

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Shaping clay

Vance Bell, a retired ceramics professor from Ball State University, demonstrates how to shape a clay bowl during a beginner pottery wheel class Wednesday at Jay County Campus of Arts Place. Another six-week class for beginners and intermediate students begins Saturday.

## Jay rate falls to 2.1%

County tied for 35th highest in Indiana

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Local unemployment went down a full point last month.

Other counties saw even greater drops.

Jay County dropped out of the lower half of the state's unemployment rankings despite coming in at 2.1% last month, according to estimates Indiana Department of Workforce Development released this week.

Coming in at 2.1% in September, the local rate was down one percentage point from August. That put Jay County in a tie for the 38th-highest unemployment rate in the state along with Allen, Carroll, Huntington, Jefferson, Jennings and Switzerland counties.

In August, it had been tied for the 35th-lowest rate in the state.

Jay County's unemployment rate has been 3% or lower for more than a year. The last time it was above 4% was July 2020, coming off of the unemployment spike resulting from coronavirus pandemic shutdowns.

The statewide unemployment rate in September was 2.2%

Adams County provided Boone County, which recorded the lowest unemployment rate in Indiana for the sixth consecutive month, some company in September. They both came in at 1.5%. Wells County was tied for third-lowest with Daviess, Hamilton and Steuben counties at 1.6%.

See Rate page 2

## New funding model recommended

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Legislators will consider a new approach to funding higher education based on school-specific goals rather than blanket recommendations, and they got their first look at Wednesday morning's State Budget Committee meeting.

The proposed funding model comes from the Commission for Higher Education, which the General Assembly tasked with researching a new formula to cover costs at Indiana's state colleges and universities.

Stakeholders criticized the state's "legacy model" funding formula for not

### New approach would consider goals specific to individual institutions

differentiating between two-year and four-year schools or research and non-research institutions. Nor does the state's current model allow for individualized goals at different schools.

"The legacy model (of) today essentially rewards growth generally in the same five metrics for every institution and every insti-

tution type," said Seth Hinshaw, the associate commissioner and CFO of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education (CHE). "What this (new prospective) model gives us is the flexibility to... instead identify growth targets for similar institutions but allow those targets to be specific to that institution."

That legacy model also uses averages over the last few recent years for various factors — such as on-time degree completion — to calculate the state's fiscal responsibility moving forward.

"You ended up with a 10-year dataset that is about two years behind by the time we implement and fund," Hinshaw said.

The new formula doesn't eliminate all aspects of the current process, still allowing for institutions to add to their base funding by making progress toward a set list of goals. Should the school move 10% of the way to their goal, for example, 10% of their prospective funding that year will be

converted to their base funding moving forward but won't impact their prospective funding allotment in the next budget cycle.

Prospective funding essentially means additional funding a college or university can earn on top of base funding.

Indiana's state budget operates in bienniums, or two-year periods. The General Assembly drafts the budget in odd-numbered years, meaning that expenditures must be accounted for in two-year segments.

Hinshaw outlined an example where the General Assembly allotted \$100 million as a base appropriation to a school in 2023.

See Funding page 2

## Economy bounced back in 3rd quarter

By READE PICKERT

Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

The U.S. economy grew at a solid pace in the third quarter, marking the first advance this year as consumers proved resilient in the face of widespread inflation and the Federal Reserve's rapid interest-rate hikes.

Gross domestic product rose at a 2.6% annualized rate in the July to September period after falling for the first two quarters, the Commerce Department's preliminary estimate showed Thursday. Personal consumption, the biggest part of the economy, climbed at a 1.4% pace, better than forecast but still a slowdown from the prior quarter.

The median projection in a Bloomberg survey of economists called for a 2.4% rise in GDP and a 1% advance in personal consumption.

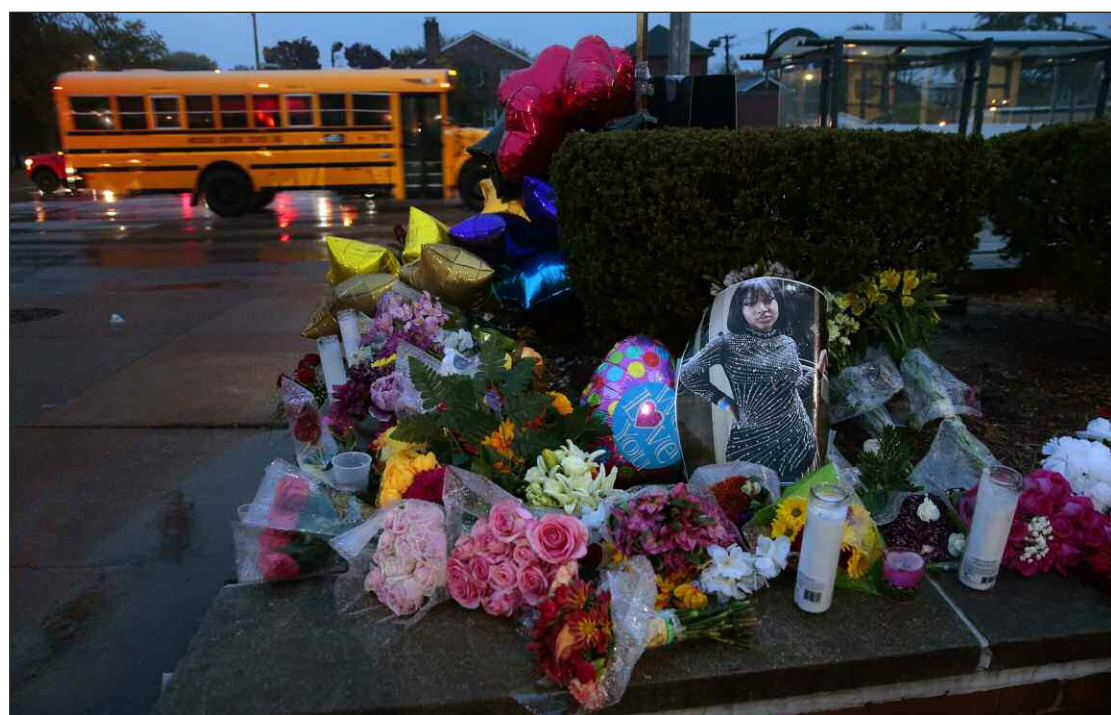
The details of the report showed a strong increase in business investment, bolstered by equipment and intellectual

property products. Consumer spending was driven by an increase in outlays on services. The biggest contributor to GDP was the volatile net exports category.

A key gauge of underlying demand that strips out the trade and inventories components — inflation-adjusted final sales to domestic purchasers — rose 0.5% in the third quarter.

While the quarterly expansion may help alleviate concerns that the U.S. is already in a recession, the economy's main engine — consumer spending — remains under pressure from the highest inflation in a generation. A strong labor market and savings amassed over the course of the pandemic have so far provided Americans the wherewithal to keep spending.

It's unclear how long households can hold up as the Fed's efforts to tame inflation pose headwinds to growth. In the near-term, it's driven up mortgage rates to the highest in two decades, causing a rapid deterioration of the housing market.



Tribune News Service/St. Louis Post-Dispatch/Robert Cohen

## In memory

A photo of Alexandria Bell, 15, rests at the scene of a growing floral memorial to the victims of Monday's school shooting at Central Visual & Performing Arts High School, on Tuesday. Bell and teacher Jean Kuczka were killed, along with gunman Orlando Harris, in Monday's shooting.

### Deaths

**Susannah Phinney**, 87, Danville, Illinois  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 63 degrees early Wednesday. The low was 38.

Tonight's low will be 35. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high of 62.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

The corn maze at Jay County Fairgrounds will be open from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday. Admission is \$5. Children 5 and younger are admitted free.

### Coming up

**Friday** — Preview of the FRHS cross country athletes in the regional meet.

**Tuesday** — Photos from various area Halloween activities.



# Obituaries

**Susannah Phinney**  
Nov. 22, 1934-Oct. 19, 2022  
Mildred Susannah Phinney, 87, of Danville, Illinois, passed away at 5:56 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, at Carriage Crossing in Paris, Illinois.  
Susannah was born on Nov. 22, 1934, in Redkey, Indiana, the daughter of Lewis Leon and Mildred Elizabeth Current Mullen. She married Larry G. Phinney on Sept. 5, 1953, in Elizabethtown, Kentucky. He pre-

ceded her in death on June 4, 2019.  
Survivors include three sons, Scot Alan Phinney, Tod Lewis (Barbara) Phinney and L. Gene (Lori) Phinney II; three daughters, Leslie (Ricky) Kennedy, Melanie (Carl) Ogle Jr. and Leigh Ann (Russell) Smith; 18 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.



She was preceded in death by one son, Max Russel Phinney; one brother, Edward Leon Mullen; and sister-in-law, Millie Mullen.  
Susannah was a realtor for over 40 years. She was a member of the Danville Area Board of Realtors, the St. James United Methodist Church and OES local chapter. Susannah did meals on wheels and Faith in Action for several years. Most of all, she enjoyed raising her children.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, at Robison Chapel, Catlin, Illinois, with L. Gene Phinney officiating. Visitation from noon until 2 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, at Robison Chapel, Catlin, Illinois. Grave-side services at 2 p.m. Illinois time on Friday, Oct. 28, 2022, at Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey, Indiana.  
Memorials to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Meals on Wheels.

Condolences may be expressed at [robisonchapel.com](http://robisonchapel.com).  
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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				
Friday 10/28	Saturday 10/29	Sunday 10/30	Monday 10/31	Tuesday 11/1
<b>62/35</b>	<b>66/45</b>	<b>61/51</b>	<b>61/45</b>	<b>65/45</b>
Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Friday with winds between 5 to 10 mph.	Saturday looks to be sunny, with a high in the mid to upper 60s. At night, mostly cloudy.	There's a 70% chance of showers Sunday after 11 a.m. Otherwise, cloudy.	Monday has a 50% chance of precipitation under mostly cloudy skies.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Tuesday with a high in the mid 60s.

Lotteries	
<b>Powerball</b> 19-36-37-46-56 Power Ball: 24 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$800 million	51-57-64-68-70-75-79 Cash 5: 27-28-30-32-42 Hoosier Lotto: 6-15-18-19-22-41 Estimated jackpot: \$3.6 million
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$64 million	<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 1-9-6 Pick 4: 1-9-6-0 Pick 5: 0-0-1-8-6 Evening Pick 3: 7-5-0 Pick 4: 4-5-9-9 Pick 5: 9-2-8-3-3 Rolling Cash: 4-5-8-22-29 Classic Lotto: 17-18-27-30-47-49 Kicker: 2-2-2-8-3-3 Estimated jackpot: \$38.8 million
<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 9-3-1 Daily Four: 5-6-7-8 Quick Draw: 2-10-13-14-16-23-30-32-33-36-45-53-61-62-65-66-67-74-75-80 Evening Daily Three: 5-0-6 Daily Four: 1-9-5-4 Quick Draw: 1-2-5-10-15-20-22-24-28-30-38-49-50	

Markets	
<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.85 Dec. corn.....6.90 Wheat.....6.99	Wheat.....7.89 Nov. wheat.....8.59
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.70 Nov. corn.....6.85 Dec. corn.....6.95	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.73 Oct./Nov. corn.....6.75 Beans.....13.73 Nov. beans.....13.73 Wheat.....8.50
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.75 Dec. corn.....6.75 Beans.....13.35 Dec. beans.....13.89	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.49 Dec. corn.....6.54 Beans.....13.48 Nov. beans.....13.53 Wheat.....8.09

## Today in history

In 1787 the first of The Federalist Papers, a series of 85 essays in support of the proposed U.S. Constitution by Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay, was published in New York's Independent Journal. They were published under the pen name "Publius."  
In 1858, Theodore Roosevelt was born in New York City. Roosevelt was an avid outdoorsman who went on to serve as governor of New York and became president following the assassination of William McKinley. He doubled the size of the National Park System, establishing Crater Lake, Wind Cave, Sullys Hill, Mesa Verde and Platt during his tenure.  
In 1975, Erma J. Seals of Portland was injured when the vehicle she was driving collided with a vehicle driven by Darrell Wendel at the intersection of Pleasant and High streets in Portland.  
In 2004, the Boston Red Sox ended an 86-year World Series drought by defeating the St. Louis Cardinals. The Red Sox had trailed three games to none in the American League Championship Series before rallying past the rival New York Yankees.  
In 2021, Dunkirk Park Board set the city's playgrounds and parks as its priorities as it held the first reading of its five-year parks master plan. Other items of interest mentioned in a parks survey included adding a dog park and keeping the shelter house open longer.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Today</b> 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.	<b>Tuesday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, school-house community center.
<b>Friday</b> 8 a.m. — Portland Redevelopment Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.	

**Pet of the week**  
Rooster, a 4-month-old male, is available for adoption from Midwest Pet Refuge. He has been neutered, vaccinated, microchipped and treated for fleas and worms. The fee is \$75. Adoption applications are available at [midwestpetrefuge.com/adopt](http://midwestpetrefuge.com/adopt).

Photo provided

## Funding ...

Continued from page 1  
Under a new, smaller line item for prospective funding, the school has the opportunity to earn another \$10 million if they meet a set of defined goals over the next two years.  
The fictional school earned \$2 million in the first year followed by \$5 million the second year, for a combined \$7 million by 2025. That \$7 million becomes part of the base funding for the school in the following biennium, meaning they will receive \$107 million minimum in 2026 and 2027. But the remaining \$3 million will carry over and the school can attempt to win it again on top of the additional \$10 million of prospective funding for the 2026 and 2027 budget years.  
"The amounts will change over time, but the amount earned is paid out in the biennium that it's earned and added to the base the following biennium," Hinshaw said. "It would ensure that no base appropriations would necessarily be reduced under this model, but it would also ensure that institutions that are performing well — that are meeting the expectations or exceeding expectations — have the opportunity for growth in their future total appropriations."  
An important aspect of the

prospective funding, Hinshaw said, is that unused prospective monies won't revert back to the general fund, as they do in other special line items.  
"The idea here would be that an institution that does not fully earn its allocation in the biennium — whatever was not earned would be reallocated the following biennium based on the new proportions of operating appropriations," Hinshaw said. "Money earned during the biennium would be added to the institution's base in the following biennium."  
Goals for schools are divided into two categories: system and institutional. System goals include quality and career relevance, a metric which would consider in-demand industries, as well as completion rate.  
The newer model will also allow institutions to compete against themselves, rather than each other, for funding tied to improvements.  
Also Wednesday, Chris Lowery — the Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education — emphasized the need for Indiana to address its low college-going rate for high school students. Previously Gov. Eric Holcomb aimed to have 60% of Hoosiers with postsecondary education but today just over 48% of residents meet that goal.

To reverse that tide, Lowery recommended increasing funds distributed via scholarships under the Frank O'Bannon Grant by 35%, returning them to their pre-Great Recession award levels when accounting for inflation. Current maximum award amounts are \$9,200 for private institutions or \$4,600 for public institutions, not far from their 2008-2009 grants for \$9,160 and \$5,080, respectively. With a 35% increase, those amounts would increase to \$12,400 for private institutions and \$6,200 for public ones, according to Lowery.  
The commission estimated that increase could cost the state between \$170 to \$190 million.  
"I hear daily — and my guess is all of you do too — from employers about the challenges with (the) workforce, with finding talented folks who can get the job done," Lowery said. "I'm absolutely convinced that there are a number of our fellow Hoosiers (who) — with the right training and skills development — could fill those critically important roles in our society."  
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*Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is [indianacapitalchronicle.com](http://indianacapitalchronicle.com).*

## Rate ...

Continued from page 1  
Howard County again had the highest unemployment rate in the state, though it came in at just 4%. That was down 2.9 percentage points from August.  
The next highest rates were 3.7% in Lake County and 3.3% in Fayette County.  
Every other county in the state came in below 3%.  
Area rates are as follows:  
Adams County: 1.5%,

down 0.6 percentage points, tie-lowest  
Blackford County: 2.4%, down 0.8 percentage points, tie-15th highest  
Delaware County: 2.4%, down 1 percentage point, tie-15th highest  
Jay County: 2.1%, down 1 percentage point, tie-38th highest  
Randolph County: 2%, down 0.7 percentage points, tie-38th lowest  
Wells County: 1.6%, down 0.5 percentage points, tie-third lowest

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Swiss Village  
1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711  
Or e-mail: [careers@swissvillage.org](mailto:careers@swissvillage.org)

## SERVICES

**Thursday**  
**Phinney**, Susannah: 2 p.m., Robison Chapel, 103 Douglas St., Catlin, Illinois.

**Friday**  
**Inman**, Jack: 11 a.m., Wilson-Shook Funeral Home, Dunkirk Memorial Chapel, 317 N. Main St., Dunkirk.  
**LeMaster**, Terry: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Nov. 1**  
**Strasburg**, Clarel: 5 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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## 50th anniversary



Vicki and Allen Haines - 1972

### Allen and Vicki Haines

Allen and Vicki Haines are celebrating 50 years together today.

Vicki Stipp and Allen Haines married Oct. 27, 1972, at Westchester United Methodist Church in Portland.

They have two children, Brooks Weitzel (husband: Mike) and Kevin Haines (wife: Heather), along with eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Vicki works as a licensed daycare provider, and Allen is retired.

They plan to celebrate with a cruise and family dinner.



Allen and Vicki Haines - 2022

# Depressed mother loathes her empty nest

DEAR ABBY: I've been married for 22 years. Our son is leaving for Marine boot camp the day after his 18th birthday. He will be a third-generation Marine, and we are extremely proud of him. He will be stationed in California, several states away from us. Our soon-to-be 21-year-old daughter graduated from college, and we are also very proud of her. She lives an hour and a half away.

My problem is, although we see

### Dear Abby



our daughter often, every time she goes home, I'm grief-stricken and break down. The idea of our son leaving has me grief-stricken, as well. I can't even look at

him without breaking down and crying. I cry daily, sometimes for hours.

I'm severely depressed to the point that I sometimes don't make it to work. I have broken down at work as well. I'm heartbroken over becoming an empty nester. I'm crying just writing this. I haven't been this sad since my dear mom passed away a few years ago.

I know I have to get it together and this is not healthy. I also

know how blessed I am to have children who are ambitious and healthy enough to fly on their own. I used to be particular about my appearance and no longer care about that. Is this normal? — TEARFUL IN MICHIGAN

DEAR TEARFUL: While it is normal to feel sadness when children leave the nest, the symptoms you have described are those of severe depression. I am glad you wrote, because it gives me the oppor-

tunity to advise you to talk to your physician about what's been going on. You may be grieving not only the fact that your children are leaving but also for the loss of your former life as a young wife and mother. There is medical and psychological help for the pain you are experiencing. A licensed therapist will help you regain your emotional balance. Please don't wait to reach out.

## 'Happy Little Fest' kicks off Saturday

There's an opportunity to paint happy little trees this weekend in Muncie.

"Happy Little Fest" will celebrate the late Bob Ross' 80th birth date and Ball State PBS' 50th year on the air with activities from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at LaFollette Field.

Ross is known for his popular show, "The Joy of Painting." Saturday's event will include a 300-person painting workshop from 1 to 4 p.m. as well as free painting sessions for kids, a Ross look-alike contest, trivia and bingo, and a toast to the painter with cupcakes at 1 p.m.

Attendees can also visit Ross' original painting studio and see his

### Taking Note

paintings in the Ball Communication Building. There will also be panel discussions at 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. in the studio.

For tickets and additional information, visit HappyLittleFest.com.

### Take Back Day

Take Back Day is almost here. The Drug Enforcement Adminis-

tration's "Prescription Drug Take Back" initiative — it seeks to prevent prescription drug abuse and theft through proper disposal — will be held nationwide Saturday. Indiana State Police will set up a collection site in partnership with the organization from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at its Fort Wayne Post, 5811 Ellison Road. (Unwanted medications may also be dropped off at any Indiana State Police Post, excluding Lowell and Toll Road Posts.)

The free disposal program accepts liquid and pill medications, vaping pens without batteries and vaping cartridges. Needles will not be accepted for disposal.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

**LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES** — Free and confidential consulta-

tions with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

**MISSISSINEWA CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION** — Will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 22, at Jay County Historical Museum. David Haines of Indiana State Police will speak about women's safety. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend. For more information, call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

**A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

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-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.

Re-Elect  
**CHAMP**  
for County Council  
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**VOTE**

**Tommy "Chip" Phillips II**  
District 2 Jay School Board

- ✓ 38 yrs. Public School Teacher  
*Last 34 years in the Jay School Corporation as a classroom teacher*
- ✓ 27 years in the United States Air Force Reserve  
*Retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel*
- ✓ Iraq war veteran

-Paid for by the candidate

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

### Saturday

**PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET** — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St.

**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.

### Monday

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

**BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER** — Walking from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

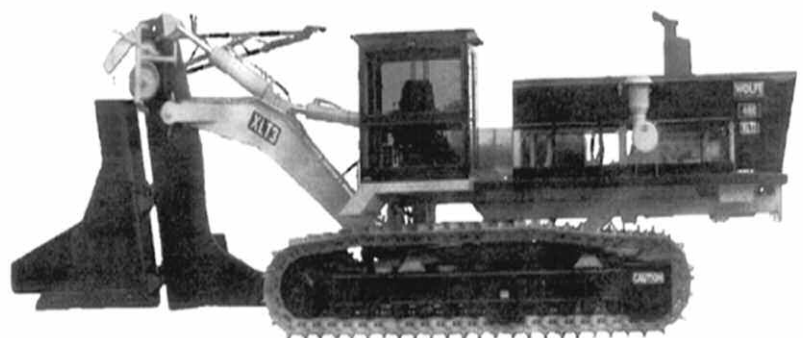
**PING PONG** — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

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

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

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# Vote in defense of nation's ideals

By MORTON J. MARCUS

There was, I believe, a World War II song meant to lift the spirits of those off to war and those remaining at home.

These were the opening lines:

Now is the hour when we must say goodbye.

Soon you'll be sailing far across the sea.

While you're away, oh, then, remember me.

When you return, you'll find me waiting here.

Those words came to me as I read two newspaper articles.

The Northwest Indiana Times carried a quote from State Sen. Michael Griffin (D-Highland): "I am heartened by the words of Paul of Tarsus

## Eye on the Pie



who in his letter to the Church at Galatia urged: 'Let us not grow weary in well-doing for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart.'

In the Indianapolis Star I read, "GOP voters told to hold onto ballots. Voting strategy based on conspiracy theories."

There is a state of war today in America. It is being fought with words and votes. Truth and honesty must win, or it

will be won by lies and violence.

As in all wars, there are deniers and liars. Many good people are denying an ongoing, daily battle. They discount the harm done by the insistent liars who deny the validity of our nation's virtue, the benefits of our institutions. They fail to recognize the havoc and destruction caused by our too long flirtation with madness.

It is not harmless to believe that election fraud is a problem in America.

It is not acceptable to insist that citizens are powerless to correct the distortions of reality imposed by ideological tyrants currently in our legislative and judicial institutions.

It is neither rational nor responsible to yearn for a time that never was and abandon the progress we have made.

Outrage cannot compete with action. Americans who see this nation being transformed from a landscape of great heights and fertile plains to barren deserts of uniformity must vote for sanity and responsibility.

It is not partisan to say good people must cease voting Republican because Mom and Dad did so. The Republican party we knew and respected is dead, killed by its own deception and sloth, nationally and in Indiana.

The remnants of the Democratic party have fought off their radical left wing and cur-

rently offer our best hope for security. But if not supported vigorously in this election, we are in danger of on-going erosion of social programs, public education, and the judicial system.

Now is the hour, not to say goodbye, but to become active in defense of our nation's traditions and institutions.

If we leave, emotionally or physically, if we absent ourselves from the battle by not voting because we value entertainment more than involvement, who will be waiting when we return?

.....  
Marcus is an economist. Email him at [mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com](mailto:mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com).

# Congress must make updates

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

No matter what happens in the upcoming midterm elections, Congress should act before the end of this year to safeguard the nation from any more Trump-style attempts to overthrow the will of the voters.

As the House select committee investigating the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol has shown in masterful detail, the horror of that day went beyond the violent mobs that interrupted the peaceful process of certifying an election. The rioters — hundreds of whom have been charged with crimes — were the most visible manifestation of former President Trump's multifaceted attempt to cling to power despite being voted out of office.

But other parts of Trump's plot — such as pressuring Vice President Mike Pence to throw out legitimate electoral votes for Biden — involved interpretations of the Electoral Count Act of 1887, an arcane law that governs how Congress certifies presidential elections. And that is something Congress can, and should, fix immediately.

The House and Senate have each introduced bills that would make common sense updates to this important law. They clarify what should be obvious — that the vice president's role in counting electoral college votes is purely ceremonial. Of course a vice president doesn't have the power to pick and choose which votes get counted, as Pence himself and prominent legal scholars across the political spectrum have said. But if it takes a new law to make that clear, Congress must do it.

The legislation also addresses the cockamamie scheme some Republican lawmakers embraced to stall the certification by objecting to electoral votes from Arizona and Pennsylvania — despite a complete lack of evidence showing widespread problems with their elections. The bills would make it harder for Congress to consider an objection to electoral votes, which can happen now at the request of just one senator and one House member. The Senate's bill would raise the threshold for an objection to at least one-fifth of each chamber, while the House version would raise it to one-third of each chamber.

The House passed its

## Guest Editorial

bill in September, with nine Republicans joining Democrats in support. The Senate version advanced from committee last month with substantial bipartisan approval. At a time when Republicans and Democrats agree on so little, it's encouraging that lawmakers are coming together to strengthen the system the nation relies on to choose its president.

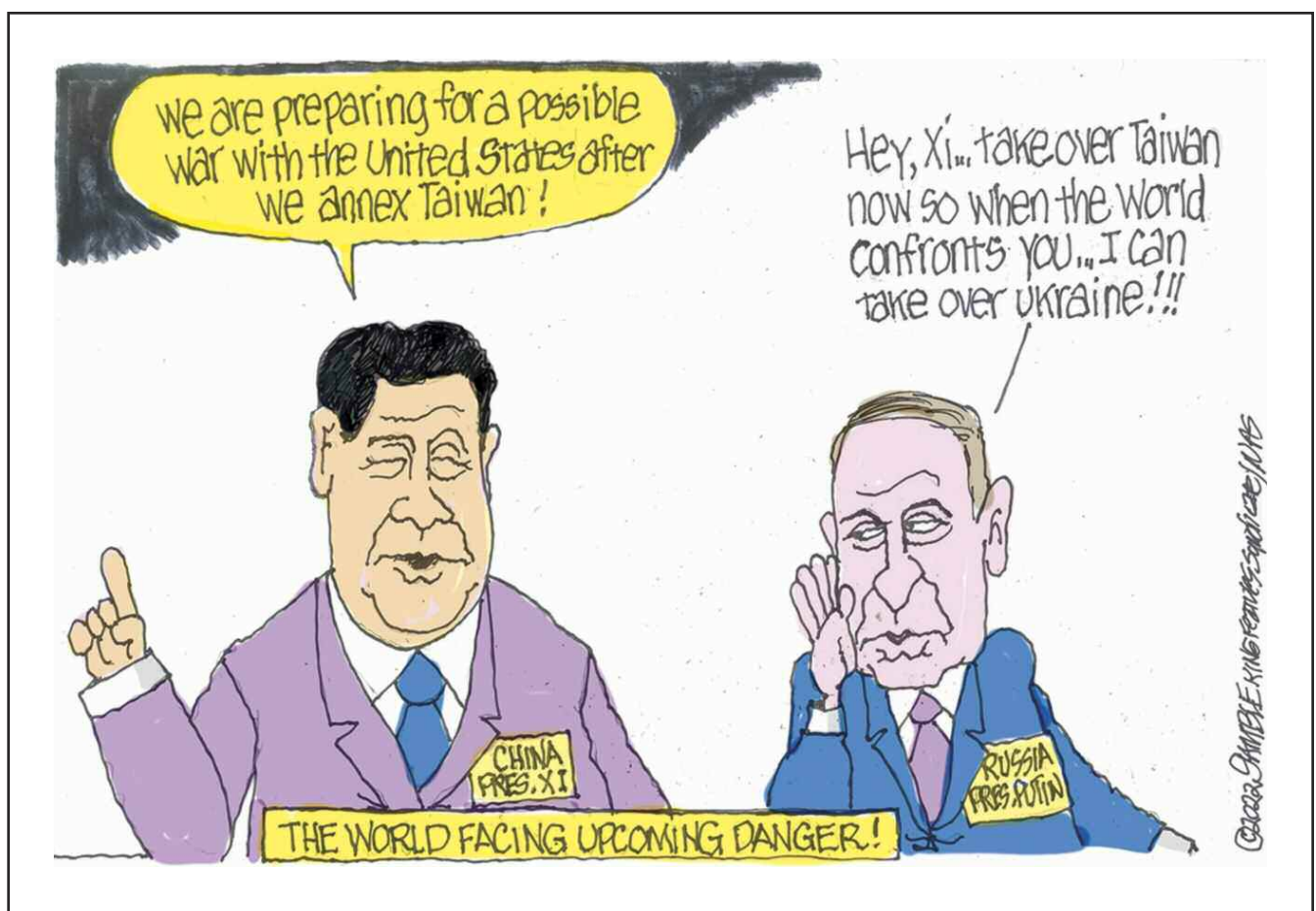
But this is not a done deal. It is critical that lawmakers in the House and Senate reconcile the two versions of the bill and send it to President Biden's desk before the year ends. They have just a few weeks to get it done after they return to Washington after the Nov. 8 election. The so-called lame-duck session will be a busy period for Congress, with bills pending to protect the right to same-sex marriage and to ban lawmakers from trading stocks, on top of must-pass budget and defense bills, which will demand a lot of negotiations and wrangling.

An Electoral Count Act update could get folded into the budget or defense bills, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a recent interview with The Times editorial board. But first the House and Senate must agree on how to merge their bills.

"I think that they can be reconciled, and maybe during the lame duck," Pelosi said.

It would be a terrible shame if this Congress concludes without passing a clarifying overhaul to the law that governs a key component of American democracy.

The Jan. 6 committee has done an extraordinary public service in documenting the many ways Trump tried to overturn a free and fair election. The committee will disband at the end of the year, and with it out of the news, public attention on the fixes needed to defend the electoral process may also dim. Congress must not waste this opportunity to strengthen the law and protect the nation from another attempted coup. Fix the Electoral Count Act before momentum fades.



# A break-up seems unlikely

By DAVID A. HOPKINS  
Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

The alliance between big business and the Republican Party, one of the oldest in U.S. politics, is unusually frayed these days. The question is whether there will be a complete unraveling.

There is ample evidence of a strained relationship. Sen. Rick Scott of Florida, the current chair of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, introduced his "Rescue America" policy plan earlier this year with the accusation that "most corporate boardrooms" are now controlled by the "militant left." Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis has become engaged in a public battle with the Walt Disney Co. that led to the state revoking some of Disney's long-held powers and tax advantages. Representative Jim Banks of Indiana, a potential member of House Republican leadership in the next session of Congress, recently said that Republicans are "so much healthier now that we've divorced ourselves from corporate America."

Clearly, this isn't the same Republican Party that nominated the proudly business-friendly ticket of Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan just 10 years ago. But the shifting dynamics within the GOP are only half the story. The behavior of the corporate sector is changing, too — and the rise of conservative populism has accelerated this change.

It once seemed like good business sense for major companies to avoid public entanglement in political conflicts. But corporate leaders have faced increasing incentives to align themselves with left-of-center positions on issues of social diversity and representation, while opposing Republican approaches to election management and vote-counting.

Taking these stands can attract potential customers among the young and well-educated, two economically lucrative demographic groups that collectively lean to the

David A. Hopkins



ideological left. Such stances also ease pressure from current or prospective employees to oppose the populist turn within American conservatism. Corporate executives want their companies to be perceived as welcoming and inclusive workplaces for feminist women, racial minorities, LGBT communities and other cultural progressives, and seem willing to risk alienating traditionalist conservatives to achieve it.

The list of conservative grievances is growing quickly. While Republicans have long complained of unfair treatment by major media and entertainment conglomerates, they have now extended this attack to include leading technology companies such as Google and Facebook — especially after Donald Trump was banned from top social media platforms in early 2021. Corporate endorsements of diversity initiatives, the Black Lives Matter movement, legalized abortion and transgender rights have provoked the charge that big business is infected by rampant "woke leftism." Congressional Republicans also remain unhappy about the dozens of corporate political action committees that publicly promised to cease contributing to members who voted against accepting the 2020 election results (even though many have since reneged on those pledges).

So far, this newfound Republican disaffection has mostly been expressed through combative rhetoric. Florida Sen. Marco Rubio, for example, has denounced "weak corporate leaders" who oversee "nationless corporations that amass for-

tunes divorced from the fate of our great country."

But more substantive forms of retribution, such as DeSantis's punishment of Disney, may become more common. Proposals requiring tech companies to limit the moderation of political content on social media have gained support among Republican legislators at both the congressional and state levels. Republican members of Congress have also threatened embarrassing public hearings or investigations targeting disfavored companies if they take back power next year.

At the same time, the new populist trend in the GOP is distinguished much more by its strong emphasis on nationalism and cultural nostalgia than by any movement away from traditional conservative economic doctrine. Executive-branch appointees pursued deregulation and opposed labor-union interests just as energetically in the Trump administration as they did during previous Republican presidencies, while an ambitious tax cut enacted represented Trump's main policy achievement in office. Despite Republicans' increasing tendency to aim rhetorical and even legislative fire at companies viewed as adversaries in the ongoing culture war, they remain committed to extending or further reducing the corporate tax reductions that Trump signed into law.

Republican politicians and conservative media figures have found a sympathetic popular audience for their attacks on "wokeness" in the executive suites. But as long as the party remains committed to conservative economic ideas that benefit corporate bottom lines, the Republican alliance with business, however battered, is unlikely to fall apart completely. Despite claims to the contrary, it's not a divorce — it's just a strained marriage.

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Hopkins is an associate professor of political science at Boston College.

# The Commercial Review



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— Thomas Jefferson

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SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Look before you leap

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: A 7 4, K J 7 3, Q J 6 2, S 5 3. WEST: K Q J 9 6 3, A 4, A 8 5, Q 6 4. EAST: 10 8 5 2, 6, 10 9 7 3, K 9 8 2. SOUTH: A Q 10 9 8 5 2, K 4, A K 10 7. The bidding: South 1♥, West 1♠, North 3♥, East 3♠. Opening lead — king of spades.

But if you play low from dummy and trump the king of spades, preserving dummy's ace for later use, nothing can stop you from making the slam. Let's see what happens if you ruff the king of spades. First you cash the ace of trump, both defenders following suit. Next you lead the four of diamonds, giving West a choice of going up with the ace or allowing you to win with dummy's jack. If West goes up with the ace, that is the only trick you will lose since you can later dispose of your J-10-7 of clubs on dummy's ace of spades and Q-J of diamonds. And if West allows dummy to win the first diamond instead, you'll be on an equally firm ground. In that case, you'll discard the king of diamonds on the ace of spades, give up a club trick and later ruff two clubs in dummy to finish with 12 tricks. The disadvantage of winning West's opening spade lead with the ace is that it forces you to choose a discard from your hand before you're ready to do so. By delaying the discard until later on, you put yourself in a position where, if West has the ace of diamonds, you can make the slam regardless of how he elects to defend.

This hand provides yet another example of the importance of forming an overall plan of play before you proceed. Assume you're declarer at six hearts and West leads the king of spades. How should you continue? Actually, the entire issue is decided by your first play from dummy! If you take the king of spades with the ace, you go down one, eventually losing a diamond and a club against normal defense.

Tomorrow: Test your play. ©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Peanuts



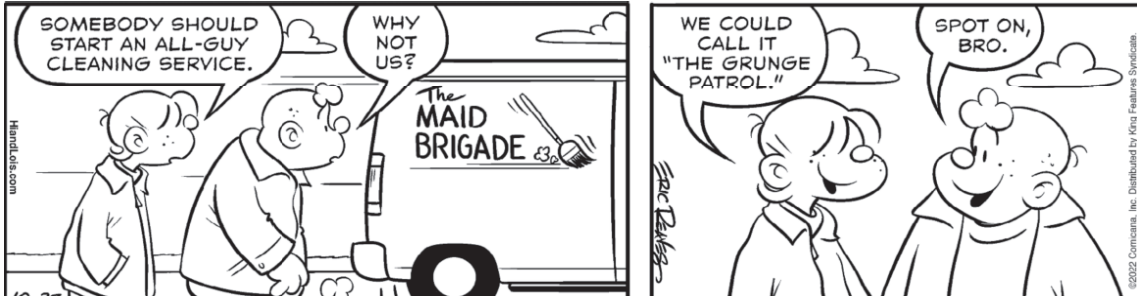
Rose is Rose



Agnes



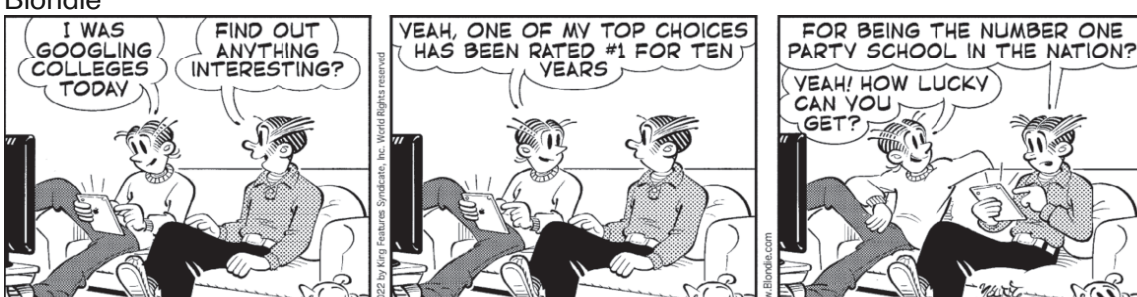
Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

CK V JRJQNVX ARH OVQLS ZSXS JXRIQLSI CE V URXS ORNCI KRXU, ZAVH UCMAH CH DS? LASZCEM HVDVOLR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT FELLOW WOULD LOVE TO BE DRIVING A FOCUS OR FIESTA, BUT RIGHT NOW HE CAN'T AFFORD A FORD. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals G

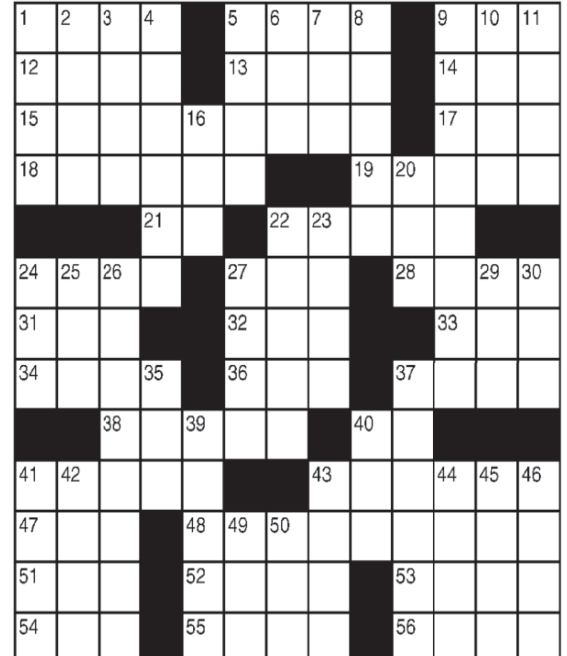
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS: 1 Taj Mahal city, 5 Shark thriller, 9 "Mic Drop" K-pop band, 12 Jackie of "Rush Hour", 13 Skip, 14 Tic-tac-toe win, 15 Patio seating, 17 Artist Yoko, 18 Sri Lanka, once, 19 Alan of "Argo", 21 "Perfect" singer Sheeran, 22 At the — the day, 24 Chest muscles, briefly, 27 Chairman of China, 28 Infant, 31 Lass, 32 Judge Lance, 33 Rage, 34 God of war, 36 Scoot kid, 37 Unruly fable, 38 Fable writer, 40 "Monopoly" corner, 41 Boom type, 43 Air travel fatigue, 47 School org., 48 Pasta variety, 51 King, in Cannes, 52 Rotunda top, 53 Pound of verse, 54 "— outta here!"

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 10-27



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# Sports

## Bader, Kunkler swim at Purdue

Two former Patriots got together Saturday at Purdue University.

Jay County High School graduates Vivienne Kunkler and Eliza Bader competed in the Indiana Collegiate Check-up Intercollegiate swim meet at Purdue's Morgan J. Burke Center, posting top individual finishes of ninth and 10th, respectively.

Kunkler, a 2019 JCHS graduate and Bethel University senior, had her best result in the 100-yard breaststroke. She finished in 1 minute, 7.81 seconds for ninth place, missing out on the top eight in the field of 32 by just one hundredth of a second.

Bader, a Ball State University sophomore who graduated from Jay County in 2021, finished the 50-yard freestyle in 25.1 seconds. She was 10th in the event.

Kunkler trailed Bader in the 50 freestyle with an 18th-place finish in 26.29. She joined teammates Elisabeth Wolfe, Jaylyn Harrison and Kayla Logeais for a seventh-place finish in the 200 medley relay in 1:52.89.

Bader completed the 100 butterfly in 1:00.63 to finish 12th. She and fellow cardinals Kiran Stauffer, Lilia Newkirk and Kenzie Pierce were fifth in the 200 medley relay in 1:48.43.

See **Collegiate** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## On the drive

Oakland Gaerke drives past Braxton Cross on Thursday afternoon during practice for the Jay County Junior High School boys basketball teams.

## Colts hope for spark from Ehlinger

By **GEORGE BREMER**  
The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)  
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — No quarterback has won his first NFL start as a member of the Indianapolis Colts since third-round rookie Chris Chandler was at the controls for a 15-13 victory against the Miami Dolphins in Week 4 of 1988.

That 34-year gap is just one part of decades of history working against Sam Ehlinger as he prepares for his first NFL start Sunday against the Washington Commanders (3-4) at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Ehlinger will be trying to keep the Colts (3-3-1) in the AFC playoff hunt.

"Play the position, take care of

the ball but obviously play my game," the 24-year-old said Wednesday at the Indiana Farm Bureau Football Center. "I think that there's an element, too, where the league's transitioning to more mobile quarterbacks, and I think I am able to offer that. So just being smart with the football, taking completions, getting the ball in playmakers' hands.

"We have a lot of good players — and even in the run game, give the ball to JT (Jonathan Taylor), Nyheim (Hines), Deon (Jackson). Let those guys work. Parris (Campbell) is playing great. Pitt's (Michael Pittman Jr.) playing great. Alec (Pierce) is playing great. Get the ball in their hands, and let them be the stars."

See **Spark** page 7

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