

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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## Fresh faces join council

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Jay County Council has three new members this year.

Two of them are new to local government.

Cindy Bracy and Dave Haines recently joined the list of county officials, making their first debut into Jay County politics.

(Randy May, Redkey, also joined council this month after defeating incumbent Ted Champ in the November election. He previously served on Redkey Town Council.)

Haines took over the seat left by Ray Newton, the former at-large council member who became Jay County Sheriff at the beginning of January. (Newton defeated Democrat "Watermelon" Jim Phillips in the election.)

A 1984 Jay County High School graduate, Haines grew up on the family farm in Jackson Township. Before his father stopped farming in the late '80s, he farmed about 400 acres and raised about 600 hogs.

He has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Ball State University and has been with Indiana State Police for 29 years. Haines's job consists of training as a core instructor and patrolling the highways. He originally served the Redkey post before it closed in 2010, transferring him to the Fort Wayne division.

Haines hadn't planned on joining county council until recently.

"I've pretty much intentionally avoided politics altogether," he said. "I always wanted to keep myself separated as much as possible because of my job."

### Bracy, Haines are new to role of public representative

But after a few phone calls from local residents asking him to consider the role, he decided to look into it.

"It's another way of protecting and serving," said Haines.

Bracy filled the District 4 seat formerly held by Mike Rockwell, who resigned in October. She has been serving on council since Nov. 8, when she was elected by a Republican caucus to the position. (Rockwell's term was set to expire in January — Bracy also won the seat after running uncontested in the election.)

She teaches at Jay County Christian Academy and drives a bus for Jay School Corporation. Bracy started working for Christian Broadcasting Network in Virginia shortly after graduating Jay County High School in 1980.

Bracy served as an associate producer with The 700 Club for about six years before switching over to freelance work as a stage manager and producer. She also met her husband in Virginia, and she left the industry to homeschool their children.

See Council page 2



Photo provided

## Sophia at state

The Indiana State Fair queen pageant kicked off Friday with contestant interviews. Miss Jay County queen Sophia Fugiett, pictured above, will compete today and Sunday at the Indiana Farmers Coliseum in Indianapolis at 5 p.m. and 1 p.m., respectively.

## Retrospect

### Indians held off Jay County

Twenty-five years ago this week, the first of a series of five consecutive state-line nail-biters resulted in a win for the Indians.

The Jan. 5, 1998, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team's 55-52 victory over the visiting Jay County Patriots.

The game launched a series of five straight meetings between the Indians and Patriots that were decided by three points or fewer. Fort Recovery got the upper hand in all of them, including at 74-37 overtime win during the 1999-2000 season.

The Tribe scored the first six points of the 1998 contest and Jay County spent most of the game struggling to get a foothold against the physical Indians.

"They played like the big school and we played like the small school," said JCHS coach Roger Schnepf.

The game was close throughout, but the Patriots led just

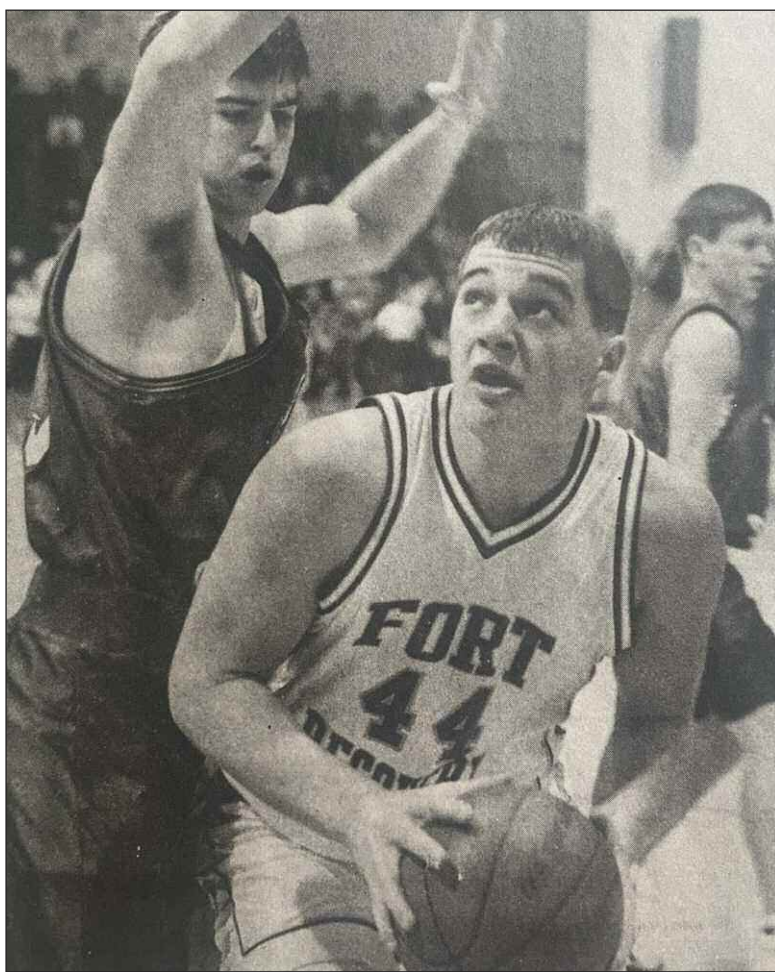
once — 37-36 — after a Chris Cowan layup late in the third quarter.

It was a back-and-forth battle in the fourth quarter, with Fort Recovery taking the lead and then the Patriots fighting back to tie the game. The Indians took a 53-50 lead late and the JCHS 3-point attempt to tie the score was off the mark. That allowed Scott Dilworth to hit a couple of free throws to extend the FRHS advantage. The Indians missed some foul shots that could have put the game away, but held on when a last-second 3-pointer from Cowan fell just short.

"I wish we could have connected on some of those free throws at the end and made things a little easier for us," said FRHS coach Joe Bruns. "But I'm very happy with (the win)."

Chuck Bihn's 15 points, nine of which came at the foul line, led the way for the Indians.

Matt Westgerdes finished with a dozen points for Jay County.



The Commercial Review/Mike Snyder

Fort Recovery High School's Chris Guggenbiller looks for space in the paint against Brian Journey of Jay County during their Jan. 3, 1998, game at Fort Site Fieldhouse.

## House still without speaker

By NOLAN MCCASKILL  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — House Republican leader Kevin McCarthy of California lost his 14th ballot for speaker Friday evening in the most dramatic fashion possible, falling a single vote shy of the outright majority he needed.

After Lauren Boebert of Colorado and Matt Gaetz of Florida voted "present," McCarthy tallied 216 of 432 votes. Gaetz, who missed his name when it was first called, became the decisive vote to determine whether McCarthy would become speaker or continue his historic losing streak.

McCarthy and other Republicans approached Gaetz after his vote, seemingly pleading with him to change it and end the longest speakership fight since the Civil War. But Gaetz remained unmoved.

### Deaths

Leslie Garr, 80, Indianapolis  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 35 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for a high of 37 under mostly sunny skies. There is a chance of snow and rain Sunday with a high of 37. Lows this weekend will be in the mid 20s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

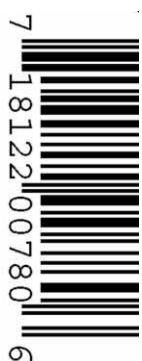
### In review

Incumbent Dunkirk clerk-treasurer Tina Elliott, a Democrat, filed Thursday afternoon to seek re-election. Filing on Friday were incumbent Republican Michele Brewster for Portland City Council's District 3 seat and Republican Joshua Miller for a Pennville Town Council at-large seat.

### Coming up

Tuesday — Results from today's Indiana High School Wrestling Coaches Association Class 2A Team State Duals.

Wednesday — Coverage of Tuesday's first Portland Park Board meeting of the new year.



# Obituaries

## Leslie Garr

Sept. 15, 1942-Jan. 4, 2023  
Leslie Lynn Garr, 80, of Indianapolis passed away Wednesday, Jan. 4.  
She was born on Sept. 15, 1942, in Wells County, Indiana.  
Leslie graduated from Dunkirk High School. She was a faithful parishioner of Good Shepherd Catholic Church, where she was active in their

bible study group and St. Vincent DePaul Society.  
Leslie enjoyed the Indianapolis Colts, along with watching other sports, and wintering in Florida.  
She was preceded in death by her parents, Paul E. Ludwig and Lois Ludwig Louck; beloved husband Anthony Garr; and brother William Ludwig.  
She is survived by her children Angie (Doug) Lemond,

Nicole (Tom) Kelley, Heather (Mike) Irmer and David Garr; brothers Jerrold (Barb) Ludwig and Anthony (Sandy) Ludwig; sister-in-law Peg Ludwig; grandchildren Sarah (Ryan) Kusterman, Jared Lemond, Connor Kelley, Caroline Kelley, Madeline Irmer, Hannah Irmer, Grace Irmer and David Garr Jr.; and great-grandchildren Claire, Neelie and Emmy Kusterman.  
Visitation for Leslie will be

Thursday, Jan. 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 2905 Carson Ave., Indianapolis. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 1 p.m. Entombment will follow at Calvary Cemetery.  
Services entrusted to O'Riley Branson Funeral Service and Crematory, 6107 S. East St., Indianapolis.  
Please visit [OrileyBranson.com](http://OrileyBranson.com) to share a

favorite memory or to sign the online guest registry.  
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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 from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

# CR almanac

Sunday 1/8	Monday 1/9	Tuesday 1/10	Wednesday 1/11	Thursday 1/12
<b>37/26</b>	<b>40/29</b>	<b>44/30</b>	<b>44/32</b>	<b>46/34</b>
There's a 40% chance of snow or rain throughout the day. The low may hit 24 degrees.	Monday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a low around freezing.	Mostly cloudy skies are on the horizon for Tuesday. The high will be near 44 degrees.	Another day of mostly cloudy skies is slated for Wednesday, with a high near 46.	There's a 30% chance of rain. Otherwise, cloudy, with a low around 34.

## Lotteries

<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 9-8-5 Daily Four: 0-9-7-7 Quick Draw: 10-15-18-21-24-25-26-27-29-30-35-37-47-48-58-69-70-74-76-77	Pick 4: 5-4-4-3 Pick 5: 5-2-1-4-5
<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 8-9-5	<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$940 million
<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$325 million	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.66 Feb. corn.....6.66 Wheat.....6.76	Wheat.....6.84 July wheat.....7.31
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.70 Feb. corn.....6.71 March corn.....6.73	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.52 March corn.....6.54 Beans.....14.80 Feb. beans.....14.83 Wheat.....7.31
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.54 Feb. corn.....6.54 Beans.....14.83 Feb. beans.....14.88	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.24 Feb. corn.....6.26 Beans.....14.64 Feb. beans.....14.70 Wheat.....6.98

## Today in history

In 1610, Galileo Galilei, an Italian astronomer, discovered four moons orbiting Jupiter. At that time, they were the first four moons to be located beyond Earth. They are now known as the Galilean satellites — Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto.  
In 1874, President Millard Fillmore was born in a log cabin in Buffalo, New York. Fillmore was elected vice president in 1848 and ascended to the presidency upon the death of Zacharay Taylor in 1850.  
In 1955, Marian Anderson made her debut at New York City's Metropolitan Opera, becoming the first African American to perform there.. The contrato played Ulrica in Verdi's "Un ballo in maschera."  
In 2004, the Jay County High School

girls basketball team overcame a record-breaking effort from Adams Central senior Natalie Young — with 21 points, she became Adams County's all-time scoring leader — for a 56-48 victory. Felisha Parr had 20 points for the Patriots.  
In 2015, the Paris offices of magazine Charlie Hebdo were stormed by two gunmen connected to a Yemeni-based militant group. Twelve people were killed in the attack, with the attackers later killed by police.  
In 2022, Cory M. Jones of Redkey was sentenced to 47.5 years in prison by Jay Circuit Court Judge Brian Hutchison after having pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in relation to the shooting death of Shanna Jones of rural Dunkirk.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Monday**  
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.  
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.  
4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, Community Room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.  
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.  
5:45 p.m. — Jay School Corporation Board of Finance, General

Shanks, 414 Floral Ave., Portland.  
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.  
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.  
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.  
**Tuesday**  
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Central, 118 S. Meridian St.

# Council ...

Continued from page 1  
Bracy later received her teaching degree in geoscience from Western Governors University.  
She helped establish a home-school cooperative in Portsmouth, Virginia, made up of about 100 students. She also volunteered at Portsmouth Health Department as a Women, Infants and Children (WIC) breastfeeding peer counselor and worked with newborns, babies and mothers for 18 years.  
She returned with her family to Jay County in 2014.  
"I missed home," Bracy recalled. "Once a farm girl, always a farm girl."  
Bracy referenced her career in education. She encouraged students to get involved in government and the election process when she lived in Virginia. So when she learned her neighbor, Rockwell, planned to resign prior to the end of the year, she decided to take a leap into politics herself.  
"I love Jay County," she said. "I

returned to Jay County because there is no place like Jay County in all the world, and I wanted to give back."  
She spent two years as an online educator for a school based out of Pennsylvania and, because of that, advocated for widespread rural internet access. She added she also lives in a rural part of Jay County with weak connection.  
"I hope to see Jay County grow," she said. "I want to see, obviously, improvement to rural internet. That to me is critical in growing. We have, now, people who can work from anywhere. I want them to see that they can get such a better quality of life (and) save so much money by coming to Jay County."  
She spoke in favor of building new housing. As a bus driver, she also promoted converting more roads from stone to hard surface.  
Haines noted he's new to the scene, having been voted into the position two days before the December council meeting. And

although he said he's got a lot to learn, he referenced the low retention rate of new high school graduates as an issue he would like to tackle.  
"One of my hopes (is) we could do something to make a change in that so that we have young people (stay in Jay County)," he said.  
He's keen on keeping council in check in relation to the budget and investing dollars locally. Because of his role as a police officer, he's also a big advocate of safety. He said he would like to work with District 33 state representative J.D. Prescott to adjust the speed limit along Indiana 67 near the high school to a permanent 45 mph.  
Bracy noted taking up a county seat isn't an easy task. Like Haines, she said she's learning as she goes.  
"There's a lot to learn in county government, like it's a steep learning curve, and I am tackling it like a teacher. I want to learn," she said.

# Capsule Reports

### Lost control

Damage is estimated between \$50,000 and \$100,000 after an Ohio man lost control of his semi, causing it to crash along county road 400 South about 5:30 p.m. Dec. 22.  
Martin W. Elliott, 63, Ashland, was driving a 2000 Peterbilt 379 when the cab went off the side of the road and entered a ditch. The semi hit an embankment on a nearby driveway, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report, and one of its axles broke. It flipped and landed in the middle of the road, spilling glass into the ditch.  
Elliott's semi was towed.

### Rear collision

A Bryant man crashed the truck he was driving into the back of a Portland man's vehicle along county road 800 North about 6:55 a.m. Sunday.  
Toby T. Swartzentruber, 35, Bryant, was driving a 2013 Ford F-150 east on county road 800 North following behind a 2017 Chevrolet Silverado, driven by 35-year-old Christopher A. Elmore of Portland.  
Elmore stopped his vehicle, and Swartzentruber attempted to stop the vehicle he was driving. He wasn't able to stop — the road was covered in snow and ice — before crashing into the back of Elmore's truck.  
Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500. The truck Swartzentruber was driving is registered to Limberlost Construction of Geneva.

### Snow drifts

Several vehicle slide-offs were reported to Jay County Sheriff's Office during the heavy snow and windy weather at the end of December.  
Two of those accidents resulted in damage to property.  
Andrew J. Stump, 22,

Monroe, Michigan, was driving west on Indiana 18 near county road 550 West just after midnight Dec. 23 when the 2002 International RH613 he was driving struck a snow drift. The semi then hit a guard rail along the bridge and stopped in a field northwest of the road. The semi Stump was driving is registered to Sygma Network of Dublin, Ohio.  
Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.  
Trenton J. Webster, 19, Portland, was driving north on county road 350 East near county road 650 North about 5:20 a.m. Dec. 24 when he struck a large snow drift. It pulled his 2005 Chevrolet Silverado off the road, causing him to hit a fence at 6391 N. 350 East, Bryant.  
Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

### Frozen brakes

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Marion man's brakes froze, causing the semi he was driving to slide off Indiana 18 about 2:21 a.m. Dec. 26.  
Stephen E. Fetter, 60, told police he was driving a 2006 Kenworth T8 Series east on the highway near county road 550 West when his air brakes froze up. The semi's trailer went off the north side of the road, and the semi rolled onto the driver's side.  
The Kenworth — it's registered to ADT Transport of Celina, Ohio — was towed.

### Turning accident

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a vehicle collision along Indiana 1 in Jay County about 2:54 p.m. Dec. 25.  
Charles D. Hammond, 68, rural Redkey, backed his 2008 Buick LaCrosse out of the north driveway on his property onto the highway.

He started driving south on the highway toward the south driveway on his property, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report.  
Cory D. Hardcastle, 44, Converse, attempted to pass him as he started to turn left into his south driveway, causing Hammond's vehicle to strike the back of Hardcastle's 2007 Chevrolet Aveo. Hardcastle told police Hammond did not use his turning signal.

### Failed to yield

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000 after a Portland man failed to yield to oncoming traffic at the intersection of Arch and Pleasant Streets, causing a crash about 1:54 p.m. Dec. 23.  
William D. Ruiz, 21, Portland, was driving his 2012 Chevrolet Equinox west on Arch Street near the intersection with Pleasant Street when a 2010 Ford Explorer, driven by 57-year-old Shane R. Overmeyer of Portland, crashed into his car. Overmeyer told police he didn't see Ruiz's vehicle and failed to yield the right of way to Ruiz, causing a crash. (There is a stop sign on Pleasant Street but not Arch Street at the intersection.)  
Ruiz was cited with an infraction for driving without insurance or a license. His vehicle was towed.

### Struck sign

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 after an Ohio man backed the semi he was driving into a railroad crossing sign at the intersection of

Middle and Water streets about 11:53 a.m. Wednesday.  
Ahmed Abdusalman Yusuf, 38, Columbus, was driving a 2014 Freightliner Cascadia on Middle Street and missed his turn onto Water Street. He began backing the truck and trailer to turn onto Water Street and crashed into the railroad crossing light and sign.  
The semi is registered to Big City Express of Columbus.

## SERVICES

### Saturday

**Miller**, Viola: 10 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

**Buckingham**, Helen: 1 p.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

**Dalrymple**, Russell: 4 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

### Sunday

**Rogers**, Clyde: 1 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

### Thursday

**Garr**, Leslie: 1 p.m., Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 2905 Carson Ave., Indianapolis.

### Jan. 14

**Theurer**, Donald: 1:30 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by  
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## NEW SUNDAY HOURS:

**First Service**

**9:00am**

**Sunday School**

**10:00am**

**Second Service**

**11:00am**

All are welcome

**FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH**  
289 S. 200 W.  
Portland, IN

# American Airlines fined for actions

**By KYLE ARNOLD**  
The Dallas Morning News  
Tribune News Service

The U.S. Department of Labor says that American Airlines discouraged flight attendants from reporting work-related injuries and illnesses and docked attendance points for complaining about jet fuel fumes leaking into aircraft cabins.

The labor department and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration said Fort Worth-based American Airlines should pay a \$6,837 fine following an investigation started in August after employees reported illnesses. American can appeal the fine.

“Our investigation found that the flight attendants engaged in protected activities when they reported illnesses related to jet fuel fumes seeping into the aircraft cabin,” OSHA’s Area Director for Fort Worth Timothy Minor said in a statement. “Workers must feel empowered to inform

managers and others about potential hazards that jeopardize workers’ safety and health.”

American Airlines did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

According to OSHA, the agency started a whistleblower investigation in August that found American penalized flight attendants for reporting the toxic fumes. OSHA did not disclose what kinds of illnesses or injuries were reported.

Cabin fumes have been a sore point with flight attendant unions for years. The unions say repeated exposure to fumes that leak from engines and fuel are causing illnesses and even disability.

Several prominent Democrat Senators have been pushing a bill called the Cabin Air Safety Act to require the FAA to publish new rules around potential fumes in cabins, but the bill has stalled several years.

# Marriage licenses

Erika M. Tomas Lopez, 24, Portland, and Denilso A. Tomas Lucas, 20, Portland

Patrick W. Geluso, 33, Redkey, and Stephanie N. Mcavinchey, 38, Redkey

Luster R. Bales, 40, Bryant, and Carol L. Felger, 40, Bryant

Christian A. Corrao, 23, Noblesville, and Taylor R. Homan, 24, Bryant

Brian Kahn, 34, Bryant, and Caressa Runyon, 39, Redkey

Tusharkumar Babulal

Patel, 40, Portland, and Jody A. Schoonover, 47, Portland

Benjamin T. Antrim, 22, Portland, and Eryn E. Litmer, 23, Coldwater, Ohio

Dakota A. Holliday, 25, Portland, and Calista M. Kirby, 21, Portland

Taylor Price, 30, Murray, Kentucky, and Megan Taylor, 29, Murray, Kentucky

Sherry L. Rowles, 52, Portland, and Troy A. Vore, 47, Portland

# Sisters hate new boyfriend

DEAR ABBY: I dearly love my youngest daughter. She’s the only one of my four daughters who has never married. For several months, she has been living with a man who is divorced and the father of two sons.

Dear Abby



DEAR HELP: Tell this man you are flattered he wants to take you out, however, you have one hard-and-fast rule, and that rule is never to date a client. Period.

He’s a caring father. The problem is his status as a felon, for possession of drugs and fleeing the police. He served his time — about a year — and received commendations during that time. Her sisters refuse to come to my home if he’s present and won’t invite him for holidays.

My birthday is approaching, and I want her here with her sisters, but she will not come without him. I believe everyone deserves a second chance. How long should it take for her sisters and their husbands to accept him? — ACCEPTING IN NEW JERSEY

**DEAR ACCEPTING: If your daughter’s boyfriend lives a clean lifestyle, has found employment and is trying to turn his life around, your other daughters and their husbands should give him the chance to prove himself. That they refuse is sad in light of the fact that it prevents you from enjoying holidays with your entire family. However, I can’t change what’s happening, and neither can you, so celebrate with this couple separately.**

my husband and I built a small home and studios. We love living in this private space.

My question has to do with the common belief that people need people. After 50 years of being a community-involved person, a shopkeeper in a service business and an event organizer, I’m now happily retired. I love my privacy. I don’t need to go anywhere or see almost anyone (aside from family). I will help when asked, rise to the occasion, cheer on, but — is it OK to love being a hermit?

My huge network of friends seems to accept it. Occasionally, rarely, someone may stop by and I make coffee. I could live this way as long as I live. I finally have my dream. But is it too weird? — HERMIT IN WASHINGTON

**DEAR HERMIT: It’s unusual, but I don’t think it’s “weird.” One person’s dream may be another person’s nightmare; the reverse is also true. Enjoy living your dream, and do not apologize or feel guilty for it.**

DEAR ABBY: When I was 15, I was fortunate to trail-ride up a mountain with people familiar with the area. We stopped at a homestead to say hello to a man who had lived secluded there for 25 years. That’s when I first thought, “I want to be a hermit someday.” Twenty-five years ago, I bought some acreage. I spent years hand-clearing and putting in infrastructure, but eventually

I am in an awkward situation and need a diplomatic way to handle it. I own a business, and one customer is persistently asking to socialize. I always give an excuse, to no avail. He just continues to offer new dates and options. How do I get across to him that his invitations are not welcome, without jeopardizing our business relationship? — HELP NEEDED IN CALIFORNIA

# Community Calendar

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

**Today**

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

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

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

**Sunday**

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-

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

**Monday**

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

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

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

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

**PREVENTION COALITION** — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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

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

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

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

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

**Tuesday**

**JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS** — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

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

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA’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.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

**Thursday’s Solution**

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

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**WHAT’S FOR LUNCH?**

For Jay County Schools

**January 9-13**

**Monday: Main Entrees:** Chicken & waffle, breakfast syrup **Alternate Entrees:** PB&J fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Sides for all meals:** Hash brown patty

**Tuesday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheeseburger in bun **Alternate Entrees:** PB&J fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Sides for all meals:** Baked crinkle fries

**Wednesday: Main Entrees:** Mini turkey corn dogs **Alternate Entrees:** PB&J fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Sides for all meals:** glazed carrots

**Thursday: Main Entrees:** Walking beef taco **Alternate Entrees:** PB&J fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Sides for all meals:** Vegetarian refried beans

**Friday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheese pizza **Alternate Entrees:** PB&J fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Sides for all meals:** Savory green beans

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# Reach out to members of Congress

By **LEE H. HAMILTON**

The 118th Congress convened Jan. 3, and while it's impossible to know in advance what it will or won't accomplish, it's a fair bet there will be drama.

With the GOP taking control of the House, a tightly divided Senate, and a presidential election less than two years away, sending political signals will become a big part of the agenda on Capitol Hill.

It's also a fair bet that as you watch events unfold you'll find yourself wondering what use Congress serves. So before the fights get going, it's worth putting it all in perspective.

For one thing, remember that

**Lee H. Hamilton**



most members of the new Congress just came out of an unexpectedly productive session. Congress is no stranger to pitched political battles, but it can also get things done when the circumstances are right.

Still, let's step even further back. I believe wholeheartedly that the great mission of Con-

gress is not to pass a budget or to enact legislation, but to help maintain freedom in this country. We tend to think of American freedoms as those enshrined in the Bill of Rights, but there's another, equally important test: whether or not you have a legislature that is independent of the executive branch and able, however imperfectly, to reflect the will of the people.

Congress is the entry point for ordinary Americans to try to affect policy. It is accessible in ways that the executive branch — which often requires skilled lobbyists to navigate — is not. As a whole, Congress gives

Americans their voice in Washington, and without it, we do not have representative government.

For this reason, Congress is also where the conflicting views and priorities of a large, diverse, energetic country meet and often clash. That's not a bug, it's a feature of the system. When Congress is working, it forces members to negotiate and find common ground, yielding legislation that can command broad support in the country at large.

This is a very good time to get a sense of all this for yourself. Members want to take the temperature of their constituents.

So if you've got thoughts on what you do and don't want to see, this period as the new session gets under way is the right time to pass along your thoughts on where the country should be headed and what we need to do — or not do — to get there.

.....  
*Hamilton is a senior advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.*

## Title 42 is a sad substitute for policy

Las Vegas Review-Journal  
Tribune News Service

The U.S. Supreme Court did the Biden administration a favor when it ruled the White House could continue to use pandemic powers to turn away migrants who might otherwise qualify for entry. The decision makes it easier for the president to keep dawdling over the border crisis.

When the pandemic began, the Trump administration invoked Title 42, an obscure codicil of a 1944 public health law, to expel many of those entering the country illegally under the premise that the rule would help limit the spread of COVID-19. While President Joe Biden attacked Trump's "inhumane" approach at the border, he has continued and even expanded the policy rather than do the heavy lifting necessary to reach a political compromise on immigration.

The New York Times reports that Title 42 has been used 2.5 million times in the past three years.

But on what basis is it legal to use a public health emergency statute as a de facto immigration tourniquet when the public health emergency no longer exists? Many Republicans seek to keep the measure in place as a means of limiting chaos at the southern border and stanching the flow of illegal entrants. Meanwhile, the White House — while publicly vowing to end the policy — has cynically embraced Title 42 to cover its failures and avoid further political backlash for a mess of its own creation.

"This is not about the pandemic anymore," Kyle McGowan, chief of staff for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under Trump, told The Times. "This is what 20-plus years of Congress's inaction to address immigration looks like."

In December, a federal court rejected efforts by a handful of Republican governors to stop the Biden administration from terminating Title 42. Just weeks later, however, a divided Supreme Court voted to stay that ruling until it considers in February whether the governors have standing to intervene. But Justice Neil Gorsuch, who sided with the three liberal justices in the minority, saw through the ruse.

### Guest Editorial

*The issue isn't whether lifting Title 42 would worsen the problem at the border. It's whether the Biden administration has the legal authority to wield the policy long after the public health emergency has evaporated.*

"The current border crisis is not a COVID crisis," he wrote in dissent. "And courts should not be in the business of perpetuating administrative edicts designed for one emergency only because elected officials have failed to address a different emergency."

The issue isn't whether lifting Title 42 would worsen the problem at the border. It's whether the Biden administration has the legal authority to wield the policy long after the public health emergency has evaporated. Had the justices called Biden's bluff on terminating Title 42, it would have put immense pressure on the White House and Democrats to seriously engage on the immigration crisis or risk exacerbating an already untenable situation.

As it is, the justices have allowed Congress and the administration to do what they do best: kick the can farther down the road.



## Look to Washington for resolutions

By **ADAM CARRINGTON**  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

As the calendar starts anew, so we seek to begin again. We make resolutions by which we can mitigate our vices and cultivate virtues either new or in need of renewal.

For our citizenship, we can find no better advice than that given by the father of our country, President George Washington. We have, in his own handwriting, a collection of more than 100 "Rules of Civility & Decent Behaviour In Company and Conversation." Similar lists originated well before Washington and were popular as part of young people's education in the Colonies.

Washington copied these rules as a teenager. Yet more than copying on paper, Washington took these rules to mind and to heart. Charles Moore, in an introduction to a 1926 publication of the list, noted: "These maxims were so fully exemplified in George Washington's life that biographers have regarded them as formative influences in the development of his character."

Some of his advice might not be easily translatable to our own interactions. We might not need to know to "spit not in the fire," for instance. Others, however, distill truths that remain invaluable for our current political discourse.

For one, Washington copied the counsel, "Be no flatterer." To be sure, while flattery is no stranger to politics, it has increasingly become one of the grossest elements of our present moment. We see demagogues tell the masses whatever they seem to wish to hear. We witness others striving for power by tickling the ears of the most influential among us, praising them regardless of merit.

**Adam Carrington**



And we see the tendency to conform to trendy opinion regardless of truth — itself a kind of flattery.

For another, Washington learned to "(show) not yourself glad at the misfortune of another though he were your enemy." As we flatter those we want as our friends or supporters, so we often display loathing of perceived foes. Our discourse has become so rancorous that many use the personal tragedies of opponents as fodder for mockery.

Along similar lines, Washington's rules advise: "When you see a crime punished, you may be inwardly pleased; but always (show) pity to the suffering offender." This perspective seeks to maintain the needed line between vengeance and authentic justice. The government should seek right but to do so calmly, deliberately and dispassionately. We have due process for defendants for this reason.

Washington also copied various counsels to respect both our equals and elders, whether that be in age or status. Especially in our online discourse, we hardly respect anyone. We must regain that decorum that sees the dignity in all.

One in his list says: "Undertake not to teach your equal in the art himself professes; it flavours of arrogance." Yet we tend to become immediate experts on whatever social or political matter about which everyone is commenting. This point can take a particularly

personal turn as well. Instead of writing articles on how to argue with our parents, uncles or grandparents at holiday gatherings, we might consider how we can learn from them again.

Moreover, we learn from these rules when and how to speak about political matters in the advice, "In all causes of passion admit reason govern." Our politics often lets passion rule and calls doing so courageous. But such a response really shows a lack of self-government. Along these lines, Washington copied, "Use no reproachful language against anyone neither curse nor revile." That advice does not mean we should avoid stating our opinion and doing so forcefully.

These points also remind us of the link between argument and life. We should not critique an argument on which we, too, are blameworthy — "for example is more prevalent than precepts." Also, in not cursing or reviling, we shouldn't let our political discourse descend into the equivalent of tabloid gossip. "Be not hasty to believe flying reports to the disparagement of any," including political foes.

Washington's last rule provided a fitting ending to the characteristics displayed in the preceding list: "Labor to keep alive in your breast that little spark of celestial fire call conscience." We should make the same commitment.

We must not let the worst passions, words and actions define us as individuals and as a people. In cultivating our conscience, we maintain our dedication to justice, to truth — and, yes — to civility.

.....  
*Carrington is an associate professor of politics at Hillsdale College in Hillsdale, Michigan.*

# The Commercial Review



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# Transparency, flexibility are top of mind

By **ARCELIA MARTIN**  
The Dallas Morning News  
Tribune News Service

The past year has been rife with evolving ideas about what future workplaces might look like. There's been a shift in what workers expect from their jobs and who those workers are.

Employees are no longer interested in burning the midnight oil, said Mandy Price, co-founder and CEO of Kanarys, a tech company that provides organizations with diversity, equity and inclusion data.

"What we've already seen is a more human-centric approach when we start to think about workforces," Price said.

The Dallas Morning News spoke to a half dozen experts and employers on workplace trends expected for the upcoming year. In 2023, more workers will demand pay transparency and flexibility, while employers plan to invest in their existing talent and work to understand a new generation joining a more virtual workforce.

## Upskilling

Companies are looking to invest in existing employees rather than hiring new ones. From the thousands of groups Kanarys has been tracking and CEOs they've been following, Price said business leaders are planning to upskill.

"They already have so much institutional knowledge about the organization," Price said. "And [companies] want to be able to invest in their current workforce."

As new innovations and advancements change what's needed from different jobs, there is a need for upskilling, Bryan Daniel, chairman of the Texas Workforce Commission, said at a December Dallas Regional Chamber event.

Daniel points to a mismatch between the skills employers need and those in workers' tool sheds, ranging from managerial abilities to software maintenance. Investing in Texas' existing workforce will be beneficial to the state's growth, he said, as the state competes to retain talent.

"There are 49 states trying to get the jobs that Texas employers



Tribune News Service/The Dallas Morning News/Vernon Bryant

Kanarys co-founders Star Carter (left), chief operating officer, and Mandy Price, CEO, pose for a portrait at their office in 2020 in Dallas. Kanarys is a Dallas tech startup that provides a platform for employees to anonymously review a company and also a service to companies to promote better diversity, equity and inclusion.

have created, all the time," Daniel said.

Ed Curtis, the founder of YTexas, a network aimed at supporting companies moving or expanding to Texas, said better communication with young people about the needs and skills that are newly required, ahead of their embarking on careers, can help fill holes in the workforce.

"Texas is in a good position when it comes to available workforce and meeting the needs of the companies that are coming here and expanding," Curtis said.

## Gen Z becomes a force

By 2025, more than a fourth of the workforce will be Gen Z, or people born between 1997 and 2012. The younger cohort of workers is more vocal and diverse than its predecessors. The group is prioritizing pay and work-life balance. The generation expects something completely different in the work-

force than the generations before them, Price said.

Gen Z workers are struggling with financial anxiety and pushing for more purposeful and flexible work, according to a Deloitte Gen Z and Millennial report surveying 14,808 Gen Zs and 8,412 millennials.

Those who were satisfied with their employers' societal and environmental impact said they are more likely to want to stay with their employers, according to the Deloitte report. r jobs in less than a year, compared with 40% of all employees, according to a report by Lever, a software company tracking hiring.

Those who were satisfied with their employers' societal and environmental impact said they are more likely to want to stay with their employer, according to the Deloitte report.

"They're not looking to be at an organization and be there long term for 20, 30 years," Price said

of Gen Z workers. "The way they think of the workforce and their place in it is just very, very different."

## Flexible hours

Since the start of the pandemic, the number of women in the workforce has yet to rebound.

To retain employees, companies will need to find ways to support workers and their caregiving responsibilities. More than one-fourth of women said the biggest career obstacle is taking time off for caregiving and lack of affordable child care, according to a GOBankingRates survey. Caregiving is an emerging group 12% of companies are tracking, a Synidio report found.

"There will be pushback around how to balance those caregiving responsibilities with the requirements of actually being in office," Price said. "Companies need to either provide a hybrid or work-from-home

option."

The United Kingdom kicked off a six-month, four-day workweek pilot program earlier this year that had promising mid-point figures. While U.S. companies overall are further from considering a four-day week, a California congressman introduced a bill to reduce the standard 40-hour workweek to 32 hours.

More traditional industries like financial services and manufacturing are mostly back in person, while industries like tech are hybrid and more willing to try new approaches.

With hybrid work models becoming more widely adapted, large headquarter spaces are likely to decline and companies will opt for smaller offices and sublease their space.

The percentage of remote-job listings on LinkedIn reached an all-time high of 20% in February 2022. By October, only 1 out of 7 job postings in the country offered remote work, according to LinkedIn Economic Graph data. While the number of remote positions has slowed down, it's still up nearly 10-fold from remote work's share of LinkedIn job posts in January 2020.

## Pay transparency

More states across the country are adopting pay transparency laws, requiring employers to give clear salary information to candidates upfront. California, Colorado and New York City are among the areas now required to post a salary range with a job listing.

More than two-thirds of U.S. employees want more transparency from their companies about pay practices, according to a report by Lattice, a performance and compensation management service platform. More than half of workers surveyed said companies should disclose everyone's salary. Price said whether or not pay transparency is legislated within Texas, the other major cities' and states requiring posted salary ranges will influence local employers as they compete for talent.

"It's going to have an organic ripple effect that we're going to start to see throughout the nation," Price said.



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1-7 CRYPTOQUIP

WL O GZWPWMD AESMUZHOPWHU
XUZU PE MWSAUZUTN TEHU O
GYTTLWVDPUZ, XEYTF O PEZN
OFEZU O PEZUOFEZ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT WOULD ONE CALL AN ABNORMAL, GREAT FEAR OF USING COMPUTER SHORTCUT COMMANDS? MACRO-PHOBIA.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: U equals E

Trivial Review (Answers are printed below, upside down.)
Collegiate questions
1) AddRan Male and Female College is now known by what name?
2) What Heisman Trophy winner ran for 202 yards in the national title game against Georgia?

1-9 CRYPTOQUIP

AB QGYQKG BAKKGO WGREJ'
FEQAWEK PAWC E NXZFC YB
GRWUE OGFYUEWAYZJ, PYKKO
AW NG EXJWAZ-WEWAYXJ?
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF A BRITISH CONSERVATIVE WERE TO SINCERELY LOVE A BULLFIGHTER, WOULD A TORY ADORE A TOREADOR?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals P

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to getting organized.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
A. 1 23 4 5 11 13
B. 4 16 11 25 6 20 24 7
C. 3 25 8 4 11 13
D. 4 8 18 13

WORD SCRAMBLE
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to organization.
LFDERO

Guess Who?
I am a singer born in Boston on January 1, 1995. I became a star through my Twitter and YouTube social media channels. I post vlogs and music videos, and have been doing so since 2011. My real name is Moriah.

kids' corner
Illustration of a child's desk with a laptop, calculator, and books.

SCIENCE FACT:
THIS COMPONENT OF A COMPUTER IS ESSENTIALLY ITS "BRAIN." IT TELLS OTHER COMPONENTS WHAT TO DO.

Math Blocks
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
1911: KAPPA ALPHA PSI, THE WORLD'S THIRD OLDEST AND LARGEST BLACK FRATERNITY, IS FOUNDED AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY.
1914: THE FORD MOTOR COMPANY ANNOUNCES AN 8-HOUR WORKDAY AND MINIMUM DAILY WAGE OF \$5.
1972: PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON ANNOUNCES THE SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM.

CONQUER CLUTTER WORD SEARCH

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

- WORDS
CABINET
CATEGORY
CLEANING
CLOSET
CLUTTER
COLLECT
COORDINATE
DISARRAY
DISTRIBUTE
DONATION
GARBAGE
GROUP
HOARD
LABEL
LEAD
LISTS
MESS
MOBILIZE
ORDER
ORGANIZE
PLANNING
SCHEDULE
SHELVING
SORT

How they say that in...
ENGLISH: Clean
SPANISH: Limpio
ITALIAN: Pulito
FRENCH: Propre
GERMAN: Sauber

Get Scrambled
Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.
PCUREOTM FSEIL
Answer: Computer files

New word
CACHE
a type of computer memory with high-speed retrieval time

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Conceit 20 Comic
1 Chairman of China 37 —
4 Grate 38 Close
8 Roller coaster 45 Lotion
12 Swiss peak 46 Author
13 Sheltered 47 Nipper's co.
14 Steerer's place 48 Apple
15 Numbered rd. 49 It takes the cake
16 — -do- well 50 "La-la" lead-in
17 Send forth 51 Ha-rangue
18 Fruits in jam recipes 52 Ernie's "Sesame Street"
21 Shack 53 NBC weekend show
22 Granola grain 54 "Hulk" director Lee
23 Comforter cover 55 Chic again
Solution time: 26 mins.
Yesterday's answer 1-7

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14
15 16 17
18 19 20
21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32
33 34 35
36 37
38 39 40 41 42 43 44
45 46 47
48 49 50
51 52 53

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

It seems impossible
East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH: A 10 6, A 7, K 9 8 2, A 9 3 2
WEST: K 8 7, K Q 10, 6 4, K Q J 8 7
EAST: Q 9 5 3, J 6 5 2, 7 5, 10 6 5
SOUTH: J 4 2, 9 8 4 3, A Q J 10 3, 4
The bidding: East Pass, South 1 NT, West Pass, North 2 NT.
Opening lead — king of clubs.
It's not easy to make five diamonds on this deal, even if you look at all four hands. However, South made the contract with only the North-South cards in view, and, furthermore, the defenders could do nothing to stop him.
West led the king of clubs. South realized that since there was no way to avoid a heart loser, the outcome would depend on losing only one spade trick.
This would have been easy to manage had West held both missing honors, but South found a way to hold himself to one spade loser even though the spade honors were split. He accomplished this feat by a maneuver called a guard squeeze, which gained him the extra spade trick he needed.
He won the club lead with the ace and played the ace and another heart. West won with the queen and returned the queen of clubs, which South ruffed. After trumping a heart in dummy and a club in his hand, declarer ruffed his last heart in dummy and drew two rounds of trump, producing this position:
North: A 10 6, 9
West: K 8 7, J
East: Q 9 5 3
South: J 4 2, J
When declarer now led the jack of trump, West could not afford to part with the jack of clubs, so he discarded a spade. South thereupon discarded dummy's nine of clubs and led a low spade, covering West's eight with the ten. East won with the queen and returned a spade, on which South played low. West's now-singleton king was taken by dummy's ace, and the jack of spades scored the game-going trick.
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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand
East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH: A K 10, K 10 9 5 4, K 10 8 2, 6 2
WEST: Q 9 5 4 2, J 7 6 3, 4, 10 8 4
EAST: J 8 6, A 2, Q J 6, Q J 9 7 5
SOUTH: 7 3, K Q 8, A 9 7 5 3, A K 3
The bidding: East 1 NT, South Pass, West Pass, North 3 NT.
Opening lead — four of spades.
A defender must be ready at all times to seize any opportunity presented to him. Once he has done so, he must then be careful not to relinquish the advantage he has gained.
Consider this deal from the final of the 1988 Spingold Teams. South was world and national champion Paul Soloway, pitted against Bart Bramley and Lou Bluhm.
Bluhm led a low spade against three notrump, and Soloway elected to play the ten. This play — which might have been right on another lie of the cards — proved to be the only break Bramley needed, and he exploited it to the hilt.
After his jack of spades held, Bramley reasoned that West could not have more than two points in addition to the queen of spades. He was already known to hold. There was consequently no point in returning the suit, since West would have no entry to his spades after they became good. So Bramley shifted to a low club, and from then on, declarer was fighting a losing battle.
Soloway ducked the club, won the club continuation and crossed to the king of diamonds in order to lead a heart. But Bramley, fully on top of the situation, rose with the ace and returned a club, dislodging South's remaining stopper.
Soloway cashed the K-Q of hearts, hoping the jack would fall. He then tried the ace of diamonds. When that suit also failed to break, leaving him with just eight tricks, he had to go down one.
Note that if Bramley had ducked the first heart lead, declarer would have won and established his diamonds to secure nine tricks.
At the other table, Michael Becker also received a spade lead against three notrump but elected to win the trick with the ace. He then led a heart. Here East could not gain by taking the ace, since South still had two club stoppers. After East ducked, declarer switched to diamonds, and the contract was assured.
Tomorrow: The one that got away.
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 35 Leak out slowly 55 Painter's stand 8 Trifling
1 Tampa Bay NFLer 36 Exams for future attys. 56 Tic-tac-toe win 9 Muffin variety
4 In progress 38 Sushi choice 57 Bumped into 10 Actress Falco
9 Favorite 40 Off-pierced body part 58 Stock unit 11 Look after
12 Rowboat need 41 Siestas 59 Tri-umphed 16 — out a living
13 "Treasure" singer 43 Put on a clothes-line 60 Corp. VIP
14 Praise in verse 45 "The Woman in Me" singer 4 Monasteries 21 Bar 22 Marriage vows
15 Muffin variety 47 Snitch 48 Ages and ages 49 Muffin variety 54 Big bird 1 Short do 2 "Friendly skies" co. 3 French vineyard 27 Exploit 29 Blacken Ole — 30 Grand Ole — 32 Ollie's pal 34 Student 37 Nutmeg and cinnamon, e.g. 39 Apt 42 Abraham's wife 44 Hwy. 45 Appear 46 Abode 50 Red — beet 51 Squabble 52 Kangas' kid 53 Thither

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14
15 16 17
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21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30
31 32 33 34 35
36 37 38 39 40
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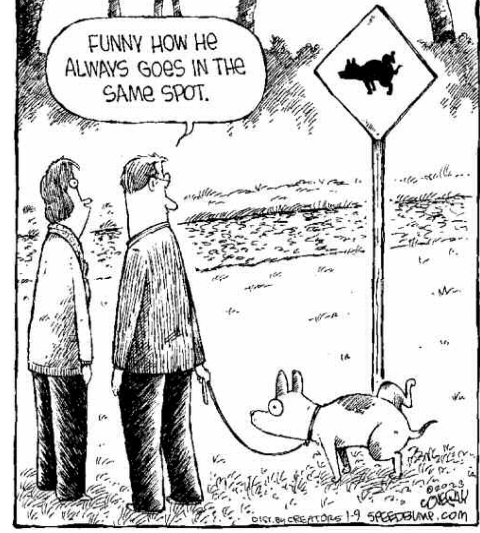
**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



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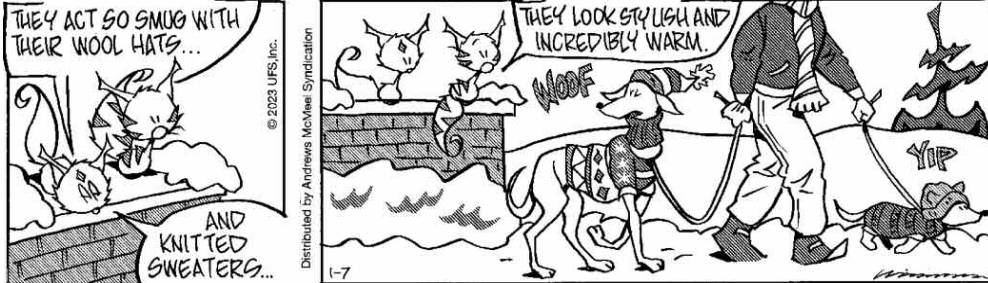
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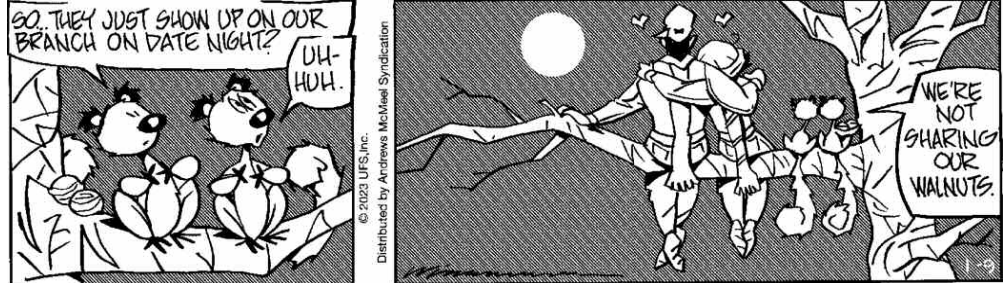
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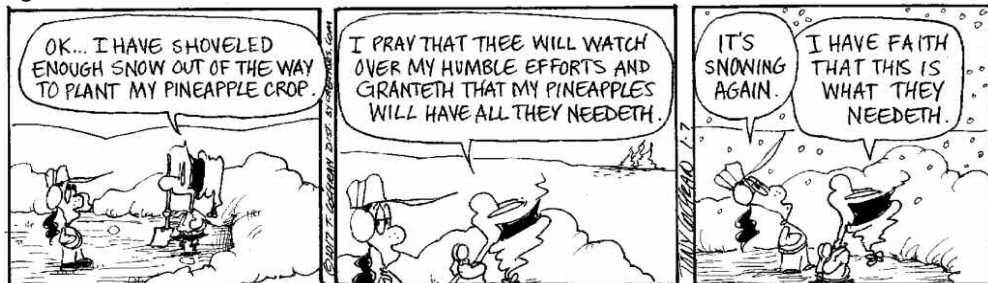
**Rose is Rose**



**Rose is Rose**



**Agnes**



**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



**Between Friends**



**Blondie**



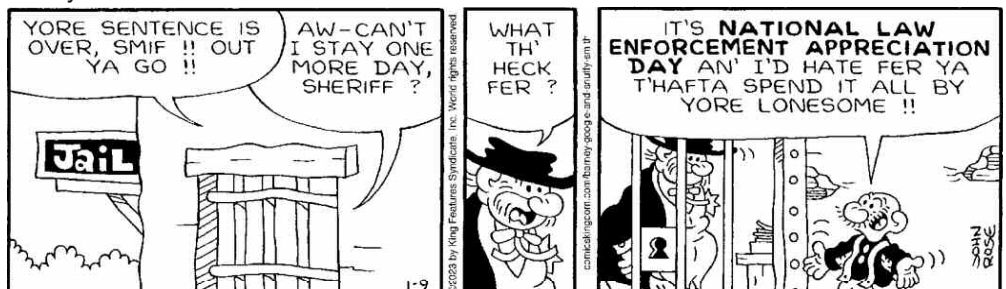
**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**Beetle Bailey**



**We Deliver**

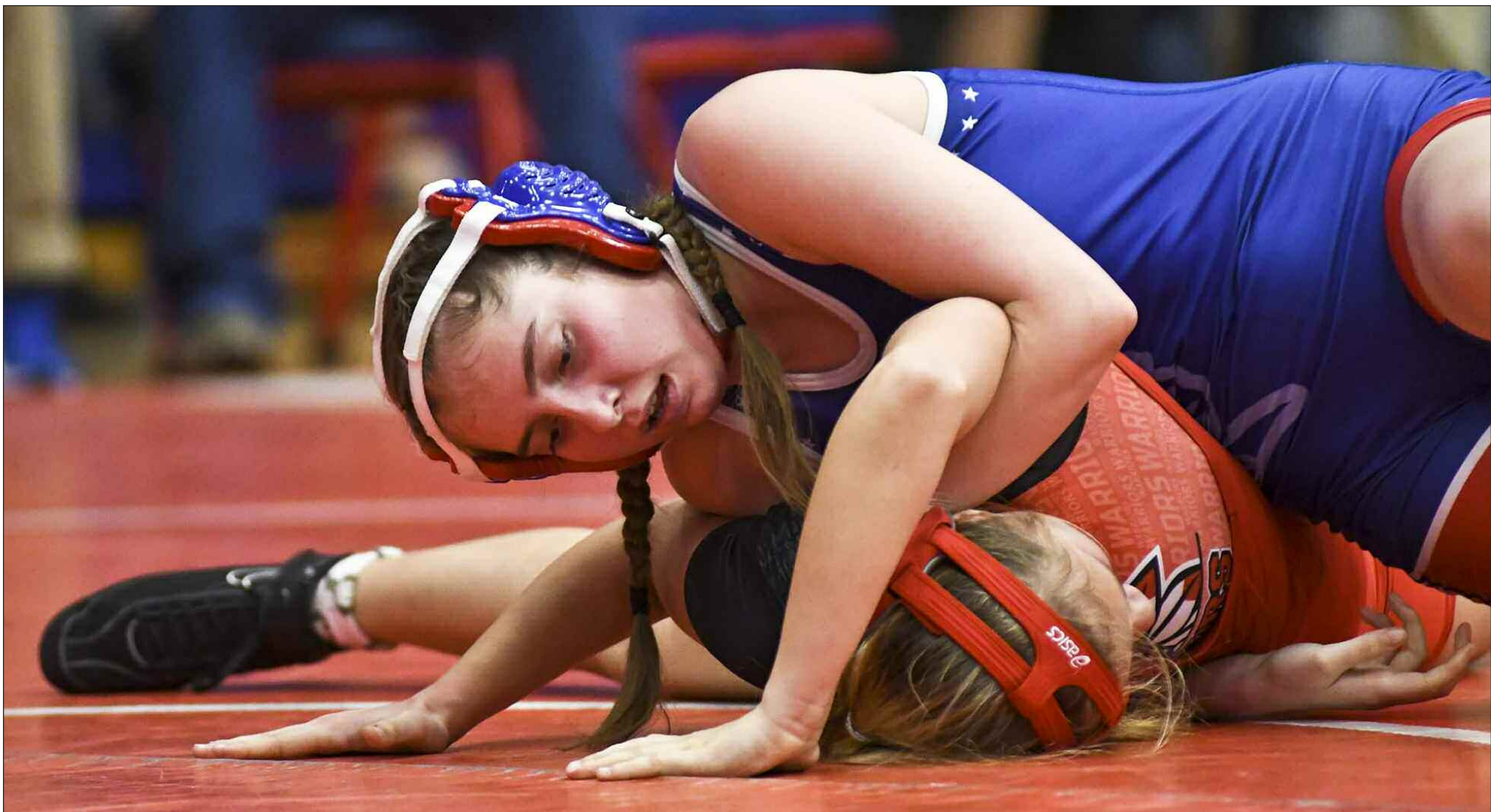
Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

**Laughter**

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*







The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Emily Manor of Jay County tries to force North Miami's Lindsey Pugh to the mat during their opening round match of Friday's Indiana High School Girls Wrestling Northeast Regional. Manor would get the pin, as well as two more, to finish as the 132-pound runner-up and earn a state berth.

## Champions ...

Continued from page 10  
Williams won all of her matches by pin, defeating Kaylynne Seitz of Wayne in 55 seconds in the quarterfinal round and Allie Pinkerton of Northfield in 52 seconds in the semifinals.

Winner, who entered the tournament ranked fourth in the state at 160 pounds, won a regional championship rematch against top-ranked Grace Hiroms of Rochester. The wrestlers spent most of the first period tying up before Hiroms tried to set up a single-leg shot that Winner was able to fight off.

Hiroms took the lead with a quick escape in the second peri-

od, but Winner was able to catch her in a headlock for a near fall and a 5-1 lead. After going out of bounds, Winner was able to work a half nelson for a pin in 3:48.

"It was great for her to kind of solidify that she's back," said Myers of the sophomore, who suffered a broken leg in the off-season. "She looked great. ... I felt like it was pretty definitive. She was able to throw her to her back, and then once they went out of bounds she was able to come back in and turn her again. It was a great tournament for Mal."

Manor ran into a buzzsaw in the finals and was unable to

keep up with third-ranked Ella Gahl of Northfield, losing by pin in 35 seconds. But she earned her second-place finish and trip to the state finals with three consecutive pins over North Miami's Lindsey Pugh, East Noble's Michie Richards and Tri-Central's MaKayela Philapy.

"Emily wrestled great today for her to get to the final and qualify for state," said Myers. "She's wrestling a little bit up. She's a little bit light for 132. But she wrestles so aggressively she negates some of that weight disadvantage."

Winning their final matches of the evening to take third place for the Patriots were

Chowning by pin over Emma Roe of Western, Lingo by a 3-0 decision over Natalie Spidel of East Noble and Affolder with a pin of Vivian Parke of Columbia City.

Rowles, who is ranked ninth, dropped her third-place match by pin to Rochester's eighth-ranked Lilly Gerald, who she had also lost two in her opening match of the night. And Maleah Parsons finished fourth as she lost the third-place match to Taylor's Alexandra Collins.

Dakota Chowning was third in the 120A bracket and then defeated Farley in the fifth-place match.

The dream of state berths

came to an end with losses by pin in the consolation semifinals for each of the following Patriots:

- Tatianna Willis (113) to Kendyll Bradley of Rochester
- No. 9 Jayla Huelskamp (120) to Lorraine Farley of Muncie Central

- Willow Hardy (126) to teammate Lina Lingo

- Janae Jacobs (138) to Flarity Harder of Jimtown

- Haley Ridenour (145) to Amirah Marciniak of Kokomo

- Lilly Lothrdige (132), who was a 2022 state qualifier, dropped out with a 7-3 loss to Amber Blackburn of Rochester in the consolation quarterfinals.

## Tribe streak ends

FORT RECOVERY — For the first time in a month, the Indians walked away disappointed.

The Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team's winning streak finally came to an end Friday as it fell 55-49 to the St. John's Blue Jays.

The tribe had won its previous six games, defeated Parkway, Bradford, Versailles, Ansonia, Lincolnview and Arcanum in succession.

FRHS (8-2, 2-1 Midwest Athletic Conference) fell behind 13-9 and went on

to trail at the end of every period. It was down just one at halftime before looking at a four-point deficit through three quarters. Freshman Cameron Elwer led St. John's (6-2, 2-1 MAC) as it held off the Indians as he scored nine of his game-high 25 points in the final eight minutes.

Elwer had at least six points in each of the final three quarters and was a perfect 4-for-4 from the foul line in the fourth. Landen Grothaus followed with 15 points for the Blue Jays.

Cale Rammel scored 19

points to pace Fort Recovery. (He had scored at least 25 points in each of the Tribe's last six games.) Daniel Patch hit a pair of 3-pointers as he followed with 14 points.

Fort Recovery dropped the junior varsity game, 54-33. Briggs Overman had 17 points to lead the Indians (5-5), who were outscored 34-14 in the opening half. Gavin Evers and Caden Grisez each added 10 points.

The Indians will have a chance to rebound quickly as they are back in action tonight visiting Botkins.

## 400 ...

Continued from page 10  
Her 62 points this week pushed her to a career total of 1,576, surpassing 1959 Bryant High School graduate Richard Masters (1,574) on the county's all-time scoring list. The only play she still trails from the pre-consolidation era is Greg Bales, a 1972 Redkey High School graduate who scored 1,723 career points.

Sophie Saxman followed with six points and seven rebounds for the Patriots.

Jay County will be back in action Tuesday when it hosts Heritage in the opening round of the Allen County Athletic Conference Tournament. (The boys teams will play at 6 p.m. with the girls teams to follow.)

The Patriots rolled in the junior varsity game Friday, defeating Bluffton 45-11.

Alexis Sibray led the way with 10 points and Cassie Petro added eight.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Wrestling hosts IHSWCA Class 2A Dual State Meet — 9 a.m.; Swimming hosts Jay County Invitational — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. Adams Central — 6:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball (including freshman) at Botkins — 4:30 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Junior high boys basketball at Hagerstown — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Middle school boys basketball vs. Union City — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at Union City — 6:15 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Swimming at Yorktown — 6 p.m.; Boys basketball Allen County Athletic Conference Tournament opener vs. Heritage — 6 p.m.; Girls basketball Allen County Athletic Conference Tournament opener vs. Heritage — 7:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Muncie Northside — 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Middle school boys basketball vs. Arcanum — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at Coldwater — 5 p.m.

**TV sports**

**Today**  
11:30 a.m. — Men's college basket-

ball: Notre Dame at North Carolina (ESPN2)

Noon — Men's college basketball: Vanderbilt at Missouri (CBS); Nebraska at Minnesota (BTN); Davidson at Virginia Commonwealth (USA)

1 p.m. — High school football: All-American Bowl (NBC)  
4 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour — Sentry Tournament of Champions (NBC)

4 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Michigan State at Ohio State (BTN)  
4:30 p.m. — NFL football: Kansas City Chiefs at Las Vegas Raiders (ABC/ESPN)

6:30 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Notre Dame at Wisconsin (BTN)  
8:15 p.m. — NFL football: Tennessee Titans at Jacksonville Jaguars (ABC/ESPN)  
10 p.m. — Auto racing: AMA Super-cross — Monster Energy Series (USA)

**Sunday**  
1 p.m. — NFL football: Houston Texans at Indianapolis Colts (CBS); Minnesota Vikings at Chicago Bears (FOX)

2 p.m. — College football: Football Championship Series — North Dakota State at South Dakota State (ABC)

4 p.m. — NFL football: Dallas Cowboys at Washington Commanders (FOX)

4 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour — Sentry Tournament of Champions (NBC)

5 p.m. — NBA basketball: Charlotte Hornets at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)

8 p.m. — Soccer: Liga MX — Tigres UANL at Santos Laguna (FS1)

8:15 p.m. — NFL football: Detroit Lions at Green Bay Packers (NBC)

**Monday**  
7:30 p.m. — College football: National championship — Georgia vs. TCU (ESPN)

**Tuesday**  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Butler at St. John's (FS1)  
6:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Michigan at Purdue (BTN)

7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Detroit Pistons at Philadelphia 76ers (TNT)  
8 p.m. — NHL hockey: Calgary Flames at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)

8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Seton Hall at Georgetown (FS1)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Illinois at Nebraska (BTN)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Golden State Warriors (TNT)

10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wyoming at Utah State (FS1)

**Wednesday**  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at New York Knicks (Bally Indiana); Milwaukee Bucks at Atlanta Hawks (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Nashville Predators at Toronto Maple Leafs (TNT)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Denver Nuggets (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NHL hockey: San Jose Sharks at Los Angeles Kings (TNT)

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# Sports

## Regional champions

*Titles from Winner and Williams lead Patriots to the crown*

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

The goal is always more. More wins, more qualifiers, more champions, more points. On Friday night, the Patriots proved to be more than any other team in the region could handle. Kiley Williams and Mallory Winner each won championships and five of their teammates joined them as state qualifiers to lead host Jay County to the championship in the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling Northeast Regional.

"It's amazing," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "That was one of the girls' goals from the very start was to win a team regional and to win a team state. So we got half of it done. We've got the other to get to next week."

Jay County scored 196 points, easily outdistancing runner-up Rochester (145) among the 35 scoring teams in the regional. Kokomo was third with 139.

Joining Williams and Winner at state — the tournament will be held Friday at Mooresville — are regional runner-up Emily Manor as well as No. 9 Katie Rowles (98), Lina Lingo (126), Maleah Parsons (152) and Mattie Affolder (250), who all made their way through the consolation bracket to earn their state berths.

"That's awesome," said Myers.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Tenth-ranked Kiley Williams of host Jay County runs a half nelson against Tri-Central's Abbie Cardwell during the 182-pound championship match Friday at the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling Northeast Regional. Williams defeated Cardwell by pin to win the match, joining teammate Mallory Winner as a regional champion.

"We're pretty pumped with seven through."

"But I'm sure we can think of a handful we'd still like to have through. We're really pumped for those girls who made it through but still feeling for some of those girls who didn't quite make it."

The top four wrestlers in each weight class earned state berths.

Williams, a first-year wrestler for the Patriots who was ranked 10th in the state at 182 pounds, faced off with Abbie Cardwell of Tri-Central in the finals, scoring a takedown at the 51-second mark. She worked it to a half

nelson that she ran and ran and ran until finally finishing off Cardwell with just six seconds remaining in the opening period.

"That's one of the things we try to push for the girls is to be persistent," said Myers, "not just let up at the first sign of

resistance. Just keep pushing. She was able to do that and get that girl to turn that half."

"She just does a lot of things naturally well," he added. "For her to come out and get a regional title in her first year wrestling, it's pretty awesome."

See **Champions** page 9

## Comer gets No. 400

BLUFFTON — Make it 400.

The Class 3A No. 5 Jay County High School girls basketball team delivered a milestone victory for coach Kirk Comer — it was the 400th win of his career — as it rolled to a 60-35 victory over the Bluffton Tigers.

Comer now has a 400-205 career record, with 213 of those victories coming in his two stints at Jay County. He has also coached at Daleville, Union City (girls and boys), Winchester and Monroe Central.

The victory Friday was never in doubt

as the Patriots (14-1), whose only loss came by a 45-44 score in overtime to Class 3A No. 7 Hamilton Heights on Nov. 12, as they built a 22-7 lead by the end of the first quarter. Bluffton managed to pull to within 10 at halftime, but JCHS pushed its lead back to 49-29 and then cruised to the 25-point triumph.

The program's all-time scoring leader, Renna Schwieterman, recorded her second consecutive 30-point game, torching Bluffton for 32 points. (She scored 30 in Tuesday's 62-48 victory over Concordia.)

See **400** page 9

## Snow third for Jay Co.

Teams got the opportunity to get an early jump on the scoring Friday night.

The Patriot girls will enter swimming action in second place.

Maddy Snow's third-place finish led the way for Jay County High School in hosting the diving portion of the Jay County Invitational.

"I think they did really well for what I asked them to do and how to get ready for the dive meet and try to be focused," said JCHS assistant coach for diving Sawyer Weitzel, though she acknowledged nerves likely still came into play as the invitational marked the first 11-dive meet for the girls.

The meet continues today with swimming at 10 a.m.

Snow put herself in third place with a strong first five dives before slipping to fourth in the semifinals. But she was able to climb back, taking third place with 290.75 points.

The sophomore trailed only Abby Sneed (370.8) of Oak Hill and Taylor Heaston (328.4) of Centerville.

Oak Hill had four of the top seven divers for a 23-point lead over the Patriots heading into today's action.

Anastasiya Fomina, an exchange student from Ukraine, added a seventh-place finish with 154.3 points. Fort Recovery's Abby Knapke was behind her in ninth with 131.95.

Brasen Glassford was sixth for the Patriot boys



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School sophomore Maddy Snow tucks high above the water while competing Friday in the diving portion of the Jay County Invitational. Snow finished in third place. The invitational continues today with swimming beginning at 10 a.m.

after the semifinal round before falling to a seventh-place finish. He totaled 166.95 points, less than two behind seventh place Luke Hertenstein of St. Marys. Grant Cates of Oak Hill ran away with the meet, shattering the Jay County pool record with 554.5 points. He broke the previous mark of 531.05 held by JCHS graduate Caleb Bye. Oak Hill's Maddux Boswell was a distant second with 280.35 points.



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