

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Helping Dunkirk

JCDC board agrees to assist on grant application

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review
Dunkirk asked for help. Jay County Development Corporation agreed to provide it.

During its meeting Tuesday, JCDC's board voted unanimously for the organization to assist Dunkirk with an application for grant funding to update its five-year utility master plan after hearing a plea from the city's mayor.

Jack Robbins, who as mayor of Dunkirk sits on the JCDC board, told his fellow members he reached out to community coordinator Nate Kimball multiple times without any result.

"I've got no applications, I've got nothing," he said.

He asked for JCDC's assistance with the planning grant. (He noted that the city worked with JCDC on the grant for the five-year plan that is now at its end.)

"This has got to be done," Robbins added, noting that having such a plan is a requirement to apply for project grants through Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs.

Asked about capacity to handle the work, JCDC

executive director Travis Richards said it is feasible but that future construction grants would not be possible at current staffing levels. He noted that the organization is currently helping Redkey with a similar grant.

Richards pointed out that, based on JCDC's contract with the county signed last year, such grant applications fall outside of the organization's purview. (They are to be handled by the community coordinator.)

But, he added, JCDC is continuing to work on grants it had started before that contract was in place, and the 2024 contract has yet to be signed as final details are worked out. (The board discussed the contract earlier in the meeting.) He expressed a desire to not further aggravate the relationship between JCDC and the county but expressed a desire to help Dunkirk.

"That's why we're here," Richards said. "We're here to help our communities grow. We're here to help them with whatever it is they need."

See **Helping** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Utility work

A worker makes an adjustment to a utility line on the west side of Meridian Street just north of Lafayette Street on Wednesday morning in Portland.

Water park fees discussed

Board will vote at a future meeting

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review
Portland Park Board briefly talked about Portland Water Park during its meeting Tuesday.

The board was unable to take any action as only two members were in atten-

dance, leaving it one short of a quorum.

Park board president Brian Ison told fellow member John McFarland and the handful of those in attendance that he will recommend daily water park admission prices remain the same while asking for an increase on annual passes.

After consulting with staff and looking at prices of similar facilities, he said he will recommend leaving daily admission rates to the water park at \$5 before 5 p.m. and \$3 after 5 p.m. for the 2024 season.

See **Fees** page 2



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Lost lenses

Paige Finch laughs with Portland firefighters as they search for her glasses at Splashin' with a Passion: Peggy's Plunge on Saturday. Finch dunked her head under the water as part of the polar plunge, causing her glasses to fall off. Volunteer firefighter Chris Elmore found them after a couple of minutes of searching.

Qatar reports some progress

By PETER MARTIN, DANA KHRAICHE and ETHAN BRONNER
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Qatar said Hamas has delivered a positive response to a proposal to halt fighting in Gaza in exchange for the release of some Israeli hostages, but a deal may still be far off.

U.S. President Joe Biden said the Palestinian militant group's response was "a little over the top" and emphasized that negotiations haven't finished. Hamas and Israel, in talks mediated by Qatar, still have to agree on key issues, including the length of any cease-fire and the number of hostages to be released from Gaza.

Qatar received Hamas's reply about the general framework

for an agreement to release some of the hostages, Prime Minister Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani said on Tuesday alongside visiting U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken.

"The response includes some remarks, but overall it is positive," Al Thani said, without providing more details.

U.S. officials declined to say if it would lead to a decisive breakthrough in the talks.

Hamas wants a 135-day truce that can be rolled out in three stages, Alarabiya TV reported, citing a draft of the group's demands. The first stage would involve the release of Israeli civilian hostages, the delivery of more aid to Gaza, and Israeli forces withdrawing from civilian areas in Gaza.

Deaths

Rickie Caldwell, 69, Dunkirk
Danny Hidy, 89, Bluffton
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 43 degrees Tuesday. The low was 30.

Tonight's low will be in the upper 40s with winds gusting to 40 miles per hour and a chance of rain. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with the high climbing to 60.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Noon Friday marks the deadline to file to run for office in this year's primary election. (Filing for non-partisan school board seats will be held this summer.)

Coming up

Friday — Preview of the JCHS wrestlers headed to the semi-state tournament.

Saturday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Works meeting.



Helping ...

Continued from page 1
Robbins said he had talked to two of the three commissioners regarding the city's needs and that he would go to them again to explain the situation.

"I think it would be unfortunate if we missed the opportunity to support Dunkirk in their planning grant opportunity," said board member Rob Keisling, making a motion to approve Robbins' request.

The board members in attendance voted unanimously to assist Dunkirk with the grant application and asked Robbins to have a conversation with commissioners to explain the situation.

"I'm sure it's going to ruffle feathers, but as long as you have that discussion that you had your back to the wall, I'm OK with it," said board member Angela Paxson.

Also Tuesday, the board agreed to have new financial reports monthly, which the commissioners' representative can then

report back to his colleagues. Richards said commissioner Rex Journay, who now sits on the board and its executive committee, indicated that the proposed reports would meet commissioners' previous request for an accounting of JCDC expenditures. He said commissioners made that request as part of their process of determining funding for JCDC for 2024.

As part of the discussion about finances, the board noted its cash balance, which currently sits at about 42% of annual expenses. Several members said they would recommend having sixth months — 50% of annual expenses — in reserve.

"Yes," said board member and Jay County Council vice president Cindy Bracy, "because you could have some flaky elected officials that move things around."

The board agreed to consider a formal cash reserve policy at a later date.

Also discussed at the meeting

were the shared utilities at Community Resource Center, the building owned by the City of Portland that houses JCDC, Jay County Chamber of Commerce, Jay County Visitor and Tourism Bureau, Jay/Portland Building and Planning, and the county-contracted community coordinator.

Richards noted that traditionally utilities have been in JCDC's name and paid for by JCDC, with the other organizations providing reimbursement. He noted, however, that the county's contract with the city for the community coordinator's office eliminated language regarding utilities and that commissioners denied claims for water, wastewater, electric, drinking water and gas while approving a claim for rug/carpet cleaning.

He said he has reached out to Portland Mayor Jeff Westlake regarding the issue.

Richards suggested one possibility would be to remove JCDC as the middleman by putting all

utility services in the city's name, with the city then billing each of the entities in the building individually.

In other business, the JCDC board:

- Elected Angela Paxson as president, Ron Laux as vice president, Barb Street as secretary and Trent Paxson as treasurer. Re-elected to three-year terms on the board were Mary Adair, Doug Loy, Josh Atkinson, Mark Leavell, Alicia Corwin, Angela Paxson, Keisling and Laux. Elected Journay to a two-year term replacing Brian McGalliard as the commissioners' representative and Portland Mayor Jeff Westlake to a one-year term replacing former mayor John Boggs.

- Approved \$4,800 to renew a contract for the Yodel community calendar. Richards said he will take the request back to commissioners for their OK.

- Heard from Richards that the county is not eligible to apply for the new Stellar Pathways program — a revamped version of

the previous Stellar Communities, in which both Dunkirk and the Jay! Region had been finalists — because it is still involved in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP). Once the HELP process is complete, the county could look into applying for Stellar Pathways.

- Approved an update to its policy on checks and billing. Checks will be double-signed as they have been, with a new policy of all bills being double-initialed by those who sign the checks. They also approved Richards, Loy, Street, Angela Paxson and Trent Paxson as check signers.

- OK'd shifting from an annual audit to a review. Bollenbacher and Associates, which has handled the organization's annual audits, is no longer offering audits but said a review should be sufficient.

- Learned from Richards that the East Central Indiana Regional Partnership annual luncheon is Feb. 22. He encouraged local elected officials to attend.

CR almanac

Friday 2/9	Saturday 2/10	Sunday 2/11	Monday 2/12	Tuesday 2/13
60/46	51/29	42/28	40/28	40/27
Friday's forecast shows high winds with gusts up to 30 mph and a chance of rain at night.	Mostly sunny on Saturday, when the high will be in the low 50s. Rain is possible late.	Another chance of rain on Sunday. Otherwise, mostly cloudy.	There's a chance of snow on Monday when the high will be in the mid 40s.	Mostly cloudy on Tuesday. The low may dip into the mid to upper 20s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$228 million	Evening Daily Three: 5-8-6 Daily Four: 4-5-3-6 Quick Draw: 2-7-12-13-17-18-20-23-25-27-33-46-52-57-60-68-69-70-75-80
Mega Millions 3-5-16-58-59 Mega Ball: 11 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$333 million	Ohio Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 9-3-5 Pick 4: 9-1-8-8 Pick 5: 1-0-2-0-8 Evening Pick 3: 1-7-0 Pick 4: 7-1-7-4 Pick 5: 9-9-3-7-8 Rolling Cash: 8-16-18-27-34 Estimated jackpot: \$130,000
Hoosier Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 7-7-7 Daily Four: 8-9-0-3 Quick Draw: 2-5-6-9-10-12-13-22-23-25-32-35-39-45-49-52-54-62-68-76	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.41 March corn4.38 Wheat5.44	March beans11.79 Wheat 5.63
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.41 March corn4.43 April corn4.45	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.24 March corn4.26 Beans11.80 March beans11.83 Wheat5.63
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.23 March corn4.23 Beans11.79	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.38 March corn4.47 Beans11.60 March beans11.14 Wheat5.33

Today in history

In 1587, The Queen of Scots, Mary, was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle. At 44 years old, she was killed for planning to assassinate Elizabeth I.

In 1828, Jules Verne was born in Nantes, France. Verne wrote the popular titles, "A Journey to the Centre of the Earth," "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea," and "Around the World in Eighty Days."

In 1879, Time zones were introduced by Sandford Fleming.

In 1931, James Dean was born in Marion, Indiana. The actor is most famous for his role in "Rebel Without a Cause" as Jim Stark. Dean died shortly before the movie's release in 1955 from a vehicle accident in California.

In 2016, seven wrestling team members finished in the top four during the IHSAA wrestling regional tournament at Jay County High School. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland.	Trustees, community room, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board of	6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
	7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Obituaries

Rickie Caldwell

Feb. 27, 1954-Feb. 5, 2024
Rickie J. Caldwell, 69, Dunkirk, died Monday, Feb. 5, 2024, at home following an illness.

Born in Portland on Feb. 27, 1954, he was a longtime Dunkirk resident who enjoyed flipping houses and restoring classic cars.

Survivors include Anita Childers, Dunkirk, to whom he was engaged; son Rickie L. Caldwell (wife: Amy), Redkey; daughter Heather Clemmons-Grayson (husband: Scott), Dunkirk; father Merle Caldwell, Parker City; brothers Brian Caldwell (wife: Trina), Dunkirk, and Ed Caldwell (wife: Leann), Parker City;

Services

Thursday
Zehringer, Rosemary: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharnsburg Road, Fort Recovery.
Shockey, Mike: 3 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.
Brotherton, Mary: 7 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday
Siefring, Eugene: 10:30 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery.

Saturday
Hidy, Danny: 1 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

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

Fees ...

Continued from page 1
Also remaining the same would be \$50 for the 10-day pass, \$3 admission for senior citizens (62 and older) and veterans, \$2 admission for children 2 and younger and a \$20 discount on annual passes for members of Jay County Summer Swim Team. Recommended increases

are for annual passes, which in 2023 started at \$75 and had \$25 increases for each additional individual. This year, Ison said he's recommending \$75 for one person with a \$50 increase for each person in the same family up to \$325 for a family of six or more.

Also set for a possible increase are pool rentals — up to \$125 per hour plus the cost of lifeguards from \$75 per hour in 2023.

All water park pricing will be subject to board approval at its next meeting at 5:30 p.m. March 5.

Ison noted that the board will review salaries and training reimbursements for water park staff.

Currently, plans call for opening the water park on Saturday, May 25. Ison said the board will likely evaluate a closing date based on staff availability. (He noted that water park manager has reached out and already secured verbal commitments from 22 lifeguards for 2024.)

Ison also asked if the pool had been inspected to see how the new tile has held up this winter. Street and parks department superintendent Matt Shauver said it had not but that he would visit the facility Wednesday.

In other business:
•Shauver introduced new park manager Ronnie Reynolds, who will take over the position after Shauver's promo-



Caldwell

Caldwell; mother Betty Prater and her husband Bill; stepmother Charlotte Caldwell; brother Mickie Caldwell; and sisters Kathy Jones, Brenda Caldwell and Vickie Caldwell.

In accordance with his wishes, cremation was chosen.

Memorials are preferred to Animal Rescue Fund (A.R.F.), 1209 W. Riggan Road, Muncie, IN 47303.

Condolences and other expressions of sympathy may be expressed at MeachamFuneralService.com.

Danny Lee Hidy, Bluffton, a Portland native, May 21, 1934-Feb. 4, 2024. Services will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

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

SERVICES

Thursday

Zehringer, Rosemary: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharnsburg Road, Fort Recovery.
Shockey, Mike: 3 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.
Brotherton, Mary: 7 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday

Siefring, Eugene: 10:30 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery.

Saturday

Hidy, Danny: 1 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

March 2

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

Service listings provided by

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

A FREE GIFT OF GRATITUDE FOR INDIANA RESIDENTS WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY DURING THE VIETNAM WAR ERA 1955-1975 ANY DUTY STATION

Daughters of the American Revolution
Mississinewa Chapter NSDAR
Kathy Seiman 260-251-1694
and the
Museum of the Soldier

JAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
315 N. Ship Street
Portland, IN 47371

★ INDIANA VIETNAM VETERANS ★
FREE GIFT GIVEAWAY
SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 10, 2024
9:00AM - NOON ★ REFRESHMENTS SERVED

GIFTS ARE PRESENTED TO EACH VETERAN
WELCOME HOME
VIETNAM VETERANS
WHVV.org

'Know your numbers' to be health-cognizant

By TAMMY MUHLENKAMP

It is important to know your "health" numbers. There are key health numbers that impact your overall health and can help assess your risk for serious conditions such as heart disease and stroke. Some important numbers to track and be aware of include:

Your Health Matters



thick, hard deposit that can clog arteries.

Cholesterol

Cholesterol is an important part of a healthy body because it is used to form cell membranes and some hormones, and it's needed for various other functions. A high level of cholesterol in the blood — hypercholesterolemia — can be a major risk factor for coronary heart disease, which can lead to heart attacks.

LDL

Low-density lipoprotein (LDL), known as "bad" cholesterol, is the major cholesterol carrier in the blood. If too much LDL cholesterol circulates in the blood, it can slowly build up in the walls of the arteries feeding the heart and brain and form plaque — a

HDL

High-density lipoprotein (HDL) helps to carry cholesterol away from the arteries and back to the liver, where it is passed from the body. HDL cholesterol is known as "good" cholesterol because a high HDL level can protect against heart attacks. A low HDL level (less than 40 milligrams/deciliter in men and less than 50 milligrams/deciliter in women) indicates a greater risk. A low HDL cholesterol level also may raise stroke risk.

Cholesterol/HDL ratio

Calculating your cholesterol ratio can provide useful information about your risk for heart disease. A higher ratio indicates a higher risk of heart disease, and a lower

ratio indicates a lower risk. You can calculate your cholesterol ratio by dividing your HDL, or "good" cholesterol, into your total cholesterol. According to the American Heart Association, the goal is to keep your cholesterol ratio 5 to 1 or lower.

Triglycerides

Triglycerides come from fats in food or are made in the body from other energy sources like carbohydrates. Calories eaten in a meal that are not used right away by tissues are converted to triglycerides and transported to fat cells to be stored. Excess triglycerides in the blood can lead to heart attacks, digestive problems and poor circulation. The cholesterol, LDL, HDL, cholesterol/HDL ratio and triglycerides can be obtained by getting a lipid profile blood work drawn. Your provider can order this through the lab.

Blood pressure

Blood pressure is a measurement of how hard your heart works to pump blood throughout your body. Blood pressure is

recorded as two numbers — the systolic pressure, the top number (as the heart beats), and the diastolic pressure, the bottom number (as the heart relaxes between beats). Both numbers are important. Talk with your doctor about both your numbers to make sure that they are OK for you.

Hemoglobin A1C

A1C is a blood test that will tell you your average blood sugar over the past three months. An A1C greater than or equal to 6.5% indicates diabetes. A diagnosis should be confirmed with a repeat test by a healthcare provider. An A1C between 5.7% to 6.4% can indicate pre-diabetes (increased risk for developing diabetes).

Glucose

Glucose comes from carbohydrates or from sweet, sugary and starchy foods. It is the main source of energy used by the body. A fasting glucose level of less than 100 is considered normal. This is taken first thing in the morning before eating or drinking anything. If your fasting glucose is 126 mil-

ligrams/deciliter or higher on a regular basis, you are at increased risk of diabetes, heart disease or stroke, and you should contact your health care provider.

BMI

Body mass index (BMI) is a number calculated from your weight and height. BMI is used as a screening tool to identify weight conditions for adults. It is also important to remember that BMI is not the only factor related to the risk for disease. To determine the likelihood of developing overweight or obesity-related diseases, it is recommended that you also look at waist circumference along with other risk factors such as high blood pressure or physical inactivity. Women with a waist measurement of more than 35 inches or men with a waist measurement of more than 40 inches have a higher risk of developing health problems, such as diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease.

How to improve your numbers

There are various ways

to improve your numbers or manage them to help reduce the risk of disease. Some of these include eating a healthy diet full of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, beans, nuts, plant-based proteins, lean animal proteins such as fish and seafood. It is also important to limit sugary foods and drinks, red or processed meats, salty foods, refined carbohydrates and highly processed foods.

Being physically active can also reduce your risk of developing diabetes and help manage the disease if you already have it. Staying at a healthy weight can help prevent, delay or manage diabetes. Avoiding smoking, vaping, exposure to second-hand smoke or using tobacco can reduce your risk of heart disease, stroke, many cancers and other chronic diseases.

Talk to your healthcare provider if you need assistance or more information on managing your numbers.

Muhlenkamp is the IU Health Jay cardiopulmonary rehab manager.

Parenting styles differ in couple's new relationship

DEAR ABBY: I have been in a relationship for more than a year. We met at the gym. We have similar interests and are both normally caring and loving to each other. We also have similar senses of humor.

We moved in together too quickly, after only six months. Our attempt at blending our kids and families has hit a lot of hard bumps. He is a very assertive and aggressive parent, while I'm the opposite. He has helped me with pointers and advice on taming my two boys' "attitudes," and both have changed the attitudes they had before and are doing good.

The problem is, my boyfriend has become controlling to the point that when anyone seems a little disrespectful or doesn't do what they were supposed to or told to do, he gets in the middle of it. When we have an argument, if we disagree on something, he curses at me or calls me names. This has become a dealbreaker for me. He says I spoil and coddle my kids, which is a dealbreaker for him. He always apologizes afterward, but then he does it again. This may seem obvious,

Dear Abby



but is this as clear as I'm thinking that we should break up? — SOMEWHAT HOPELESS

DEAR SOMEWHAT HOPELESS: Because your "gentleman" (I use the term advisedly) friend becomes verbally abusive when you have a disagreement, recognize that he continues to do it because it works for him. The example his behavior has set for your boys is atrocious. I'm pleased that you are thinking as clearly as you have been. Offer him the option of couples counseling. If he refuses, for your kids' sakes if not for your own, move out and move on. The person you're involved with isn't just "aggressive" as much as he is a bully.

DEAR ABBY: My brother, who

is 48, has mental issues. I have always tried to be there for him as much as I could without interfering with his independence. Although he is antisocial, he isn't dangerous to anyone. He has low self-esteem and takes things literally.

My parents have always been emotionally detached, but my brother has always craved Dad's acceptance. Because he felt that Dad favored me, he pushes me away and isolates himself. I have tried to stay in contact, and if I see him at the store, I speak to him, but he is so full of anger. Should I keep trying even though it's painful? I have tried telling him how I feel about the situation, but he lives in his own little world and can't relate to my feelings. I just worry that if he were to pass, I would feel guilty for not trying harder, but he makes it so difficult and painful. — FACING OBSTACLES IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR FACING OBSTACLES: You are a good sister. But for your brother's sake as well as your own, it may be time to distance yourself emotionally from his mental prob-

lems. He may treat you the way he does because he is incapable of interpersonal relations, not because of anything you did or didn't do. Because you would feel guilty if you disengaged entirely, contact your brother every six or eight weeks or so to check in. If you encounter him in a store, be polite. If he's angry or belligerent, back off, continue your shopping or leave. Please don't take this as personally as you have. Your brother is unwell. YOU CAN'T FIX WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM. Follow your conscience, which is more than your parents have been doing — and forgive yourself for not being able to do more.

DEAR ABBY: After attending a water aerobics class for three months, I have had it with the talkers in the pool. I'm not the only one annoyed that a handful of ladies disrespect the instructors and the rest of the class. They have been asked to quiet down by instructors and the other participants. There is even a sign on the door asking for lim-

ited talking. These elderly ladies are oblivious to how loud and disturbing they are. Some have hearing loss and the acoustics in an indoor pool are terrible, so their voices just get louder and louder. I kid you not, two of them talk the entire hour, which makes it difficult for the rest of us to hear the instructor or the music very well.

They are kidding themselves if they think they are working out — they just bob up and down and talk. Once in a while, they ask "What are we doing now?" because they are not paying attention. When these ladies start talking to each other, those nearby get distracted and can't work out, either.

Am I wrong to think that when a class starts, the talking should stop so everyone can participate in the class? — SPLASHING MAD IN NORTH IDAHO

DEAR SPLASHING: You are not wrong. The INSTRUCTOR should tell these ladies they are being disruptive to the class and to confine their chatter to the changing room — or, if they cannot comply, to leave the area.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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.

SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

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 - BRANNA'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

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

GRAPHIC PRINTING

NEWSPAPERS

FEBRUARY ADVERTISING SPECIALS

Run your half-page black and white Ad

any day from
Feb. 1 through 10 **\$150** (each)

(Run it again as many times as you want in February for \$125 each)

any day from
Feb. 13 through 17 **\$175** (each)

(Run it again as many times as you want in February for \$150 each)

any day from
Feb. 20 through 29 **\$200** (each)

(Run it again as many times as you want in February for \$175 each)



The Commercial Review

CONTACT LINDSEY AT L.COCHRAN@THECR.COM OR (260) 726-8141

*Rates do not apply to special sections
*Ads must run in February

Counties depend on outside income

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Indiana's roads, those pitted patches of pavement, are critical to our economy.

They get workers to their places of work and home again to their places of residence.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis reports earnings by the county of work and the county of residence. Our highways enable commuting between St. Joseph and Elkhart counties or Hancock and Henry counties.

In 2022, Hoosier workers brought \$92 billion home from work in another county or state. That was 36% of the total earnings of workers residing in Indiana.

Yes, I hear you, Nathan Nitpicker. That statement is an exaggeration. Some people

Eye on the Pie



worked at home and a part of that sum involved the internet rather than the highways some of the time.

Yes, Natalie, 9% of that \$92 billion came from out-of-state.

Right, Nathan, just 3% of the earnings generated in Indiana went out-of-state.

Enough! These Nitpickers drive me mad.

What counts is that in 2022, only 19 Indiana counties were net exporters of earnings, with

the other 73 net importers of earnings.

Nathan wants to know which of our 92 counties is the greatest exporter of earnings. Natalie wants him to clarify that question.

The answer for Nathan is no surprise: Marion County exported nearly \$29 billion in 2022 — 43% of the earnings generated there. But if Natalie wants to know which county exported the greatest portion of the earnings generated in that county, then it's Martin County with 78% exported. Can you say Naval Surface Warfare Center at Crane?

In all, four more counties exported more than 50% of their generated earnings. These were Spencer, Vermillion, Gibson and Ripley.

Before the Nitpickers get a chance, I'll say Hamilton was the greatest dollar importer (\$17.6 billion), with the greatest percentage of imported earnings (78%) being found in Spencer County. In total, 45 Indiana counties imported more than half of the earnings they received.

In the past 10 years, 52 Indiana counties have become more dependent on imported earnings. If this is what we want, then get out there to widen those highways, speed up that internet service.

"Leave it alone, let the market work," I hear on my right. The voice on my left say, "The state should balance economic opportunities rather than concentrating them in a few places."

"Save the smaller communi-

ties," urges one radical gubernatorial candidate who claims to be a conservative. "Economies of scale need to be respected," is the unspoken message of an imperious radical developer.

"No more!" cries the crowd over there. "Grow or die!" shout others across the way.

"We, for a fee, can your saviors be," declare consultants from Algorithmic Arrogance.

The Economic Development Travel Agency recommends places that changed everything to keep the existing balance.

But why discuss difficult and serious stuff when we've got the Bowl, the Basket and the General Assembly to entertain us?

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Ban phones not TikTok

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

In response to the inordinate amount of time young Americans spend online, a bipartisan group of lawmakers is pushing to curb students' access to social media sites while at school. The goal of keeping students off TikTok during the school day is undoubtedly worthwhile, but policymakers would be better off taking a simpler and more effective approach: banning mobile phones from schools altogether.

It's by now indisputable that allowing kids to have phones in the classroom harms academic performance — even among those who don't actually use them. Excessive smartphone and social media use have also been linked to rising rates of teenage depression, emotional distress and self-harm. Three-quarters of US public schools claim to prohibit "nonacademic" use of mobile phones during class, but enforcement remains weak. A recent survey found that 97% of US adolescents used their phones at school, with most of it spent on social media, YouTube and gaming platforms.

The problem has finally spurred some in Congress to act. A bill introduced by Texas Senator Ted Cruz would require districts receiving funds through the federal E-Rate program, which subsidizes the cost of broadband connections, to block access to social media platforms over their Wi-Fi networks, just as they already must do for pornography. They'd also have to disclose how much classroom time is spent on screens. Districts that fail to comply would face the loss of federal subsidies — a powerful incentive for schools in high-poverty areas, which rely on E-Rate to cover up to 90% of their internet costs.

Cruz and his cosponsors, Republicans Ted Budd and Shelley Moore Capito and Democrat John Fetterman, deserve credit for trying to prevent taxpayer money from further enabling teens' social media use — especially in the wake of the Federal Communications Commission's decision to allow districts to use E-Rate funds to sub-

Guest Editorial

dize Wi-Fi on school buses, which will give kids even more unsupervised time online. But even if it's eventually enacted, the bill won't have much impact on student learning. Only one-third of public schools receive E-Rate funds and would be subject to the mandate. Kids would also still be able to send text messages, watch videos and shop online on their devices. And regardless of how students use their phones, merely being in proximity to them impairs focus and retention, while forcing teachers to waste valuable time policing their use.

Rather than try to control what students do on their phones, policymakers should be focused on removing them entirely. Other countries show it can be done: France, Italy, the UK and China, among others, have imposed nationwide restrictions on mobile phones in schools. US Education Secretary Miguel Cardona should act on the recommendation made by dozens of education researchers and issue an official advisory to school districts calling for an outright ban of phones — and press state-level education chiefs to do the same. State and federal lawmakers should provide financial incentives for districts that implement phone-free policies and increase funding for pouches and lockers to store devices for the duration of the school day. Another bill in the Senate, sponsored by Republican Tom Cotton and Democrat Tim Kaine, would authorize \$5 million a year to pay for phone-storage equipment — a good start, though likely not enough to cover all schools' needs.

After years of inaction, it's encouraging to see some national leaders begin to address the damage inflicted by mobile technology on student learning. But bolder action is still needed to start solving the problem for good.



Put \$ toward humanitarian aid

By BRUCE STANLEY, JONATHAN EVANS and ANNIE FOSTER
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Over the past five decades, American taxpayers have invested more than \$7 billion to finance hundreds of projects in humanitarian relief and development in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, all under the banner of "peacebuilding." But the Biden administration is currently providing the weaponry that is killing the very people the government set out to help and is failing to protect the life-giving projects that American money created. In addition, the administration has now suspended funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, the largest humanitarian group in Gaza, as 2 million Palestinians there face mass homelessness, famine and disease.

We've spoken to a dozen humanitarian-aid colleagues who are retired senior staff from Amideast, Anera, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, Mercy Corps, Save the Children and World Vision. All of us managed or consulted on projects that the U.S. Agency for International Development funded in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank during the 1990s and 2000s. We helped to improve family and primary healthcare access; train professors in teaching strategies; build nursing colleges; enhance the agricultural food sector; make more effective use of scarce water resources; and support municipal and social services. Through our nongovernmental organizations, we also worked to increase employment opportunities and create the first internet network for Palestinian NGOs and academic institutions.

We worked closely with the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, the consulate in Jerusalem and USAID personnel on these initiatives. A key motivation driving all of us was the responsibility of the U.S. to reinforce the econom-

Guest Opinion

ic, social and cultural rights of the Palestinian people as part of its moral and legal commitment to regional peace and security. This is what we worked so hard to achieve — and it is what more than 1,000 current USAID staffers affirmed in November when they publicly called on President Joe Biden to support a cease-fire.

For us, this daily destruction of Palestinian society is very personal. Throughout the decades of this conflict, we have always condemned physical, structural, sexual and cultural violence no matter its justification or its perpetrators. The vicious Hamas attack on Oct. 7 and the subsequent ferocious response by Israel in Gaza can only lead to intergenerational insecurity for Israel, the fracturing of Palestinian society and further postponement of the Palestinian right to self-determination in safety and security.

As of late January, most of what was produced with the help of development and relief assistance in Gaza has been destroyed. Ambulance drivers and medical technicians in Gaza's hospitals were trained, only now to be killed where they work, which human rights groups say violates international humanitarian law. Hundreds of Palestinian academics were trained at American institutions so they might return to teach at Gaza universities. But now more than 100 Gaza academics have been killed, and the universities across the Gaza Strip, along with technological hardware supplied by the U.S. for educational purposes, have been destroyed. American taxpayers supported farm-

ers to expand their productivity. Now extensive tracts of fields, crops, orchards and greenhouses have been bulldozed. Women's empowerment projects have collapsed and many of the trained staff killed, while housing projects and sewage infrastructure have been leveled. Child disability, youth sports and other community projects no longer exist. The consequences of the siege have put Gaza in an "apocalyptic free fall," as leaders of global humanitarian organizations described the situation last month.

Both Democratic and Republican administrations promoted these USAID projects, funded by Americans and affirmed by Congress, because it showed a commitment to peace and was in the U.S. national interest. Now, without setting effective limits on violence in this war, the current U.S. administration's policies are unraveling that mission. These decisions can only heighten cynicism about the actual intentions and credibility of the United States in providing any such aid for post-war redevelopment and whether, in the future, our investment may once again go up in smoke.

U.S. tax dollars need to be directed toward diplomacy to address the outstanding issues at the root of this conflict: the future of refugees, Gaza, the West Bank and Jerusalem. By prioritizing an immediate cease-fire and the funding of aid for Gaza through humanitarian organizations, the Biden administration could stem further devastation and support a future for both Palestinians and Israelis based on human dignity.

Stanley served as director for the West Bank and Gaza for Amideast. Evans served as country representative for Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza for Catholic Relief Services. Foster served as country director, Palestinian Territories for Save the Children.

The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

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



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.

RAY COONEY
President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

LOUISE RONALD
Board chair

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

"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

VOLUME 150—NUMBER 184
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

www.thecr.com

Contemporaries, fans mourn Keith

Country artist died of cancer at age 62

By NARDINE SAAD
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Toby Keith was mourned by fans and his fellow country musicians Tuesday after his family announced that the “Should’ve Been a Cowboy” singer died Monday at 62 after being diagnosed with stomach cancer.

The musician, who announced in June 2022 that he had been battling cancer for months, was praised for his songwriting ability, patriotism, gruff attitude and larger-than-life persona, as well as his support for the American military, veterans and the USO.

Keith’s tough-talking post 9/11 hits included “American Ride” and “Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American).”

In 2018, the Oklahoma-born “I Love This Bar” singer and seven-time Grammy nominee told The Times that he felt understood by his core fans but also believed that he had fans “that love you for the wrong reasons.”

“And as many people that have painted me in a corner, there’s people standing in that corner ready for me to paint in there,” he told Times music critic Mikael Wood. “You’re never gonna reach enough people in any interview to avoid being misrepresented.”

Still, many of those fans, Keith’s contemporaries and those he influenced took to social media to pay their respects to the late legend.

“So sad to hear about Toby Keith dying. wow,” tweeted musician Bobby Bones, who opened for Keith on tour. “He was just with us in studio and seemed super positive. I’ve had the honor of opening for him on his tour. playing with him at festivals. and



Tribune News Service/Los Angeles Times/Brian van der Brug

Toby Keith performs onstage at the Verizon Wireless Amphitheater in Irvine, California, on Aug. 13, 2011. Keith died Monday, Feb. 5, 2024, at age 62.

having him, in studio many times. Gathering notes and thoughts to talk about it coming up this morning.”

“Just waking up to the news of Toby Keith’s passing,” tweeted fellow country star Jason Aldean. “Today is a sad day for Country music and its fans. Toby was a huge presence in our business and someone we all looked up to and respected. You and your music will be forever remembered big man.”

“Waking up to the terrible news that our friend, and legend @tobykeith has passed away from cancer,” tweeted John Rich of Big & Rich. “He was a true Patriot, a first class singer/songwriter, and a bigger than life kind of guy. He will be greatly missed.”

“RIP to Toby Keith. He was unapologetically pro-America, made songs that could make you want to crack a beer or cry and gave people something to rally around after 9/11. A true legend who will never be replaced,” tweeted Outkick reporter and podcaster David Hookstead.

“It is with great sadness that we learn of the passing of Toby Keith. He has forever left a mark on Country Music. Our sincere condolences go out to his loved ones during this difficult time,” the Country Music Association tweeted and wrote on Instagram.

The Academy of Country Music Awards — which named Keith entertainer of the year twice, in 2002 and 2003 — recapped his spectacular run with the institution, which amounted to 15 awards.

“With worldwide sales of more than 40 million albums, he built an exceptional career on well-sung ballads, barroom sing-alongs, and patriotic anthems, as well as heartfelt songwriting, for which he was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame as well as received the National Medal of Arts,” the ACM said in a statement posted on social media. “Indeed, Keith wrote the vast majority of his no. 1 hits and had a chart-topping single every year for 20 consecutive years. He also dedicated himself tirelessly to

countless charitable initiatives, including several USO tours and events. Most recently, he received the ACM Spirit Award, presented to a singer-songwriter who continues the legacy of Country legend Merle Haggard. Please join the Academy in sending love, healing, and prayers to his family, friends, and millions of fans all over the globe.”

“Legendary country singer/songwriter Toby Keith has left us too soon after a battle with cancer. 20 No. 1 Billboard hits!” tweeted Hollywood labor union SAG-AFTRA. “We raise a ‘Red Solo Cup’ & send our condolences to his family, colleagues & millions of fans. May he RIP. #SagAftraMember since 1993.”

Keith’s family announced his death on his official social media accounts, prompting more tributes in the posts’ comments sections and replies filled with memories of the “Red Solo Cup” and “Beer for My Horses” singer.

“This hits hard,” singer Jake Owen commented on Instagram. “Love ya Toby and Trish. My

[heart emoji] goes out to your family and thanks big dawg for what you did for this world. Rest high and easy”

“God Bless you and Family. Hard to imagine an America without Toby Keith in it,” singer-songwriter Randy Houser added.

“Hate to hear this,” wrote Georgia-bred artist Channing Wilson. “You fought hard brother. Prayers for his family. RIPTK.”

“Wow this announcement has totally taken my breath away. I’ve been praying for Toby and it is truly wonderful to know he is finally home praise Jesus,” wrote actor Stephen Baldwin.

“Toby, you were a great one. The realest of the real. Rest easy brother,” wrote 3 Doors Down musician Brad Arnold.

“Toby Keith was a staple in my family growing up. What a gift he was/will always be to country music,” wrote singer-songwriter Lana Scott.

“Part of me is heartbroken wiping tears from my face thinking about the memories we shared and conversations we had. While the other part of me is at peace because I know you are sitting with the almighty right now smiling and feeling no pain,” Lance Carpenter commented on Instagram. “I don’t know how to thank you for all you and your family have done for me but know that I’ll always be there for them. Damn I’m going to miss you big dawg”

“Man. Not only a king of country music. But a man to look up to by the way he lived and loved. Rest easy up there TB.” wrote Caden McGuire.

“Toby, you’ll be missed. To me, you represented what a kid from Oklahoma could do with nothing but a dream & some songs. & man, those were some SONGS. I’m thankful for the opportunities you gave me & for the masterclass on live performance & hospitality. You’re a legend. RIP,” added musician Corey Kent.

“Absolutely heartbreaking. Not only a Country Music Legend, but also an American Hero,” wrote Austin Burke. “He will be remembered for what he did for our great Military more than anything and I know that’s how he would want it. God Bless Toby and his family”

Vore's Welding & Steel, Inc.

Vore's Welding & Steel, Inc. is celebrating 35 years of specialized needs of industrial and commercial clients along with our staff who has over 150 years of combined experience. We will continue to serve the highest quality standards to fit your needs.

HAVE A SPECIFIC QUESTION ON CAPABILITIES?

Call us... we look forward to doing business with you!

SCOPE OF WORK:

- Fabrication
(Steel, Aluminum, Stainless Steel)
- Repairs
- OSHA Guarding
- Storage Bins & Hoppers
- Automotive & Commercial Material
- Handling Racks & Containers
- Weldments
- Short & Long Production Runs

CAPABILITIES:

- On-Site Service
- Press Brake
- Punch Press
- Milling
- CNC Plasma Cutting Service
- Welding - MIG, TIG, Spot
- Shearing
- Production & Sub Assembly
- Steel Sales
- Powder Coating & Galvanizing



3234 St. Rt. 49, Fort Recovery, OH 45846

419-375-4087 • fax: 419-375-2466

Email: vores@bright.net

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The wrong tree

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 8
♥ A 6 2
♦ 8 7 5
♣ Q J 10 8 3
WEST
♠ 10 6 5 4 2
♥ J 9 7
♦ 9 3
♣ K 6 2
EAST
♠ J 9 3
♥ A
♦ A K Q 10 6 2
♣ 7 5 4
SOUTH
♠ K Q 7
♥ K Q 10 8 5 3
♦ J 4
♣ A 9

many declarers might go wrong. West leads a diamond against four hearts, and East cashes the Q-K before continuing with the ace. Declarer is now at the crucial point of the play, and if he makes the wrong decision, he goes down. South should realize from both the bidding and play to this point that if he ruffs with the eight or ten, he might be overruled and later lose a club trick to go down one. South should also recognize that if he ruffs with the king or queen he might establish a trump trick for the opponents and likewise lose the contract.

The bidding:
South West North East
1♥ Pass 2♣ 2♦
2♥ Pass 4♥
Opening lead—nine of diamonds.

The primary characteristic of a good bridge player is the ability to avoid error in run-of-the-mill types of hands. Fortunately, most errors are of the simple kind and can be avoided with a little thought. Complicated decisions requiring prodigious reasoning are relatively rare. For example, take this case where

Tomorrow: Test your play.
©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

2-8

CRYPTOQUIP

L S T T N L B R O U T B O B R U
Y U G U F Z V W U L L J Z U W F U L Q U G T
J N H R H U G J P W N H , H N S W J F Q U F

P Z U T N G Y V Q N T ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A GUY ASKED A PARIS NATIVE WHETHER HE LIKED ANY VIDEO GAME SYSTEMS AND HE REPLIED, "OUI, WII!"
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Sty chow
5 Male swan
8 Guitarist Atkins
12 Watch reading
13 Year in Mexico
14 Top-notch
15 Winged
16 Nanny's charge
17 Undressed
18 Runway surface
20 River of New York
22 "Kinda" suffix
23 Actress Saldaña
24 Has to
27 Surround
32 Select, with "for"
33 "Angie" actor
34 Fine, at NASA
35 Small monkey
38 Eyelid woe
39 Bond rating

DOWN
1 RBI, for one
2 Country singer McCann
3 Epps of "This Is Us"
4 Allow
5 Ballpark figures
6 Musician Yoko
7 The pair talk
9 Purring pet
10 Within (Pref.)
11 Adolescent
19 While
21 Submachine gun

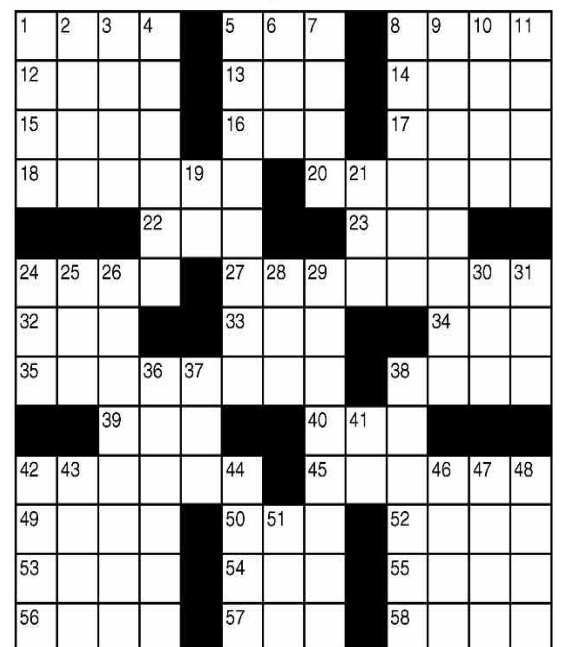
40 Candle count
42 Secret meetings
45 Olivia of "The Crown"
49 Texas city
50 "The Sopranos" ainer
52 Gambling game
53 Tehran's country
54 Stately tree
55 Craving NBA team
57 Name brand
58 Canadian gas brand

24 Oft-tattooed word
25 "— Lazy River"
26 Alley meower
28 Formerly known as
29 Underground cemetery
30 Myrna of film
31 Squeeze (out)
36 Brick workers
37 Granola grain
38 Arm's-length portrait
41 "Monopoly" corner
42 Clone
43 Exceptional
44 Molt
46 Gym pads
47 Curved lines
48 Big Apple neighborhood
51 —ray Disc

Solution time: 24 mins.



Yesterday's answer 2-8



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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
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

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 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

90 SALE CALENDAR

MARION YOUNG FARMERS
Consignment Auction
Mercer Landmark, Chicasaw, Ohio
Between U.S. Rt. 127 & New Bremen on St. Rt. 274
SATURDAY, MARCH 16th
10 A.M.
PLEASE CONSIGN YOUR EQUIPMENT WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
Brad Rindler - 419-584-6356
Cole Luthman - 937-658-1380
Please call by Feb. 22 to Assure Advertising
WE WILL BE TAKING IN EQUIPMENT THURSDAY & FRIDAY before the sale
No items will be Consigned Saturday Morning
COLDWATER AUCTION SERVICE

GET IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
You never know what you might find in The Commercial Review Classifieds.
From a new car to a new job, the Classifieds deliver!
Go to **thecr.com** or call **260-726-8141**

Byrums lead junior high swim to victory

OSSIAN — In the season opener, Brooklynn Byrum and Maria Laux put out the top two performances for the Patriots.

One day later, Elly Byrum added her name to that list.

Brooklynn and Elly

Byrum both won a pair of events as the Jay County Junior High School girls swim team won the Norwell Invite on Tuesday.

The Patriots took the top spot in six events to gather 496.5 points. Norwell posed a threat to take the top spot, but fell short

with 471.5 points. Bluffton also put itself in striking distance with 423, but the other four teams scored less than 300 points.

Elly Byrum started the day strong, earning the first individual victory for Jay County in the 200-yard freestyle. Her time of 2

minutes, 26.08 seconds, beat out Tess Frauigher of Bluffton with 2:38.63. She later took the top spot in 100 backstroke with a time of 1:12.04.

Brooklynn Byrum again won the 50 freestyle, hitting the wall at 27.98 seconds. Her other victory

came two events later in the 100 freestyle with a 1:00.49.

Laux couldn't claim any individual victories, but posted second-place finishes in the 400 freestyle and 100 breaststroke.

Kaitlyn Fisher was the highest finisher for the

Patriots in the 50 butterfly (second) and 100 individual medley (third).

With times of 1:56.99 and 2:10.91, the 200 freestyle relay and 200 medley relay teams took first. The 400 freestyle relay team finished sixth for Jay County.

Maddy Snow of Jay County plunges into the pool at South Side on Tuesday during her first attempt of the semifinal round at the regional diving meet. Snow's inward pike received all 5.5s, 6s and 6.5s from the seven judges to score 27 points for the junior.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Seven ...

Continued from page 10
Snow's dives mirrored the ones she attempted last year, because she missed the opportunity to learn newer dives with higher degrees of difficulty (DD), as she sat out more than six weeks with a partially torn labrum.

"When you miss that much time, it's rebuilding and establishing muscle memory and getting things back together," JCHS head coach Matt Slavik said. "She was pretty solid, but if she hadn't missed those, her dives would have been much cleaner and she wouldn't have to blow any rust off to get here.

"I think that plays a little bit of a role, but at the end of the day, she came back strong and represented Jay County really well."

Snow's experience and consistency was key for staying in the hunt for the finals.

She mentioned that nerves affected her some last season, but this year she was more focused on having fun and didn't feel them as much.

Snow never had a dive score below 24 points. Her first two — a back dive tuck and a back somersault tuck — scored 28 and 24.8 points, respectively.

Her final three dives of the prelims ended as the best of the day for the JCHS junior. She broke 30 points for the first time on forward one and one half somersault tuck. With a 1.7 degree of difficulty multiplier, Snow scored 30.6 points.

"She got her hips up and she threw straight and narrow," diving coach Sawyer Weitzel.

"It was great and she went up there knowing she could do it."

She followed with her highest dive of the day, a forward double somersault (2.2 DD) that netted 30.8 points.

She finished the prelims with a 30.4-point dive on a forward somersault, one twist, to sit in 15th place. Her 144.6 points trailed Stoner in the 12th spot by 5.75 points.

In the semifinals, she opened with a 27-point inward dive tuck, followed by an inward somersault for 25.6 points.

"She had a good mindset the whole way through and that's what I wanted this year," Weitzel said. "She was consistent and that's what I wanted from her this year, so I'm happy with the outcome. ... I couldn't have asked for a better attitude."

Moving on from the South Side regional are last year's state-runner up Amelia Rinehart (529.2) of Snider, Helena Gibson (403.35) of Carmel, Lynnette Hollingsworth (394.7) of Homestead, Eryn McMahon (368.4) of Noblesville, Campbell Lively-Mason (365.55) of Hamilton Heights, Melania Munson (365.5) of Carmel, Grace Witfield (359.3) of Zionsville and Abby Sneed (354.85) of Oak Hill.

"I'm just proud of myself," Snow said. "I'm really happy that Sawyer was here and I'm thankful for her and Slavik."

"I definitely need DD next year. That's my big takeaway. I won't be out for six weeks next year, so that's another fun tip for next year."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Junior high boys swimming at Norwell — 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Minster — 6 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Boys basketball (including freshman) at Heritage — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys bowling MAC tournament at Fort Recovery — 4:30 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Minster — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Boys wrestling semi-state at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum — 8:30 a.m.; Boys basketball (including freshman) at Yorktown — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Swimming sectional at Ayersville — 11 a.m.; Girls bowling MAC tournament at Fort Recovery — 9:15 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. Newton — 6 p.m.

TV sports

Today
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Notre Dame at Louisville (ESPN)

7 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Memphis at Temple (ESPN2); Iowa at Penn State (BTN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Dallas Mavericks at New York Knicks (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL: Tampa Bay Lightning at New York Islanders (ESPN)
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball:

Arizona State at Colorado (FS1)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Florida Atlantic at UAB (ESPN2)
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Penn State at Iowa (BTN)
10 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Washington at Oregon (FS1)
10:30 p.m. — Boxing: Reofimo Lopez

vs. Jamaine Ortiz (ESPN)
Friday
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Dayton at VCU (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Penn State at Minnesota (FS1)
9:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: San Jose State at Colorado State (FS1)

ADVERTISER
 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
260-729-2229
Pete D. Shawver
Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN Saturday Morning February 10th, 2024 9:30 A.M.
ANTIQUES — OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS National Mazda lamp display; Tiffin Glass "Parrot" lamp; blue copper lustre Ironstone coffee pot; Maytag engine; Replicate German Nazi dagger with sheath; Replicate German Nazi long dagger/sword;
CROCKS & STONWARE; Weeden Vertical steam engine; 4 pc. Howdy Doody plastic figurines; DB Wann toy plastic fire truck with ladder; 1929 Geneva Convention Red Cross arm band; PLANES: Sandusky #145 plow, Stanley #80 scraper, Stanley #5 corrugated bottom, Lakeside #4 and Derickson-Fuller #55 molding; cast iron bronze pig bank; Grant nail puller; tobacco tins; and many other items not listed.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This auction offers a nice selection of quality antiques and collectors items. Doors will open at 7:45 day of auction for preview.
RICHARD STACHLER Loy Auction AC#31600027
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

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 TOWN OF PENNVILLE IS looking for a Water and Wastewater Operator. The Water and Wastewater Operator is responsible for operating the Town's Water and Wastewater divisions, in accordance with all federal, state, and local regulation and requirements. The operator is responsible for supervising contract labor. Please contact Josh Miller at 260-729-1354.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

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 COLUMN

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.sycamorespace.com

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

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.

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 38C01-2401-MI-000004
KELLY JOHNSON
Plaintiff,
vs.
FUQUA VENTURES, LLC, ROCK A. FUQUA, KATHY L. FUQUA, RYAN JOHNSON, THE FARMERS STATE BANK, and ALL OTHER UNKNOWN CLAIMANTS
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SUIT
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any other person who may be concerned.
You are notified that you have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit against you is: to quiet title to the Real Estate as against any and all claimants, their unknown heirs and/or devisees, and against the world located in the City of Dunkirk, Jay County, State of Indiana, legally described as follows:
TWENTY-FOUR (24) FEET OFF OF AND ALONG THE ENTIRE WEST SIDE OF LOT NUMBER EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK NUMBER ONE (1) IN THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF DUNKIRK, JAY COUNTY, INDIANA Commonly known as 126 E. Commerce Street, Dunkirk, IN 47336, Indiana State Parcel No. 38-09-08-104-075.000-014 (hereinafter, the "Building") and
PART OF LOT NUMBER EIGHT (8) IN BLOCK NUMBER ONE (1) IN THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF DUNKIRK, JAY COUNTY, INDIANA, AS SHOWN ON A SURVEY COMPLETED BY FARBER SURVEYING INC. FILE #0820-05, DATED AUGUST 18, 2020, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF LOT EIGHT (8), IN BLOCK NUMBER ONE (1) IN THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF DUNKIRK; THENCE N59°06'27"W (ASSUMED BEARING), ALONG THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT #8, A DISTANCE OF 41.00 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST COMER OF DEED #202000374; THENCE N30°46'42"E, ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID DEED, A DISTANCE OF 62.25 FEET; THENCE S59°06'27"E, PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT #8, A DISTANCE OF 41.00 FEET TO THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT #8; THENCE S30°46'42"W, A DISTANCE OF 62.25 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.06 ACRES MORE OR LESS.
Commonly known 118 S. Indiana St., Dunkirk, IN 47336, parcel number 38-09-08-104-076.001-014 (hereinafter, the "Lot"), and, when referenced collectively with the Building, the "Real Estate".
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the following named defendants whose addresses are believed to be known: Fuqua Ventures, LLC, Rock A. Fuqua, Kathy L. Fuqua, Ryan Johnson, and The Farmers State Bank.
In addition to the above-named defendants being served by this summons, there may be other defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit.
If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff, Kelly Johnson, arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer.
You must answer the complaint in writing, by your attorney, on or before the 18th day of March, 2024 (the same being within thirty (30) days after the latest possible date for publication of the Third Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for what the plaintiff has demanded.
Dated: 1-25-2024
Clerk, JAY CIRCUIT Court
Mulvey Law LLC
Attorneys for Plaintiff
133 W Market St., #274
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-721-1339
Courtroom Address and Telephone
120 N. Court St., #9
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-4044

CR 2-1,8,15-2024-HSPXJLP

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



**Tony Wood, Cody Rowles, Bryce Wenk,
Griffin Byrum, Alan Ortiz, Juaquin Flores
and Jacob Robinson**

8:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 10

at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum

"Where Tires Are Not A Sideline"
TIRE CENTER
260-726-8947
421 N. Meridian Portland, IN
Hours: M-F 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

BEST ONE
Tire & Auto Care
210 S. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
260-726-9321

GLASS CAPITAL OF INDIANA
DUNKIRK
EST. 1883
Dunkirk Mayor
Jack Robbins
Glass Capital of Indiana

GOOD LUCK
Jay County Patriots!
From all of us at Dr. Georges
112 N. Ship St. • Portland • (260) 726-4710

george family
DENTISTRY

SHAWVER
AUCTIONEERING & REAL ESTATE
Pete D. Shawver Lic#AU19700040
Zane Shawver - Lic.#AU10500168 260-729-2229

Used Auto & Truck Parts
Williams
Auto Parts
1127 S. Detroit Avenue
Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8001 • (800) 669-5762
www.williamsautopartsinc.com

(765) 768-7375
Classique
Beauty Salon
206 S. Main St. • Dunkirk, IN 47336
Candi Hatzell

DUNKIRK BARBER SHOP
(765) 768-2146
Logan Nelson 204 Main Street
Owner Dunkirk, IN 47336
Call for appointment availability

May Financial Group, Inc.
Life • Health • Employee Benefits
Medicare Supplements • Annuities
Jeff Hall, Your Hometown agent
jeff@mayfg.com
111 W. Main (260) 729-5200 Portland, IN

moser ENGINEERING
We Know How to Win!
A Proud Supporter of JC Sports and Events!
moserengineering.com • 260-726-6689

PERFORMANCE TOOL
INCORPORATED
103 Performance Dr., Portland, IN
(260) 726-6572

Portland Veterinary Clinic
1407 W. Votaw St. • Portland • 260-726-7370
"Small Animal and Pet Care"

Barnett's
"23 1/2 hrs"
Towing & Recovery
2467 E. 200 N • Portland, IN
260-726-2036

ALL CIRCUIT
Electrical LLC
No Job Too Small - 24 Hour Service
• Emergency Call-outs
• Free Estimates
• Standby Generators
• Residential • Commercial
• Industrial • Agricultural
Counter Sales During Office Hours M-F 8-4 pm
5510 N. US 27 • Bryant, IN 47324 • (260) 997-8336
www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Assoc.
1010 N Morton St.
Portland, IN 47371
260-466-2047

City of Portland
Portland, Indiana
City Of Portland
Indiana

Dunn Family Dental Care PC
Dr. Thomas E. Dunn II
110 W. North St., Portland, IN 47371
(260) 726-8007
"WE'RE LOOKING OUT FOR YOUR SMILE!"

BUFFALO WINGS & RINGS
1204 W. Votaw St., Portland
(260) 726-9647
Open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily
buffalowingsandrings.com

Renegade Customs
730 S. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
(260) 726-7555

The Jay County Fair
JCF

Jamar
TV, Appliance & Bedding Inc.
Hwy. 67 West
1250 West Votaw
Portland, Indiana 47371
260-726-7809
1-800-569-3944

JAY COUNTY
Good Luck Patriots
118 S. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
www.visitjaycounty.com

Carrier
turn to the experts
DAVE'S
HEATING & COOLING LLC
1238 W. Water St.
Portland, IN
(260) 726-2138

AMX MOTORSPORTS
Sales • Parts • Service
1015 N. Meridian 260-766-4227 Portland, IN
www.amxmotorsports.com

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home
David W. Teeter
221 North Meridian Street Phone
Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-7171
www.bairdfreeman.com • bairdfreeman@yahoo.com

JAY COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY
Jay County Public Library
315 North Ship Street
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259

Moser Motors
of Portland
2023 People's Choice Auto Dealer
Moser Motors
260-726-3388 OR WWW.MOSERFORD.COM

JAY COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
224 W. Water St. • Portland, IN 47371
Non-Emergency Telephone:
(260) 726-8188

Williamson, Spencer & Penrod
Funeral Homes
Pennville & Portland
260-726-7111 731-8811
Top Quality • Real Compassion • Personal Attention • Exceptional Service

Jay County Solid Waste District
5948 W. SR 67 Portland, IN 47371
(260) 729-5071

CITADEL SUPPLY
Farm, Hardware, Auto
Construction Supply and MORE!
9096 HWY 67 WEST • REDKEY, IN 47373
765-369-4110
STORE HOURS: M-F 8:00 am - 7:00 pm,
SAT 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, CLOSED SUNDAY

VALENTINE
FEED and SUPPLY
9064 W SR 67 in Redkey

HOPKINS REPAIR L.L.C.
AUTO & LIGHT TRUCK REPAIR
AC / BRAKES / DIAGNOSTICS / COOLING / SUSPENSION / TUNE UPS / ETC.
Mon-Fri 7am-4:00pm
Saturday by appt.
Call Scott Hopkins
260.251.0459
Portland, IN

Arnold Lumber Co.
sales@arnoldlumberinc.com
check us out on Facebook
FABRAL METAL WALL AND ROOF SYSTEMS
260-724-3108
1-800-903-4206

LOY
REAL ESTATE & AUCTION
101 West Main Street • Portland, IN
260-726-2700
www.loyrealestateauction.com • loyrealestate@comcast.net

talk
they hear you
Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition
260-251-3257

POET
HUMAN + NATURE
See the world differently.
866.718.2676
POET.COM/Portland

WJCC
WEST JAY COMMUNITY CENTER
765-768-1544
125 Hoover St. • Dunkirk

SEE US AND FEEL BETTER
Adams
FREE CONSULTATIONS
Physical Therapy Services, Inc.
111 West North Street Portland, IN 47371
Ph# (260) 726-6828
955 E. Washington St. Winchester, IN 47394
Ph# (765) 584-3665

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value.
Portland True Value Hardware & Lumber
1100 N. Meridian St. 260.726.6263 Portland, IN 47371

PATRIOT FITNESS
CERTIFIED PERSONAL TRAINERS
LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPY
Hawkins Galleria
105 North Meridian, Portland
24 Hour Access Fitness Center
260-726-2409

Redkey Veterinary Clinic
Telephone: (765) 369-2526
St. Road 67 East
Doctor's hours by appointment
1 (800) 417-1301

ELITE
EYE CARE, PC
Dr. Abby Small
1111 N. Meridian St.
P.O. Box 1268
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-4210

JACKHOUCK REAL ESTATE
We enjoy helping people with their Real Estate Needs.
Sherri Finnerty
Real Estate Broker
1415 W. Votaw St. Cell (260) 726-0759
Portland, IN 47371 sherrifinnerty10@gmail.com

Trust Display Craft
To Look Your Best
260-726-4535
www.displaycraft.com

Sports

Seven better, 13 away

Maddy Snow improves by seven points from last year, but falls 13 short of finals at diving regional

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

FORT WAYNE — The Patriots coaches wanted to see more consistency out of Maddy Snow.

The junior had two goals of her own as well — improve her score from last season and make the finals.

She achieved the first two goals, but they couldn't push her to the third.

Snow, a Jay County High School junior, finished 14th by scoring 221.2 points at the IHSAA diving regional Tuesday hosted by South Side.

"Obviously, I wanted to do better than last year," Snow said. "I hoped to make the finals and even though I didn't, I'm not disappointed."

The 20 competitors who make it to the regional get to dive five times in the prelims and three times in the semi-finals. Scores from the first eight attempts are tallied together and the top 12 divers move on to the finals, where three more dives determine the top eight that make it to the state meet.

Snow came in as the 13th seed after scoring 348.85 points in the sectional on Feb. 3. Emerson Stoner of Zionsville at the 12th seed only outscored Snow by 0.1 point in the sectional round.

Snow performed a reverse dive tuck (which has a 1.6 degree of difficulty multiplier) for her final dive of the semi-finals.

Her score of 24 left the JCHS

junior sitting in 11th place with 13 divers left.

The next six to dive didn't affect her odds because they either sat higher than 11th before the final attempt, or didn't score enough points to bump Snow. (Stoner went after Snow but scored the same to fall 0.95 points short and Nya Mead of Bishop Dwenger was the fifth to follow and a 23.8-point dive left her 0.8 points behind.)

Grier Backus of Delta — she earned the ninth seed by beating Snow in the sectional by 19.55 points — bumped Snow back one spot, decreasing her odds even further.

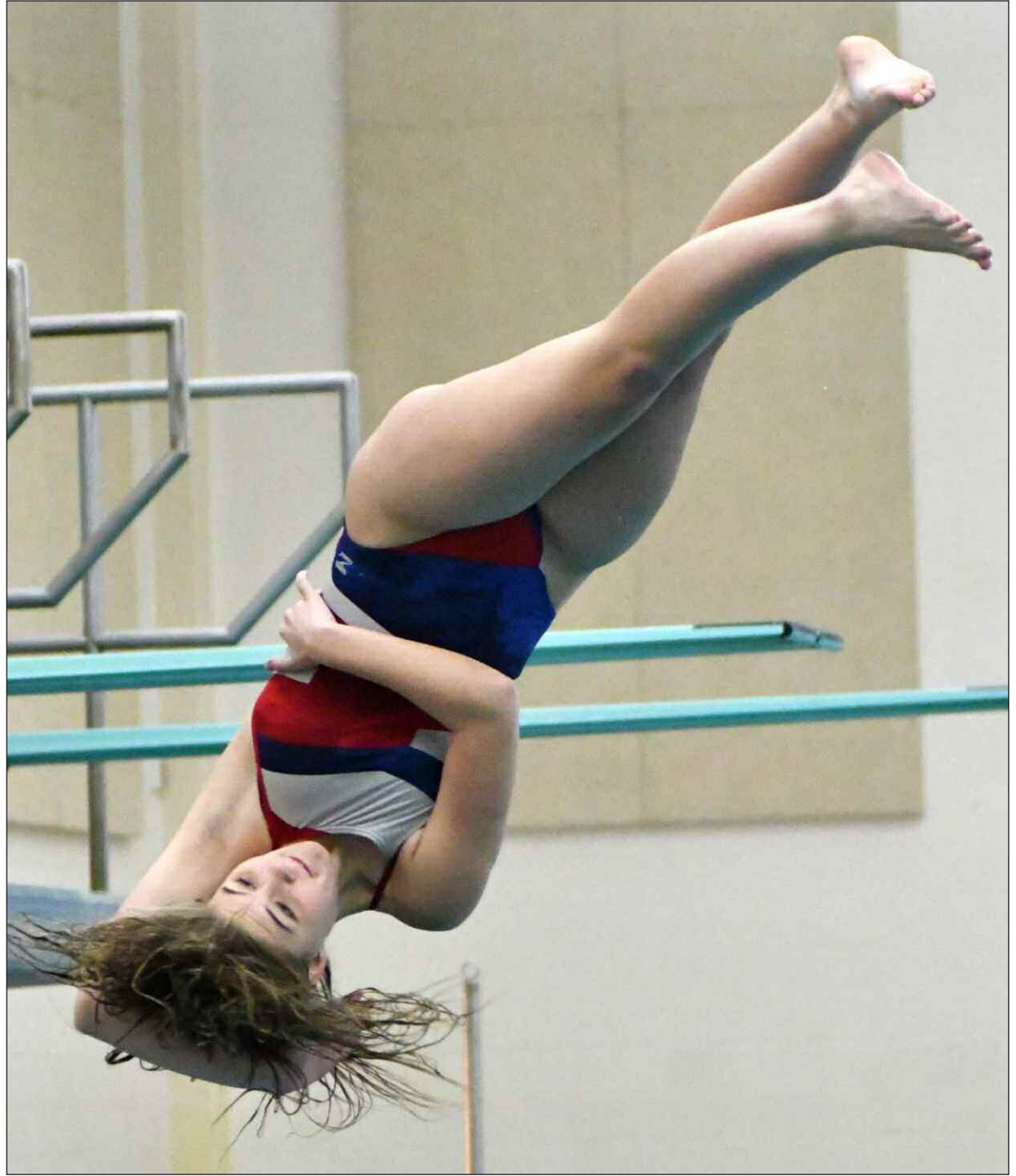
When Elizabeth Murotani stepped on the board, Snow was in trouble. The Homestead senior boasted 217.2 points before the final attempt. Snow needed a fail to stay alive. Unfortunately for the JCHS diver, Murotani pulled off a 22.95-point back somersault, half twist, to knock her out.

"I knew that unless she failed it, there was no way I was going on," Snow said. "I was alright with that because I knew that my score was better than my one from last year's at that point. I knew that she wouldn't fail it."

Kennedy Gould of Harrison captured the last spot in the finals with 234.3 points.

Last season, Snow finished 13th with 214.35 points. While she didn't make the finals, her score improved 6.85 points for a total of 221.2.

See **Seven** page 8



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School junior Maddy Snow twists in mid air during her forward somersault 1 twist at the regional diving meet Tuesday at South Side in Fort Wayne. The attempt netted Snow 30.4 points, as she finished with 221.2 total on the day.



Arnold Lumber Co.



*Serving
Indiana, Ohio,
Southern Michigan and
Northern
Kentucky*

We will build any size

Hours: Monday thru Thursday: 7 A.M. to 5 P.M.
Friday: 7 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. • Saturday: 7 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
Decatur, Indiana

260-724-3108
1-800-903-4206