

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

School properties available

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Jay School Corporation is looking to offload three properties.

On Monday, Jay School Board voted to move forward with the process of selling or otherwise disposing of its current administrative office building, the former Judge Haynes Elementary School and a parcel of wooded land adjacent to Portland Memorial Park.

Of the properties to be sold or otherwise disposed of, the current administrative office building — 1976 W. Tyson Road, Portland — drew the most interest Monday night. (The administrative offices will move to the former General Shanks Elementary School building in Portland at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.)

Mindy Weaver, president of Jay County Humane Society, and Jay County Commissioner Chad

Board takes first steps on administrative offices, former Judge Haynes Elementary and wooded parcel in Portland

Aker both requested that the school board consider donating the administrative office building to be converted into a new animal control shelter. Cory Heniser, CEO of Brigade Electronics, also expressed interest in the building, saying his company would pay “fair market value” to acquire it.

Jay Schools superintendent

Jeremy Gulley noted that Portland Police Department, a church and at least two individuals have expressed interest in the property as well.

Indiana National Guard first rented the former armory, which was constructed in 1976, to Jay Schools and then donated it to the corporation in spring 2008.

See **Properties** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay School Board on Monday took a step toward selling or otherwise disposing of the current administrative office building on Tyson Road in Portland. The corporation is also looking to offload the former Judge Haynes Elementary School and a six-acre parcel of wooded land in Portland.

ACAC victory

Members of the Jay County High School girls basketball team, from left Aubrie Schwieterman, Gabi Bilbrey, Molly Muhlenkamp and Renna Schwieterman, celebrate the Patriots clinching the Allen County Athletic Conference championship on Saturday, beating Adams Central 52-48 at Stardome in Berne. For a story and photos, see page 8.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Council set to meet in person again

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Village council has been meeting via Zoom the last two months to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Council will reconvene its regular in-person meetings beginning in February.

Mayor Dave Kaup proposed Monday it reconvene at Fort Recovery Town Hall in council chambers starting Feb 1. Council agreed, and Kaup noted the group will meet again via Zoom if anyone becomes sick or if otherwise necessary.

Also Monday, council members approved a resolution to authorize village administrator Randy Diller to apply for an Ohio Department of Transportation grant to provide funding toward Butler Street reconstruction in 2025.

The project will involve reconstructing the length of Butler Street (Ohio 119) within village limits. It will include a new water line, sidewalks, curbs and a new traffic light at Wayne Street. Diller hopes the department will fund a little more than \$1 million toward the approximately \$4 million project.

Both Diller and fiscal officer Roberta Staugler also mentioned they are looking into refinancing a United States Department of Agriculture loan from about seven years ago when the village separated combined sewers. The new agreement is part of a bill for the Ohio Water Department Authority to include refinancing options, Diller explained. At present, the village has a little more than \$1 million left to pay on the loan. Staugler estimated it will be about 34 years until it's completely paid at current rates.

Best case scenario, Diller said, the village could go from paying 3% interest to somewhere near 0.5% interest on the loan.

See **Meet** page 2

Service calls for non-violence

ATLANTA (AP) — Speakers at the annual Martin Luther King Jr. holiday celebration in Atlanta called Monday for a renewed dedication to nonviolence following a turbulent year in which a deadly pandemic, protests over systemic racism and a divisive election capped by an attack on the U.S. Capitol strained Americans' capacity for civility.

“This King holiday has not only come at a time of great peril and physical violence, it has also come during a time of violence in our speech — what we say and how we say it,” said the Rev. Bernice King, the slain civil rights leader's daughter. “It is frankly out of control and we are causing too much harm to one another.”

Speakers at Martin Luther King Jr. Day service appeal for civility

The coronavirus pandemic forced the annual King Day service at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church online during the 35th celebration of his birthday as a national holiday. His family was among a sparse group wearing masks and sitting far apart amid mostly empty pews as others delivered remarks remotely.

Bernice King said the toll of the pandemic, lingering outrage over killings of unarmed Black people and the deadly siege in Washington by supporters of President Donald Trump all underscore an urgent need to pursue what her father called “the beloved community” — a world in which conflict is solved nonviolently and com-

passion dictates policy. She quoted her father's words from more than 50 years ago: “There is such a thing as being too late.”

“We still have a choice today — nonviolent coexistence or violent co-annihilation,” Bernice King said, again reciting the words of her father. “This may well be mankind's last chance to choose between chaos and community.”

The ceremony included pre-recorded remarks by President-elect Joe Biden, who recalled sensing the civil rights leader's “restless spirit” during a visit to the National Civil Rights Museum housed at the Tennessee motel where he was fatally shot outside his room.

See **Calls** page 5

Deaths

Keith Girton, 75, Portland
Donald Guntle, 84, Portland
Billy Jobe, 82, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 31 degrees Monday. The low was 19.
Tonight's forecast calls for a low of 23 with snow showers possible. Expect a high of 28 Wednesday under partly cloudy skies.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The United Way of Jay County and Second Harvest Food Bank will partner for a free food tailgate from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Income verification is not required.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of tonight's Portland City Council meeting.

Friday — Results from the FRHS girls basketball team's game against St. Henry.



Obituaries

Keith Girton

May 31, 1945-Jan. 15, 2021
Keith D. Girton, age 75, of
Portland passed away Friday,
Jan. 15, 2021, at IU Health Ball
Memorial Hospital in Muncie.
Keith was born in Winchester
on May 31, 1945, the son of
Wilmer Edward and Grace Thel-
ma (Grow) Girton. He was mar-
ried on Aug. 12, 2003, to Billie
Long who sur-
vives.
He was retired
as a truck driver
for Coca-Cola Bot-
tling. He served
in the National
Guard and was a member of
Portland Eagles Lodge, Portland
Elks Lodge, Portland Moose
Lodge and American Legion.
Surviving are his wife Billie;
three sons; two daughters; one
brother, Kenneth Girton of Win-
chester; several grandchildren;
and one great-grandchild.
Because of COVID-19, there
will be no funeral services.



Girton

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home
is in charge of arrangements.
Memorials can be made to the
American Legion or Jay County
Humane Society.
Condolences may be
expressed at bairdfreeman.com.
Donald Guntle
Aug. 2, 1936-Jan. 16, 2021
Donald L. Guntle, age 84, of
Portland passed away Saturday,
Jan. 16, 2021, at IU Health Ball
Memorial Hospital in Muncie.
Donald was born in Jay Coun-
ty on Aug. 2, 1936, the son of
Earl and Ethel
Marie (Landers)
Guntle. He was
married on May
28, 1955, to Eileen
Minnich who sur-
vives.
He was retired
from Teledyne
Portland Forge
and served with
the U.S. Army. He was a member
of Immaculate
Conception
Catholic Church.
Surviving are his wife Eileen;



Guntle

four sons, Rick Guntle (wife:
Dawn) of Portland, Mike Guntle
of Fort Wayne, Steve Guntle
(wife: Liz) of Selma and Greg
Guntle (wife: Carla) of Browns-
burg, Indiana; one daughter,
Deb Moores (husband: Tim) of
Greens Fork, Indiana; three
brothers, Bob Guntle (wife:
Janet) of Portland, Jerry Guntle
of Geneva and Charles Guntle
of Berne; 18 grandchildren; and
17 great-grandchildren.
A Mass of Christian Burial
will be Thursday, Jan. 21, 2021,
at 11 a.m. in Immaculate Con-
ception Catholic Church with
Fr. Peter Logsdon presiding.
Burial will be in Holy Trinity
Cemetery in Bryant. Visitation
will be Thursday from 9 to 11
a.m. in the Baird-Freeman
Funeral Home.
Memorials can be made to the
Bryant Community Center.
Condolences may be
expressed at bairdfreeman.com.
Billy Jobe
Feb. 18, 1938-Jan. 16, 2021
Billy J. Jobe, age 82, passed
away, Saturday,
Jan. 16, 2021, at
his home in Port-
land.
He retired
from Teledyne
Portland Forge
after 34 years. He
was a veteran of
the U.S. Army
and attended the Asbury Unit-
ed Methodist Church in Port-
land.
Billy Jobe was born Feb.18,
1938, in Liblourn, Missouri the
son of Robert and Gladys
(Crump) Jobe. He married
Jane Bickel on Dec. 19, 1964.
Survivors include:
His beloved wife of 56 years
— Jane Jobe, Portland, Indiana
One daughter — Cindy
Martell, Middletown, Indiana
Two sons — Bruce Jobe
(wife: Terri), Simpsonville,
South Carolina, and Brian
Jobe (wife: Lisa), Pennville,
Indiana
Seven grandchildren
Visitation for Billy Jobe will
be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Jobe

on Friday in the Williamson-
Spencer and Penrod Funeral
Home in Portland. Funeral
services will follow at 2 p.m. at
the funeral home. Pastor Joe
Boggs will officiate the serv-
ices and burial will follow in the
Green Park Cemetery in Port-
land. Portland American
Legion Post 211 will be in
charge of military rites at the
cemetery.
Memorials may be directed
to Asbury United Methodist
Church or the Wounded War-
rior Project.
Condolences for the Jobe
family may be expressed at
williamsonspencer.com.

The Commercial Review pub-
lishes death notices for those
with a connection to our cover-
age area free of charge. They
include the name, city of resi-
dence, birth/death date and
time/date/location of services.
There is a charge for obituar-
ies, which are accepted only
from funeral homes or mortu-
ary services.

CR almanac
Table with 5 columns: Wednesday 1/20, Thursday 1/21, Friday 1/22, Saturday 1/23, Sunday 1/24. Includes weather icons and forecasts.

Lotteries
Table with 3 columns: Powerball, Mega Millions, Hoosier. Includes estimated jackpots and winning numbers.

Markets
Table with 2 columns: Cooper Farms Fort Recovery, POET Biorefining Portland, The Andersons Richland Township, Central States Montpelier, Sunrise St. Anthony. Includes prices for corn, wheat, and beans.

Today in history
On Jan. 19, 1981, the United States and Iran signed an accord paving the way for the release of 52 Americans held hostage for more than 14 months.
In 1915, Germany carried out its first air raid on Britain during World War I as a pair of Zeppelins dropped bombs onto Great Yarmouth and King's Lynn in England.
In 1942, during World War II, a German submarine sank the Canadian liner RMS Lady Hawkins off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, killing 251 people; 71 survived.
In 1971, the 81-year-old Zion Lutheran Church in New Corydon was destroyed in a fire. "Not even a table leg was saved," said the Rev. James Hundley. —AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar
Table with 2 columns: Today, Thursday. Includes times and topics for local council meetings.

Properties ...

Continued from page 1
It was converted into a new administrative office space — the previous office was in the former Garfield Elementary School on Arch Street in Portland — with the gym used for gymnastics and cheerleading. The school corporation put about \$400,000 into upgrades at the facility, Gulley said.
He added that, if sold, any funds could be put toward school corporation needs.
"It's an asset," he said. "Those funds could be repurposed for the benefit of our students and our programs and our facilities and our people. You as a board, you're just going to have to weigh that ..."
Board members Phil Ford, Ron Laux, Donna Geesaman, Chris Snow, Vickie Reitz, Mike Shannon and Jason Phillips passed a resolution to authorize Gulley to obtain appraisals on the property and solicit proposals from real estate brokers.
The same resolution was also passed regarding a six-acre wooded parcel adjacent to Portland Memorial Park (north of Runkle-Miller Field and west of Hines-Inman Memorial Stadium). The land was donated to the school corporation but has never been used.
The board passed a separate resolution regarding the disposal of

Judge Haynes Elementary School, 827 W. High St., Portland. Because the property was used as a school, it must go through a different process. The first step is to notify Indiana Department of Education that the site is "no longer required for school purposes."
In other business, the board:
•During its Patriot Pride moment, recognized East Elementary School principal Julie Gregg for her 2020 selection as Indiana Association of School Principals District 6 Principal of the Year.
•Heard Snow thank Gregg and other Jay Schools staff for their efforts to raise funds for a student who has been diagnosed with cancer.
•Approved the following: 3% raises for support staff and 1% raises for administrators (teachers were given a 4% raise as part of their contract in the fall); conflict of interest forms for Geesaman, Ford, Snow, Laux, Paxson and Gulley; a high school band and color guard field trip July 26 through 30 for band camp at Taylor University; canceling a total of \$4,705.04 in checks that were two years old or older as of Dec. 31; an amendment to a previous resolution to allow the business manager to transfer up to specified amounts each month to the operations fund from the education fund, as needed.

Meet ...

Continued from page 1
The program guidelines have not yet been released, but Diller and Staugler said they would share when more information becomes available.
While sharing updates, Staugler noted per the ordinance passed about four years ago, minimum water rates in the village have jumped from \$41.50 to \$44.
Also, council members Greg Schmitz, Scott Pear-

son, Erik Fiely, Luke Knapke, Al Post and Cliff Wendel appointed Lori Koch to serve two years on the income tax review board.
•Took its first look at policies regarding virtual instruction. They include password protecting all meetings and monitoring attendance to ensure privacy, managing scree-sharing options, stopping class if necessary to protect the privacy of students and banning the recording of classes unless permission has been obtained. The policies will be voted on at an upcoming meeting.
•Appointed Jessica Cook to the Jay County Public Library Board and Connie Retter to the Dunkirk Public Library Board.
•Approved the hiring of Christine Addington and Nichole Myers as driver education instructors, Matthew McKinley and Paula Bonvillian as bus drivers, Alison Homan as library instructional assistant at Redkey Elementary School, Amber Houck, Malarie Krieg and Brian Miles as Jay County High School assistant track coaches, Beth Nichols as junior high yearbook sponsor, Liza Lawson as JCHS fine arts academic sponsor and Victoria Towell as JCHS assistant softball coach.
•Accepted the resignations of East Jay Elementary School instructional assistant Belinda Cronin and Redkey Elementary School secretary Jenny Outcalt (effective April 29).

SERVICES
Thursday
Guntle, Donald: 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.
Friday
Jobe, Billy: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS
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Microwaving popcorn instead of politics

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

Did you know that today is National Popcorn Day? Apparently the National Popcorn Board cooked it up. What? You didn't know there was a National Popcorn Board? I didn't know either until I was looking for a subject for today's column. I am determined to avoid all things political. That isn't so easy to do this week. My mission is to discover what I can find about the National Popcorn Board and ignore the rabble rousers as best as I can.

The first site I went to said that in addition to today being National Popcorn Day, National Popcorn Poppin' Month isn't until October. It seems that the National Popcorn Board cooked up that holiday also. Maybe they forgot they already had a day named in honor of the treat.

In leafing through assorted

As I See It



articles there was a question someone asked about how to tell when to harvest it. I planted popcorn in my garden one year. Harvest time was obvious. I can state with absolute certainty that it should be harvested the day before marauding raccoons trample the stalks and take at least one bite out of each ear of corn. Those of you who grow the crop for a living have more reliable ways of timing the harvest and controlling critters. I haven't planted popcorn since then no matter how much the raccoons beg.

The Popcorn Board resides in Chicago and consists of various popcorn companies. Way back in 1999, the Secretary of Agriculture himself proclaimed October was the month to celebrate all things popcorn. So far I haven't found out if October was jealous of January or if each month wanted its own celebration.

I have found statistics that say that Americans consume 15 billion quarts of popcorn per year. That is a lot of popcorn. It works out to be around 45 quarts for each of us. Plus, somebody has to take my share. I rarely eat it. Maybe I should share it with the raccoons.

The only time I really like popcorn is at the movie theater. Even before the virus shuttered most, if not all, theaters, I usually went to the show once or maybe twice a decade.

Several lifetimes ago, when I

was pregnant with my one and only child, my first husband and I would go to the Dayton mall and walk around. People watching has always been a cheap form of entertainment. At one end of the mall was a Sears store. Just past that was a shop that featured caramel corn. The smell turned my stomach every time we passed the store. Worse yet, my then-husband insisted on buying a bag of the sticky snack every time. Did I mention that the aroma made me nauseous? Oddly enough, Cracker Jacks didn't elicit the same response, probably because their aroma wasn't as strong.

Perhaps the most interesting bit of trivia that I found while searching for popcorn information was that, "In 1948, small heads of Zea mays everta (popcorn) were discovered by Herbert Dick and Earle Smith in the Bat Cave of west central New Mexico.

Ranging from smaller than a penny to about two inches, the oldest Bat Cave ears were about 4,000 years old. Several individually popped kernels were also discovered, which have since been carbon dated and shown to be approximately 5,600 years old. There's also evidence of early use of popcorn in Peru, Mexico, and Guatemala, as well as other places in Central and South America." There was no mention of Robin, Cat Woman, the Joker or any of the other characters in the traditional Batman stories. It is enough to know that the bat cave is real.

Popcorn seems to be one of those things that most people like. Besides, even if you don't eat it, you can always string it into a necklace. Or you can leave it on the floor for some future archeologist to discover.

Dad wants the wedding honors

DEAR ABBY: Yesterday, my daughter informed me that her boyfriend will soon come to me to ask for her hand in marriage. She also told me she intends to have both her stepfather and me walk her down the aisle. This creates a huge problem for me.

Her mother and I divorced 13 years ago because of marital infidelity on her part. She was having an affair with the man who is now my daughter's stepfather. When my daughter told me her plans, it took all my self-control not to go through the roof.

I have thought about my daughter's wedding day since the day she was born, and now she wants me to share it with this individual who has caused me so much pain. Her feeling is he has been with her her entire life, and she wants him in the wedding. I understand it to some extent, although for her to ask me to give up even a bit of this honor cuts me to my core.

One of her reasons for asking is we had a strained relationship for a number of years. I was never out of her life, although there were periods of time when we would fight constantly.

I don't want to miss the opportunity to walk my baby girl down the aisle, but I simply cannot share this honor with someone who basically

Dear Abby



stole my family. — NOT FORGIVING IN TEXAS

DEAR NOT FORGIVING: I know this is painful for you, but you are not in control. If you are going to have the honor of walking your daughter down the aisle, you will have to figure out a compromise. I'm suggesting you walk her halfway to the altar and your daughter's stepfather take her the rest of the way, or vice versa. It has been done before.

DEAR ABBY: At what age is it no longer appropriate to share a bed with your child? My sister-in-law "Mara" is a single mom with a 13-year-old daughter. Until recently we were quite close, but we haven't spoken in a few months. Mostly it's because of COVID restrictions, but we had begun drifting apart even before.

Last week I saw on Facebook that she had made a comment about them still sharing a bed. I think it's weird and creepy. It goes against every boundary I have as a mother myself.

Should I keep my mouth shut? She won't listen to my husband (her brother) because he has been branded an "abusive misogynist." Mara loves to play the victim and interprets any criticism, however slight, as abuse — especially if it comes from a man.

Getting in touch with her out of the blue to talk about this seems over the top, but I'm genuinely concerned about the long-term impact on her daughter, who has voiced in the past (not in front of Mara) that she prefers to sleep alone. Is this none of my business? — OVER THE LINE

DEAR OVER: If you suspect your niece is being sexually abused, child protective services should be contacted. Otherwise, it is none of your business. Not every family — or culture, for that matter — has the same standards. Until your niece finds the courage to tell her mother she no longer wants to share a bed, nothing will change in that household.

Popcorn: Snack of the Hoosiers?

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—A state lawmaker wants his colleagues to honor Indiana's big popcorn crop by making the grain the state's official snack.

Legislation sponsored by Republican state Sen. Ron Grooms of Jeffersonville would designate Indiana-grown popcorn as the Hoosier state's official snack, adding it to other state symbols such as the state bird — the cardinal — and the state insect, the firefly, The Journal Gazette reported.

Grooms' bill says Indiana ranks second in the nation — behind Nebraska — in popcorn production, with Hoosier farmers growing nearly 500 million

pounds (227 kilograms) of popcorn every year, bringing jobs to the state.

"Whereas Purdue University plant breeders helped pioneer popcorn breeding in the late 1930s and early 1940s, and those varieties were used by Orville Redenbacher and others in the industry today," his measure reads.

But Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said lawmakers have much more significant and important things to do during their legislative session, such as passing a budget and redistricting.

"I've got a lot of other things to focus on," he said.

Community Calendar

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

Today

THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.

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.

ALZHEIMER'S CARE-GIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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 9 a.m. to noon each Wednesday at Jay Community Center and 10:30 a.m. to noon each Wednesday at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk. The public is welcome.

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

STRESS AND ANXIETY CLASS — Meets each Wednesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (206) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

Thursday

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

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 Thursday at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Kevin Culy at (260) 251-2843.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.

BREAKING NEWS

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To the editor:
As I watch TV and listen to all of the hype about what happened at the end of President Donald Trump's service to our country, my heart is saddened. Donald J. Trump did many great things for our county and all Americans benefited in some way for the things he accomplished. It is hard for me to believe that his accomplishments are so soon forgotten.

Letters to the Editor

supporters that showed up Jan. 6 did not come with the intent to cause violence (which led to innocent people dying and many others injured). We the people should not blame anyone except the people that fell in with mob rule, because if anyone of us was in their shoes we could do the same (follow the mob).

This county is almost split down the middle on our desires for America — some are good but many are bad. If we do not step away from the horror of this rhetoric and begin to call upon the true Savior for America (Jesus Christ) our country will surely forfeit freedoms we have all known and enjoyed. Our hope is only in one Savior and that is the one who humbled himself and allowed the mob to have Him crucified some 2,000 years ago. But that wasn't His end. He rose from death to live forever. (He is the only Savior we should look to for our help in America.)

For any non-believer, just read about this man in the greatest history book ever written — the Bible.

Diana Stults Bryant

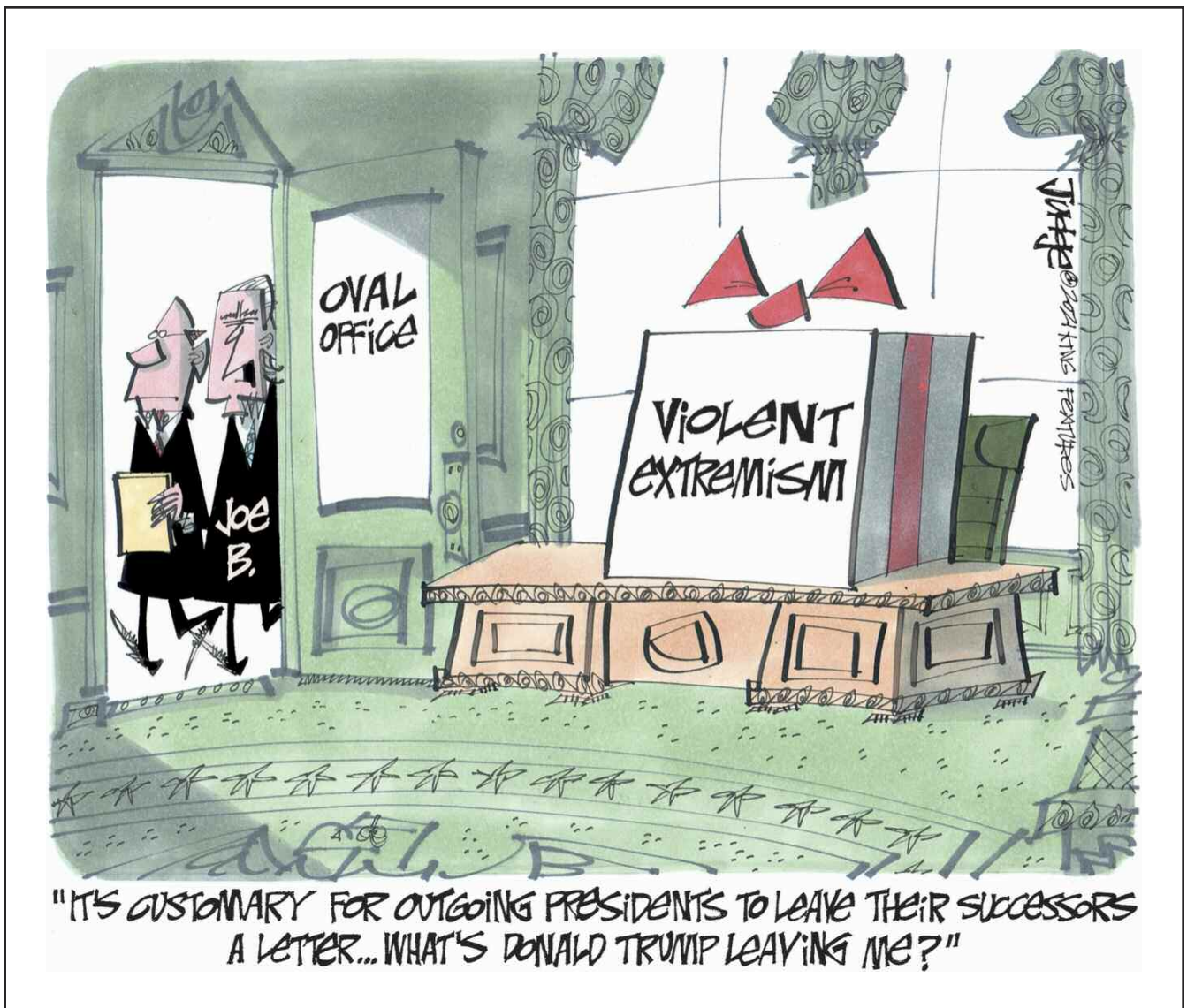
Approximately one million protesters came to Washington, D.C., hoping that with their presence they might change the outcome of the election. But many knew it would not change anything but they wanted their support for President Trump to be known.

Most were there to show support but others had come with the intent to cause trouble and a few hundred were caught up in the mob. I remember another time in history when men were caught in a mob — it was on the day some leaders of the time wanted Jesus to die and many joined in the shout "Crucify Him."

Just one week earlier they had marched in a crowd and wanted Jesus crowned king but many from that crowd wanted him to die.

I wonder, "Are we like the crowd that straddled both sides of the fence?" This should never be.

Trump was just a man, a man with good intentions, but he was never to be America's savior. Most



Biden has historic opportunity

By HUGH HEWITT

Special to The Washington Post

President-elect Joe Biden has given thousands of speeches but none more important than his upcoming inaugural address. All Americans should be praying he delivers the speech of his life, and it will need to be, given the deeply divided nation he will be facing.

He will need to have an eye on the disaster of last week, the lost lives and the deep disgrace brought upon the nation. But he will also need to summon Americans to return to the politics of the postwar years, when bipartisan debate turned on how best to defend the country so that all could enjoy its blessings.

Moderation is not easy to argue for after the savage attack on the Capitol by the pro-Trump mob, which included the deaths of a U.S. Capitol Police officer and four other people and the attempt to deter Congress from its constitutional duties. Condemnation of the riot and the attempted insurrection is nearly universal. But there is no calm descending, as typically follows a national convulsion.

But it is moderation that we need now. As noted here before, the tone should draw its spirit from Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural address, delivered just before the Civil War: "We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies." That will not satisfy the most extreme haters any more than Lincoln's appeal averted the secession of the Confederacy, but they aren't the ones who need to hear the incoming president. What matters is a more centrist audience, who can

hear an appeal, as Lincoln put it, to "the better angels of our nature."

Lincoln's eyes were on the crisis in front of him and also on history's long record of failed self-government. Though it did little to prevent the events at Fort Sumter, his vision reached past the war that loomed to the peace beyond it. He was certainly capable of imagining a republic bound up by the railroads he pursued, settled under the Homestead Act he signed, and growing into an empire of freedom that helped preserve freedom from global menace many times over. Had Lincoln not been assassinated, he might have overseen a Reconstruction that did not end in Jim Crow and the Klan.

The president-elect will have many advisers and talented writers to help him, but he has only a week in which to re-craft an address suitable for this unprecedented moment. He can't achieve that with partisan daggers and sweeping condemnation. He could achieve it with appeals to reason and civility. Both have nearly vanished from the land; President Donald Trump licensed their abandonment by his tweets. Biden could well earn the respect of many of the 74 million of President Trump's voters (and an easier path in Congress

Hugh Hewitt



for his program) with an appeal to common citizenship. Generosity of spirit and an extended hand have always been celebrated when passion subsides.

A president who is merely civil would be a huge step forward because, as French-British poet and scholar Hilaire Belloc noted, courtesy is our most underrated virtue:

"Of Courtesy, it is much less
"Than Courage of Heart or Holiness,

"Yet in my Walks it seems to me
"That the Grace of God is in Courtesy."

Lincoln presided over catastrophe after catastrophe, but four years after his first inaugural address, he delivered a second, far more famous speech that, as inscribed on the inner walls of his memorial, concluded this way: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations."

It cannot be improved upon. It can be imitated. It will be in the country's best interest if the new president aims for it. Many with scores to settle would prefer he do anything but look positively at the future. Hopefully, he reads Lincoln and not their tweets.

Hewitt, a Post contributing columnist, hosts a nationally syndicated radio show on the Salem Network.

Let light of truth shine in

To the editor:
On Jan. 6, as I watched the events unfold before me on my television screen, a tsunami of emotion swept over me.

Letters to the Editor

As a United States Army veteran, I was at once saddened, heartbroken and enraged. A feckless, ignorant demagogue succeeded in tearing the scab off the most grievous wound ever inflicted upon America's heart.

"The potential for political violence was a proverbial river of gasoline, waiting for a demagogue like Trump to drop the lighted match," said the editorial board of the New York Times.

The lies of a charlatan and a conman had come to bear fruit in a mob educated in ignorance and girded with misinformation and steeled in the abdication to the truth.

As Richard Kreitner said in his book, "Break It Up: Secession, Division and the Secret History of America's Imperfect Union," "America has always been united only in name."

I learned long ago that what I was taught in my United States history classes was basically a truckload of bovine excrement.

Now some may argue that I hate America. That could not be further from the truth. I gave three years of my life to protect

the ideals I believed were true. I will, to my dying breath, fight to protect, from our enemies both foreign and domestic, our Constitution.

I won't, however, submit to the lie of America's innocence.

I will do what I can to make America a more just, equitable and free country for all its citizens.

America's vision was noble but, unfortunately, lost in the pride and prejudice of some. I am forever an optimist and I truly believe it lies within our marrow, the will to become what that vision promised. I also believe we can work together, toward that more perfect union.

The Washington Post's newspaper banner reads: "Democracy Dies in Darkness." We can choose to live in the light of knowledge and truth or in the darkness of lies and ignorance.

As we use to sing in Sunday school: "This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

Let your light shine and vanquish the darkness.

Michael Kinser

Violence could happen here

Herald Bulletin (Anderson)

Make no mistake. It could happen here. The pro-Trump insurrection Jan. 6 at the U.S. Capitol was a warning shot across the bow of statehouses across the country.

Since the insurrection, ominous messages from far-right extremists have called for marches on state capitols this Sunday.

The FBI's Indianapolis office released a statement Friday saying that federal, state and local police forces "are aware of a report indicating there may be protests at state capitols this weekend and leading up to the inauguration on January 20."

The release went on to note that no specific, substantiated threats to the state Capitol and other gov-

Hoosier Editorial

ernment buildings in Indiana have been fielded, but the office vowed to "continually monitor" potential safety concerns and communicate with the public. The law enforcement agency asks that anyone with information about suspicious activity call the FBI at (317) 595-4000 or (800) CALL-FBI or go to tips.fbi.gov.

State capitols have been targeted by far-right extremists in recent months, most notably in Michigan, where armed

men entered the Capitol in April to protest restrictions related to the pandemic. Six months later, anti-government extremists plotted to kidnap Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. Investigators say the instigator of the Michigan statehouse occupation wanted to recruit 200 extremists to take hostages and "execute tyrants."

While Washington, D.C., might seem like a world away from the cornfields of Indiana, if it can happen in our neighboring state to the north, it can happen here.

Indiana is generally a moderate state and Hoosier supporters of President Donald Trump, who won the state in November by a whopping 16 percentage points, are

for the most part good people with good intentions. But there are always bad actors, extremists who will seize on any opportunity to commit violence. Indiana is not immune.

At the statehouse and in communities across Indiana, peaceful protests should be accepted, even encouraged, as a means of promoting liberty and expressing political opinions.

But the vast majority of Hoosiers will agree that any display similar to what happened in Washington, D.C., this month should be soundly rejected and perpetrators brought to justice.

Echoes of Jan. 6 are not wanted in Indiana. But we must be prepared this week — and beyond.

The Commercial Review

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus



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

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VOLUME 148—NUMBER 186
TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 19, 2021

www.thecr.com

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

Subscription rates: City delivery and Internet-only pay at the office rates: 13 weeks — \$32; six months — \$60; one year — \$108. Motor route pay at the office rates: 13 weeks — \$39; six months — \$68; one year — \$125; Mail: 13 weeks — \$47; six months — \$77; one year — \$135.

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Classroom at U.S. Capitol

National Guard member teaches from a Humvee

By SYDNEY PAGE

Special To The Washington Post

District of Columbia National Guard Sgt. Jacob Kohut was on his only break during a 12-hour shift standing guard outside the U.S. Capitol. In the back of a Humvee, flute in hand, Kohut was teaching students how to play Ludwig van Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" through his laptop.

Kohut, 34, is one of the more than 20,000 National Guard troops providing security as part of a massive operation in D.C. before President-elect Joe Biden's inauguration.

Since his deployment to Washington on Jan. 13, Kohut has been on double duty, as an active member of the National Guard and a dedicated band teacher at public schools in Fairfax County, Virginia.

While wearing his uniform, the military musician and teacher spends the first part of his morning conducting virtual band class. Starting at 10 a.m., his 12-hour Guard shift begins, working on the front lines to thwart potential threats after the deadly Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol.

When he was called to D.C. for duty, "my first thought was, 'What about my kids?'" said Kohut, who teaches elementary and middle school students.

Kohut arrives in D.C. first thing in the morning to teach his elementary class remotely from the drill floor of the D.C. Armory, finishing the lesson mere minutes before his Guard shift starts. He later logs in during a break to teach his middle school students from the back of a Humvee.

"The last thing these students need is a disruption in their teaching," Kohut said, explaining that remote learning has been difficult for them. "I would rather teach the class, even if that means I'm very tired."

Kohut has been in the military for 11 years as part of the 257th Army Band — commonly called the Band of the Nation's Capital. He plays the bassoon and the saxophone.

He has been a band teacher for more than a decade, and for the past five years, he has taught music at Canterbury Woods Elementary School in the morning



D.C. National Guard Public Affairs Office

and Frost Middle School in the afternoon.

"I'm a soldier for the Guard, but I feel like I am as much a soldier for music education," Kohut said.

At the beginning of each school year, he explains to his students that he is in the military and could be called away at any time.

Diane Leipzig, the principal of Canterbury Woods Elementary School, told Kohut not to worry when he got the call that he was being deployed. She told him she'd find a substitute teacher to cover his classes while he protects the Capitol, but he insisted on continuing to teach.

Although Leipzig was amazed by Kohut's decision, she said she was not surprised.

"He absolutely loves his students and would do anything for them," she said. "He is extremely dedicated. I think he is an excellent example. He teaches our kids the importance of practice, determination and resilience."

With the support of school staffers, his wife — who has been caring for their 3-year-old son while Kohut is in Washington — and his fellow members of the National Guard, he has managed

to continue instructing his band classes.

Ronald Vazquez, 56, a veteran of 27 years and fellow military musician who plays the clarinet and saxophone, coordinates with Kohut to cover for him whenever he takes a break to teach.

"He has my back, and I have his," said Vazquez, calling Kohut his "battle buddy." "Whenever someone in the group has competing priorities, it is natural that we jump in and help out, whatever it is."

Catching glimpses of Kohut teaching music to his students on a daily basis has "given me hope," Vazquez said.

The U.S. Army posted on Facebook that "not only is [Kohut] protecting our nation's capital, but in between shifts he is dedicated to his CWES students, teaching from #Capitol."

Music has always been a driving force in Kohut's life. He was an avid saxophone player in high school, studied music in college and earned his doctorate in music composition at George Mason University.

"What I really wanted was to teach," explained Kohut, who grew up in Saginaw, Michigan.

Sgt. Jacob Kohut, 34, a member of the District of Columbia National Guard, teaches music to his Fairfax County, Virginia, students from a Humvee before starting a 12-hour guard shift to protect the U.S. Capitol.

"My mom, who is a single mother, was a music teacher. That's why I do what I do, because she was such a good role model."

Although teaching music is his primary focus, being part of the 257th Army Band provides Kohut with an outlet to serve and perform.

Fulfilling both roles, he said, is "a really good balance for me."

Kohut's involvement in the military band consists of regular practice sessions, internal performances, public concerts, parades and community outreach.

"We consider ourselves to be ambassadors, all on behalf of peacekeeping missions with music. It's a universal language," he said.

Since the coronavirus pandemic hit, Kohut has been at the helm of managing the 257th Army Band's online presence, honing his video editing skills to produce split-screen ensembles.

But at the core of Kohut's military duties is his vow to provide protection and security whenever he is summoned.

"I have my uniform ready to go," he said. "I'm always honored to put it on."

Kohut's double duty has caught the attention of parents at Canterbury Woods Elementary.

"I just wanted to share how impressed I am with Dr. Kohut this week," Susi Brittain, a parent of two students at the elementary school, wrote in an email to Leipzig. "This morning he taught band online from D.C., in his fatigues — which just seems so dedicated and beyond the expectations of a teacher in these circumstances."

The email — which included a photo of Kohut teaching class in his military uniform — prompted Leipzig to publicly recognize his devotion to his students, she said. From the school's Twitter account, she tweeted, "This is what a hero looks like."

Anne Marie Patterson, an orchestra teacher at Frost Middle School, where Kohut also teaches, said he has long been deserving of that title. She called him an "unsung hero."

"He is a guy that always goes the extra mile," she said. "What he has done with his life speaks to who he is. He is so deeply moved by music and wants to share that love with other people, yet he also feels strongly about serving in the Guard."

Kohut's family shared similar sentiments.

"Even though I am older, I find myself looking to him as a guide," said his brother, Alex Kohut, 35. "I'm in awe of him."

The younger Kohut said he is simply taking care of what needs to get done.

"We are here to do what's needed, and if that means standing outside for 18 hours straight in the freezing cold, we're ready to do that," he said.

In the long and sometimes stressful hours of standing guard, Kohut said his teaching time offers solace.

As the 11 instruments played by his students synchronize in song, the familiar melody of "Ode to Joy" rings through the Humvee.

In that moment, Kohut realizes there is not a timelier tune to teach his students.

"It's a symbol of unity and peace, and that is what the world needs right now," he said.

IU prof named to EPA

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — President-elect Joe Biden is nominating an Indiana University law professor to be the second-in-command at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Janet McCabe, a professor of practice at the IU Robert H. McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis, has been nominated to be deputy EPA administrator, Biden's office announced Friday.

The nomination is sub-

ject to Senate confirmation.

McCabe previously served as acting assistant administrator of the Office of Air and Radiation at the EPA under former President Barack Obama from July 2013 to January 2017 and as principal deputy in that office from 2009 to 2013. She also has been air director at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and she has held other environmental poli-

cy and management positions at IDEM and in Massachusetts.

IU President Michael A. McRobbie called McCabe "one of our nation's foremost experts on environmental law and policy."

"She has extensive experience in working with state and national government officials on critical issues concerning air quality, climate change and children's environmental health," McRobbie said.

Calls ...

Continued from page 1
"We must not rest. It's our responsibility to come together, all Americans, to bring peace to that restless spirit," Biden said. "... That's our charge in the days ahead. That's the charge in the years ahead."

U.S. Sen.-elect Raphael Warnock, Ebenezer's pastor, appealed for unity following his victory in a runoff election Jan. 5.

"Let us stand together, let us work together," Warnock said, calling the COVID-19 pandemic a reminder that all

people are "tied together, as Dr. King said, in a single garment of destiny."

"Because we're dealing with a deadly airborne disease, my neighbor coughs and I'm imperiled by the cough of my neighbor," Warnock said. "That doesn't make my neighbor my enemy. That means that our destiny is tied together."

Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968, while supporting striking sanitation workers in Memphis, Tennessee. Had he lived, he would have turned 92 on his birthday last Friday.

Capsule Reports

Deer hit

A Portland woman drove into a deer about 7 a.m. Monday.

Kendra J. McLaughlin, 28, was driving west on Indiana 26 when a deer ran across the road. She hit the deer with her 2010 Jeep Wrangler, causing between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in damage.

Turning onto Tyson

A Dunkirk driver attempting to turn left collided with a Decatur man driving on Indiana 67 about 5:15 p.m. Monday.

Russell D. Moles, 73, Dunkirk, was driving south on the highway and attempted to turn left onto county road 200

West or Tyson Road. Neil D. Rhoades, 56, Decatur, who was driving his 2018 Nissan Altima north on the highway, crashed into Moles' 2005 Chevrolet Malibu. Both vehicles were towed from the scene, with damage estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. No injuries were reported.

Felony arrests

Continued from page 2

Battery

A Portland man was arrested Friday for alleged domestic battery.

Cody L.T. Bright, 30, 316 E. Main St. Apt. 2, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony. He bonded out of Jay County Jail for \$3,000.

Drug dealing

A Portland man was arrested Saturday for allegedly dealing methamphetamine.

Kenneth L. Ausland, 43, 607 E. North St., was preliminarily charged a Level 3 felony for the crime and a Level 6 felony for resisting an officer. He bonded out of Jay County Jail for \$53,000.

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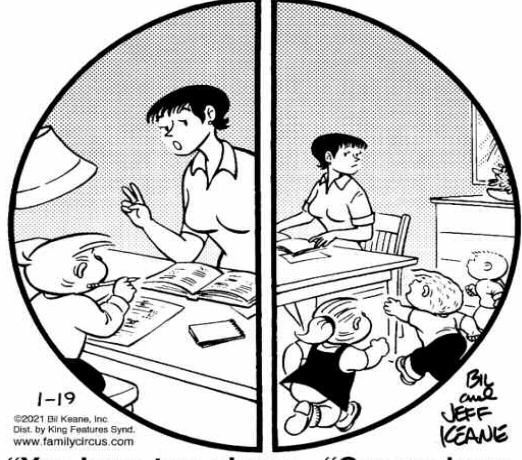
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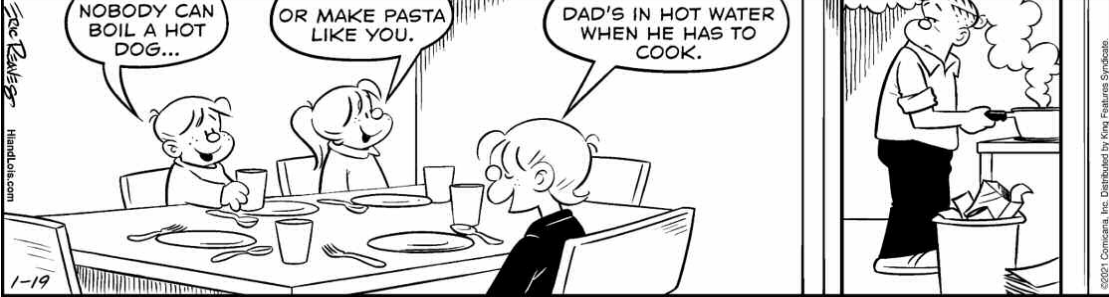
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Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-53 and letters in some cells.

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Sapphire's Reception Center, 1100 W Votaw St, Portland, IN Saturday, January 23, 2021 10:00 AM

Property Location: 447 N Charles Street, Portland. 3-bedroom, 3-bath, brick ranch-style home. H&R .22cal revolvers; Stevens 16ga; coins; silver jewelry; wristwatches.

Oak furniture; Victorian chairs/loveseat; curios; Marble-top end tables/coffee table; steins; miniatures & advertising items. 3 rocker-recliners; gr father clock; washer/dryer; roll-away toolbox; shop/hand/lawn/garden tools; kitchen appliances; handicap accessories. much more. Phil Hanlin Estate Shawver Auctioneering & Real Estate AC31800004 Visit www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com Auctioneer ID #4243 To See Pictures. Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN Saturday, January 23rd, 2021 10:00am Furniture; Stack-on 8 gun cabinet; Kirby; full-size bed; primitive chimney cupboard; Haier fridge; Amana washer/dryer; Frigidaire flat-top stove; Boyd's Bears; glass carboy; electric fireplace; buggy wheels; kitchen smalls; dressers; night stands; China; glassware; Corolle; fans; floor lamps; 3 deer mounts. 1994 Honda Goldwing; trailer; air-compressor; hand tools; saws; garden tools; much more. Klotz Family, Cavanaugh Family Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU1031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112

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Sports

Oh so Schwiet!



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School sophomore Renna Schwieterman puts up a layup during the second quarter of the Allen County Athletic Conference championship on Saturday at Stardome in Berne. Schwieterman had a career-high 30 points in leading the Patriots to the title with a 52-48 victory.

Jay sophomore Renna Schwieterman's fourth-quarter effort helps Patriots clinch ACAC championship

By CHRIS SCHANZ
The Commercial Review

BERNE — The Patriots had a rough go in the first half.

They left shooters open along the perimeter. They made silly mistakes offensively, making ill-advised passes and failing to execute plays.

But they were only down by a half dozen at intermission.

After a third-quarter surge, their standout did her thing.

Renna Schwieterman matched her jersey number with a career-high 30 points, scoring half of them in the final two periods and going 11-for-11 from the free-

throw line in the fourth quarter as she carried the Jay County High School girls basketball team to the Allen County Athletic Conference championship Saturday with a 52-48 victory over the Adams Central Jets at South Adams' Stardome.

"I'm just really happy and proud for the kids," said JCHS coach Kirk Comer, whose team



52



48

won its second title in three years and fifth since joining the conference seven years ago. "Anytime you can win a championship it's neat. It never gets old because every team is different. You want every team to experience winning a championship."

Jay County, which defeated Adams Central 46-41 during their Dec. 11 regular-season meeting, moved to 14-3 on the year while Adams Central fell to 11-8.

Schwieterman was later named Hilliard Gates Most Valuable Player, joining past Patriot MVPs Catherine Dunn (2015),

Abby Wendel (2016), Taylor Homan (2017) and Shelby Caldwell (2019) to win the award, although she is the first JCHS sophomore to receive the honor.

"It's huge," she said of her accolade. "It's a blessing, really. All thanks to my teammates and coaches."

Jay County made up the 25-19 deficit at half during the third quarter by outscoring Adams Central 16-9. It took the lead for good early in the fourth quarter on an Izzy Rodgers 3-pointer from the right wing on one of Schwieterman's five assists.

See **Clinch** page 7

Eight earn winning records

STRAUGHN — Eight wrestlers finished with winning records on Saturday as the Jay County High School B wrestling team went 4-1 at the Tri Super Duals.

The Patriots defeated the host Trojans 60-22 before edging Wapahani 43-42 on a tiebreaker. Jay County then defeated Centerville

Local roundup

(48-30) and Shenandoah (54-30) before a 52-18 loss to Daleville.

Willow Hardy (106 pounds) was the lone JCHS wrestler to go undefeated.

She recorded one pin and received four forfeits. Caleb Meadows and Ryan Herring were both 4-1, while Lita Chowning, Trey Nichols, Isaiah Riggs and Logan Kelley were all 3-2. Daniel Moore finished 3-1.

Maddy Rinker, Daidrick Retz and Ricky Nava were each 2-3, and Logan Zimmerman finished 1-3.

Hot start carries Tribe

WAPAKONETA, Ohio — A 16-point first quarter helped carry the Fort Recovery boys basketball team past Wapakoneta on Saturday, 47-29.

The Indians (7-6) raced out to a 16-4 edge at the end of the first quarter, then went on top 26-14 at halftime. Wapakoneta trimmed the margin to single digits, 32-23, at the end of the third, but the Indians pulled away in the final eight minutes.

Owen Jutte, Cale Rammel and Brian Bihn all scored 10 points for the Indians. Rammel hit a pair of 3-pointers, and Bihn did all of his damage during the first quarter.

Derek Jutte chipped in seven points, Regan Martin had six and Gavin Thobe scored four.

Girls win in second

FORT RECOVERY — The Fort Recovery girls basketball team overcame a narrow halftime deficit for a 57-47 victory on Saturday against the Crestview Knights.

The Indians (10-4) led 19-12 at the end of the first quarter before the Knights outscored them 16-8 in the second for a 28-27 advantage.

But Fort Recovery clamped down defensively in the third quarter, allowing just five points while leading 36-33 with one period to play.

See **Earn** page 7

Mets GM fired for explicit texts

By MIKE FITZPATRICK
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Mets general manager Jared Porter was fired Tuesday after sending graphic, uninvited text messages and images to a female reporter in 2016 when he was working for the Chicago Cubs in their front office.

ESPN reported late Monday night that Porter sent dozens of unanswered texts to the woman, including a picture of "an erect, naked penis." ESPN said it obtained a copy of the text history, and many of the messages and photos he sent were displayed in the report online.

About nine hours later, new Mets owner Steve Cohen posted on Twitter that Porter had been fired.

"We have terminated Jared Porter this morning," Cohen wrote Tuesday. "In my initial press conference I spoke about the importance of integrity and I meant it. There should be zero tolerance for this type of behavior."

About 30 minutes after that, the Mets released a statement from team president Sandy Alderson saying the move was effective immediately.

"Jared's actions, as reflected by events dis-

closed last night, failed to meet the Mets' standards for professionalism and personal conduct," Alderson said.

New York hired the 41-year-old Porter last month. He agreed to a four-year contract after spending the past four seasons with the Arizona Diamondbacks as senior vice president and assistant general manager.

In a statement Monday night addressing the ESPN report, Alderson said the Mets would "follow up" as they reviewed "the facts regarding this serious issue."

"I have spoken directly with Jared Porter regarding events that took place in 2016 of which we were made aware tonight for the first time. Jared has acknowledged to me his serious error in judgment, has taken responsibility for his conduct, has expressed remorse, and has previously apologized for his actions," Alderson said in that statement.

"The Mets take these matters seriously, expect that, the Mets take these professional and ethical behavior from all of our employees, and certainly do not condone the conduct described in (the ESPN) story."

See **Fired** page 7

Warriors rally past Lakers

By JOE REEDY
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors are starting to make a habit of fourth-quarter rallies against teams from Los Angeles.

Curry scored 26 points on Monday night as the Warriors rallied from a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit to defeat the Los Angeles Lakers 115-113.

"We kept our composure. The second unit was amazing both halves," Curry said. "We got some momentum in the second half to give us a chance and carry us down the stretch. It was similar to the Clippers game. We've done it twice now, but want to get leads early."

Golden State trailed the Clippers by 22 in

the third quarter on Jan. 8 before storming back for a 115-105 win. On Monday, the Lakers sprinted out to a 19-point lead in the first quarter and dominated the first 42 minutes.

LeBron James' 3-pointer gave the Lakers a 97-83 advantage early in the fourth before the Warriors battled back. They trailed 106-97 with 5:52 remaining before going on a 15-2 run that gave Golden State its first lead. Oubre had tied it at 108 with a driving layup and Draymond Green's layup with 2:40 remaining gave the Warriors their first lead of the night.

James had a chance to win it at the end, but missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer as the Lakers had their five-game winning streak snapped.

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