

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Proposal offered to help revamp zoning

Code was identified for changes to encourage investment

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

As part of its process of creating a downtown economic development plan, Portland Redevelopment Commission identified areas of the zoning ordinance that could be changed to encourage investment.

On Friday, consultant Ed Curtin of CWC Latitudes presented the commission with a proposal from Rundell Ernstberger Associates regarding rewriting the city's zoning code. The process, as proposed by the firm, would be completed in three phases with a total cost of \$141,000.

The redevelopment commission as part of its process of creating a downtown economic plan identified several areas of the code that could be revised to encourage investment in the downtown area. They included reducing the required lot size — most existing lots do not conform to the ordinance — and making upstairs apartments an accepted use.

City attorney Wes Schemenaur noted that in talking with John Hemmelgarn and Pati McLaughlin of Jay/Portland Building and Planning, the department also has identified various other areas of the zoning ordinance that need to be addressed.

See Zoning page 2

Taking the plunge

Splashin' with a Passion is Saturday

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The temperatures may not be quite polar Saturday.

But they will be plenty chilly enough to make the plunge worthwhile.

Portland Fire Department and United Way of Jay County are teaming to host the inaugural Splashin' with a Passion: Peggy's Plunge at 12:15 p.m. Saturday.

"The fire department has been talking about trying to do something for the last couple of years because the closest one is in Muncie," said Portland Fire Chief Mike Weitzel.

The plunge — a chance to jump into icy cold water in the dead of winter — is open to anyone. Participants are asked to seek pledges, with all of the money raised going to United Way of Jay County to be passed on to organizations including Jay County Special Olympics, Jay County Cancer Society and Jayland Homeless Shelter.

Venturing into the chilly water — Saturday's high temperature is projected at 37 degrees — will happen in three cycles. A family splash will be at 12:15 p.m., with an individual splash at 12:25 p.m. and a group splash at 12:35 p.m.

There will be awards for the best costume, most money raised by an individual and most money raised by a student.

Pledge sheets are available on the Portland Fire Department website, at the department (1616 N. Franklin St.), the United Way of Jay County office inside John Jay Center for Learning, Strohl Appliance and Electronics and Ja-Mar T.V. Appliances and Bedding. Anyone bringing in \$100 or more in donations will receive a free T-shirt.

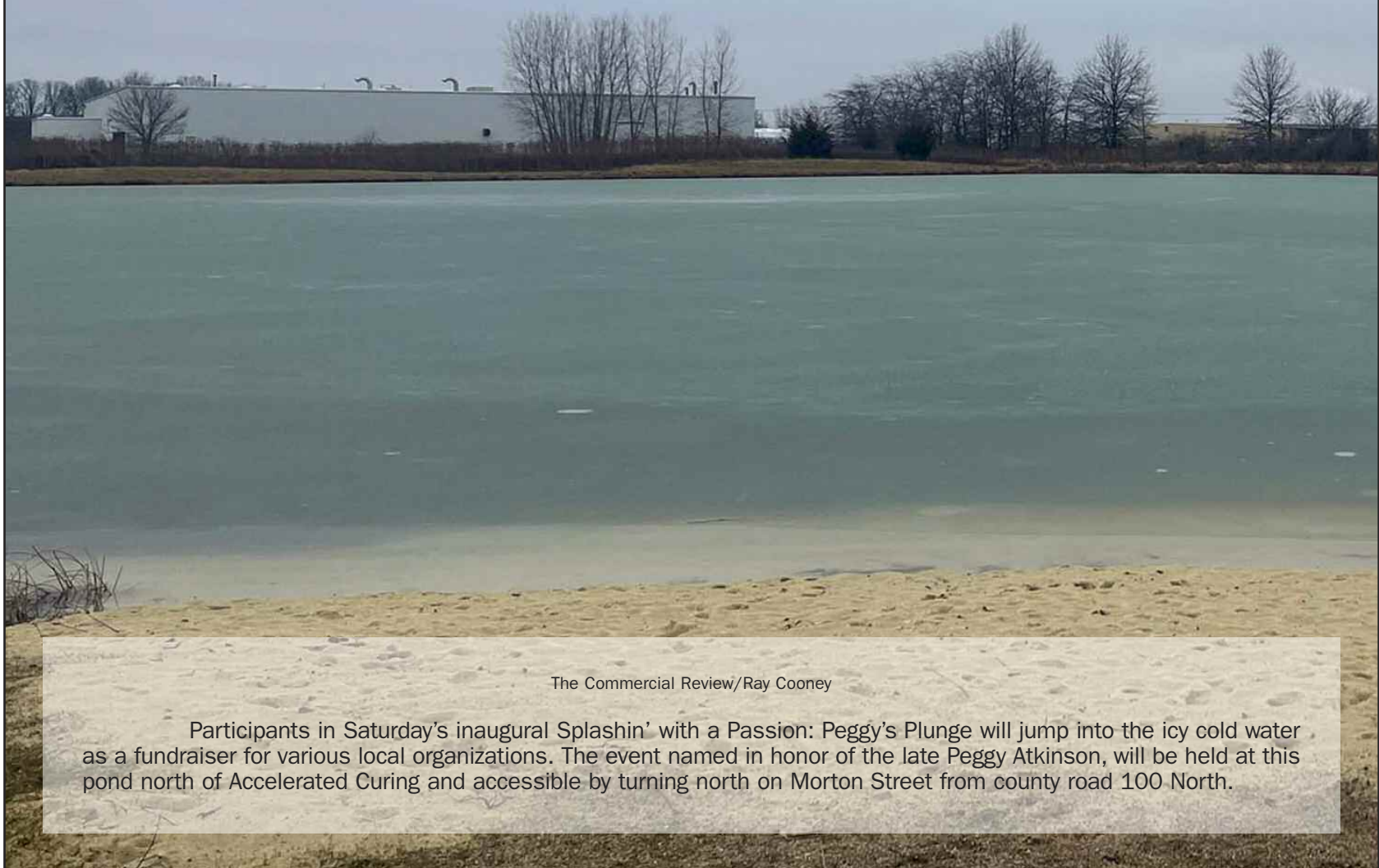
The event is named in honor of Peggy Atkinson, who died

in July at the age of 51. She was active with Jay County Special Olympics, for which her son Kurtis is an athlete.

"We thought it would be a good idea, as much as she supported Special Olympics," said Weitzel.

The event — volunteers will be there about 11 a.m., with the first of three plunges set for 12:15 p.m. — will be held at the pond directly north of Accelerated Curing on the north side of Portland. (On Monday morning, there was still a thin layer of ice coating most of its surface.)

See Plunge page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Participants in Saturday's inaugural Splashin' with a Passion: Peggy's Plunge will jump into the icy cold water as a fundraiser for various local organizations. The event named in honor of the late Peggy Atkinson, will be held at this pond north of Accelerated Curing and accessible by turning north on Morton Street from county road 100 North.

Iran distances itself; Biden vows response

By PATRICK SYKES

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Iran sought to distance itself from a deadly attack on a U.S. base in Jordan by Tehran-backed militants, as President Joe Biden faced mounting pressure to respond fiercely against the Islamic Republic.

"Resistance groups in the region do not take orders from the Islamic Republic of Iran," Foreign Ministry Spokesman Nasser Kanaani said on Monday. He was referring to what's often called the "axis of resistance" — a network of militias in territories from Yemen to Iraq and Gaza that are funded by Tehran and share its opposition to the U.S. and Israel.

Accusations that Iran was involved in the weekend drone assault that killed three American soldiers and wounded dozens are "baseless," he said.

The troops were the first Americans to die from a Middle East attack since regional tensions were inflamed by the start of the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza last October. While the U.S. did not directly blame Iran, Biden said the White House knew it "was carried out by radical Iran-backed militant groups operating in Syria and Iraq."



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Majid Saeedi

Iranian missiles exhibited in a park on Jan. 20 in Tehran, Iran. Iran has been a key player in several overlapping regional conflicts, with its recent airstrikes in Iraq, Syria and Pakistan, and its support of Hamas in Gaza, Hezbollah in Lebanon, and the Houthi movement in Yemen.

"We will hold all those responsible to account at a time and in a manner of our choosing," he said.

Oil initially rose 1.5% on Monday, with Brent climbing above \$84 a barrel, though it later pared almost all those gains. Iran's currency, the rial, fell to its weakest

level on the black market since the start of the Israel-Hamas war, according to Bonbast.com, a website that tracks the exchange rate.

U.S. response

Washington's response will be stronger than its most recent retaliations against Iranian prox-

ies, according to a person familiar with the U.S. position, underlining the risks of further escalation in a conflict that's already spread from Gaza across the Middle East.

Some American lawmakers, including Senator Lindsey Graham, a Republican, are urging Biden to strike Iranian territory. "Hit Iran now," Graham, who's long been hawkish on Iran, said. "Hit them hard."

The challenge for Biden is how to retaliate without raising oil prices and without getting drawn further into the conflict — and especially into a direct confrontation with Iran — in an election year.

Higher crude prices would likely sting American consumers by pushing up the cost of gasoline, a politically-sensitive topic.

The U.S. has already become more embroiled in the Middle East since Oct. 7. It sent more naval and air forces to the region to support Israel and deter attacks on it from the likes of Hezbollah, which is based in Lebanon. This month, it's launched several missile strikes on Yemen to try to stop attacks on commercial and military ships by the Houthis, a group funded and trained by Iran.

"The U.S. faces bad options

only," said Firas Modad, head of Modad Geopolitics, a risk-advisory firm. Biden's under "immense pressure" to respond to the deaths in Jordan but a direct conflict with Iran would likely result in higher energy prices and significant casualties, he said.

Less provocative

The U.S. hasn't struck Iran's territory for decades and it may opt for a less provocative move such as hitting Iranian targets abroad or those of its proxies in countries such as Syria or Iraq.

In 2020, under then-President Donald Trump, the U.S. assassinated Iranian general Qassem Soleimani in Iraq, saying he was responsible for planning attacks on Americans through Tehran's proxies. Iran responded by striking U.S. bases in Iraq, injuring many troops but not killing any. Tensions between Washington and Tehran eased after that.

"The U.S. will retaliate — that much is clear," said Ziad Daoud, chief emerging markets economist for Bloomberg Economics. "The question is whether Iran will absorb the hit, or react to the retaliation. At stake is higher oil prices and potential global recession."

Deaths

Jeremy Kable, 50, Muncie
Declan Herriford, 7 weeks,
Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 34 and 36 degrees Sunday.

Expect a low in the lower 30s tonight with a chance of rain and snow. Skies will be mostly cloudy Wednesday with a high around 40.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

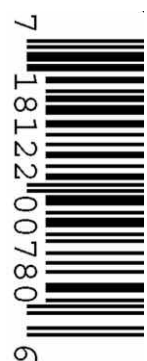
In review

Jay County High School's Just Treble was the runner-up in Treble Division - Tier II at Saturday's Ball State Mid-America Show Choir Championship 2024. It trailed Sophisticated Ladies of Edgewood in the four-group field. Just Treble also earned awards for best vocals and people's choice.

Patriot Edition of JCHS placed third behind Red Hot Blues of

New Castle and Music Warehouse of Edgewood in Mixed Division - Tier II. It won the award for best crew.

The JCHS winter guard placed third in Regional Class A during Saturday's Indiana High school Color Guard Association contest at Snider. It scored 64.24 points to trail Carroll (65.92) and Northrop (65.26).



Capsule Reports

Fell asleep

A Michigan man fell asleep at the wheel while driving along U.S. 27 in Jay County, causing him to crash into two other drivers about 3 p.m. Jan. 22.

Steven F. Chapman, 67, Harrison, Michigan, told police he was driving his 2003 Dodge Dakota pickup truck south on the highway when he dozed off, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. Chapman drove across the center line and hit the back of a northbound 2015 Chevrolet Silverado driven by 68-year-old Ronald E. Manns of Akron. Chapman also struck the front of a northbound 2019 Ford Explorer driven by 55-year-old Diana R. Nickol of Dunkirk.

Chapman continued into a ditch, stopping in a yard at 1295 N. U.S. 27, where the vehicle caught fire. Chapman was safely extracted from the car, and the fire was extinguished by Portland Fire Department.

Nickol's vehicle stopped on the east side of the road. She complained of pain all over her body

and was transported to a hospital in Dayton, Ohio. Chapman sustained a leg injury.

Chapman and Nickol's vehicles were towed. Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

Wrong lane

A Muncie police officer was injured after a Redkey man drove into the wrong lane of traffic on Indiana 67 about 4:48 p.m. Jan. 22.

Blake A. Jester, 39, was driving his 2004 Acura RSX northeast on the highway when he looked down at something in his car, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. When Jester looked back at the road, he realized he was in the wrong lane. He wasn't able to react before colliding with a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by 55-year-old Randall S. Critzman of Muncie. Jester wasn't able to control his vehicle and also struck a 2017 Ford Explorer driven by 28-year-old Richard J. Guinn of Muncie. The car Guinn was driving rolled off the road. Guinn complained of back

pain and was transported to IU Heath Ball.

Jester was cited with an infraction for driving on the wrong side of the road.

The vehicle Critzman was driving is registered to Clarian Health Partners of Indianapolis, and the vehicle Guinn was driving is registered to Muncie Police Department. All three vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000.

Icy patch

Two Indiana residents hit trees after losing control of their vehicles in Jay County on Jan. 23.

Sara J. Romine, 38, Portland, was driving her 2013 Lincoln MKX east on Como Road near its intersection with Division Road when she drove across ice on the road, causing her vehicle to slide and hit a tree. Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000, and her car was towed.

Joseph T. Swartzentruber, 24, Decatur, was driving his 2018

Chevrolet Silverado with two other passengers along county road 400 North about 8:36 a.m. Jan. 23 when he drove across a patch of ice on the road. Swartzentruber lost traction and went into the ditch on the north side of the road, striking a tree in the process. His truck was towed. Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Lost control

Two drivers traveling through rural Jay County lost control of their vehicles, causing them to drive off county road 400 South about 7:20 a.m. Jan. 23.

Calvin J. Wyatt, 30, Hartford City, was driving his 2000 Mercury Cougar behind Heaven A. Fair, 27, Rockville, who was driving a 1994 Chevrolet Astro Van. Wyatt attempted to pass Fair, but he lost control of his car and went off the south side of the road. Fair told Jay County Sheriff's Office she panicked after seeing Wyatt attempt to pass her, and she also went off the south side of the road. Their vehicles

didn't collide, but Wyatt hit a road sign, and Fair went into a ditch.

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Fair's vehicle was towed.

Off road

A Dunkirk woman lost control of the vehicle she was driving along county road 200 South, causing her to drive into a ditch and field about 5:53 p.m. Sunday.

Tonya R. Davis, 45, was driving a 2001 Chevrolet Malibu east when she went off the south side of the road, causing her to lose control of the car and go into a ditch. The vehicle she was driving stopped in a field south of the road, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report.

Davis was cited with an infraction for driving with a suspended license. Davis' passenger, 35-year-old Charles H. Harvey Jr. of Greencastle, complained of back pain. The vehicle Davis was driving — it was towed — is registered to Brooke A. Bennett of Rockville.

CR almanac

Wednesday 1/31	Thursday 2/1	Friday 2/2	Saturday 2/3	Sunday 2/4
40/32	46/30	39/24	37/22	38/28
Mostly cloudy skies are in the forecast for Wednesday, when the high will be 40 degrees.	Thursday looks to be partly sunny. The low at night will reach nearly 30 degrees.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Friday. At night, the low may dip to 24 degrees.	Temperatures will continue to dip over the weekend, with Saturday's low hitting 22 degrees.	Sunny skies on Sunday, with temperatures warming to around 38 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$174 million	68-71-72-77-78-79-80 Cash 5: 1-7-8-11-24 Estimated jackpot: \$225,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$311 million	Ohio Sunday Midday Pick 3: 7-8-5 Pick 4: 1-5-9-4 Pick 5: 8-4-2-4-7 Evening Pick 3: 2-0-6 Pick 4: 1-7-3-7 Pick 5: 7-9-2-8-3 Rolling Cash 5: 22-24-26-28-33 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Sunday Midday Daily Three: 8-4-7 Daily Four: 2-2-7-5 Evening Daily Three: 3-4-5 Daily Four: 4-8-6-8 Quick Draw: 2-7-9-18-25-30-32-44-47-49-50-58-61-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.45 Feb. corn4.45 Wheat5.10	Feb. beans11.85 Wheat 5.49
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.45 Feb. corn4.40 March corn4.40	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.23 Feb. corn4.23 Beans11.85 Feb. beans11.85 Wheat5.47
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.29 Feb. corn4.25 Beans11.75	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.34 March corn4.37 Beans11.60 Feb. beans11.60 Wheat5.09

Today in history

In 1933, Adolf Hitler was named chancellor of Germany by then-president Paul Hidenburg. Hitler's rule led to World War II and the Holocaust, resulting in the murder of 6 million Jews.

In 1948, Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated in New Delhi, India during a prayer vigil. Shot by Hindu extremist Nathuram Godse, Gandhi was known for his nonviolent protests leading to India's independence from Britain. A year later, approximately 100,000 people prayed at the site in remembrance of Gandhi.

In 2015, Dallas Dudelston and Andy Kohler of Jay County won their first sectional titles, bringing the Jay County wrestling team to a third-place finish in the tournament. Dudelston had also won the Allen County Athletic Conference a week prior.

— The CR

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.	Monday 4 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
Friday 5 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Obituaries

Jeremy Kable

March 8, 1973-Jan. 26, 2024
Jeremy Kable, age 50, a resident of Muncie, passed away on Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, at his home in Muncie. He was a former resident of Portland.

Jeremy was born on March 8, 1973, in Celina, Ohio, the son of Lowell and Sandra (Wilson) Kable. He graduated from Jay County High School in 1991. Jeremy found joy doing home improvement projects and fishing.

Survivors include: His parents — Lowell and Sandra Kable, Portland, Indiana

His siblings — Jason Kable (wife: Victoria), Portland, Indiana, Julia

Shipway (husband: Craig), Lenox, Michigan, and Joshua Kable, Rochester Hills, Michigan

Nieces and nephews — Cornelius, Magdalen, Augustine, Oliver, Joseph, Bernard, Marianna, Theresa, Anthony, Oscar, Simon, Dominic, Benedict and Jacob.

Visitation will be held on Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will follow at 11 a.m. on Thursday at the funeral home. Pastor Billy Stanton will officiate and burial will follow at



Kable

Antioch Cemetery, southeast of Portland.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Declan Herriford, Portland, Dec. 9, 2023-Jan. 26, 2024. Services will be at 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

Felony arrests

Failed to register

A Parker City man was arrested Wednesday for failing to register as a sex offender.

John F. Beeson, 52, 13771 E. 200 North, is

charged in Jay Superior Court with two Level 6 felonies for failing to register as a sex offender.

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

Drug possession

A Portland man was arrested Sunday for possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug.

Nicholas A. Noggler, 29, 310 E. Elder St., was pre-

liminarily charged with a Level 5 felony for possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug.

He was being held on a \$10,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Plunge ...

Continued from page 1
Access will be from Morton Street. Parking will be available in the grass area near the pond, if the ground is frozen, Weitzel said. If not, attendees can park in the Moser Engineering lot and will be shuttled to the northeast corner of the pond where the plunge will be held. (U.S. Aggregates donated sand in the fall for the small beach area and city crews have worked on sprucing up the site for the event.)

It's a natural fit for the fire department, as firefighters undergo training for cold water rescue.

"One way or the other," said Weitzel of his plans to participate in the plunge himself. "I'll either be in the ice suit as rescue or I'll take the plunge."

Jay Emergency Medical Service will also be on hand.

Hole in the Wall in Fort Recovery will host a party following the event. Food during the party will be free,

with free-will donations accepted. The business will also donate a portion of its proceeds from that evening to the event.

"It's just another opportunity to give back to the community," said Weitzel "We've seen the amount of participation that Muncie had and we always thought it would be kind of a cool thing to do.

"Even if you don't want to plunge, come out and watch," he added. "We'll gladly take any donations."

Zoning ...

Continued from page 1
Curtin suggested that the next step in the process would be to see if Mayor Jeff Westlake, who was in attendance, and Portland City Council are interested in moving forward with revamping the zoning code. Answering a question from Johnston, he said the revision process would likely take six to nine months.

In other business, the commission:

- Approved a revised declaratory resolution approving Portland's Downtown Economic Development Plan and adding the creation of a new tax increment financing (TIF) stand-alone district around the Hood Building, 309 W. Main St., which the commission purchased in December. Curtin said it would simplify the process to handle the two pieces together. The resolution must be approved by the city's plan commission and city council before returning

to the redevelopment commission for final approval.

•Heard from Portland Mayor Jeff Westlake that he will retain all current members of the redevelopment commission.

•Re-elected Inman as president, Theurer-Miller as vice president and Joe Johnston as secretary.

Process to modify zoning would likely take six to nine months

SERVICES

Wednesday

Herriford, Declan: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Thursday

Kable, Jeremy: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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

Want FREE INTERNET for your connected devices?

You may qualify for free access to high-quality internet if you meet the FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program guidelines.

Plus! Get an Android Tablet

for a one-time copay of \$20. Plus, free S&H.

Call Today!
(866) 981-3302

You qualify today for the Government Free Internet Program if a household of two has an income of less than \$39,440, or if you receive:

- Medicaid
- Veterans Pension
- SNAP
- Survivors or Lifeline Benefits
- SSI
- Tribal Assistance Program
- WIC
- Housing Assistance

Make the smart and ONLY CHOICE when tackling your roof!

Before

After

Limited Time Offer! SAVE!

UP TO **50% OFF** + **10% OFF**

ON YOUR INSTALLATION

Additional savings for military, health workers and first responders

ERIC
Metal Roofs

FREE ESTIMATE
1.866.781.6023

Expires 3/31/2024

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

New orders only. Does not include material costs. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Minimum purchase required. Other restrictions may apply. This is an advertisement placed on behalf of Eric Construction Mid-West Inc ("Eric"). Offer terms and conditions may apply and the offer may not be available in your area. If you call the number provided, you consent to being contacted by telephone, SMS text message, email, pre-recorded messages by Eric or its affiliates and service providers using automated technologies notwithstanding if you are on a DO NOT CALL list or register. Please review our Privacy Policy and Terms of Use on homeservices.compliance.com. All rights reserved. License numbers available at ericmetalroofs.com/eric-licenses/.

Son's choices draw fire

DEAR ABBY: I am the father of an adult son, "Kirk," who is in a relationship with a younger woman who has a young child. Neither is well educated, but they both have decent jobs.

Kirk has a teenage daughter who is getting ready for college in another state. They are close, although I'm not sure to what degree he supports her financially. I have saved some money for her college, but he has not. Kirk never married her mom.

My concern had been that my son and his girlfriend might be trying to have a baby. When he told me she is pregnant, I was beyond livid and let him know what a mistake this was. I told Kirk he owns nothing nor does she, and asked what that baby has to look forward to. His girlfriend receives no support from her child's father.

My son has now stopped talking to me. Is this my fault? I spoke what I believed was in the best interest of all parties involved, financially and morally. — SEES A MISTAKE IN FLORIDA

DEAR SEES: Sometimes, before we speak, it is wise to ask ourselves, "Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it kind?" While your comment was true, the girlfriend is already pregnant.

Financially, Kirk will be on the hook until his second child becomes an adult, whether or not he marries the mother, so I'm thinking what you said was neither helpful nor kind. If you want a relationship with your son, it may be time to apologize.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I am a lesbian who has been in a relationship for a year and a half. My partner was with men the majority of her life. One of her last exes is someone she now calls her best friend. She talks with and texts him every day. I now have trust issues with them because of something I saw four months ago.

Dear Abby



I love a lot about her, except she's not very affectionate with me, and I need that. I knew when I was first getting involved with her that he was going to be in her life. They have no children tying them together, but we all go kayaking often. Although I'm not comfortable with it, she has given me no choice if I want to kayak with her. She also hides things from me, like when she buys him gifts.

How do I handle the jealousy I feel for him? I can't stand to be around him, because I know in my gut there is deception. But I don't want to lose all the good I have with her. — THREE'S A CROWD IN VIRGINIA

DEAR THREE'S A CROWD: What does "all the good you have with her" entail? What I gather from your letter is that you have spent a year and a half with someone who is bisexual, whom you don't completely trust, and who makes you feel like a third wheel.

From where I sit, your jealousy is justified. Three in a relationship is awfully crowded, unless it's by mutual agreement. If you haven't talked to her about your feelings, you should. And if you can't arrive at a resolution, end your suffering and move on.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My very dear friend has discovered that her live-in boyfriend of two years has been hiding \$55,000 in credit card debt. This man contributes very little to the household expenses (she owns the home) and barely

helps to maintain it. Instead, he spends his money on alcohol and vaping products.

He refuses to share any details about his debt and doesn't like being asked about it. She has asked him to drink less and stop vaping entirely, but nothing has changed. What advice should I share with her? I don't want to hurt her feelings, but I want to give fair and honest advice. — FRIEND WHO CARES IN MAINE

DEAR FRIEND: If you want to give your friend fair and honest advice, wait to be asked for it. Do not offer it unsolicited because it will be ignored. If, however, she should ask, feel free to let her have it with both barrels. Her boyfriend is a substance abusing freeloader who is unwilling to change, and she deserves better.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My best friend, "Juliet," recently lost her months-old baby under tragic circumstances. After several months, she is now pregnant again. Abby, I'm worried. She's in her 30s and wants to live with her mother for an indefinite period after the baby is born. Juliet is still with her husband.

I don't think this is healthy. It will not only take away from the couple's independence, but also reduce Juliet's confidence in being a new mother. We are so close that we call each other soul mates. Should I say something or let her do what she thinks is right? — STANDING BY IN TENNESSEE

DEAR STANDING BY: As concerned as you are about Juliet, let her do what she thinks is right.

Having lost her baby "under tragic circumstances," she needs all the emotional support she can get. If her husband is fine with that arrangement, resist the urge to interfere.

Civic theatre seeks director

Jay County Civic Theatre is accepting applications for someone to direct its production of "The Play That Goes Wrong."

The comedy show is set for performances Sept. 27, 28 and 29 at Jay County Campus of Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. Those interested in directing should email a letter of interest, resume and list of three references to jaycountycivic@gmail.com. Resumes should include previous directorial experience and a list of the last four shows in which the applicant was involved in any capacity.

The deadline is 4 p.m. Friday. Jay County Civic Theatre's board plans to select a director at its Feb. 7 meeting.

For more information, email jaycountycivic.com.

Taking Note

state. (The City of Portland, Arts Place and Portland Main Street Connect partnered to receive a grant this year that funded the new mural on the north side of Community Resource Center.) The development grant offers funding for "high-impact projects that raise Indiana's capacity for attracting visitors, providing tourism experiences and enhance residential quality of life."

The deadline to apply is Feb. 2. For more information, go to visitindiana.com.

Grants available

Indiana Destination Development Corporation has announced the availability of two grants — the Indiana Destination Development Grant and IN Indiana Placemaking Activation Grant.

The placemaking activation grant offers communities the opportunity to create IN Indiana artwork and signage in highly visible locations throughout the

Senior Honors

Jay County Junior-Senior High School's annual senior honors night will be held on at 7:00 p.m. April 29.

If you're interested in adding a scholarship or award for the Class of 2024, please contact the guidance office at Jay County Junior-Senior High School or stop by the school to pick up forms, which are due Feb. 5.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal

starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

Wednesday

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

PING PONG — Will be

played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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 Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Thursday

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.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randalph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

FRIDAY PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addic-

tion Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday

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

ROAD RIDERS FOR JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463.

GREAT SELECTION
of
newspaper roll ends
FOR SALE!

Stop by our office or call TODAY!

The Graphic Printing Company

The Commercial Review

309 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371

260-726-8141

Office Hours:

Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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

Rather you sell cars or service cars, We have a deal for you!!

Advertise your business in our cars special section with distribution in 4 newspapers!

- The Commercial Review (Portland)
- The News-Gazette (Winchester)
- The News Times (Hartford City)
- The News and Sun (Dunkirk)

Full-page color — \$550 (only one available)
1/2-page color — \$475
1/2-page B&W — \$275
1/4-page B&W — \$225
Big business card (3x3.5) — \$100
Business card (2x2) — \$60

Space for color ads is limited and will be on a first-come, first-serve basis.
Deadline for ads is Jan. 31

Contact Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com
(260) 726-8141

GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS

Pedestrian deaths major concern

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service

Indiana, like many states in the country, has big cars, dark roads, poorly designed bike lanes and walkways and lots of drivers on their cellphones.

So it may be little wonder that pedestrian deaths, which had been decreasing in the 1980s, is on the rise again. More than 7,500 pedestrians died in 2022 with 75% of those occurring in the dark. Cyclist deaths have also risen.

In Indiana, there were 75 pedestrian traffic fatalities in 2019, rising to 212 in 2021, according to an analysis by the Governors Highway Safety Association.

The association credits Indiana for having an "innovative" school bus stop arm violation enforcement program.

Hoosier Editorial

Known as SAVE, the project urges high visibility enforcement during school bus loading and unloading times. The Indiana Department of Education reports nearly 2,000 stop arm violations daily. Law enforcement needs to help curb this danger. Too many children are at risk.

There are so many factors playing a role in the increase in deaths.

Think back to a time when

cars had manual transmissions, forcing drivers to use both hands and stay focused on the road.

If drivers use both hands nowadays, they may have a cell-phone in one of them.

And not all blame goes to drivers. Pedestrians and cyclists sometimes aren't paying attention to traffic.

The U.S. Department of Transportation suggests the five-pronged Safe System approach to stemming the tide: safe road users, safe vehicles, safe speeds, safe roads and post-crash care — contribute in different ways to provide a safety net that can protect people on foot as well as other road users. The department's report includes examples of how states are utilizing Safe System principles to improve pedestrian safety.

Law enforcement has to maintain efforts in focusing on dangerous driving behaviors.

Local communities can, based on data of frequented pedestrian traffic, install hybrid beacons to increase driver awareness of pedestrians at mid-block or at unsignalized intersections.

Roundabouts and rumble strips also slow traffic. Bike lanes should be clearly separate from vehicle lanes.

But the best way to avoid pedestrian deaths is for every driver to pay attention to his or her surroundings and watch the road. Stay off the phone; pull over to a safe area to have cellphone conversations.

Here are three suggestions

that drivers should already know: Drive no faster than the speed limit. Don't drink alcohol and drive. Don't eat while driving.

Recognize areas where cyclists pedal. Watch out for electric bikes; they move much faster — some up to 30 mph — than regular bicycles. Similarly, electric scooters can pop out of nowhere; know where they are likely to be seen such as neighborhoods, downtown streets or schools.

If you're driving a hybrid, remember that walkers and cyclists can't hear you coming, or backing up for that matter.

The number of accidents between vehicles and pedestrians don't have to keep rising as long as we're all willing to use our smarts when driving.

Farmers need better policy

By ANTHONY R. PAHNKE
Progressive Perspectives
Tribune News Service

"We had to. We feed the world."

This is what my grandfather told me when describing why we made changes to our farm over the years, whether it was replacing horses with tractors, learning how to apply the latest pesticide technology to reduce weeds or buying more cows for our herd.

The mantra instilled into us by elites was to produce, produce, produce.

Farmers like us heeded the call as we increasingly sent our products to other countries. In 1990, just over \$45 billion dollars in sales came from overseas, which soared to more than \$196 billion in 2022 — a record year.

But here's the rub — increasing exports will not keep farmers in business.

Just look at the dairy sector.

Wisconsin ranked second in the country — behind California — for most dairy farm bankruptcies from 2000 to 2019. The dairy state held the dubious distinction of being home to the greatest number of farm bankruptcies

in 2019 and 2020 before leveling off in 2022. During roughly that same time from 2003 to 2021, according to the U.S. Dairy Export Council, dairy exports steadily increased.

These facts should make our legislators rethink how their policies affect farmers.

A group of congressional representatives recently sent a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Trade Representative Katherine Tai denouncing the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) dispute settlement ruling that continues to allow the Canadian government to limit dairy imports into their market.

Central to the USMCA, a product of former President Donald Trump's efforts to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement, involved ensuring increased access to Canadian markets for U.S. dairy exports. A 2022 decision by the same panel sided with the United States, ruling that Canada was unfairly protecting its dairy industry. As a result, our neighbors to the north made changes to improve market access for U.S. interests. The more recent ruling holds that such changes are sufficient.

Anthony R. Pahnke



Still, there are larger issues here.

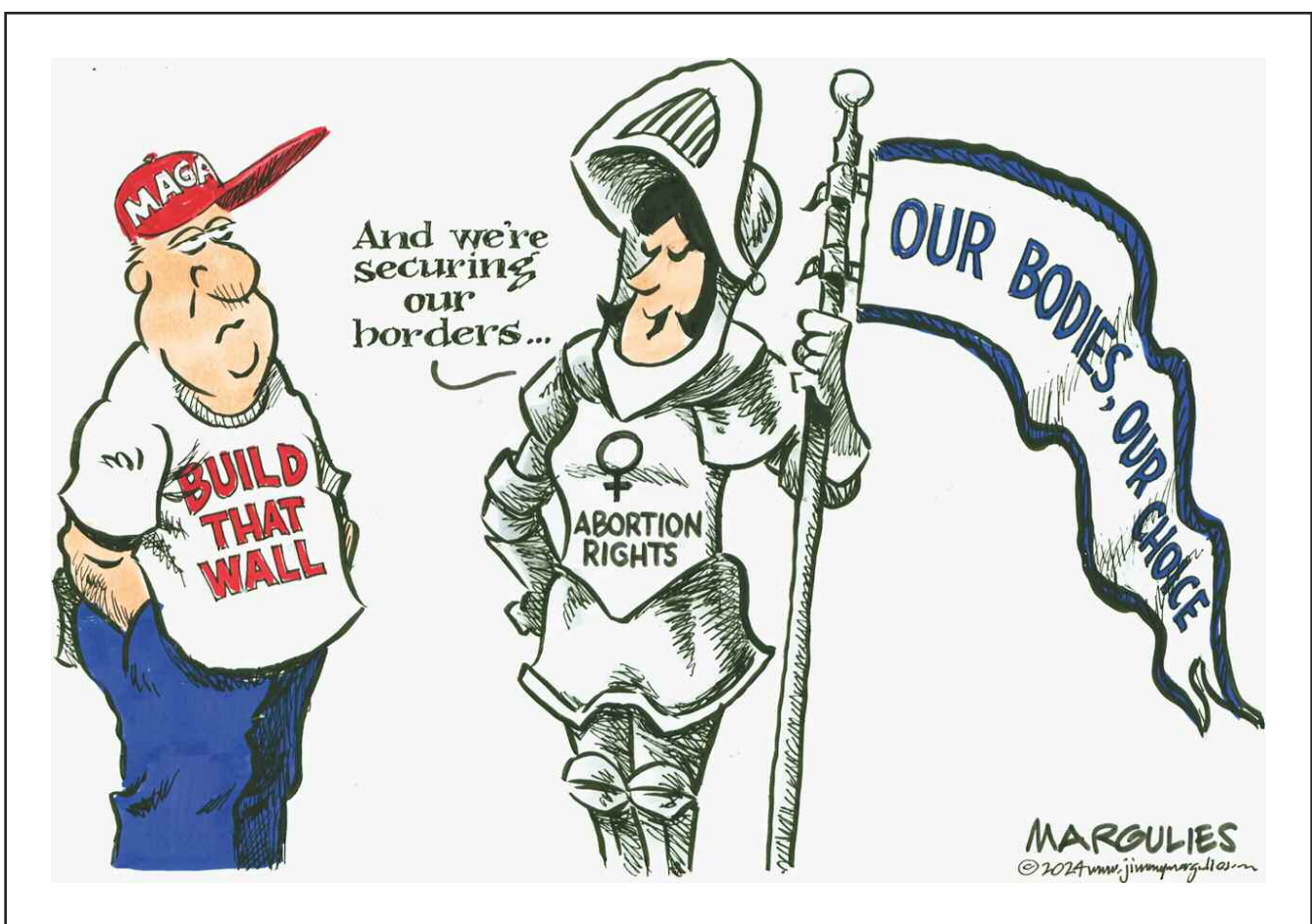
Our legislators shouldn't pit our country's farmers against their counterparts on the other side of the border. In 2018, Wisconsin farmers showed considerable interest in partnering with Canadian producers to implement their supply management system, which stabilizes prices for dairy farmers by controlling production and coordinating supply with demand. And while Trump was renegotiating NAFTA, a coalition of farmer advocacy groups noted that the opening of Canadian markets to U.S. exports would have no significant positive economic impact on American dairies.

Instead, rather than scapegoating Canadians, our lawmakers can actually help farmers by inserting policies that would help them into the Farm Bill. This massive piece of legislation that governs most facets of our food system, including dairy, is set to expire in September of this year.

One such policy is the National Family Farm Coalition's Milk from Family Dairies Act, which has been endorsed by 94 food, farm, environmental and labor organizations and includes provisions that would adjust the prices that farmers are paid based off of their cost of production, establish import and export controls and strengthen regional dairy infrastructure to balance supply with demand to create fair, competitive markets.

My family changed our farm to increase production and feed the world. Our exports increased. But time has made clear that this approach doesn't work for most farmers. Our legislators need to take this opportunity to get our own house in order by getting behind policies that could assure farmers fair prices rather than repeating past mistakes.

Pahnke is the vice president of Family Farm Defenders and an associate professor of international relations at San Francisco State University in San Francisco.



Debate is short-sighted, repetitive

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

It was like 2021 all over again in the Senate Tuesday.

Senators made the same arguments about the emergency powers used by the executive branch during COVID-19. Again. And they passed a measure that was rejected by the General Assembly three years ago.

The residual resentment over those months in 2020 is as strong as ever in the Republican Senate, which approved a 30-day limit for future disaster declarations. There is one 30-day renewal to receive federal funding only.

After that, the full General Assembly would have to convene and make decisions.

It's all about the disaster declaration Gov. Eric Holcomb issued in late March 2020. It started with a two-week stay-at-home order. Some businesses shut their doors and never opened them again. Thousands of people statewide were laid off. Schools closed down.

It was not an easy time for anyone. But if we are going to look back, let's do so with the proper perspective. It's easy now to say it was all an overreaction. But I remember what it was like then, the fear of this new unknown virus that was killing our Hoosier neighbors.

We didn't know what we didn't know then.

The state gradually reopened starting May 1, allowing more businesses to operate with slowly increasing capacities. As cases rose and more people died, Holcomb issued a mask mandate in July. The restrictions fell away by the end of September.

During that time, lawmakers were not in session. Reporters repeatedly asked Holcomb and GOP legislative leaders if a special session was needed. They said no.

Sen. Chris Garten, R-Charlestown, wants to make sure an extended emergency can never happen again without legislative involvement.

Niki Kelly



The irony is that lawmakers went back into session in 2021 and 2022 and could have ended the lingering public health emergency provisions. Numerous resolutions that would have ended the emergency with just two votes languished and weren't moved by the Republican supermajority.

Let me repeat that: they were in the building and could act but didn't.

The declaration continued until March 2022 — allowing Indiana access to pandemic-related federal funds and other program flexibilities.

During that 2021 session, lawmakers angry over the mask mandate and closures pushed to curb executive power. In fact, the Senate considered a 60-day cap on such orders in then-Senate Bill 407 — and decided it was not the right path.

Many Hoosiers say Holcomb abused his power, but the fact is that he was using power expressly given to him in statute by legislators. I don't have a problem with them deciding to create some limitations.

I could see, for instance, a 90-day maximum before legislative involvement. But 30 days is simply too short. And here is why.

This law impacts far more than public health emergencies like COVID-19. Here is a list of possible disasters the law covers:

- Fire.
- Flood.
- Earthquake.
- Snowstorm.
- Windstorm.
- Ice storm.
- Tornado.
- Wave action.

- Oil spill.
- Other water contamination requiring emergency action to avert danger or damage.
- Air contamination.
- Drought.
- Explosion.
- Technological emergency.
- Utility failure.
- Critical shortages of essential fuels or energy.
- Major transportation accident.
- Hazardous material or chemical incident.
- Radiological incident.
- Nuclear incident.
- Biological incident.
- Epidemic.
- Public health emergency.
- Animal disease event requiring emergency action.
- Blight.
- Infestation.
- Riot.
- Hostile military or paramilitary action.
- Act of terrorism.

The fact is that there are situations in which getting 150 legislators to the state capitol hours from their homes might not be possible or advisable: terrorist attacks, war, nuclear meltdowns, riots to name a few.

Or, God forbid, a truly horrific bio-threat that doesn't even exist yet.

And even if you can get them there and get a quorum, are they going to be able to coalesce around necessary moves that quickly? During COVID-19 there was clear dissension among Republicans and a special session could have just mired the state in inaction.

Some reduction in scope is due but let's think through what a 30-day limitation truly means before acting on the fear and anger of the past.

Kelly has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review



US PS 125820

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

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 150—NUMBER 177
THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024

www.thecr.com

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

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer; signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

Subscription rates
Internet-only: Three days - \$3; Monthly auto-pay - \$10; 13 weeks - \$32; six months - \$60; one year - \$108.
City (walking - where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$11; 13 weeks - \$36; six months - \$68; one year - \$122.
Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay - \$12; 13 weeks - \$44; six months - \$74; one year - \$140.
Mail: Monthly auto-pay - \$13; 13 weeks - \$49; six months - \$80; one year - \$151.
Home delivery problems: Call (260) 251-9588

Plans for Village revitalization OK'd

The Ball State University Board of Trustees on Friday approved various contracts to move forward with the university's Village Revitalization Plan.

The board authorized the university to enter into a contract with Fairmount Properties to design and construct the new Performing Arts Center and the Center for Innovation. It also OK'd a 75-year lease with Schahet Hotels to build and operate a Tapestry by Hilton Hotel connected to the Performing Arts Center.

Also approved were purchase agreements to allow the university to acquire seven properties on two sites in the Village, with plans to include retail, restaurants and apartments.

"We are excited to take these significant steps forward in our Village Revitalization Plan," said BSU board chair Rick Hall in a press release. "We know how much The Village means to the community and to our students, faculty, staff, and alumni. I look forward to this revitalized district again becoming a hub

Business roundup

for arts and culture, restaurants, retail, and other social activity."

Dates set

Jay County Chamber of Commerce has set its schedule for 2024.

The chamber will host Munch and Mingle chamber luncheons on April 30, July 30 and Oct. 29. Lift Jay events are set for Feb. 27, May 28, Aug. 27 and Nov. 26.

Workshops scheduled

East Central Indiana Regional Planning District's series of workshops concludes this week.

The free workshops at John Jay Center for Learning ends with "How to Create a Positive Customer Experience" on Jan. 31. Ted Baker, CEO/executive director of Innovation Center in Delaware County, will lead the workshop, which will run from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

For more information, visit ecirpd.org/jay-county-best-workshops.

Solar moving forward

Ardagh Glass Packaging - North America announced Thursday it is moving forward with a 10-megawatt solar energy project to provide about 25% of the electricity needed to run its glass manufacturing facility in Madera, California.

Ardagh, which owns and operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester, will utilize the energy from the project to be constructed and operated by VALTA Energy. It is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

"As an environmental leader in the packaging industry, Ardagh continuously pursues opportunities to increase our use of renewable energy," said Alex Winters, chief sustainability officer at Ardagh, in a press release. "Not only does this project advance Ardagh closer to our sustainability targets, but it also stands to aid our wine customers in their sustainability endeavors."

By curbing the carbon footprint of bottles sourced from our Madera facility, this initiative aligns with our shared goal of fostering a more environmentally conscious future."

Contract settled

The Indianapolis News Guild and Gannett recently agreed to a two-year collective bargaining agreement. (Gannett owns the Indianapolis Star, as well as eight other newspapers in the state including The Star Press of Muncie and the Palladium-Item of Richmond.)

According to a press release from the news guild, the agreement includes \$200,000 for raises for its 39 members. It sets up a seniority-based wage scale, a higher reimbursement rate for mileage, an additional holiday and an amended cell phone reimbursement policy.

News guild members had been working without a contract for more than three years.

Leaders named

Indiana Manufacturers Association last week

named Angie Holt as its chair for 2024.

Holt is president of Rathbun Tool & Manufacturing of Auburn. She is also treasurer of the Community Foundation DeKalb County.

Also named to the association's executive committee were Bill Champion of FRATCO, Jody Fledderman of Batesville Tool & Die, Bill Gartland of Atlas Foundry Company, Tim Hollander of Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana and Gary Larson of Ford Meter Box. Robert Kersey of ALM/Great States Corporation of Muncie serves as a member of the board of directors.

Conference set

Purdue University's Dauch Center for the Management of Manufacturing Enterprises will hold its digital Transformation in Manufacturing and Supply Chain Conference from Feb. 16.

The event from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Purdue Memorial Union will feature Cindy Farrar, who has worked for General Motors and Delphi Automotive Systems, and

Brandon Moore of Con-Air Industries.

Those interested in attending should register at bit.ly/GPPurdueConf. The deadline is Feb. 7.

Hosting events

The Central Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce will host the 2024 Indiana Safety and Health Conference Feb. 26, through 28.

Former Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback and current NFL analyst Terry Bradshaw will be the featured speaker for the conference. The event will also include the Indiana Forklift Rodeo, speakers, a 10-hour course for general industry, an innovation showcase and the governor's workplace safety awards luncheon.

For more information, or to register, call (800) 824-6885 or email events@indianachamber.com.

.....
Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@theccr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Big grants are planned for chip plants

By IAN KING and MACKENZIE HAWKINS
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is aiming to announce major chip grants by the end of March, people familiar with the plans said, paving the way to send billions of dollars to semiconductor makers in a bid to supercharge domestic production.

The awards — slated to go to Intel Corp. and other chipmakers — are a central piece of the 2022 Chips and Science Act, which set aside \$39 billion in direct grants to revitalize U.S. manufacturing.

Intel has said that the grants will determine how quickly it progresses with expansion projects, including a planned facility in Ohio that would be the world's largest. Overseas chipmakers such as Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and Samsung Electronics Co. also are expected to get a portion of the funds, helping them pay for factories in the U.S.

The money has been slow to trickle out so far, with only two small grants announced more than a year after President Joe Biden signed the landmark initiative into law. The effort, aimed at rebalancing what's seen in Washington as a dangerous concentration of production in East Asia, is a key pillar of Biden's economic message heading into the November election. It brings promises of thousands of well-paying factory jobs in new manufacturing hubs across the country.

The timing suggests the awards

may be unveiled before Biden's State of the Union address on March 7. Spokespeople for the White House and Intel declined to comment.

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo has said her agency plans to make about a dozen awards this year, including several multibillion-dollar grants to support advanced chipmaking facilities. The awards, which could come as a combination of grants, loans and loan guarantees, will cover up to 15% of project costs. The Commerce Department declined to comment.

For chipmakers, the disbursements will help cushion the financial impact of building facilities that can cost as much as \$30 billion and yet be obsolete within a decade. Semiconductor companies have pledged to invest more than \$230 billion in the U.S. in recent years, many on the explicit condition that they receive government support.

Intel Chief Executive Officer Pat Gelsinger has been the leading industry voice lobbying for that funding. His company, once the world's biggest chipmaker, has fallen behind rivals and a construction spree is part of Gelsinger's comeback plan.

Intel is building or planning factories in Arizona and Ohio, as well as a new site in Germany — where the CEO is counting on European support.

TSMC, the world's largest manufacturer of chips, plans to spend \$40 billion to build two fabrication facilities in Arizona. But the company has delayed the start of



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Drew Angerer

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo speaks during the United States Conference of Mayors 91st Winter Meeting on Jan. 20 in Washington, D.C. Raimondo has said her agency plans to make about a dozen awards in 2024, including several multibillion-dollar grants to support advanced chipmaking facilities.

production at both sites because of labor and cost challenges at the first one. It said recently that U.S. incentives will help determine how advanced the technology inside the second facility will be.

The projects in Arizona and Ohio carry significant electoral

weight: Biden won the first state by just 10,000 votes in 2020, and manufacturing will be a central theme of a key Senate race in Ohio.

Governments around the world, meanwhile, have been plowing ahead with their own chip programs. Several have

inked agreements with the biggest names in the industry and promised to cover as much as half of construction costs.

The Wall Street Journal reported earlier Sunday that the grants to help build new factories may arrive in coming weeks.

Local Businesses & Services

Fortkamp Foam
3216 Wabash Road
Fort Recovery, OH 45846
419-852-1390
Fortkampfoam.com

Hopkins Repair, LLC
Auto & light truck repair
Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm
Call Scott Hopkins
260-251-0459

J Wood Products For Sale
Sawdust & Firewood Call or Text 260-251-1154.
415 W Water St. Portland.
7:00 am-3:00 pm.

All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning

(260)726-4822
24 hr Emergency Service
Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas

Vormohr Family Dentistry
1413 W. Votaw St.,
Portland
260-726-7822

Display Craft Signs
630 E. Votaw St.
Portland, IN
260-726-4535

All Circuit Electrical, LLC
5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN
260-997-8336
www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition

100 N. Meridian St.,
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259
Email:
jcdpcccontact@gmail.com

Dunn Family Dental Care
110 W. North St.
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-8007

Ohio Valley Gas
129 E. Main St.,
Portland
260-726-8114
www.ovgc.com

Williams Auto Parts, Inc.

1127 Detroit Ave.
Portland, IN
8-5:30 Mon-Fri,
Closed Sat & Sun.
Used auto parts since 1951
(260) 726-8001
www.williamsautoparts.com

Baird Freeman Funeral Home
221 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
260-726-7171

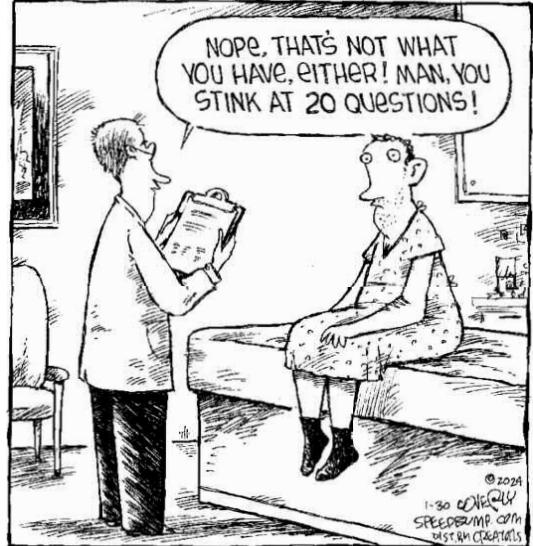
Brigade
You're safer with us

1976 W. Tyson Road,
Portland, IN 47371
(260)766-4343
brigade-electronics.com/en-us

Home Idea Center
901 Industrial Dr.
Ft. Recovery, OH
419-375-4951
www.ehomeidea.com

This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50.
Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included

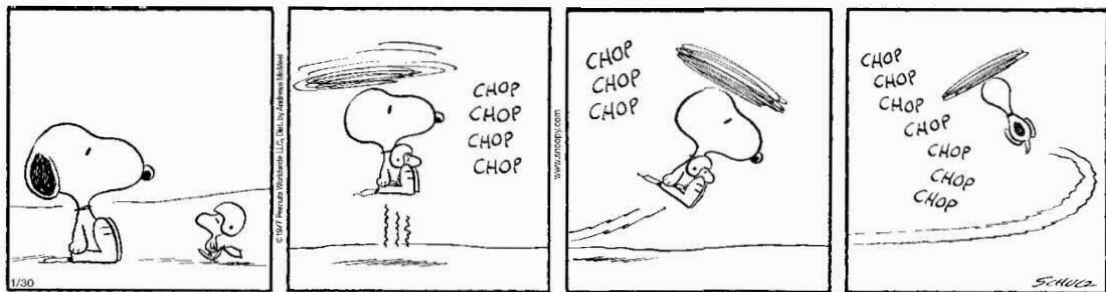
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



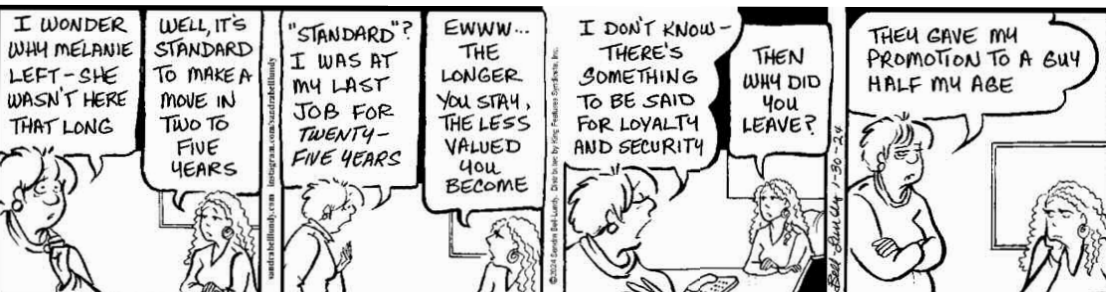
Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A valuable convention

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 8 7 6 2
♥ 7 6 2
♦ Q 7
♣ Q 7

WEST
♠ J 9 4 3
♥ 9
♦ A J 6 3
♣ J 9 8 4

EAST
♠ —
♥ 8 4
♦ K 9 8 5 4 2
♣ K 10 6 5 2

SOUTH
♠ K Q 5
♥ A K Q J 10 5 3
♦ 10
♣ A 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2♠ Pass 2♠ Pass
3♥ Pass 4♥ Pass
4NT Pass 5♦ Pass
6♥ Pass Pass Dble

*artificial and forcing.
Opening lead — three of spades.
When a player not on lead doubles the opponents, the double nearly always is conventional. In effect, it asks partner to make an unusual lead that the doubler believes is likely to set the slam.
There is ample justification for this convention. Ordinarily, when a pair undertakes a slam, they either make it or go down one, and there is little to be gained by doubling.
But if a double by the player not on lead is reserved for cases where

only an unusual lead will stop the slam, the gain is huge when the double is successful. In the present case, if East's double induces a spade lead that East ruffs, and this is followed by a diamond return and another ruff, East-West wind up plus 500 instead of being on the wrong side of a vulnerable slam.
Here, East's double clearly requests a spade lead. A diamond or club lead would be normal on the bidding, so the double bars either of these leads.
West did lead a spade — the three — which East ruffed, but East, faced with a difficult choice of returns, shifted to a club. As a result, South made the slam.
Oddly enough, the principal culprit in the misdefense was actually West, not East. West should reason that East might not know what to return after trumping the first trick. He should therefore lead the nine of spades rather than the three as a suit-preference signal to East, asking for the higher-ranking of the two remaining side suits to be returned. With this cue to guide him, East would have a much easier time finding the winning defense.
Of course, West can solve the problem even more easily in the actual deal by cashing the diamond ace before leading a spade, but while this stratagem would defeat the slam, it would cost the defenders an extra 300 points.

Tomorrow: A small but significant clue.
©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

1-30 CRYPTOQUIP

LTG ET CTS HLUMV TXE-HUJZ
BKUXTQB NZXH KNHZQ
EQUMVUMA BTJZ NXKBVB TN

GKHZQZE-ETGM QSJ? AQTAAC.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: NEWER VERSION OF A DEVICE THAT FUNCTIONS WAY FASTER THAN THE PREVIOUS ONE DID: A PRONTO-TYPE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals D

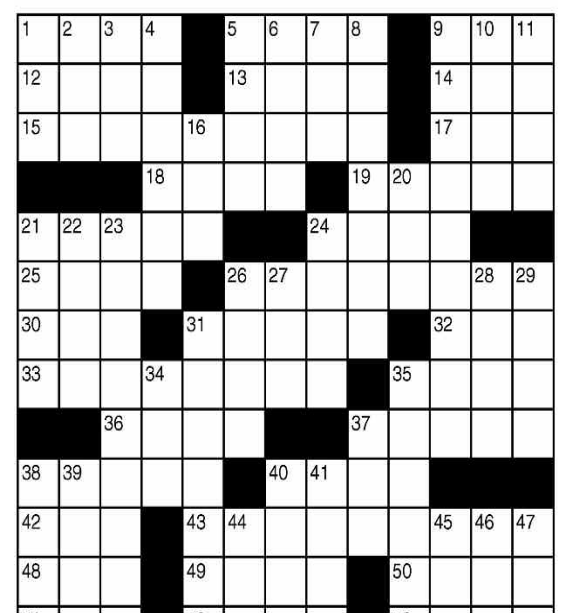
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Pundit's version
 - 5 Booty
 - 9 JFK's veep
 - 12 Docile
 - 13 Actress Jessica
 - 14 Motorist's org.
 - 15 Richly upholstered seat
 - 17 PC port
 - 18 Sod
 - 19 Stable moms
 - 21 Re-garding
 - 24 London gallery
 - 25 Deceitful person
 - 26 Action film staple
 - 30 Football's Manning
 - 31 Mumbai dresses
 - 32 Make lace
 - 33 Crunchy party snack
 - 35 Test
 - 36 Benefit of Australia
 - 37 Valentine's gift
 - 38 Discover
 - 40 "Scram!"
 - 42 Objectivist Rand
 - 43 High-ranking magazine employee
 - 48 Annoy
 - 49 Grade sch.
 - 50 Hotel chain
 - 51 In medias
 - 52 Stitched
 - 53 Frank
 - 2 Chum
 - 3 Big bird shelter
 - 23 Alaskan city
 - 24 Journey
 - 26 "Let it Snow" lyricist
 - 27 NPR's Shapiro
 - 28 Fill fully
 - 29 Some JFK guesses
 - 31 Candle holders
 - 34 Neither here — there
 - 11 Pokes
 - 16 Mangy mutt
 - 20 Sports fig.
 - 21 Sir Guinness
 - 40 Gush
 - 41 Church song
 - 44 Yucatan "Bravo!"
 - 45 Little rascal
 - 46 Away from WSW
 - 47 Shark feature

Solution time: 22 mins.

M	A	T	S	A	R	C	P	E	R	M		
C	H	I	N	A	S	E	A	R	A	V	E	
C	A	N	A	D	I	A	N	O	V	E	N	
R	D	S	T	I	M	E	R	S				
A	S	H	E	S	P	E	R	P				
B	I	A	S	C	R	E	A	T	O	R		
A	B	S	R	A	I	N	S	N	A	Y		
S	H	R	I	N	E	S	L	Y	R	E		
				E	A	T	S	S	A	X	E	S
S	O	M	A	L	I	W	A	G				
E	K	E	D	C	A	N	T	E	R	E	D	
L	I	T	E	L	I	B	E	R	A	T	E	
F	E	A	R	E	R	A	S	T	E	N		

Yesterday's answer 1-30



00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141
ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge....
\$12.40
1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
6 insertions.... \$1.14/word
12 insertions. \$1.52/word
26 insertions. \$1.77/word
Includes
Online.....FREE
Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch
No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page
Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00
Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. The deadline for Mondays paper is 12:00 p.m. Friday.
Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

40 NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

60 SERVICES

AMISH CONSTRUCTION CREW Building new & remodeling. Garages, Pole Barns, Roofing, siding, windows, ect. Call 567-279-2591

J. L. CONSTRUCTION & ROOFING LLC. Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

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

GOODHEW'S ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

Little JJ's Tree Service
Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding. Firewood available
765-509-1956

GABBARD FENCE
FARM • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL RESIDENTIAL • VINYL
SINCE 1967
rgfence@yahoo.com
(765) 546-8801

Bricker's Flowers & More
414 N. Meridian St. Portland
Call or text to order 260-703-0304
Open 9:30-5:00 Monday - Friday
9:30-3:00 Saturday

Wendel's Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying, Residential & Commercial
Green Seal Approved
Dave Wendel
Ph. 260-726-4520
Cell 260-729-2797

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

Out The CR
Classifieds
www.thecr.com

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

BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W, Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

SCHWARTZ HOME IMPROVEMENT LLC
All types of construction
✓ New Homes ✓ Garages
✓ Additions ✓ Post Frame Barns
Exterior Finishing
• Roofing
• Siding
• Windows
• Doors
Leave Message
260-301-1805

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

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
in
The Commercial Review
CALL
726-8141

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

Downs ...

Continued from page 8
After Bihn's layup, Gradin Swoveland hit a pair of shots to extend Jay County's lead to eight. Both shots were pull-ups near the free-throw line.

The Bruins broke their 3-minute long scoring drought when Baker swiped away the ball and found Jacob Leas for a transition bucket to make it 47-41.

Swoveland responded on the next play with a drive to the rim for two, pushing the lead back to eight points.

"Swoveland is a real key for us, because even though he's a sophomore, he's the one kid that can take it inside and shoot over people," Bomholt said. "We want him with the basketball as much as possible at the end, especially when we're still trying to take it and score."

Swoveland scored one more point in the quarter on a bonus free throw to secure a team-high 14 points.

Parker Nichols also played a sizable role in the fourth-quarter run. After turnover troubles for Jay County, Nichols was subbed in to have an extra ball handler on the floor to handle Blackford's full-court pressure.

His first contribution came on a breakaway layup. With heavy back-court pressure, Nichols faked in and cut towards the front court, received the pass and ran away for an easy layup.

After the bucket,

Nichols' primary contribution came from breaking the press and splitting double teams to bring the ball into the front court safely. As a result, the Bruins were forced to foul Jay County, leading to five points off of free throws, including two by Nichols that iced the game away at 56-43 with 19.6 seconds to go.

"Like coaches told us in the locker room, 'you gotta want the ball at the end of the game,'" Nichols said. "'You want to be the guy who takes care of it and you want them to foul you.' If we all trust each other and everyone does a good job taking care of it, those things just come easy."

"It always feels good hitting them at the end when it seals the game, so it felt great to be able to do that." Along with Swoveland and Bihn, Garringer reached double digits with 12 points.

Baker was the primary source of offense for Blackford, posting 18 points on 5-of-13 shooting and six free throws.

The rest of the Bruins struggled, shooting 34.6% (9-26) to score 25 points, while committing 24 turnovers.

"We struggled for pretty much the whole game, especially on the offensive end of the floor," Blackford coach Matt Justin said. "They've held a couple of teams to under 20 points here recently. They've got all that length and they play that matchup zone."



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County senior Wesley Bihn goes up for a layup in the Patriots' 56-43 win over Blackford on Saturday. Bihn reached double digits for the first time since Dec. 1, scoring 11 on 5-for-11 shooting.

"We still scored close to 50 points, but we had so many turnovers and careless mistakes and it's hard to win if we're that inefficient on the offensive end."

Junior varsity

Eli Dirksen fueled strong first and third quar-

ters as Jay County took out the Bruins 55-31.

The JCHS junior had six opening-period points and nine in the third to total 15, as the Patriots (10-4) put up 17 in each quarter. Eight other Patriots scored, six of which hit multiple buckets.

Mason McFeely and Reggie Duren combined for six of Blackford's nine 3-point shots to score nine each.

Blackford only matched the Patriots in the fourth with 11 points, but was outscored by at least one in every other quarter.

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Blackford Bruins

Boys varsity summary

Blackford (11-7)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Wells	2-4	0-0	6
Baker	5-13	6-6	18
Leas	4-13	0-0	10
Morris	3-6	0-0	7
Oxley	0-1	0-0	0
Kitterman	0-0	2-2	2
Collett	0-2	0-0	0
Totals	14-39	8-8	43
	.359	1.000	

Def. rebound percentage: .613

Jay County (6-9)			
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Nichols	1-3	2-2	4
Mhlnkmp	1-3	0-0	3
Garringer	4-9	3-6	12
Dunnington	4-6	0-0	8
Crouch	1-2	0-0	2
Dirksen	0-0	2-2	2
Phillips	0-1	0-0	0
Bihn	5-11	1-2	11
Swoveland	6-16	2-4	14
Totals	22-51	10-16	56
	.431	.625	

Def. rebound percentage: .880

Score by quarters:
Blackford 10 15 11 7 — 43
Jay Co. 16 13 12 15 — 56

3-point shooting: Blackford 7-27 (Wells 2-4, Baker 2-9, Leas 2-10, Morris 1-4). Jay County 2-13 (Muhlenkamp 1-3, Garringer 1-4, Nichols 0-1, Dunnington 0-1, Swoveland 0-4).

Rebounds: Blackford 22 (Baker 8, Wells 4, Morris 3, Kitterman 3, team 3, Leas). Jay County 34 (Muhlenkamp 7, Swoveland 7, Garringer 5, Dunnington 5, Crouch 3, Bihn 3, Nichols 2, Phillips, team).

Assists: Blackford 9 (Baker 5, Wells 2, Morris 2). Jay County 12 (Swoveland 5, Garringer 4, Dunnington, Phillips, Bihn).

Blocks: Blackford 2 (Wells, Baker).

Personal fouls: Blackford 13 (Oxley 4, Morris 3, Wells 2, Baker 2, Leas, Collett). Jay County 11 (Garringer 3, Dunnington 3, Swoveland 2, Nichols, Crouch, Phillips).

Turnovers: Blackford 24. Jay County 17.

Quick ...

Continued from page 8

Byrum (30-4), who is ranked 20th in the state, needed just four seconds to score a takedown against Titus Loshe (21-8) of South Adams. He quickly worked that into a cradle, which resulted in the referee's hand slapping the mat at the 1:37 mark of the first period.

"You just watch the improvement and I think he's a state contender. I'm envisioning him having to wait another year to try and make that come to fruition," said Myers of his overnight worry that the junior might not be able to compete. "I just feel so much better that I don't have to."

Wood, ranked fourth in the state at 138, also picked up a cou-

ple of forfeits before breezing past Wyatt Mann (21-13) of South Adams in 49 seconds in the semi-final. An early takedown in the first period and an early reversal in the second staked him to a 4-0 lead over 18th-ranked Maverick Dubach (33-5) of Adams Central in the finals and he rolled to a 9-0 victory.

It was the fourth consecutive sectional title for the 2023 state medalist.

"It feels really nice," said Wood, who ran his perfect record to 37-0. "It's a lot of hard work that goes into it to get four sectional titles. It makes you feel good. It gives you confidence for next week. I'm hoping to get four regional titles."

Despite eventually losing by a

technical fall, A.J. Heskett (21-14) nearly gave Jay County a third sectional title when he caught 18th-ranked Brason Schortgen (36-2) of Adams Central in a third-period cradle. But he didn't get the call and went on to a 23-8 defeat.

"A.J. Heskett gave himself a chance. He won a big semifinal match," said Myers, referencing his pin of Belmont's Keven Loshe (21-15). "And I don't know, if you ask certain people, he probably won a sectional today, but we couldn't quite get that call. That's the way it goes sometimes."

The other three Patriot championship matches were all decided by four points or fewer:

•Flores (26-9) had leads of 2-0

and 4-2 against Belmont's Xavier Palacios (33-8) at 175 before getting caught in a cradle to fall behind in the second period and another to get pinned in the third in 4:34.

•Wenk (34-2) escaped early in the second period to score the first points against No. 15 Trevor Currie (34-4) at 190 but lost the lead when he couldn't pull away at the edge of the circle with 49 seconds left in the period and wasn't able to generate offense in a 5-1 loss. (Both of his defeats this year have come against Currie.)

•The 18th-ranked Rowles (25-9) gave up a takedown late in the first period and was unable to find an escape in the second as he lost 4-0 to Union City's Bradin Daniels (32-1) at 126 pounds.

After falling to eventual runner-up Max Byerly (24-13) of Adams Central 5-4 in the semi-final round of the 150-pound bracket, Robinson bounced back to blank Austin Roth (23-9) of Union City for third place. Ortiz suffered a pin fall defeat in 58 seconds to No. 3 Keagan Martin (38-1) of Belmont in the semi-final at 215 before pinning Norwell's Ethan Michael in four minutes to take third.

Landers (15-7) split his four matches at 144 pounds for his fourth-place finish.

Also competing for the Patriots on Saturday were Syllas Wenk at 113 in fifth place and Cooper Glassford at 120, Hayden Ison at 157 and Conner Specht 285 in sixth place.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls basketball sectional vs. Yorktown at Yorktown — 7 p.m.; Fort Recovery — Middle school boys basketball at Celina — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball vs. St. Henry — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
3:15 p.m. — Premier League: Newcastle United at Aston Villa (USA)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: North Carolina at Georgia Tech (ESPN); Marquette at Villanova (FS1); Texas Tech at TCU (ESPN2); Iowa at Indiana (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at

Boston Celtics (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL: Columbus Blue Jackets at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oklahoma State at Kansas (ESPN); Seton Hall (FS1); Miami at N.C. State (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NBA: Philadelphia 76ers at Golden State Warriors (TNT)

11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Fresno State at UNLV (FS1); Loyola Marymount at Gonzaga (ESPN)
Wednesday
1 p.m. — College football: Reese's Senior Bowl practice (ESPN2)
2:30 p.m. — Premier League: Brentford at Tottenham Hotspur (USA)

6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Northwestern at Purdue (BTN); St. John's at Xavier (FS1)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Notre Dame at Virginia (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NHL: Los Angeles Kings at Nashville Predators (TNT)
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Florida at Kentucky (ESPN)

8:30 p.m. — NBA: Phoenix Suns at Brooklyn Nets (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Providence at UConn (FS1); Penn State at Rutgers (BTN)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Vanderbilt at Auburn (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Boise State at New Mexico (FS1)

ADVERTISEMENT IN THE COMMERCIAL REVIEW CLASSIFIED ADS 726-8141

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
FRIDAY February 16TH, 2024
TIME 4:30 P.M.
LOCATED: 4023 S 800 W, Redkey IN
296 ACRES - 10,000 HEAD HOG CONFINEMENT
296 Acres offered in tracts and combinations.
Tract 1: 116 Acres in section 7 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 74.83 acres tillable balance being confinement buildings, shop buildings, house, and wooded.
Tract 2: 120 Acres in section 7 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 90 acres tillable balance being wooded and road frontage.
Tract 3: 31 Acres in section 8 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 30.4 acres tillable balance being road frontage.
Tract 4: 27.5 Acres in section 11 Richland Township, Jay County all tillable.
Note: For private showing phone auctioneers.
COURT ORDERED AUCTION
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
Zane Shawver
Lic. #AU10500168

90 SALE CALENDAR

260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
100 JOBS WANTED
AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.
110 HELP WANTED
THE JAY COUNTY HIGHWAY Department is accepting applications for the position of Road Foreman. Applications may be picked up and dropped off at 1035 E 200 North Portland, IN, 47371, Monday through Friday, from 7:00 am-5:00 pm. Class B CDL is required. Job descriptions may be picked up, upon request. Applications will be accepted through Friday, February 2nd.
130 MISC. FOR SALE
PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.
READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

130 MISC. FOR SALE

ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.
190 FARMERS COL-UMN
WANTED FARMLAND TO RENT 4th Generation Geneva farmers looking for farmland to cash rent near Geneva/Bryant/Berne. You decide payment dates. Don't wait, last year we filled up. Call Steve at (419) 376-4456
AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309
200 FOR RENT
LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamoreospace.com

200 FOR RENT

FOR RENT Nice smaller 2 bedroom 1 bath house in Portland. All electric, attached garage, no smoking, no pets. \$750/mo \$500/deposit. Good references required. Call 260-726-9500
230 AUTOS, TRUCKS
WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage
SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMMERCIAL REVIEW up to 49% off
Newsstand prices
Subscribe at **thecr.com** or call **260-726-8141**

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY. SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2024 TERM
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of:
NEDRA K. HOUGH No. 38CO1-2401-ES-000001
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Zec Landers was, on the 10th day of January, 2024, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Nedra K. Hough deceased, who died on August 9, 2023
All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 25th day of January, 2024.
HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorney
Jon Eads
Clerk of the Circuit Court,
For Jay County, Indiana
CR 1-30,2-6-2024 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
NOTICE TO BIDDERS FOR THE JAY SCHOOL CORPORATION "Roof Project"
Location - Jay County Jr-Sr High School 2072 W SR 67 Portland, IN 47371
Notice is hereby given, that the Board of School Trustees of the Jay School Corporation (the Owner) will receive sealed bids for the replacement of two roof sections at the Jay County Jr-Sr High School in 2024.
Bids will be accepted at the Jay School Corporation, Administration Office, 414 Floral Avenue, Portland, IN until 10:00 am on Friday, February 9, 2024. The roof specifications and subsequent inspection of the roof sections may be obtained by contacting Gary Cagle, Maintenance / Facility Director, Jay School Corporation, (260) 251-0097.
The roof sections scheduled for replacement are the following:
Bid Item 1 - Roof Section #2, Approximately 37,026 sq. ft.
Bid Item 2 - Roof Section #5, Approximately 21,879 sq. ft.
The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, complying with the conditions for bidding, provided the bid is reasonable and it is the best interest of the Owner to accept it. The Owner reserves the right to reject the bid of any or all bidders in accordance with Indiana Code 36-1-12.
Bids not reaching said office by 10:00 am, February 9, 2024 will not be opened and will be returned unopened to the original bidder.
Dated this 23rd day of January 2024
Board of School Trustees
The Jay School Corporation
CR 1-23,30-2024
NS 1-24,31-2024 HSPAXLP

FRHS basketball breaks 9-game losing streak, see story below

Patriots face Yorktown in sectional opener today, see Sports on tap

Sports

Quick to victory



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

No. 20 Griffin Byrum, a Jay County High School junior, controls Belmont's Ben Mills during their semifinal match in the 106-pound bracket at the sectional tournament Saturday.

Byrum blitzes; Wood caps sweep

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

Griffin Byrum didn't want to waste any time.

He had been sick all week. He had missed several days of school.

His goal in the sectional championship match was to end it — fast.

He only needed 23 seconds.

Byrum's sectional title paired with Tony Wood's career sweep Saturday to lead a group of nine regional qualifiers and third-place finish for the host Class 2A No. 4 Jay County High School boys wrestling team in the sectional tournament.

"I was sick all week," said Byrum. "I was pretty sick yesterday. I wrestled through it. ...

"It feels pretty good. I expected it though."

Joining Byrum and Wood in qualifying for the regional — the top wrestlers in each weight class advance — were sectional runners-up Cody Rowles, A.J. Heskett, Joaquin Flores and Bryce Wenk, third-place finishers Jacob Robinson and Alan Ortiz, and fourth-place finisher Jason Landers.

Class 2A No. 2 Belmont, which faced a sizable deficit heading into the championship round, roared past Class 1A No. 2 Adams Central as it rode five individual titles to the team crown with 248.5 points. The Jets were second with 243 in the nine-team field and the Patriots followed in third with 195.5.

"The wrestling roller coaster where you have some things that don't go well for you, then you have some things that go really well for

you," said Myers. "In a couple instances we wrestled really, really well. And then there's a few matches we'd kind of like to have back."

While they agree he was sick, Byrum and his coach tell different versions of the days leading up to Saturday's tournament.

Myers says it was touch-and-go as to whether the junior would wrestle or not, with a text message he saw in the wee hours Saturday finally providing confirmation. Byrum says there was never any doubt.

Regardless, he was there, getting forfeits through the first two rounds of the 106-pound bracket and then pinning Belmont's Ben Mills (24-15) in the third period in the semifinal match. And in the finals, he left no doubt.

See **Quick** page 7

Jay downs Blackford

Patriots pull away from Bruins in fourth quarter

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

The Bruins and Patriots had been neck-and-neck through most of the game.

A Bruins' 3-pointer made it a one-possession game, but never got any closer.

The Jay County High School boys basketball team finished Saturday's game on a 15-7 run over the final eight minutes to take down the Blackford Bruins 56-43.

With wins against Blackford and at Allen County Athletic Conference-rival Bluffton on Friday, the Patriots (6-9) have built a four-game winning streak.

"It was a weekend with opposite preparations," JCHS coach Jerry Bomholt said. "Preparation on Friday for a team that was extremely patient and try to make you play defense for a really long time."

"Then got a team tonight that's going to try and push the ball. So you got to get your fanny back on defense and get the sideline covered up. We gave up a couple of transi-

tion baskets where our guard didn't get back, but all-in-all a pretty good job."

Jay County held a 41-36 lead as the buzzer signaled the end of the third quarter. One minute, 12 seconds into the final period, Gage Baker threw a cross-court pass to Ethan Morris, who nailed a three to cut the deficit to two points.

From there, the Patriots took over.

The first score of the quarter came from Wesley Bihn, who converted a layup after receiving a dump off from a driving Liam Garringer. The bucket was Bihn's fifth of the game — he finished with 11 points, the most since Dec. 1 when he had 12 — all of which came on dump off from penetrating guards and wings.

"It feels good, given my last three games I could not finish," said Bihn who shot 5-of-11 against Blackford (11-7). "(My teammates) are really what got me back into it. I wouldn't have scored if not for them."

See **Downs** page 7



Portland's Largest Selection of FRESH CUT QUALITY MEAT

AWARD WINNING MEATS

While supplies last, no rain checks

Fisher Gift Cards available for purchase! They can be used at either Portland or Muncie locations and never expire.

<p>Whole Hog Sausage Patties \$2.99/lb <small>(frozen 1 lb pkgs, 4 patties to a lb)</small></p> <p>Center Cut Chops \$3.49/lb</p> <p>Bone In Country Style Ribs \$2.89/lb</p> <p>Hot Pepper Cheese \$5.39/lb</p>	<p><small>10-1# case of 80/20 frozen, tubed</small></p> <p>ground beef \$2.99/lb</p> <p>Patio Steaks \$6.39/lb</p> <p><small>Boneless</small></p> <p>Arm Roasts \$5.99/lb</p> <p><small>Choice to Prime</small></p> <p>NY Strip Steaks \$12.99/lb</p>
--	---

From Fisher's Smokehouse

Boneless Ham \$5.99/lb <small>sliced or shaved</small>	Pickle & Pimento Loaf \$5.69/lb	Garlic Cracker Bologna \$3.69/ea	Braunschweiger \$3.69/lb
--	--	---	---------------------------------

*while supplies last, no rain checks, sale prices reflected at the register

300 W. Walnut St., Portland, IN
(260) 726-7355
Monday - Friday 8 am-5 pm • Saturday 8 am-1 pm • Closed Sunday

Call your order in today!

Freezer bundles are also available. They offer the perfect mix of our most popular cuts of meat in quantities small enough to not crowd your freezer or cramp your budget. Save time and energy with call ahead ordering and have your order ready to go when you arrive.

www.fishermeats.com

Tribe blows out Blackhawks

UNION CITY, Ohio — The Indians have struggled to get the offense going as of late.

They finally broke through on that end of the floor, and it helped break an ugly streak.

Twelve Fort Recovery High School boys basketball players scored as the Indians picked up their first win in nearly a month on Saturday with a 74-41 win over the Mississinawa Valley Blackhawks.

The win snaps a 9-game losing streak for Fort Recovery (5-11) that began Dec. 28.

All but one player scored for FRHS, including Gavin Evers with 12 and Troy Homan with 10. Evers recorded 10 of his 12 in the second quarter, in which the Indians outscored the Blackhawks 26-10.

Cing Scott put up the most points for Mississinawa Valley (1-15) with 11 on three triples.

Defense prevails

FORT RECOVERY — Fort Recovery's girls basketball team came out on top of a defensive battle with the Franklin Monroe Jets for a 32-15 victory.

FRHS roundup

The Indians' defense was too much for the Jets (6-10) to handle, never scoring more than six in a period. Presley Cox finished with nine of the FMHS' 15 points, the other six coming from Kyra Barns, Olivia Sease and Ava Figel.

Cali Wendel shot well from distance, draining a three in each quarter to tally 13 points.

Karlie Niekamp added 10 points, seven of which came in the first half.

Makenna Huelskamp and Saige Leuthold rounded out the scoring with seven and two respectively.

Fort Recovery (6-11) scored nine points in the first and fourth, while adding eight and six in the second and third periods respectively.

Fortkamp leads

CELINIA, Ohio — The Fort Recovery girls and boys swim teams placed

second and fifth respectively in the Saint Henry mini meet at the Celina YMCA on Saturday.

The girls scored 55 points to finish as runners-up while Versailles took home the victory with 171 points. Troy Christian's score of 79 topped the boys, while the trio of Indians earned 31 points.

Teigen Fortkamp earned the only victory for Fort Recovery. It came in the 100-yard freestyle, in which her time of 57.57 seconds blew out second-place finisher Erin Fredrick of Versailles by nearly four seconds.

Fortkamp also finished second in the 200 freestyle and participated in the 200 and 400 freestyle relay teams that were runners-up.

Joelle Kaup had the only other second-place finish for the girls in the 50 freestyle.

Sage Wendel posted the strongest day for the boys team with a second-place finish in the 100 butterfly and took third in the 100 backstroke.

Carson Fullenkamp also claimed the second-best time in the 200 individual medley.

Jay claims two ACAC titles

PONETO — The Patriots and the Tigers are looking like the teams of the future in the Allen County Athletic Conference.

The Patriots came out on top of the girls side, while the Tigers took the boys championship.

All four junior high ACAC basketball championships on Saturday featured the Jay County Patriots and Bluffton Tigers at Southern Wells High School. Jay County claimed both girls ACAC titles, while Bluffton won the boys ACAC championship games.

The eighth grade girls squeaked out a 38-36 win over Bluffton.

Amelia Heath led the way for the Patriots (16-1) with 14 points. Five more Jay County players scored, including Elizabeth Brunswick with eight and Kylie Shannon with seven.

The eighth grade team finished the season undefeated in conference.

The seventh grade girls cruised to a 46-28 victory.

Karsyn Schwieterman dominated, scoring 28 points herself to match the Tigers. Charlee Peters also added 12 points for Jay County (17-0).

Tyler Wasson scored 13 points for the eighth grade boys team, but couldn't pull out the win as the Tigers beat Jay County 29-24.

The Patriots (16-5) trailed Bluffton 10-6 after the first, and that margin extended to 15-9 at halftime.

Jay County made a late push, outscoring Bluffton 8-7, but they couldn't mount enough of a comeback.

A big third quarter put the championship out of reach for the seventh grade boys, as the Patriots suffered a 30-22 defeat to Bluffton.

Jay County (18-3) trailed by five going into halftime, but a 12-point third quarter was enough of an edge for Bluffton to pull away.

Paul Dirksen finished as the Patriots' leading scorer with eight points.