

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Seeking spirit



The Commercial Review/Jack Ronald

Jay County High School's Marching Patriots won their first Indiana State Fair Band Day championship on Aug. 12, 1992. Pictured accepting the state fair championship trophy, from left, are Lisa Butcher, Laurie Miller, Jeffery Jutte and Kim Cowan with Miss Indiana State Fair 1992. The JCHS band program is turning to its alumni for a fundraising drive in hopes of recouping some of the money it lost as a result of cancellations because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Jay County High School band program turns to its alumni to fill funding gap caused by COVID

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has limited income for many.

The Jay County High School band program is no different.

In an effort to bridge that gap, the group turned to its alumni.

Launched with a video on the "JC Marching Patriots" Facebook page and at jcmarchingpatriots.com, "The Spirit of '76" is a fundraising drive focused on those who have been involved in the school's band program over the decades.

"Like everybody else, when COVID hit March 13 and this place shut down, so did our revenue coming in," said JCHS band director Kelly Smeltzer. "The money we usually spend is not there. ...

"We're not at zero, but we knew if we didn't take action that this next year is going to be not good."

The challenge of raising funds for the band program is a daunting one, Smeltzer said, given that just last year it solicited \$100,000 for the purchase of new instruments. That's why, rather than



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School band director Kelly Smeltzer directs during the Christmas concert last month. Smeltzer estimates that because of missing out on its mattress sale, spring concert, dinner and auction, summer contest prize money and concession money the band program missed out on \$25,000 to \$30,000.

tapping local sources again, the program decided to seek help from alumni far and wide.

The format of the fundraiser is fairly simple. The band program will be releasing a series of

videos on its Facebook page and website over the next few months. Attached to each will be an invitation to alumni to donate via PayPal at jcmarchingpatriots.com/spiritof76.

Smeltzer and auxiliary director Emilie Garringer kicked off the fundraising effort with the first of those videos Jan. 13.

See Spirit page 5

Prescott bill is heading to House

Measure addresses timing of fines for oversized truck loads

By RILEY EUBANKS
The Commercial Review

INDIANAPOLIS — A bill being sent to the Indiana House of Representatives would shorten the statute of limitations for fines related to oversized loads.

House Bill 1150 authored by State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City), who represents Jay and Randolph counties and part of Delaware County, was amended and passed 11-0 out of the House Roads and Transportation Committee on Tuesday.

"We've had some problems in the civil penalty being issued to the owner/operator a year and a half or two years later," Prescott said while introducing the bill.

There's currently no limit to when the state's department of revenue can fine the owner of a truck or agriculture vehicle that is caught with an oversized load. The bill as amended would require that fine — which ranges from \$500 to \$1,000 — to be issued within a year of the department of revenue being notified of the violation by the Indiana State Police.

Two fines are issued whenever a truck or other vehicle is found to have an oversized load: one to the driver and one to the vehicle's owner.

However, such violations don't always result in a civil penalty for the owner. A warning is issued for the first offense, according to the department of revenue. It reports that 13,414 fines of this nature were issued between 2018 and 2020.

Prescott noted that often times whoever is driving an agriculture vehicle is also the owner. That isn't always the case with trucks or semis hauling loads, he said, which can create some paperwork delays for violations.

An amendment was added to the bill Tuesday that aims to close a loophole that allowed permitless drivers and owners to be exempt from an oversize load fine. Ross Teare from the department of revenue reported to the committee that 8,700 would-be-violators were exempt because of that loophole from 2018 to 2020.

See Bill page 2

More vaccine ordered, deliveries set to increase

By JONATHAN DREW and ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

Answering growing frustration over vaccine shortages, President Joe Biden announced that the U.S. is ramping up deliveries to hard-pressed states over the next three weeks and expects to provide enough doses to vaccinate 300 million Americans by the end of the summer or early fall.

Biden, calling the push a "wartime effort," said Tuesday the administration was working

to buy an additional 100 million doses of each of the two approved coronavirus vaccines. He acknowledged that states in recent weeks have been left guessing how much vaccine they will have from one week to the next.

Shortages have been so severe that some vaccination sites around the U.S. had to cancel tens of thousands of appointments with people seeking their first shot.

"This is unacceptable," Biden said. "Lives are at stake."

He promised a roughly 16% boost in deliveries to states over the next three weeks.

The administration said it plans to buy another 100 million doses each from drugmakers Pfizer and Moderna to ensure it has enough vaccine for the long term. Even more vaccine could be available if federal scientists approve a single-dose shot from Johnson & Johnson, which is expected to seek emergency authorization in the coming weeks.

The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention reported that the government plans to make about 10.1 million first and second doses available next week, up from this week's allotment of 8.6 million. The figures represent doses of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. It was not immediately clear how long the surge of doses could be sustained.

Governors and top health officials have been increasingly raising the alarm about inadequate supplies and the need for earlier and more reliable estimates of

how much vaccine is on the way so that they can plan.

Biden's team held its first virus-related call with the nation's governors on Tuesday and pledged to provide states with firm vaccine allocations three weeks ahead of delivery.

Biden's announcement came a day after he grew more bullish about exceeding his vaccine pledge to deliver 100 million injections in his first 100 days in office.

See Vaccine page 5

Deaths

Mary Jane Osborn, 85, Hartford City
Richard Berry, 63, rural Pennville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 34 degrees Tuesday. The low was 26.
Tonight's low will dip into the teens. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with a high of 29.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Need to fill out a birth announcement, engagement or wedding form to have your special event announced in the newspaper? They're now available electronically. Just go to thecr.com, hover over "Forms" and select the form you'd like to fill out.

Coming up

Thursday — An update on the ongoing coronavirus pandemic in Jay County.

Saturday — Coverage of Friday's JCHS boys basketball game against Bluffton.



Obituaries

Mary Jane Osborn

Oct. 19, 1935-Jan. 25, 2021
Mary Jane Osborn, 85, passed away on Monday, Jan. 25, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.

She was born on Oct. 19, 1935, to Edgar Lee Nuckols and Martha (Mull) Nuckols. Her parents preceded her in death.

She married Myron Dale Osborn on Nov. 15, 1952, in Portland.

Mary Jane owned and operated Mary Jane's Hair Salon until her retirement. Her shop was always full of laughter and a fun place for friends to gather. She adored her family and her greatest joy in life was having her

family and spending time with them.

She was a member of Grace United Methodist Church and Elks Lady Auxiliary.

Mary Jane will be missed by her husband, Myron Dale Osborn of Hartford City; children Doug (wife: Teri) Osborn of Hartford City, Allen (wife: Celina) Osborn of Hartford City, Teresa (husband: Bill) Aspy of Hartford City, Connie (husband: Don) Sones of Hartford City and Gregg (wife: Ellen) Osborn of Fort Wayne; grandchildren, Danelle (husband: Henry)



Osborn

French, Dustin Osborn, Sydney (husband: Jeff) Walter, Whitney (husband: Adam) Camp, Lyndsey Ahern, Beth (husband: Bob) King, Jamie (husband: John) Collins, Katie Aspy, Kyle (wife: Ashli) Aspy, Jessie (husband: Matt) Elsbury, Brooke Myers, Adam (wife: Miranda) Osborn, Emily Osborn and Hannah (husband: Logan) Hoffman; 15 great-grandchildren; sister-in-law Evie Snyder of Florida; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her sisters Shirley Franks and Virgie Fitzpatrick.

Visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, 2021, at Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St., Hartford City.

Funeral service and burial will be private.

Memorials may be made to Blackford County Community Foundation-Cancer Fund, P.O. Box 327, Hartford City, IN 47348.

Because of COVID-19, we want to make families and visitors our utmost priority. We ask that rules and regulations according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention be followed while in our facility. We ask that you practice social distancing and we have hand sanitizer available. Masks are required at the funeral home. We would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience.

Please utilize our website at keplingerfuneralhome.com or

our Keplinger Funeral Home Facebook Page to express condolences.

Richard A. Berry, rural Pennville, Sept. 19, 1957-Dec. 29, 2020. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Briar Patch in Pennville on Saturday, Jan. 30, 2021, from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Thursday 1/28	Friday 1/29	Saturday 1/30	Sunday 1/31	Monday 2/1
28/17	30/19	34/29	35/26	31/21
Cooler with no snow currently projected. Mostly sunny, north-west wind of 5 to 10 mph.	Warmer under sunny skies with a low staying mostly out of the teens. Below freezing all day.	Warmer with a 30% chance of snow during the day with increasing chances late. Mostly cloudy.	50% chance of snow during the day turning into a rain-snow mix later. Snow at night.	Cooler under mostly cloudy skies with no snow currently projected.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Daily Four: 2-6-00-3 Quick Draw: 2-9-10-16-17-22-23-28-29-45-46-48-52-54-59-66-71-73-75-79 Cash 5: 23-27-33-35-40 Estimated jackpot: \$520,000
Mega Millions 29-49-56-66-67 Mega Ball: 24 Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$25 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 6-8-7 Pick 4: 9-7-9-3 Pick 5: 3-0-9-8-5 Evening Pick 3: 9-3-8 Pick 4: 9-2-3-3 Pick 5: 5-9-1-7-6 Rolling Cash: 3-11-12-35-37 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 6-1-1 Daily Four: 1-1-1-2 Quick Draw: 3-6-9-20-21-22-25-27-32-34-37-42-48-49-50-54-55-57-59-70 Evening Daily Three: 1-8-00	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.45 Wheat6.46	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.30 Feb. corn5.32 Beans13.80 Feb. beans13.80 Wheat 6.61 March wheat 6.63
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.53 Feb. corn5.53	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.12 Feb. corn5.12 Beans13.59 Feb. beans13.64 Wheat6.45 Feb. wheat6.45
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.32 Feb. corn5.37 Beans13.82 Feb. beans13.82 Wheat 6.70 Feb. wheat 6.70	

Today in history

On Jan. 27, 1756, composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born in Salzburg, Austria.

In 1880, Thomas Edison received a patent for his electric incandescent lamp.

In 1944, during World War II, the Soviet Union announced the complete end of the deadly German siege of Leningrad, which had lasted for more than two years.

In 1945, during World War II, Soviet troops liberated the Nazi concentration camps Auschwitz and Birkenau in Poland.

In 1967, astronauts Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White and Roger B. Chaffee died in a flash fire during a test aboard their Apollo spacecraft.

In 1971, fire destroyed a home near New Pittsburg. The Saratoga and Union City, Ohio, fire departments were called to put out the fire.

In 1972, "Queen of Gospel" Mahalia Jackson, 60, died in Evergreen Park, Ill.

In 1981, President Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy, greeted the 52 former American hostages released by Iran at the White House.

In 2010, Apple CEO Steve Jobs unveiled the iPad tablet computer during a presentation in San Francisco.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Tuesday 7 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.
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Photo provided

Pet of the week

Layla, a 3-year-old spayed female, is available for adoption from Midwest Pet Refuge in Portland. The fee is \$35. Applications for adoption are available at midwestpetrefuge.com.

Felony arrests

Possession
A rural Pennville resident was arrested Tuesday for alleged drug possession. Curtis W. Mock, 48, 8179 W. 550 North, was preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for unlawful possession of a syringe and possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs. He was also preliminarily charged with a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. Mock is being held in Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.

Capsule Reports

Turning crash
Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Geneva driver tried to make a left turn in Portland and crashed into a northbound driver Jan. 20. Samantha S. Wilson, 32, was driving south on Meridian Street before coming to the intersection with Main Street. Wilson told Portland police she turned east onto Main Street and did not see the northbound 2020 Volvo XC9 driven by Saraona S. Fullenkamp, 68. Wilson's 2008 Ford Edge crashed into Fullenkamp's Volvo, and both vehicles were later towed.

Icy roads
Two Portland residents lost control of their vehicles after driving across patches of ice Tuesday morning. Chad A. Iliff, 48, was driving west on county road 200 South about 8:30 a.m. The icy road caused him to lose control of his 2006 Hyundai Tiburon, he said, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. His vehicle drove into a ditch and rolled on its top. It was later towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Paula M. Patterson, 52, was driving east on Lincoln Street about 8:50 a.m. when she turned right into the Superior Auto parking lot at 1450 N. Meridian St., Portland. Her 2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer drove over an icy patch, causing Patterson to lose control of the vehicle and crash into the building. Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Jay County Sheriff's Department
is now taking applications for
RESERVE DEPUTY
(may not be paid county employee)

Applications may be picked up at the
Jay County Sheriff's Department
224 W. Water St., Portland. E.O.E.

Swiss Village
Now Seeking:
Assistant Director of Nursing

The Assistant Director of Nursing at Swiss Village will be responsible for quality of care standards, providing support and direction to the nursing staff in meeting regulatory requirements, developing new programs, and providing orientation and training to the nursing staff. This position is also responsible for data collection for quality measures and reporting.

This position requires an active Indiana RN license and an ASN or BSN degree. Seeking candidates with flexible schedules and who will be available for on-call coverage. Must possess skills necessary to lead and direct staff in coordination with nursing leadership. Must also possess strong teamwork skills.

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org or send Resume to:
Taylor Lehman, VP of Human Resources
Swiss Village, 1350 W. Main St. Berne, IN 46711
Or email: careers@swissvillage.org
Application Deadline: Friday, February 5, 2021

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FR native gets scholarship

A college student from Fort Recovery recently received an endowed scholarship.

Lauren Bruns was awarded the Emerson D. and Laura E. Pelton Scholarship for the 2020-2021 academic year at the University of Findlay.

Recipients of the scholarship are awarded based on "excellent academic credentials" and financial need.

Murder rehashed

The murder of Garnett Ginn of Portland has been unsolved for 71 years.

A new look at the case is scheduled for next month.

Mike Medler, a Portland resi-

Taking Note

dent and retired Indiana State Police officer and director of the Indianapolis — Marion Forensic Crime Lab, will discuss the case as part of John Jay Center for Learning's Senior Learning series. The discussion will be held via Facebook Live at 1 p.m. Feb. 4.

Ginn, a Portland High School teacher, was found dead in her garage in 1950.

Beatles art in Blackford

You won't need a "Ticket to Ride" into Blackford County to see some John Lennon art for free.

A new exhibit at the Blackford County Arts Center titled "Only Imagine" will feature art from the famed Beatles guitarist and Hartford City native John Knox daily until Feb. 18.

The original art from Lennon were donated to the center by David Hodges.

The Blackford County Arts center located at 107 W. Washington St., Hartford City, is open from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday except Tuesdays, when it is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Unusual silence fills the night

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. Poet Laureate

This week's column is by Ladan Osman, who is originally from Somalia but who now lives in Chicago.

I like "Tonight" for the way it looks with clear eyes at one of the rough edges of American life, then greets us with a

American Life in Poetry

hopeful wave. Osman was born in Somalia. This poem dates back to 2010.

Tonight

Tonight is a drunk man,
his dirty shirt.

There is no couple chatting by the recycling bins,
offering to help me unload my plastics.

There is not even the black and white cat
that balances elegantly on the lip of the dumpster.

There is only the smell of sour breath. Sweat on the
collar of my shirt.

A water bottle rolling under a car.

Me in my too-small pajama pants stacking juice
jugs on neighbors' juice jugs.

I look to see if there is someone drinking on their
balcony.

I tell myself I will wave.

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Drunk episode created discomfort

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been close friends with a woman named "Louise" for five years. Recently, we were all hanging out, and Louise got very drunk and tried to massage lotion into my husband's hands. She also hugged him and wouldn't let go, although he put his hands at his side and his whole body stiffened.

My husband has expressed to me that these situations made him very uncomfortable, and they do the same to me. We talked about letting Louise know, but he felt it would only make her feel awkward around us.

It has been a month, and I can't seem to let it go. I don't want to text her, and I'm finding excuses to avoid her. Should I continue trying to let this go or is a conversation in order? — TAKEN ABACK IN NEW YORK

DEAR TAKEN ABACK: If you "let it go," it will probably happen again and the friendship will be over. A conversation with Louise is overdue. She needs to know she must be more careful about her drinking, because the last time she became very drunk, she embarrassed not only your husband, but also you.

DEAR ABBY: I am childless, but I have a niece I've given lots of money to over the years. She's in her mid-40s with a young child and a husband who has a low-paying job.

Although she has several degrees,

she has worked mostly as a waitress. They live in a tiny apartment and during these rough times, I have been paying their rent. She rarely acknowledges it. I have never discussed it with her parents, and I have no idea how much they have (or have not) helped her.

I'm conflicted about helping her/they because this is such a tough time. I can't see how they're going to make their lives better without help. I'm wondering if you have some advice on how I can best assist them or if I should stop. — LOSING FAITH IN COLORADO

DEAR LOSING FAITH: You haven't spoken to your niece's parents about what you have been doing. Why not? If you do, it may give you a clearer picture of her situation. I wish you had been more forthcoming about why she isn't using any of the college degrees she has earned. If her parents are helping her, you may need to be doing less.

Your niece should research to

find out whether government assistance is available. If it isn't, and you can afford it, consider continuing the financial assistance until the COVID situation is under control. Then your niece and her husband can get back on their feet, and you can stop being treated like an ATM.

DEAR ABBY: I have a male best friend I adore. When I tell other men about my bestie, they feel intimidated because he has a key to my apartment. We are not dating; we just have sex sometimes, and everyone that I try to be with knows about him. Must I give up on my bestie to be with the man I love even though Bestie and I promised each other that we will never break our bond for anyone? — COMPLICATED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR COMPLICATED: If you hadn't been having sex sometimes with your bestie, the "man you love" might have been able to accept him. The answer to your question is yes, you WILL have to make a choice. Now, the question I have for you is, which man do you think is the keeper?

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

Dear Abby



Community Calendar

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

Today
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 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.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

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 - BRI-ANNA'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.

Saturday
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. upstairs at True Value Hardware, Meridian Street, Portland. For more information, call (260) 729-2532.

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

BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER — Walking from 9 to 10 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

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

WEST JAY COMMUNITY CENTER GROUP — Doors open at 10:30 a.m. Bingo will begin at 11 a.m. Euchre begins at 1 p.m. There is a \$1 donation for center's expenses. For more information, call (765) 768-1544.

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

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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.

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Year may be tough for journalists

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

And then there were two. Two of my friends and colleagues are now imprisoned in the last dictatorship in Europe, Alexander Lukashenka's Belarus.

Yulia Slutskaia and her staff at Belarus Press Club have now been categorized as "political prisoners" by the human rights group Viasna.

The official charge involves the tax laws, but that's a common ploy for authoritarian governments trying to shut down dissent. Any non-governmental organization that gets a nickel of financial support from the U.S. or a fraction of a Euro from the EU is a likely target for charges of tax law violations.

Yulia was founder of Press Club. Since 2011, it has been a source of training for Belarusian reporters. It also brought

Back in the Saddle



in speakers — often from the west — for lectures and press conferences. On a very basic level, it has served as a gathering place for reporters and editors to support one another in the face of 26 years of Lukashenka rule.

She was arrested a few days before Christmas.

When I met Yulia in 2005, she was managing editor of Komсомolskaya Pravda's Belarus edition. I did some training work with her staff and was honored to have dinner in the Slutskaia apartment in Minsk with Yulia,

her husband, her son Peter, and our colleague Galina.

Today, she is — I'm guessing — about 55. She's a grandmother. And she'll be in the slammer until at least Feb. 22, probably longer. If she doesn't contract COVID-19 while incarcerated, it will be a miracle.

Now she is joined in Akrestsina Detention Center by Andrei Aliaksandrau.

Andrei is about 42 now, but he was in his 20s when we met in Warsaw, Poland.

He was one of about 20 Belarusian journalists who made the trip to Warsaw to take part in a seminar by the International Center for Journalists.

Why Poland? Because the Lukashenka government would not allow that sort of professional training for journalists in Belarus.

Bob Tinsley of the ICFJ and I

conducted a week-long seminar, and Andrei was an energetic participant.

At its conclusion, I was able to take the night train from Warsaw to Minsk with the seminar participants so I could do follow up visits in cooperation with the Belarusian Association of Journalists.

One of my first stops on that road trip was in Novopolotsk, where Andrei was working as a section editor of a small, struggling paper.

What did we talk about? Self-sufficiency. Independence. Government pressure. Transparency. Objectivity. Fact-based reporting. Separating news from opinion. Making sure the reader knows what's reportage and what is advertising.

In other words, the usual.

And it was during one of our many conversations that Andrei gave me the title for a

report I would later draft for the ICFJ.

"Putting out a newspaper in Belarus," he said, "is like playing football in a minefield. It's very interesting but hard on the nerves."

He went on to earn a master's in media management from the University of Westminster in London, serve as deputy chairman of the Belarusian Association of Journalists and serve three years as deputy director of BelaPAN news agency.

Today, he is considered a suspect under Article 342 of the Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova facing a charge of "Organization and preparation of actions that grossly violate public order, or active participation in them."

This year has just started, but already it looks like it's going to be a long year for international journalism.

Help those who need it the most

The Washington Post

Much of the financial burden of dealing with the coronavirus has fallen on state and local governments, with significant aid from Washington to cover unbudgeted direct, disease-related costs — but no general aid to offset revenue losses.

There have been about 1 million public-sector layoffs, concentrated in education, which also reflects school closings. Throughout the election year of 2020, Republicans objected to general aid as a "blue state bailout" and used that slogan to raise campaign funds. This divisive canard ignored the fact that most states had been building reserves prior to the pandemic but lost tax revenue due not to mismanagement but an overwhelming health and economic shock that struck red and blue states alike. The hardest hit included those reliant on tourism (red Florida), oil production (red Texas) or both (red Louisiana).

President Joe Biden's call for \$350 billion for state and local governments thus comports with his call for national unity. There are, however, legitimate issues with the proposal, in light of two realities: The first is precisely the widely varying fortunes of the states, whose average revenue loss was 3.3% between March and November of 2020, compared with the same period in 2019, according to data provided to us by the Urban Institute. (The states' revenues through June are projected to fall 10.8% short of pre-pandemic plans, according to a December report by the National Association of State Budget Officers.) Eighteen states' revenues are either flat or up; seven lost 2% or less. After updating for revenue through December, California, by far the most populous state, reported a flood of cash from wealthy taxpayers so large that it now has a \$34 billion surplus, \$22 billion of which will be placed in reserves.

As these admittedly sketchy numbers imply, the second reality is that state revenue loss, though significant, has been smaller than feared in the

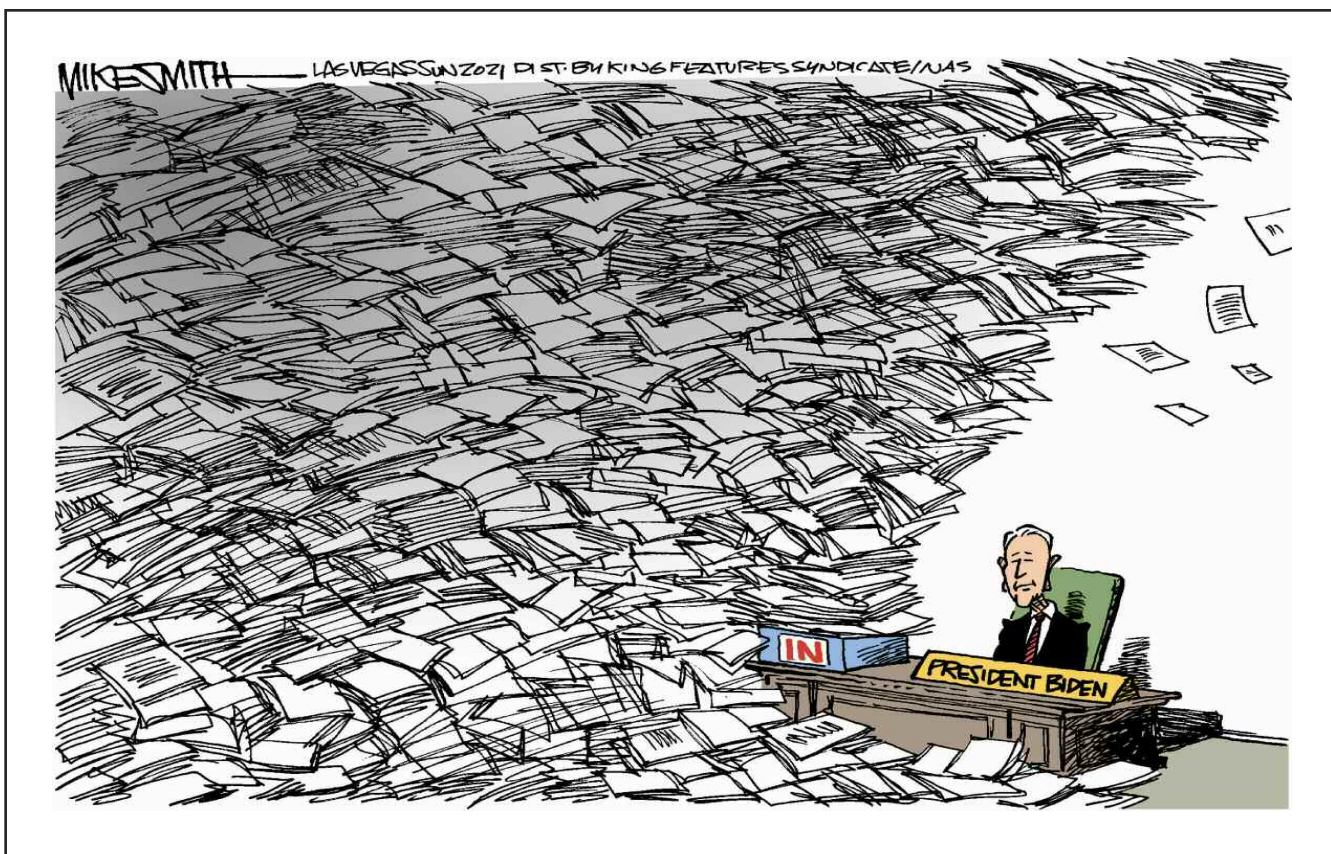
Guest Editorial

Eighteen states' revenues are either flat or up; seven lost 2% or less.

early days of the pandemic. One reason is that lower-paid workers who generally do not pay income taxes bore the brunt of layoffs, while upper-income citizens kept their paychecks and reaped capital gains in an unexpectedly booming stock market.

Congress should account for these facts, both in determining the ultimate size of the aid package and in establishing a formula for distributing it. Past state and local aid tied to pandemic needs went out in \$1.25 billion minimum chunks to each state, with the balance divvied up according to state population. Now we have better information about the various states' true needs; legislation can and should target aid where it's most needed, based on states' coronavirus caseloads and unemployment rates — and their revenue-raising performance. Lawmakers should endeavor as well to guarantee that more funds reach smaller localities; previous pandemic-related legislation only set aside a share of state dollars for cities and counties encompassing a half-million in population or more. The District should get the same share as it would if it were a state.

If Republicans and Democrats want to unite the country and put red-state/blue-state hostility behind them, devising a sufficient, realistically targeted, state and local aid package would be a very good place to start.



State can improve teacher pay

By MARK BENNETT

Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)

Indiana's elected officials often boast that the state's fiscal ratings and business-friendly environment are envied by other states.

That's probably so.

For many average Hoosiers, especially those living far beyond Indianapolis' affluent rim counties, those boasts aren't so relevant, though. It's not as easy to see tangible evidence of the touted economic vitality where they live. A more meaningful sign of a thriving Indiana economy would be strong, well-funded public schools in their communities. The cornerstones of a healthy local school district are its teachers. And, it takes competitive pay to keep talented teachers in those classrooms.

Indiana would really distinguish itself if state leaders bragged about Hoosier teachers' attractive pay scale.

That's not realistic, right now. In a Tribune-Star interview earlier this month, Gov. Eric Holcomb restated his goal of lifting Hoosier teachers' average salaries to \$60,000 a year and, perhaps most importantly, lifting starting salaries to \$40,000. "I'm passionate about this topic," he said. "I just think the facts are the facts."

The governor's own Next Level Teacher Compensation Commission's report, released last month nearly two years after he formed the panel, concluded it would require an additional \$600 million investment annually to reach the \$60,000 average. That would be a big change. In 2019, a Rockefeller Institute report ranked Indiana teachers last in the nation for salary growth since 2002. Indiana teachers averaged a \$51,000 annual salary in 2019.

"What is certain, what is factual is, we have fallen behind over the years," Holcomb said. "The Teachers Compensation report lays it all out."

The commission compiled 37 ideas for the state and local governments to

cut costs, increase revenue and, thus, put that toward teacher pay raises.

Those suggestions include raising state income taxes, a statewide referendum, per-parcel property fees or another funding source, CNHI reported last month.

Many cost-reduction policies are already in place in some districts, former state superintendent of public instruction Jennifer McCormick said in a statement last month.

Now, the Indiana General Assembly is considering Holcomb's recommendations on education funding. Those include a \$377-million increase in K-through-12 funding for the next two years, bumps of 2% the first year and 1% the next. A \$400-million down payment on the teacher pension fund debt also could theoretically free up local school districts to increase teachers' pay.

"I'm adamant that we need to make progress this session, and that we're in a position to do that," Holcomb said of education funding in general, and teacher pay increases specifically. "And, I'll be looking for help along the way."

When asked if he thought his own Republican Party's legislators — who dominate the General Assembly — also want to see teachers earn an average of \$60,000, Holcomb said, "I do." He cited the need to ensure more school funding "gets into teachers' paychecks," and pointed out that contracts are locally bargained.

Teachers groups want more direct funding from the state legislature for teachers salaries right away. Otherwise, many gifted young teachers

may leave the profession for more lucrative jobs once the pandemic eases and the economy revives.

McCormick also called on the Legislature to step up. "As we enter the 2021 Indiana General Assembly legislative session, Hoosier educators look forward to the additional state funding and state-level policy actions necessary in order for teacher compensation to truly move forward," she said in her statement last month.

Those teacher advocates aren't alone.

Fifty-five percent of Hoosiers believe teacher pay should be increased, and that the General Assembly should be responsible for providing the funding, according to the 2020 Hoosier Survey, an annual poll of residents on prime issues, conducted by Ball State University's Bowen Center for Public Affairs. Only 20% of folks responding thought local school districts should use their existing funds to cover teacher pay raises.

The survey was conducted in November. So, the 600 respondents also were obviously aware that there's a COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic going on. Heaven knows that teachers are aware of it. They've dealt with shifting schedules, and toggling between in-person and remote learning — which they've learned on the fly, along with kids and families — through COVID-19.

In his State of the State address this week, Holcomb said Indiana's "foundation has held strong" through the pandemic.

"I don't know how many other states in America have a Triple-A credit rating and are expected to finish the year with over \$2 billion in reserves, and that experienced an all-time record of new job commitments last year during a global pandemic, like Indiana did," Holcomb said Tuesday, "but it can't be many."

It would seem, then, that Indiana is capable of climbing out of the Midwest's cellar for teacher pay, too.

Mark Bennett



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In review

Ruled

GOSHEN — The December deaths of a northern Indiana man and his two teenager daughters found fatally shot in a home have been ruled a murder-suicide, prosecutors said.

Evidence showed that Jeffrey Marvin, 47, fatally shot his daughters — Lexis, 18, and Haley, 15 — and then himself several days before their bodies were found Dec. 18 in an Elkhart County home.

Elkhart County officers were dispatched to the home, located between Elkhart and Goshen, on Dec. 18 for a welfare check after no one had heard from Marvin or his daughters for several days.

A formal investigation conducted by the Elkhart County Homicide Unit determined that Marvin “had a motive, and did kill his two daughters” before he then took his own life.

Destroys

FULTONDALE, Ala. — A terrifying nighttime tornado that blasted through suburban Birmingham, trapping entire families in the remnants of shattered homes and killing a teenager sheltering in his basement, left a trail of destruction Tuesday that stunned even longtime residents used to Alabama’s violent weather.

Tim Herring, who survived the twister by huddling in a bathtub with wife Patti Herring as roaring winds ripped off the roof of their house and splintered walls, had followed weather forecasts during the day and didn’t expect the worst until it happened late Monday.

“I’ve lived here 64 years. I wasn’t too worried,” he said. Herring added: “I’ve helped folks after tornadoes. This time, it’s us.”

Erupted

YOGYAKARTA, Indonesia — Indonesia’s most active volcano erupted today with a river of lava and searing gas clouds flowing nearly 10,000 feet down its slopes. No casualties were reported.

The sounds of the eruption could be heard 30 kilometers (18 miles) away, officials said. It was Mount Merapi’s biggest lava flow since authorities raised its danger level in November, said Hanik Humaida, the head of Yogyakarta’s Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation Center.

She said the volcano’s lava dome is growing rapidly, causing hot lava and gas clouds to flow down its slopes.

—Associated Press

Russia OKs treaty extension

By **VLADIMIR ISACHENKOV**
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian lawmakers today quickly approved the extension of the last remaining nuclear Russia-U.S. arms control treaty, a fast-track action that comes just days before it’s due to expire.

Both houses of parliament voted unanimously to extend the New START treaty for five years, a day after a phone call between U.S. President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin. The Kremlin said they agreed to complete the necessary extension procedures in the next few days.

Speaking via video link to the World Economic Forum’s virtual

meeting, Putin hailed the decision to extend the treaty as “a step in the right direction,” but warned of rising global rivalries and threats of new conflicts.

The pact’s extension doesn’t require congressional approval in the U.S., but Russian lawmakers must ratify the move and Putin has to sign the relevant bill into law.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told lawmakers that the extension will be validated by exchanging diplomatic notes once all the procedures are completed.

The upper house speaker, Valentina Matvienko, said after the vote that the decision to extend the pact shows that Russia and the U.S.

can reach agreements on major issues despite the tensions between them.

New START expires on Feb. 5. After taking office last week, Biden proposed extending the treaty for five years, and the Kremlin quickly welcomed the offer.

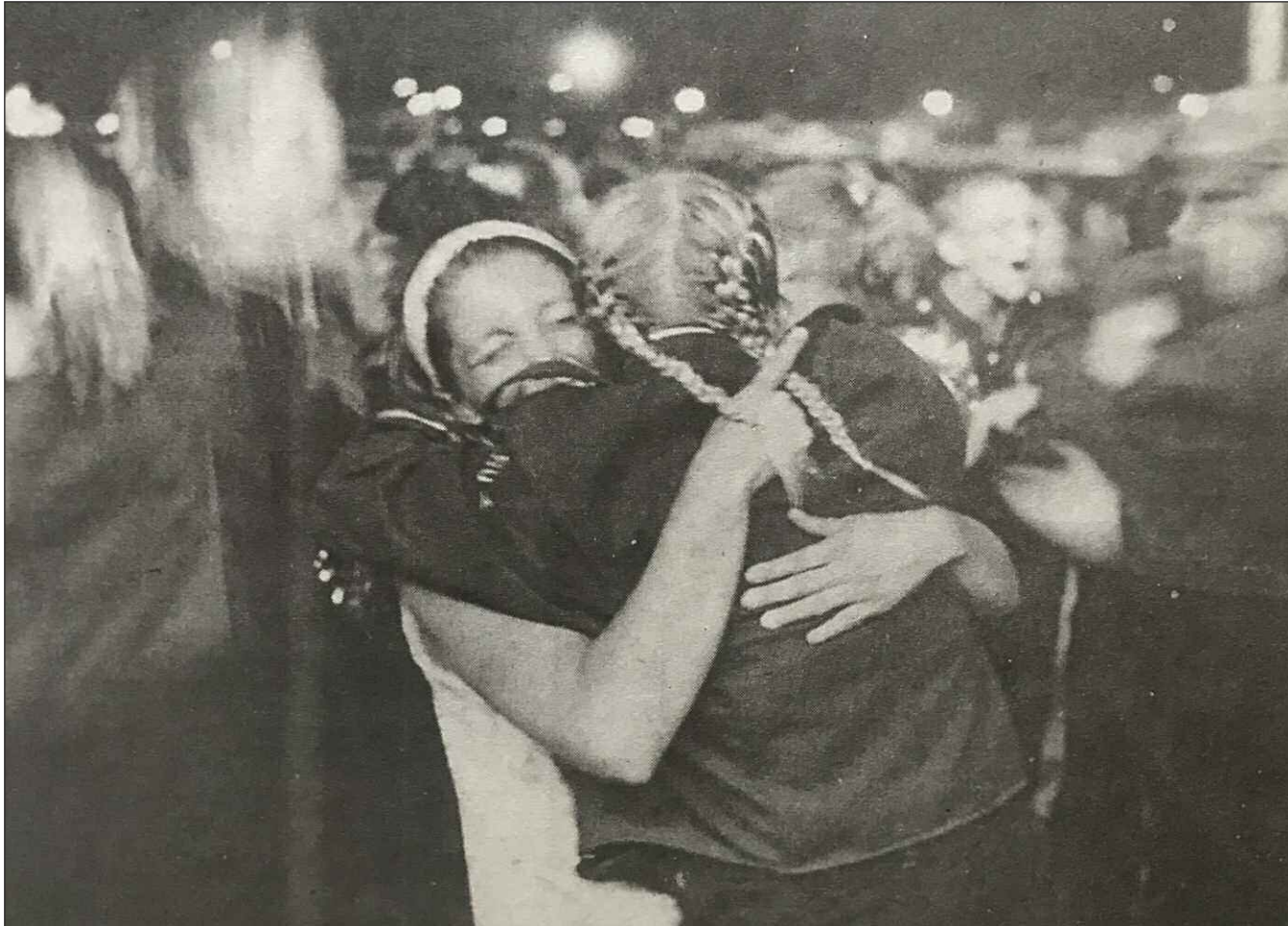
The treaty, signed in 2010 by President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, limits each country to no more than 1,550 deployed nuclear warheads and 700 deployed missiles and bombers, and envisages sweeping on-site inspections to verify compliance.

Biden indicated during the campaign that he favored the preserva-

tion of the New START treaty, which was negotiated during his tenure as U.S. vice president.

Russia has long proposed prolonging the pact without any conditions or changes, but the Trump administration waited until last year to start talks and made the extension contingent on a set of demands. The talks stalled, and months of bargaining have failed to narrow differences.

The negotiations were also marred by tensions between Russia and the United States, which have been fueled by the Ukrainian crisis, Moscow’s meddling in the 2016 U.S. presidential election and other irritants.



The Commercial Review/Barbara Wilkinson

Members of the Jay County High School Marching Patriots react after they were announced as Indiana State Fair Band Day champions in 2001. JCHS missed out on band day last year for the first time since 1976 as the event, and many others, were canceled because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The band program is turning to its alumni for a fundraising effort after missing out on an estimated \$25,000 to \$30,000 in income over the course of the last year. Those interested in donating can do so at jcmarchingpatriots.com.

Spirit ...

Continued from page 1

Videos that follow — the goal is to release one each Thursday — will feature Marching Patriot drum majors from across the decades. The lineup includes Larry Harris, the drum major from the school’s first graduating class in 1976, Vince Beck from 1989, Laurie (Miller) Christman and Ernest Jutte from the school’s first Indiana State Fair win in 1992 and Kate (Strietlemeier) Homan from the only other state fair win in 2001. Another will feature longtime staff members Dave Humbert, Bev Arnold, Pete Vogler and Smeltzer. They will share stories about their experi-

ences and memories with the Jay County High School band program.

The initiative will also feature videos from various Jay County Marching Patriot state fair performances. And alumni will be encouraged to post their own pictures and memories from years past on the band’s Facebook page.

“We want to have fun with it,” said Smeltzer. “And people look back at it with some nostalgia and say, ‘Yeah, I’d kick in some money.’”

The goal is to bring in \$20,000. As of this morning, \$1,100 had been donated.

“We believe we can do this because we have 45

years of alumni here with the Jay County band program,” Smeltzer added.

Like many activities, the summer marching band schedule was thrown into disarray because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Central Indiana Track Show Association announced April 13 that it would not have a summer season. Indiana State Fair held out hope for a contest, but it ended up being canceled as well. Smeltzer estimates the band missed out on about \$5,000 in prize money last summer.

The band program also had to cancel its spring concert, dinner and silent auction, as well as its mattress sale fundraiser. And,

with crowds limited at football and basketball games this year, income from running concessions has plummeted.

In all, Smeltzer estimates the band missed out on \$25,000 to \$30,000. That’s a big chunk of money that would typically go toward things like uniform cleaning, summer transportation, staff salaries and music and drill design for the Marching Patriots’ show.

“The Patriot band has been proud to give kids great experiences,” said Garringer in the introduction video. “This summer and fall, Jay County and students lost their opportunity to make great memo-

ries with friends as most of you experienced during your time here at Jay County. We would like to continue providing these moments for our current students and future band students.”

In an effort to create some friendly competition, there will also be a contest for which class donates the most money. Buttons will be made for the winning class to be worn on the Marching Patriots’ uniforms at the state fair contest this summer.

The fundraising campaign will continue for about three months, with a goal to have it wrapped by the band’s spring concert April 18.

Vaccine ...

Continued from page 1

He suggested that a rate of 1.5 million doses per day could soon be achieved.

The administration has also promised more openness and said it will hold news briefings three times a week, beginning today, about the outbreak that has killed more than 425,000 people in the United States.

“We appreciate the administration stating that it will provide states with slightly higher allocations for the next few weeks, but we are going to need much more supply,” said Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan, a Republican.

The setup inherited from the Trump administration has been marked by miscommunication

and unexplained bottlenecks, with shortages reported in some places even as vaccine doses remain on the shelf.

Officials in West Virginia, which has had one of the best rates of administering vaccine, said they have fewer than 11,000 first doses on hand even after this week’s shipment.

“I’m screaming my head off” for more, Republican Gov. Jim Justice said.

California, which has faced criticism over a slow vaccine rollout, announced Tuesday that it is centralizing its hodgepodge of county systems and streamlining appointment sign-up, notification and eligibility. Residents have been baffled by the

varying rules in different counties.

And in Colorado, Democratic Gov. Jared Polis said that the limited supply of vaccines from the federal government is prompting the state to repurpose second doses as first doses, though he expects that people scheduled for their second shot will still be able to keep their appointments.

The weekly allocation cycle for first doses begins on Monday nights, when federal officials review data on vaccine availability from manufacturers to determine how much each state can have. Allocations are based on each jurisdiction’s population of people 18 and older.

States are notified on Tuesdays

of their allocations through a computer network called Tiberius and other channels, after which they can specify where they want doses shipped. Deliveries start the following Monday.

A similar but separate process for ordering second doses, which must be given three to four weeks after the first, begins each week on Sunday night.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the CDC reported that just over half of the 44 million doses distributed to states have been put in people’s arms. That is well short of the hundreds of millions of doses that experts say will need to be administered to achieve herd immunity and conquer the outbreak.

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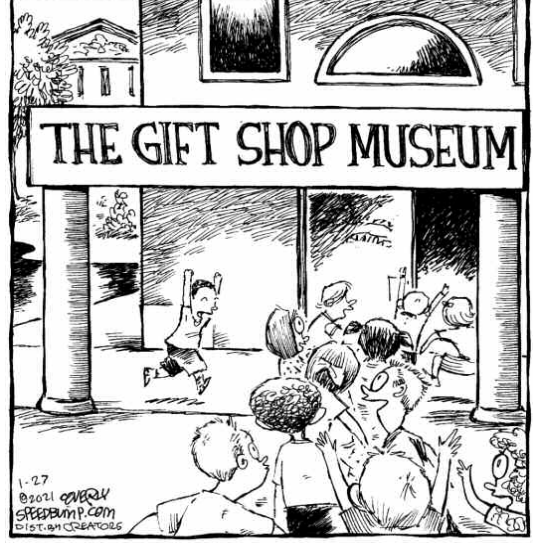
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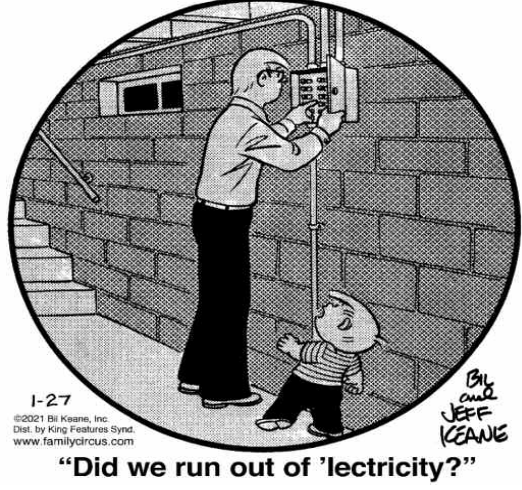
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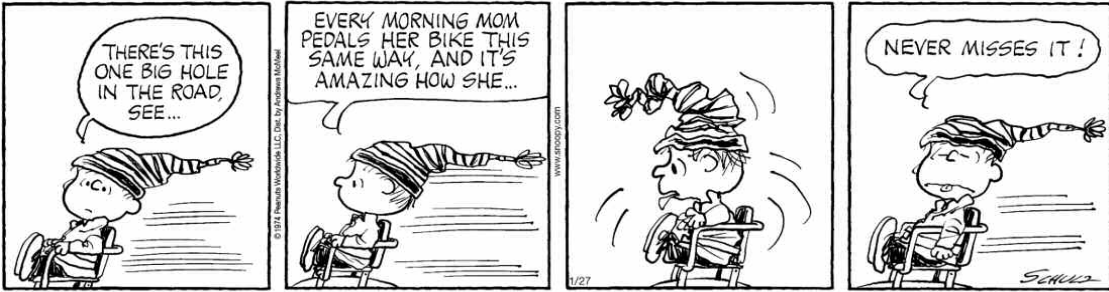
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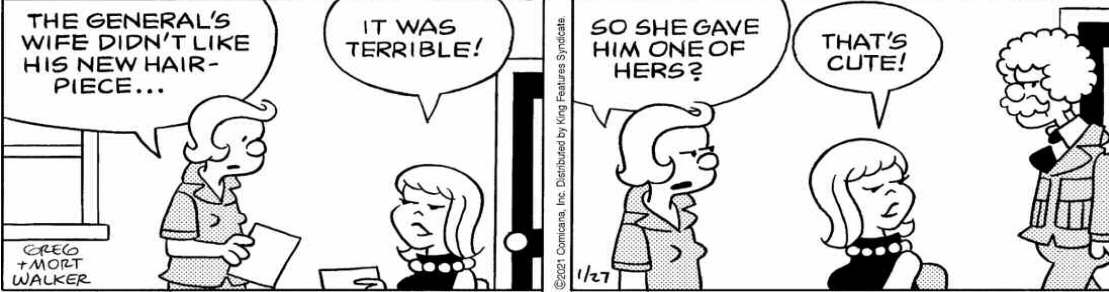
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Yesterday's answer 1-27

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Patriot girls hoops meets Starfires on Thursday, see Sports on tap

Sports

Thursday's paper will have a preview of Friday's Jay boys basketball game



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Dow darts

Jay County High School senior Ashlyn Dow darts through the water on her way to the 100-yard freestyle title on Saturday during the Allen County Athletic Conference championships at JCHS. Dow had two individual victories and aided in two relays as the Patriots claimed their fourth consecutive ACAC crown.

Baseball Hall to get no new members in '21

By JAKE SEINE

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The baseball Hall of Fame won't have any new players in the class of 2021 after voters decided no one had the merits — on the field or off — for enshrinement in Cooperstown.

Curt Schilling, Barry Bonds and Roger Clemens were the closest in voting by members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America released Tuesday, and the trio will have one more chance at election next year. It's the first time the BBWAA didn't choose anyone since 2013.

Schilling, a right-handed ace who won three World Series titles, finished 16 votes short of the 75% threshold necessary for enshrinement. He got 71.1% percent this time after coming up 20 votes shy at 70% last year.

Schilling's on-field accomplishments face little dispute, but he has ostracized himself in retirement by directing hateful remarks toward Muslims, transgender people, journalists and others.

"It's all right, the game doesn't owe me anything," Schilling said during a live video stream on his Twitter account.

He later wrote on Facebook that he has asked the Hall of Fame to remove his name from next year's ballot. Hall of Fame Board Chairman Jane Forbes Clark said in a statement that the board "will consider the request at our next meeting."

Bonds (61.8%) and Clemens (61.6%) made minimal gains and joined Schilling in falling short on their ninth tries. Both face suspicions of performance-enhancing drug use — Clemens has denied using PEDs and Bonds has denied knowingly using PEDs.

Bonds also has been accused of domestic violence and Clemens of maintaining a decade-long relationship with a singer who was 15 when they met.

Schilling, Clemens and Bonds will be joined on next year's ballot by sluggers Alex Rodriguez and David Ortiz. Rodriguez was suspended for the 2014 season for violating MLB's PED policy and collective bargaining agreement, and Ortiz's name allegedly appeared on a list of players who tested positive in 2003.

Omar Vizquel, an 11-time Gold Glove winner, dropped from 52.6% last year to 49.1% after his wife accused him of repeated domestic abuses in December. Braves star Andruw Jones, arrested in 2012 on a domestic violence charge, got 33.9% in his fourth year. Rockies slugger Todd Helton, who pleaded guilty to driving under the influence and was sentenced to two days in jail last year, got 44.9% in his third time on the ballot.

Some players missed out over old-fashioned baseball disagreements, too. Slick-fielding third baseman Scott Rolen moved from 35.3% to 52.9% and hard-throwing closer Billy Wagner from 31.7% to 46.4%.

It's the ninth time the BBWAA didn't elect anyone and just the third time since 1971. With the Hall of Fame's Era Committees postponing their scheduled elections until next off-season because of the pandemic,

there won't be a new Hall class for the first time since 1960.

Cooperstown won't be without celebration next summer, though. After the 2020 ceremony in the upstate New York village was canceled due to the pandemic, Yankees great Derek Jeter and five-tool star Larry Walker will take center stage on July 25, a year later than planned. They'll be honored alongside catcher Ted Simmons and late players' association chief Marvin Miller.

BBWAA members are instructed to elect Hall members "based upon the player's record, playing ability, integrity, sportsmanship, character, and contributions to the team(s) on which the player played."

At a time when social justice movements are pushing for a broader reckoning on sexual misconduct and racial inequality, character evaluation took on an outsized role in this election cycle. While the Hall's inductees already include racists, cheaters, philanderers and criminals, the current voting bloc has — narrowly, in many cases — taken a stand against candidates they think have insufficient integrity.

With 401 ballots returned, candidates needed 301 votes to gain election. A record 14 voters submitted blank ballots, topping the 12 sent in 2006.

Schilling — a six-time All-Star over 20 seasons with Baltimore, Houston, Philadelphia, Arizona and Boston — has been embroiled in controversy throughout his retirement.

He launched a video game company, 38 Studios, that went bankrupt shortly after receiving a \$75 million loan guarantee from Rhode Island, then was fired as an ESPN analyst after he sent a tweet comparing Muslim extremists to Nazi-era Germans and posted a derogatory Facebook comment about transgender people.

Months later, Schilling was again criticized after using social media to applaud a T-shirt calling for journalists to be lynched.

On Jan. 6, the day of the attack on the U.S. Capitol, he said the following in a message on his Twitter account:

"You cowards sat on your hands, did nothing while liberal trash looted rioted and burned for air Jordan's and big screens, sit back and watch folks start a confrontation for (expletive) that matters like rights, democracy and the end of govt corruption."

That tweet was sent a few days after Hall of Fame ballots were due.

Schilling wrote on Facebook that he would like the veterans committee to review his Hall case. That panel — comprised of former players, managers and others in the game, along with some writers — is tasked with evaluating players who don't get election via the BBWAA vote.

"I'll defer to the veterans committee and men whose opinions actually matter and who are in a position to actually judge a player," Schilling wrote. "I don't think I'm a hall of famer as I've often stated but if former players think I am then I'll accept that with honor."

See Hall page 7

Hoosiers tab Warren as DC

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — Georgia defensive backs coach Charlton Warren has been hired as the new defensive coordinator and linebackers coach at Indiana.

Warren replaces Kane Wommack, who took the South Alabama head coaching job after two seasons in charge of Indiana's defense. Warren inherits a unit emerging as one of the top defenses in the country.

"I look forward to him capturing the hearts and minds of our defensive players and coaches as he continues to build our defense," coach Tom Allen said Tuesday.

The 44-year-old Warren spent the previous two seasons coaching Georgia's defensive backs.

Prior to joining the Bulldogs staff, he spent 2018 as Florida's cornerbacks coach and 2017 as Tennessee's defensive backs coach and special teams coordinator.

Warren also has worked at North Carolina, Nebraska and Air Force, his alma mater, during a 16-year coaching career and he participated in the NFL minority internship program with Houston.

At training camp in 2007, Warren worked with the Texans defen-

sive ends and the special teams units.

"I am humbled Coach Allen has given me the opportunity to lead this awesome group of young men," Warren said. "I cannot wait to help this team achieve greatness on and off the field."

The former defensive back earned three letters at Air Force and was part of back-to-back 10-win seasons in 1997 and 1998. Following graduation, he was at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida as an air-to-ground weapons program manager for the Air Armament Center.

Jones back at IndyCar

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

Ed Jones will return to IndyCar after a one-year absence for a second stint driving for Dale Coyne Racing.

Jones was named Wednesday as driver of the No. 18 Honda entered by Coyne with Jimmy Vasser and James Sullivan. The car will be sponsored for a fourth consecutive season by SealMaster Pavement Products.

A British citizen born in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, who currently lives in Miami, Jones was sidelined all of 2020 because of COVID-19 travel restrictions. Jones was IndyCar's rookie of the year in 2017 when he drove for Coyne and finished third in the Indianapolis 500.

The strong rookie season helped Jones land a promotion to Chip Ganassi Racing for one season, and he then ran the street and road course events for Ed Carpenter Racing in 2019.

"We're very happy to have Ed Jones back with us. We were sad to see him leave after his first time with us but we've kept in touch since," Coyne said. "Ed had a great rookie season at DCR in 2017, which included our best finish of third at the Indianapolis 500. We hope to continue where we left off with him and look forward to a strong season."

QBs highlight super matchup

By JOSH DUBOW

AP Pro Football Writer

There has never been a Super Bowl matchup between quarterbacks quite like the one coming up next week between Tampa Bay's Tom Brady and Kansas City's Patrick Mahomes.

This will be the sixth Super Bowl matchup between former AP NFL MVPs, the second between former Super Bowl MVP winning quarterbacks and the first between players who had

previously won both awards.

Brady has won a record six Super Bowl titles, four Super MVPs and three league MVP awards since becoming starter in New England in 2001.

Mahomes is just getting started in his career and already has one league MVP and one Super Bowl MVP to his credit and is back in the title game for the second time.

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