

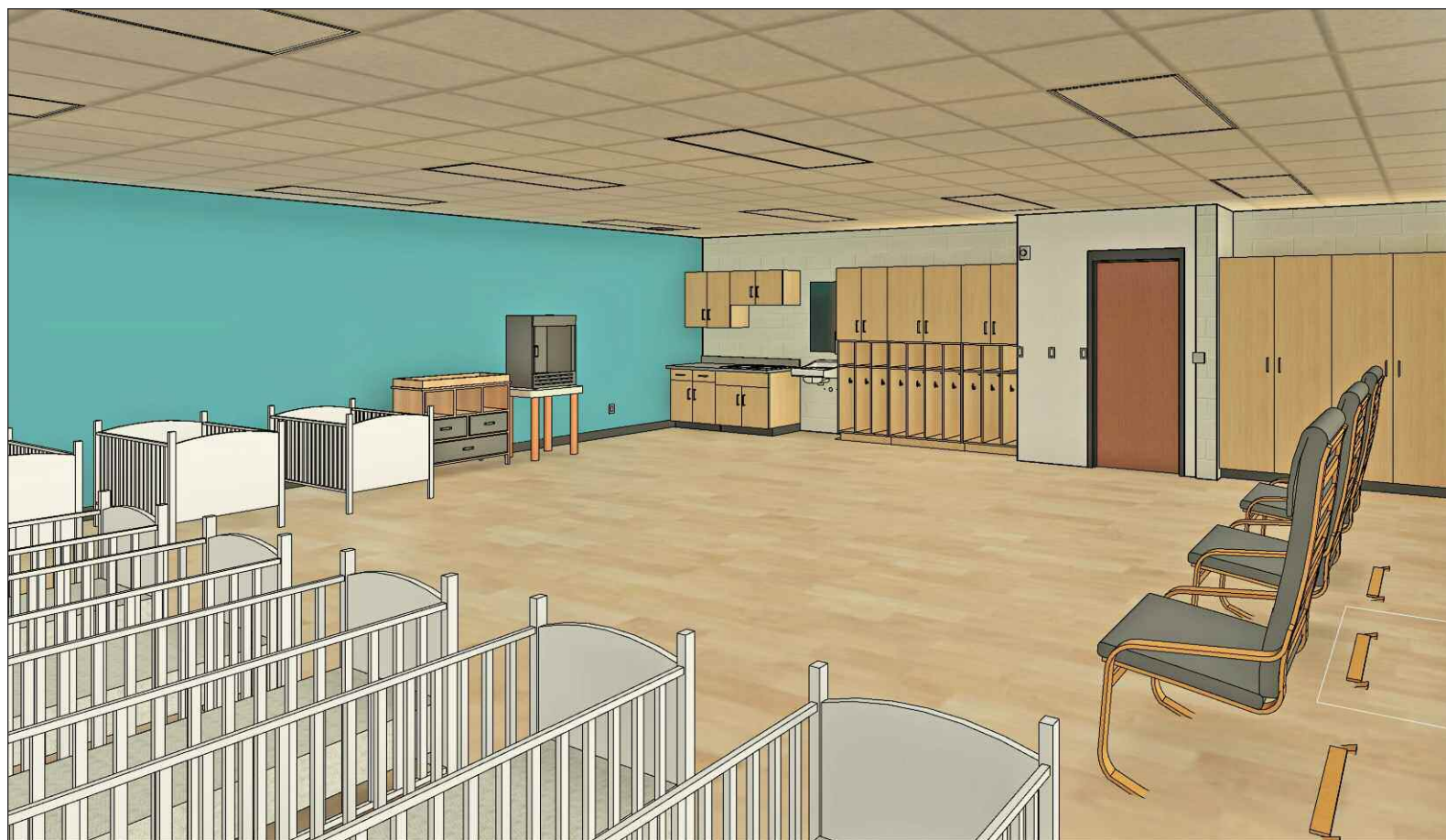
The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

On track



Graphic provided

The above graphic shows a drawing of one of the infant rooms that will be a part of the new Jay County Early Learning Center that is planned to open late this summer. The former Judge Haynes Elementary School on the west side of Portland is currently being renovated to house the new facility, which is expected to serve 150 children.

Renovations are underway to create new Jay County Early Learning Center

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The west wing is being demolished.

The roof is being replaced.

The interior is getting a makeover.

Progress is on track for Jay County Early Learning Center to open late this summer in the former Judge Haynes Elementary School on the west side of Portland.

"I feel really good about the progress," said Doug Inman, executive director of The Portland Foundation, during a walk through the building Thursday. "As long as every two weeks they keep telling us we're on schedule, I'll be in a great peace of mind."

The deadline for construction is July 31, with the facility for 6-week-olds through 5-year-olds

planned to open in August.

The construction project at the former elementary school — The Portland Foundation purchased it in 2022 with a goal of converting it into an early learning center — started in November with Shroyer Solutions of Muncie working on demolishing the west wing and Centimark of Fort Wayne on a new roof for the remainder of the building. (The west wing had sustained significant water damage because of roof leaks.)

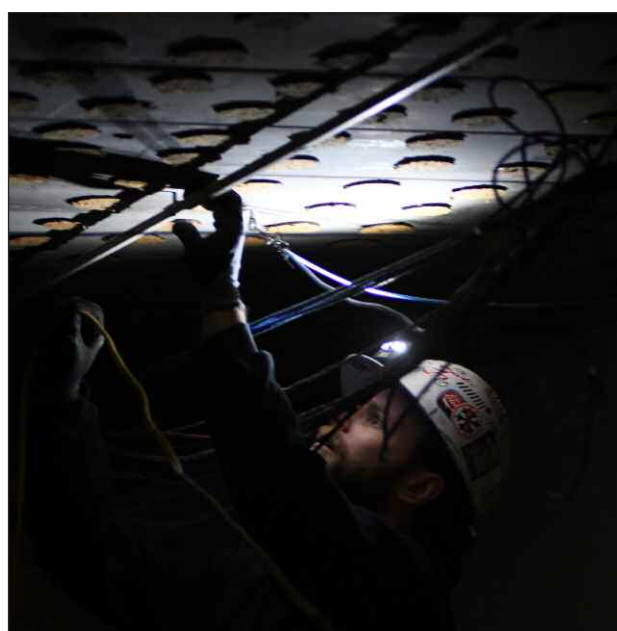
Now Muhlenkamp Building Corporation of Coldwater, Ohio, is in the process of the \$2.42-million interior renovation. There are holes in floors as new plumbing is installed, all of the classrooms have been gutted

and new entries have been cut into the exterior walls.

The plumbing work will allow for two bathrooms in each classroom in the east wing, which will house infants and toddlers. The south wing for 3-, 4- and 5-year olds will have a single bathroom in each. Classrooms throughout the building will have a door leading outside, and a new main entrance has been cut leading to the south parking lot.

The former library will become the new entryway, main offices and break room, with an awning covering the walkway to the parking lot. Parents will bring students inside, where there will be double sets of doors and a keypad for security.

See **Renovations** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Electrical upgrades are part of the interior renovation that is underway at the former Judge Haynes Elementary School in Portland. Work will also include adding restrooms to all classrooms.

EU OKs aid for Ukraine

Financial aid package totals \$54 billion

By ALBERTO NARDEILLI, JAN BRATANIC and ELLEN MILLIGAN
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

European Union leaders struck a deal as Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban yielded to their demands to lift his veto on a €50 billion (\$54 billion) financial aid package for Ukraine. The forint reversed an earlier drop on the news.

"This locks in steadfast, long-term, predictable funding for Ukraine," European Council President Charles Michel said in announcing the deal in a post on social media platform X Thursday.

As part of the accord, the member states agreed to debate the implementation of the Ukraine aid package every year and, "if needed," the European Commission, the bloc's executive body, could be asked to propose a review in two years, according to a draft document seen by Bloomberg News. The Hungarian leader's demand for a veto was dropped.

The agreement was salvaged in a morning gathering Orban had with Chancellor Olaf Scholz, French President Emmanuel Macron and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, according to people familiar with the meeting. Leaders at the extraordinary summit — some of whom accused Orban of "blackmail" — had braced for a deadlock after weeks of negotiations produced no result.

The moment is crucial for Ukraine, which has warned that its coffers are emptying as it grapples with a shortage of weapons to fend off the Russian military campaign. Kyiv is still awaiting \$61 billion in assistance from the US, yet to be backed by Congress.

Thursday's breakthrough avoided a messy split within the EU, papering over mounting concern that Western support for Kyiv is splintering.

See **Aid** page 2

Muhlenkamp earns national FSA honor

By LOUISE RONALD
The Commercial Review

Rural Portland resident Kendra Muhlenkamp was named a Farm Service Agency Newcomer Employee of the Year for 2023.

Muhlenkamp joined the FSA office in Winchester in 2021 as the program technician responsible for helping Randolph County farmers navigate ARC & PLC (agriculture risk coverage and price loss coverage), the U.S. Department of Agriculture income support programs for when crops fail or prices drop.

"She caught on so quickly," said Nancy Best, former FSA executive director for Randolph County (now with the Wayne County agency), who nominated Muhlenkamp for the award recognizing employees with no more than five years with the agency, which has branches all over the country.

Award received for work as program technician in Randolph County

Muhlenkamp was one of 18 newcomers honored among the agency's 11,000-plus employees nationwide.

"It's the highest award we can give," said Best.

In her nomination, Best described Muhlenkamp's first days on the job during the last two weeks for farmers to sign up for the income support programs.

"She jumped right into (the) mix of thing and was answering the phone and scheduling appointments," Best wrote.

"Kendra is a farmer herself and I believe this has helped her with learning our programs and policies."

Muhlenkamp, the daughter of Tom and Kim Homan of rural Portland, grew up on a farm not far from where she lives now with her husband, Lance, their four children and their starter turkey barns.

You don't have to have an agriculture background to do the job, she said, "it just helps you to understand things."

See **Honor** page 2



Photo provided

Kendra Muhlenkamp of Jay County was honored as the 2023 Farm Service Agency Newcomer of the Year. She is a program technician for the agency in Randolph County.

Deaths

Francis Hall, 73, Paoli
Nancy Meier, 54, rural
Bryant
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 41 degrees Wednesday. The low was 34. Tonight's low will drop into the mid 20s. Expect sunny skies Saturday with a high in the mid 40s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, the parking lot east of Redkey Post Office and the parking lot south of Salamonia Fire Station.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS girls basketball sectional semifinal.

Tuesday — Photos from Saturday's Splashin' With a Passion: Peggy's Plunge.



Honor ...

Continued from page 1
For example, when producers sign up for income support, they must choose between ARC or PLC for their various crops. Muhlenkamp understands what they are going through. "You don't really know what the future holds, so it's kind of hard to figure out what you're wanting to do," she said. In 2023, Best said Muhlenkamp took the lead in getting eligible folks signed up with the pro-

grams well before the March 15 deadline, making lots of phone calls. The result was dramatic. Nearly 95% had signed up by March 1. "Her efforts increase participation in our programs by raising awareness of the deadlines," Best wrote in the nomination. In addition to ARC & PLC, Muhlenkamp helps with making sure that boundary lines are properly set — and, when necessary, redraws lines — when farms

are sold or change hands through inheritance. In 2020, Randolph County had only 65 farms "reconstituted" this way, Best said. In 2022, that number had grown to 309. By the time Best wrote the nomination in the spring of 2023, Muhlenkamp had already handled 264 reconstitutions. Though Muhlenkamp admits she's not crazy about the paperwork involved in her job, she loves working with producers and helping to solve their prob-

lems. She's so good at it that Best said agency employees in nearby counties contact her "when they are having problems." Muhlenkamp's face lights up when she describes phone calls from folks who aren't sure if they have even called the right office. "I don't know if this is the right place," they tell her, "but this is what I need." She looks ready for the challenge.

Obituaries

Francis Hall, Paoli, a former Bryant resident, June 2, 1950-Jan. 21, 2024. Services will be at noon Tuesday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.
Nancy D. Meier, rural Bryant, March 10, 1969-Jan. 28, 2024. A Celebration of Life will be held at 4:30 p.m. March 2 at Kuhn's Den, 442 E. Line St., Geneva.

CR almanac

Saturday 2/3	Sunday 2/4	Monday 2/5	Tuesday 2/6	Wednesday 2/7
45/28	48/27	44/27	42/25	46/25
Skies will be sunny with a high in the mid 40s.	The forecast calls for the high temperature to climb to 48 under sunny skies. The low will be 27.	The high will be 44 under mostly sunny skies.	Expect sunny skies with a high in the low 40s.	The high will be 46 under mostly sunny skies.

Lotteries

Powerball
15-18-19-41-43
Power Ball: 14
Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$206 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$333 million

Hoosier
Wednesday
Midday
Daily Three: 4-2-1
Daily Four: 5-0-9-4
Quick Draw: 1-9-10-12-21-27-33-35-37-39-40-42-50-51-52-54-62-67-73-80
Evening
Daily Three: 1-9-6

Daily Four: 0-2-0-6
Quick Draw: 3-7-11-15-18-19-20-21-24-25-26-27-40-44-46-51-54-59-60-67
Cash 5: 3-10-16-22-27
Estimated jackpot: \$272,500

Ohio
Wednesday
Midday
Pick 3: 1-0-5
Pick 4: 2-0-0-0
Pick 5: 1-7-8-3-2
Evening
Pick 3: 1-5-9
Pick 4: 1-6-1-3
Pick 5: 0-3-8-6-3
Rolling Cash: 1-4-22-29-35
Estimated jackpot: \$140,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.50
March corn.....4.45
Wheat.....5.32

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.48
March corn.....4.45
April corn.....4.46

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....4.30
March corn.....4.30
Beans.....11.86

March beans.....11.86
Wheat.....5.56

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.30
March corn.....4.33
Beans.....11.88
March beans.....11.91
Wheat.....5.79

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.43
March corn.....4.45
Beans.....11.67
March beans.....11.67
Wheat.....5.17

Today in history

In 1653, New Amsterdam (now New York City) was incorporated.
In 1848, the United States and Mexico signed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, bringing an end to the Mexican War and extending the boundaries of the United States to the Pacific Ocean.
In 1876, the National League got its start as the National League of Professional Baseball Clubs. It replaced the failed National Association of Professional Baseball Players.
In 1895, George Halas was born in Chicago, Illinois. Halas was the founder, owner and coach of the Chicago Bears guided the team to six NFL championships and was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1963.
In 1990, F.W. de Klerk, the president of South Africa, lifted a 30-year ban on the African National Congress. The move resulted in Nelson Mandela being released from prison and was a turning point toward the end of apartheid.
In 2005, Steve W. Patterson of Hagerstown died when the pick-up truck he was driving collided with a semi on Indiana 67 west of county road 650 East.
In 2019, Fort Recovery High School senior Payton Jutte became the 17th boys basketball player in school history to reach 1,000 points in a 58-43 win over Mississinawa Valley. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
4 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Tuesday
4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.
7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.

Renovations ...

Continued from page 1
The electrical system will be upgraded with new lighting installed throughout. There will be a new building control system that will operate the heating and cooling system from a central location. "That will help with operating costs because as the day winds down and everyone leaves then the system will work itself down and not be at full heat or air as it would be otherwise," said Inman.

Vinyl flooring will be installed in all classrooms and hallways in an effort to give the building a more homey feel. A small play area will be added on the north side of the building, accessible directly from one of the infant/toddler classrooms, and the existing playground equipment on the southwest side will be updated.

"The 1950s metal stuff's gonna go," said Inman. (The building opened in 1952.) "We'll take all that out. And we'll be bringing in age-appropriate playground equipment for the kids. ...

"The stuff that's out there now is for up to 12-year-old kids. The equipment is just way too big for 2 year olds."

Once the renovation is complete the building will be ready to serve children, with Westminister Preschools of Marion handling the operation of the facility. Westminister was selected in the spring after the foundation put out a request for proposals. Interest forms for both children and staff are available on the Westminister Preschools Portland Facebook page.

"When we put the request for proposals out statewide, Westminister was at the top of the list," said Inman. "They came very highly recommended from my community foundation colleague in Grant County. She spoke very highly of them.

"Their expertise, their knowledge is what we didn't have. ... The Portland Foundation is not in the business of running an early learning center. ... We're excited that they wanted to do a five-year operating lease."

Inman noted that Westminister is in discussions with Chartwells about handling food service for the



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Plumbing work is part of the ongoing renovation at the former Judge Haynes Elementary School. Two bathrooms will be added to all classrooms on the east wing with one each on the south wing to prepare the building to become the new Jay County Early Learning Center.

facility. (The company has managed food service for Jay School Corporation since 2019.)

In addition to the early learning center, Inman noted that IU Health Jay's Healthy Beginning's program will also offer services in the building. The former principal, secretary and nurse offices on the north side will be left as open spaces for Healthy Beginnings to work out of, though the number of days they will be in the building has not yet been determined. The old bathrooms across the hall are being transformed into a training space.

Inman said the hope is that the training area could also be home to a family resource center that has been discussed as a need for the community.

"We were really trying to make this not just about Westminister and early learning but also Healthy Beginnings and a family resource center," said Inman. "The people in our community that need assistance, we want to be able to provide a space that they can actually come and not make multiple stops to have to see people that they need to talk to. So we're excited about that."

The Portland Foundation committed to funding the project — \$3.97 million in all, including funding for equipment and supplies — but it and Westminister have since been awarded various grants to help with the cost. The largest, so far, was a \$741,949 grant through the State of Indiana Family of Social Services Office. Others include \$500,000 from Early Years Initiative grant from Early Learning Indiana — the bulk of that money is for renovation, equipment and supplies with the remainder to support Healthy Beginnings — and \$50,000 from the Ball Brothers Foundation. (The project also received \$291,000 through the first round of the state's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) program.

"It's just one of those things that we, as the foundation, looked at and said, 'This has got to happen,'" said Inman. "It's been talked about so long and things are at the point in the community where it's desperately needed."

He noted the recent 2023 Early Learning Indiana Closing the Gap report — it is available at earlylearningin.org/closingthegap — that shows nearly 1,000 children who may be in need of early learning services in Jay County. The report shows that current programs have the capacity to serve about 25% of those children. Of those programs, the report rates only five of them as "high-quality."

Jay County Early Learning Center is expected to serve about 150 children.

"The need is huge," said Inman while also praising a facility Pioneer Warehousing is working on that is expected to serve almost 50 children. "This does not solve the problem, but it provides an opportunity to at least move the needle."

Aid ...

Continued from page 1
It also marks a significant boost for Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Failure would have dealt Kyiv a severe blow and fueled doubts about the commitment of its allies. Ukraine Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal welcomed the deal, saying the EU showed "solidarity and unity."
Hungary's forint gained 0.2% against the euro, reversing a drop earlier in the session. Currency strategists have looked to the summit as a reference point for forecasts after the tensions with the EU triggered a selloff in the Hungarian currency last week.

SERVICES

Saturday
Mohler, Natomi: 11:30 a.m., First Church of Christ, 1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery.

Tuesday
Hall, Francis: noon, Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

March 2
Meier, Nancy: 4:30 p.m., Kuhn's Den, 442 E. Line St., Geneva.

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Win on Wabash raffle awarding scholarships

Twenty five local seniors will be selected for scholarships this year through The Win on the Wabash Super Raffle. Seniors chosen will be awarded with \$500 scholarships. To be eligible, applicants must be a United States citizen, logged community service hours throughout their high school career and be a senior enrolled in a school in Mercer, Darke, Auglaize or Shelby counties, Ohio, or Jay

Taking Note

County. Applicants must also complete a Google Forms document and include a 300-word maximum essay and a letter of recommendation. Applications may be submitted online by visit-

ing wowaffle.com/scholarships/. Held annually in Fort Recovery, the Win on the Wabash Super Raffle is produced by a non-profit organization. More than \$1 million has been raised by the event so far, with all dollars given back to organizations in the local community.

Camps scheduled
Indiana State Police will host a series of summer camps for students ranging from 11 years old

through high school. There will be a Pioneer Camp for children ages 11 through 14 from June 10 through 13 at Mounds State Park in Anderson. A Law Camp for sixth through eighth graders is set for June 30 through July 3 in Anderson and a Cadet Camp for high school students will be held in Anderson from June 23 through 29. For more information regarding the camps visit trooper.org, email [\[fo@trooper.org\]\(mailto:fo@trooper.org\) or call \(317\) 951-3882.

Presenting plans
Ball State University will hold two community presentations about its plans to revitalize The Village. A presentation for faculty, students and staff will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 12, in Pruis Hall on the BSU campus. A second, which will be open to the public, is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at](mailto:itysin-</p>
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Cornerstone Center for the Arts, 520 E. Main St., Muncie. Ball State is in the beginning stages of a project that will include a new performing arts center for theatre and dance students that is expected to host more than 160 performances per year. Plans also include Ball State's Center for Innovation, a Tapestry by Hilton hotel, restaurant and retail space, and apartments and other housing.

Ex-wife uses gifts as distraction from family time

DEAR ABBY: My ex has primary custody of our young daughter, "Kayli," and is with her 99% of the time. I have Kayli every other weekend. Her mom has been dropping her off with a bag filled with wrapped presents. These presents are marked by day and hour. Along with the presents, my ex has created multiple alarms in our daughter's phone to let her know it's time to open the presents.

I have asked her to stop doing this, as it is a huge distraction and disruption that interferes with my time with Kayli. On multiple occasions when my daughter and I are eating dinner, her alarm goes off and she gets up and leaves the table to open a present from Mom. Sometimes, she'll delay leaving the house if she knows it's almost time to open a present.

Sometimes, I turn off the alarms and silence Kayli's phone because if she's not reminded about them, she doesn't care about the presents. However, what also happens is that Mom will text or call our daughter to see if she has opened the presents. She has refused to stop this practice and replied by saying she will continue because it makes our daughter comfortable. Kayli has been visiting my

Dear Abby



house for 10 months. This practice only started three months ago when my ex and I finally settled on a custody agreement. Besides turning off the alarms and silencing her phone, is there anything I can do to limit Kayli's mom's interference during our time together? — DISRUPTED IN THE EAST

DEAR DISRUPTED: There is plenty you can do. Contact your lawyer and put a stop to her intentional sabotage. Your ex is trying to prevent you from building a close relationship with your daughter, and it isn't healthy for you or for Kayli.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Buddy," did some HVAC work for some friends of ours. We live in California, where it can get super warm. My husband paid upfront (\$600) for the expenses. He sent them an invoice, and the husband replied, "No worries,

Buddy. I'll reach out to you next week."

It has been four months — and still no payment. I know my husband should not have waited this long to collect, but the couple had just bought a house, so he was trying to be sensitive to their money situation.

A few weeks ago, he sent another message with a reminder and a similar response came back: "No worries, Buddy. I will come see you Monday." Well, Monday has come and gone and NOTHING. No one wants to fight or go to court about this, but how can friends do that to other friends? Can my husband still ask for the payment? Or should he just write the money and the "friends" off? — SHOW US THE MONEY!

DEAR SHOW US: This appears to be another example of "no good deed goes unpunished." Now that you know these "friends" lack character, cut your losses and write them (and the debt) off. Unless you have something in writing proving they owe you the money, I don't think you stand a chance in court.

.....

DEAR ABBY: How old is too old for a bride to have a wedding shower? I just turned 45, and this is my first marriage. My fiance is

49, and this is his second marriage. We are not "just starting out," by any means. Friends are insisting that I have a shower and register for key serving pieces, art pieces, etc. Would it be a faux pas, or does age not matter? Inquiring minds want to know. Thank you! — WONDERING IN MISSOURI

DEAR WONDERING: If your friends would like to host a wedding shower for you, relax, enjoy yourself and agree. It would not be a breach of etiquette, and your age should not be a factor in whether you have one.

.....

DEAR ABBY: My wife, "Connie," is an angel. She takes care of her aging father as well as my sister, who suffers from Alzheimer's. This, in addition to her religious practices, consumes most of her time, energy and emotional resources. She often arrives home in the late afternoon or early evening stressed and completely exhausted.

An elderly and physically challenged neighbor has occasionally relied on Connie for help with little tasks. However, the woman recently suffered an event that requires her to have a great deal more help, and Connie feels "roped into" providing it.

I think that in light of Connie's prior family commitments, she shouldn't feel obligated to provide the extra help this neighbor now needs. I worry that these extra responsibilities will be detrimental to her health, and I have told her so. She acknowledges my position, but feels obligated toward this neighbor.

What can I tell my wife to make her realize that for her own sake, as well as the sake of the family for whom she provides care, she needs to determine her limits and priorities and resist yielding to additional cries for help? — AT THE LIMIT IN OREGON

DEAR AT THE LIMIT: You are married to a rescuer. She continually puts the needs of others before her own welfare. You are not wrong to be concerned. At some point, Connie may very well burn out. All you can do as her husband is be supportive, remind her about the importance of taking care of herself (she won't be able to help anyone if she breaks down), and step in if it starts to affect her own health.

Rather than take on all of the day-to-day care for this neighbor, might it be easier for Connie to coordinate outside help to do it? It is a question worth asking.

Community Calendar

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

- Today**
CINCINNATUS
LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Feb. 2, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.
- PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. 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.
- DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.
- MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.
- Sunday**
A BETTER LIFE — BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.
- Monday**
PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.
- PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.
- CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.
- EUCHRE — Will be

played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

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

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

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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

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GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS.

Support bill to help our veterans

To the editor:
According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, on average, 17,000 new people enter homelessness every week in the United States.

Sadly, this includes far too many veterans. In fact, veterans are more likely than non-veterans to face homelessness. In Indianapolis, veterans represent only 4% of the population but account for 11% of those experiencing homelessness in our community.

Since 1993, Helping Veterans And Families (HVAF) has been serving veterans and families facing homelessness in Central Indiana. We provide housing with intensive case management, access to mental health-care, employment and legal services and assistance with

Letters to the Editor

basic needs through our food, clothing and hygiene pantries. Last year, 1,349 veterans received life-changing, life-saving assistance at HVAF.

Since 2010, the federal government, largely through the Department of Veterans Affairs, has expanded resources to help end veteran homelessness. Through public-private partnerships with providers like HVAF around the country, resources from the federal government provide much needed

transitional housing, rental assistance and permanent housing opportunities for those who defended our freedom. These partnerships have been successful in reducing veteran homelessness by 52% in the last 13 years; however, last year 35,574 veterans experienced homelessness, including over 15,000 veterans living unsheltered.

One key program in the fight to end veteran homelessness is a permanent supportive housing intervention known as the HUD-VASH program. This program pairs Housing Choice Vouchers from HUD with supportive services from the VA to ensure the most vulnerable veterans in our nation can obtain and maintain the stable housing they deserve. The voucher pays most of the rent, with veterans only respon-

sible for paying up to a third of their income towards rent. There are 800 HUD-VASH vouchers allocated to veterans in Indiana, including 400 for veterans residing in Marion County.

As of 2022, 19 States, the District of Columbia and many localities have laws in place prohibiting housing discrimination based on the source of income. Simply put, it is illegal for landlords to discriminate against those using vouchers to subsidize their housing. Unfortunately, Indiana lacks these basic protections for veterans utilizing vouchers to end their homelessness. We are proud to work with State Rep. Renee Pack and the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus this session to introduce legislation preventing this kind of discrimination against those

who served in our military. House Bill 1087 protects Indiana veterans.

Without basic protections for voucher holders, most veterans in Marion County are forced to live in unsafe areas. Ninety-eight percent of veterans, many who are senior citizens, live in areas with crime ratings of D or below. We should not tolerate placing those who sacrificed on our behalf in dangerous, high crime areas of our city.

It will take all of us working together to end veteran homelessness. Protecting veterans from housing discrimination is the least we can do to thank them for their service.

Emmy Hildebrand
CEO
Helping Veterans And Families

Nothing is gained from terror attacks

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

It was sure to happen that American troops in the Mideast would be killed by assaults from Iranian terror proxies and now it's happened, with three U.S. Army soldiers slain and dozens wounded Saturday night in Jordan. Since Iran proxy Hamas attacked Israel from Gaza on Oct. 7, the mullahs' terror bands in the region have been busy firing at our forces and our allies.

America will respond, as President Joe Biden said, "at a time and in a manner of our choosing" so Iran and its satraps learn that the United States does not turn the cheek when we are the subject of an act of war.

The 900 Americans serving in Syria have been targeted by 96 attacks on their bases, while the 2,500 U.S. troops in Iraq have been hit 63 times. But those 159 attacks by pro-Iran terrorists caused little to no damage. That changed Saturday, when a drone struck hard on a barracks at an outpost called Tower 22, in Jordan, right near the triple border of where the U.S.-allied kingdom (home to about 3,000 American troops) meets Syria and Iraq in the barren wastes of the Syrian Desert.

The culprits are the Islamic Resistance in Iraq or Kata'ib Hezbollah or another Iran-backed gang. While not under direct control of Iran, the motivation and inspiration goes back to Tehran and its Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, the puppet master.

Like Hamas and Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis rebels in Yemen, they form what they call the Axis of Resistance, a lovely gathering of terrorists and cutthroats attacking Israel, moderate Arab states and Western interests throughout the region. And at the center of this web are the ayatollahs declaring holy war on the Great Satan (which is us).

The piracy of the Houthis on global shipping in the Red Sea is part of this war, as is Hezbollah firing rockets into northern Israel while their Hamas comrades do the same from Gaza.

Iran has been careful to not launch these salvos themselves, but have used

Guest Editorial

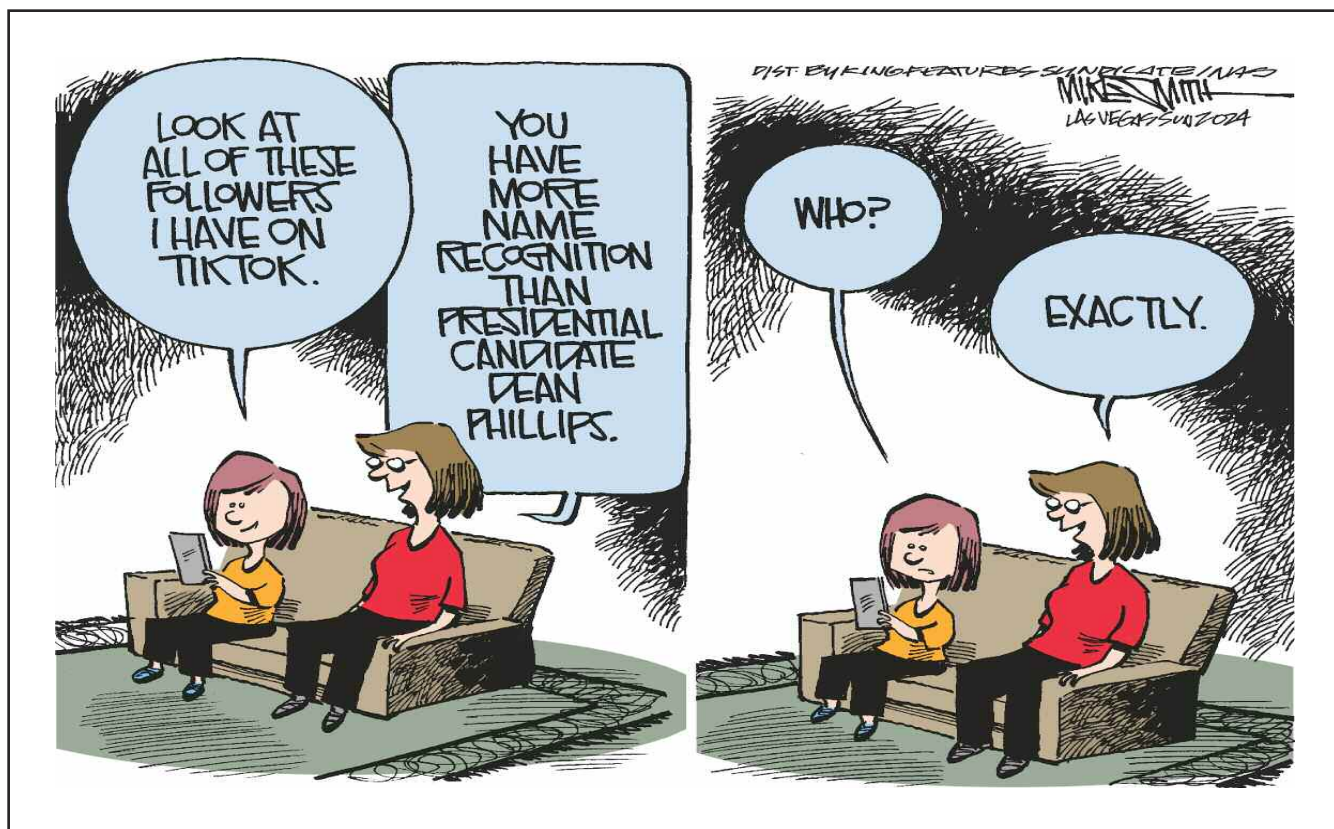
Iran has been careful to not launch these salvos themselves, but have used their loyal agents for their dirty work.

their loyal agents for their dirty work. Still, their fingerprints are clear, with the Pentagon and the White House highlighting Iran's involvement in the Jordan attack.

America's complaint against Iran is that they are the largest supporter of terrorism in the world, exporting murder, as their not-so-shadowy network of killers shows. But as the Wall Street Journal reports, before ISIS set off bombs in the Iranian city of Kerman this month that killed more than 80 people, Washington warned Iran that ISIS was planning an atrocity and passed along intelligence details on the place and time of the bombings.

Terrorism, from Al-Qaeda or ISIS or Hamas or Hezbollah or the Houthis or the myriad groups operating in the chaos of Syria and Iraq, hurts everyone. Iran may think that they can benefit from terror attacks, but the lawless death and destruction spreads. And now retribution will be coming.

As Biden said of those who died in that remote Tower 22 barracks, very far away from their home and families, that they were "unbending in their commitment to our country — risking their own safety for the safety of their fellow Americans, and our allies and stand in the fight against terrorism. It is a fight we will not cease."



Mentoring aids mental health

By NIKI KELLY

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A New Year has arrived, kids are back in school, and National Mentoring Month is coming to a close. While the benefits youth receive from being involved in a quality mentoring program have been well established, we continue to learn more about the connection between mentoring and improved mental health.

National Mentoring Month is led by MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership, which for more than twenty years has worked to increase the quality and quantity of youth mentoring relationships.

MENTOR's research shows the majority of Americans see mentoring relationships as powerful tools for connection and critical for our country's future.

•Nearly nine in 10 people feel that more mentoring is needed in our country.

•More than eight in 10 people support the use of government funds to grow mentoring opportunities.

Youth with a mentor are:
•92% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities.

•75% more likely to have held a leadership position in a club or sports team.

•22% more likely to have experienced a strong sense of belonging while growing up.

Adults who were mentored as youth report lasting, tangible effects:

•74% say that their mentor contributed significantly to their success later in life.

•69% of young adults say that this relationship helped them with issues related to their education.

•58% say their mentor has supported their mental health.

Research suggests that children and youth engaged in formal mentoring programs, especially those involved for a year or more, reported significantly fewer behavioral

Niki Kelly



Kids, focus on specific groups, in this case college students, to serve as mentors. Many faith-based mentoring programs have long understood the value of providing young people with support beyond their family members.

The key to all quality mentoring programs is a shared understanding that successful mentoring requires safety, impact, and equity standards. MENTOR's Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring™ includes evidence-based standards that have been co-created with mentoring programs. They are intended for use in almost every type of youth mentoring program.

Furthermore, eight supplemental standards are available to assist programs focused on STEM, workplace programs, LGBTQ+ students, students with disabilities, and peer, group, or virtual mentoring programs. Each standard aims to ensure the safety and effectiveness of mentoring programs and the relationships they support.

New years bring new hope. January is National Mentoring Month, and Indiana Youth Institute is celebrating the annual campaign aimed at expanding quality mentoring opportunities and connecting more of our community's young people with caring adults. Mentoring can be a critical component in young people's lives, helping them make the decisions and connections that lead to their improved well-being and improved future opportunities. In discussions of our children's needs, specifically their mental health needs, mentoring offers a bright spot worth celebrating this and every month.

Kelly has covered the Indiana Statehouse since 1999.

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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.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has been:
West North East South
1♥ Dblc Pass ?
What would you bid with each of the following five hands?
1. ♠AJ764 ♥853 ♦K752 ♣9
2. ♠943 ♥J875 ♦J85 ♣KJ96
3. ♠Q82 ♥J875 ♦732 ♣653
4. ♠AJ7 ♥QJ86 ♦842 ♣K94
5. ♠Q654 ♥7 ♦KQ85 ♣AQ32
1. Two spades. The most common way to indicate promising values when your partner doubles for takeout is by making a jump-response in your longest suit. It would be wrong to respond one spade with this hand and also make the same bid with, say: ♠J642 ♥8532 ♦Q7 ♣872
Your partner is not a mind reader and would have no way of knowing which hand you held if you responded one spade with both.
The given hand offers a strong potential for game with spades as trump, and you should announce that prospect via an invitational jump-response. Partner can then pass or continue bidding, depending on the strength of his hand.
2. One notrump. Here you have more high-card points but less chance for game. The choices are two clubs, which could be based on

a worthless hand; three clubs, which would show about nine to 11 points; and one notrump, promising seven to 10 points, a balanced hand and at least one heart stopper. This last choice describes your hand perfectly and is therefore the most sensible action.
3. One spade. This is an admittedly unpleasant situation, but you're not responsible for having been dealt a bad hand with no suit to bid. It would be dead wrong to pass, and equally wrong to bid one notrump with such meager values. You're not expected to enjoy bidding a three-card suit, but it's the best bid available.
4. Two notrump. This is an inviting bid, indicating 11 or 12 points, hearts well stopped and notrump distribution. If the deuce of diamonds were the queen, you'd bid three notrump.
5. Two hearts. This is obviously a game-going hand opposite a partner who has indicated opening-bid strength by his double. The trouble is that you don't know which of your three suits will provide the best play for game.
Rather than try to guess which game to bid, you should respond with a cuebid, asking partner to choose a suit. You plan to raise directly to game in the suit of his choice.

Tomorrow: Basic card-reading.
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2-2

CRYPTOQUIP

TXFV WH TNMCUEYZG YNE
RXWGCEUM NY QWEFVUH VN
EURUWKU NM VXUWE HRXNG

EUQNEV RFECH? HUKUM R'H.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOR AN UPCOMING FILM FEATURING SLEDDING CHAMPIONS, THE STUDIO HAD TO HIRE A COASTING DIRECTOR.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals C

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	38 Rim	DOWN	21 "Oops!"
1 Financial pro	39 Record book	1 Daily Planet reporter	23 Convinces
4 "Today" rival, briefly	41 Droops	2 Barbecue site	24 Witch Kent
7 Excavated	45 Wedding setting	3 Take as one's own	25 Previously
12 Young bloke	47 Pampering, for short	4 Prom dress	26 —
13 Popeye's Olive	48 Ice cream variety	5 "You saved me!"	27 Moines
14 Maine college town	52 Asian language	6 Texas landmark	28 Prohibit
15 From —Z	53 Garbage	7 "— Lisa"	30 Yellowstone grazer
16 "Well, I never!"	54 Shoe width	8 Hot temper	31 Yucatan "Bravo!"
18 Patch target	55 HIV-treating drug	9 Fish-fowl link	32 Club —
19 Site of ancient Greek games	56 Check recipient	10 Ltr. holder	33 Ovum
20 Japanese instrument	57 Adobe file format	11 Female rabbit	34 Takeout order?
22 Caviar	58 Collection	17 Many a Billie Eilish fan	35 Warded (off)
23 Food fish			36 Throat affliction
27 "Veep" ailer			37 Book of maps
29 Like Enya's music			38 Donut coating
31 Alpha's opposite			39 Composer Joplin
34 Port of Nigeria			40 Tennis great Arthur
37 Firmament			41 Coral formation
			42 NASCAR sponsor
			43 Mouths (Lat.)
			44 Wray of "King Kong"
			45 Mao — tung

Yesterday's answer 2-2

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Shot ...

Continued from page 8
Wood (37-0) is three-time state qualifier — he finished seventh at 138 last season — and ranked fourth in the state as he prepares to open his regional day against Winchester's Kayden Manning (15-17). A win would send him to the semifinal against either Jarin Frauhiger (30-9) of Southern Wells or Dalton Tuttle (2-2) of Delta. There are two ranked wrestlers — No. 9 Justin Boone (31-2) of Yorktown and No. 18 Maverick Dubach (33-5) of Adams Central — looming as potential finals opponents as Wood attempts to complete his career regional sweep.

"To be a four-time regional champion, that puts him in pretty rare company," said Myers. (Jay County has several three-time regional champions, but no one in the history of the school has ever won four.) "The Yorktown kid is a pretty tough wrestler. Tony's always been able to come out on top against him. ... You can't overlook anybody. You take it one match at a time. The most successful wrestlers I've coached have been able to do that."

Jay County's only other sectional champion was 20th-ranked Byrum (30-4), who will open his regional tournament at 106 pounds against Winchester's

Brennen Lanter (21-11). He could face 18th-ranked Daigan Barbosa (24-3) of Cowan in the semifinal, and top-ranked Jensen Boyd (32-0) of Delta looms in the finals.

Cody Rowles (25-9), who is ranked 18th at 126 pounds, will meet Tanner Eppard (25-12) of Yorktown in the opening round. He faces a difficult road to the final as he would likely run into top-ranked Neal Mosier (32-0), a two-time state medalist, in the semifinal.

Wenk (34-2), one of the Patriots' returning semi-state qualifiers along with Wood and Rowles, will take on Cowan's Peyton Keppler (15-15) in his opener at 190. He could meet Monroe Central's Jeremiah Ullom, who is also 34-2, in the semifinal with a chance to set up a finals rematch with No. 15 Trevor Currie (34-4) of Adams Central.

Flores (26-9) and Ortiz (21-7) both will be looking to reverse their fortunes after losing by pin in the opening round of the regional last year. Flores will start against Christian Erwin (19-17) of Monroe Central in the 175-pound bracket. If he wins, he would likely meet up with sixth-ranked Braxton Russell (31-1) of Delta in the semifinal round. Ortiz gets Yorktown's Wyatt Roach (10-18) in the



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Senior Juaquin Flores (26-9) of Jay County tries to force the shoulders of Norwell's Elijah Behning to the mat during Saturday's sectional tournament, pinning him to advance to the 175-pound championship. He is hoping to earn his first semi-state berth when he competes in the regional Saturday at JCHS.

opener at 215. If he advances, he would likely face Belmont's No. 3 Keagan Martin (38-1) in the semifinal.

Saturday will be the first taste of regional action for Robinson, Heskett and Landers, who were not part of the tournament roster a year ago.

Robinson (28-8) will open against Zach Martin (25-4) of Monroe Central at 150 while Heskett (21-14) will take on Cole Stuffer (29-7) of Yorktown in the 132-pound bracket. Landers (15-7) faces the most difficult opening-round matchup amongst the Patriots as he will start

against No. 20 Wyatt Hoppes (29-5) of Yorktown. "In the state tournament series, you take it one match at a time," said Myers. "You've really got to focus on that first one because you punch your ticket to semi-state. ... You just want to make sure that you advance and give your-

self another opportunity to compete next week. ... "As you keep going, the stakes get a little bit higher and higher; but at the same time you've got to make sure your kids are going out and just wrestling, staying loose. ... We've just got to go out there and wrestle those in front of us."

Collegiate ...

Continued from 8 Cale Rammel FRHS — 2023

Slowed down after an appearance in the starting lineup as he only scored three points over the past week for the Ohio

Christian men's basketball team.

After starting on Jan. 23 — a game in which he had 12 points and eight rebounds in 26 minutes — he logged 12 minutes and three points in a 71-64 vic-

tory over Cincinnati-Clermont. He also had four rebounds and an assist.

On Tuesday, Rammel only played three minutes, in which he shot 0-for-1 from the field and pulled down two boards.

Olivia Patch FRHS — 2020

Made her way back onto the floor, scoring three points over the last two games for the Hillsdale College women's basketball team.

In a 76-68 loss to Northwood on Jan. 25, Patch saw two minutes of action, splitting a pair of free throws.

In Jan. 27's 77-48 win against Cedarville, she played three minutes and scored two points.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls basketball sectional semifinal vs. Delta at Yorktown — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball vs. St. Henry — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Boys wrestling hosts regional — 8:30 a.m.; Girls swimming sectional at Jay County — 9 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls bowling at Coldwater (Pla-Mor Lanes) — 1 p.m.; Boys

bowling vs. Coldwater — 1 p.m.

TV sports

Today
2:45 p.m. — BBL basketball: London Lions at Newcastle Eagles (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. Bonaventure at Dayton (ESPN2); Ohio State at Iowa (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Sacramento Kings Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Butler at Creighton (FS1); Toledo at Akron (ESPN2)

11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: San Jose State at Nevada (FS1)

Saturday
7:30 a.m. — Premier League: Tottenham Hotspur at Everton (USA)
10 a.m. — Premier League: Crystal Palace at Brighton & Hove Albion (USA)
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UConn at St. John's (FOX); Penn State at Indiana (FS1)
12:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Duquesne at Rhode Island (USA)
1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wichita State at Memphis (CBS); Gram-

bling State at Jackson State (TNT)
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Marquette at Georgetown (FS1); Texas at TCU (ESPN2); Bradley at Illinois State (Bally Indiana); Northwestern at Minnesota (BTN)
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Fordham at Saint Louis (USA)
2:45 p.m. — NHL: All-Star Game 2024 (ABC)
3 p.m. — PGA Tour: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-AM (CBS)
3:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Utah State at San Diego State (FOX); Bethune-Cookman at Alabama

State (CBS)
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Houston at Kansas (ESPN); Hampton at Howard (TNT); Rutgers at Michigan (BTN); Florida at Texas A&M (ESPN2)
5:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Maryland at Michigan State (FOX)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Drake at Indiana State (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: Busch Light Clash at The Coliseum (FS1)
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Michigan at Penn State (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Duke at North Carolina (ESPN)

8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Iowa State at Baylor (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa at Maryland (FOX)
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Los Angeles Lakers at New York Knicks (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Tennessee at Kentucky (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Xavier at DePaul (FS1)
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oregon at UCLA (ESPN2)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. Mary's at Gonzaga (ESPN)

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Cause No. 38D01-2310-MF-000024
Jay County Christian Home Builders, Inc.
Plaintiff
vs
Eric R. Marshall, Sidney Marshall
Eric R. Marshall as natural guardian of Breanna Marshall
Mariner Finance, LLC, Heights Finance Corporation
Defendants
SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a copy a default judgment directed to me from the Judge of the Jay Superior Court in this cause wherein Jay County Christian Home Builders, Inc. is Plaintiff and Eric R. Marshall, Sidney Marshall, Eric R. Marshall as natural guardian of Breanna Marshall, Mariner Finance, LLC and Heights Finance Corporation are the Defendants requiring me to make the total sum of \$49,766.64 with interest thereon from the date of the judgment at the legal rate and any costs of this sale, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder on the 14th day of March, 2024 at 10:00 am on the 3rd floor of the Courthouse in Portland, Indiana the following described real estate:

Lot numbered Twenty-three (23) in Block Numbered Thirty-four (34) in William G. Sutton's Addition to the Town, now City of Dunkirk.

For informational purposes only the above-described real estate is located at 243 E. Commerce St. in Dunkirk, Indiana 47336.

This sale shall be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws and subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record. Immediately after the sale I will execute and deliver a deed of conveyance for the real estate and the Purchaser shall be placed in absolute possession of the real estate.

Dated this 16th day of January, 2024

Larry R. Newton, Jr.,
Jay County Sheriff
HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR Attorneys for Plaintiff
121 W. High Street
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260-726-8104

CR 1-19,26,2-2-2024 - HSPAXLP

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Good luck to the Jay County High School boys wrestlers as they compete in the regional tournament.



**Griffin Byrum, Juaquin Flores, A.J. Heskett, Jason Landers,
Alan Ortiz, Jacob Robinson, Cody Rowles,
Bryce Wenk and Tony Wood**
8:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 3
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Sports

A shot at eight

JC will strive to match '23 semi-state berths

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The Patriots had eight semi-state qualifiers a year ago.

To match that this weekend, they will need to be nearly perfect.

Jay County High School will have nine athletes competing Saturday as it hosts the regional wrestling tournament, with the top four in each weight class to clinch a semi-state berth.

Three-time defending regional champion Tony Wood leads the group of Patriots, who are coming off of a third-place sectional finish. Joining him will be sectional champion Griffin Byrum, Cody Rowles, Bryce Wenk, Juaquin Flores, Alan Ortiz, A.J. Heskett, Jacob Robinson and Jason Landers.

"We've got a shot," said JCHS coach Eric Myers of the possibility of matching last season's semi-state berth total. "I feel like on a really rough day we'd be at about five and a great day we'd be at eight to nine. ...

"I thought that we had some pretty fortunate draws. We've got a couple tough matches, but overall I liked what it looked like."

Semi-state berths are decided in the opening matches Saturday. First-round winners earn another week of wrestling and continue to battle for the regional title. First-round losers go home.

See Shot page 6



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

A.J. Heskett, a Jay County High School junior, wraps Adams Central's Brason Schortgen in a cradle during the 132-pound championship match in Saturday's sectional tournament. Heskett lost to Schortgen by a 23-8 technical fall. By finishing in second place, he will be one of nine Patriots who will compete in the regional tournament beginning at 8:30 a.m. Saturday at JCHS.

Schwieterman scores 11 points in 12 minutes

Renna Schwieterman's playing time and production has fluctuated throughout the season.

At times she's started, and in a few she'd only play single digit minutes.

She's scored as many as 28 points, but also been blanked four times.

On Wednesday, she only needed 11 minutes to drop 12 points.

The 2023 Jay County High

Collegiate check-up

School graduate scored 14 points last weekend as the Purdue Fort Wayne women's basketball team split a pair of games.

In Wednesday's matchup against Cleveland State (a 70-60 loss), Schwieterman shot 4-for-7 from the floor and 3-for-3 at the free-throw line to total 11 points in only 12 minutes.

She also reeled in 4 rebounds and swiped away on ball during the game.

In the 62-55 win over Northern Kentucky on Jan. 27, Schwieterman managed to pull down one more rebound for five, while she only scored

three points on 25% shooting (1-of-4).

Eliza Bader Jay County — 2021

Competed in four events as the Ball State University women's swim team dropped its first conference meet 219-81 to the Ohio Bobcats on Jan. 27.

Bader's top individual performance came in the 100-yard butterfly, earning sixth place

with a time of 1 minute, 0.73 seconds.

Her time of 1:01.56 had her finishing eighth in the 100 backstroke.

Bader swam the second leg of the 200 freestyle relay for the team that finished fourth in 1:41.34.

Her only other event was the 200 medley relay, in which she swam the butterfly. The team finished sixth (1:50.57).

See Collegiate page 6

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