# Wednesday, February 14, 2024

# **The Commercial Review**

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

### Roof, **HVAC** projects move forward By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

An HVAC project and a roof project are moving forward.

Jay School Board on Monday awarded bids for work to replace the heating, ventilation and cooling system for a section of West Jay Elementary School and for the replacement of two sections of roof at Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

The HVAC system that services the northeast wing of West Jay has experienced various maintenance issues during the current school year, which led the board to approve seeking bids last month. The project received bids from Project Design and Piping and Current Mechanical, both of Fort Wayne.

School board members Ron Donna Laux, Geesaman, Phil Ford, Vickie Reitz, Jason Phillips, Marcie Vormohr and Chip Phillips awarded the work to Project Design and Piping, which had the lower overall bid of \$570,300.

They also reviewed two bids for replacing about 37,026 square feet at the east corner of the junior-senior high school over the band and choir rooms, auditorium and adjacent classrooms and 21,879 square feet at the west corner of the building including the vocational and agriculture area. That work also received two bids - from McGuff Roofing of Muncie and Landmark Roofing of Fort Wayne.

The board awarded the project to Landmark at a cost of \$373,986.

The HVAC project will be paid for out of federal coronavirus relief funds from the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund, with the roof project to be paid from the corporation's operations fund. Board members also briefly discussed ongoing efforts to maintain facilities, with superintendent Jeremy Gulley noting that architectural and engineering firm Barton Coe Vilamaa is in the process of an overall facilities study to make recommendations for future needs

# **Rehab complete**



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Walt Schwieterman of rural Portland works out on the exercise equipment Feb. 7 at the new cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center at IU Health Jay. The new facility, for which plans were first announced in December 2020, opened last month and will celebrate with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday.

## IU Health Jay's long-awaited new cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center will hold open house Thursday

#### By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The process took years longer Thursday. than expected, but now patients who need cardiac or pulmonary outpatient rehabilitation have a new space. IU Health Jay opened its new facility. cardiopulmonary rehabilitation

center last month and will hold larger renovation project first nurse Tammy Muhlenkamp, an open house from 2 to 4 p.m.

Those attending the open house should use entrance B, take the elevator to the second floor and follow signs to the new The new facility is part of a

announced in late 2020. Con- manager of the cardiopulstruction was initially expected monary rehabilitation center. to be complete in 2021, but long The new facility opened Jan. 15. delays because of the coron- "It's been a long time coming, but avirus pandemic and supply we're very pleased with the space chain issues pushed the timeline and the patients seem happy about the way it's laid out." See **Rehab** page 2

See **Projects** page 2

back significantly. "It's very rewarding," said

# Pennville seeks funds for park

#### **Bv BAILEY CLINE**

The Commercial Review funds to make several revitalization project. improvements to its park.

ed a \$35,000 match Monday removing the park's basefrom Jay County Commis-Pennville is seeking sioners for the town's park

Tanner McClain of Pen- separated into three phas- north side of the park and the Indiana Housing and fee. nville Park Board request- es, with the first aimed at installing a pump track.

ball diamond and converting it into three soccer The park board's plan is basketball courts on the

plete phase one of the plan a crowdfunding business comes to \$100,800. Penfields as well as renovating nville Park Board is looking into an agreement with for a \$2,500 administration Community Development

The total cost to com- Authority and Patronicity, that would match up to \$50,000 toward the project

See **Funds** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Scriabin solo

Jay County High School freshman Caleb Garringer performs "Romance" by Alexander Scriabin during Sunday's Winter Pops Concert.

#### **IOW** ouse wi come Also Monday, the board OK'd mer fire station. Robbins noted

#### By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review DUNKIRK — The caretaker's house in Dunkirk City Park will come down.

Dunkirk City Council on Monday approved spending an estimated \$4,500 to help pay to remove the house.

Eva Kreps of Dunkirk Park Board visited council to ask about sharing the cost of the project. She noted the cost to take down the house is \$3,000. An additional \$2,500 is needed for asbestos remediation. The remainder of the estimated \$9,000 total cost will go toward dumpsters to have the debris hauled away.

City council members Jesse Bivens, Christy Curts, Dan Watson and Randy Murphy, absent Donna Revolt, unanimously approved splitting the cost with the park board.

a \$1,000 sponsorship for an that the issue was caused when event on April 8 for the solar eclipse.

Dru Hall, who is helping to organize the event, said plans call for activities from noon to 5 p.m. at Webster Depot Park, with the band Lost in Reality to play beginning at 1 p.m. Local service clubs have been invited to have booths at the event.

Hall will have commemorative shirts and glasses for sale. He said proceeds from the event will go toward the Glass Days festival.

Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins noted that use of the park will need to be approved by the park board.

Council members also approved a payment of \$8,760 to Culy Construction of Winchester for work to fix a water leak School.) on Commerce Street at the for-

a fire hydrant was opened and closed too quickly by workers from Miller Pipeline. He said Miller Pipeline will be reimbursing the city for the expense.

Robbins also reported that some of the paving work being paid for via an Indiana Department of Transportation Com-munity Crossings grant will begin soon. That will include adding to the trails in Dunkirk City Park and paving Broad Street between Grand Street and Moore Avenue as well as Washington Street from the railroad tracks west to Indiana Street. (Paving of streets in Quincy Place will wait until after the end of the school year to avoid congestion around nearby West Jay Elementary

See Dunkirk page 5

#### **Deaths**

Neil Medler, 92, Portland

Details on page 2.

Portland

Cathleen Plodzien, 75,

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 43 degrees Monday. The low was 28.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the mid 30s. Rain is expected Thursday morning with breezy conditions. The high will be in the upper 40s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### Correction

A candidate was inadvertently omitted from Saturday's story regarding election filing. James Phillips of Redkey filed to run for the Democrats' nomination for District 33 State Representative. He will face rural Blackford County resident John Bartlett in the primary.

#### Coming up

Thursday — Preview of the JCHS wrestlers at the IHSAA state finals.

**Friday** — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.



# Rehab

Continued from page 1 And we have the opportunity for growth here as well."

The program through what was then Jay County Hospital started with just cardiac rehab located at the former Vormohr Medical Center on county road 100 South. It had since moved with supervising physician Jerry Whetzel to IU Health Jay Family Medicine on the hospital campus and over the years added pulmonary rehabilitation and supervised exercise for patients with peripheral artery disease. (The program is building toward offering supervised exercise for patients with chronic illnesses.)

The move to IU Health Jay has more than doubled the size of the cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center with addition-

also allows more flexibility as previously its availability was tied to when IU Health Jay Family Medicine was open.

"Here we're able to expand our hours a little bit if needed," said Muhlenkamp. "With having our code team on site, we have emergency personnel on-site. So it does make it more convenient for us and our patients."

The expanded space — at about 3,500 square feet it is more than double its previous size — is designed specifically for cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation. (The former unit was located in what was previously Dr. Stephen Myron's office.)

Modeled after the cardiopulmonary unit at IU Health Ball

al room for growth if needed. It it has more of an open concept. ing. Pulmonary patients will vide other services that a There are bicycles and treadmills — a few more than previously offered — for aerobic exercise as well as a short track for walking and testing. Added to the new facility is equipment for resistance training.

Local

Patient Walt Schwieterman said he finds the new space to be brighter and more inviting.

"I think it's beautiful, I really do," he said while riding the bike during a rehabilitation session last week. "When I came in here, it really impressed me."

Muhlenkamp explained that the goal is to manage chronic diseases for patients through exercise.

means exercising with a heart

be monitored for oxygen saturation and blood pressure.

Patients are also provided with education about managing their risk factors.

'Heart disease is one of the main causes of death in the United States and worldwide," said Muhlenkamp. "So if we can educate our patients, help rehabilitate ... that's a big win for everybody."

'If we can help patients to exercise and build their strength overall, it can improve quality of life."

IU Health Jay's cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center is regularly staffed by a nurse and exercise physiologist. They also work with an inter-For cardiac patients, that disciplinary team, including a dietician, social worker and Memorial Hospital in Muncie, monitor to improve condition- respiratory therapist, to pro-

patient might need.

Construction of the new facility was paid for with part of the \$5 million IU Health contributed to a capital improvement fund at the time of Jay County Hospital's integration into the larger healthcare organization. Jay County Hospital Board, which became the IU Health Jay Board for three years before being dissolved, was in charge of allocating those dollars. In addition to the cardiopulmonary rehabilitation center, it selected creating new spaces for outpatient physical therapy and outpatient behavioral health as well as the expansion of the Family First practice. Leftover funds were used to establish the IU Health Jay Hospital Legacy Endowment Fund through The Portland Foundation.

<b>CR almanac</b>						
Thursday 2/15	Friday 2/16	Saturday 2/17	Sunday 2/18	Monday 2/19		
			<b>*</b>			
<b>47/25</b> There's a 70% chance of rain on Thurs- day morning. The low at night may hit the mid to upper 20s.			<b>38/27</b> Sunny skies are on the horizon for Sunday, when the low will hit the mid to upper 20s.	45/32 Monday looks to be mostly sunny with a high of 45 degrees.		

### **Lotteries**

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 17-36-43-54-67 Power Ball: 14 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$285 million	Daily Four: 8-4-4-6 Quick Draw: 2-5-9-19- 26-31-33-36-38-41-42-47-50- 51-52-56-57-58-66-72 Cash 5: 13-22-23-30-36 Estimated jackpot: \$493,500		
Mega Millions	Ohio		
Estimated jackpot:	Monday		
\$425 million	Midday		
Ŷ- <u>=</u> 0	Pick 3: 1-6-0		
Hoosier	Pick 4: 8-7-8-1		
Monday	Pick 5: 1-5-9-5-3		
Midday	Evening		
Daily Three: 8-5-8	Pick 3: 5-3-4		
Daily Four: 1-3-4-6	Pick 4: 3-4-9-9		
Quick Draw: 10-12-15-	Pick 5: 6-6-8-0-2		
19-20-21-22-24-25-32-36-41-	Rolling Cash: 4-5-20-30-		
43-55-56-59-60-61-64-67	34		
Evening	Estimated jackpot:		
Daily Three: 3-3-7	\$333,000		

## Obituaries

#### Neil Medler

Oct. 25, 1931-Feb. 11, 2024 Frederic Neil Medler, age 92, of Portland, Indiana, died Feb. 11, 2024.

He was born Oct. 25, 1931, in Hartord City, Indiana, to George and Deloris Medler. They moved to Portland in 1934 where his father was the

nanager of the new Portland Coal and Ice Company. As a very young boy, "Neil" helped deliver ice and coal throughout Portand and Jay County. In 1944 his father

opened a fuel oil, gasoline, coal and appliance store at the site



Medler

of the "Totten" building, which evolved into Medler's Furniture. Neil was a 1949 graduate of Portland High School and was a member of the 1946 undefeated, untied and unscored upon football team. He was noted for his football toughness and earned the name "Meatnose" for his hard-nosed play. He was also a member of the 1948 Portland Panther semi-state finalist basketball team.

He married Ann McKinley on Dec. 10, 1950, and she preceded him in death in December 2003. They have three sons, Michael Medler (wife: Sue), Pat Medler (wife: Paula) and Dr.George Medler (wife: Rhonda); eight grandchildren; and 12 greatgrandchildren; as well as several nieces and nephews.

"Neil" was a Portland city councilman for 24 years, and served as both council president and interim mayor. He was involved in the development of Portland Industrial Park to include helping to bring Alphabet, FCC and Tyson Foods to Portland. He was a member of the Portland Park Board for 40 years and was proud of the development of the park system to include North Park and Hudson Family Park. He served as president and treasurer of the

Portland Lions Club and was a of Portland and forboard member of Main Source Bank and the Portland Area Chamber of Commerce. He was volunteer treasurer for Asbury United Methodist Church for 20 years, head usher for 40 years and a member of the church for 75 years. He served as the longtime treasurer of the Portland Alumni Association, as well as a Jay School Corporation trustee. Neil was a nominee for the 2015 Jay County Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award and received the Cincinnatus Club Lifetime Achievement Award. He was honored by the Boy Scouts with an appreciation award in October 2023 for his dedication to community service. He worked in the family business at Medler's Furniture for over 72 years. He was also an avid golfer and sports enthusiast, and loved to play the piano, the harmonica and write poetry.

On June 15, 2005, Neil married Judith-James Toms, who survives, and started another chapter in his life. He became the new stepfather to Amy Henderson (Craig) Angela Kyle (Jay) and Craig Toms (Tamara) and had six step-grandchildren; one stepnephew; a brother-in-law, Ed James; and a sister-in-law Mary Lou James Kravitz. Neil and Judy remained active in Portland and the surrounding area by attending various events.

Private family services will be in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Joe Boggs presiding. Burial in the Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

Memorials can be made to The Portland Foundation, Asbury United Methodist Church or choice of the Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

merly of Crystal Lake, Illinois, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 11, 2024, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.



Plodzien

She was born on Oct. 26, 1948, in Green Bay, Wiscon-

sin, the daughter of Fred and Aden (Hart) Kittredge.

Cathleen was retired as a benefits manager for Power Conversion Products and also worked for Nunda Township in Crystal Lake. She was a member of Phi Theta Kappa sorority and enjoyed working with stained glass, antiques, books, animals and nature. She was a selfless person and loved helping others.

Surviving are a son, Michael Plodzien (wife: Monica) of Portland; brother Todd Plodzien (wife: Chris) of McHenry, Illinois; two sisters, Debby Kittridge of Dickenson, Texas, and Cindy Bonaccorsi of San Antonio, Texas; five grandchildren, Noah, Sydney, Christian, Alexa and Liam; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Kimberly Plodzien.

A celebration of life service will be held at a later date in Crystal Lake, Illinois.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home of Portland is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of

#### **iviarkets**

#### **Cooper Farms Fort Recovery**

March corn Wheat	4.33
POET Biore Portland	•
Corn	1 9 9

Corn4.33	
March corn4.35	
April corn4.38	

#### The Andersons **Richland Townshin**

Micilialiu Township	
Corn4.23	
March corn4.23	
Beans11.69	

#### **ADM** Montpelier Beans .....11.71 March beans .....11.74 Wheat .....5.57 Heartland

March beans .....11.69

Wheat ..... 5.57

#### St. Anthony

Corn	4.31
March corn	4.39
Beans	11.50
March beans	11.03
Wheat	5.27

### **Today in history**

4 00

1779, In James Cook was killed in a dispute over a theft. Cook was known for his three Pacific voyages that included the first European contact with the eastern coast of Aus-Islands.

In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell applied for a patent for the telephone.

In 1973, Steve McNair was born in Mount Olive, Mississippi. He rose to fame as the quarterback for Alcorn State University and shared the 2006

Captain NFL MVP Award with Peyton Manning.

In 2004, Sarah Miller of Jay County finished her diving career with a sixth-place finish at the **IHSAA Girls Swimming** and Diving State Finals tralia and the Hawaiian at Indiana University Natatorium.

In 2022, Jay County Election Board removed Brenda Beaty from the ballot for Jay County Council District 1, upholding a challenge filed by Jay County Republican chair Jenae Blasdel.

—The CR

# Citizen's calendar

#### Today

4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North. 6 p.m. – Pennville Town Council executive session, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.

#### Thursday

Council, park cabin, 50 S. Mooney St. 6 p.m. — Jay County

Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

#### Monday

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, vil-6 p.m. — Redkey Town lage hall, 201 S. Main St.

### Projects ...

Continued from page 1 Also approved Monday was the purchase of a new bus from Kerlin Bus sales and leasing for \$163,432 to replace a current bus that was purchased in 2011.

In other business, the board:

•Heard a presentation from director of e-learning Katie Clark regarding the New Teacher Academy at Jay Schools. See **Projects** page 5

### SERVICES

Wednesday Gilbert, James: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

#### Thursday

Obringer, Carolyn: 10:30 a.m., St. Peter Catholic Church, 1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery

#### Friday

Link, Mary: 10 a.m, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.

#### 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

### **Cathleen Plodzien**

Oct. 26, 1948-Feb. 11, 2024 Cathleen Marie Plodzien, age 75, al homes or mortuary services.

charge.

They include the name, city of resibirth/death date dence, and *time/date/location of services.* 

There is a charge for obituaries. which are accepted only from funer-



# Family



#### Photo provided

### **Students of the month**

Pictured are the Portland Lions Club students of the month for January. Kristian Perez, left, is a seventh grader at Jay County Junior High School, and Carson Westgerdes is an eighth grader at Jay County Junior High School.

# Museum, historic sites offer free admission day

Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites will be offering free admission on Presidents' Day at its 12 locations across the state, including Limberlost State Historic Site in Geneva.

The museum and sites will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 19. At the site in Geneva, visitors may take guided tours of author and naturalist Gene Stratton-Porter's home at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., or take self-guided hikes through the Loblolly Marsh to explore the landscape that inspired Stratton-Porter's writing.

Registration is encouraged for guided tours. To learn more, visit indianamuseum.org.

#### Winter reading

It's not too late to participate in a winter reading challenge.

County Public Ag Day Jay Library has reading chal-

### Taking Note

lenge forms available for teens and adults. Participants may exchange each completed form for prize entry tickets. Completed forms will be accepted until noon, March 2.

Fort Recovery Local Schools students of all grades are also encouraged to check out books at the Fort Recovery Public Library this month. For every 100 books checked out, the education association will donate one book to the school library and one to the public library.

for next month. The annual meal will be available from 5 to 9 a.m. March 19 at the Bob Schmit building at Jay **County Fairgrounds. Meals** cost \$1.

Volunteers are welcome to help prepare for the event starting at 4 p.m. March 18.

#### Hosting market

Minnetrista of Muncie is hosting indoor farmers markets this season.

Indoor markets are held at the Center Building at Minnetrista, 1200 N. Minnetrista Parkway, Muncie. Participating vendors accept SNAP, WIC, IU Health Bucks and the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.

Other dates for the indoor market include Saturday, March 2 and March 16

For more information, Ag Day Breakfast is set visit minnetrista.net.

# Mother can't understand why she's losing son

DEAR ABBY: I've always been close to my children, but now that they are adults, it seems I'm losing my connection with one of them. He married a girl of a different race, and while that doesn't bother me, I have a strong hunch she's the reason he has distanced himself from not only me, but also the rest of the family.

When I recently shared with him that I felt his wife is a bit of a busybody and had overstepped some boundaries, he told me he has blocked me. I'm usually good no longer wants a relationship with me. I don't think I said anything so bad that he'd totally remove himself from my or our lives, but I'm no longer going to try to force him to be a part of this family.



After I blocked his wife from social media (because she stalks and then reports back to him), he at dealing with conflict, but he's steadily drawing further and further away. I love all my children, but he needs to realize it's not ALL about his wife — we're his family, too. I really need help with this one. — ADULTS' MOM

ing your daughter-in-law and and see if it's possible to bury her race out of this for a the hatchet. moment, the situation you have described is one that sometimes happens when a son gets married. When that happens, the young man's allegiance switches from mom and family to his wife.

daughter-in-law Your reviewing your posts and discussing them with your son isn't outrageous, particularly if he isn't viewing them himself. Were you posting something she found hurtful or offensive? If the answer is no, you may have to accept that time and came out to see his your son has decided to move father standing there. When I in a different direction. If the asked my husband why he did

#### ••••••

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 30 years and I are in-house separated. We sleep in separate bedrooms. I want a divorce, but he refuses to leave, even though he could afford another house. Our grown son came to visit recently and was staying in our camper in our backyard. The camper is next to our swimming pool.

Last Sunday, I looked out the kitchen window and saw my husband standing in the pool naked. Our son was in the camper at the

DEAR ADULTS' MOM: Leav- answer is yes, offer an apology this, my question was met with rage and yelling that he didn't want to get his bathing suit wet. Don't you think this is the behavior of a depraved person? - FIN-ISHED IN FLORIDA

> **DEAR FINISHED:** For your son to have seen his father naked in the swimming pool isn't what is cause for concern. More alarming is that a change in his usual behavior may indicate a mental or emotional problem and calls for a medical evaluation. (He might be more open to it if your SON suggests it.) Please consult an attorney and ask what would be involved if you were to go through with that divorce. Get those answers now, before a crisis happens.

# **Community Calendar**

Community Calendar as St., Portland. space is available. To submit an item, email news@thecr.com.

#### Today

WEDNESDAY MORN-ING BREAKFAST CLUB 131 E. Walnut St., Port-— Will meet at 8 a.m. in the land. east room of Richards Restaurant, All women are GROUP — New Begininvited to attend. Includes nings, a support group for activities and devotional friends and families of time.

Notices will appear in Learning, 101 S. Meridian Thursday

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the boardroom at Arts Place,

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at

have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.



PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to in the Zion Lutheran noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

BRYANT/NEW CORY-DON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon Come early for a meal. For each Wednesday in the more information, call at cafe at John Jay Center for (765) 369-2085.

FAMILY AL-ANON alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229. A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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.

(260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

STITCH AND CHAT-QUILT CLUB TER Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

FORGET-ME-NOT - A support group for parents, friends and relatives who

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORI-CAL 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.

PAST RECOVERY SERV-ICES — 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.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

#### Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — 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.

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

Level: Intermediate

#### **Tuesday's Solution**

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

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

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# Opinion

#### Page 4

# It's good to have talented friends

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Feb. 13, 2008. You never know when surprises are going to arise. A few weeks ago, we had internet problems that forced us to make a couple of trips to Celina for plates. On Friday, Celina called us for a possible assist. No matter the situation, the goal is to get the newspaper out the door. It helps to have good friends, and talented professionals, to help make it happen.

### By JACK RONALD The Commercial Review

You know you're in trouble when your day goes south before you even reach the office.

As I turned from Pleasant Street onto West Main, I saw the truck from Franklin's Electrical Service parked in front of the building.

Greg Franklin had been there the day before, but it wasn't a good sign to see him there a second day. We'd been having some problems with the control panel on the Goss Community press that prints The CR, The News and Sun, The Circulator, The



Berne Tri-Weekly News, and a few other jobs now and then. On Wednesday, we thought the

problems had been solved. On Thursday, when I saw Greg's truck, I knew that we weren't vet out of the woods.

My mood didn't improve in the pressroom. Greg was making progress in troubleshooting the situation, but it wasn't clear he'd be able to work his usual miracles by presstime.

I went looking for Plan B.

Back in 2005, during the ice storm, my boyhood friend Frank Snyder, publisher of The Daily Standard in Celina, had bailed us out. We've known each other most of our lives; my father was a friend of Frank's dad, Parker. So that's who I called.

#### We spent a few minutes working on the details of how we might be able to pull things off so that the readers would never know we'd run into difficulty, then I wandered back into the job shop — our commercial printing

department, if you want to get fancy — to alert Carl to what's going on. Carl Ronald is both my cousin and our head of commercial printing. He's also a pretty smart cookie when it comes to figuring out how to work around a sudden complication, just the guy with whom to discuss Plan B.

Carl was running a press when the conversation started, but by the time we were done he had shut it down.

"I want to show you something," he said.

We walked over to the second story windows on the west side of the building.

"Take a look at that," he said. There was a brick. No, there were two bricks. They sat upon the metal roof over the building's loading dock. There was only one place they could have come from: The building itself.

when he went outside for a cigarette. I don't smoke, so I didn't wait

Within seconds, it was clear what had happened. High winds had gotten under the metal cap for the rubber membrane roof, lifting it up.

And when they did, the force pulled some of the parapet wall at the fourth floor level back and away. Two bricks had fallen. Others teetered. And the rubber membrane had clearly been damaged.

Perfect, I thought. It's a publisher's tri-fecta. The press won't run. The roof is damaged. And bricks are falling off the wall.

I wondered what was next: A computer crash or a libel suit?

What happened next was one of those scenarios that reminds me why I love living in a small town.

First, Greg Franklin got a handle on our press problems. We're still not completely out of the woods, and we have a press control specialist stopping in this week. But thanks to having a

Carl said he'd check it out first-rate commercial electrical service on hand, the press is running and the situation is under control.

The roof and wall were another story. After checking with Portland Insurance, I went looking for Roger Inman of Inman Roofing.

I did that, of course, at the offices of The Portland Foundation, where Roger and Bev's son Doug is executive director.

Doug raised Roger on his cell phone and recommended his brother-in-law Dave Hemmelgarn to handle the brickwork.

By the end of the day, I'd traveled from anxiety and despair to a level of confidence and assurance

We'll get the press control panel issues resolved. We'll get the brickwork back in shape. And we'll get the roof repaired.

And with any luck, the next few times I make the turn from Pleasant onto West Main, the only thing I'll have to worry about is traffic.

Life — despite its never-ending surprises — continues to be good.

# Take steps to cut down vaping

#### **Niagara Gazette** (Niagara Falls, N.Y.) Tribune News Service

New York State Department of Health officials are stepping up efforts to reduce vaping among youths in New York state.

If you weren't already aware, vaping has come a long way, baby.

E-cigarettes are by far the most used tobacco product by high school students across the state, officials say.

Among those students, nearly 18.7% reported vaping nicotine compared to a record low of 2.1% who reported smoking cigarettes in 2022.

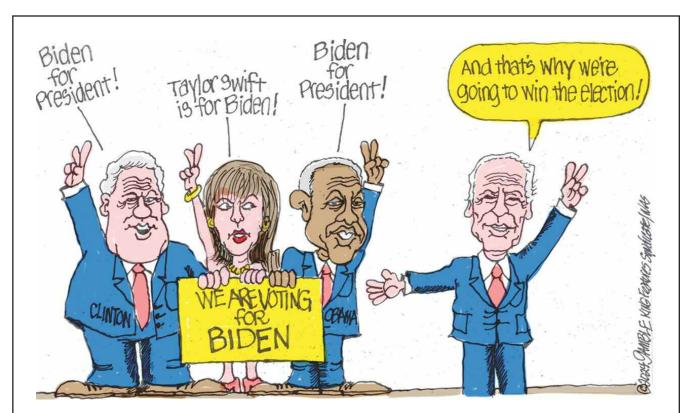
But it's not a good thing that teens are turning to vaping over the traditional cigarette. Most e-liquids still contain nicotine, the highly addictive chemical in all tobacco products. There are still health risks with vaping.

And then there's the vaping products that contain cannabis products that can be a whole different experience from smok-

Guest **Editorial** 

Most *e*-liquids still contain nicotine, the highly addictive chemical in all tobacco products. There are still health risks with vaping.

We know what you're thinking — Posters? Palm cards? What's next? A per-



## **Denigration has become a mainstay**

By LLEWELLYN KING Tribune News Service

In the 1990s, someone wrote in The Weekly Standard — it may well have been Matt Labash — that for conservatives to triumph, they had to attack the messenger rather than the message. His advice was to go

Llewellyn King



trade too long to pretend that we are all heroes, all out to get the truth. But I have observed that journalists tell the story pretty well, to the best of their varied abilities.

We make mistakes. We live in terror of that. An individual here and there may fabricate — as Boris Johnson, a former British prime minister, did when he was a correspondent in Brussels. Some may indeed have political agendas; the reader or listener will soon twig that. The political turmoil we are going through is partly a result of media denigration. People believe what they want to believe; they can seize any spurious supposition and hold it close as a revealed truth. You can, for example, believe that ending natural gas development in the United States will lead to carbon reduction worldwide, or you can believe that the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection with loss of life and the trashing of the nation's great Capitol Building was an act of free speech. One of the more dangerous ideas dancing around is that social media and citizen journalists can replace professional journalists. No, no, a thousand times no! We need the press with the resources to hire excellent journalists to cover local and national news, and to send, or station, staff around the world. Have you seen anyone covering the news from Ukraine or Gaza on social media? There is commentary and more commentary on social media sites, all based on the reporting of those in danger and on the spot. This is a trade of imperfect operators but an essential one. For better or for worse, we are the messengers. .....

ing your typical marijuana joint.

A recent study showed that THC-dominant joints delivered a total of 19 to 28 milligrams of THC per cigarette, the CBD-dominant versions are adjustable thanks to controls on the ecigarette and have the capacity to deliver 90 to 100 mg of CBD, 200% to 400% more of the dominant cannabinoid. They can pack quite a punch — especially for a teen.

As for vaping in general, there is some good news. A New York Youth Tobacco Survey found that e-cigarette usage has declined from 27.4% in 2018 to 18.7% in 2022. It's a 32%drop. That's a pretty sizable number.

In an effort to get more teens, and sadly, youth even younger, to quit e-cigarettes, the DOH and the New York State Education Department are offering informational materials on the impact of vaping and how to quit. Things like posters, palm cards, and rack cards for middle schools and high schools/young adults, in both English and Spanish, to promote the services of 'DropTheVape.'

formance in the school auditorium from some group acting out a skit on the dangers of vaping? That stuff doesn't work.

Look past the posters and more at the message.

DropTheVape was developed by the Truth Initiative with input from young people who were actively trying to quit vaping. The service is a free, confidential text-based vaping cessation service for youth ages 13 to 17 and young adults ages 18 to 24.

Text messages show the benefits and challenges of quitting, to help young people feel motivated, inspired and supported throughout their quitting process.

Delivering the message on quitting through a teen's phone? A day-to-day approach to quitting with support right at a teen's fingers? That might just work.

We recommend those dealing with this issue search out DropTheVape's website and also take a look at additional information on e-cigarettes on York State the New Department of Health website at health.ny.gov.

after the media, not the news.

Attacking the messenger was all well and good for the neoconservatives. Still, their less-thoughtful successors, MAGA supporters, are killing the messenger.

The press — always identified as the "liberal media" — is now often seen, due to relentless denigration, as a force for evil, a malicious contestant on the other side.

No matter that there is no liberal media beyond what has been fabricated from political ectoplasm. Traditionally, most proprietors have been conservative, and many, but not most reporters, have been liberal.

It surprises people to learn that when you work in a large newsroom, you don't know the political opinions of most of your colleagues. I have worked in many newsrooms over the decades and tended to know more about my colleagues' love lives than their voting preferences.

This philosophy of "kill the mes-senger" might work briefly, but down the road, the problem is no messenger, no news, no facts. The next stop is anarchy and chaos you might say, politics circa 2024.

Add to that social media and its capacity to spread innuendo, halftruth, fabrication and common ignorance.

There is someone who writes to me almost weekly about media's failures — and I assume, ergo, my failure — and he won't be mollified. To him, that irregular army of individuals who make a living reporting are members of a pernicious cult. To

him, there is a shadow world of the media.

I have stopped remonstrating with him on that point. On other issues, he is lucid and has views worth knowing on the Middle East and Ukraine.

That poses the question: How come he knows about these things? The answer, of course, is that he read about them, saw the news on television or heard it on radio.

Reporters in Gaza and Ukraine risk their lives, and sometimes lose them, to tell the world what is going on in these and other very dangerous places. No one accuses them of being left or right of center.

But send the same journalists to cover the White House, and they are assumed to be unreliable propagandists, devoid of judgment, integrity or common decency, so enslaved to liberalism that they will twist everything to suit a propaganda purpose.

That thought is displayed every time Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-New York., is interviewed on TV. Stefanik attacks the interviewer and the institution. Her aim is to silence the messenger and leave the impression that she isn't to be trifled with by the media, shades of Margaret Thatcher. But I interviewed "The Iron Lady," and I can say she answered questions, hostile or otherwise.

Stefanik's recent grandstanding on TV hid her flip-flop on the events on Jan. 6, 2021, and failed to tell us what she would do if she were to win the high office she clearly covets.

I have been in the journalist's eSources.com.

King is the executive producer and host of "White House Chroni-cle" on PBS. He wrote this for Insid-

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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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# Local/Indiana

### Holcomb signs **1**st bills of 2024 **By WHITNEY** DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle ndianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb signed the first bill to hit his desk in the 2024 legislative session: one further eroding wetlands protections by redefining certain, protected wetlands to a less regulated class.

bill, House The Enrolled Act 1383, goes into effect July 1.

Indiana's wetlands are grouped into three tiers by the state. Only the highest ranked Class III wetlands receive full protections. Class II wetlands have fewer protections, and Class I has none. That system went into effect in 2022. The 2024 bill would redefine select Class III wetlands as Class II.

Builders and develroundly opers applauded the new measure, saying it would reduce costs and prevent permitting delays. Environmental advocates decried the measure for endangering state's wetlands.

The Hoosier Envi-Council ronmental contends that - since the 2022 law took effect – 75% of the wetland acres impacted by construction have been lost with no mitigation or replacement of their lost function.

Compounding that loss of wetland protections, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 2023 that federal protections for wetlands under the Clean Water Act only apply to those with a continuous surface connection to federally protected waterways that make them 'indistinguishable' from those waters.

Environmental groups and experts note that wetlands are vital for soaking up

### Funds Continued from page 1

(The partnership is a part of the CreatINg Places program available through the state for various projects, such as those related to playgrounds, public plaza development, park creation or improvements, bike and pedestrian pathways and public space enhancements.) Plans are also to apply for a \$10,000 grant through Church of Brethren, which McClain noted hosts a church in the park program throughout the summer.

So far, the park board has raised \$35,530.43 in less than a year. Approximately \$5,000 of that amount has been spent on architectural fees.

Phase two of the project would include making renovations to the community pavilion, establishing pedestrian walks, building picnic shelters, renovating concessions and restrooms, developing play areas for children and plaza spaces, connecting Broadway Street to the park on the eastern edge of town and adding street parking. The park board's hopes for phase three would involve developing a splash pad or other water-related amenity, such as installing bubblers and jets or a rock water wall and pool.

Commissioners all spoke in support of the project.

"I think this is ideally the projects we like to see," said commissioners president Chad Aker. "You guys are making the effort, you guvs have put in countless hours doing this, you're getting community buy-in in this, you guys are raising these funds ... you guys are doing everything that we want to see.

He suggested Pennville Park Board approach Jay County Council — it meets next at 6 p.m. Feb. 21

- to request release of the funds. Also Monday, commissioners gave Sheriff Ray Newton permission to purchase a \$1,795 shock band and \$1,695 sound shield from APB Consulting Solutions of Nicholasville, Kentucky.

Newton explained Jay County Jail has been utilizing shock gloves from the same company as an alternative to using tasers on violent inmates. He noted \$2,500 in damages in the last year sustained on a county van by inmates, as well as another \$1,000 in damages in one of the jail cells. The ankle band is remote-controlled and is nectingindiana.com.)

CREAT

intended to keep officers safe in altercations, he explained.

"It's happening a lot where these inmates are getting combative, and correction officers need more tools instead of using a taser," said Newton.

Commissioners approved the purchase with Brian McGalliard abstaining, saying he would like to do more research on the equipment.

Also, commissioners allotted \$1,500 to mail information about broadband speed tests to all county residents.

Jay County Purdue Extension Office director Allison Keen explained the county has one month left to gather data and update the Federal Communications Commission's broadband availability map. Aker noted the county's \$3.9 million commitment toward a project to bring nearly 400 miles of fiberoptic broadband to Jay County. The project will target households or businesses designated as unserved or underserved per the FCC's speed standards.

Residents may visit broadbandmap.fcc.gov to ensure the information about broadband availability — location and speed — is correct for their address. The website also includes links to challenge that information. (Speed tests may be conducted at con-

Commissioners also OK'd, with McGalliard dissenting, Jay County Development Corporation to renew a one-year agreement with the Yodel calendar website for \$4,800. Per commissioner Rex Journay's motion, the decision is subject to creating a marketing plan for the website moving forward.

In other business, commissioners:

•OK'd treasurer Paula Miller to enter into a nearly \$6,000 agreement with L and D Mail Masters for tax bill mailings. Miller noted 63 counties in Indiana utilize the out-of-house service, and commissioners approved the agreement subject to county attorney Wes Schemenaur's review of the contract.

•Approved a decision to increase Loblolly watershed fees by 25%, or from \$2 to \$2.50 an acre and from \$20 to \$25 a plot. It will be effective in May

•Granted right-of-way access for electricity work along portions of county roads 500 North, 550 East, 650 East, 700 East and 300 North.

 Heard a request from adjoining property owners Randy Fisher and Greg Bailey to vacate the portion of Second Street between county road 200 South and Ruth Street in rural Portland.

•OK'd LifeStream Services' purchase of four new buses for credit cards.

\$473,780. (The program is mainly funded by dollars from the state.)

•OK'd assessor Robin Alberson to switch a 2015 Ford Explorer used by Jay County Sheriff's Office over to her department. The vehicle has just over \$149,000 miles on it. Newton originally planned to trade in the vehicle.

•Approved claims, including \$111,582.80 for the new Stryker Power Cot at Jay Emergency Medical Service.

•Agreed to move the April 22, Oct. 14 and Oct 28 meetings to 5 p.m. in Jay County Courthouse auditorium instead of the usual 9 a.m. time. The decision was made to avoid scheduling conflicts with early voting, which will be available in the auditorium beginning April 9.

•OK'd paying a \$958.21 garnishment order. First deputy clerk Missy Elliott explained the wrong case number had been issued on the order and the refund had been issued to the wrong individual. Elliott noted after several attempts to contact the man, he spoke with the clerk's office and agreed to pay back the money in \$100 increments. Commissioners will be reimbursed for the funds as they are paid back.

•Gave permission to Newton and new highway superintendent Bob Howell to apply for new county

Continued from page 1 son and approved purchas-In other business, coun- ing the equipment from

cil: •Agreed to advertise an \$2,728.82.

USABlueBook for •Heard from Murphy

been ordered for the

policies for making cuts in

streets and the subsequent

repairs for further review.

resentative of Arts Place's

performance committee

regarding Friday's Gabriel

Royal concert. The cellist

and vocalist will perform

at 7 p.m. Friday at Arts

claims totaling \$340,886.99

and spending \$60 per

month for new email

accounts for council mem-

thank you notes from

Youth Service Bureau and

Secret Families Christmas Charity of Jay County for

their sponsorships.

•Heard they received

paying

Place in Portland.

Approved

bers.

•Heard a plug from a rep-

•Tabled an ordinance on

library/glass museum.



excess nutrients in - especially elesoil ments like nitrogen phosphorus, and which are common ingredients in fertilizer that can leach from farmland — and preventing them from creating problems elsewhere

Wetlands also catch hold and excess stormwater, reducing flooding on that landscape. Additionally, they help cleanse underground aquifers. That's important, given that about 70% of Indiana residents rely on groundwater for at least part of their drinking water supply, according to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

additional appropriation of \$14,000 for equipment to that new street signs have fill new self-contained breathing apparatus. The new air tanks that were purchased are in use and were paid for via an Assistance to Firefighters Grant through the Federal Emergency Management Agency which was a partnership of all of the county's fire departments.

•Heard from Robbins that he has a contract from engineering firm Jones & Henry of Fort Wayne for a process to fix a phosphorus issue at the city's wastewater plant. He said he will have city attorney Wes Schemenaur review the contract before bringing it back to council for approval.

•Rescinded approval of \$8,536 to purchase chlorine monitors from BL Ander-

# Projects

Continued from page 5

The program is designed to help teachers who are new to the corporation — there are 16 this year — and involves assigning them a mentor who they meet with regularly. Funded through a Digital Learning Grant, the academy also provides information on various topics. So far this year those have included orientation, Skyward, Google Tools, generative artificial intelligence, e-learning, classroom management strategies, blended and online learning, Indiana Learning Lab (professional development) and professional growth/

•Approved the following: leaves of absence for art teacher Heather Keller, special education teacher Lauren Hemmelgarn, fifth grade teacher Taylor Schwarck and second grade teacher Kim Hyatt; extracurricular assignments include Carissa Allred as high school girls golf coach; two bus use requests from Fellowship Baptist Church Youth Group; various policy updates including mandatory curriculum, adjunct teachers and fee; an exclusive sports medicine sponsorship agreement with Indiana University Health for \$15,000 annually; the assessment of the corporation's wellness Bluffton.

plan, which shows goals to be met with the exception of the areas of nutrition education and physical activity, both of which are being "partially met"; and canceled four checks that were outstanding for more than two years at a total of \$6,658.13.

 Accepted the resignations of Redkey Elementary School special education resource teacher Mallory Bost, Redkey/West Jay elementary physical education/technology instructor Maggie Pryor and preschool nurse Amanda May.

•Heard from Jay County Council member Cindy Bracy about the county's recent commitment of matching funds for a grant application to extend nearly 400 miles of fiberoptic internet lines in the county. She asked that the board think about the possibility of contributing toward the needed \$3.9 million in local match dollars, noting that the expanded internet connectivity will be a benefit to the school corporation and its students.

•Accepted a federal Title II, Part A grant of \$148,015,59, a federal Title IV, Part A grant of \$84,217.35 and a donation of \$500 from Kroger through Peyton's Northern Distribution Center of

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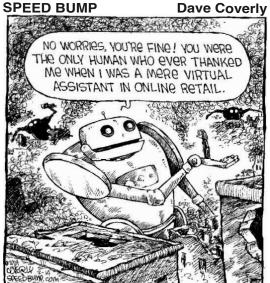
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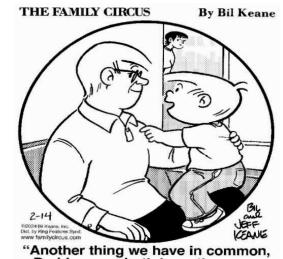
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# Comics



Agnes





Daddy – we both have the same Valentine — Mommy!"

Peanuts YOU DIDN'T GET ANY VALENTINES BECAUSE NO ONE SENT YOU ANY ! I'VE BEEN MAY YOUR CHOCOLATE THINK I'VE 2 THINKING ABOUT CREAMS ALL MELT IN FIGURED IT OUT ... UHY YOU DIDN'T GET ANY VALENTINES, THE BOX ! НАНАНАНАНА 2 BIG BROTHER С C 10 NIGUN





### Bridge By Steve Becker

#### A built-in booby trap

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable

WEST

**≜**K743 ♥5

**4**843

107652

The bidding:

Opening lead

₩3₩

0

NORTH

♦ 8 6 2 ♥Q 9 8

♣A J 7 5 2

SOUTH

♦J3

Pass

Pass

♠ A Q 5 ♥ A K J 10 7 3 2

2 ♣ 4 ♥

An instinctive play is not necessar-

West led the five of diamonds

against four hearts. Declarer played low from dummy, hoping West had the queen, but East won with the queen and cashed the ace.

When West followed suit with the

deuce of diamonds, East knew his

partner had led from a five-card

suit, but without giving the matter further thought, he returned the

further thought, he returned the jack of spades. This seemed a very

ily the correct play, as East discov-ered to his sorrow on this deal.

EAST ▲ J 10 9 ♥ 6 4

♦ A Q 9 4 ♦ K Q 10 6

North East

five of diamonds.

Pass

natural thing to do, but it eventu-ally cost East the contract. **South went up** with the ace of spades, led a club to the ace and spaces, led a club to the ace and ruffed a club. He next led a low trump to dummy's eight, ruffed another club, played a trump to the nine and ruffed still another club, establishing dummy's jack as a trick. Declarer then led a trump to the juck of clube, loging a spade at the jack of clubs, losing a spade at the end to make the contract.

Granting that East's spade return at trick three looked very attractive, it was nevertheless the wrong play. Had he returned a trump instead, South would have gone down one. The advantage of the trump return is that it uses up one of dummy's entries prematurely. South can still establish a club trick if he wants to, but he will be unable to reach it and must eventually lose two spade tricks. East should reason that any spade

losers South might have cannot fly away if he returns a trump, since his club holding assures that declarer will not be able to establish and utilize an extra winner in the club suit. However, a spade return might allow declarer to establish dummy's fifth club, with dummy's third trump providing the critical entry to collect it.

Tomorrow: The sure way is the best way. ©2024 King Features Syndicate In

2 - 14CRYPTOQUIP EQFE ZLUIH-ZWFHE JDY HINDEIY EQI RQGOI VHIIJ FOUQFXIE DA WIHI ZINGAYZ RDEQGLE WDZZDAV F XIEF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ASPIRING DOCTOR IN SCHOOL WHO WAS GIVEN A LONG-LASTING WAVY HAIRSTYLE: A PERMED PREMED.

#### **CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

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APD	38 "What-	tabs on	Kate"
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MARION YOUNG

FARMERS **Consignment Auction** Mercer Landmark, Chickasaw, 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

PUBLIC AUCTION FRIDAY February 16TH, 2024

TIME 4:30 P.M. LOCATED: 4023 S 800 W, Redkey IN 296 ACRES - 10,000 HEAD HOG CONFINE-

MENT 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 sec-

tion 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 show-

ing phone auctioneers. COURT ORDERED

**260 PUBLIC AUCTION** 



#### 90 SALE CALENDAR

AUCTION SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING 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. PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY MARCH 23rd. 2024 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 7136 N 650 E. BRYANT, IN.

OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, March 10TH from 1-3 pm, or for private showing phone auctioneers.

REAL ESTATE 80 Acres in Section 7, Wabash Township. To be offered in tracts and combinations. Tract 1: 2.5 Acres with 3 bed, 2 bath brick ranch style home containing

1792 sq ft finished living area. Attached 2 car garage, central air, lofted barn, detached

garage/grainery. Tract 2: 66 Acres Practically all tillable with frontage on SR 67 and CR 650 E.

Tract 3: 2.4 Acres practically all tillable with frontage on SR 67 and CR 650 E.

Tract 4: 7 Acres Wooded with access on CR 650 E.

TRACTOR - ANTIQUES – MISC Farmall A Tractor with cycle bar mower, belly mower and blade. 5 gal-

lon milk can. CC saw. Chicken crate. Old gates. Walking plows.

Old toys. Tinker toys and games. Hand painted lamp globe. **OWNER: Laux Trust-**Thomas J. Laux Trustee SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004

Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver

**260 PUBLIC AUCTION** 



#### **90 SALE CALENDAR**

Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check AuctionZip for more photos. **PUBLIC AUCTION** SATURDAY MARCH 9th, 2024 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 4023 S 800 W. RED-KEY, IN. REAL ESTATE Tract 1: 25 Acres in Section 5, Jefferson Township with 23 acres tillable, balance being nontillable and road frontage. Tract 2: 9.6 Acres in Section 6, Jefferson Township. Practically all tillable. For more information phone auctioneers. Land will be sold at 4023 S 800 W, Redkey IN. TRUCK - TRACTOR -FARM EQUIPMENT -MISC Bambauer hog manure hyd. hose reel, PTO driven on transport. PTO hog manure pump. Wilson 45' hopper bottom

grain trailer. 1000-500-300 gallon fuel tanks. Work benches.

ANTIQUES – HOUSE-HOLD Plastic Marathon sign.

Garden plows. Garden planter. Oil cans. Maytag washer and dryer. Gladiator refrigerator. Full line of household furnishings and furniture. OWNER: Anita Orr, Wade Weesner POA SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver

Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check AuctionZip & Auc-

tionsoft for more photos.

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Clean and shiny on one door HD truck with ability side..35 cents each or to pull trailers. Call Tim

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THE TOWN OF PEN-NVILLE 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.

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**260 PUBLIC AUCTION** 



LOCATED: 4023 S 800 W. REDKEY, INDIANA

SATURDAY

#### March 9th, 2024

10:00 A.M.

REAL ESTATE

Tract 1: 25 Acres in Section 5, Jefferson Township with 23 acres tillable, balance being non-tillable and road frontage.

Tract 2: 9.6 Acres in Section 6, Jefferson Township. Practically all tillable. For more information phone auctioneers. Land will be sold at 4023 S 800 W, Redkey IN.

> TRUCK - TRACTOR -FARM EQUIPMENT – MISC

Bambauer hog manure hyd. hose reel, PTO driven on transport. PTO hog manure pump. 2005 Volvo semi with VE-D12 engine, 10 speed trans with sleeper. 1994 Volvo tri axel dump truck, 13 speed trans. 2010 Chevy 2500 HD reg cab 4x4 pickup. Wilson 45' hopper bottom grain trailer. Great Dane 40' flat bed semi-trailer with straps. Single axel utility trailer. Grasshopper 900D zero turn mower, 1,080 hours. (2) Simplicity zero turn mowers for parts. Farmall 460 tractor (needs work). 18-4 x 36 hub mount duals. Millermatic 252 welder. Acetylene cutting set. Napa battery charger. Porter Cable floor model drill press. Fimco RTV sprayer. Engine lift. Lawn sweeper and cart. 1000-500-300 gallon fuel tanks. Work benches. Echo gas powered blower. Pallet jack. Floor jack. 2" trash pump. Air tank. Portable air compressor. Extension cords. Bolt bins. Shop lights. 30' fiberglass extension ladder. Fuel additives. Shop and hand tools. Lawn and garden tools.

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#### Friday, February 16, 2024 4:30 P.M. 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. (2) 4,000 head hog buildings built in 2018. (2) 1,000 head hog buildings built in 1997. 60' x 80' shop building built in 2018. 60' x 106' barn. 30' x 36' barn. 22' x 70' hog nursery building. 30' x 18', 27' x 18', 21' x 18' grain bins. Two story home containing 3,622 sq ft of finished living area. 5 bedrooms, 2 full baths, attached 2 car garage. 60k and 125k generators. Solar panels.

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. Approximately 6 years left on current hog contract. No entry into confinement areas unless accompanied by staff from Oracle Pork. Must not be in any other confinement building for a period of 48 hours and other precautions may apply.

#### TERMS

Cash with 10% nonrefundable deposit due at the auction, balance upon closing. Closing to be within 30 days. If survey is necessary cost to be split between buyer and seller. Final sale not subject to buyer being able to obtain financing. Make financial arrangements if needed. Buyers tax obligation to begin with the May 2024 installment and thereafter.

#### COURT ORDERED AUCTION

STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004

Pete D. Shawver Zane Shawver Lic# AU19700040 Lic# AU10500168 260-726-5587 260-729-2229 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com CR 1-27,2-10-2024 NS/NT 2-7, NG/RB 2-6

### March 23rd, 2024

10:00 A.M. REAL ESTATE 80 Acres in Section 7, Wabash Township. To be offered in tracts and combinations.

Tract 1: 2.5 Acres with 3 bed, 2 bath brick ranch style home containing 1792 sq ft finished living area. Attached 2 car garage, central air, lofted barn, detached garage/grainery.

Tract 2: 66 Acres Practically all tillable with frontage on SR 67 and CR 650 E.

Tract 3: 2.4 Acres practically all tillable with frontage on SR 67 and CR 650 E. Tract 4: 7 Acres Wooded with

access on CR 650 E.

Open House: Sunday, March 10 from 1-3 pm, or for private showing phone auctioneers.

TRACTOR - ANTIQUES - MISC Farmall A Tractor with cycle bar mower, belly mower and blade. Cultivators. 5' pull type bush hog. Rolls of fence. (12) 12' I beams. Huffy Convertible childs bike. Western flyer. Girls bike with headlamp. 5 gallon milk can. CC saw. Chicken crate. Old gates. Walking plows. Old toys. Tinker toys and games. Oak barrel. Glass water bottle. Pictures and frames. Hand painted lamp globe. Samsonite luggage set. Primitive tools. Bucksaws. Wood extension and step ladders. Canning jars. Bench with vice and grinder. Tools. Lawn and garden tools. Hardware. Flatware. Costume jewelry. Collectible dishware. Pitcher and bowls. Sewing machine and cabinet. Stereo and cabinet. CDs and VCR tapes. Candles. Floor fan. Window air conditioner. Shark vacuum. TERMS: Real Estate, Cash with 10% down day of the auction, balance at closing. Closing to be within 30-45 days. Not subject to buyer obtaining financing. NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. TERMS ON PERSONAL PROPERTY: CASH -GOOD CHECK - CREDIT CARD Owner: Laux Trust Thomas J. Laux Trustee STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE

PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE-AC31800004 Pete D. Shawver Zane Shawver Lic# AU19700040 Lic# AU10500168 260-726-5587 260-729-2229 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com CR 2-14,3-9 NS/NT 3-6, NG/RB 3-5-2024

#### ANTIQUES - HOUSEHOLD

Plastic Marathon sign. Garden plows. Garden planter. Oil cans. Platform scale. Large Frigidaire chest type freezer. Solar Storm tanning bed. Maytag washer and dryer. Gladiator refrigerator. Full line of household furnishings and furniture.

TERMS: Real Estate, Cash with 10% down day of the auction, balance at closing. Closing to be

within 30-45 days. Not subject to buyer obtaining financing.

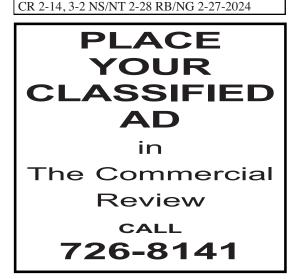
NOTE: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

TERMS ON PERSONAL PROPERTY: CASH -GOOD CHECK - CREDIT CARD

#### OWNER: Anita Orr,

#### Wade Weesner POA

STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Pete D. Shawver Zane Shawver Lic# AU19700040 Lic# AU10500168 260-726-5587 260-729-2229 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com



Wednesday, February 14, 2024

**Patriots to host** sectional prelims. see Sports on tap



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The Commercial Review



#### The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### **Power lift**

Jay County High School sophomore Alan Ortiz lifts Caleb Evans of Homestead off the mat during the openinground match Saturday in the 215-pound bracket in the semi-state tournament at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne. Ortiz edged Evans 5-3 before falling by pin to eventual champion No. 18 Travis Henke of Northridge by a last-second pin in the ticket round to finish his season with a 24-9 record.

# Jay County slams short-handed Jets

spent most of the evening competing against each other.

The boys were also uncontested in five events.

Jay County Junior High School's swim teams obliterated the shorthanded host Adams Central Jets on Monday, with the girls winning 140-5 while the boys posted a 106-35 victory.

Grady

MONROE — The Patriot girls Glentzer each won two events to lead the Patriot boys. Warvel was first in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 28.32 and the 100 freestyle in 1 minute, 1.85 seconds. Both of Glentzer's wins were uncontested by the Jets as he posted times of 2:09.28 in the 200 freestyle and 4:39.54 in the 400 freestyle.

Adding individual victories for the JCHS boys were Rockland Warvel and Cooper Beiswanger (100 breaststroke),

Grant Glentzer (100 backstroke), Tony Beiswanger (diving), Carson Westgerdes (50 butterfly) and Raif Beiswanger (100 individual medley).

The Patriot girls had just one Adams Central opponent — Elaina Cowan — leading to mostly intrasquad competition. Maria Laux and Brooklynn Byrum led the way with two wins apiece, the former finishing the 100 IM in 1:15.22 and the 100 freestyle in 1:02.55 while the latter posted times of 30.22 in the 50 butterfly and 1:27.26 in the 100 breaststroke.

Also picking up wins were Gabby Gibson (200 freestyle), Lila Wendel (100 backstroke), Elly Byrum (50 freestyle), Kali Wendel (400 freestyle) and Jordyn Champ (diving).

Both Patriot teams swept the relays.

LIMITED OFFER

# Jay likely to stay in 3A

**Enrollment** puts Patriots at 128th in Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS — Updated enrollment numbers were released Monday.

They project the Patriots will stay where they have been.

Indiana High School Athletic Association on Monday released enrollment totals that will be used for reclassification and realignment for the next two years. Based on those figures, it looks as if Jay County High School's athletic teams will remain in their current classes.

Enrollment numbers are used to determine classes for baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, football, boys soccer, girls soccer, softball and volleyball. They will be in effect for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

The Patriots are expected to remain in Class 3A for all four-class sports. They would be among the top 40 in enrollment in that class out of about 100.

They look as if they will remain in Class 4A for football and continue to be one of the larger schools in Class 2A for boys soccer and girls soccer.

JCHS ranks 128th with an enrollment of 800. That's down from 118th two years ago when its enrollment was 879. (Its enrollment could stabilize as its largest classes are the freshman and sophomores with 203 and 208

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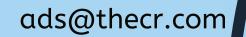
Run a half-page black and white ad in:

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- The News-Gazette
- The News Times
- The News and Sun

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NEWSPAPERS



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#### while the juniors and seniors are both in the 190s.)

IHSAA The has changed its formula for the four-class sports (volleyball, boys basketball, girls basketball, softball and baseball) this year, with the top 20% in Class 4A, the next 25% in class 3A, the next 25% in Class 2A and the smallest 30% in Class 1A. Football (six classes) and soccer (three classes) are not affected and will continue as they have in previous years.

Official classifications will be announced in the spring, with tournament sectional assignments to follow in late April.

# On tap

#### Local schedule

Thursday Jay County — Boys swimming sectional at Jay County – Boys Swimming Section-al at Jay County – 5:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Muncie Southside – 6 p.m. Fort Recovery – Girls basketball at New Knoxville – 6 p.m.

#### TV sports

Today 3 p.m. – UEFA Champions League: Real Sociedad at PSG (CBS) 6:30 p.m. – Men's college basketball:

- Michigan State at Penn State (BTN) 7 p.m. Men's college basketball: Miami at Clemson (ESPN2)
- 7:30 p.m. NBA: Chicago Bulls at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN); Indiana Pac-
- ers at Toronto Raptors (Bally Indiana) 7:30 p.m. NHL: Florida Panthers at Pittsburgh Penguins (TNT)
- 8:15 p.m. NASCAR Cup Series: Day-tona 500 (FS1)
- 8:30 p.m. Men's college basketball:
  lowa at Maryland (BTN)
  9 p.m. Men's college basketball:
  Tennessee at Arkansas (ESPN2)
  10 p.m. NBA: Los Angeles Clippers
  at Golden State Warriors (ESPN)
  10 p.m. \_ Mon's college basketball;
- 10 p.m. Men's college basketball: Utah State at Wyoming (FS1)

- Thursday 5 p.m. NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Fresh from Florida 250 (FS1) 6:30 p.m. Men's college basketball: Northwestern at Rutgers (BTN) 7 p.m. Men's college basketball: Temple at Florida Atlantic (ESPN2) 8:15 p.m. NASCAR Cup Series: Bluegreen Vacations Duel at Daytona (FS1) 8 n m NHI : Edmonton Oilers at St
- 8 p.m. NHL: Edmonton Oilers at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)

- 8:30 p.m. Men's college basketball:
   lowa at Maryland (BTN)
   8:30 p.m. Men's college basketball:
   Minnesota at Purdue (BTN)
   9 p.m. Men's college basketball:
   Stanford at Washington (ESPN2); Colorado at LICLA (ESPN)

at UCLA (ESPN) 11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Utah at USC (FS1)