

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Charges filed; program to move

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Charges have been filed against a juvenile who was allegedly caught with a handgun on school property last week.

A school program will be shifting locations following the incident.

Jay County prosecutor Wes Schemenaur said Tuesday that charges have been filed against a juvenile after the incident Friday in Jay School Corporation's Alternate Placement Program at General Shanks in Portland.

The juvenile faces charges of theft of a firearm and possession of a firearm on school prop-

Juvenile faces counts of theft of firearm and possession of a firearm on school property; John Jay will house Alternate Placement

erty. Those charges would be a Level 5 and Level 6 felony, respectively, if they were committed by an adult, Schemenaur said.

Because the individual who is charged is a juvenile, their name

will not be released. The student involved is in "secure detention" until the case's next hearing, which is scheduled for March 15.

Meanwhile, the Alternate Placement Program which has been housed at General Shanks

will be moved to John Jay Center for Learning next week. Superintendent Jeremy Gulley informed The Commercial Review of the change Tuesday.

A re-evaluation of the program and school security overall

was launched after a student was allegedly found in possession of a firearm Friday on school property in the north wing of General Shanks, 414 Floral, Ave., Portland. By Friday evening, Gulley had announced that he would "press pause" on the program — it is an alternative to out-of-school suspensions and for students who prefer a quieter space with fewer distractions — until further notice. (General Shanks also houses the school corporation's administrative offices in its west wing and preschool students in its south wing.)

See **Charges** page 2

Magic surprise

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Whether utilizing an invisible bullet, a deck of cards or the power of meditation, Jon Mobley always has a common element in mind.

Surprise.

Mobley, an Indianapolis magician, will seek to baffle a local audience with his "Sleight of Mind" act this weekend as he takes to the stage at 3 p.m. Saturday in Hall-Moser Theatre on the Jay County Campus of Arts Place.

"For me, the element of surprise is my favorite," said Mobley, a father of three. "There are so many things we want to control in our lives. And this is just a

fun time where you can let your guard down and be pleasantly surprised.

"You should expect the unexpected. My favorite thing to do, in fact, is to divert expectations. So you think something's going one way. Nope. It just switched."

Mobley refers to himself as a classic over-thinker, someone who analyzes all situations. In an effort to break through that habit, he

took improv classes while attending Anderson University for his degree in video production and storytelling. He joined a performance troupe.

That gave him a chance to emulate his favorite TV show — "Whose Line is it Anyway?" hosted by Drew Carey in its first iteration and now captained by Aisha Tyler.

"They were coming up

with stuff in real time with suggestions from the audience," Mobley said of Ryan Styles, Colin Mochrie and Wayne Brady and the other comics/actors who joined them on the show. "As a guy who did magic his whole life since he was 8, that was real magic, to take a couple ideas and suggestions and to make something out of nothing in real time.

See **Surprise** page 5

Mobley brings 'Sleight of Mind' to Arts Place stage on Saturday

Bill on reading clears House

Measure would require retention of some students

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Lawmakers voted Tuesday to approve two contentious education bills — one would require school corporations to retain students who fail to pass the IREAD exam and another would push colleges and universities to include more conservative instruction.

The reading overhaul in Senate Bill 1 now moves back to its original chamber where senators must approve changes made by the House before it can head for the governor's desk.

Under the bill, schools must first test students in second grade — a year earlier than current statute — and offer targeted support to struggling students. If a student fails three times they must be held back with limited exceptions.

"The future is bleak for students who are not proficient in literacy," said GOP Rep. Jake Teshka, the bill's sponsor. "It's really about earlier intervention and giving student's every possible chance to read by third grade."

Various Democrats spoke against the retention mandate, even calling it a "poison pill" in a bill with "good intentions."

Several attempts to weaken the retention mandate failed on Monday, as bill sponsors repeated the assurance that retention was "the last resort." Rep. Vernon Smith, D-Gary, also noted that the body hadn't given adequate time to analyze the impact of the science of reading, a literacy initiative passed by the General Assembly last year.

According to the latest reading scores, one in five Hoosier students struggle to read. Even as 13,840 third-graders failed the test, just 412 were retained. Roughly one-third, or 5,503 students, received an exemption.

The law provides for exemptions, including those for special education and English learner students.

See **Reading** page 6



Indianapolis magician Jon Mobley will perform at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Jay County Campus of Arts Place. He made two appearances on the TV show "Penn and Teller: Fool Us" and has performed at the Chicago Magic Lounge. "You should expect the unexpected," he said. Tickets are available at myartsplace.org, by calling (260) 726-4809 or by visiting Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

Deaths

Anna Bettinger, 87, Coldwater, Ohio

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 64 degrees Tuesday. The low was 49.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 20s. Expect partly cloudy skies Friday with a chance of rain in the afternoon and a high in the mid 40s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

State Sen. Travis Holdman and State Reps. J.D. Prescott and Matt Lehman, all of whom represent Jay County, will visit Portland on Saturday for a Third House Session at 9 a.m. at John Jay Center for Learning. The legislators will provide an update on the current session and discuss legislation with those in attendance.

Coming up

Friday — Results from the JCHS boys basketball sectional opener at New Castle.

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



Obituaries

Anna Bettinger

Feb. 6, 1937-Feb. 27, 2024
Anna "Marlene" Bettinger, age 87, of Coldwater, Ohio, died on Tuesday, Feb. 27, 2024, at The Gardens of St. Henry.
She was born on Feb. 6, 1937, in Frenchtown to the late Lewis and Edna (McEldowney) Baltes. On July 4, 1960, she married LaVern Bettinger and he preceded her in 2000.
She is survived by her eight children, Brad Bettinger of Coldwater, Nadine and Lou Kunk of Coldwater, Keith and Angie Bettinger of Anna, Ohio,

Dana and Jeff Grieshop of Coldwater, Kristina and Eric Niekamp of Coldwater, Kelley and Mark Baker of Coldwater, Kimberly and Scott Wendel of Fort Recovery, and David and Stacie Bettinger of Coldwater; 29 grandchildren; 27 great-grandchildren; siblings and in-laws, Joe Baltes of New York, Clete and Carolyn Baltes of Maine, Helen Lovell of California, Carolyn Phelan of Versailles, Ohio,



Bettinger

Marlene was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Coldwater. She was also a member of the St. Ann's Ladies Sodality, the Coldwater VFW Ladies Auxiliary and a volunteer at Mercer Health Hospital in Coldwater. Marlene was an avid reader and sports fan, notably of the Coldwater Cavaliers, and she loved following all the activities and events of her children and grandchildren.
A public Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, March 1, 2024, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Coldwater. Burial will follow in

St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater.
Memorial contributions may be made to EverHeart Hospice. Condolences may be left at hogenkampfh.com.
.....
The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.
There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

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CR almanac

Friday 3/1	Saturday 3/2	Sunday 3/3	Monday 3/4	Tuesday 3/5
46/38	58/45	67/52	68/43	56/35

Lotteries

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$412 million

Mega Millions
6-18-26-27-49
Mega Ball: 4
Megaplier: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$607 million

Hoosier
Tuesday
Midday
Daily Three: 4-9-8
Daily Four: 9-1-3-7
Quick Draw: 3-11-14-15-17-22-24-32-38-42-46-50-60-62-63-64-69-75-78-80

Evening
Daily Three: 5-9-9
Daily Four: 9-5-0-3
Quick Draw: 3-6-7-8-10-11-14-19-20-37-39-41-44-48-59-62-64-66-69-76

Ohio
Tuesday
Midday
Pick 3: 1-9-4
Pick 4: 5-6-2-5
Pick 5: 8-1-7-6-4
Evening
Pick 3: 7-4-5
Pick 4: 1-2-7-5
Pick 5: 7-1-2-7-6
Rolling Cash: 2-6-10-24-35
Estimated jackpot: \$237,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.17
March corn.....4.17
Wheat.....4.45

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.22
March corn.....4.22
April corn.....4.22

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....4.05
March corn.....4.05
Beans.....11.27

March beans.....11.27
Wheat.....5.35

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.01
March corn.....4.03
Beans.....11.27
March beans.....11.29
Wheat.....5.34

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.13
March corn.....4.13
Beans.....11.08
March beans.....11.08
Wheat.....5.04

Today in history

In 1692, the first two women — Sarah Good, Sarah Osborne and Tituba — were accused of witchcraft in Salem, Massachusetts. The event spurred on what is known as the Salem Witch Trials.
In 1704, as many as 300 French soldiers and Native Americans attacked a settlement in Deerfield, Massachusetts during Queen Anne's War. Around 50 men, women and children died from the skirmish, and around 100 more residents were required to march through the snow to Canada (New France).
In 1996, all 123 passengers on board a Boeing 737 flight died after the plane crashed in the Andes mountains. Incorrect barometric altimeter readings caused the pilots to fly too low as they approached an airport in Peru.
In 2004, "The Return of the King," the last movie in film adaptations of "The Lord of the Rings" by J.R.R. Tolkien, received 11 Academy Awards.
In 2012, the Tokyo Skytree was completed in Japan. Measuring at 2,080 feet, it is the tallest tower built to date. It's also the second tallest man-made structure behind Burj Khalifa in Dubai.
— The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
Noon — Jay County Sheriff's Merit Board executive session, training room, sheriff's office, 224 W. Water St., Portland.
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 Floral Ave., Portland.

Monday
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Tuesday
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.
7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.

Charges ...

Continued from page 1
Gulley said he surveyed parents of preschool students in the building and that their main request was to consider moving the Alternate Placement Program to a different building. He subsequently reached out to ask if John Jay Center for Learning would have space available. (The program was previously housed in the facility at 101 S. Meridian St., Portland, but was moved because of a lack of available space.)

The Alternate Placement Program will remain paused — there will be no new students, but those who were already in the program will remain — until Monday when it moves to John Jay. Other security measures that will be implemented for the Alternate Placement Program include not allowing backpacks or personal Chromebooks. (Chromebooks will be provided to students at John Jay.) Students will have to consent to searches to be a part of the program.

Gulley also acknowledged that metal detectors were set up at three entry points to Jay County Junior-Senior High School on Tuesday. He noted that the metal detectors were purchased a few years ago and have been used about half a dozen times for spot checks.

"So this is not new," Gulley said. "It's a deterrent. We've used them after security threats before."

A Jay School Board executive session has also been scheduled for Thursday to discuss school safety.

'So this is not new. It's a deterrent. We've used them after security threats before.'

—Jeremy Gulley, Jay Schools superintendent

"I just firmly believe the school board should have oversight of the schools," said Gulley, noting that he will share information and make sure board members are satisfied with how the situation has been handled.

Friday's incident occurred in the late morning when staff of the Alternate Placement Program had reason for suspicion. That led to a search by school resource officer Cody Jessee during which he allegedly found a handgun in a student's possession.

No lockdown procedure was implemented because the firearm had been secured, Gulley said. He noted Tuesday that it is believed that there was no intent to harm anyone, but rather that the student planned to sell the weapon.

He also reiterated his request

that all those in the community ensure that their firearms are secure. He said the handgun that was confiscated was a firearm owned by someone other than the student and that it had been left unsecured for the student to gain access to it.

"You've got to help us on securing your weapons," Gulley said.

Gulley noted that there are plans to rent the north wing of General Shanks to the Applied Behavior Center, an organization that serves students with special needs.

"It allows parents to have their child here and not have to go to Muncie or some out-of-town location," he said.

He added that an agreement, which has not yet been signed, was in the works before Friday's incident.

Court strikes injunction

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals on Tuesday struck down an injunction that allowed transgender Hoosier children to access gender-affirming health care while federal court proceedings continued.

Gov. Eric Holcomb signed the law banning such care after Republican lawmakers passed it in 2023. It now immediately takes effect.

The underlying case is ongoing as parties argue about expert testimony and document deadlines; a bench trial is tentatively set for Spring 2025.

In June, U.S. District Court Judge James Patrick Hanlon upheld a legislative ban on surgical procedures but halted state prohibitions on hormone therapies and puberty blockers in a preliminary injunction for children diagnosed with gender dysphoria.

SERVICES

Today
Kunkler, Henry: 10:30 a.m., St. Bernard Catholic Church, 71 Main St., Burkettsville, Ohio.

Friday
Shetler, Savilla: 9 a.m., Shetler residence, 1875 W. 50 South, Monroe.

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

Service listings provided by
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progressiveofficeproducts.com

ARTS PLACE

Instant Classic: Barbershop Quartet

Thursday, March 21, 2024
7:00 pm | Jay County Campus
131 E Walnut St, Portland, IN

Refreshments served: 6:00 pm

Adult Ticket: \$12.00
Student Ticket: \$5.00

Purchase tickets by visiting
myartsplace.org,
calling 260-726-4809, or
emailing jcc@myartsplace.org

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1/2-page B&W — \$300
1/4-page B&W — \$225
Big business card (3x3.5) — \$100
Business card (2x2) — \$60

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

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

Deadline for ads is Wednesday March 6th

Niece has become bridezilla

DEAR ABBY: My niece, who is engaged, is blossoming into a full-fledged bridezilla. She has upset her mother so deeply that she may not attend the wedding. The bride is dictating what her guests are to wear, in addition to telling her mother what she is to wear that day. She has also ordered my sister to get hair extensions and have her makeup professionally done.

The list goes on and on. She brought her girlfriends to a bridal shop and, without asking about a budget, tried on gown after gown with no regard to cost. She fell in love with one that is beyond her mother's budget and demanded, "This is my dress!" My sister, wanting to avoid a scene, paid for it.

My sister has been excluded from all the wedding planning. The bride is deferring to her father and stepmother, who are paying for most of the wedding. If anyone offers a suggestion or asks a question, it is met with hostility. How do we handle this? My sister feels defeated and is deeply hurt by her daughter's actions. — AUNT OF A MONSTER

DEAR AUNT: This production (I hesitate to call it a wedding) has gone so far out of control that there is nothing you or your sister can do

Dear Abby



about it. Her chance to intervene and inject some sobriety vanished the moment she paid for the bridal gown she couldn't afford.

If your sister can't afford hair extensions and a professional makeup job (and possibly a new dress) for her daughter's special day, she should consider coming just as she is and forgo being part of the wedding. She should also thank her higher power that she isn't being ordered to fly to Bermuda or Bali in order to participate.

DEAR ABBY: My wife has been neglectful and hateful toward me ever since I was verbally abusive more than four years ago. I had fallen into a serious substance addiction around the same time, but I have been clean for more than a year. The addiction was another reason she is hateful toward me and holds a grudge.

I understand how addiction

affects loved ones and that our relationship is probably over. My problem is, we have two very young children and split the mortgage and all other bills 50-50. I cannot afford to live on my own. She can't afford to live alone, either. I can't imagine trying to pay child support as well as rent somewhere else, even if I got another full-time job.

I have done everything I can to make amends, but there is no hope. We tried counseling. It didn't help. I don't want to abandon the kids, but I don't know what to do. Is there any hope at all? — LOW IN OHIO

DEAR LOW: So the abused has become the abuser. Unless your wife is willing to bury the hatchet (somewhere other than in you) and agree to marriage counseling with a different therapist, I don't think there is hope for the two of you. Ask her if, for the sake of the kids, she is willing to TRY. But if she refuses, consult an attorney about separating as amicably as possible.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Library hosting cooking series

The library is offering a new healthy cooking series for adults.

Jay County Public Library, partnered with dietitians from IU Health Jay, will host a four-part seasonal series this year covering healthy cooking tips with discussion, food demonstrations and taste tests. The event kicks off at 6 p.m. Tuesday with registered dietitian Malarie Krieg, who will be sharing healthy food preparation ideas including egg cups, energy balls and microwave stir fry. Attendees will receive a free goodie bag provided by IU Health and there will be a free raffle for a Healthy Food Prep Starter Kit, with a cookbook, meal prep set, and more inside to win. Remaining sessions will be held on the first Tuesday in June, September and December.

Registration is required. Visit or call the library or sign up online at bit.ly/SeasonalSavor.

Other upcoming activities at the library include a home alone safety class from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. March 9 for third through sixth graders and Easter-

Taking Note

themed egg decorating, crafts and snacks from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. March 14.

Senior learning

John Jay Center for Learning's senior lunch and learning series will meet March 7.

Curtis Burnette, a naturalist at the Gene Stratton Porter Historical Site in Geneva, will be presenting about the Loblolly Marsh Nature Preserve.

Reservations for lunch cost \$5 and must be paid in advance. The program is offered the first Thursday of each month.

Hosting market

Minnetrissa of Muncie is hosting indoor farmers markets on Saturday.

Indoor markets are held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Center Building at Minnetrissa, 1200 N. Minnetrissa Parkway, Muncie.

Community Calendar

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

Today

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Friday

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

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

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, March 1, at the Harmony Café in Portland.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A

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

Saturday

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

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

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

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

Sunday

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

Monday

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

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

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

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

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

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

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

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

Tuesday

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the

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

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

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.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

Celebrating 84 Years of Serving our Jay County Community!

Psi Iota Xi

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Interested in joining?
Contact us at: gammaalpha@psiotaxi.org

Fire department says thank you

To the editor:
The Portland Fire Department would like to thank everyone that attended our eighth annual chili lunch.

We are very grateful for the continued support the community shows toward us. With your generosity we will again be able to have our annual awards banquet.

This year, we are celebrating a 30-year milestone of service to our community for one of our members.

The excess dollars raised will be donated to local charities as it has been in the past years.

The following is a list of businesses and individuals that help make this event possible. With-

Letters to the Editor

out their support this event would not take place.

Richards Restaurant –
Carla Loy

Missy Putterbaugh
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A special thank you goes out to all the Portland firefighters and their families who donated soup, supplies and their time to again make this event a success.

Sincerely,
Mike Weitzel
Portland Fire Chief



Bill offers wrong solutions

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

I was initially reluctant to weigh in on SB202, but the testimony by fellow professors and administrators almost perfectly illustrates the lack of viewpoint diversity the bill targets. Indeed, from what I've seen, not a single professor or administrator who testified on this bill admitted a lack of ideological diversity in higher education. That is troubling, and at best reveals an unhealthy institutional blind spot. There are other perspectives.

I begin by noting that among my early columns was a criticism of tenure. My view hasn't changed. But, as a lifelong conservative, I deeply value the principles and results of a classical education. Our universities must be places where students are challenged by difficult and potentially controversial ideas, not provided safe spaces for inquiry and learning.

However, in my three decades in higher education, I've seen that ideal slowly erode from view. Today, American public universities are among the least ideologically diverse institutions in the world. Indiana is no exception. I am certain there is more ideological diversity in a typical infantry platoon than would be found at any public university.

That is a real problem that should concern taxpayers and their representatives. More importantly, it should alarm those of us who've committed a life to nurturing free inquiry and debate.

Indiana's SB202 tries to address the lack of ideological diversity at state universities in three ways. One is to challenge tenure and create ideological evaluation of faculty. The second is to force universities to report their spending on some institutional programming. The third is to modestly alter the oversight structure of universities. Let me address each.

First, it is a plain, well-documented fact that faculty are overwhelmingly progressive. Many disciplines have fewer than one in 20 professors who self-identify as anything other than progressive or extremely progressive. Yet, classrooms remain the one place on campus with a thriving marketplace of ideas. The best evidence for this is simply that the most ideologically unbalanced disciplines are losing students at record rates. English, writing, gender and ethnic studies, history, sociology and anthropology face historic enrollment declines.

More ideologically balanced majors, such as engineering, health professions, law, business, and economics continue to thrive. Now, none of these disciplines have even a quarter of professors who are conservative. However, that makes them ideologically balanced within the monolith of

Michael J. Hicks



deeply progressive orthodoxy that modern American universities have become.

Let me be clear what I mean about ideology. I teach Karl Marx to first-year students; that isn't indoctrination. Likewise, a biology professor should ignore public opinion on evolution or photosynthesis. Our research and teaching should pursue and reflect truth, no matter the distress it causes. Neither am I referring to party affiliation, or support for a particular candidate. My reference to ideological imbalance refers to the creation of an artificial close-mindedness that stifles debate, isolates important perspectives and diminishes the richness of a college education.

Eliminating tenure or policing classroom speech will do nothing to balance the ideological composition of campus, and could worsen it. That is because the problem lies within the institutional structure of modern universities, not the classroom.

To address this, SB202 requires universities to report spending on diversity, equity and inclusion programming—an area that is especially susceptible to ideological narrowness. It also asks the Commission on Higher Education to survey students to determine their experience with a culture of free speech. These questions are too narrow. If universities were to conduct an honest audit, they would find that they spend far more on ideological programming by administrators than they do researching policy issues that confront Hoosiers every day.

The spending on this ideological programming includes salaries for large staffs, hefty travel and honorarium to outside speakers, as well as spending on campus activities and programming that are so ideologically conforming that it nurtures an intolerant and illiberal climate.

One clear example comes from a colleague who attended a brainstorming session on how to convince more faculty to live near the university. He suggested that highlighting the many high-quality local schools would be helpful in attracting new faculty. Most normal folks view this as self-evident. Yet, this professor was scolded by a senior university administrator, who said that the university would not discuss that because "concern about school quality is white privilege."

This is an example of how progressive orthodoxy inhibits debate. A campus climate like this should outrage taxpayers, legislators and most especially my fellow professors. That particular "white privilege" claim is a puerile hypothesis easily dismantled by empirical evidence. But, empirically dubious and even racist assertions should be confronted with data and argument, not shut down because of ideology. If this is happening to senior professors, one can only shudder to imagine what it is like to be a first-year student in this university.

This unhealthy stifling of debate is symbolic of much broader problems that are injurious to a climate of free expression and inquiry. It is anti-intellectual, counter to the principles upon which our Republic was founded and inconsistent with the mission of a public university. Yet, this mindset is pervasive on public university campuses, here in Indiana and elsewhere. Taxpayers and their representatives have every reason to be concerned. Faculty members and administrators who think scrutiny of this problem will disappear are foolishly naive.

If you think my example is cherry picked, I invite you to visit the website of any public university in Indiana. Read through their diversity, equity and inclusion programming, review their freshman readers or peruse the many racial or gender-based scholarships they offer. Make your own judgments about their ideological balance.

Thirdly, SB202 seeks to allow the legislature to appoint two members of the governing bodies of every Indiana university. Because the stifling intellectual climate on campuses has thrived under the current oversight structure, it is time for change.

Finally, I do not support SB202 as written. Though it identifies a weighty problem, it offers the wrong solution. The problem is not tenure or the ideological composition of faculty. The problem is that from the moment a student considers attending a Hoosier university, to long after they graduate, they are immersed by a singular world view. Within this there is no counterpoint, no nuance and little debate. That environment is counterproductive to nurturing diversity of all types — racial, gender, religious and other viewpoints. Until it is dismantled, with public dollars redirected to more balanced programming, nothing will change. That will be disastrous for our universities, and rightfully summons even more legislation.

.....
Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

Democracy demands investigative journalism

By KEVIN FRAZIER

The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Investigative journalism, which is critical to a healthy democracy, comes at a high cost.

The return on investment, though, is substantial.

Ida Tarbell's willingness to dig into Standard Oil's egregious business practices bolstered efforts to pass the Clayton Antitrust Act and to create the Federal Trade Commission. Upton Sinclair's daring investigation into the meatpacking plants of Chicago likewise resulted in a long overdue regulatory response.

These and other muckrakers sacrificed to provide the public with the information required to fulfill democratic duties — to identify communal problems, to debate solutions and to monitor the effectiveness of those solutions.

More than a century later, the costs of investigative journalism have only increased. A Washington Post exposé on the D.C. police, for instance, required a team of nine reporters, editors and specialists, involved eight months of research and investigation and cost nearly \$500,000. The resulting changes to police practices may have produced \$73.6 million in societal benefits — and that's a conservative estimate.

The expense and the returns of the Post's story are not atypical. It often takes six months to produce an investigative news piece. Yet, such reporting can lead to swift and significant regulatory responses.

Those benefits, though, often don't carry over to the publisher's bottom line.

As recounted by Professor Neil Netanel: "In 2016, the non-profit news magazine Mother Jones spent some \$350,000 to produce an in-depth investigation exposing the brutal working conditions for inmates in private prisons. The blockbuster story ... attracted more than a million readers and triggered a Department of Justice announcement that it would end its use of private prisons. Despite the piece's impact, Mother Jones earned only \$5,000 in revenue from the banner ads that ran with the piece."

Clearly, from the perspective of publishers, inves-

Kevin Frazier



igative journalism doesn't pencil out. That's a huge problem for society.

Think of the abuses that have gone uncovered, the wrongs that haven't been righted and the practices that have perpetuated because of inadequate support for this sort of democratic digging. The list of topics that should have and could have been covered sooner and in more detail is long. And, importantly, that list is likely to be longer in the thousands of communities that lack any sort of local newspaper, let alone an investigative journalism team.

Thankfully, private and nonprofit organizations are driving change by funding new and necessary efforts to train and support investigative journalists. The Tarbell Fellowship is a great example. Fellows spend 12 months covering pressing societal topics, such as governance of emerging technologies. More generally, fellows are expected to cover problems that, if solved, would have a huge impact, that are capable of being addressed in a relatively timely fashion and are currently being undercovered. Thanks to financial support from Open Philanthropy, this extra investigatory news power comes at no cost to the publisher.

I don't think it was a coincidence that Benjamin Franklin, himself a publisher, is alleged to have said that the Founders gave us democracy, "if we can keep it."

Franklin, Tarbell, Sinclair and other muckrakers understood the costs — and the benefits — of quality journalism.

You can support Open Philanthropy, advocate for government grants to investigative journalism and financially back your local paper.

Here's to headlines that matter and journalism that informs rather than enrages.

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Frazier is an assistant professor at the Crump College of Law at St. Thomas University.

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"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

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Surprise ...

Continued from page 1
"So in my adult life, my favorite thing has been to incorporate improv and playing off of the audience into the show."

He said about 60% of his show is planned. For the rest, he plays off of his audience.

"I want them to feel like they're getting something different, like we're co-creating the moment," he said.

"It's very interactive," he added. "It's very common for me to go out into the audience and to bring people on stage."

Mobley grew up in Batesville, a city of about 7,000 that sits near Interstate 74 in southeast Indiana.

"Grew up milking cows and cleaning gas pumps," he said. "Those were my jobs in high school."

He was shy as a child but was fascinated by magic. His mom bought him tricks that he used as icebreakers.

Homeschooled through high school, Mobley got comfortable in front of a crowd through his participation in plays and musicals through the Rural Alliance for the Arts (now known as Batesville Area Arts Council). He also credits his father, Larry, as an influence.

Though his dad wasn't a magician, he often served as the master of ceremonies for events, dressed up as a clown or created characters for church camp.

"And I was his sidekick," said Mobley.

He built a career as a magician, including twice appearing on the TV show "Penn & Teller: Fool Us" in which magicians perform tricks in an attempt to baffle the duo. He's also been a featured performer at Chicago Magic Lounge.

The coronavirus pandemic hit the performing

'It's very common for me to go out into the audience and to bring people on stage.'
—Jon Mobley

arts hard, which led Mobley to take a job doing corporate speaking and sales training. While magic has revved back up, he's kept those jobs in order to allow him more freedom to spend time at home with his family.

"So I can be more selective by complementing what I'm doing with other training and speaking and things like that," he said.

Those who attend Saturday's show — tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults and are available at myartsplace.org, by calling (260) 726-4809 or by visiting Arts Place at 131 E. Walnut St., Portland — will have the opportunity to meet Mobley following the show.

He also sells magic tricks that come with videos to explain how they are done. It's a project his accountant hates, he said, because he just barely breaks even.

"One thing that was so important to me was to come up with some tricks and videos that taught kids how to do magic," said Mobley, noting that he was "pre-YouTube" and learned from VHS tapes and books from the library. "It's kind of my gift to my 8-year-old self through other kids."

"It's just my passion."



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



FFA finale

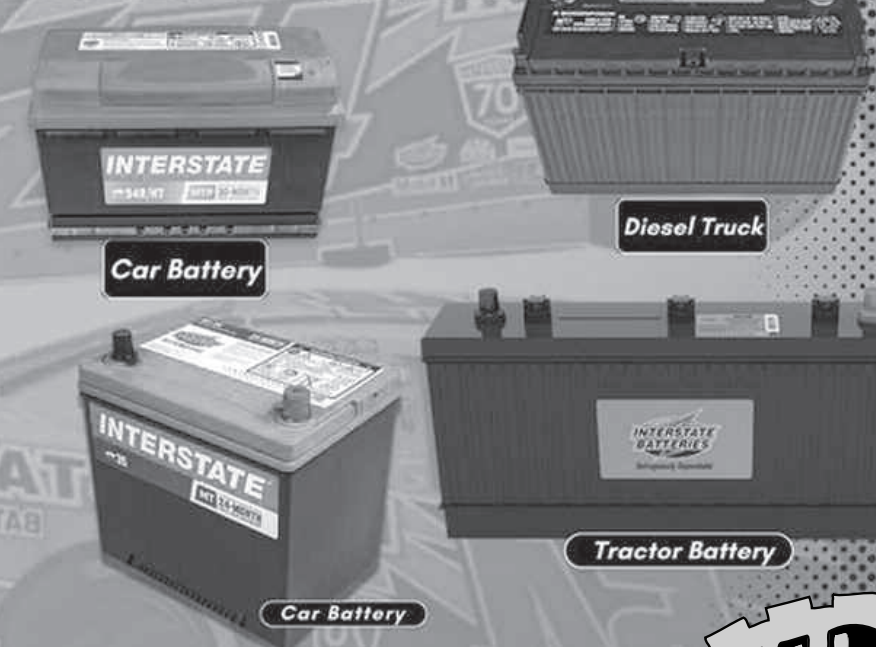
Fort Recovery FFA closed out its celebration of National FFA Week on Friday with Ag Olympics. Pictured above, Fort Recovery High School juniors Drew Backs and Even Evers stumble in the two-person race. Despite the setback, Evers and Backs won the event. At left, Junior Gage Zehringer steals a seat from freshman Brady Evers during the musical chairs portion of Fort Recovery FFA's Agricultural Olympics on Friday.

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Bill would place requirements on FSSA

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A bill dealing with state fiscal matters attracted a bevy of amendments in the House Ways and Means Committee Tuesday, ranging from a tax exemption for feminine hygiene products to enhanced reporting on Medicaid spending.

The Republican supermajority additionally beat back several Democratic amendments on attendant care, a program used by over 1,600 families with disabled children that will be curtailed following a \$1 billion Medicaid shortfall.

The bulk of Tuesday's discussion revolved around the Family and Social Services Administration's oversight of attendant care. As costs surged under the program, which had no hourly caps nor federal approval, the agency decided to transition those families to Structured Family Care-giving and make up some of \$1 billion deficit. Families decried the move, which would transition them from an hourly rate to a lower per diem.

Committee Chair Rep. Jeff Thompson said work was ongoing and discussed possible second reading amendments addressing attendant care.



Indiana Capital Chronicle/Leslie Bonilla Muniz

FSSA will have enhanced transparency requirements following a House committee amendment that preceded lengthy discussion on attendant care. Pictured, House Ways and Means Committee Chair Rep. Jeff Thompson speaks during a hearing.

"I don't want to make any promises. I think there will be a motion on second reading but for me to say, 'This will be in,' or 'This will not be in' — I can't do that," Thompson, R-Lizton, said. "But I'm trying to

find a spot to land with the Senate in discussions."

Second reading amendments must be adopted by Thursday, the deadline for such maneuvers, when a bill is heard before the entire House Chamber.

Thompson introduced an amendment that would place additional reporting requirements on the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), the agency responsible for administering Medicaid.

FSSA must make two reports to the State Budget Committee annually, one in either April or May — depending on whether it's a budget-writing year or not — and another in December, under the proposal. The agency's secretary, currently Dr. Dan Rusyniak, must present a "detailed plan for monitoring expenses" under Medicaid, including managed care and waiver programs, improving transparency on Medicaid expenditures and how they will share Medicaid data with legislators along with traditional forecasts.

Lastly, the agency presentation must include an analysis of the feasibility of a Medicaid dashboard that includes monthly reports on expenditures and enrollments.

"We know, obviously, there were some surprises that occurred last summer," said Thompson. "... In my view, it's a transparency amendment."

While the amendment had the full support of the committee, enrollment and the growth of expenses continued to be a concern for legislators — foreshadowing difficult conversations when lawmakers convene next year for a budget-writing session.

"It's not just a forecast issue, it's a policy issue where we may agree or disagree. But that's the broader issue to me," said Rep. Jack Jordan, R-Bremen. "I like the transparency in the forecast but we have a policy issue that I'm assuming we'll deal with and wrestle with maybe not this session but next session."

An amendment offered by Indianapolis Rep. Greg Porter, a Democrat, sparked vigorous debate about attendant care, which will still be used by elderly and adult Hoosiers. Porter pushed for a one-year pause in the transition of 1,622 pediatric beneficiaries from attendant care to Structured Family Care-giving — a move that Thompson said "part of (him) likes" but he worried about the state's compliance with the federal waiver.

"The other thing is — we have to change the structure. And how that should be changed, that we can debate about," Thompson said. "But the costs right now and what's happening in terms of excessive costs that some of the providers, in my opinion, are receiving — that has to be addressed."

Reading ...

Continued from page 1

Others pointed out what they called a hypocrisy in the General Assembly for not funding universal pre-kindergarten education, which repeated studies demonstrate is pivotal to a child's ability to learn and read.

Rep. Renee Pack, a Democrat from Indianapolis, said she worked for a decade as a reading intervention specialist for Wayne Township schools. She said children who might fail IREAD need "a second look," especially children living in poverty or homelessness.

"This body is against adequate funding for pre-kindergarten where a child could get the head start that they critically need," Pack said. "Would you all please, please, please consider that as an option so that we can truly walk the walk and talk the talk when it comes to taking care of our kids and making sure that they can read proficiently."

Three Republicans joined the Democratic caucus and voted against the bill, which passed on a 69-27 vote: Rep. Ed Clere, R-New Albany; Rep. Randy

Lyness, R-West Harrison; and Rep. J.D. Prescott, R-Union City.

The House also approved a bill aimed at pushing colleges toward "intellectual diversity."

Its author based the bills on surveys that found conservative students feel uncomfortable in college classes. The legislation was amended meaning the Senate will also need to approve those changes.

Several Democrats, many of whom have outside employment with the state's universities, lambasted Senate Bill 202

for having a "chilling effect" on faculty and micromanaging higher education institutions.

"SB 202 makes the accusation that our universities can't be trusted to govern themselves," said Democrat Rep. Sue Errington, who moved to Muncie in the 1970s so she and her husband could work as professors at Ball State University.

"I trust our world-class universities; I trust our educators. I do not trust that this bill will do anything but dissuade potential students and teachers from coming to our state uni-

versities," Errington continued.

Several decried the infusion of a professor's potential politics into tenure decisions, specifically.

Two Republicans joined Democrats in a vote against the bill: Reps. Ed Clere, of New Albany, and Dave Hall, of Norman. It advanced on a 67-30 vote.

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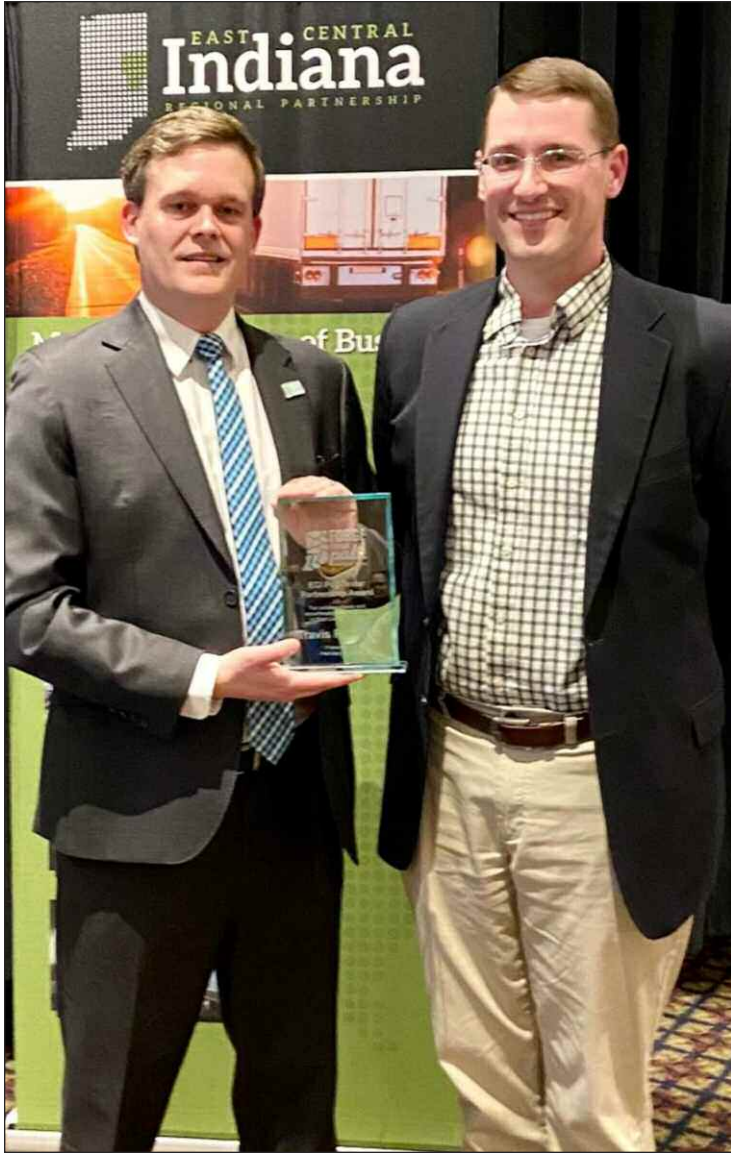


Photo provided

ECI award

Travis Richards (right), executive director of Jay County Development Corporation, was honored recently with the East Central Indiana Pathfinder Partnership Award at the East Central Indiana Regional Partnership annual meeting. Trevor Friedeberg (left), president and CEO of the regional partnership, described Richards as an active contributor and voice for small communities who is responsive, thorough, organized, knowledgeable and a “top-notch ambassador for his county.” He “finds ways to forge a path toward regional prosperity even when the path is winding and not entirely stateforward,” Friedeberg said.

Navalny funeral is Friday in Moscow

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Alexey Navalny, the Russian opposition leader who died in prison earlier this month, will be buried on Friday in Moscow, his allies said, after previously accusing authorities of trying to interfere with the activist's funeral.

Navalny will be buried in the city's Borisov cemetery following a funeral service at a church in the Marino district of southeast Moscow, his spokeswoman Kira Yarmysh said Wednesday in a social media message that asked the politician's supporters to attend.

The funeral will take place a day after President Vladimir Putin gives his annual address to Russia's Federal Assembly. Even amid an unprecedented Kremlin crackdown on dissent, the scale of the turnout is likely to be an indicator of the strength of opposition to his rule just weeks before the March 17 election that will hand him another six years in power.

“I am not sure yet whether it will be peaceful or whether the police will arrest those who have come to say goodbye to my husband,” Navalny's widow, Yulia Navalnaya, said in a

speech Wednesday to the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France.

Hundreds of people have been arrested after laying flowers in Navalny's memory in Moscow and other cities since he died Feb. 16 in a remote Arctic prison camp. Yarmysh said on Tuesday that Navalny's allies tried unsuccessfully to organize a farewell for him in Moscow, but nobody had been willing to hire out a hall to them.

“Some of them say the place is fully booked. Some refuse when we mention the surname ‘Navalny,’” she said. “In one place, we were told that the funeral agencies were forbidden to work with us.”

Officials on Saturday handed Navalny's body to his mother Lyudmila Navalnaya after keeping it for more than a week. She accused them of trying to pressure her into agreeing to a secret burial for Putin's most formidable critic, as U.S. President Joe Biden and European leaders blamed the Russian ruler for Navalny's death.

Talks were underway before his death that could have seen the Russian dissident freed in a prisoner exchange with the U.S. and Germany, a western official said.

Leaders optimistic about avoiding a partial shutdown

Meeting Tuesday focused on funding, aid for Ukraine

By NIELS LESNIEWSKI

CQ-Roll Call
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — Congressional leaders emerged from the White House on Tuesday optimistic about avoiding a partial shutdown of several departments and agencies — after a meeting with President Joe Biden that also focused on the importance of aid to Ukraine.

“The speaker said unequivocally he wants to avoid a government shutdown,” Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer, D-New York, told reporters outside the West Wing, adding he did not believe differences on domestic spending were insurmountable.

When he got back to the Capitol, Schumer told reporters that he made clear to the speaker that to avoid a shutdown would require another continuing resolution. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell also told reporters at the Capitol that leaders seemed to agree at the White House on the need to avert a shutdown.

Leaders also discussed the Senate-passed national security supplemental spending bill that would provide assistance to Ukraine, Israel and Indo-Pacific allies like Taiwan. That measure got bipartisan Senate support but has stalled in the House under Speaker Mike Johnson, R-La. Schumer said that he, McConnell, House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries and Vice President Kamala Harris all pressed Johnson to act.

Johnson said that he met separately with the president in the Oval Office after the larger meeting. He emerged similarly optimistic about reaching a path forward on government funding. The speaker

said that he focused on border security, both in the larger group and one-on-one.

Johnson said he pressed Biden to take executive action on immigration and border security.

On the supplemental, Johnson said he “was very clear with the president and all those in the room that the House is actively pursuing and investigating all the various options on that, and we will address that in a timely manner.”

Schumer described the portion of the meeting discussing aid to Ukraine as “one of the most intense” he's ever experienced. The Senate majority leader traveled to Ukraine and met with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy over the most recent recess.

At the top of the meeting, Biden echoed comments he'd made previously urging the House to act, saying, “I think the consequences of inaction everyday in Ukraine are dire.”

Biden, who spoke to reporters gathered in the Oval Office as the meeting was getting underway, quipped to the top four congressional leaders about the appropriations delay: “I'm sure you guys have that all taken care of.”

“But all kidding aside, I think that it's the Congress's responsibility to fund the government,” Biden said. “A shutdown would damage the economy significantly, and I think we all agree to that, and we need a bipartisan solution.”

Appropriations under the Agriculture, Energy-Water, Military Construction-VA and Transportation-HUD bills are scheduled to lapse on Saturday, the result of a Johnson strategy to bifurcate the expiration dates of fiscal 2024 appropriations. The remainder of the discretionary spending accounts run out at the end of next week.

Speaking on the Senate floor ahead of the meeting, Schumer urged lawmakers from both parties to work together to avoid a partial government shutdown.

“If both sides work together, if we reject poison pills that can never become law and if we tune out the extreme radical voices on the hard right then the task before us becomes much, much easier,” he said.

HEALTHCARE

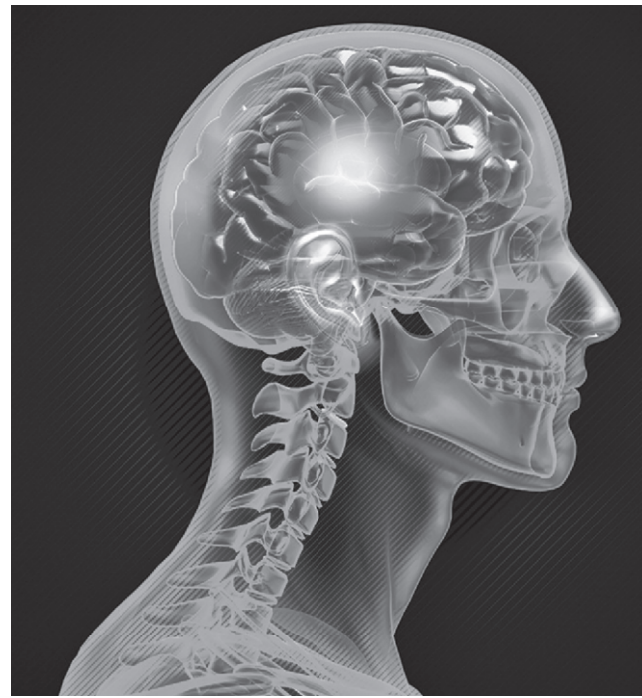
What people can do to prevent stroke

Stroke has been described as a “brain attack.” Stroke occurs when blood flow to a part of the brain becomes blocked or when a blood vessel in the brain breaks, which can damage or kill brain cells. The Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion says stroke is a leading cause of death and long-term disability in adults. It also can cause irreversible damage to the brain.

Individuals who experience stroke may end up with memory problems or experience difficulty thinking or forming words. Mobility issues like difficulty walking or paralysis and weakness may occur. Some individuals also may experience incontinence and other issues resulting from neurological damage.

Although stroke can come out of the blue and is not always preventable, there are several steps people can take to help reduce their risk for stroke.

• **Reduce blood pressure numbers.** High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, is a significant risk factor for stroke, says Harvard Health. Doctors may ad-



verse patients to work to lower blood pressure to between 140/90 to 120/80.

• **Work to lower BMI.** Overweight or obesity increases risk for stroke, says the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Losing weight and maintaining a health body mass index can help lower stroke risk.

• **Exercise more often.** Routine physical activity can

not only help a person lose weight, but also lower cholesterol and blood pressure levels - all of which are risk factors for stroke. The U.S. Surgeon General recommends individuals get a minimum of two hours and 20 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity each week.

• **Get a cholesterol check.** High cholesterol can

increase risk of stroke, which makes routine cholesterol checks important. The Office for the Assistant Secretary of Health says people should get their cholesterol checked at least every four to six years, with some needing to get it checked more frequently.

• **Drink only in moderation.** Alcohol can increase risk of high blood pressure. Individuals should reduce their alcohol intake, with one drink or less for women and two drinks or less for men per day.

• **Know your family health history.** Knowing one's family health history may illustrate a risk for genetic health conditions that can make a person more likely to experience stroke.

• **Treat heart disease.** Do not delay medical treatment for heart disease. Heart conditions like coronary artery disease or atrial fibrillation should be addressed promptly to prevent stroke.

Stroke is a serious medical condition that can leave a person debilitated. That is why it is key to reduce risk of stroke throughout one's life.

John Cascio, DDS

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Oppenheimer is strong Oscar favorite

By **GLENN WHIPP**
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — Christopher Nolan's big-canvas biopic "Oppenheimer" won the Producers Guild of America's top honor Sunday night, a day after it took the ensemble prize at the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

Nolan won the Directors Guild of America's feature-film directing award two weeks ago.

"Oppenheimer" thus became the 11th movie to sweep the Producers, Directors and Screen Actors Guild awards, establishing it as the overwhelming favorite to win the best picture Oscar on March 10. Of the 10 previous films to hit that awards season trifecta — a list that includes "No Country for Old Men," "Argo" and the last two best picture winners, "CODA" and "Everything Everywhere All at Once" — only one, "Apollo 13," failed to win the Oscar.

Emma Thomas, who has produced all of Nolan's films, accepted the honor onstage with fellow producer Charles Roven and Nolan, her husband, whom she called the "best producing partner you could hope for."

"Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse," which won seven awards last weekend at the animation celebration Annie Awards, took the PGA's animated theatrical feature honor.

"American Symphony," Matthew Heineman's look at musician Jon Batiste trying to realize a professional dream while his wife, author Suleika Jaouad, battles leukemia, won the documentary award. The win was a bit of an upset, but still less surprising than the film's



Tribune News Service/Universal Pictures

Florence Pugh is Jean Tatlock and Cillian Murphy is J. Robert Oppenheimer in "Oppenheimer," written, produced, and directed by Christopher Nolan. "Oppenheimer" became the 11th movie to sweep the Producers, Directors and Screen Actors Guild awards, establishing it as the overwhelming favorite to win the best picture Oscar on March 10.

omission from the Oscars' documentary feature category. The last PGA documentary winner that wasn't nominated at the Oscars was 2019's "Apollo 11."

On the TV side, "The Bear" picked up another prize, winning the Danny Thomas Award for Outstanding Producer of Episodic Television — Comedy, following honors from the Emmys and the SAG Awards. "Last Week Tonight," another Emmy perennial, took the live entertainment, variety, sketch, stand-up and talk award. "Beef," which has vacuumed up nearly every limited series prize in recent weeks, followed suit with the PGA. Same with "Succession" for TV drama.

"RuPaul's Drag Race" won for game and competition TV, and "Welcome to Wrexham" prevailed for nonfiction TV. The award for televised or streaming movie went to "Black Mirror: Beyond the Sea."

Martin Scorsese, whose latest film, "Killers of the Flower Moon," earned a PGA nomination, received the David O. Selznick Achievement Award. After a Guillermo del Toro introduction, Scorsese took the stage to a long standing ovation — and the Rolling Stones' "Gimme Shelter," the song he used in "Goodfellas," "Casino" and "The Departed."

Scorsese regaled the audience with memories of attending the Produc-

ers Guild Awards in 1965, when he won best student film for "It's Not Just You, Murray," which he made while attending New York University. Alfred Hitchcock accepted a career award that night, and Scorsese recalled some of the advice he imparted.

"He said, 'First, when you receive such an award, you want to pinch yourself to make sure it isn't being made posthumously,'" Scorsese remembered.

Gail Berman received the Norman Lear Achievement Award in Television following a warm introduction from Sarah Michelle Gellar, star of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," which Berman executive produced.

"Not a single person on this earth was interested in buying that television show, but I just couldn't ignore my gut that there was something unique there," Berman said onstage, recalling "Buffy."

Charles D. King, a former WME partner and founder of the multi-platform media company MACRO, was given the Milestone Award, becoming the first Black person to receive the honor. Filmmaker Ryan Coogler said of King: "To know him is to know he's a rock. Anything he has in his mind he's going to will it to exist."

"I stand on the shoulders of all the incredible producers, executives, my parents and our

ancestors who kicked down doors, made sacrifices and blazed a trail for me to be able to do what I'm blessed to do," King said, accepting the honor.

King's MACRO, along with Blumhouse, Legendary and Berlanti Productions, were announced as the first companies to sign on board a PGA initiative, unveiled during the ceremony, to secure health benefits for qualified producers working full-time in film and television. Producers are the only union members on film sets without guaranteed healthcare. "Until now," PGA president Stephanie Allain said, standing alongside co-president Donald De Line.



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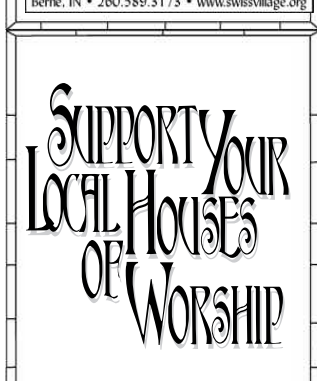
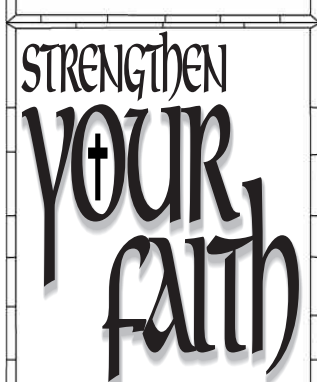
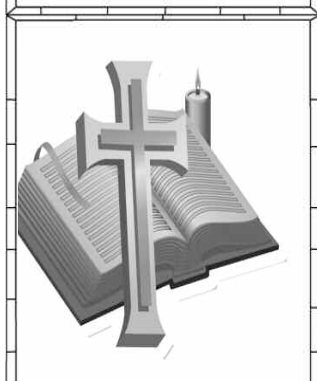
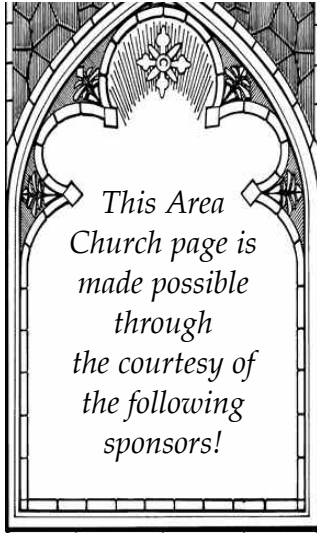



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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Joe Boggs
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
asburyministries.org

Bellefontain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Pamela Freeman
Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

Christ Chapel
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
Quentin Elsea
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville
190 W. Main St., Pennville
David Davidson
(260) 202-9718
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County
2875 E. 200 South
Pamela Freeman
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccftrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. David Yinger
(937) 337-5781
Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

Hopewell of Life Ministries
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Fr. Martin Sandhage
(260) 726-7055
Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor Community Church
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
Scott McClain
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist
County roads 600 East and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 223-2961
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland Church of Christ
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Bible class: 9:15 a.m.
Services: 10:20 a.m.
Bible School: 6 p.m. Wednesday
portlandcoc.com

Portland First Church of Nazarene
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Chuck Hollandbeck
(765) 369-2676
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
County roads 400 North and 550 West
Rev. Mike Heckman
(260) 731-4733
Services: 11 a.m.

Sugar Grove Church
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
7pillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

The Church at Westchester
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.
churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dan Vore
(260) 726-8391
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Services: 10:15 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

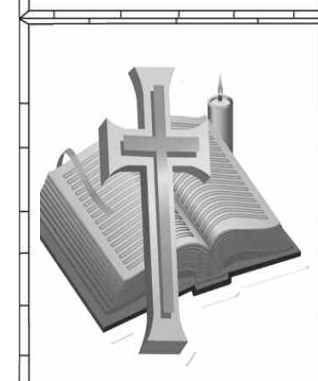
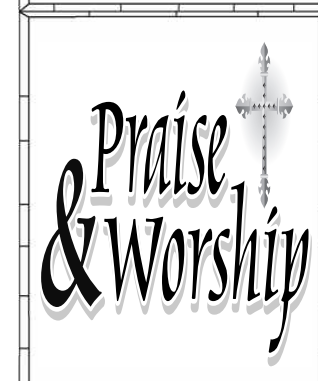
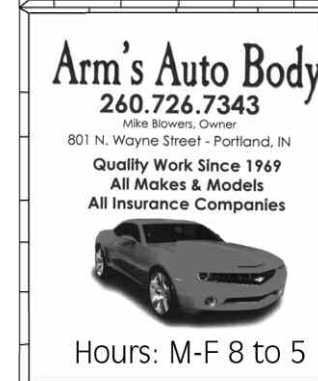
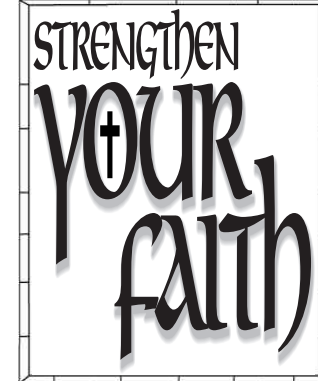
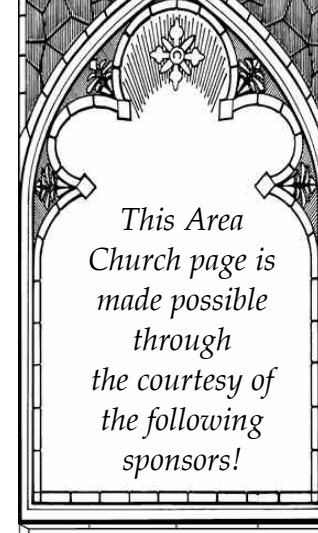
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Interim Pastor Chris Kruchkow
(260) 849-0687
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Robin Owen
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com



SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



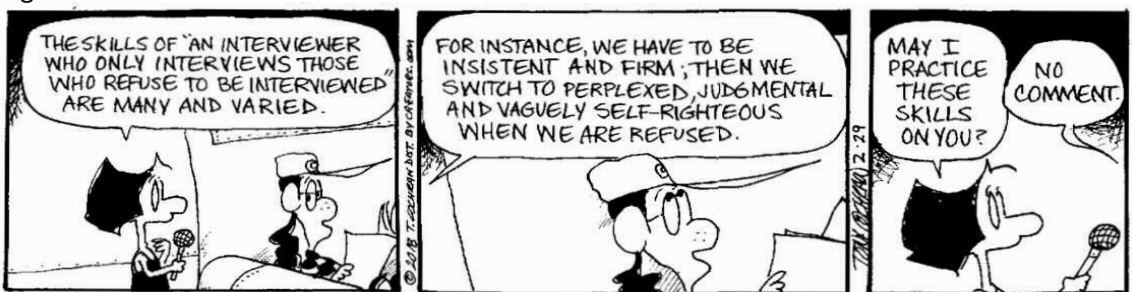
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Keep your eye on the goal

South dealer. North-South vulnerable. NORTH ♠ 10 6 4 ♥ 6 4 ♦ A K Q 7 2 ♣ 7 3 WEST ♠ K 8 2 ♥ 10 9 7 ♦ 1 9 8 3 ♣ K 10 5 EAST ♠ J 9 7 5 ♥ 5 2 ♦ 10 ♣ 1 9 8 6 4 2 SOUTH ♠ A Q 3 ♥ A K Q J 8 3 ♦ 6 5 ♣ A Q

The bidding: South 2♥ Pass 3♦ Pass 4♥ Pass 4NT Pass East 3♦ Pass 4♦ Pass 5♦ Pass

view of what's at stake, this is obviously a mere drop in the bucket. All this is said by way of introduction to today's sad tale, where South bid aggressively to reach a sound six-heart contract but then failed to make it.

Declarer won West's opening trump lead and drew the outstanding trumps in three rounds. He next cashed the A-K of diamonds, receiving a jolt when East showed out on the second round. After cashing the queen and discarding a spade, he stewed for a while, not knowing which black-suit finesse to take. As it happened, he couldn't guess right, and he eventually lost a trick to each of West's kings to finish down one.

South's line of play was geared more toward making an overtrick than ensuring his contract. Since he could afford to lose a trick, he should have taken out insurance against the 28% chance of a 4-1 diamond division.

The proper play after drawing trump is to lead a diamond and let the opponents win it! It is then a simple matter to win any return and run the rest of the diamonds to make the slam.

It is true that in adopting this approach, South might lose a diamond trick he didn't have to lose. But considering what's at stake, he should be willing to give away 30 points to ensure scoring 1,630.

Tomorrow: Double-dummy problem.

2-29

CRYPTOQUIP

C QNIW'J JKA KANS SAICFWAT XH JKCI OPJTN-HNIKCXWNMPA WAQ FPXYA, MOJ C SCS KNYA N KNWS CW CJ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: A MATHEMATICIAN POSTED UP A LARGE ADDITION SYMBOL ON HIS OFFICE DOOR. I'D SAY IT'S A BIG PLUS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Tall tree 4 Wan 8 Sports group 12 Pub brew 13 Party cheese 14 Waffle brand 15 Self-disqualifications 17 Man-handle 18 Tempe sch. 19 February 29 21 Stately homes 24 NBC show since 1975 25 Flight stat 26 "Lion" actor Patel 28 — firma 32 Help a robber 34 Bit of advice 36 Beholds 37 Sierra — 39 PC alternative 41 Tax prep pro 42 Ostrich's kin 44 Whipped cream serving 46 Guest of a guest 50 Botanist Gray 51 Has a cold 52 New enlistees 56 Glazier's sheet 57 Nest egg choices 58 Chinese chairman 59 Latin I word 60 Author Vidal 61 Kinsey study DOWN 2 Land in la mer 3 Took back 4 Ridiculous 5 Span. lady 6 Mound 7 Affirmatives 8 Synagogues 9 "Zounds!" 10 Water, to Juan 11 Holy — 16 GI entertainers 20 Busy insect 21 Sir's partner 22 Jessica of "Dark Angel" 23 Matching pair 27 Energy 29 Captures again 30 Seized wheels 31 Now, in a memo 33 Long locks 35 Knee protector 38 Comic Philips 40 Sandpaper type 43 Strip, as a ship 45 Baton Rouge sch. 46 Mama's mate 47 Actor Hems-worth 48 Forearm bone 49 Architect Saarinen 53 Lot sight 54 Inventor's monogram 55 Boston squad, for short

Solution time: 24 mins.

Crossword grid with letters filled in for the solution.

Yesterday's answer 2-29

Empty crossword grid for the puzzle.

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

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60 SERVICES

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First ...

Continued from page 12
The Indians currently come in as the 10th seed at 3,567 pins based off of district results. Versailles, another Midwest Athletic Conference team, holds the No. 8 seed at 3,621, while Rootstown only trails by five pins.

Fort Recovery will feature a lineup consisting of senior Brooklyn Weyerick, juniors Emily Lauber, Ella Schoen and Kayla Heitkamp and freshman Deanna Brown, while senior Tiffany Taft and juniors Saigy Deroo and Jordyn Aisenbrey join as alternates. Weyerick, Lauber and Schoen made the first team All-MAC while Heitkamp was named as an honorable mention, supporting Rosegrant's confidence in her team's ability.

A big key to making the top eight will be mental toughness.

"Bowling is very much a mental game," Rosegrant said. "You have to stay in control of your emotions, remain consistent and turn frustration into positivity. ...

"The biggest thing we did at district is we all remained positive. We were cheering each other on and if someone had a bad ball we were there to bring them back up. The girls bowl better when we're having fun, so we need to keep that mental strength up and just have fun."

Along with the 16 teams at state, 16 individuals qualified as individuals. The top five

bowlers medal from the individual competition.

Napoleon's Carlee Hohenbrink comes in with the highest district results, as she rolled a 683 series. Lauber ended as the Indians' top bowler from the district meet with 632, just seven pins behind deafening state champion Emma Yoder of Wooster.

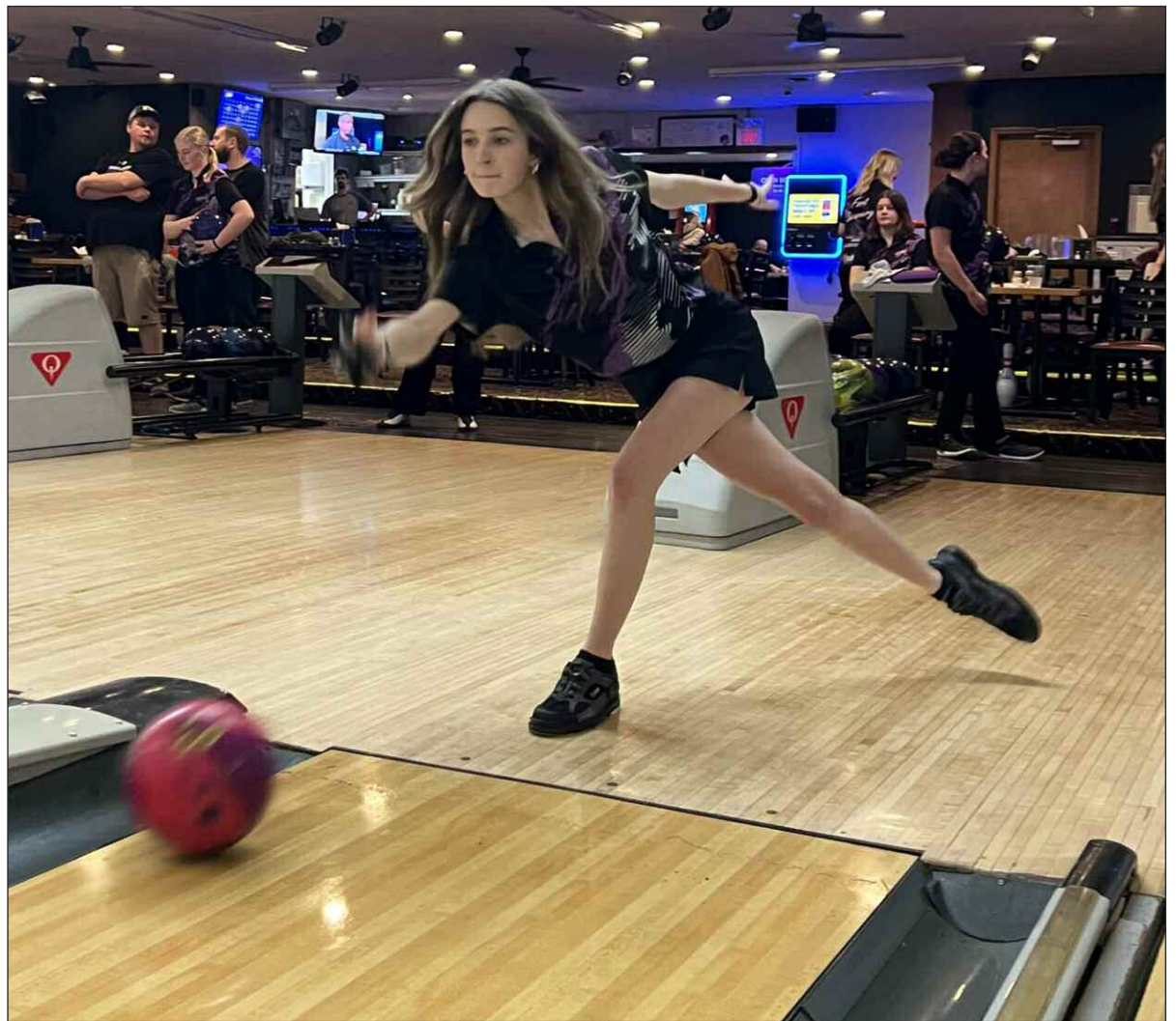
Rosegrant believes that Lauber, Schoen and Weyerick all have the ability to finish in the 600s, giving them a chance to place high in the individual competition.

Regardless if Fort Recovery meets its goals for the tournament, Rosegrant wants the girls to revel in the moment and reflect on the history they made to make it to this point.

"I'm hoping by the end of the championship, the girls look back on the season and understand how amazing it is they broke so many records," Rosegrant said. "We went undefeated, went second in the MAC tournament for co-champs overall, second at sectionals and district. These are accomplishments that no one can take away from them and they're really hard to do."

"I want them to look back on this as something they'll remember years down the road and remember how they performed as a team together."

There will be plenty of time for remembering later. Now, it's time to see just how far the Indians can go.



Special to the Commercial Review/Alison Rosegrant

Fort Recovery High School senior Brooklyn Weyerick releases her bowling ball during practice Tuesday at Miracle Lanes in Fort Recovery. Weyerick, along with Kayla Heitkamp, Emily Lauber, Ella Schoen and Deanna Brown will make the trip to Columbus to compete in the first state tournament as a team in club history.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Junior high wrestling vs. Bluffton - 5:30 p.m.; Junior high swimming vs. Bluffton - 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery —

Friday
Jay County — Track Marion HSR Qualifier at Indiana Wesleyan University - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday
Fort Recovery — Girls bowling State at H.P. Lanes in Columbus - 10:45 a.m.

TV sports

Today
6:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Bahrain Grand Prix (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Wisconsin at Maryland (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nebraska at Ohio State (FS1)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Memphis at East Carolina (ESPN2)
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Virginia Tech at Notre Dame (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Golden State Warriors at

New York Knicks (TNT)
8 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Illinois at Michigan State (BTN)
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan at Rutgers (FS1)
9 p.m. — NHL: Colorado Avalanche at Chicago Blackhawks (ESPN)
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: LSU at Georgia (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NBA: Miami Heat at Denver Nuggets (TNT)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UCLA at Washington (FS1)
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Gonzaga at San Francisco (ESPN2)

Friday
11 a.m. — Formula 1: Bahrain Grand Prix (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — College gymnastics: Alabama at LSU (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: The LiUNA! (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NBA: Dallas Mavericks at Boston Celtics (ABC)
7:30 p.m. — College gymnastics: Michigan at Oklahoma (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at New Orleans Pelicans (Bally Indiana)

9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Dayton at Loyola Chicago (ESPN2)
10 p.m. — NBA: Milwaukee Bucks at Chicago Bulls (ESPN)
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Air Force at Utah State (FS1)

Saturday
10 a.m. — Premier League: West Ham United at Everton (USA)
10 a.m. — Formula 1: Bahrain Grand Prix (ESPN)
12 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Villanova at Providence (FOX); Butler at DePaul (FS1); Florida at South Carolina (ESPN)
12:30 p.m. — Premier League: Aston Villa at Luton Town (USA)
1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kansas at Baylor (ABC); Illinois at Wisconsin (BTN)
1 p.m. — PGA Tour: Cognizant Classic (NBC)
1:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Arkansas at Kentucky (CBS)
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oklahoma State at Texas (ESPN2)
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Marquette at Creighton (FOX); UMass Amherst at Davidson (USA)
3 p.m. — NASCAR cup Series: Pennzoil 400 (FS1)

3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Illinois State at Missouri State (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — NHL: Florida Panthers at Detroit Red Wings (ABC)
3:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Penn State at Minnesota (BTN)
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: N.C. State at North Carolina (ESPN); Mississippi State at Auburn (ESPN2); USC at Washington (CBS)
4:30 p.m. — MLS: Orlando City at Inter Miami (FOX)
5 p.m. — NASCAR Xfinity Series: The LiUNA! (FS1)
5:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Iowa at Northwestern (BTN)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Virginia at Duke (ESPN); Texas Tech at West Virginia (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — NHL: Minnesota Wild at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Xavier at Georgetown (FS1)
8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan State at Purdue (FOX); Houston at Oklahoma (ESPN2); Tennessee at Alabama (ESPN)
8:30 p.m. — NBA: Denver Nuggets at Los Angeles Lakers (ABC)
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Gonzaga at St. Mary's (ESPN); Long Beach State at UC Irvine (ESPN2)

Local notes

Tournament scheduled
The Fort Recovery High School volleyball program is holding its annual alumni volleyball tournament on Friday, March 22.

Teams can consist of former players or anyone living in Fort Recovery, and don't need to be from the same graduating class.

Entry costs are \$10 per player, with all proceeds going to the FRHS volleyball team.

For more information, contact Travis Guggenbiller by March 20 by emailing guggenbiller@fortrecoveryschools.org

Midwest Walleye Challenge
Indiana anglers are invited to participate in the 2024 Midwest Walleye Challenge, a virtual fishing tournament.

Participants can enter for free for the chance at the grand prize or pay a \$25 fee to be eligible for biweekly cash prizes.

Those interested in participating can register by visiting AnglersAtlas.com/event/769 or by using the MyCatch app. For further information, visit on.IN.gov/walleye.

90 SALE CALENDAR

MARION YOUNG FARMERS

Consignment Auction
Sale Location - Chickasaw, Landmark
St. Rt. 274 - Chickasaw, Ohio

Directions: Go 4 miles East of 127, or 6 miles West of New Bremen to Chickasaw

SATURDAY, MARCH 16th
10 A.M.

TRACTORS- TRUCKS- CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT

2012 John Deere 4720 tractor with cab - 354 hours, 2021 T66 Bobcat Skid Steer 2 speed with enclosed heat/ac cab - 735 hours.

DRILLS, PLANTERS, PLOWS, DISK,

TILLAGE, AUGERS
Brillion 28 ft field cultivator with harrow, John Deere 5 shank disk chisel, plow, Brillion 5 ft lawn seeder with 3 point attachment, J&M 6 inch hydraulic unload auger for gravity wagon.

WAGONS, MANURE EQUIPMENT, AND HAY EQUIPMENT

New Idea 484 4x5 round baler, Two 18 ft Bale Queen wagons, trailer, 8 ft PTO driven tedder/rake combo.

MISCELLANEOUS
John Deere 997 zero turn diesel lawn mower with 72 inch deck, Hard-ee tree sprayer, Live-stock trailers, 375 board feet of cherry wood lumber, Anvils, mowers, Elevators, Gates, Duals, Tires.

This is only a partial listing of equipment that will be at the Auction. We are still accepting equipment on Thursday, March 14th and Friday, March 15th; 9am till 8pm No Saturday Consignments

Any Questions or to consign items call Brad Rindler 419-584-6356

COLDWATER AUCTION SERVICE

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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 gallon 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

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AC31800004
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229

Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

Check AuctionZip for more photos.

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY MARCH

9th, 2024
TIME 10:00 A.M.

LOCATED:
4023 S 800 W. REDKEY, IN.

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. Wilson 45' hopper bottom grain trailer. 1000-500-300 gallon fuel tanks. Work benches.

ANTIQUES - HOUSEHOLD
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 AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168
260-729-2229

Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040
260-726-5587

Check AuctionZip & Auctionsoft for more photos.

100 JOBS WANTED

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Redkey Civil Town, Jay County, Indiana
Cash & Investments Combined Statement- 2023

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan. 1, 2023	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec. 31, 2023
Governmental Activities					
1101	GENERAL FUND	\$239,272.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$239,272.91
2201	MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY	\$21,228.08	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,228.08
2202	LOCAL ROAD AND STREET	\$60,850.26	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$60,850.26
2203	MVH RESTRICTED (SUBFUND OF MOTOR VEHICLE HIGHWAY)	\$124,709.19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$124,709.19
2204	PARK AND RECREATION -OPERATING	\$37,354.58	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$37,354.58
2211	PARK CABIN	\$3,063.07	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,063.07
2223	SANITATION (OPERATINGMOSTLY FROM TAX REVENUES- N	\$74,174.99	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$74,174.99
2228	LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTINUING EDUCATION FUND	\$23,904.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23,904.95
2236	RAINY DAY	\$5,324.85	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,324.85
2240	LOIT - PUBLIC SAFETY	\$41,150.35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$41,150.35
2248	LOIT SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION	\$22,043.83	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,043.83
2256	OPIOD SETTLEMENT - UNRESTRICTED	\$186.86	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$186.86
2300	DONATION (IF USED FOR OTHER THAN CAPITAL ITEMS)	-\$2,132.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$2,132.71
2302	DONATION/REDKEY CLOCK TOW	\$562.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$562.15
2303	REDKEY FIRE STATION PROJE	\$3,788.40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,788.40
2400	ARPA (AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021)	\$201,156.82	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$201,156.82
2500	NON-REVERTING BOND CUMULATIVE	\$700.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$700.00
4401	CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT - CIGARETTE TAX CUMULATIVE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT - TAX LEVY	\$109,955.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$109,955.63
4436	COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCOME TAX (CREDIT)	\$5,571.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,571.36
4500	COMM CROSSINGS - PAVING GRANT	\$2,984.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,984.42
4501	COMM CROSSINGS - SIDEWALK GRANT	-\$418.21	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$418.21
8901	PAYROLL	\$6,098.98	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,098.98
Wastewater					
4414	SEWAGE DEBT SERVICE RESERVE	\$105,361.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105,361.00
6201	SEWAGE UTILITY OPERATING	\$61,635.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$61,635.39
6202	SEWAGE UTILITY BOND AND INTEREST SINKING	\$94,050.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$94,050.53
6206	SEWAGE SEPARATION	\$313,111.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$313,111.69
Water					
6101	WATER UTILITY OPERATING	\$150,899.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150,899.45
6102	WATER DEBT SERVICE RESERV	\$111,132.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$111,132.00
6103	WATER UTILITY DEPRECIATION	\$117,615.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$117,615.41
6104	WATER UTILITY METER DEPOSIT	\$40,437.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,437.31
6105	WATER UTILITY BOND AND INTEREST SINKING	\$112,914.54	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$112,914.54
	Total All Funds	\$2,099,142.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,099,142.74

CR 2-29-2024- HSPAXLP

Sports

First time appearance

By **ANDREW BALKO**
The Commercial Review

The Indians have made it to new territory.

Yet they are not satisfied and are looking for more.

The Fort Recovery High School girls club bowling team will make its first appearance at the OHSAA Division II state tournament at H.P. Lanes in Columbus, Ohio at 10:45 a.m. Saturday.

This is the first appearance for Fort Recovery at the state tournament since Abigail Lauber, older sister of current junior Emily Lauber, made it as

an individual in the 2020-21 season, and the first time ever as a team.

"I am so excited and proud of these girls," coach Alison Rosegrant said. "We had a team a couple years ago that was state worthy, but we missed out. We got fourth in districts while they

take the top three teams, so we came up just short.

"I'm over the moon and so excited because these girls deserve it. They practice hard every day and have a great support system with parents and family. I'm excited to see us perform at the state level."

Competition will feature both individual and team play to determine who moves on to bracket play.

The day will start with bowlers throwing three individual games, followed by three games of baker.

The eight highest finish of the

16 team field, scored by both individual and baker games, will move into bracket play, where teams compete in a best-of-5 baker series, to bowl for the state championship.

Despite being new to state, the Indians aren't being shy when it comes to setting their goals. While Rosegrant recognized that making it to state is an accomplishment in itself, she has set the goal to try and make it to bracket play before focusing on each individual match to make a potential run for the title.

See **First** page 11

Indians are shooting for the top eight in first team visit to state tournament



Find the **right person** for the job right here!

Leverette makes All-MAC 2nd team

The Midwest Athletic Conference released its postseason awards for boys basketball Wednesday.

Two members of the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team found their way onto the list of recognitions.

Senior forward Rex Leverette was the sole Indian selected to either All-MAC team, being named to the second team.

Briggs Overman missed on being one of the 24 ath-

letes named to an all-conference team, but he received recognition as an honorable mention for the Indians, after cracking the starting lineup midway through the season for the Tribe.

St. John's swept the superlative awards as a 9-0 record earned it the MAC championship and netted coach Aaron Elwer coach of the year. Cameron Elwer also took home MAC Player of the Year with a unanimous vote.

LeBron speaks on Bronny's future

By **CHUCK SCHILKEN**
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — LeBron James is not shy about sharing his thoughts on social media.

Sometimes those thoughts are pretty run-of-the-mill, like what stand-up special he's enjoying or random thoughts on whatever sporting event he happens to be watching at that moment.

Sometimes he's more enigmatic, like his hourglass emoji post late last month that set off much speculation as to what message the NBA's all-time leading scorer was trying to convey.

James posted some thoughts Monday on X (formerly Twitter) that were neither of those things, as the Lakers superstar unloaded on the media's coverage of Bronny James, his oldest son and a freshman guard at USC. The elder James was reacting to a post that reported ESPN had dropped Bronny from its mock NBA draft for this year and added him to its mock draft for 2025.

"Can yall please just let the kid be a kid and enjoy college basketball," James wrote in one tweet. "The work and results will ultimately do the talking no matter what he decides to do. If y'all don't know he doesn't care what a mock draft says, he just WORKS! Earned Not Given!"

James added in a second tweet: "And to all the other kids out there striving to be

great just keep your head down, blinders on and keep grinding. These Mock Drafts doesn't matter one bit! I promise you! Only the WORK MATTERS!! Let's talk REAL BASKETBALL PEOPLE!"

Both tweets have since been deleted.

To be fair, James seems to have unwittingly sparked a lot of the conversation about Bronny's NBA future by making no secret of his desire to share an NBA court with his oldest son before retiring.

James also has chimed in on those discussions more than once. He made favorable comparisons between his firstborn and current NBA players in March by posting, "Man Bronny definitely better than some of these cats I've been watching on league pass today."

Then in January, Guardian writer Claire de Lune reported she heard James "loudly" tell Lakers teammate Austin Reaves about Bronny, "he could play for us right now. easy. EASY."

As the son of someone considered to be among the greatest basketball players of all time, Bronny James has been in the spotlight ever since he stepped on a basketball court. During his senior season at Chatsworth Sierra Canyon High, he averaged 14.1 points, 5.6 rebounds, 2.4 assists and 1.7 steals per game, was named a McDonald's All-American and was considered a four-star college recruit.

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