The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

School properties available

By RAY COONEYThe 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

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 Jeremy Gulley noted that Portschool 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

Jay Schools superintendent

land 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 Aubrie Schwieterman, Gabi Bilbrey, Molly Muhlenkamp 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

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 compassion 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 prerecorded 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

See Calls page 5

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 Febru-

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

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 refinancing include 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

See Meet page 2

Deaths

Keith Girton, 75, Portland **Donald Guntle**, 84, Port-

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 married on Aug. 12, 2003, to Billie Long who survives.

He was retired as a truck driver for Coca-Cola Bottling. He served in the National

Guard and was a member of Portland Eagles Lodge, Portland Minnich who sur-Elks Lodge, Portland Moose Lodge and American Legion.

Surviving are his wife Billie; from three sons; two daughters; one Portland Forge brother, Kenneth Girton of Winchester; several grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Because of COVID-19, there Catholic Church. will be no funeral services.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Memorials can be made to the American Legion or Jay County Humane Society.

Condolences may 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 County on Aug. 2, 1936, the son of Earl and Ethel

Marie (Landers) Guntle. He was married on May 28, 1955, to Eileen vives.

He was retired Teledyne and served with

the U.S. Army. He was a member Conception Immaculate

Surviving are his wife Eileen;

four sons, Rick Guntle (wife: away, Saturday, Dawn) of Portland, Mike Guntle of Fort Wayne, Steve Guntle his home in Port-(wife: Liz) of Selma and Greg Guntle (wife: Carla) of Brownsburg, 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 Conception 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 expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Billy Jobe

Feb. 18, 1938-Jan. 16, 2021

Jan. 16, 2021, at land.

He retired Teledyne from Portland Forge after 34 years. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army

and attended the Asbury United Methodist Church in Port-

Billy Jobe was born Feb.18, 1938, in Lilbourn, 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,

Seven grandchildren

Billy J. Jobe, age 82, passed be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. ary services.

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 services and burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery in Portland. 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 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 Visitation for Billy Jobe will from funeral homes or mortu-

CR almanac

Girton

| Wednesday 1/20 | Thursday 1/21 | Friday 1/22 | Saturday 1/23 | Sunday 1/24 |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | |
| 30/25 | 40/24 | 31/16 | 29/21 | 33/28 |
| Cooler with tempera- tures expect- ed to stay below freezing all day and night. Mostly sunny. | Warmest temperatures all week under mostly sunny skies with a west wind of about 15 mph. | Cooler with temperatures in the teens at night. Mostly cloudy during the day. | Cooler dur- ing the day but warmer at night under mostly cloudy skies. No snow project- ed. | Warmer under mostly cloudy skies with a 40% chance o snow at night |

Lotteries

Powerball

Saturday 14-20-39-65-67 Powerball: 3 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$730 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$850 million

Hoosier

Monday Daily Three: 4-6-2 Daily Four: 5-7-3-9 Quick Draw: 4-10-11-13- 32-39 59-60-64-69-70-77-79

Evening Daily Three: 9-7-7 Daily Four: 8-8-00-9 Quick Draw: 10-15-1617-18-24-26-32-33-36-37-48-52-61-66-68-73-74-78-80

Cash 5: 30-32-34-39-44 Estimated

Ohio

jackpot: Monday Midday Pick 3: 2-0-0

Pick 5: 5-4-9-9-3 Evening Pick 3: 1-6-2 Pick 4: 0-7-2-2 Pick 5: 7-1-7-7

\$371,000 Classic Lotto: 5-18-19-

\$339,500

Pick 4: 7-4-6-2

Rolling Cash 5: 5-12-19-

Estimated

20-29-31 Kicker: 5-9-3-0-9-9

Jackpot: \$3.4 million

The program guidelines have not yet been released,

but Diller and Staugler said they would share when

available.

Staugler noted per the ordi-

rates in the village have jumped from \$41.50 to \$44.

nance passed about four Greg Schmitz, Scott Pear income tax review board.

ke, Al Post and Cliff Wendel appointed Lori Koch to serve two years on the

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery

| Corn Wheat | 5.22 |
|------------------------|--------|
| POET Biore Portland | fining |
| Corn | 5.32 |

Feb. corn5.35

The Andersons Richland Township

| Michianu 10 | wiisiiip |
|-------------|----------|
| Corn | 5.20 |
| Feb. corn | 5.25 |
| Beans | 13.90 |
| Feb. beans | 13.90 |
| Wheat | 6.85 |
| Feb. wheat | 6.85 |

Central States

| Montpeller | |
|-------------|-------|
| Corn | 5.17 |
| Feb. corn | 5.19 |
| Beans | 13.87 |
| Feb. beans | 13.87 |
| Wheat | 6.75 |
| March wheat | 6.77 |

Sunrise St. Anthony

| - / / | |
|--------------|-------|
| Corn | 4.98 |
| Feb. corn | 5.00 |
| Beans | 13.62 |
| Feb. beans | 13.72 |
| Wheat | 6.60 |
| Feb. wheat | 6.60 |
| | |

Today in history

On Jan. 19, 1981, the United States and Iran signed an accord paving the way for the release of 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 saved," said the Rev. and King's Lynn in Eng-

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-Zion Lutheran Church in New Corydon was destroyed in a fire. "Not even a table leg was James Hundley.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today

5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council via Zoom.

Wednesday

4 p.m. — Portland Aviation Board, airport conference room, 661 W. county road 100 North.

Thursday

1 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

Properties Continued from page 1 It was converted into a new admin-

istrative 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

He added that, if sold, any funds could be put toward school corpora-

"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

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.

 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).

Meet ... Continued from page 1

While sharing updates,

Also, council members

more information becomes years ago, minimum water son, Erik Fiely, Luke Knap-

Felony arrests

Unlawful possession

Several Indiana residents were arrested this weekend on alleged charges of unlawfully possessing syringes.

Brian W. Lessing, 28, Anderson, was preliminarily charged three Level 6 felonies Friday for two counts of resisting law enforcement and unlawful possession of a syringe, and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. Lessing is homeless, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. He's being held in Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond.

Conception

North Reserve, Muncie, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony Saturday for unlawful possession of a syringe. He's being held in Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond. Stacey J. Penrod, 34, 248 E. Main

St., Redkey, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony Saturday for unlawful possession of a syringe. She was also preliminarily charged for possession of paraphernalia (Class A misdemeanor), possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs (Level 5 felony), possession of a controlled substance (Level 6 felony), posses-Jeremy M. Swoveland, 47, 3000 sion of marijuana (Class A misde-

meanor) and neglect of a dependent (Level 6 felony). She's being held at Jay County Jail on \$15,000 bond.

Failed to appear

A Montpelier woman was arrested Friday for failing to appear in court.

Elizabeth F. Corwin, 27, 444 W. Henderson St, was previously charged a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She's being held at Jay County Jail without bond.

See page 5

SERVICES

Thursday

Guntle, Donald: II a.m.,

Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut

Immaculate

St., Portland.

Friday

Jobe, Billy: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod

Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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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

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 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.

The Popcorn Board resides in was pregnant with my one and Ranging from smaller than a 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 Several lifetimes ago, when I Cave of west central New Mexico.

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 selfcontrol 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

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 Abby

Dear



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 13year-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

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

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 Indianadesignate 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 growpounds (227 kilograms) of popcorn every year, bringing jobs to the

"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 ing nearly 500 million on," he said.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Building across from the Will meet at 8 a.m. in the Community Calendar as Nazarene church, 249 E. east room of Richards space is available. To sub- Center St., Dunkirk. For Restaurant. All women are mit an item, email more information, call invited to attend. Includes news@thecr.com.

Today

THE LANDING — A 12step 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-

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

Amanda Price at (765) 283- activities and devotional

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 \mathbf{OF} JAY A BETTER LIFE - BRI- COUNTY LIBRARY — Will ANNA'S HOPE — A faith- meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORN-Fellowship ING BREAKFAST CLUB —

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 - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. 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-

Thursday

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each 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-

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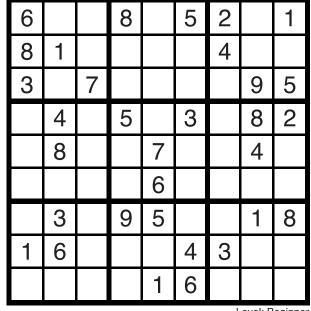
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Sudoku



Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

5 3 7 2 1 5 4 2 တ

Jesus is the only savior

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.

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

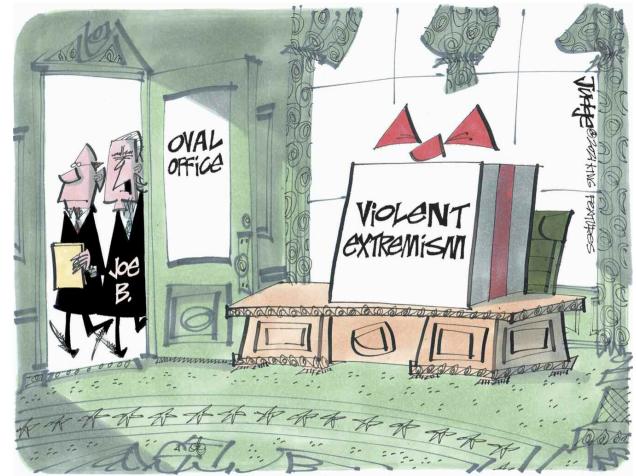
Letters to the Editor

supporters that showed up Jan. 6 did not come with the intent to cause violence (which led to innocent people dying 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**



"IT'S OUSTONARY FOR OUTGOING PROSIDENTS TO LEAVE THEIR SUCCESSORS A LETTER ... WHAT'S DONALD TRUNIPLEAVING ME?"

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 Abra-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 a more centrist audience, who can ers (and an easier path in Congress radio show on the Salem Network.

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

Hugh

Hewitt

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 ham Lincoln's first inaugural unprecedented moment. He can't address, delivered just before the 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 incoming president. What matters is 74 million of President Trump's vot- nist, hosts a nationally syndicated

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 Holi-

"Yet in my Walks it seems to me "That the Grace of God is in Cour-

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 colum-

Let light of truth shine in

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

As a United States veteran, 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 excre-

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

Letters to the Editor

the ideals I believed were true. I will, to my dying breath, fight to protect, Constitution.

to the lie of America's innocence.

just, equitable and free country for all its citizens.

dice of some. I am forever marrow, the will to promised. I also believe we can work together, toward that more perfect union.

newspaper banner reads: live in the light of knowledge and truth or in the darkness of lies and igno-

As we use to sing in Sunday school: "This little

from our enemies both foreign and domestic, our I won't, however, submit

noble but, unfortunately, lost in the pride and prejuan optimist and I truly believe it lies within our become what that vision

Let your light shine and vanquish the darkness.

I will do what I can to make America a more

Violence could happen here America's vision was **Herald Bulletin (Anderson)** Make no mistake. Ít could happen here. The pro-Trump insurrection Jan. 6 at the U.S. Capitol was a warning shot across

The Washington Post's "Democracy Dies in Darkness." We can choose to

light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine."

Michael Kinser

Hoosier **Editorial**

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, sub-

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

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 and moderate state Hoosier supporters of President Donald Trump, who won the state in stantiated threats to the months, most notably in November by a whopping state Capitol and other gov- Michigan, where armed 16 percentage points, are

men entered the Capitol in 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 opin-

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 jus-

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



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We welcome letters to the editor. Letters should be 700 words or fewer, signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and clarity. Email letters to news@thecr.com.

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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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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 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,

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.

more than a decade, and for the caring for their 3-year-old son past five years, he has taught music at Canterbury Woods Ele-



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 stu-dents 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 He has been a band teacher for staffers, his wife — who has been while Kohut is in Washington -

to continue instructing his band

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 and his fellow members of the teach," explained Kohut, who mentary School in the morning National Guard, he has managed grew up in Saginaw, Michigan. to put it on."

"My mom, who is a single mother, was a music teacher. That's why I

do what I do, because she was

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.

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 per-

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 out-

"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

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 par-ent 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 need-

ed, 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 rings through the to Joy" 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.

prof named to EPA

President-elect Joe Biden tion. is nominating an Indiana University law professor to be the second-in-command at the U.S. Environ-Protection mental

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-

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — ject to Senate confirma- cy and management posi-

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 air of Environmental Management, and she has held other environmental poli-

tions 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 quality, McRobbie said.

experience in working with state and national government officials on critical issues concerning climate change and children's environmental health,"

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 togeth-

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, 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

Dunkirk driver attempting to turn left collided with a Decatur man driving on Indiana 28, was driving west on 67 about 5:15 p.m. Mon-

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

Jay County Jail for \$53,000.

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



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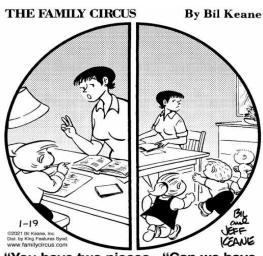
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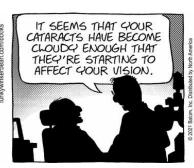






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90 SALE CALENDAR

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

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PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN Saturday, Janurary 23th, 2021

10:00am Furniture; Stack-on 8 gun cabinet; Kirby; fullsize 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; Corelle; fans; floor lamps; 3 deer mounts. 1994 Honda Goldwing; trailer; air-compressor; hand tools; saws; garden tools; much more. Klotz Family, Cavanaugh Family

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country.

Continued from page 8 The woman was not identified in the report. ESPN said she recently chose to come forward only on condition of anonymity because she is afraid of backlash in her home

ESPN said the woman was a foreign correspondent who had moved to the United States to cover Major League Baseball. She met Porter in a Yankee Stadium elevator in June 2016, and

she said they spoke briefly about international baseball and exchanged business cards. She told ESPN that was the only time they ever spoke.

After text exchanges that began casually, Porter started complimenting her looks, inviting her to meet him in different cities and asking why she was ignoring him, ESPN said.

After he sent her a lewd picture, the woman ignored more than 60 messages from Porter

before he sent the most vulgar photo, according to ESPN. The woman told ESPN she intentionally tried to avoid him at a couple of big league ballparks and the texts from Porter ultimately contributed to her decision to leave the journalism industry and return to her home country. Porter texted apologies to the

woman in 2016 after she saw the naked picture and wrote to him his messages were that "extremely inappropriate, very offensive, and getting out of line," ESPN reported.

ESPN said it contacted Porter on Monday evening, and he acknowledged texting with the woman. At first, he said he hadn't sent any pictures of himself, when informed but exchanges show he sent selfies and other pictures, he said "the more explicit ones are not of me. Those are like, kinda like images," joke-stock ESPN reported.

After asking whether the outlet intended to run a story, Porter requested more time before later declining further comment, ESPN said.

It's another embarrassing development for the Mets, who have energized fans by acquiring star shortstop Francisco Lindor and several other notable players since Cohen purchased the club from the Wilpon and Katz families for \$2.42 billion in early November.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Izzy Rodgers, right, a Jay County High School junior, closely defends Alivia Dalrymple during the second quarter of the Allen County Athletic Conference tournament championship on Saturday at Stardome in Berne. The Patriots won, 52-48, for the program's second ACAC title in three years and fifth in the last seven seasons.

Clinch

Continued from page 8 Rodgers' final basket of the night put Jay County on top, 35-34, and it started a run of 10 straight points the eventual champs.

Schwieterman began her fourth-quarter tear with a post move in the paint, and then added three more on a layup and the and-one free throw. She then dished to Madison Dirksen to complete the JCHS run.

Adams Central's Marispair of free throws to trim the margin to four points. The Jets went on a 10-4 run to pull within two, 46-44, but they were never able to even the score.

free throws in each of the half of her eight 3-point pared to 10-for-20 (50%) by second and third quarters, Schwieterman was perfect from the stripe in the fourth to keep the Jets at

"I think they showed great toughness," Comer said. "We're still not playing well offensively but we grinded it out, found a way win. Got enough turnovers, got enough easy baskets and got enough big baskets to get us through.

"Obviously Renna just sa Van De Weg stopped the put us on her back and led streak with a layup on a us. Everybody that played Sage Hammond assist, did a great job and we needthen Hammond made a ed everybody's contribution to get the champi-onship."

Adams Central built its lead in the first half thanks to some stellar outside shooting. Senior

attempts, and Alivia Dalhad another. rymple Dietsch had 14 points at halftime, but once the Patriots switched to a triangle-and-two defense, it took both Dietsch and Dalrymple out of the game. Aubrie Schwieterman, a senior, and freshmen Breanna Dirksen and Sophie Saxman had the task of shutting them down.

Dietsch didn't score again, and Dalrymple only made two shots from the stripe in the second half.

"I thought we'd done a great job on (Dietsch)," Comer said. "I thought the four each. girls that were guarding her had done a really good

just 8-of-21 (38.1%) from the After splitting a pair of McKenna Dietsch made field in the first half com- al champion.

the Jets, were almost 20 percentage points higher from the floor during the final two quarters. The Patriots ended the game 19for-40 (47.5%), and the Jets were 47.4% (18-of-38).

Jay County's fifth championship is the fourth-most in the 47-year history of tournament. Leo, which left the league following the 2014-15 season, has a record 15 championships. Heritage is second with 10, and last year's winner Woodlan is third with six. Past members Norwell and Garrett have

But this year's belongs to the Patriots, a season after being bounced in the tour-The Patriots, who shot nament quarterfinal for the first time by the eventu-

Box score

vs. Jay County Patriots

Allen County

tournament championship Girls varsity summary

| Jay County (14-3) | | | | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|-----|--|--|
| 1 | FG-FGA | FT-FTA | PTS | | |
| ASchwtrmn | 2-2 | 0-2 | 4 | | |
| Bilbrey | 0-0 | 0-0 | 0 | | |
| Rodgers | 2-7 | 0-0 | 6 | | |
| RSchwtrmn | 9-16 | 11-13 | 30 | | |
| MDirksen | 5-13 | 0-0 | 10 | | |
| SSaxman | 0-1 | 0-0 | 0 | | |
| BDirksen | 1-1 | 0-0 | 2 | | |
| Totals | 19-40 | 11-15 | 52 | | |
| | .475 | .733 | | | |

Adams Central (11-8)

Van De Weg 5-9 Dietsch 5-11 Hammond 5-8 2-2 0-0 Dalrymple Biberstine 0-0 0-0 Porter 0-0 0-0 McClure 0-0

Score by quarters: 14 5 13 20—52 14 11 9 14—48 Jay Co. ACHS

.474

Totals

3-point shooting: Jay County 3-12 (Rodgers 2-5, RSchwieterman 1-3, MDirksen 0-4). Adams Central 5-16 (Dietsch 4-9, Dalrymple 1-5, Black 0-1, Roe 0-1).

Rebounds: Jav County 19 (MDirksen 6, ASchwieterman 4, Rodgers 2, RSchwieterman 2, team 2, Bilbrey, SSaxman, BDirk sen). Adams Central 24 (Ham mond 7, team 7, Van De Weg 3, Dalrymple 3, Dietsch, Black Roe, McClure).

Assists: Jay County 9 (RSchwieterman 5, Bilbrey, MDirksen, SSaxman, BDirksen). Adams Central 8 (Dietsch 2, Hammond 2, Van De Weg, Dalrymple, Black

Blocks: Jay County 4 (MDirk-sen 4). Adams Central 0.

Personal fouls: Jay County 11 (RSchwieterman 4, ASchwieterman 3, MDirksen 2, BDirksen 2). Adams Central 13 (Van De Weg 3, Dietsch 3, Hammond 3, McClure 3, Dalrymple).

Turnovers: Jay County 13. Adams Central 16.

"It makes it feel so much better," said Aubrie Schwieterman, one of two seniors. "It makes it feel worth it. I feel if we didn't lose last year it would have been a whole different game.

"We went in knowing it was going to be a tough game.'

Continued from page 8 The Tribe was 13-of-17 from the free-throw line in the fourth quarter to preserve the lead.

Alli Vaughn scored 14 points to lead the Indians, who also got 13 from Kierra Wendel, 11 from Paige Fortkamp and 10 from Paige Guggenbiller.

Date changed

INDIANAPOLIS — The IHSAA announced Monday it has changed the date of the boys basketball state finals. "In order to provide flexi-

bility for scheduling the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament in Bankers Life Fieldhouse," the state finals will be played April 3, a week later than originally planned, the IHSAA said in a release.

Dates and locations for all other rounds of the state tournament unchanged. Sectional tournaments are scheduled for March 2 through 6, regional is March 13 and semi-state is March 20.

The IHSAA sectional tournament draw is slated for Feb. 21.

Jay sweeps Tigers

The Jay County Junior High School girls basketball teams swept the Yorktown Tigers on Saturday morning.

The eighth graders won 28-19, and the seventh grade team earned a 26-21 victory. Daisy Muhlenkamp led

the eighth grade team with 10 points, as Meredith Dirksen and Cassie Petro had eight points each. Jasmine Esparza chipped in two points.

Raylah Newton paced the seventh graders with 12 points. Alexis Sibray and Mya Kunkler scored seven

Patriots 2-0

DECATUR — Jav County's junior high wrestling team picked up a pair of wins on Saturday in a three-way meet at Bellmont.

The Patriots (4-0) beat Cowan 69-23 before topping the host Braves, 60-36.

AJ Heskett, Landon Blowers, Carter Barton, Vasin Ridgway, AJ Myers, Joaquin Johnson, Alan Ortiz and Jaylen McClain were each 2-0.

Grant Linville, Landon Garringer, Zander Toree, Dakota Chowning and Garrett Bennett were all 1-1.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today Jay County — Swimming at Muncie

Central - 6 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball vs. Wapahani - 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball vs. Adams Central - 6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Girls basketball

vs. South Adams - 6 p.m.; Swimming at Delta - 5:30 p.m. Eighth grade girls basketball vs. St. Henry - 5:30 p.m.

Jay County — Freshman boys bas-ketball at Richmond – 6 p.m.

Thursday

Jay County — Junior varsity wrestling vs. Bellmont – 5:30 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at South Adams – 5:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Adams Central - 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. St. Henry – 5:30 p.m.; Swimming

vs. Versailles at South Adams - 6

Friday

Jay County — Swimming hosts ACAC diving – 6 p.m.; Wrestling hosts ACAC Individual tournament - 6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at St. Henry - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday Jay County — Girls swimming hosts

ACAC championships - 9 a.m.; Gymnastics at Northwestern Invitational -11 a.m.; Boys swimming hosts ACAC

championships – 1 p.m.; Girls basket-ball at Southern Wells (varsity only) – 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Adams Central - 9 a.m. Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Fort Loramie - 6 p.m.

Monday Jay County - Girls basketball vs. high boys basketball ACAC tourna-ment TBA; Junior high girls basketball ACAC tournament TBA

Fort Recovery — Junior high boys basketball at Coldwater - 6 p.m.

Norwell (varsity only) - 7 p.m.; Junior

Jan. 26 Jay County - Swimming vs. Black

ford/Muncie Burris - 6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Eighth grade girls basketball vs. Coldwater - 5:30 p.m.

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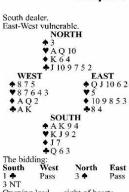
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Inspired defense



There are times when a player can see that if he defends normally, declarer will almost surely get home with the contract. On such occasions, a bit of inspiration may be needed to

a bit of inspiration may be needed to alter the course of events.

Consider today's deal, where South wound up in three notrump after North had made a "splinter bid" indicating support for clubs, gamegoing values and a singleton or void in spades. South appeared well-prepared for a spade lead despite North's announced shortness in the suit, so West tried leading his own long suit.

Declarer took the first trick with dummy's queen and played the club jack, taken by West with the king. It seemed obvious to West that if he led another heart or switched to a spade, South would come to at least nine tricks after conceding a second club. So West put on his thinking cap EAST ♦ Q J 10 6 2 ♥ 5 So West put on his thinking cap and came up with the only play that could give his side a chance — he switched to the queen of diamonds! South was so grateful to be handed a diamond trick that he automatically covered the queen with dummy's king, assuring that either the king or jack would become a trick. After the king held, declarer reverted to clubs. West won with the ace and, pursuing West won with the ace and, pursuing his plan, played the ace and another diamond. When the smoke cleared diamond. When the smoke cleared, South was down two.

For West's plan to succeed, declarer had to hold any of several two- or three-card diamond combinations. But the plan would not work unless declarer could be induced to play the king on the first diamond lead, unblocking the suit so that West could later reach his partner with his deuce of diamonds.

Shifting to the queen at trick three eight of hearts. ening lead

deuce of diamonds.

Shifting to the queen at trick three therefore served a dual purpose. It unblocked the diamonds so that they unblocked the diamonds so that they could later be run, and it gave an impulsive declarer — who could have ducked the queen without costing himself a trick — enough rope to hang himself.

Tomorrow: The manufacture of tricks.

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Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals R

Page 8 www.thecr.com **The Commercial Review**

Oh so Schwiet!

Jay County High School sophomore Renna Schwieterman puts up a layup during the second quarter of the Allen Athletic County Conference

championship 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 illadvised 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 careerhigh 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 tournament championship Saturday with a 52-48 victory over the Adams Central Jets at Adams' South

Stardome. "I'm just really happy and proud for the kids," said JCHS



48

won its second title in three Abby Wendel (2016), Taylor 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

Schwieterman was later named Hilliard Gates Most Valuable Player, joining past Patriot Schwieterman's five assists. coach Kirk Comer, whose team MVPs Catherine Dunn (2015),

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

See Clinch page 7



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Mets GM fired for explicit texts

By MIKE FITZPATRICK ΔP Rasehall 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 41year-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 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

Eight earn winning records

STRAUGHN Eight wrestlers finished with winning records on Saturday as the Jay County School 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 Local defeat-

ed Cen- roundup terville (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 Riggins 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 min-

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 quar-

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

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 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

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 snapped.

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

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