

# The Commercial Review

## Funds OK'd to restore JCDC position

**By BAILEY CLINE**  
The Commercial Review

JCDC may bring back its community development director position.

Jay County Commissioners agreed Monday to allot up to \$254,500 in economic development income tax (EDIT) funds to Jay County Development Corporation for 2026, subject to contract negotiations. The contribution factors in additional dollars to hire a third staff member.

The county hasn't had a community development director through Jay County Development Corporation since Christy Shauver resigned in August 2022. For the last two years, the role of community coordinator — it was intended to be a similar position in relation to pursuing grants for the county — has been filled by East Central Indiana Regional Planning District. Nate Kimball and, in the last year, local resident Darlesia Lee have served in the position and shared an office space with JCDC and other departments at Community Resource Center in Portland.

Commissioners decided in July not to renew a two-year contract with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District, effectively ending Jay County's community coordinator role.

Jay County Development Corporation executive director Ceann Bales pointed to commissioners' decision regarding the East Central Indiana Regional Planning District contract. She presented two potential EDIT request amounts for JCDC next year: \$254,500 for three employees or \$159,250 for two employees.

"We're really asking for that third person to be added to our office to really expand our work, expand our scope into the community development field, and kind of pick up and keep running with that work that was done," said Bales.

Commissioner Duane Monroe said he feels a third employee at JCDC would benefit the county.

"I personally think that third person would pay for themselves," he said. "I think it would come out good, we would come out good, if it's a true grant writer."

Commissioners Doug Horn and Aker agreed, with Aker pointing to the additional work load Bales has taken on since the contract with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District expired this month.

"I know (Darlesia) was busy all the time, too," said Aker. "There's enough work out of, you've got her work too, you're up over your head. I agree, I understand that, so you definitely do need a third person."

Monroe questioned whether the county should allot up to a portion of JCDC's full request, noting that a third employee hasn't been hired yet.

See JCDC page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Model maker

Gary Arnold of Marietta, Ohio, examines his Domestic farm engine model with Jim Rush of Union City on Thursday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Arnold — he's been a regular attendee at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show for about 55 years — builds scale models of different engines. Some of his creations on display at the fairgrounds through Saturday include replicas of E.H. Myers & Bro., International and Fairbanks Morse engines. Arnold and Rush met at the show years ago and forged a lifelong friendship.

## Airport project will start Monday

**By RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

The next major project at Portland's airport will get underway next week.

Portland Board of Aviation learned Wednesday that construction on the Portland Municipal Airport apron expansion project will begin Monday.

Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman & Seufert reported that a pre-construction meeting for the apron expansion project was held Friday, Aug. 15. He said Kwest Group will move equipment to the site on Monday and begin "moving dirt" on Tuesday.

The work involves adding 57,700 square feet to the apron — the area where aircraft are parked, unloaded or loaded, refueled, boarded or maintained. Plans call for rehabilitating the

### Facility's apron will be expanded by more than 55,000 square feet

existing apron in the next few years.

The \$965,497.15 project — paid for with \$654,000 in Federal Aviation Administration entitlement funds and \$314,064 from the 2020 federal infrastructure bill — is expected to be complete in 75 days.

Clearwaters also informed the board that it received FAA funding for the design of a project to rehabilitate the original 4,000 feet of the airport's runway. (It has since been lengthened to 5,500 feet.) He

said survey crews are expected to be on site in mid-September, with a geotechnical firm to follow. The facility will need to be closed for one day to allow the firm to drill through the runway for soil samples.

The project, which is projected at \$1.4 million, is expected to be ready for bid in spring 2026, with construction in late 2026 or 2027.

Clearwaters reminded the board that it will have infrastructure bill funds remaining after the apron

expansion project is complete and asked members to consider possible uses. He noted that discussions have included replacing the airport's automated weather observing station. He added that another project to be considered moving forward is replacing runway lighting and converting to LED. (Tavzel noted the possibility of adding taxiway lighting as well.)

Those items will be discussed as the board prepares to update its capital improvement plan, which is due to the FAA by Dec. 1.

"We're getting close," said Clearwaters. "In another five, six years, we'll have pretty much all the pavement either new or reconstructed or rehabbed and then if we can get to this lighting, potentially, maybe the AWOS, we're going to get to the point where you're in a real good spot with your air site needs."

See Airport page 2



Tribune News Service/AFP via Getty Images/Yuriy Dyachyshyn

A person walks past a residential building damaged following Russian air attacks in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv on Thursday amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Russia launched hundreds of drones and missiles at Ukraine overnight, the Ukrainian air force said. It was Moscow's largest attack in weeks after U.S.-led efforts to halt the Kremlin's invasion.

## Missiles strike plant

**By DARYNA KRASNOLUTSKA**  
Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Russia attacked a civilian factory in western Ukraine owned by U.S. company Flex Ltd, causing a massive fire and wounding at least 15 people.

Local authorities said that at around 4:40 a.m. local time, two Russian cruise missiles hit the company's premises in Mukachevo.

"It was a regular civilian business, supported by American investment, producing everyday items like coffee machines," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Thursday on social media.

Russia resumed massive

### Facility hit in Ukraine is owned by U.S. firm Flex Ltd

strikes deep inside Ukraine after a three-week pause ahead of Russian President Vladimir Putin's summit with his U.S. counterpart in Alaska on Aug. 15. Following that meeting, President Donald Trump backed down from his threats to increase penalties on Moscow unless it ceases its full-scale invasion. European leaders and

Zelenskyy visited Washington on Monday as Trump continues his bid to broker an end to Russia's war, now well into its fourth year. The U.S. president is pushing for a bilateral meeting between Zelenskyy and Putin by the end of the month, as Kyiv's European allies and Washington discuss security guarantees for Ukraine.

### Deaths

**Jack Wagner**, 88, Portland  
**Velma Johnson**, 88, Berne  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 68 and 74 degrees Wednesday.

Tonight's low will be in the lower 60s. Expect partly cloudy skies Saturday with a high in the lower 80s. There will be a slight chance of rain on Saturday night.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

### Coming up

**Saturday** — A feature from the Tri-State Gas Engine and Tractor Association Show.

**Tuesday** — Results from the JCHS cross country team at the Celina Rotary Invitational.

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





# Obituaries

## Jack Wagner

June 10, 1937-Aug. 20, 2025

Jack Wagner, a resident of Portland, peacefully passed away on Aug. 20, 2025, at the age of 88.

Jack was born in Jay County, Indiana, on June 10, 1937. He was the son of Ruby Beatrice (Anders) and Darwin Ansil “Buzz” Wagner.

He graduated from Portland High School in 1955.

On May 18, 1957, he married Sue Ann McKinley, who preceded him in death. They were married for 61 years. Jack was a private person who lived his entire life in Portland where he enjoyed gardening, watching sports and taking care of all his dogs.

Jack spent the majority of his career in managerial roles with-



Wagner

in the automotive original equipment supply chain world (Sheller Globe Corporation and Jaytec, LLC), then enjoyed a role as the Jay County health inspector, working well into his 70s. After retirement, Jack lived a quiet life at home with his dog Daisy.

Survivors include his son Mitch (Valinda) of Louisville, Kentucky; granddaughter Madeleine Pinaire; and great-grandsons Calvin and Clark Covert of Lake City, Florida; and granddaughter Isabel Wagner of Louisville, Kentucky.

He is also survived by Janice Starr; special friend and companion.

Arrangements are being handled by Williamson and Spencer Funeral Home in Portland.

A private family graveside service will be held at Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

In lieu of flowers, the family

requests a memorial donation in honor of Jack to the Midwest Pet Refuge located at 601 N. Charles St., Portland, Indiana.

Condolences may be expressed at [williamsonspencer.com](http://williamsonspencer.com).

## Velma Johnson

Sept. 10, 1936-Aug. 19, 2025

Velma Jean (Patty) Johnson, 88, of Berne, passed away peacefully on Tuesday morning, Aug. 19, 2025, at Adams Woodcrest in Decatur.

She was born on Sept. 10, 1936, in Wells County to John and Mary Lucille Patty and graduated from Geneva High School in 1954.

Velma was a long-time member of the First United Methodist Church of Geneva. She found joy in serving her church community by teaching, singing in the church choir and sharing her talents through special performances.

Velma’s creativity shone in everything she did. A talented seamstress, baker, artist and writer, she crafted tailored outfits, painted, decorated cakes and more. She was a devoted homemaker who helped run the family farm. Her cooking brought comfort and joy, and as a mother, she filled their home with laughter, songs and lasting memories.

Her grandchildren cherish the little things that made time with her unforgettable — her cheerful yodeling, the always-full candy drawer, the wind-up toys she saved just for them and her playful, quirky doodles.

She is survived by her children Tamela Bollenbacher (Terry), Cindy Misner (Paul), Doug Johnson (Carolyn), Stacy Johnson (Jeanine) and Cassy VanZant (Mark); along with 15 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Velma was preceded in death by her parents; her sisters Mary Jane McKnight, Wilma Hall and Joan Schwartz; and her brother John Patty Jr.

A graveside service to honor and celebrate Velma’s life will be held on Sunday, Aug. 24, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. at West Lawn Cemetery in Geneva.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Downing & Glancy Funeral Home in Geneva, Indiana.

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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 of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

## CR almanac

Saturday 8/23	Sunday 8/24	Monday 8/25	Tuesday 8/26	Wednesday 8/27
<b>79/56</b>	<b>76/53</b>	<b>71/50</b>	<b>70/46</b>	<b>73/49</b>
Mostly sunny again on Saturday with a high around 79 degrees.	Sunday's weather looks like mostly sunny skies with the low temperature hitting 53.	Monday's weather looks like mostly sunny skies with the low hitting 48.	Mostly sunny skies on Tuesday when the high will be in the lower 70s.	Mostly sunny on Wednesday when the high will be around 73.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> 31-59-62-65-68 Power Ball: 5 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$700 million	Daily Four: 6-0-1-6 Quick Draw: 2-4-11-15-16-18-28-31-32-34-36-47-55-65-67-70-71-73-74-75 Cash 5: 5-27-35-36-43 Estimated jackpot: \$215,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$234 million	<b>Ohio</b> Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 6-4-0 Pick 4: 8-4-0-1 Pick 5: 5-7-9-3-7 Evening Pick 3: 9-8-2 Pick 4: 9-2-5-5 Pick 5: 7-5-9-5-8 Rolling Cash: 3-4-7-25-32 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 2-2-3 Daily Four: 5-3-1-5 Quick Draw: 6-9-14-19-23-28-33-38-41-42-44-47-52-54-55-62-65-69-74-77 Evening Daily Three: 5-4-2	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....3.97 Sept. corn .....4.00 Oct. corn .....3.89	Sept. beans .....10.13 Wheat ..... 4.85
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.15 Sept. corn .....4.15 Oct. corn .....4.00	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....3.80 Sept. corn .....3.80 Beans .....10.09 Sept. beans .....10.07 Wheat .....4.81
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn .....3.85 Sept. corn .....3.85 Beans .....10.13	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....3.95 Sept. corn .....3.95 Beans .....9.88 Sept. beans .....9.78 Wheat .....4.52

## Today in history

In 1485, the Wars of the Roses ended after Henry Tudor (later Henry VII) defeated King Richard III in the Battle of Bosworth Field.

In 1639, Madras, India, was founded by the British East India Company. It's now known as Chennai, India.

In 1775, George III, king of Great Britain and Ireland, proclaimed the American colonies were rebelling and ordered their suppression.

In 1865, the first patent in the United States for liquid soap was issued to William Sheppard.

— 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 Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Advisory Board of Directors executive session, Jay County Community Center senior area, 115 E.	Water St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
<b>Tuesday</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, Morgan park, 50 Mooney St.	
<b>Wednesday</b> 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building 131 S. Main St.	

## JCDC ...

Continued from page 1

Aker noted if commissioners didn’t request the full amount in their budget for 2026, they would need to seek an additional appropriation.

County attorney Wes Schemenaur noted Wednesday’s approval wasn’t a final say in whether to spend county dollars on projects. He suggested commissioners agree to allot up to a certain amount on JCDC for next year.

Commissioners Aker, Monroe and Horn then approved up to JCDC’s full request subject to contract negotiations. (Plans are to begin working on a contract with JCDC’s board of directors.)

Also Wednesday, commissioners approved giving \$35,000 in EDIT funds to John Jay Center for Learning for medical training equipment.

The organization requested \$75,000 for 2026. John Jay Center for Learning director Rusty Inman shared hopes to establish a training lab in Portland in order to begin offering Ivy Tech Community College classes for different medical certifications, including Certified Nursing Assistant and Licensed Practical Nurse. Plans are also in the works to establish residential trades — heating, ventilation and air conditioning, plumbing and electrical — programs in the future, which will also require additional equipment.

SERVICES

Saturday

Parker, Janet: 10 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

Leggett, Rita: noon, Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Monday

Reynolds, Jerry: 10:30 a.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, 1532 N. Main St., Bluffton.

Sunday

Johnson, Velma: 2:30 p.m., West Lawn Cemetery, Geneva.

Aug. 30

Shilt, Donald: 11 a.m., Tribute Funeral Homes, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio.

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## Airport ...

Continued from page 1

Airport manager Hal Tavzel also issued a reminder that the airport’s fly-in and pancake breakfast is scheduled for Saturday. Breakfast will be served from 6 to 10:30 a.m., with flights at \$20 per person beginning at 8 a.m.

Also, Goodfolk & O’Tymes Biplane Rides will offer rides for \$80 beginning around noon Friday and continuing Saturday.

The airport will host a Young Eagles event from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 6, during which free flights will be offered to ages 8 through 17.

In other business, the board:

- Approved an \$11,720 contract with Sparling Corporation for cleaning the fuel tanks at the airport. Fuel will be unavailable for a few days while the tanks are being cleaned.
- Heard from Tavzel that the airport sold 10,777 gallons of fuel in July for \$44,556.52. That’s down from 13,700 gallons in July 2024 and about the same as the 10,798 gallons sold in July 2023.

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# Partner needs lifestyle adjustment

DEAR ABBY: I'm in a long-term relationship with an incredible guy I'll call "Jerry." We both have grown children, his parents and family are amazing, and we all get along wonderfully.

Jerry works hard as a health-care professional. I work as well, but he supports us financially, for which I am grateful. He has an autoimmune disorder and, unfortunately, other health issues because, over the decades, he didn't take care of himself. I make healthy meals, walk at least 10 miles a week and try very hard not to spend too much time on the sofa.

My problem is: I'm in my mid-50s, energetic and living with someone who is my complete opposite in that way. I go out alone and with my family and friends to remain active, but I need Jerry to get off the couch and do things other than go out for meals. I have gently spoken about this with him many times. Should I

Dear Abby



just keep the status quo? I love him and would like to keep this relationship going. — HELPLESS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEAR HELPLESS: I suggest a two-pronged approach. The first prong would be to find out what Jerry's doctor has to say about his sedentary lifestyle, so perhaps another medical professional can help you galvanize Jerry to become more active. The second prong would be to make sure some walking is involved either before or after the two of you go out for a meal. It may take some strategy on your part, but it would be worth a try.

.....

DEAR ABBY: We were playing cards at my house on a Friday night. On the way to making a point, I mentioned in passing my status as "the man of the house." My visiting sister-in-law interrupted and informed me that it is 2025 and I may NOT be a "man of the house." I told her I most certainly AM the man of my house, just as my wife is the woman of the house, and she (my SIL) was out of line trying to dictate what I may and may not call myself under my own roof. She then excused her hateful comment by passing it off as a "joke," which was totally unacceptable.

A huge row ensued, and anti-male hate speech spewed from my SIL's mouth. She spent the next eight minutes telling me what an awful person I am and made clear that because she has done favors for my wife and me, it justifies her use of sexist hate speech. I told her to leave,

which she did the following morning, lamely excusing her behavior by saying "she meant no malice." What does Dear Abby think of this mess? — MAN OF THE HOUSE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR MAN: It appears your sister-in-law touched a nerve when she made that comment, and you overreacted. What I think of this mess is that you both owe each other an apology, and if alcohol played ANY part in what happened, you should both abstain while playing cards in the future.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have neighbors we are not interested in being friends with. We are a religious family and believe in God. They have a black ram's head hanging in their living room, if you catch my drift. They keep inviting us to events at their home or to spend time with them, and we don't know how to politely decline without

making anyone angry. How do we keep our distance? — STAYING AWAY IN NEW YORK

DEAR STAYING AWAY: Have you and your husband been accepting their invitations? If that's the case, start backing away by having "other plans." However, if they don't take the hint, begin sending them religious tracts from your denomination, and they may disappear in a puff of sulfur.

.....

DEAR ABBY: Sometimes, when I offer sympathy to someone about a difficult situation they are experiencing by saying, "I'm sorry," that person will respond by saying, "It's not your fault," or "No need to apologize." It happened again today. The definition of "sorry" is "an expression of sorrow or regret." It's not necessarily an apology.

When people respond this way, I find it awkward, embarrassing and

even belittling. Please ask your readers to take the expression as it is intended. It's usually obvious whether the person speaking is apologizing or expressing sympathy for your situation. — APOLOGIZING IN THE WEST

DEAR APOLOGIZING: People, in general, have their personal pet peeves. Although this response is yours, I doubt many people will stop doing it because of one letter in my column. The next time it happens, TELL the person you weren't apologizing, simply expressing sympathy. If you say it with a smile, the person is less likely to be offended.

.....

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

# McGraw selected to direct '1776' next year

Jay County Civic Theatre hired Jennifer McGraw to direct its June 2026 production of the musical "1776" during its board meeting Wednesday.

The show, which dramatizes the workings of the Second Continental Congress, will be

held June 18 through 21, 2026, just a couple of weeks ahead of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

McGraw is a longtime JCCT member whose directing credits include Steel Magnolias in

2014 and A Christmas Story in 2023.

The board also:

- Discussed potential directors for its 50th anniversary year shows in 2027.

- Approved a donation to Asbury United Methodist

Church as a thank you for allowing Jay County Civic Theatre to utilize its facility for its annual meeting, rehearsals and other events.

- Discussed seeking nominees for its Tom Casey Award

The next Jay County Civic

Theatre regular board meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 10, in the board room at Arts Place.

The next Jay County Civic Theatre show will be "Legally Blonde" on Sept. 25, 26, 27 and 28.

# 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

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

## Saturday

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

## 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 Fel-

## Monday

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

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

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

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

**THE LIFE CENTER** — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy, as well as help with the needs of the family.

The center is located at 1209 S. Shank St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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

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

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

## Tuesday

**JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS** — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

**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.

**JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

**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 (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

## Wednesday

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB** — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

**PING PONG** — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

## Thursday's Solution

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

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



# 4th of July committee says thanks

To the editor:  
The Jay County 4th of July Committee would like to thank the Jay County community for another great 4th of July Celebration.  
The generosity of the local businesses, organizations and individuals that contributed financially to the 2025 July 4th celebration is truly appreciated. A huge thank you goes out to those that volunteered their time and services to make this annual event possible.

## Letters to the Editor

Thanks again to the following:  
Accelerated Curing, FCC, First Bank of Berne, Fisher Packing Company, Fullenkamp Machine, Hemmelgarn Mason-

ry, Jay County Commissioners, Jay County REMC, Jay County Visitor & Tourism Bureau, Kappa Kappa Kappa Sorority / Beta Theta Chapter, Kiwanis Club of Portland, May Financial Group, Portland Evening & Morning Optimist Clubs, The Portland Foundation, Portland Insurance Agency, Portland Lions Club, Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Williamson-Spencer & Penrod Funeral Homes, Abby Smith at Lotus Designs, Air National Guard

122nd Fighter Wing, Kyle Cook, Nathanael Clay, 5K Run participants, Jay County Archery Club, Portland Police Dept., Portland Street Dept., Portland Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Assoc., Jay County Sheriff Office, The Museum of the Soldier, Jay County Fair Board, Creative Awards & Gifts, T-Flyerz, Jay Community Center, JCHS Marching Patriots, The Commercial Review, WPGW Radio, Jorey Luse, Harold DeHoff and the

firework crew, Cody Jacobs, Xavier Hudson, and all parade participants.  
The Jay County 4th of July Committee is seeking additional volunteers to join our committee to prepare for the 2026 celebration.  
If you would like to volunteer for the 2026 July 4th Celebration, please contact Scott Swingley at (260) 251-2499 or any committee member.  
Diana Swingley for The Jay County 4th of July Committee

## Who commits what crimes and where?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

In 2024, last year, for those who, like me, are repeatedly forgetful, the FBI has now reported that, nationwide, murder was down by 14.9%, robbery down 8.9%, rape down 5.2% and aggravated assault down by 3.0%.

In sum, violent crime fell by 4.5%.

Indiana experienced a decline in homicide of 8.1%, with robbery down 16.3%, rape down 7.1% and aggravated assault off by 9.7%. In each component of violent crime, Indiana's decline was greater than that of the nation.

Who commits crimes? Nationally, men were 72% of the offenders. Whites were the offenders in 58% of the incidents.

How old were these offenders? The majority (52.7%) were between the ages of 16 and 35. But there were some variations as we move through the categories of criminal behavior.

(It should be noted that there is a disparity in the use of the term "offender." The FBI reports on offenders, but I found no indication whether these are persons charged with an offense or convicted of an offense. Given the backlog of criminal cases, I suspect these data refer to persons charged with an offense.)

There are numerous ways to determine crime rates. The simplest way is to compare the prevalence of a crime with the population of the place where it took place. Match up the crimes in Peru or North Judson with the population in those places. Alternatively, one can use adjustments for characteristics of the population (age, sex, race, eye color, employment status, income, immigration status, education, political affiliation, place of birth, etc.)

When we divide the total reported crimes (against persons and property), by 10,000 persons, Indiana had 245 while the U.S. had 256. By this metric, Evansville (488), Indianapolis (421), Terre Haute (398), Hammond (381) and Elkhart (359) made up the top five cities in crimes.

The town reporting no crimes was Chrisney (0), just off U.S. 231 in north-eastern Spencer County, a place with 469 persons. Others in the placid, bottom five places, ranked by crimes per 10,000, were Pendleton (eight in the home of a state prison), Columbus (10 in a town that prides itself for civility), St. John (15

Morton J. Marcus



*There are numerous ways to determine crime rates. The simplest way is to compare the prevalence of a crime with the population of the place where it took place. Match up the crimes in Peru or North Judson with the population in those places.*

in a fast growing Lake County escape from further north and west) and Porter (21 in a Porter County alternative to more expensive towns in the same county).

The governor's home town of Jasper (not to be confused with a county of the same name) ranked 79th of the 113 places in the state, with 73 crimes reported per 10,000 persons. That's safely in the bottom third of all Hoosier crime-rated places.

Maybe this listing, available from either the author or the FBI, will help guide a future deployment of Indiana's national guard.

Marcus is an economist formerly at the IU Kelley School of Business. Contact him via email at mortonjmarcus@gmail.com.



## Ending mail-in would likely hurt GOP

By MARY ELLEN KLAS

Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

If President Donald Trump were to issue an executive order to abolish mail-in voting, as he announced he would on social media on Monday, it would almost certainly be unconstitutional. It would also be baffling — because eliminating vote-by-mail would probably hurt Republicans more than it would help them in next year's midterm elections.

Trump has been thrashing about for months looking for ways to manipulate the midterms. He is so afraid that Republicans could lose Congress that he persuaded Texas Republicans to conduct a mid-decade redistricting to carve out five additional GOP congressional districts. He ordered the Department of Justice to create a federal database of information on voters, presumably to hunt for illegal voting and serve as a precursor to federal control of state elections. And now he's attacking the mail-in ballot, which Trump has long claimed, without evidence, cost him the 2020 presidential election.

"Remember, the States are merely an 'agent' for the Federal Government in counting and tabulating the votes," Trump wrote in an error-filled post on Truth Social. Not according to Article 1, Section 4 of the Constitution, which says that election rules "shall be prescribed in each State by the Legislature thereof." What's more, the US Supreme Court has ruled that statewide vote-by-mail systems are constitutional, upholding a 1998 ballot initiative that adopted the practice in Oregon.

Trump's lengthy post also claimed that "Democrats are virtually Unelectable without using this completely disproven Mail-In SCAM. ELECTIONS CAN NEVER BE HONEST WITH MAIL IN BALLOTS/VOTING, and everybody, IN PARTICULAR THE DEMOCRATS, KNOWS THIS."

Trump is likely responding to the shift in behavior he engineered by denigrating voting by mail after his 2020 loss. For decades, Republicans were the beneficiaries of mail-in balloting, and they encouraged their high-propensity voters to bank their

Mary Ellen Klas



votes early and avoid the risk of bad weather, power outages, technology failures or other major disruptions on Election Day.

The practice began after George W. Bush's narrow victory over Al Gore in 2000. Republican legislators across the country passed no-excuse absentee voting laws to encourage their voters to cast their votes early. The effort was so successful that when red states were attempting to crack down on alleged voter fraud in the last decade with more stringent voter identification laws, their focus was on in-person and early voting. Republican legislators explicitly exempted mail voters "because they understood that their voters were casting mail ballots more frequently than Democrats and they didn't want to disadvantage themselves," said Michael P. McDonald, a political scientist at the University of Florida.

But Trump has been obsessed with mail-in voting since 2016, when he lost Colorado to Hillary Clinton as that state launched its first all-mail election. State officials delivered a ballot to every registered voter and implemented elaborate safety protocols before votes were tabulated. But Trump concocted a host of conspiracy theories about widespread vote fraud. He amplified those claims across the country when he lost in 2020, and they are now part of Trump's brand.

In his book on the 2020 election, McDonald breaks down how the Republican mail-in balloting advantage shifted during the pandemic to benefit Democrats. As Democratic-run states were moving to provide safe mail-ballot options, Trump resisted: He didn't want to admit that the pandemic required such safety precautions. But voters had their own preferences when it came to their own personal safety and, in 2020, a

record 43% of all ballots were cast by mail. While the numbers dropped to 30% in 2024, that was still higher than pre-pandemic levels, according to the US Election Assistance Commission.

It's hard to know exactly what Trump intends with his post. Maybe it is directed at blue states such as Colorado, California, Vermont and Washington, where officials deliver ballots to every eligible voter even if they haven't requested to vote by mail. That would at least make logical sense. At the same time, it doesn't — a quick look at recent voting history shows how it might backfire.

Republicans benefitted from mail-in voting prior to 2020 because many of their voters were in the military, were business travelers who couldn't be home to cast in-person ballots, were older White voters, or were voters who lived in rural areas where in-person voting was inconvenient, McDonald explained. "If you really wipe out those mail ballots, then you can actually hurt Republicans."

And while Trump may think that Democrats are voting by mail in higher numbers than Republicans, a data analysis by The New York Times found that despite Trump's attempt to disparage the practice, Republicans made almost universal gains in mail voting during the 2024 election — including, the report notes, in "battleground states like Pennsylvania, red states like Florida and blue states like Connecticut."

In his post, Trump says he will "lead a movement" to get rid of mail-in ballots and voting machines that don't use paper ballots. Those are suggestions worth debating. But if he plans to make it happen by violating the Constitution to interfere with the midterm elections, Republicans should see it as a red flag — as Democrats do. The president isn't trying to eliminate fraud, or defeat only Democrats. His goal is to consolidate his power.

Klas is a politics and policy columnist for Bloomberg Opinion. A former capital bureau chief for the Miami Herald, she has covered politics and government for more than three decades.

# The Commercial Review



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VOLUME 151-NUMBER 80  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2025

www.thecr.com

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

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—Thomas Jefferson

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# Weather impacts ripening process

*Consistent high temperatures can keep your tomatoes green*

By RUTH THORNTON  
mlive.com  
Tribune News Service

GRAND RAPIDS, MI — Gardeners have noticed green, fully formed tomatoes stubbornly hanging onto their vines, refusing to progress toward the ripe, vibrant vegetables of summer eagerly awaited by many.

It turns out the recent extended high temperatures caused by climate change are dramatically slowing down the ripening process of tomatoes, according to recent studies including a 2022 study in the Agronomy Journal.

“It slows the ripening and the turning red,” said Deanna Hedlund, a consumer horticulture educator with Michigan State University (MSU) Extension based in the Kent County office. “They might just develop into full-size green tomatoes, but then the final bit of ripening is just slowed.”

Hedlund said it’s not only high daytime temperatures that are causing problems, but also warm nights.

The optimum ripening temperature for tomatoes is between 68 and 77 degrees Fahrenheit, she said. “If it’s over 85 and then you’re staying over 70 at night, that’s when you’re going to have a problem.”

The long-term forecast predicts the heating trend to continue.

## Warmest on record

According to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), 2024 was the hottest year of the 175-year weather record. 2015-2024 have all been among the 10 warmest on record.

So far, the first six months of 2025 were only slightly behind 2024’s temperatures, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and it is likely 2025 will end up in the two to four hottest years.

“The plant basically stops working when it gets too hot. It just kind of shuts down all processes,” said Ben Phillips, a vegetable crops educator with MSU Extension based in Benton Harbor.

Excessive dryness compounds the problem, he said.

It has been a dry summer in



Tribune News Service/mlive.com/Audra Gamble

Recent high temperatures are dramatically slowing down the ripening of tomatoes. “It slows the ripening and the turning red,” said Deanna Hedlund, a consumer horticulture educator with Michigan State University (MSU) Extension based in the Kent County office. “They might just develop into full-size green tomatoes, but then the final bit of ripening is just slowed.”

much of West Michigan. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Midwest Climate Hub, several areas are classified as either abnormally dry or in a moderate drought as of Aug. 5.

“One of the best things to do is keep them well watered or it becomes sort of a downward spiral,” Phillips said. “If you don’t supplement the water, they’ll just tank on you.”

Hedlund said the heat is slowing the production of two natural compounds, carotenoids called lycopene and carotene, that are responsible for the red color.

Those chemicals are some of the same pigments that cause leaves to turn color in the fall, she said.

## The ripening process

Hedlund said the slow ripening generally does not hurt tomatoes, but if it takes too long they could split or become susceptible to fungal infections.

The ripening process can be sped up by placing fully

formed green tomatoes in a bag and storing them on the kitchen counter.

“The taste is better for the ones that you let completely ripen on the vine,” said Hedlund, who said you can also try new recipes. “Like the idea of a fried green tomato.”

She cautions that slow ripening can also be caused by other problems, and it’s important to rule out other potential issues like overfertilization.

It’s not just tomatoes that are feeling the heat.

For example, broccoli, cauliflower and Brussels sprouts are known as cool season crops.

“They don’t like it hot,” Phillips said. “Broccoli gets misshapen and miscolored and cauliflower will do the same thing.”

Another heat related issue can occur in green beans. When the nighttime temperature doesn’t drop below 70 degrees Fahrenheit at night the flowers drop off the plant, preventing fruit from developing altogether, he said.

That means green beans will go through periods in the summer when they don’t bear fruit, which can be a problem for large producers who harvest with machines.

Pumpkins, however, love the heat and are ripening too quickly, Phillips said.

“Pumpkins are way ahead of schedule for a lot of people,” he said. “Everyone’s like, ‘We’ve got ripening fruit now. What am I going to do?’ It’s an October crop. September is usually when people are harvesting pumpkins.”

“It’s going to be hard to keep them until the market is asking for them,” he said.

Besides directly impacting vegetables, climate change is changing insects and diseases that can affect crops.

For example, heat can change the activity of pollinators, the insects that pollinate vegetables’ flowers, Hedlund said. That can cause misshapen vegetables.

Crop diseases and insect pests that are common farther south are moving north with

the milder winters, causing new problems here.

## Advice to gardeners

A May 2025 climate report by the World Meteorological Organization predicts record temperatures to continue for at least the next five years. Experts predict that if the burning of fossil fuels continues at current levels temperatures could increase significantly from 2024 levels by the end of the century.

Phillips advises gardeners to prepare for temperature increases by trying out crop varieties that were developed in warmer areas.

Some seed catalogs provide information about the different varieties that could give an indication of how they might do in Michigan in the future. Then growers can make an educated guess about which new varieties to try.

“For example, a variety that was bred in Georgia may be something that we would do better with up here as it just keeps getting warmer and more humid,” he said.



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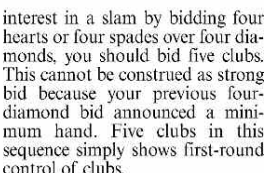
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**3. Three notrump.** This is not a pleasant rebid, considering your weakness in hearts, but three notrump offers a better chance for game than any other contract.

It is possible that the best spot is five diamonds, but there is no sensible way of finding out whether an 11-trick contract is superior without going past three notrump. If partner passes three notrump, the odds favor making it.

**4. Four clubs.** A slam is definitely possible, despite your minimum high-card values, and is surely worth investigating. Partner might have something like: ♠83 ♥AJ5 ♦AK106 ♣Q652, and this typical three-diamond response would provide an excellent shot for six.

If partner responds to four clubs with four diamonds, you would be entitled to make still another slam try by bidding four spades. If partner then retreats to five diamonds, ignoring both invitations to slam, you would have to respect his signoffs and abandon the effort.

atter of priorities.  
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**Tomorrow: A matter of priorities**  
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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Opening win

Sophomore midfielder Raylin Hummer blasts a long ball during the Jay County High School girls soccer team’s home clash with Richmond on Monday. Hummer failed to tap in a close-range opportunity in the final seconds of the first half, but broke through with a second half goal in the Patriots’ 4-0 win.

# Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Football vs. Blackford – 7 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Football vs. Ponitz – 7 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Cross Country at Celina Rotary Invitational – 9 a.m.; Boys soccer vs. Peru – 12 p.m.; Junior high football at Union City – 10 a.m.; Junior high tennis vs. Driver – 10 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Cross country at Bob Schul Invite at Milton Union – 8:15 a.m.; JV boys golf MAC Tournament – 9 a.m.; JV football at Versailles – 10 a.m.; Middle school volleyball tournament at Anna – 10 a.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
2 p.m. — LIV Golf Team Championship (FOX)  
2:30 p.m. — Bundesliga soccer: Bayern Munchen at RB Leipzig (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — Horse racing: Saratoga Live (FS1)  
3 p.m. — Premier League soccer: West Ham

United (USA)  
7 p.m. — College volleyball: Pitt at Nebraska (FOX)  
7 p.m. — Little League World Series (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — NFL preseason: Minnesota Vikings at Tennessee Titans (CBS)  
9 p.m. — College volleyball: Stanford at Florida (FOX)  
9:10 p.m. — ARCA Menards Series: Badger 200 (FS1)  
9:38 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Arizona Diamondbacks (FDSN Indiana)

**Saturday**  
7:30 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Manchester City at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)  
10 a.m. — Premier League soccer: Brentford at Aston Villa (USA)  
11 a.m. — IndyCar: Snap-on Milwaukee Mile 250 (FS1)  
12 p.m. — College football: Kansas State at Iowa State (ESPN)  
12 p.m. — PGA Tour: Tour Championship (NBC)

12 p.m. — LIV Golf Team Championship (FOX)  
12:30 p.m. — Premier League soccer: Arsenal FC at Leeds United (NBC)  
1 p.m. — College football: Incarnate Word at Nicholls (ESPN2)  
2 p.m. — WNBA: New York Liberty at Atlanta Dream (CBS)  
4 p.m. — College volleyball: Kansas at Vanderbilt (FS1)  
4 p.m. — NWSL soccer: Bay at Washington Spirit (CBS)  
4:30 p.m. — College football: Tarleton state at Portland State (ESPN2)  
4:30 p.m. — Little League World Series (ABC)  
4:30 p.m. — Horse racing: Saratoga Live (FOX)  
5 p.m. — College volleyball: Penn State at Creighton (FS1)  
6:30 p.m. — College football: Fresno State at Kansas (FOX)  
7 p.m. — College football: UC Davis at Mercer (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Lexington at Oakland Roots (CBS)

7:30 p.m. — College football: Stanford at Hawai’i (CBS); North Carolina Central at Southern (ABC)  
7:30 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Coke Zero Sugar 400 (NBC)  
8:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Arizona Diamondbacks (FDSN Indiana)  
8:40 p.m. — MLB: Los Angeles Dodgers at San Diego Padres (FS1)

### Local notes

**Outing announced**  
The Adams Health Network Foundation will host the 12th Annual Golf Classic on Sept. 12 at Wabash Valley Golf Club.  
There will be two shotgun starts at 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Breakfast, snacks and beverages will be provided, as well as a lunch in between flights.  
The event raises funds for healthcare scholarships and local health initiatives in Adams County.  
The deadline to register is Aug. 22. To register visit [adamshospital.org/foundation](http://adamshospital.org/foundation). For more information, email [kim.tormbley@adamshospital.org](mailto:kim.tormbley@adamshospital.org).

**Chamber to host**  
Jay County Chamber of Commerce will host its golf outing on Sept. 19 at 9 a.m.  
Participation costs \$250 per team with lunch included. A \$20 team mulligan golf ball can be purchased as well.  
Sponsorships can be purchased as well. A lunch sponsorship will cost \$500, while a gold sponsorship will go for \$450. Hole sponsorships cost \$100 for members and \$150 for non-members.  
The deadline to register is Sept. 12. For more info, call (260) 726-4481 or email [amanda@jay-countychamber.com](mailto:amanda@jay-countychamber.com).

**Next race set**  
The next race in the Adams County Challenge series is the Adams Memorial/Kekionga Greenway Gallup at 4:30 p.m. Aug. 23.  
The race begins at the Riverside Center in Decatur. Registration forms can be found at [adamscounty5kchallenge.com](http://adamscounty5kchallenge.com).  
.....  
To have an event listed in “Sports on tap”, email details to [sports@thecr.com](mailto:sports@thecr.com)

#### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**2 DAY PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN  
August 30, 2025 AT 9:30 A.M.  
August 31, 2025 AT 12:30 P.M.  
LONGABERGER BASKETS, POTTERY, WROUGHT IRON & ACCESSORIES  
This 2 day auction offers an extensive Longaberger collection. Basket series include All American, Autumn Reflections, Christmas, Collectors Club, Easter Series, Father’s Day, May Series, Mother’s Day, Plaid Gathering, laundry, hamper, compote, a few. Live and online bidding will be offered on the first 150 lots each day. Live bidding only on the remaining basket lots each day. Visit Hi Bid for a listing of the items to be sold Live and On Line each day or contact the Auction Company. Pictures are available on Auction Zip - #12957.  
Auctioneers Note: Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday and 11:00 a.m. on Sunday

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Kaden Khayyata AU12400069  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 1702 W Tyson Road, Portland IN  
SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 6, 2025 9:30 A.M.  
REAL ESTATE  
Tract 1 - 2 story home with approximately 2,048 square feet of living space situated on approximately 1.75 acres. 1st floor features include kitchen with floor to ceiling cabinets, dining room, living room, bedroom, full bathroom, and enclosed front porch. 2nd floor includes 3 bedrooms and 1 half bathroom. Home is connected via an enclosed area to a 2 car garage with approximately 895 square feet and includes a pull down stairway accessing attic storage. Property also offers a 48’ x 56’ pole building with front and rear overhead doors, enclosed shop/office area, concrete floor, and 100 amp electrical service.  
Tract 2 - One acre bare lot located just west of the home on Tyson Road.  
Tract 3 - Forty-seven +/- acres of bare land located within the city limits of Portland. This

#### 90 SALE CALENDAR

property offers the rare opportunity to purchase land in Portland with both agricultural and commercial opportunities.  
Tract 4 - Combination of Tracts 1 and 2.  
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Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069  
**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20th, 2025  
TIME 9:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: 2641 E 1100 S. Montpelier IN.  
TRACTORS - CRAWLER  
1968 JD 4020 D. w/ Quad-shift, Front weights, 4900 hours.  
1967 JD 2510 w/ Front weights, 6800 hours.  
Case 1030 Tractor w/ 3600 hours. New Holland GT-122A Lawn Tractor w/ deck and blade.Wheelhorse 14HP Garden Tractor. JD 450-B Crawler Loader.

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JD, Oliver, Massey Ferguson, AC, Massey Harris Toy Tractors. . (2) 110 lb Anvils w/ Stands. Corn Sheller. Misc Slate. (4) Steel Wheels. Radio Flyer Wagon.  
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**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
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TIME 4:30 P.M.  
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Taurus 357 Mag 6 Shot Revolver (3 Screw). 45 Cal ACP Pistol. H & R Sportsman 22 Cal 9 Shot Revolver. Ammo Reloader. Tumbler. Reloading Supplies. Large Lot of Lead. Large Lot of Gun Supplies. TRAILER-TILLERS-SHOP EQUIPMENT  
5’ X 8’ Single Axel Utility Trailer. Stihl Mini Tiller. Craftsman Rear tine Tiller. Dewalt Power Miter Saw. Delta Bandsaw. . Router w/ Stand. Roller Stand. Double Arbor Buffer. Fishing Poles and Supplies. . Consew Industrial Sewing Machine. Sentry Small Safe.  
ANTIQUES-HOUSE-HOLD-MISC  
Toys and Miniatures. Primitive Tools. Cross Cut Saws. Banjo. Marlboro Sign. Marlboro Top Ornate Sofa Table w/ End Tables and Coffee Tables.Laser Printer. 2 and 4 Drawer Filing Cabinets. Large Lot of Hardware.  
OWNER: Friends Firearms by Flora Friend.  
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.  
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**110 HELP WANTED**  
**HELP WANTED** Painting and Pressure washing in Fort Recovery 419-852-0309  
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# John Wall retires, will join ‘NBA on Prime’

By STEVE HENSON  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

In his prime, John Wall was a rocket, a supremely talented point guard whose speed, explosiveness and star power made him the first pick in the NBA draft, a five-time All-Star and a fan favorite of the Washington Wizards, the team for which he delivered nearly all his heroics and highlight reels.

At the end, Wall was in uniform and running the court — that in itself a sight to see — but the uniform was the Clippers and his game had been reduced to eye-blink spurts of greatness.

The Clippers visited Washington’s Capital One Arena on Dec. 10, 2022, Wall in the midst of a 34-game slog that would be his last in the NBA. Wizards fans cheered his introduction and the 90-second tribute video that Wall was too emotional to even watch.

When the Clippers were off to a disastrous second-quarter start, Wall answered with six consecutive points, the last two swishing on his step-back 13-foot jumper. He spun toward the crowd, pointed both index fingers toward the court, and shouted, “Still my city!”

Wall was so overcome by the cheering crowd that he started walking to the wrong bench. “I kind of flashed back and forgot like, I’m in a different jersey,” he said. “Just being in that moment and electrifying the crowd, that’s what I’ve been doing for a lot of years in my career when I was here.”

Wall announced his retirement on Tuesday, although most fans probably figured he had retired already. His Clippers stint ended Jan. 13, 2022, and he never played again. His slide began in 2020 when Washington did the unfathomable, trading the most popular Wizard since Wes Unseld to the Houston Rockets for Russell Westbrook.

Wall had suffered a succession of leg injuries and he would suffer some more. The loss of his signature speed, coupled with the death of his mother, sent Wall into a depression that eventually had him contemplating suicide.

“For me, it all happened really fast,” he wrote in a first-person Players Tribune story. “In the span of three years, I went from being on top of the world to losing damn near everything I ever cared about.”

See Wall page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Coming up

Jay County High School’s No. 2 singles player Henry Dirksen runs up on a ball to hit a one-handed backhand during his match against Alexandria-Monroe’s Austin Webb on Tuesday. The freshman picked up his first win on Monday against Madison-Grant.

# Lamar Jackson had to leave practice

By BRIAN WACKER  
Baltimore Sun  
Tribune News Service

BALTIMORE — Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson left practice a little more than an hour into the two-hour session Wednesday, but a team spokesperson said that Jackson got his foot stepped on and that he’s fine.

Jackson was knocked down on a passing play during a full-team period. He stayed in for a few more plays but appeared to be flexing his throwing arm before leaving the field. There are strict no-contact rules for quarterbacks during training camp practices.

The two-time NFL Most Valuable Player had been having an up-and-down day before that, missing on several short throws.

He walked off the field with strength and conditioning coach Scott Elliott and was carrying his helmet but did not return.

Jackson has missed only one training camp practice on Aug. 4 for pre-planned personal reasons. He has not played in the preseason since 2021 and is not expected to play in the preseason finale Saturday at the Washington Commanders.

The Ravens open the season Sept. 7 in a playoff rematch against the host Buffalo Bills.

# Indianapolis names Daniel Jones starting QB

By BRIDGET HYLAND  
nj.com  
Tribune News Service

The Indianapolis Colts have named quarterback Daniel Jones their Week 1 starter when they host the Miami Dolphins on Sept. 7.

That decision isn’t sitting well with former first-round pick Anthony Richardson’s camp.

“We have a lot to discuss,” Richardson’s agent, Deiric Jackson, said to ESPN on Tuesday. He added that the Jones decision, as well as “some previous situations involving Richardson have damaged the team’s credibility,” per ESPN.

“Trust is a big factor and that is, at best, questionable right now,” Jackson said. “Anthony came back and made the improvements in the areas he needed to improve. And by all accounts, he had a great camp.”

*Anthony Richardson’s camp not happy about the decision*

Earlier in the day, Richardson said there were “no hard feelings” about the decisions.

After finishing the 2024 season on the Vikings’ bench, quarterback Daniel Jones signed a one-year, \$14 million contract with the Indianapolis Colts this offseason.

Jones joined Minnesota’s practice squad halfway through last season following his release from the Giants. When it became evi-

dent this offseason that the Vikings would not be re-signing Sam Darnold, Jones would have had an opportunity to compete against 2024 No. 10 overall pick J.J. McCarthy. Of course, Jones pivoted and ultimately signed with the Colts — at the last minute. In Indianapolis, he was in quarterback competition with Richardson.

Jones, the No. 6 pick in the 2019 draft, was cut by the Giants last November after six inconsistent seasons. In 2024, he threw for 2,070 yards and had an 8-7 touchdown-interception ratio. The Giants were 2-8 at the time of his release.

Richardson played in just four games in his rookie season in 2023 after undergoing season-ending shoulder surgery that October. He played 11 games last season.

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