooperation Administration, which in 1951 begat the Mutual Security Agency, which in 1953 begat the Foreign Operations Administration, which in 1955 begat the International Cooperation Administration, which in 1961 by act of Congress begat USAID. And in 2025 came Musk.

The agency's programs haven't always been perfectly executed, but its efforts on alleviating poverty, disaster relief, disease prevention, climate mitigation and democracy promotion, among other things, have helped keep nations around the world more stable and provided runway for them to get on more solid

footing, eventually needing less international assistance. The reverse of this isn't the U.S. saving some money in a world that remains just as stable. The absence of these investments will drive global poverty, social fraying and political instability, which is a cocktail that never turns out well for anyone, including the global community of which, for all Donald Trump's hand-wringing, we remain a part.

Unless Musk's rampaging is brought to a halt, we will have a situation of both more global instability — which, we'll remind them, drives the migration they so seem to hate — and nations like China swooping in and taking up the mantle, soaking up the goodwill and pushing their own vision of government. That's a bad deal.

## GITMO should be closed, not expanded

The Orange County Register  
Tribune News Service

With all the ongoing chaos, it's hard to sort the new president's serious proposals from his tough-guy performances. Donald Trump, for instance, rattled financial markets with his plan to impose 25-percent tariffs on Canada and Mexico, but things calmed down after he paused those ill-thought-out actions.

Likewise, his plan to expand the U.S. military's Guantanamo Bay detention facility in Cuba might also fizzle when reality hits, but we're taking his promise seriously and literally. In an executive order, Trump ordered the "Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security to ... expand the Migrant Operations Center at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to full capacity."

That would mean doubling the migrant facility — separate from the military prison that houses terrorist suspects — to house "high-priority criminal aliens." As Reuters reports, that migrant portion typically houses fleeing Cubans and Haitians apprehended at sea. No one opposes the removal of what the Trump team calls the "worst of the worst," but expanding GITMO is fraught with problems.

For starters, the administration's promise offers poor optics. "(T)he symbolic association between the military detention center and the migrant camp ... is likely to further stigmatize migrants," CNN reported. We have never liked the idea of detailing people offshore where the feds use it as "an outpost outside the reach of US law," as the network added.

Trump supporters assure us the feds will treat accused immigrants appropriately, but this administration has, to put it gently, not seem particularly bound by norms or constitutional restraints.

Even during the height of that anti-terror frenzy, this editorial board urged the federal government to shutter the facility. Some detainees had been locked up for years, with allegations against them never proven and due process never provided. The feds have operated the facility for 23 years, with 39 men still indefinitely detained — most of whom have never been charged with a crime. The only bright side is Trump's plan might

## Guest Editorial

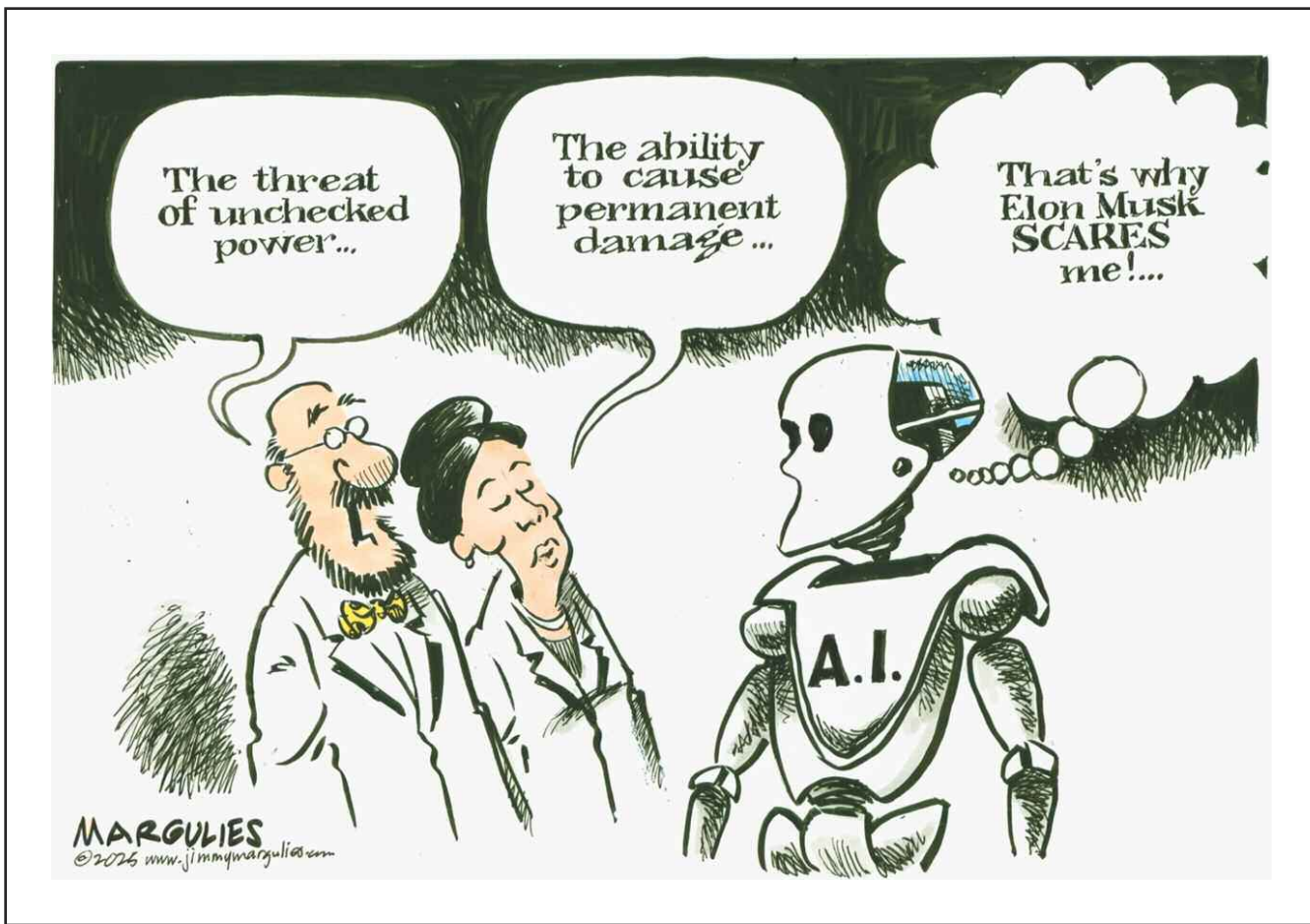
*Some detainees had been locked up for years, with allegations against them never proven ...*

focus attention again on that travesty.

In our 2009 editorial penned after President Barack Obama promised to close the base, our late colleague Alan Bock made this point: "The detainee center has become an international symbol of the practice of skirting U.S. and international law, and torture. Whether the torture allegations are valid — and we're inclined to believe that outright torture has been rare — keeping detainees at Guantanamo no longer serves any purpose, and closing it can't help but improve the U.S. image, both abroad and at home."

Based on the tariff debacle, the new president might not be too concerned about our nation's image anywhere, but the rest of us should be. The beauty of the United States is not its power to evict illegal immigrants and bully smaller nations over trade practices, but its role as a beacon of freedom and human rights. By all means, remove adjudicated criminal aliens — but we should do so in keeping with our nation's laws and highest principles.

Sadly, Obama's announcement didn't mean the facility's closure, although the number of detainees has fallen. As late as last year, these pages were still publishing articles pointing to GITMO as an affront to human rights. Instead of finding new excuses to expand its use, let's use the principles embodied in our Constitution to shut it down permanently.



## If they do nothing, are they good?

By JOHN KRULL  
TheStatehouseFile.com

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Indiana, just learned a valuable lesson.

That lesson?

It's no fun trying to be the designated driver at a drunken spree.

Young contemplated voting against the confirmation of former Democratic congresswoman and presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard as director of national intelligence before ceding to overwhelming political pressure and the reality that his party has lost both its will and its way.

Young's critics cite a phone conversation he had with the world's richest man, Elon Musk, as the turning point that prompted the Hoosier senator and former Marine intelligence officer to yield. Musk, who spent more than \$250 million on the 2024 presidential election to help President Donald Trump return to the White House, has vowed to fund primary challenges to any Republican who refuses to confirm Trump's Cabinet picks.

I'm not going to minimize the squeeze a plutocrat such as Musk can put on a senator from a small state.

But I suspect the true decisive moment came when Young's colleague, U.S. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, announced she would vote for Gabbard's confirmation.

That left Young in the unpleasant position of being the scold calling for decorum at a keg party that already had spiraled out of control.

Only a dullard — and Todd Young is a smart guy — continues to fight when the battle is lost.

The notion of the Senate confirmation process serving as a check on unbridled power in the executive branch — the very thing the founders of this nation feared most — is a twisted joke.

Trump's nominees have learned an essential lesson from their master: Lying is but a means to an end.

Checks and balances are for sissies.

John Krull



for high positions are not just unqualified, but spectacularly unqualified. Gabbard, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and Kash Patel are the president's middle-finger salute to the belief that expertise, knowledge and achievement matter.

These Republicans also know that much of what Trump is doing will damage not only this country and millions of lives but also wreak havoc with the GOP and its political prospects.

The rest of the world has taken the president's measure even if his fellow Republicans have not. Other nations' leaders know that beneath all the Trumpian bluster is a weak man they can roll.

The Trumpian trade war charades provide a clear example.

They follow a predictable pattern. Trump threatens a draconian tariff on products from, say, Colombia. Colombia responds with tariffs that target the rural states — including Indiana — that are Trump's base. Trump yields, claiming victory because Colombia agrees to continue abiding by a practice already in place.

Trump partisans lap it up, but the rest of the world knows which side blinked in the contest of wills.

And the inebriated destruction of America's long experiment in self-governance continues, unchecked by what once was the world's great deliberative body, the U.S. Senate.

"The only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing," the British conservative philosopher statesman Edmund Burke once said.

But if they do nothing, can they still consider themselves good men?

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

US PS 125820

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



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

**RAY COONEY**  
President, editor and publisher

**TONIA HARDY**  
Business manager

**LOUISE RONALD**  
Board chair

**BRIAN DODD**  
Production manager

"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

VOLUME 151-NUMBER 203  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2025

[www.thecr.com](http://www.thecr.com)



2-8 CRYPTOQUIP

FCJNEWK XJQJIWOJ ZYWZ ZYI  
VWX VSAI HSAKG OAKC GSHB  
ZS IJRAQJBWZJ ZYJEI XSGEJF:  
XJWZKJ RAENJ.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** WHEN THE AMATEUR MUSICIAN WAS PLAYING THE CLARINET INEPTLY, HOW DID IT SOUND? ROUGH AND REEDY.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals J

**CRYPTO FUN**

Solve the code to discover words related to heart health. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: H = R)

**A. 15 6 5 11 10**  
Clue: Pumps in chest

**B. 13 5 11 14 3 4 23 5 12 13 20 1 5 11**  
Clue: Having to do with the heart

**C. 2 11 6 12 12 20 11 6**  
Clue: Force of blood moving through body

**D. 23 6 12 12 6 1**  
Clue: Vein or artery

**WORD SCRAMBLE**

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to heart health.

**AQPEUL**

Answers: A: heart B: cardiovascular C: pressure D: vessel

**GUESS WHO?**

I am a singer born in Canada on February 16, 1990. I began to gain a following after anonymously uploading my songs to YouTube. I went on to release a mixtape, which was met with acclaim. I have since won multiple Grammy awards.

Answer: The Weeknd



**Animal FACT:**

This activity is a popular hobby that enables people to interact with and observe wildlife.

Answer: Bird feeding

2-10 CRYPTOQUIP

DU NOSMJINNZ UAJO B THLN  
DXRDBX PDGI PBMM UJMCZ GJ  
SDGPT SAJRHPGZ, DZ GTBG  
RNMTD - O B A C N G D X L ?

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** SPECIAL BEVERAGE THAT THE FAB FOUR WOULD GULP DOWN TO REJUVENATE THEIR BODIES: BEATLE JUICE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals C

**Math Blocks**

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

14			23
1		5	15
	12	2	22
23	24	13	

**Solution:**

2	12	8
1	9	1
3	6	14

**THIS DAY IN HISTORY**

FEBRUARY 5

**62:** An earthquake strikes in Pompeii, Italy.

**1852:** The New Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg, Russia, opens to the public.

**1924:** The Royal Greenwich Observatory begins broadcasting the hourly time signals.

**HEART HEALTH WORD SEARCH**

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

**WORDS:** AORTIC, BLOOD PRESSURE, CARDIAC, CARDIOLOGIST, CHOLESTEROL, CORONARY, FAILURE, HEART, MITRAL, PACEMAKER, PRESSURE, PULMONIC, PULSE, STRESS, STROKE, SYSTOLIC, TACHYCARDIA, THROMBOSIS, TRIGLYCERIDES, VALVES, VENTRICLE.

**Get Scrambled**

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

**BNSELIB NO DSEES**

Answer: Nibbles on seeds

**Did You Know?**

Bird feeders can be placed at different levels, including on the ground, on a table top or higher. This allows various birds to enjoy a meal.

**NEW WORD**

**FLEDGLING**

a young bird that is learning to fly

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

40 Ump's call  
42 Old U.S. gas brand  
6 Selected gas brand  
11 Patronize, as a bistro  
12 Cuts at an angle  
14 Long-haired cat  
15 Rise in defiance  
16 Montmartre Mrs.  
17 Wide  
19 Big fuss  
20 — ale  
22 Rocker Nugent  
23 Raced  
24 Nosh at midnight  
26 Bishop's district  
28 Free (of)  
30 Spanish gold  
31 Pianist Arrau  
35 Slowpoke  
39 Fireplace shelves

**DOWN**

1 Dorothy's friend  
18 British ref. work  
2 Ger-many's Merkel  
3 Sign before  
4 Keto restriction  
5 Kick off  
6 Trucker's device  
7 Obey  
9 Mexican shawl  
10 Shakes off  
11 Muffles china  
13 Fine brand  
18 British ref. work  
21 Beige shades  
23 Tea biscuit  
25 Tease words?  
27 Choice  
29 Museum display  
31 Desk go-with  
32 Hang around  
33 Rub the wrong way  
34 Gigi's "yes"  
36 On the beach  
37 Tristan's love  
38 Wind-blown soil  
41 Sports bar  
44 Food regimen  
45 Engrave  
48 Meadow  
50 Rowing need

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 2-8**

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
39				40		41		42	
43			44			45		46	
47			48			49		50	
51						52			
						53			
						54			

**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**The impossible dream**

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ 10 9 4  
♥ Q 5 3  
♦ 9 4  
♣ A Q 8 6 3

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

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K  
♥ A 10 7 6 4 2  
♦ 7 5  
♣ 9 5 2

The bidding:  
South 1♥, West 2♦, North 2♥, East 3♦  
3♥, Pass, 4♥

Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Every once in a while, declarer finds himself struggling in a seemingly hopeless contract. This situation might be caused by overbidding, misbidding or any number of other good — or bad — reasons. Whatever the cause, declarer must nevertheless try to find a successful resolution to his predicament. A contract that appears impossible to make can sometimes be brought home by applying just a little bit of extra effort.

Consider this deal where South is in four hearts. Looking at only the North-South cards, it seems declarer must lose two diamonds, at least one club and at least one trump. Yet, despite this prognosis, South can make the contract if he pays close attention to the task at hand.

West leads the king of diamonds and continues with the ten to East's ace. East shifts to a spade, won by South with the ace. Declarer sees that he must lose a trump trick regardless of how he approaches the suit, so he devotes all his thoughts to avoiding a club loser. This results in his adopting a line of play that — with some luck — will cause his seemingly inevitable club loser to vanish into thin air.

Declarer begins by finessing the queen of clubs at trick four, then leads a spade to his king and a club to dummy's ace. Next, he ruffs dummy's remaining spade.

The ace and another trump are now played, West winning with the king. Since West has no more clubs, he is forced to return a spade or a diamond, allowing declarer to ruff in dummy while he discards his remaining club, and the "impossible" game is home.

©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**Famous Hand**

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ A K 4  
♥ 9 8  
♦ 9 6 5 3 2  
♣ A K 9

**EAST**  
♠ J 9  
♥ J 7 5 3  
♦ A K 8 7 4  
♣ 10 5

**SOUTH**  
♠ 8 6 5 2  
♥ A K Q 10 4  
♦ —  
♣ 6 4 3 2

The bidding:  
North 1♦, East 1♥, South 1♥, West 3♥  
1NT, Pass, 3♥, Pass  
3NT, Pass, 4♥

Opening lead — queen of diamonds.

This remarkable hand appears in "Spotlight on Card Play," a book by Robert Darvas and Paul Lukacs that illustrates the type of thinking that lies behind good card play. Declarer was the Hungarian star Geza Ottlik. The contract was four hearts, and West led a diamond.

It's not easy to make 10 tricks, even with all 52 cards in view. Declarer apparently needs a 3-3 trump break as well as a 3-3 division in one of the black suits in order to establish a 10th trick.

It might therefore seem that, if the cards lie, South can make only five trump tricks and two sets of A-K's. But Ottlik scored 10 trick by adopting an ingenious line of play that made him a strong favorite for the contract. He decided to play for six trump tricks instead of the obvious five and accomplish his goal in the following manner:

After ruffing the diamond lead he crossed to dummy with a spade and ruffed a second diamond. He then returned to dummy with spade and ruffed a third diamond. Next came a club to the king another diamond ruff, followed by a club to the ace and a fifth diamond ruff with his last trump.

By this time, Ottlik had score nine tricks — five ruffs in his hand and both of dummy's black A-K's. Dummy still had the 9-8 of heart and was bound to score a 10th trick with one of them.

The maneuver described here, known as a dummy reversal, vice is hard enough to recognize even under ordinary circumstances. But it is infinitely more difficult to spot when dummy has only two trump and declarer has five.

No other line of play is as promising as this one, nor, in the actual hand, does any other approach succeed.

Tomorrow: Assumptions are essential.  
©2025 King Features Syndicate Inc.

**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

43 "Don't Start Now" singer  
44 Intimate  
46 Tactics  
50 "Star Wars" knight  
53 Resistance unit  
55 "East of Eden" twin  
56 At the summit of  
57 Pint-sized medium  
58 Belafonte song  
59 Orange veggies  
60 Matching pair  
61 Arced tennis shot  
23 Saw-buck  
25 Skin opening  
26 Lum-mox  
27 Heart charts (Abbr.)  
28 Avoid  
29 "Rhyme Pays" rapper  
30 "Peter Pan" pooch  
31 Roofing goo  
35 Future flower  
38 Enjoy Vail  
40 "How's it goin'?"  
42 Bam-boozles  
45 Biblical pronoun  
47 Exam format  
48 Vacillate  
49 Elitist  
50 Comic Leno  
51 JFK info  
52 —  
54 Pérignon into

**DOWN**

1 Men-only  
2 Brownish purple  
3 — and crafts  
4 Likely rings  
5 Floral rings  
6 Sari fabrics  
7 Light lunch order  
8 Televised  
9 ICU pros  
10 Rap sheet  
12 Popular British dish  
19 Owned by us  
21 The "I" of TGIF

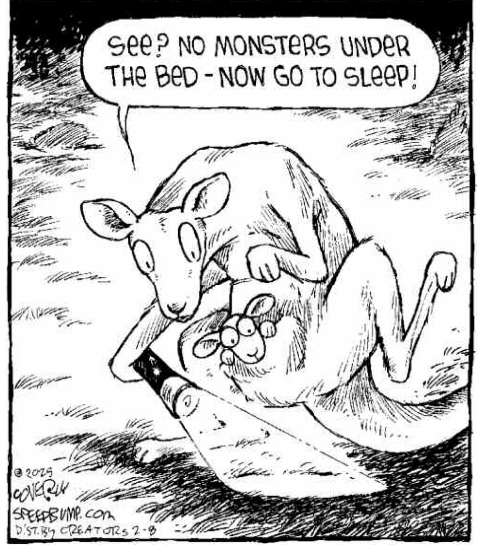
**Solution time: 21 mins.**

**Saturday's answer 2-10**

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



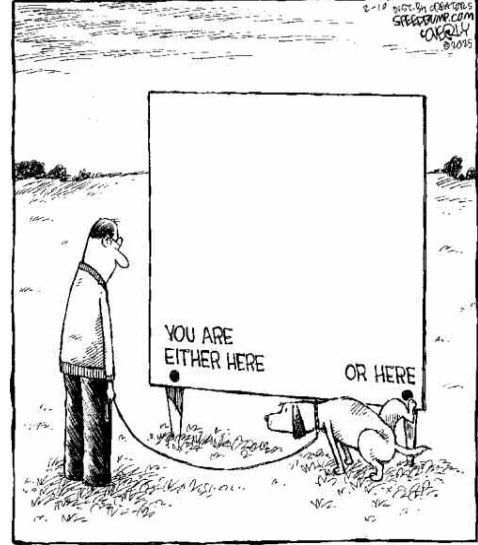
### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



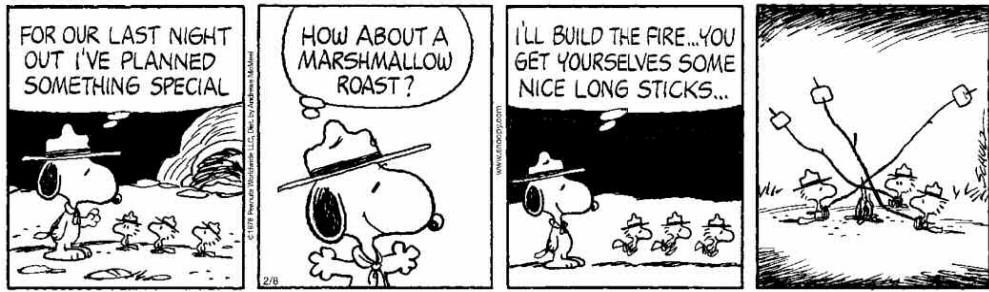
### SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



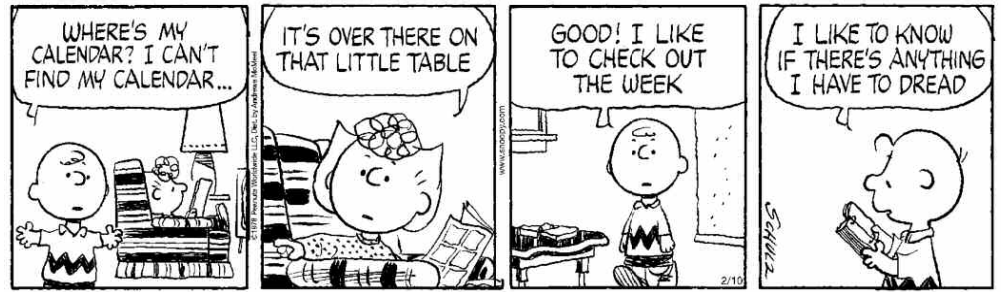
### THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



### Peanuts



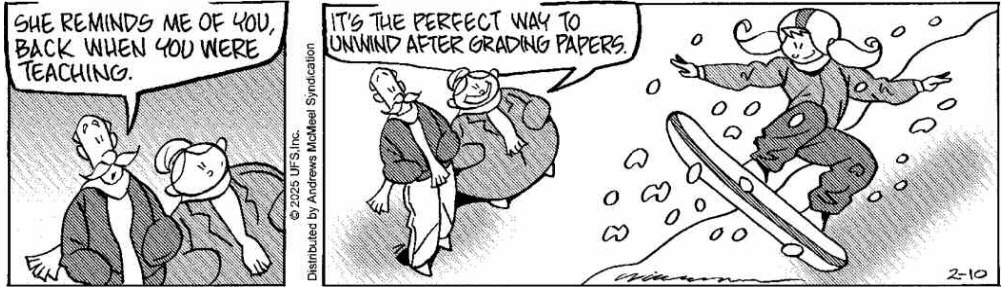
### Peanuts



### Rose is Rose



### Rose is Rose



### Agnes



### Agnes



### Hi and Lois



### Hi and Lois



### Between Friends



### Between Friends



### Blondie



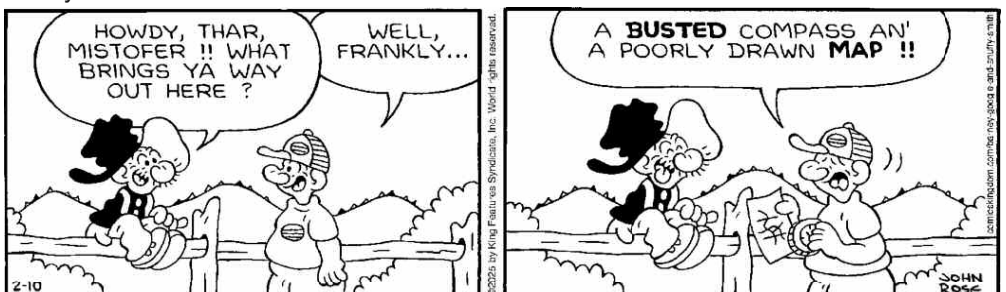
### Blondie



### 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



### 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, motor-  
ized vehicles, real estate  
and mobile homes.

### 40 NOTICES

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure  
to check your ad the first  
day it appears. We can-  
not be responsible for  
more than one days  
incorrect copy. We try  
hard not to make mis-  
takes, but they do hap-  
pen, 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, Indi-  
ana 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, founda-  
tions. 260-726-5062,  
leave message.

**SEAMSTRESS NAN  
HOMEMADE** Sewing  
and Alterations, Quilts,  
Baby Blankets, AppliquÉ,  
Zippers, Hemming,  
Memory T-Shirt, Special  
Orders, Wedding & Prom  
Gowns. 260.766.9334

**GOODHEWS ALL SEAS-  
ON** Construction- Spe-  
cializing in standing  
seam metal roofs. When  
Quality Counts, Count  
On U.S. A company you  
can trust. Member of the  
BBB. New Installation  
and repairs. Call Rodney  
Thornbury, owner 765-  
509-0191

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

**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**

Family owned and operated since 1992  
**ALASKA**  
Heating & Cooling  
Albany: 765-789-8036  
**YOU are the reason  
we are in business!**  
**WE ARE CELEBRATING 29 YEARS IN BUSINESS!**

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

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

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp Exhibi-  
tion Hall at the Jay  
County Fairgrounds, 806  
W Votaw St., Portland,  
IN  
February 15th, 2025  
9:30 A. M.  
**ANTIQUÉ-OLD & COL-  
LECTORS ITEM**  
**CAST IRON:** Griswold  
#10 Skillet, Favorite #12  
Skillet, Wagner corn-  
bread, & more. **MARX**  
Klown Katch & Spot  
Bowler Pinball games,  
**CROCKS &**  
**STONEWARE:** 1 gallon  
early grey crock, 3 gal-  
lon bee sting crock, Blue  
& White baked beans,  
brown crock with lid,  
Steffi teddy bear, 1940's  
Girl Scout pins, vintage  
fishing lures, Ford oil  
can, skeleton keys, Rail-  
road lock with key,  
Kenton Toy Co. cast iron  
driver and lady, Fram  
Filter diecut girl with  
swimsuit, Craftsman  
stamps, wood bucket,  
metal pot, and many  
other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:**  
Doors will open at 8  
a.m. day of auction for  
preview.  
**RICHARD STACHLER**  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608  
Travis Theurer  
AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Kayden Khayyata  
AU12400069

### 100 JOBS WANTED

**AL & JAYS ODD JOBS**  
Repairs-Cleaning-  
Assembly-Carpentry-  
Painting-Pet Sitting and  
many other services.  
CALL FOR A FREE  
QUOTE. 260-251-0636

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

### 130 MISC. FOR SALE

**SCRATCH PADS ARE  
BACK** various bundles  
sizes and XL pads. \$1.25  
plus tax. Pick up at The  
Commercial Review  
Tuesday thru Friday  
10am to 4pm.

**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

**MAY FINANCIAL  
GROUP, INC.**  
• Life • Health  
• International  
Medical  
Employee Benefits  
• Dental • Vision  
• Medicare  
Supplements •  
Annuities  
**MATT FRANKS**  
your hometown agent  
**(260) 729-5200**  
111 W. Main Street, Portland, IN

*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

### 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. Manufac-

turing, warehousing,  
assembly, distribution,  
offices, inside and outdoor  
storage. Easy access to  
major highways and rail-  
road access with loading  
docks and overhead  
cranes available. Contact  
Sycamore Group, 419-  
678-5318,  
www.sycamorespace.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

**Visit Us At:  
theocr.com**

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**  
Salamonia Civil Town Jay County, Indiana  
Annual Financial Report - 2024 Cash & Investments Combined Statement

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan. 1, 2024	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec. 31, 2024
Governmental Activities					
0	General	\$6,494.68	\$13,396.44	\$14,984.89	\$4,906.23
0	Mvh	\$29,375.81	\$5,112.20	\$2,781.02	\$31,706.99
0	Riverboat	\$1,746.06	\$864.77	\$315.00	\$2,295.83
0	Cei	\$2,376.03	\$244.27	\$0.00	\$2,620.30
0	Rainy Day	\$140.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$140.09
0	Lrs	\$5,010.43	\$1,804.71	\$1,530.00	\$5,285.14
0	Community Edit	\$3,812.27	\$660.00	\$0.00	\$4,472.27
109	Park Fund	\$17,346.74	\$11,048.60	\$20,837.37	\$7,557.97
2203	MVH Restricted	\$0.00	\$3,157.92	\$0.00	\$3,157.92
2256	opioid settlement Fund	\$42.88	\$52.87	\$0.00	\$95.75
Wastewater Utility					
1	Operating -Wastewater Utility	\$99,427.57	\$52,792.32	\$51,327.10	\$100,892.79
2	Reserve	\$10,639.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,639.42
3	Bond & Interest	\$7,234.32	\$7,596.00	\$7,600.00	\$7,230.32
4	Improvements	\$23,771.60	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$26,771.60
	Total All Funds	\$207,417.90	\$99,730.10	\$99,375.38	\$207,772.62

CR 2-8-2025- HSPAXLP

### 260 PUBLIC AUCTION

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds,  
Portland Indiana on Saturday Morning  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2025**  
9:30 A.M.  
**ANTIQUES - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**  
**CAST IRON:** Griswold #10 skillet, Favorite #12 skillet, Wapak #14 skillet, Wagner cornbread, Wagner #8 shallow skillet, pig bank, Wagner child's toy griddle; Rayo lantern with copper base and dark red ruby globe; grain measurer; wood measure bucket; **PLANES:** Stanley #60 spoke shave, Craftsman and Stanley; Dresden Plate quilt; American Negro League Baseball bedspread; **MARX** Klown Katch and Spot Bowler pinball games; Cincinnati Reds button pin; 1917 Ohio license plate set; Starrett Est iron pocket level; Sweden Ppimus #210 brass kamp stove in tin box; **CROCKS & STONEWARE:** 1 gallon early gray crock, 3 gallon crock, 1 gallon crock with 3 blue bands, 3 gallon Bee sting crock, 2 gallon stoneware gray crock, Western Stoneware Sleepy Eye mug, Blue & White Baked Beans, brown crock with lid, jug; postcards; advertisements; Huffman Oil bottle with top; Winchester bullet mold; brass finger lightning rod top; 11 points brass lightning rod top; Hanke Sheffield brass brace; lighters; Fenton bell, compote; Steffi teddy bear; Hobnail shoes; 1940's Girl Scout pins; Sterling bracelet with stones; Lady Elgin pocket watch; WWII era stop watch; Silver Plate beaded purse; Jadite flour and sugar shakers; Marion Billiard Parlor - set of 3 balls; brass plumb bob with steel top; **HUMMEL** figurines; Indian Pottery vase; rings; **BELT BUCKLES:** Silver Tone, BSA Camp Birch brass, National Scout Jamboree brass, Chief Sitting Bull brass, 1979 Chicago Corn, brooches; pins; **PYREX:** 3 pc Cinderella bowl set, 3 pc. Blue Horizon bowl set, 3 pc. Gooseberry bowl set; alligator purse; Carnival; Roseville Mosaic bowl, planter; ; Hobnail vase; Watt bowl, pitcher; ceramic Christmas tree; Westmoreland bell; Cranberry pitcher; Dietz lantern; Czech vase with large bulbs; giraffe wine decanter; cottage door stop; Royal Copley rooster and hen; GE fan with brass blades; child's red paint rocker; porcelain sign number; Zehner's lard can; wrenches; milk bottles; Celina bottle; Ford wrench; draw knives; hatchet; vintage fishing lures; Ford oil can; razors; Imperial blade knife; eyeglasses; skeleton keys; vintage bicycle mudflap with reflector; Kellogg Pop pins; Hull vase, candleholders; Wave Crest pin jar; Delphite blue match holder; railroad lock with key; large glass Easter egg; Majolica pedestal; USN flashlight; Schreiber Co, NY thermometer; Cranberry coin dot cruet; German flag stick pins; tin type; pocket watches; Lash's Bitter amber bottle; National Tonic amber bottle; Starrett 12" machinist level; Kenton Toy Co. cast iron driver and lady; sword; Hart glass vase; early wood box; German SS replica dagger with sheath; Dick Tracy pocket knife; small coffee grinder; Marx wind up racer car; Olive Green Diamond Mark insulators; Good Luck medallions; Eureka Poultry fountain; lighters; Fram Filter diecut girl with swimsuit; Lady Sheaffer pen set; Mother of Pearl knives and forks; tire ash tray; lantern; Craftsman stamps; wood bucket; metal pot; and many other items not listed.  
**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** This auction offers a nice variety of antiques and collectibles. Doors will open at 8:00 a.m. day of auction for preview.  
**RICHARD STACHLER**  
LOY AUCTION AC#31600027  
AUCTIONEERS  
Gary Loy AU 01031608 Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Travis Theurer AU 11200131 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069  
CR 2-8-2025

**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 **theocr.com** or call  
**260-726-8141**

**BANNERS**  
**40" x 13"**  
**BUY ONE FOR  
\$6.95**  
**GET ONE FOR  
\$3.50**  
**Birthdays,  
Anniversaries,  
Get Well, Just Because,  
Valentine's Day,  
and Many Others.**  
Graphic Printing,  
309 West Main St., Portland.  
Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., TUESDAY - FRIDAY  
Custom sizes available.

The Commercial Review  
**Newspaper Delivery**  
**Comments or  
Problems?  
Call our  
Circulation  
Hotline**  
**260-251-9588**  
After 5:00 p.m.  
Leave Message Please.  
**Carrier Delivery**  
**Deadlines**  
**Tuesday - Friday:**  
6:00 p.m.  
**Saturday Morning:**  
8:00 a.m.  
The Commercial Review  
309 West Main St.,  
Portland.  
Front Office Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Circulation Department  
Hours:  
10:00 am - 4:30 p.m.

**A  
D  
V  
E  
R  
T  
I  
S  
E  
I  
N  
T  
H  
E  
C  
O  
M  
M  
E  
R  
C  
I  
A  
L  
R  
E  
V  
I  
E  
W  
C  
L  
A  
S  
S  
I  
F  
I  
E  
D  
A  
D  
S  
726-8141**

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



# One game, one win

*Gary secures win in first game as head coach with 77-25 beating of SWHS*

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

PONETO — The Patriots recently got some new leadership.

That new leadership has brought some twists in philosophy and those new wrinkles were on display as the Patriots beat up on the Raiders.

Brogan Gary secured his first win as the Jay County High School boys basketball interim coach as it clobbered the Southern Wells Raiders 77-25 on Thursday.

Gary, who was previously Jay County's junior varsity coach, stepped in as the Patriots' interim coach after Jerry Bomholt retired on Tuesday to focus on his health. He had not previously held a head coaching position before coming to Jay County, and picked up his first career victory in his initial attempt.

"I feel great," Gary said. "Our motto is to keep improving and keep building. It doesn't matter the competition, because we can get better each possession. It doesn't matter who we're playing. Especially for our end goal and having the outlook of where we're trying to get."

The Patriots (9-7, 3-2 Allen County Athletic Conference) debuted a pair of new defensive sets alongside their new coach. Through a majority of the first half, they ran a 1-2-2 full-court press that slipped into Bomholt's Zorro defense. That press contributed to Southern Wells (0-14, 0-5 ACAC) turning the ball over 12 times before the end of the second quarter.

After the intermission, Jay County matched up with the Raiders in a man-to-man defense. The Patriots held SWHS to just 10 points in the second half — six in the third and four in the fifth — which is 10 under the Raiders' season average per quarter.

While the new defensive sets won't necessarily replace the 3-2 zone, Gary was happy with how his team responded to implementing the different looks.

"They had a good attitude about it," Gary said. "I'm trying to gauge, as a coach, what we're capable



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Gradin Swoveland of Jay County High School rises up for a dunk attempt during the Patriots' 77-25 victory at Southern Wells on Thursday. Swoveland scored nine points in the contest, while adding two assists.

of and give ourselves different options. The game has its ups and downs, so we've got to be able to adjust, which is crucial for a team and for us going forward."

Nearly everything worked for Jay County on the offensive end of the floor. The team shot effectively from outside (7-of-18), scored 40 points in the paint, hit eight buckets off of offensive rebounds and put up 17 points off of turnovers.

A key reason for the offensive success came from the Patriots assisting 19 of their 32 made field goals (59.4%).

Tucker Griffin led the team with seven assists. Six of those assists came in transition or with Griffin driving the ball and either looking for forwards Cole Forthofer and Eli Petro — who led the scoring with 18 and 14 points respectively — or to kick the ball out to Jayden Comer — who finished with 12 on 4-of-7 from deep.

"It's simple basketball," Griffin said. "Everyone wants to score, and I'll be the first one to tell you, 'I love scoring too.' But at the same time, I'd rather see Cole dunk on somebody or Jayden hit a

three, because I know we all feed off the energy more than me scoring. So passing and getting people open is really what I like to do."

Griffin added 10 points to his assist numbers, with all but one basket — a floater late in the second quarter — came in transition.

Six other Patriots dish out assists in the game, including Brock Wasson who had four.

The sophomore hadn't seen any time outside of the fourth quarter prior to Thursday, but checked into the game as early as the 5:30 mark in the sec-

Box score				
<b>Southern Wells Raiders vs. Jay County Patriots</b>				
<b>Boys varsity summary</b>				
<b>Jay County (9-7, 3-2 ACAC)</b>				
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>	
Comer	4-8	0-0	12	
Schemenaur	0-0	0-0	0	
Jetmore	0-3	0-0	0	
Barnett	1-1	0-0	3	
Sollars	0-0	0-0	0	
Wasson	2-7	0-0	5	
Petro	7-10	0-0	14	
Dirksen	0-1	3-4	3	
Forthofer	8-11	2-2	18	
Phillips	1-2	0-0	2	
Griffin	5-6	0-1	10	
Swoveland	4-9	0-0	9	
Sommers	0-0	1-2	1	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>32-58</b>	<b>6-9</b>	<b>77</b>	
	<b>.552</b>	<b>.667</b>		
<b>Def. rebound percentage:</b>	<b>.842</b>			
<b>Southern Wells (0-14, 0-5 ACAC)</b>				
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>	
Slusher	2-4	2-2	6	
Woodward	0-0	0-0	0	
Yoder	1-3	2-4	5	
Reber	3-12	1-2	7	
Johnson	1-4	0-0	2	
Aulbach	0-0	0-0	0	
Durham	1-3	0-0	2	
Frauhiger	0-0	0-0	0	
Casterline	1-1	1-2	3	
Gilbert	0-0	0-0	0	
Howell	0-0	0-0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9-27</b>	<b>6-10</b>	<b>25</b>	
	<b>.333</b>	<b>.600</b>		
<b>Def. rebound percentage:</b>	<b>.320</b>			
<b>Score by quarters:</b>				
<b>Jay Co. 15 28 24 10 — 77</b>				
<b>S. Wells 5 10 6 4 — 25</b>				
<b>3-point shooting:</b> Jay County 7-18 (Comer 4-7, Barnett 1-1, Swoveland 1-1, Wasson 1-4, Dirksen 0-1, Griffin 0-1, Jetmore 0-3). Southern Wells 1-9 (Yoder 1-3, Slusher 0-1, Durham 0-2, Reber 0-3).				
<b>Rebounds:</b> Jay County 33 (Griffin 7, Forthofer 6, Barnett 3, Wasson 3, Dirksen 3, Swoveland 3, Comer 2, Sommers 2, Team 2, Petro, Phillips). Southern Wells 11 (Slusher 2, Reber 2, Johnson 2, Woodward, Yoder, Durham, Casterline, Team).				
<b>Assists:</b> Jay County 19 (Griffin 7, Wasson 4, Comer 3, Swoveland 2, Petro, Dirksen, Sommers). Southern Wells 3 (Slusher, Yoder, Reber).				
<b>Blocks:</b> Jay County 0. Southern Wells 1 (Casterline).				
<b>Personal fouls:</b> Jay County 8 (Forthofer 2, Swoveland 2, Comer, Barnett, Wasson, Petro). Southern Wells 6 (Woodward 3, Durham 2, Johnson).				
<b>Turnovers:</b> Jay County 10. Southern Wells 22.				

ond period. He made an immediate impact, hitting a triple from the right corner and assisting a trio of buckets in that second quarter.

Along with Wasson, Jay County was able to extend its bench more than usual due to the score of the game. Benson Barnett made an appearance in the third quarter, grabbing a pair of offensive rebounds — and later hitting a 3-pointer in the fourth. Kade Sommers, Brady Jetmore, Drew Schemenaur and Rylee Sollars all got checked in during the final period as well.

"It was exciting, now the pressure should be able to go away and just go out and play," Wasson said. "It's nice getting to go from playing on JV together to playing on varsity. The next few years we'll be playing together, so it's a good way to get the reps."

C.J. Reber led Southern Wells with seven points while shooting 3-of-12 (25%) from the floor. He had five of the team's 10 second-quarter points, which was the highest mark SWHS hit in one period. (Ten points was the lowest mark the Patriots put up.)

Gary will now get a week off to work with his team in practice before they host back-to-back home games against conference and regional foes in Heritage and Yorktown. He also recognized the new motive the team will have to push forward through the rest of the season.

"This is for coach," Gary said. "We know he wants to be here. We were playing for him, for each other and just being together. We've got a lot of work to do, but we'll keep improving off of him."

## Junior varsity

The Jay County JV basketball team blasted the Raiders in a 58-15 victory on Thursday.

Three Patriots scored in double figures as the team got 15 or more points in the first three quarters. Nick Snow led the way with 21 points, followed by Wasson with 15. Barnett was the other Patriot to eclipse double figures with 10.

Adam Aulbach led Southern Wells with eight points, including all six second-quarter points.

JCHS never gave up more than six in a quarter and held the Raiders scoreless in the third.

# Fighting for third

*Jay County girls swim team is in battle with Vikings again*

Some of the names and event assignments have changed.

The meet, though, looks like a mirror image of 2024.

Hosting the sectional preliminaries Thursday, the Jay County High School girls swim team set itself up to be in a battle for third place with Huntington North for the second consecutive season.

The Patriots project for 227 points, just behind the 242 for Huntington North. (Projections do not include diving.) Delta is heavily favored to win its third consecutive sectional title after earning No. 1 seeds in 10 out of 11 swimming events while Norwell projects for the runner-up finish again in the 11-team field.

JCHS edged Huntington North for the No. 3 spot by 4.5 points last season.

The sectional resumes today with diving preliminaries at 9 a.m. Swimming and diving finals will follow at 1 p.m. (The top eight finishers from the preliminaries compete in championship races, with the next eight in consolation finals.)

Four Patriots qualified for championship races, with Lauren Fisher and Brooklyn Byrum each making it in a pair of events. They finished back-to-back in the 100-yard butterfly Thursday, with the former third in 1 minute, 5.77 seconds, and the latter fourth in 1:06.07. The top two seeds were Annie Jackson of Delta at 59.7 and Kaydince

Kalhoefer of Huntington North with a time of 1:04.14. Kaitlyn Fisher gave JCHS three swimmers in the championship race as she reached the wall in 1:07.6 for the No. 8 seed.

Byrum, a freshman, is also seeded seventh in the 200 individual medley. Fisher, a junior, took the No. 8 spot in the 50 freestyle, earning the last spot in the championship race by eight hundredths of a second ahead of Norwell freshman Emma Easley.

Senior Kenzie Huey turned in a time of 1:09.24 to earn the No. 5 seed in the 100 backstroke.

Jay County's best relay effort came in the meet-ending 400 freestyle, with Aubrey Millspaugh, Sophia Hoevel, Lauren Fisher and Byrum earning the No. 3 seed in 3:57.5. They trailed Delta and Huntington North.

Sophia Hoevel, Lauren Fisher, Byrum and Huey picked up the No. 4 seed for the 200 medley relay in 2:01.44, and Ariel Beiswanger, Kaitlyn Fisher, Huey and Millspaugh were seventh in the 200 freestyle relay.

Advancing to swim in Saturday's consolation finals were Millspaugh (ninth — 200 individual medley, 12th — 100 backstroke), Avery Wentz (ninth — 100 backstroke), Kaitlyn Fisher (10th — 200 individual medley), Sophia Hoevel (10th — 100 freestyle, 11th — 200 freestyle) and Beiswanger (11th — 500 freestyle, 13th — 200 freestyle).



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School's Ariel Beiswanger swims the 200-yard freestyle during Thursday's sectional preliminaries. The host Patriots set themselves up to be in a battle for third place with Huntington North behind favorite Delta and likely runner-up Norwell. The meet resumes with diving preliminaries at 9 a.m. Saturday followed by swimming and diving finals at 1 p.m.



## Box score

Jay County Patriots vs.  
Delta Eagles

Girls varsity summary

Sectional semifinal

at Connersville

Delta (16-7)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Barnes	3-13	5-8	13
Carter	0-0	0-0	0
Marshall	0-6	1-2	1
Timmerman	0-0	0-0	0
AMaurer	0-0	0-0	0
Bamidele	5-13	1-4	11
Trosper	0-1	0-0	0
GMaurer	1-2	0-0	2
Evans	0-0	0-0	0
Knight	3-14	0-0	6
Barr	11-19	2-3	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33-68</b>	<b>9-17</b>	<b>59</b>
	<b>.485</b>	<b>.529</b>	

Def. rebound percentage: .681

Jay County (10-13)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Sibray	1-5	0-0	2
Newton	3-7	0-0	7
Schwtrmn	7-27	2-4	18
Carreno	4-9	0-0	8
Petro	0-5	0-0	0
Skirvin	0-1	0-0	0
Brunswick	1-7	0-1	2
May	0-1	0-0	0
McAbee	0-0	1-2	1
Heath	0-1	0-0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16-63</b>	<b>3-7</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>.254</b>	<b>.429</b>	

Def. rebound percentage: .674

Score by quarters:					
Delta	22	15	8	14	59
Jay Co.	20	8	5	5	38

**3-point shooting:** Delta 4-21 (Barr 2-6, Barnes 2-7, Bamadele 0-2, Knight 0-2, Marshall 0-4). Jay County 3-17 (Schwieterman 2-9, Newton 1-3, Petro 0-1, Brunswick 0-1, May 0-1).

**Rebounds:** Delta 47 (Barr 12, Bamadele 9, Knight 6, GMaurer 6, Team 6, Barnes 5, Marshall 2, Carter). Jay County 46 (Brunswick 11, Carreno 9, Petro 7, Team 6, Sibray 5, Schwieterman 4, Newton 2, Skirvin, Heath).

**Assists:** Delta 8 (Barnes 2, Bamadele 2, Barr 2, Marshall, Knight). Jay County 4 (Carreno 2, Petro, Brunswick).

**Blocks:** Delta 7 (Barr 5, Timmerman, Knight). Jay County 3 (Schwieterman, Brunswick).

**Personal fouls:** Delta 5 (Evans 2, Barnes, Timmerman, Barr). Jay County 13 (Schwieterman 3, Brunswick 3, Carreno 2, Petro 2, May 2, Sibray).

**Turnovers:** Delta 7. Jay County 18.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County's Alexis Sibray drives on Griffyn Knight of Delta during the Patriots' 59-38 loss in the IHSAA Sectional 24 semifinal at Connersville on Friday. The Patriots' season came to a close with a 10-13 record, which is the first time they finished below .500 since the 2013-14 season.

## No ...

Continued from page 10

She then pulled a quick 3-pointer from the top of the key to go up 7-2 on Delta. After a pair of baskets by Jillian Barr — the Delta forward scored her 1,000th career point with 46.1 seconds remaining in the period en route to a game-high 26 — Schwieterman reclaimed a 9-8 lead with a drive off a high ball screen. Her final points of the period came on a triple assisted by Gabi Petro.

While all of Schwieterman's points — she finished with 18 — came on the first shot of the possession, Carreno got her work done off the offensive glass. The

senior grabbed six offensive rebounds, all of which eventually led to a bucket. She snagged in five rebounds in the opening period, three of which she put back herself and another that she dumped to Newton for the score. (The extra offensive rebound came off of her own miss after an initial board.) She then opened the second quarter with a put-back to round out her night with eight points.

"Obviously Hallie's our leader and the person we look to score," McIntire said. "But then Natalie being able to come in and get some rebounds and working

together as teammates is always nice. ... We knew we needed to get some rebounds and needed to limit (Barr) and she had 26 but I still feel like we played better against her than we did the first time."

Despite seeing the writing on the wall, the Patriots found a reason to celebrate a little late in the game. After both teams had cleared out their benches, Allie McAbee got the ball with her back to the basket and Kali Evans guarding her. After a backdown dribble, McAbee got fouled, sending her to the free-throw line. She made the first foul shot, marking

her first point on the season and causing the bench and girls with her on the lane lines to burst into cheers.

"Allie's just a great kid, everyone likes her and she's come a long way this year," McIntire said. "It's fun to see her ... have a little success and even more exciting to see her teammates support that."

"Jay County girls basketball has a bright future. We were very young this year and have got everyone coming back but Carreno. And then we've got a good eighth grade group coming in, so I think there's exciting things to look forward to."

## Roundup ...

Continued from page 10

Gavin Evers finished one bucket short of double figures with eight. Fort Recovery also got points from Brody Barga (six), Briggs Overman (five), Braylon Dilworth (four), Grant Fortkamp (two) and Dylan Klenke (two).

### Slow middle

**FORT RECOVERY** — The Fort Recovery girls basketball team ended the regular season with a 59-42 loss to the Versailles Tigers on Thursday.

The Indians (10-12, 3-6 Midwest Athletic Conference) struggled in the second and

third quarters, totalling 10 points, while Versailles (13-8, 7-2 MAC) racked up 27 over the same span. The fourth was Fort Recovery's best quarter as six Indians combined to score 19 points.

Karlie Niekamp led FRHS with 17 points, while Kennedy Muhlenkamp put up 12.

Taylor Wagner and Kynnedi Hager finished as the Tigers' offensive leaders with 15 and 12 points, respectively.

Fort Recovery will open postseason play at 2 p.m. on Feb. 15 at Covington with a sectional championship match against 11th-seeded Triad.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Boys wrestling regional at Jay County — 8:30 a.m.; Girls swim sectional at Jay County — 9 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys bowling MAC tournament at Minster — 9:15 a.m.; Swim sectional at Trotwood — 11 a.m.; Middle school girls basketball MAC tournament at St. Henry — 10 a.m.; Middle school boys basketball MAC tournament at St. John's — 10:15 a.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Junior high swim vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Southern Wells and Heritage — 6 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Freshman boys basketball vs. Eastbrook — 6 p.m.; Junior High wrestling vs. Driver — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls bowling sectional at Dayton — 9 a.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
10 a.m. — LIV Golf: Riyadh (FS1)  
12 p.m. — College basketball: Tennessee at Oklahoma (ESPN); South Carolina at Kentucky (ESPN2); Oregon at Michigan State (FOX) Richmond at Davidson (USA); Seton Hall at Georgetown (FS1)  
1 p.m. — College basketball: Michigan at Indiana (CBS)  
1 p.m. — NHL: Tampa Bay Lightning at Detroit Red Wings (ABC)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Marquette at Creighton (FOX); Kansas at Kansas State (ESPN); Miami at Louisville (ESPN2)  
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Xavier at Seton Hall (FS1)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: WM Phoenix Open (CBS)  
3:30 p.m. — NHL: Vegas Golden Knights at Boston Bruins (ABC)  
4 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)  
4 p.m. — College basketball: Florida at Auburn (ESPN); Penn State at UCLA (BTN); Pitt at North Carolina (ESPN2)  
6 p.m. — College basketball: BYU at Cincinnati (ESPN2); Illinois at Minnesota (BTN); Elon at Charleston (NBC)  
6:30 p.m. — College basketball: Duke at Clemson (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — UFC: Aleksandre Topuria vs. Colby Thicknesse (ESPN2)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Boston Celtics at New York Knicks (ABC)  
8:30 p.m. — College basketball: Alabama at Arkansas (ESPN)  
8:30 p.m. — UFC: Bruna Brasil vs. Cong Wang (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Ohio State at USC (FOX)  
9 p.m. — UFC: Viacheslav Borshchev vs. Tom Nolan (ESPN2)  
9:30 p.m. — UFC: Gabriel Santos vs. Jack Jenkins (ESPN2)  
10 p.m. — College basketball: St. Mary's at Oregon State (ESPN2)

10:30 p.m. — College basketball: Texas Tech at Arizona (ESPN); Northwestern at Washington (BTN)

**Sunday**  
12 p.m. — College basketball: George Washington at St. Bonaventure (USA); Rutgers at Maryland (BTN); Xavier at Villanova (FS1)  
12 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Stanford at Louisville (ESPN2)  
2 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Milwaukee Bucks (ABC)  
2 p.m. — College basketball: Temple at Memphis (ESPN2); Ohio State at Nebraska (BTN); UMass Amherst at La Salle (USA)  
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: South Carolina at Texas (ESPN); Michigan at Michigan State (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: WM Phoenix Open (CBS)  
4 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Tennessee at LSU (ESPN)  
6:30 p.m. — NFL Super Bowl: Kansas City Chiefs vs. Philadelphia Eagles (FOX)

**Monday**  
7 p.m. — College basketball: North

Carolina at Clemson (ESPN)

7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Kentucky at Ole Miss (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa at Nebraska (BTN)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)  
9 p.m. — College basketball: Baylor at Houston (ESPN); Charlotte at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2)  
11 p.m. — College basketball: Fresno State at Nevada (FS1)

**Tuesday**  
7 p.m. — College basketball: Tennessee at Kentucky (ESPN); Florida at Mississippi State (ESPN2)  
8 p.m. — College basketball: George Mason at Saint Louis (FDSN Indiana)  
9 p.m. — College basketball: Penn State at USC (BTN)  
10 p.m. — NBA: Memphis Grizzlies at Phoenix Suns (TNT)  
11 p.m. — College basketball: Northwestern at Oregon (BTN); Colorado State at Utah State (FS1); Santa Clara at St. Mary's (ESPN2)



# Know us Before you need us

SERVING PATIENTS IN 12 NORTHEAST INDIANA COUNTIES.

**We care for you,  
wherever you call home.**

Stillwater Hospice is a nonprofit, local organization dedicated to serving you and your family through hospice and grief support services.

Learning more about how you or your family could benefit from our compassionate services is just a phone call away.

(800) 288-4111 • stillwater-hospice.org



## Stillwater HOSPICE

**Call today and receive a  
FREE SHOWER  
PACKAGE  
PLUS \$1600 OFF**

**SAFE STEP  
WALK-IN TUB**

**1-855-743-1911**

With purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In-Tub. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub purchase. Offer available while supplies last. No cash value. Must present offer at time of purchase. CSLB 1082165 NSCB 0082999 0083445

EASE OF USE  
CERTIFIED

MADE IN  
TENNESSEE

BBB  
ACCREDITED

LIFETIME  
LIMITED WARRANTY

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT



## No upset

*Jay County hangs tough with Eagles in the first half, but struggles to score after intermission in sectional defeat*



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Natalie Carreno of the Jay County High School girls basketball team goes up for a 5-foot jump shot while Delta's Jillian Barr prepares to block the attempt in the IHSAA Sectional 24 semifinal on Friday. Carreno scored eight points on offensive rebounds to help keep the Patriots close early, but the JCHS petered out before falling 59-38.

By **ANDREW BALKO**  
The Commercial Review

**CONNERSVILLE** — After doubling the Patriots' scores in the first two quarters of their regular-season matchup, the Eagles weren't likely expecting the underdogs to keep pace in the playoffs.

A one-two punch of Hallie Schwieterman and Natalie Carreno powered the offense as it kept pace with the run-and-gun Eagles. Good ball security had the underdogs within two possessions for most of the second period.

But the Eagles made some defensive adjustments and the Patriots began to lose steam. And as the turnovers started to pile up, the number of quality looks available started to diminish.

Ultimately, they couldn't pull off the upset.

The Jay County High School girls basketball team's season came to an end on Friday as it fell to the Delta Eagles 59-33 in the IHSAA Sectional 24 semifinal hosted by Connersville. The win earns Delta a third matchup with the Yorktown Tigers, who beat 49-42 in the earlier semifinal.

Jay County (10-13) hung with DHS (16-7) by scoring 20 points in the first quarter. The offense couldn't keep that pace as it only managed 18 points through the other three periods.

"I was proud of the way we started the game and was able to stick with them in the first half," said JCHS coach Sherri McIntire. "I think we got fatigued and that's on me as far as the second quarter. Maybe I should have subbed more because I feel like those turnovers had to do with just being tired. ...

"We continued to battle. I think Delta was like, 'Oh, Jay County's here to play.' In that first half couldn't have asked our kids to play any harder."

A key to keeping the game

close in through the first 12 minutes was limiting turnovers. Despite a full-court pressure from Delta, the Patriots only coughed up the ball three times in the first period as they put up 20 points. They kept things under control for the first six minutes of the second quarter as well.

The game was tied at 26-26 with four minutes remaining before a few turnovers in the front court limited Jay County's opportunities, while Delta started to take control. JCHS broke the press with 2:05 remaining in the half for a Raylah Newton layup on a pass from Carreno. The Eagles then forced four consecutive turnovers in the backcourt to flip the momentum for good.

"Sherri's a super smart coach and even last game they broke it pretty easily because they have Schwieterman," said DHS coach Ty'Ronda Benning. "She's a very, very good basketball player. As the game went on, I've made a couple of adjustments that gave us the edge a little bit. They listened to me and capitalized on those advantages."

While Newton and Schwieterman each scored within the first half of the third quarter, the Patriots could never get an offensive flow going again. Delta took advantage of a 10 minute, 26 second, scoring drought by JCHS to go on a 16-point run to put the game away. (Three Eagles scored in double figures, including Addison Barnes with 13 and Elizabeth Bamidele with 11.)

Schwieterman and Carreno provided a large lift on the offensive end in the first period.

The former scored the first nine points for the Patriots. The first two baskets came in transition as she broke the press for a layup and later ripped down a rebound and took it to the other end for a jumper at the left elbow.

See No page 9

## Fullenkamp, Smith earn berths to district

TROTWOOD, Ohio — Only two boys swam in the sectional for the Tribe.

Both will be making the trip to Oxford.

Carson Fullenkamp and Caleb Smith of the Fort Recovery High School swim team each swam good enough times at the OHSAA Division II sectional swim meet at Trotwood on Friday to advance to the district championship on Feb. 14.

The top first-place finisher in each event and the next 25 best

### Local roundup

times advance to the district meet at Miami University to fill out a 32-athlete field. Fullenkamp advanced in both his events, while Smith just made it through in the 100-yard breaststroke.

Fullenkamp had the best finish on the day, hitting the wall in 2 minutes, 19.45 seconds, to place second in the 200 individual medley. He was just under 10 seconds behind Ansonia's Gavin Stachler for the sectional championship. Fullenkamp is seeded 25th in the district meet.

Fullenkamp also made it through in the 100 butterfly. His time of 1:01.42 was good enough for fourth at the sectional and to be seeded 26th at the district.

Smith just made it through to

the regional in the 100 breaststroke. He placed sixth with a time of 1:14.16 to earn the 31st seed.

Smith finished fifth in the 100 freestyle with a time of 56.69 seconds. The final district qualifier, Landon Braddock of Benjamin Logan, swam a 56.23. Smith was also 0.37 seconds off of the final alternate spot.

### Can't slow Tigers

VERSAILLES, Ohio — Fort Recovery's boys basketball team

couldn't overcome a 17-point first quarter by the Versailles Tigers on Friday, as it fell 56-41.

Drake Ahrens carved up the Indians (6-14, 2-6 Midwest Athletic Conference) in the first period, scoring eight of his game-high 16 points. Jace Watren matched Ahren's 16 points, with a high of nine in the second.

Breaker Jutte led FRHS on the offensive end, putting up 14 points.

See Roundup page 9

## Bank and Credit Union Specials



Advertise your bank or credit union in all of our publications with:

Four 3x5 ads in The Commercial Review

Two 3x5 ads in The News-Gazette

One 3x5 ad in The News Times for

**\$190**

OR

Run **two 3x5 ads** in the publication(s) of your choice during February for:

The Commercial Review – **\$90**

The News-Gazette – **\$75**

The News Times – **\$60**

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

Ads must run in February.

Rates do not apply to special sections.

