

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Wild removal



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

This black bear is one of a group of animals, owned by an Ohio man, that were confiscated from a Jay County property Friday. The United States Department of Agriculture and staff from Wild Animal Sanctuary of Colorado removed the animals with assistance from Jay County Sheriff's Office. Sanctuary officials said the animals were taken because Sawmiller was not following USDA guidelines for housing them.

### USDA, animal sanctuary confiscated Ohio man's bears and mountain lion from a Jay Co. property

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Seven bears and one cougar. That's how many wild animals were confiscated Friday from an Ohio man housing them on a Jay County property.

Representatives from the United States Department of Agriculture, staff from Wild Animal Sanctuary of Keenesburg, Colorado, and local officials worked together for about five hours beginning about 10 a.m. Friday to remove a combination of grizzly and black bears, as well as one mountain lion, from the property.

The animals formerly belonged to Ohio native Robert Sawmiller, who leases space to house them at the 4200 N. 150 East property owned by David and Emma Eicher.

Sawmiller's animals were removed Friday because, according to Wild Animal Sanc-

tuary staff, he was not following the USDA guidelines for housing them. He also owns two other large cats at the premises that were not removed because they were not suffering, said sanctuary founder Pat Craig.

In Indiana, it is legal to own a variety of traditionally wild animals, such as bears and mountain lions, with the correct permit. Ohio, however, has had a law since 2012 that denotes such creatures as "dangerous animals" and prohibits any ownership.

Sanctuary staff worked on the property on the east side of county road 150 West between county roads 400 north and 500 north, coaxing the animals from their enclosures and into cages. They used a forklift to transport the cages down the driveway and to the road, where they were then placed in a large trailer.

See **Wild** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Staff from Wild Animal Sanctuary use a forklift to transport a cage holding a black bear to a trailer Friday at 4200 N. 150 East, Portland. The animals were owned by Robert Sawmiller of Ohio. It is legal, with the proper permits, to own such animals in Indiana, but Ohio law prohibits ownership deeming them "dangerous animals."

## Winter grant awards issued

Foundation funding totals nearly \$285,000

Local organizations will be receiving nearly \$300,000 in grants.

The Portland Foundation announced Friday afternoon that it has awarded \$282,485 via its winter grant cycle and \$2,346.76 in teacher creativity mini grants.

The largest of the 22 grants, from a total of 26 applicants, was \$40,000 to Jay County 4-H on a \$1 to \$1 matching basis for the renovation of the 4-H buildings at Jay County Fairgrounds.

John Jay Center for Learning was awarded \$31,800 to cover tuition costs for Jay County High School students to participate in the SkillsTrac Industrial Maintenance Program. It also received \$5,000 each for its robotics and STEM camps, its senior learning series and its speakers series and symposium.

A Better Life - Brianna's Hope and Jay Community Center each received \$30,000. The former will use the funds for addiction treatment and the latter for its Boomer Sports program.

Arts Place was also awarded a total of \$30,000 — \$25,000 for its Music-Works program and \$5,000 for a post-pandemic celebratory community performance at the Hudson Family Park amphitheatre.

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition received \$25,000 to fund its peer recovery coaches.

"As always, The Portland Foundation is very pleased to be able to award these grants," said Doug Inman, executive director of The Portland Foundation. "The funds would not be possible if not for the countless gifts from Jay County citizens over the last 70 years. These programs help support our mission; to enhance the quality of life for the people in Jay County."

See **Grant** page 2

## Retrospect

### Portland teen died in fire

Tragedy struck on Portland's southeast side 25 years ago this week.

The Feb. 20, 1996, edition of The Commercial Review included coverage of a fire that morning that took the life of 17-year-old Carrie Patch of Portland.

Patch's home at 1303 Massachusetts Ave., Portland, caught fire about 10 a.m. that morning. Patch was trapped in an upstairs room. She was pronounced dead by Jay County coroner Mark Barnett just before 11 a.m. Portland Fire Department

assistant chief Gary Johnston reported that fire had already engulfed the house when he arrived on the scene.

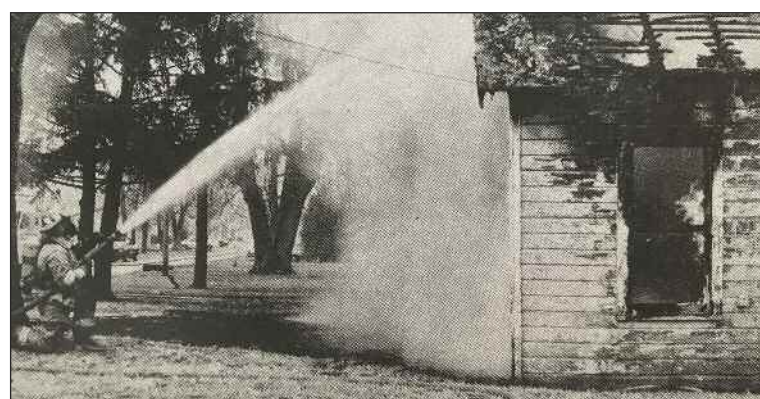
"All I know is what we try to do is rescue first, but when it's fully involved there's nothing we can do," Johnston said. "I pulled right up here and it was too hot — I could feel the heat."

"My feeling was there was no way we could get in the home. It's tough," he added, his voice trailing off, eyes moistening. Randy Patch, Carrie's step-

father, said he had stepped outside to clean out her car. When he went back for a vacuum he saw a wall of smoke and heard her cry for help.

"I couldn't even walk inside," he said. "The smoke pretty much hit me in the face. I stepped back and heard Carrie screaming."

"I hollered her name a couple times. I tried to tell her to get out of the window. I carried a ladder to get around a window and there was already smoke coming out of it and I couldn't hear her anymore."



The Commercial Review/Ed Ballint

Fire took the life of Carrie Patch, 17, Portland, on the morning of Feb. 20, 1996, when her 1303 Massachusetts Ave., Portland, home caught fire. She was trapped in an upstairs room. Pictured, a Portland firefighter sprays water at the front of the house.

#### Deaths

**Mable Holcomb**, 91, Portland  
**Anthony VanNote**, 68, Lynn  
**Marilyn Smith**, 71, St. Marys Township, Ohio  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 21 degrees Friday. Today's forecast calls for a chance of flurries early followed by partly sunny skies and a high of 24. Wind chill values may approach minus 10. Sunday's high will be 36 with snow and rain expected in the evening. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

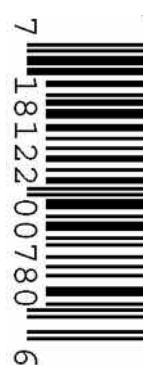
#### In review

Fort Recovery High School's production of "And Then There Were None" continues this weekend. Shows are 7 p.m. tonight and Sunday, as well as Feb. 26 and 27 in the Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School auditoria. There will also be a matinee at 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$6.

#### Coming up

**Tuesday** — Results from the JCHS boys swim team in today's sectional meet.

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





# Wild ...

Continued from page 1  
Other than temperatures reaching the low teens, Wild Animal Sanctuary CEO Ryan Clements said, the process went smoothly. It did take a while to declutter the area and coax the animals into portable cages, he added.  
Clements estimated their enclosures at the Jay County property were 20 feet by 20 feet for three bears. Craig said the animals were living in a space providing little shelter from the cold weather and with no bedding.  
“They had given (the owner)

opportunities — like they always do,” Craig explained, noting that the USDA had informed Sawmiller of the necessary changes several times before seizing the animals Friday. His organization has taken ownership of the animals and will be keeping them at his Keenesburg sanctuary about 40 miles northeast of Denver.  
With about 10,500 acres of land and more than 600 lions, tigers, bears and wolves, Wild Animal Sanctuary’s three facilities (two in Colorado and one in Texas) represent the world’s largest carnivore sanctuaries.

In total, the organization has about 80 employees and 160 volunteers.  
Sheriff Dwane Ford and deputy Brad Wendel joined the group Friday for extra assistance. Ford, a former conservation officer, talked about how the team worked efficiently, and he emphasized the importance of the public following protocols.  
“There’s just laws that you have to follow and go by,” he said. “No matter what you’re doing.”  
Craig started Wild Animal Sanctuary more than 40 years

ago and opened its Keenesburg location to the public about 20 years ago for educational purposes. The organization spays and neuters each incoming creature to avoid reproduction. He and his staff — such as Clements, who has been there nine years — have picked up animals from all over the United States, as well as Canada and Mexico.  
“We just want them to live out the rest of their lives as happy, healthy and natural as they would in the wild,” Clements said. “It’s crazy seeing a grizzly bear you rescued

like these guys up on rock cliffs or in valleys, up on trees, and just watching the site. It’s just so much better than what (they) were in.”  
The staff made visits to the Greater Wynnewood Exotic Animal Park formerly owned by Netflix series star Joe Exotic, also known as the “Tiger King.” Craig said he and his staff have confiscated animals three or four times from the franchise, which was taken over by Jeff Lowe, renamed “Tiger King Park” and moved from Wynnewood to Thackerville, Oklahoma.

## CR almanac

| Sunday<br>2/21                                                                               | Monday<br>2/22                                                                     | Tuesday<br>2/23                                              | Wednesday<br>2/24                                                        | Thursday<br>2/25                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                              |                                                                                    |                                                              |                                                                          |                                                                                               |
| <b>36/32</b>                                                                                 | <b>35/30</b>                                                                       | <b>39/32</b>                                                 | <b>40/28</b>                                                             | <b>34/21</b>                                                                                  |
| Snow and rain are expected beginning after 4 p.m. Wind gusts up to 20 miles per hour likely. | Some snow is possible in the early morning hours. The high will be in the mid 30s. | There will be intervals of sun and clouds with a high of 39. | The high temperature will climb to 40 degrees under mostly cloudy skies. | Partly cloudy skies are expected with a high of 35. The low will dip to 20 degrees overnight. |

## Lotteries

|                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Hoosier</b><br>Midday<br>Daily Three: 5-9-6<br>Daily Four: 3-7-0-7<br>Quick Draw: 1-12-13-17-18-23-27-38-41-42-49-52-53-57-58-64-75-76-78-80 | Pick 4: 0-3-9-8<br>Pick 5: 7-9-8-9-4<br>Rolling Cash: 3-13-17-21-37<br>Estimated jackpot: \$505,000            |
| <b>Ohio</b><br>Midday<br>Pick 3: 0-2-1<br>Pick 4: 7-9-8-9<br>Pick 5: 3-5-6-2-4<br>Evening<br>Pick 3: 9-0-4                                      | <b>Powerball</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$78 million<br><b>Mega Millions</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$20 million |

## Markets

|                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b><br>Corn.....5.57<br>Wheat .....6.16                                                                                                | <b>Central States Montpelier</b><br>Corn.....5.38<br>March corn.....5.41<br>Beans.....13.77<br>March beans.....13.77<br>Wheat.....6.36<br>March wheat.....6.38 |
| <b>POET Biorefining Portland</b><br>Corn.....5.62<br>March corn.....5.58                                                                                             | <b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b><br>Corn.....5.51<br>March corn.....5.51<br>Beans.....13.64<br>March beans.....13.68<br>Wheat.....6.06<br>July wheat.....5.98        |
| <b>The Andersons Richland Township</b><br>Corn.....5.42<br>March corn.....5.47<br>Beans.....13.89<br>March beans.....13.89<br>Wheat.....6.50<br>March wheat.....6.50 |                                                                                                                                                                |

## Today in history

**On Feb. 20, 1905**, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Jacobson v. Massachusetts*, upheld, 7-2, compulsory vaccination laws intended to protect the public’s health.  
**In 1792**, President George Washington signed an act creating the United States Post Office Department.  
**In 1839**, Congress prohibited dueling in the District of Columbia.  
**In 1933**, Congress proposed the 21st Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to repeal Prohibition.  
**In 1942**, Lt. Edward “Butch” O’Hare became the U.S. Navy’s first flying ace of World War II by shooting down five Japanese bombers while defending the aircraft carrier USS Lexington in the South Pacific.  
**In 1962**, astronaut John Glenn became the first American to orbit the Earth as he flew aboard Project Mercury’s Friendship 7 spacecraft, which circled the globe three times in a flight lasting 4 hours, 55 minutes and 23 seconds before splashing down safely in the Atlantic Ocean 800 miles southeast of Bermuda.  
**In 1971**, gasoline prices dropped in Portland. Bisel’s apparently touched off a local competition when it dropped its prices to 26.9 cents per gallon.  
**In 1987**, a bomb left by Unabomber Ted Kaczynski exploded behind a computer store in Salt Lake City, seriously injuring store owner Gary Wright.  
**In 1998**, Tara Lipinski of the U.S. won the ladies’ figure skating gold medal at the Nagano Olympics.  
—AP and The CR

## Citizen’s calendar

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Monday</b><br>9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners’ room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.<br>3 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District citizens’ advisory committee, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.<br>3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. | 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.<br>6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.<br>7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. |
| <b>Tuesday</b><br>5 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

## Obituaries

**Mable Holcomb**  
*Aug. 11, 1929-Feb. 19, 2021*  
Mable M. Holcomb, age 91, of Portland passed away Friday morning, Feb. 19, 2021, in Visiting Nurse and Hospice in Fort Wayne.  
Born in Portland on Aug. 11, 1929, she was the daughter of Lennie and Ida Mae (Lanning) Walker. She was married on Oct. 9, 1948, to James F. Holcomb and he passed away on Feb. 27, 2003.



Holcomb

Mable was retired from CTS in Berne and also worked at Beals Restaurant in Portland. She was a member of the Collett Nazarene Church and attended Second Chance at Life Ministries.  
Surviving are one son, David Holcomb (wife: Rhea) of Portland; two daughters, Nancy Jonas (husband: Roger) of Portland and Brenda Eads (husband: Michael) of Portland; two sisters, Jean Balle of Portland and Patricia Miller of Kokomo; 14 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and one great-grandson.  
Funeral services will be Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Gravel Hill Cemetery west of Bryant. Visitation will be Tuesday from noon to 2 p.m.  
Memorials can be made to Second Chance at Life Ministries or Diabetes Foundation.  
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

**Anthony VanNote**  
*Aug. 23, 1952-Feb. 17, 2021*  
Anthony Wayne VanNote, 68, of Lynn, Indiana, passed away early Wednesday morning, Feb. 17, 2021, at Reid Health and Hospital of Richmond, Indiana.  
He was born Aug. 23, 1952, in Winchester, Indiana, the son of William E. and Nancy J. (Rutledge) VanNote. He was a 1972 graduate of

South Adams High School.  
Tony retired in 2015 after 38 years with Anchor Hocking, now Ardagh Glass of Winchester, Indiana. He was an avid Dale Earnhardt Racing Fan and loved to watch basketball and football. He loved his family very much and had a close relationship with his brother, Jerry. Everyone that knew Tony was a friend.  
He leaves to cherish his memory a loving wife of 22 years, Marcie (Younger) VanNote; his mother, Nancy Nelson (husband: Mike) of Winchester, Indiana; two daughters, Shawn Marie Urick (husband: Dustin) of Portland, Indiana, and Tasha VanNote (Chris Fisher) of Union City, Indiana; two stepsons, Jimmy Denton of Winchester, Indiana, Jeff Roser (Pam) of Portland, Indiana; a brother, Jerry VanNote (wife: Darla) of Winchester, Indiana; 14 grandchildren, Miles, Marcus, Triston, Emma Jo, Halo, Tiffany, JoJo, Austin, Shawn, James, Jaiden and MayKaylee; six great-grandchildren; two nephews, Rocky VanNote (Mandy) of Redkey, Indiana, and Adam VanNote (Erica) of Ridgeville, Indiana; a niece, Nikki Tam (Matt); and two beloved canine companions, Sissy and Dale.  
He was preceded in death by his father, William; and a stepson, Todd Denton.  
The family will be having private services. Burial will be in Spartanburg Cemetery of Spartanburg, Indiana. Family and friends may gather to share and remember from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2021, at Wilson Shook Funeral Home, Thomas Memorial Chapel of Lynn, Indiana.  
Memorial contributions may be made to Cancer Services for Randolph County, 133 N. Meridian St., Winchester, IN 47394.  
Condolences may be expressed at wilsonshookfh.com.



VanNote

**Marilyn Smith**  
*July 26, 1949-Feb. 14, 2021*  
Marilyn K. Smith, 71, of St. Marys Township, Ohio, died at 3:46 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 14, 2021, at St. Rita’s Medical Center in Lima, Ohio.  
She was born July 26, 1949, in Jay County, Indiana, to Leonard and Catherine (Bowsher) Bonifas.  
On April 20, 1968, in Portland, Indiana, she married Roger A. Smith, who survives.  
Other survivors include:  
Son Brett Smith of St. Marys, Ohio  
Son Chad Smith of St. Marys, Ohio  
Son Blaine Smith of St. Marys, Ohio  
Daughter Shannon (Christopher) Saeler of St. Marys, Ohio  
Nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren  
Sister Tana (Bob) Garringer of North Salem, Indiana  
Brother Greg (Nona) Bonifas of Dunkirk, Indiana  
Brother Dan (Lisa Belda) Bonifas of Portland, Indiana  
She was preceded in death by her parents Leonard and Catherine Bonifas; and brother David Bonifas.  
She was a graduate of Madison High School in Jay County, Indiana.  
For many years, she worked at Pantry Pride and Big Bear Grocery Stores in St. Marys.  
Marilyn will be remembered as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.  
Private family services will be held. Condolences may be expressed and memories shared with her family at millerfuneralhomes.net.  
Arrangements have been entrusted to the Miller Bros. Funeral Directors in St. Marys.

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*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.*

## Grant ...

Continued from page 1  
Each receiving \$10,000 grants were Jay County Fourth of July Committee for its annual celebration, Jay County Fair Association for a new speaker system and radios and Portland Park Board for the construction of a disc golf course at Hudson Family Park. West Jay Community Center was awarded \$8,500 to repair eaves and masonry at its facility, Youth Service Bureau received \$7,500 for its Keeping At Risk Students in School (KARSS) program and Jay County Special Olympics got \$7,250 for entry fees.  
The foundation awarded \$5,000 grants to: Beneficence Family Scholars for monthly events to educate single parents about services; Jay County Historical Society for its annual Heritage Festival; Midwest Pet Refuge for equipment and repairs; and Second Harvest Food Bank for its Senior Safety Net program.  
Kate’s Kart received \$4,000 for books for pediatric patients and Dunkirk Beautification Committee got \$3,385 for its Webster Depot Park summer concert series.  
Teacher Creativity Grants of \$300 or less are distributed to help cover the costs of learning experiences teachers feel are important for their students but fall outside of the school budget. Receiving \$3,000 each were LaVetha Loucks of Westlawn Elementary School for a soprano ukulele storage rack and Brooke Schmiesing of East Elementary School for Chromebook chargers and a charging cart.

Other teacher creativity grants were: \$294 to Lindsey Peterson of East for purchase of the Expanding Expression Tool Kit and other materials; \$288.84 to Lisa Cook for speech and language instruction materials; \$254.54 to Beth Mathewson for SnapWords Pocket Chart Cards; \$250 each to Rhonda Clott and Meg Mauer of Jay County Junior-Senior High School for the Jay Business Professionals of American state competition; \$207.10 to Jenny Gibson of East Elementary for SnapWords Pocket Chart Cards; and \$202.28 to Christy Shauver of Redkey Elementary for reading and math curriculum for special education.  
The deadline for the next round of grant applications is June 14.

### SERVICES

**Saturday**

**Wolters.** Lavern: 10:30 a.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 120 E. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio.  
**Alsip.** Maurice: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Teeter-Fox.** Lauranna: 4 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Tuesday**

**Holcomb.** Mable: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by  
**PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS**  
120 N. Meridian St.  
Portland, Indiana 47371  
(260) 726-9201  
progressiveofficeproducts.com

**Due to COVID restrictions, the Jay County Soil & Water Conservation District 62nd Annual Dinner/Meeting is not being held as in the past 61 years.**

You may join us on Facebook Live (Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District) on Wednesday, February 24th, 12:00 o’clock-noon.

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL NEXT FEBRUARY!**



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Photo provided/Meghan Davis

## Modified Mardi

New Orleans residents adjusted this year as Mardi Gras parade permits were not issued because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. Instead of decorating floats, they decorated their homes. In the Bayou St. John neighborhood, Meghan Davis, a military contractor in the Old Aurora community, went with a Queen of Hearts motif.

# FFA activities set

FFA week will go on, just in a different format.

Fort Recovery FFA will take part in several activities in celebration of National FFA Week, which runs Feb. 22 through 26.

The celebration of FFA in Fort Recovery will feature a tractor drive-in Tuesday morning at the high school parking lot. Those same tractors will then parade through the Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School parking lot near the conclusion of the school day at 2:50 p.m.

FRHS will also host a petting zoo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday in the ag shop at the high school.

Because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic,

dents within each division for the semester.

## Taking Note

events will be for students only rather than open to the public as they have been in previous years.

### On the list

Fort Recovery High School graduate Morgan Litmer was named to the Miami University President's List for the fall semester.

Litmer is majoring in university studies. In order to be on the president's list, a student must be ranked in the top 3% of undergraduate stu-

### Donors get gifts

In February, donors to the American Red Cross will receive a \$5 Amazon gift card via email.

The effort comes as a measure to thank its donors for helping to ensure a stable blood supply, according to a press release from the organization.

The following are nearby blood drives scheduled in February:

•Bryant: 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Feb. 22 at Bryant Wesleyan Church, 209 S. Hendricks

•Bluffton: 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 26 Bluffton-Wells County Public Library, 200 W. Washington St.

# Wrongful conviction shared without permission

DEAR ABBY: I'm a gay man in my late 40s, partnered with a man in his late 50s. There are a lot of issues from my past that I try hard to move beyond and let go of. I was wrongly accused and convicted of a crime I didn't commit, for which I was sentenced to life in prison.

I sat in prison seven years before I was able to prove my innocence and regain my freedom. Even then, I was forced to accept certain requirements to keep my freedom, regardless of being proven innocent. Unfortunately, I'm finding it difficult because my partner keeps sharing my story with people who are complete strangers to me. When they meet me, the first words out of their mouths are things like: "You poor man, I'm so sorry," or "Wow, I can't believe you

## Dear Abby



went through that," and "Man, you must be a strong person to have gotten through that."

How do I move past this, if he keeps telling people a story that is NOT his to tell, but mine to disclose if I choose to do so? The shame and embarrassment of facing this trauma of my past on a regular basis isn't healthy for me. How can I get him to understand that he needs to stop doing it?

I'm afraid to say anything to him about it. He dismisses my feelings most of the time when

I bring up things he does that upset me.

I love this man with all of my heart. He was one of only two people who stood by me during my trauma and made it possible to prove my innocence. He was also my "first." My love for him has only grown over the years, but this issue of my story being revealed has to stop. — FRUSTRATED IN THE MIDWEST

**DEAR FRUSTRATED: You not only have to speak up, but you also have to be heard. That your much older partner dismisses your feelings is controlling and condescending. He has no right to disclose VERY personal information about you with strangers.**

**You wrote that this is your first relationship. If this continues, it may not be your last. Present it to your partner in exactly these terms.**

**Couples counseling may save your relationship, but only if the balance of power is adjusted.**

DEAR ABBY: I was friends with my guy before getting into a relationship with him seven years ago. The problem is, I feel like we are not growing. He is still living with his mom, we have no plans for the future, etc.

At least once a year, I ask him how he views our relationship, but I only get the same response that things are fine the way they are. I have now started back in college while maintaining a full-time job, but I'm so frustrated I feel like giving up on the relationship and moving on. I'm actually stuck between a breakup and keeping a friendship. Any advice? — UNCERTAIN IN ALABAMA

**DEAR UNCERTAIN: Of**

course your "guy" thinks things are fine the way they are. They are — for him. I'm delighted you decided to return to college and get your degree. By doing so, you are taking control of your life, which is moving in the right direction.

Please understand that you may not only outgrow the relationship, but also this young man. By all means, keep him as a friend if you can. Be a role model if he's able to learn from your example, but continue to broaden your horizons.

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.

# Community Calendar

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

### Saturday

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

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

### 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.

**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.

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

### Tuesday

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

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

**A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophe-

cy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

**JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS** — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

### Wednesday

**FRIENDS OF THE OPERA HOUSE** — The Friends of Fort Recovery Opera House committee will have an open meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24 in the community room at Fort Recovery High School about revitalizing the opera house above Brockman Appliance. The public is welcome.

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

**PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB** — Will meet at noon each Wednesday at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.

**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.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Friday's Solution

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

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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**WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?**

**For Jay County Schools February 22-26**

**Monday: Main Entrees:** WG Cinnamon Glazed French Toast Sticks, turkey sausage links, syrup **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, Turkey & cheese salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Side for all meals:** Tater tots

**Tuesday: Main Entrees:** Chicken alfredo sauce, rotini pasta **Alternate Entrees:** Muffin & goldfish fun lunch, Turkey & Cheese salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Side for all meals:** Steamed broccoli florets

**Wednesday: Main Entrees:** Soft whole grain tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheddar cheese, salsa **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, Turkey & cheese salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Side for all meals:** Mexican style refried beans

**Thursday: Main Entrees:** Classic chicken sandwich **Alternate Entrees:** Muffin & goldfish fun lunch, Turkey & Cheese salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Side for all meals:** Seasoned corn

**Friday: Main Entrees:** Classic cheese pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, Turkey & cheese salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **Side for all meals:** Savory green beans

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# It's a good time to say thank you

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Say thank you. This was one of those weeks. Whenever we see a forecast that calls for massive amounts of snow, we can't help but think the meteorologists will be wrong. Perhaps they're over-hyping the storm. (Weather coverage draws plenty of eyeballs, whether it be to TV screens or social media feeds.)

Sometimes they are wrong. They certainly were not this week.

There was snow over the weekend. There was more snow Monday morning. And then the serious snow began Monday afternoon and kept going strong through Tuesday morning.

It brought with it plenty of those trying to help.

I was out Monday walking my dog — Scooter doesn't seem to care too much if the temperatures are in the single digits or if he has to hop along through a

## Rays of Insight



foot of snow. As we strolled down Tenth Street in Portland, headed back toward home, there was a car struggling to get through the intersection at Bridge Street. We stopped to try to move him along with a push — the driver was attempting to get to his grandmother's house to clear her driveway — but were unsuccessful and he decided to turn back up and go home. He was trying to help.

Then, early Tuesday morning after yet another walk, I was out shoveling my driveway. As I was about halfway through the process, a truck pulled up and a man got out and began shoveling

one of the driveways across the street. I don't know if he was related to the resident or was contracted to do so, but he was helping.

As we both shoveled away, another truck came down the street. It was headed to plow a driveway a few houses down. Like the shoveler, I don't know the circumstances, but again, the driver was helping.

Those are the things that stand out during times when the weather impacts our daily lives. There seems to always be someone helping out their grandmother, their friend, their neighbor.

And, of course, there are our many government workers, the Indiana Department of Transportation, the county and our cities, towns and villages. Without them, the travel restrictions we had to deal with this week would have been more severe and lasted far longer than they did.

So, we really should say thank you.

Thank you to:

- County, city and town workers who are driving plows, dump trucks and other heavy machinery in order to clear the snow away.

- Independent contractors who make their way to our homes and businesses to clear our driveways and parking lots.

- Emergency personnel who are there to help us 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year whether we're buried in a foot of snow, flooded or cooking in the summer heat.

- Jay County REMC and Indiana Michigan Power crews that work to make sure we have power, and thus, heat.

- Those who go well above and beyond the call of duty. On Tuesday, we wrote about a sheriff's office employee who went into work Monday night and slept there in order to make sure he would be on the job Tuesday. We

know there are many more like him. There are law enforcement officers, firefighters, nurses, etc., who go well beyond the 9-to-5 to make sure these essential services are staffed.

- And to anyone else I may have forgotten. There are so many who work to make our lives a little easier during these times.

Yes, the snow can be no fun. (It can also be a lot of fun, once the travel issues are gone and we get to sled, throw snowballs and watch our dogs burrow through it.) Yes, children probably miss their friends at school. Yes, it can be a challenge to get to work. Yes, it can be extremely frustrating to be stuck at home for days on end.

But at the same time, there are so many working to clear the white stuff and get us back to school, back to work or simply out of the house, so many helping. They deserve a big pat on the back.

Thank you.

# Bill needs to focus on relief

The Washington Post

The United States needs more federal funding to cope with the ongoing damage done by the COVID-19 pandemic, and Congress and President Joe Biden should provide it on the widest bipartisan basis possible — and swiftly. That means setting aside legislative items not directly related to COVID.

Yet the bill now moving through the House shows signs of losing focus in just that way. Specifically, the House Ways and Means Committee has attached a plan to rescue financially troubled retirement systems known as multiemployer pensions affecting some 10 million people, of whom about a tenth are in the most distressed plans. Though the predicament might have worsened during the pandemic, the pension problem is a perennial with which committee chairman Richard Neal, D-Massachusetts, has long been concerned. And it is a real one: Many of these defined-benefit plans, which cover workers of an entire industry, as opposed to a single company, face insolvency due to the failure of many companies that formerly contributed to them. Meanwhile, the portion of the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp. that protects multiemployer plans has only \$3 billion on hand and is projected to run out of cash as early as 2025.

For years, Republicans and Democrats have tried to negotiate a package to protect workers without soaking taxpayers — most of whom do not even have defined-benefit pensions. Proposals have generally involved some combination of benefit trims, greater employer insurance premiums and federal support. Yet the bill just approved by Ways and Means one-sidedly provides the funds a slug of federal cash, with little structural reform required beyond a somewhat increased employer premium. Its likely net cost: \$56 billion.

To make this pension bailout fit within the \$1.9 trillion budget ceiling suggested by Mr. Biden and enshrined in a budget reconciliation resolution, along with \$1,400 stimulus "checks" and other spending items, the committee had to offset the cost by

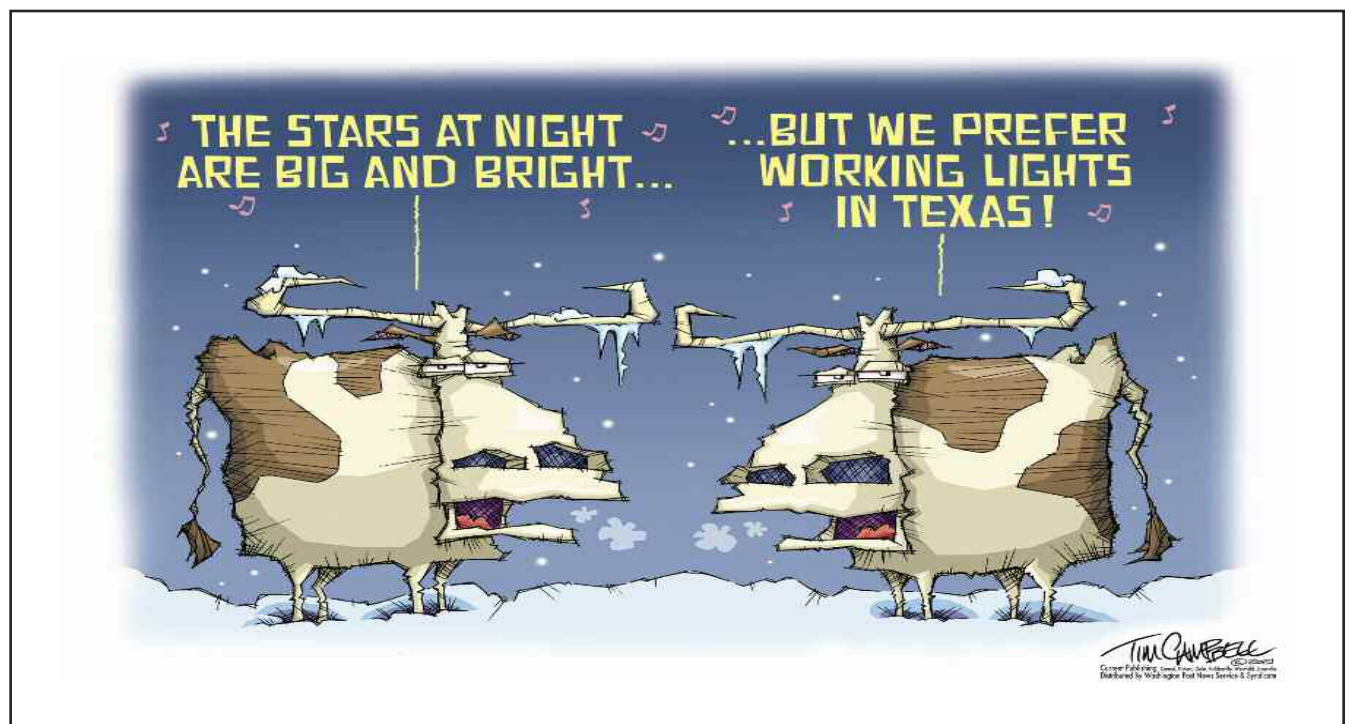
## Guest Editorial

... this particular bit of sausage-making illustrates the complications that develop when lawmakers start to stray from straightforward attention to the most urgent COVID-related needs.

ending a much more vital program — extended unemployment benefits — at the end of August rather than September, as Mr. Biden originally advocated. To be sure, this might be intended as a temporary accounting move, which (for arcane procedural reasons) the Senate can still adjust, as a Democratic House aide familiar with the legislation explained to us.

Nevertheless, this particular bit of sausage-making illustrates the complications that develop when lawmakers start to stray from straightforward attention to the most urgent COVID-related needs.

Difficult as the multiemployer plans' difficulties are, they have a few years of solvency left, time enough to craft a more financially balanced fix through regular order rather than the party-line method of reconciliation. That is the approach that we, along with thoughtful legislators of both parties, have long advocated, and to which Congress should return once it has passed a credible, focused COVID relief bill.



# Hedge fund told an 'audacious lie'

By MARGARET SULLIVAN

The Washington Post

When Alden Global Capital announced Tuesday that it was positioned to buy the Chicago Tribune and several other major newspapers, its statement might have sounded promising.

But only if you knew nothing about how this hedge fund has sucked much of the life out of the newspapers it already owns in places like Denver and San Jose.

"Our commitment to ensuring the sustainability of robust local journalism is well established, and this is part of that effort," the statement said.

The hedge fund's record with newspapers is well established, but that's about the only truth in that statement.

"To put an audacious lie like that in front of these communities and these journalists is further evidence of their unsustainability as owners," said Ann Marie Lipinski, whose expertise on the subject is unquestionable. Not only is she the head of Harvard University's Nieman Foundation for Journalism, but she also spent 30 years at the Chicago Tribune — a summer intern who became a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter and then, until 2008, the paper's top editor.

Lipinski has particular expertise, but she's far from alone in knowing how distressing this news is.

Those who know anything about local journalism in America are in general agreement: Being bought by Alden is the worst possible fate for the newspapers and the communities involved.

Here's how the Morning Call in Allentown, Pa. — one of the papers about to come under Alden's control — told its readers the news:

"Alden has a history of aggressive cost cuts to boost profits at the newspapers it owns through MediaNews Group, which counts The Denver Post, The Boston Herald and The Mercury News in San Jose, California."

That is accurate, and a very

## Margaret Sullivan



restrained telling of the situation.

I've been covering Alden's moves for years, in part for my book published last summer, "Ghosting the News: Local Journalism and the Crisis of American Democracy."

When Alden comes in, it's slash-and-burn time. Newsroom jobs — reporters, editors, photographers — are cut to the bone. Decisions are made not for long-term sustainability, not for service to the community, not for humane treatment of skilled and dedicated staff, but for next quarter's profit-and-loss statement.

And so it was simply realistic when journalist and press-chronicler Joshua Benton wrote this on Twitter after hearing the news: "The lamps are going out all over America, we shall not see them lit again in our lifetime."

The Alden playbook is clear: "They are the ultimate cash-flow mercenary," industry analyst Doug Arthur told The Washington Post. "They want to find cash flow and bleed it to death."

Sometimes that means selling off real estate. The Hartford Courant's staff has been told that they will no longer return to a newspaper building, or even a newsroom. That's increasingly common.

Almost always it means cutting staff, even if that means that the "product" — the paper's reporting and editing — suffers badly, making it much less valuable to its customers, even the ones who very much wish to support the journalism.

I remember a conversation with a San Jose Mercury News subscriber a few years ago who told me that he hardly recognized his Alden-owned paper in its withered form and was struggling with the decision of

whether to keep supporting it. It's a dilemma that newspaper readers all over the country are dealing with, as private-equity firms swoop in to pick away at the remaining profits of a once robust industry, earning their ugly nickname: vulture capitalists.

Almost all newspapers are struggling these days because their lifeblood — print advertising — has declined drastically and readers have moved online. But they are still doing some of the most important journalism in their regions. They still matter immensely.

The few success stories are those papers lucky enough to have relatively enlightened and well-intentioned — often local — owners who understand the value of journalism. Among them: the Minneapolis Star-Tribune, the Boston Globe, the Los Angeles Times and the Philadelphia Inquirer.

The one potentially bright spot in this week's announcement was that the Baltimore Sun, one of the Tribune papers, is likely to be sold to a nonprofit formed by Stewart Bainum Jr., a Maryland hotel executive. Whether Bainum can make the difficult finances of a local newspaper work is unknown.

As for the Chicago Tribune, Lipinski told me Wednesday that — amid the pain of the Alden news — she had been thinking about an ad campaign she remembers from her time at the paper, which during her tenure boasted 700 newsroom staffers and a dozen foreign bureaus.

"It was this beautiful, romantic, sweeping view" of Chicago and the surrounding region, she recalled. The ad's tag line: "A great city deserves a great newspaper."

That reflected "a fundamental commitment that was not negotiable."

In many — most — American cities, that commitment no longer exists. The negotiation is over, and the price tag is on the deal.

That's very bad, and the worst is yet to come.

Sullivan is The Washington Post's media columnist.

# The Commercial Review

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



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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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## Bank donates

First Bank of Berne recently donated \$1,250 to Arts Place for its summer Arts in the Parks program. Pictured, from left, are Arts Place board president Bonnie Maitlen, Arts Place executive director Eric Rogers and First Bank of Berne Portland branch manager Tracy Carpenter.

# Byju's close to purchasing its rival

A company that counts a former Portland resident as a major investor is close to acquiring one of its rivals.

Byju's is expected to sign a deal to buy Toppr Technologies, a firm that provides online learning materials to fifth through 12th grade students.

The purchase is expected to have a price tag of about \$150 million. Bloomberg reported the pending purchase this week.

Byju's, a company based in Bangalore, India, spent part of 2020 raising capital, including from Mary Meeker's BOND Capital. Meeker is a Jay County native and Portland High School graduate.

The company has been expanding recently, including a \$1 billion deal in January to purchase Aakash Educational Services. It also bought WhiteHat Jr. in August for nearly \$300 million.

In August, BOND Capital valued Byju's at more than \$10 billion.

"Byju's has emerged as a clear leader in education technology," Meeker told TechCrunch in June.

### Bank on the list

American Bankers Association has named First Bank of Berne as a Top 100 Farm Lender in the nation.

First Bank of Berne announced its placement on the list this week. The top 100 are determined by farm loan volume.

"We're proud to be recognized as one of the nation's leading ag lenders," said First Bank of Berne agribusiness banking manager Ron Gentis in a press release. "The knowledge, experi-

## Business roundup

ence, and expertise our entire staff, especially our ag lending team, offers our customers is paramount to the continued growth and success of our area."

### Purdue partnering

Purdue University announced Tuesday that it will join with MITRE as "academic vision partners."

The university said the partnership will allow both to bring together expertise, assets and resources to advance innovation and workforce development.

"Through our work with MITRE, we recognized the vast potential to expand our successful collaborative research and education model in cybersecurity to many other areas of focus," said Purdue executive vice president for research and partnerships Theresa Mayer in a press release. "Our shared commitment to solve problems for a safer world makes MITRE an ideal strategic partner for Purdue, and we are thrilled to solidify this through our signing of the vision partnership agreement."

MITRE is a not-for-profit corporation based in Virginia.

### Invenergy transfers

Invenergy on Tuesday has transferred ownership of a Michigan wind farm.

The company, which recently announced a proposal for a solar

facility in northwest Jay County, transferred ownership of the Crescent Wind project to Consumers Utility. The new owner, a subsidiary of CMS Energy, announced Tuesday that it has officially taken ownership of the wind farm located in Hillsdale County. The facility features 60 turbines and puts out 166 megawatts of energy annually.

### IU launches

Indiana University has launched a new website for its office of business partnerships, Inside Indiana Business reported this week.

The new website was created with a focus on managing and developing partnerships with industries. It will also serve as a showcase for the university's business partners.

"Our business partnerships team is here to help the IU community connect with new and existing business partners, and to develop plans to guide partnership efforts and optimize outcomes," said IU associate vice president of business partnerships Valarie Gill. "We help faculty, staff and researchers facilitate interdisciplinary and multi-faceted opportunities with a strategic and coordinated approach across IU's seven regional campuses."

### Lilly makes deal

In an agreement announced Thursday, Eli Lilly will get exclusive licensing for autoimmune and inflammatory diseases treatments from Rigel Pharmaceuticals Inc. The companies made a joint announcement of the licensing deal.

Reuters reported that Rigel will receive \$125 million from

Lilly up front, with up to an additional \$835 million in "milestone" payments to follow.

Rigel's R552 is a drug that targets a critical signaling protein that regulates inflammation in tissue.

### CVS reducing

CVS Health said during an earnings call Tuesday that it plans to reduce its office space by 30%.

Eva Boratto, chief financial officer and executive vice president of CVS Health, said the shift is in part a result of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The move is a cost-saving measure.

The shift will help the company save between \$900 million and \$1.1 billion in 2021, Boratto said.

### NextEra meeting

NextEra Energy announced this week that members of its senior management team will take part in various investor meetings next week and in March.

Among the topics to be discussed are that NextEra's long-term financial expectations are unchanged. The company expects its adjusted earnings per share to be between \$2.40 and \$2.54 this year, with 6% to 8% growth in 2022 and 2023.

NextEra owns and operates Bluff Point Wind Energy Center in southern Jay County and northern Randolph County.

### Comcast commits

Echoing Green announced Tuesday that Comcast NBCUniversal has committed \$2.5 million toward its \$50 million Racial Equity Philanthropic Fund.

The investment is the largest corporate contribution thus far.

Echoing Green, a global nonprofit that seeks to enhance social innovation by finding, supporting, and connecting emerging social entrepreneurs, plans to launch programming to enable leaders working to dismantle structural racism and build inclusive communities.

"Echoing Green launched its Racial Equity Philanthropic Fund with a mission to support lasting change through social innovation, which is directly in line with our philanthropic goals," said Comcast executive vice president and chief diversity officer Dalila Wilson-Scott. "Comcast is committed to championing this critical work, and we view this partnership with Echoing Green as a fundamental part of our efforts to advance greater equity for all."

### Ardagh announces

Ardagh Group this week announced that its revenue for the fourth quarter came in at \$1.7 billion, an increase of 5% over the same quarter in 2019.

Ardagh, which owns and operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester, recorded \$6.7 billion in revenue for the year, an increase of 1%.

"The Group performed well in the quarter, with strong earnings growth in Metal Beverage Packaging and volume growth in Glass Packaging," said Ardagh chairman and chief executive Paul Coulson in a press release. "The resilience of our businesses, the adaptability of our teams and the outlook for our sustainable products was underlined in 2020. ... We look forward to further strong progress in 2021."

**JOHN DEERE**

**TTG EQUIPMENT**

#11569, 30 FT., 15' SPACING, SINGLE SHOULDER, ELECTRONIC POP RATE CONTROL (FR)

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#111409, 1,625 HRS., P5, 420/85R34, 480/80R50, 5 SCVS (B)

**\$199,500**

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**'12 JD 608C**

#93458, 8R/30", NON STALKMASTER, OPPOSED KNIFE ROLLS (FL)

**\$34,900**

**'13 JD 6125R**

#101192, 1,821 HRS., IVT, LED LIGHTS, 2 SCVS (LO)

**\$92,900**

**'17 JD S670**

#51842, 923/665 HRS., 4WD, POWER BIN EXT, 22.5 AUGER (W)

**\$299,500**

**'18 JD 9520RT**

#111350, 416 HRS., 18F/6R, 36" TRACKS, 5 SCVS, LEATHER (S)

**\$399,500**

**'13 KUHN KRAUSE 5635**

#102154, 50 FT., 24/7 LEVELING SYSTEM, FLAT BAR ROLLING HARROW (FL)

**\$54,900**

**'19 JD 2630**

#52838, 29 FT., 7.25" SPACING, SINGLE PT. DEPTH CONTROL (W)

**\$55,500**

**'17 JD 8245R**

#51826, 1,435 HRS., E23 LEATHER, 4 SCVS (H)

**\$194,900**

**'14 JD S680**

#52264, 1,227/836 HRS., 4WD, HID LIGHTING, PRO DRIVE TRANS, 26 AUGER (B)

**\$219,500**

**'14 JD S660**

#111291, 2,008/1,287 HRS., 4WD, DEEP TOOTH CHAFFER, 22.5 AUGER (H)

**\$195,000**

**'18 JD 2330**

#111762, 38 FT., TRUSET DEPTH SYSTEM, 6 BAR FLEX HARROW, EST 1800 ACRES (B)

**\$87,500**

**'16 JD 333E**

#51125, 1,326 HRS., A/C, EH CONTROLS, 2 SPEED, WIDE TRACK (H)

**\$52,900**

**'18 JD 8295R**

#51739, 508 HRS., IVT, 5 SCVS, 420/85R34, 480/80R50 (LO)

**\$259,900**

**'17 JD S680**

#51823, 1,120/876 HRS., 2WD, POWER BIN EXT, POWER CAST TAIL, 28.5 AUGER (LO)

**\$319,900**

**'11 JD 4830**

#102205, 3,623 HRS., 10' BOOM, 15' SPACING SS PLUMBING, 1,000 GAL TANK (S)

**\$104,900**

**'19 JD S770**

#54149, 377/283 HRS., 4WD, POWER BIN EXT, 26 AUGER (B)

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CRYPTOQUIP

DC RNLW REDJV XNTRDRMGM
CNNQ DR JNLEXWFWXV NTF
NC FSW NZQDGMZV, DR DF
JZWNXW MGQ TGTRTMX?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DO YOU HAVE IF YOU INTENSELY HATE IT WHEN PEOPLE OVERUSE TURNS OF PHRASE? IDIOM ODIUM.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals Y

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

A visit to Asia

- 1) What term describes the narrow strip on the Korean peninsula that follows the 38th parallel?
2) The only U.S. mint outside the continental U.S. was opened in 1920 in what country that was then a U.S. colony?

(1) The Demilitarized Zone (2) The Philippines

CRYPTOQUIP

QSM NQJANK NPULUNHRL
DPQ NQWMFNHRM SQWZ
KAZPHKRRRAWZ LAMRK AW JQHQL
NQUNPRK: XFK-HQFL XLQDW.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF SOME SPICY LOUISIANA FOOD IS COMPLETELY OUT OF THE ORDINARY, IS IT CREOLE AND UNUSUAL?
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: S equals L

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to bath safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 26=L)
A. 5 16 11 7 11 24 5
Clue: Place to bathe
B. 17 7 2 22 18 14
Clue: Cascade of water
C. 17 25 12 4 4 18 14 23
Clue: Without traction
D. 3 16 25 25
Clue: Rapidly move downward

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to bath safety.

CKSLI

Answer slots for the word scramble puzzle.

Guess Who?

I am an athlete born in New York on February 17, 1963. Due to my moderate height, I didn't make the varsity squad in high school. But that didn't stop me from going on to be one of the greatest basketball players of all time.

Answer: Michael Jordan

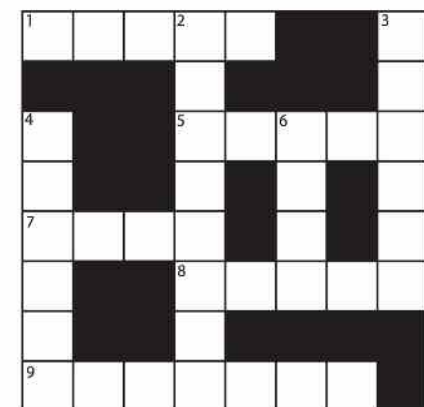


CHINESE NEW YEAR IS NOT AN ACCURATE WAY TO DESCRIBE THIS HOLIDAY SINCE OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO CELEBRATE IT. IT IS BETTER KNOWN AS WHAT?

ANSWER: THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

How they SAY that in...
ENGLISH: Celebrate
SPANISH: Celebrar
ITALIAN: Festeggiare
FRENCH: Fêter
GERMAN: Feiern

Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS: 1. Related to the moon, 5. Muddy color, 7. Slight hollow in surface, 8. Most suitable, 9. Hailing from China
DOWN: 2. Desire to achieve, 3. Happening each year, 4. Astrological system, 6. Instrument

THIS DAY IN...



- HISTORY
1637: FERDINAND III BECOMES HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR.
1898: THE USS MAINE EXPLODES IN HAVANA HARBOR, STARTING THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.
1965: THE MAPLE LEAF FLAG OFFICIALLY BECOMES THE NEW NATIONAL FLAG OF CANADA.



ANSWERS: Across 1. Lunar, 2. Ambition, 3. Annual, 4. Zodiac, 5. Chinese, 6. Oboe, 7. Dent, 8. Ideal, 9. Chinese

BATH SAFETY WORD SEARCH

Y S T E P B Z D E T A E S Z T D B V V P
V S J R L Y J J G V N O A M I R W O F J R
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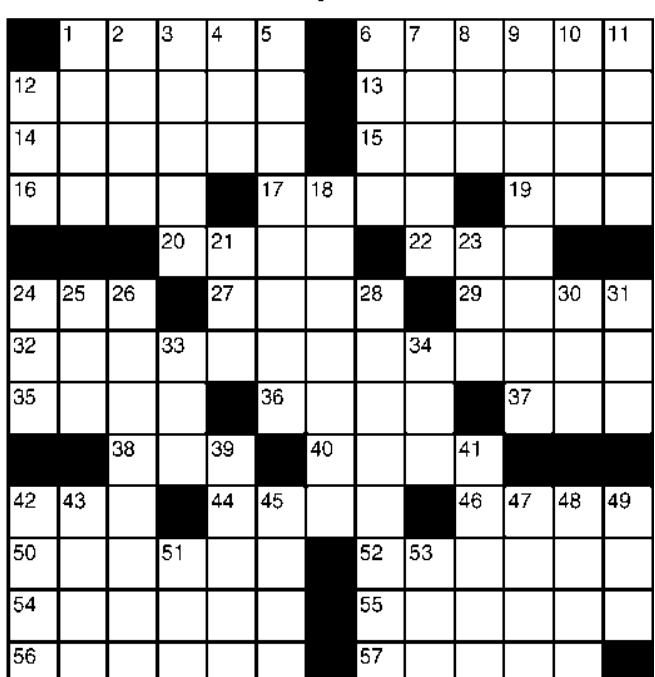
Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

- BATHROOM, CAUTION, CHAIR, EQUIPMENT, FALLING, FAN, GRAB BAR, HANDLE, HAZARD, HELP, ILLUMINATION, INJURY, MATS, MOISTURE, RENOVATION, SAFETY, SEATED, SHOWER, SPA, TILE, TOILET, TRIPPING, TUB, VENTILATION

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 40 God of war, 42 Annex, 44 — Nostra prairies, 46 Pismires, 50 After-shower powder, 52 Arizona tribe, 54 Texas city, 55 Abase oneself, 56 Director Scorsese, 57 Haunting, DOWN 1 Floral rings, 2 Rim, 3 Shoot for, 4 Nipper's co., Solution time: 26 mins.



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

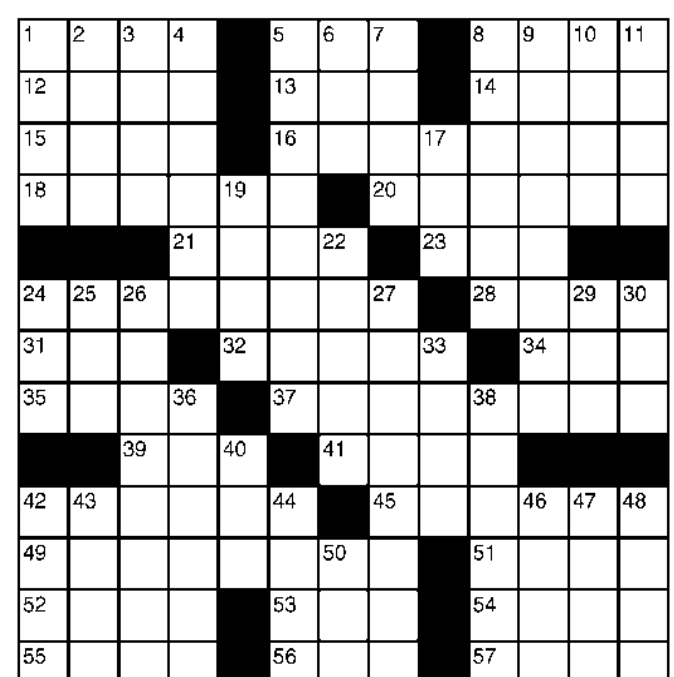
Famous Hand
South dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH: J 8 6 2, K 8, 9 8 3 2, K 4 2. WEST: A, A Q J 9 7, K Q 7 6, 9 8 5. EAST: 10 9, 10 6 5 4 3 2, A J 10 5 4. SOUTH: K Q 7 5 4 3, A Q J 10 7 6 3. The bidding: South 1, West Pass, North 5NT, East 4. Opening lead: king of diamonds. How can you bid a grand slam missing the ace of trump and still come out ahead? Believe it or not, it actually happened when teams from Washington, D.C., and Chicago clashed in the final of the 1988 Grand National Team Championship.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The percentage play
South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: A 9 3, 9 6 2, A 5 4, 10 9 8 2. WEST: 7 2, K Q 10 4, Q 10 7 2, J 6 5. EAST: 10 6 4, A 8 5 3, J 9, Q 7 4 3. SOUTH: K Q J 8 5, J 7, K 8 6 3, A K. The bidding: South 1, West Pass, North 3, East Pass. Opening lead: king of hearts. When and when not to draw trump is a problem you face almost every time you're declarer in a suit contract. Unfortunately, there is no pat formula that tells you when to do one or the other; what you do in each case depends entirely on the circumstances you face.

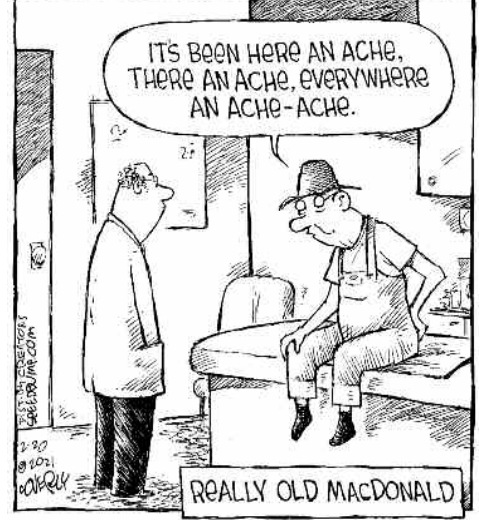
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 37 Not yet apprehended, 39 Pop's mate, 41 Commotion, 42 Frightens, 45 Released, 49 "Scoot!", 51 "That's — ask", 52 Termini, 53 "Humbug!", 54 Snitch, 55 "The — the limit!", 56 Pvt.'s superior, 57 Gusto, DOWN 1 Sporty trucks, briefly, 11 Novelist Rice, 17 Canine cry, Solution time: 21 mins.

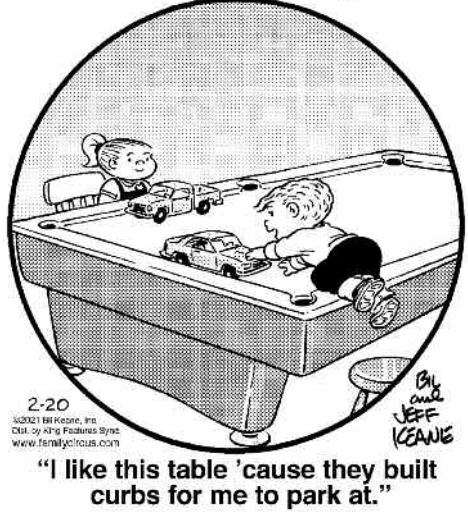




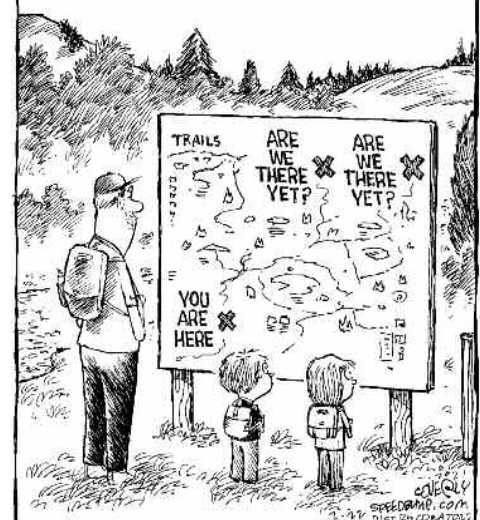
**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



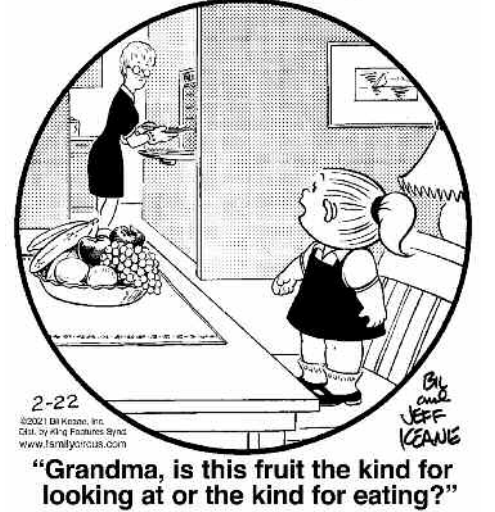
**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**SPEED BUMP** Dave Coverly



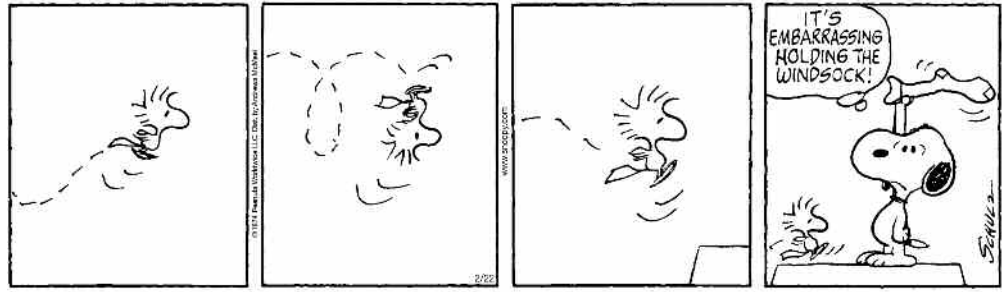
**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**Peanuts**



**Peanuts**



**Rose is Rose**



**Rose is Rose**



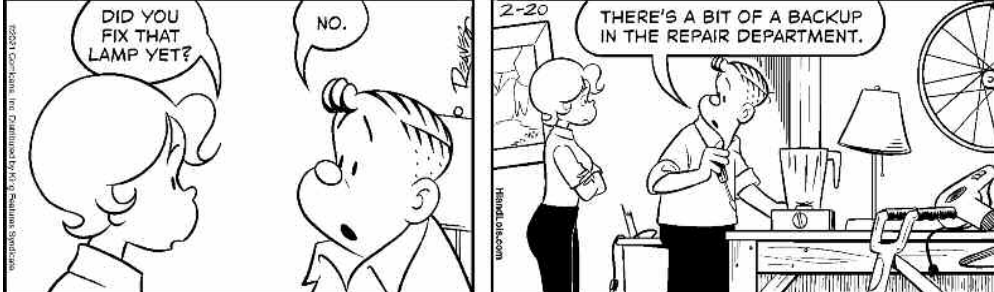
**Agnes**



**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Hi and Lois**



**Funky Winkerbean**



**Funky Winkerbean**



**Blondie**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**Beetle Bailey**



**We Deliver**

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

**Laughter**

The Commercial Review We Deliver



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Effective 07/01/2018:  
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2 insertions.....81¢/  
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3 insertions.....96¢/  
word  
6 insertions.... \$1.14/  
word  
12 insertions. \$1.52/  
word  
26 insertions. \$1.77/  
word  
Includes  
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Classified Display \$6.95/  
per column inch  
No borders or logos  
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wanted to rent, motor-  
ized vehicles, real estate  
and mobile homes.

**30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND**

**ATTENTION! LOST A PET** Or found one? The jay county humane society can serve as an information center. 260-726-6339

**40 NOTICES**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 3413 W 100 S, Portland, IN  
Saturday, March 6, 2021  
10:00am  
7+ acres w/4brm, 1 1/2ba, ranch style home. 2011 Lincoln MKX, 1999 Dodge 1500 Laramie SLT, 1978 Dodge PW-250 JD Z-930M, 3010NF diesel non-running, 42 pull-type combine; 2005 Polaris; EZ-Go golf cart; skid steer; 6x10 trailer. Bush Hog; power washer; 5500watt generator; welder; PTO seeder; wrenches shop tools; log chains; 3-wheel bike. Wood washing tub; 30gal cast iron kettle, dinner bell; mantle clocks; furniture; 5gal crock; lamps; mirrors; dresser; twin bed; end tables; gun safe; washer/dryer; upright freezer; kitchen smalls; much more.  
Dick Haffner Trust  
Mike Haffner, Trustee  
Shawver Auctioneering & Real Estate  
AC31800004  
Visit  
www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com  
Auctioneer ID #4243 To See Pictures.  
Pete D. Shawver  
AU19700040  
260-726-5587  
Zane Shawver  
AU10500168  
260-729-2229

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN  
Saturday, February 27th, 2021  
10:00am

Household Goods-Old & Collectors Items; Hover Round mobility cart; Jazzy mobility cart; Oak 4 drawer dresser w/mirror, 4 drawer marble top commode; 4 piece bedroom suite; 3 cushion sofa; Bavaria 4 place setting china; Samsung flat screen TV; 2 Lazboy recliners; Camel lighters, presser cooker; Western Flyer wagon; crock pots; Coke crates; cast iron skillets-Wagoner; Quality Pro 20 hp 46" deck riding mower; John Deere 5.5 hp 21" electric start push mower; Poulan 4 1/2 hp mower; 1 1/2 ton floor jack; work bench; ventless gas wall heater; and many other items not listed.  
Auctioneers Note: This is only a partial listing of the items to be sold. Please note that we will be running 2 rings during a portion of the day. It is recommended you follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a facial mask and social distancing  
Bye Family  
Loy Auction  
AU31600027  
260-726-2700  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608  
Ben Lyons AU10700085  
Travis Theurer  
AU11200131  
Aaron Loy AU11200112  
Troy Foust AU19800068

**READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE**

**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Located on 100 S between S Knox Rd & Hwy1, South Side (Half a mile west of Hy 1 on 100 S)  
Monday, March 8, 2021  
Time 4:30 pm  
Real Estate: 55 acres located on section 26 of Knox Twp., Jay County, Indiana. Practically all tillable with frontage on CR 100 S. Farm sells on site.  
Terms on Real Estate: Cash with 10% non-refundable deposit day of auction. Balance due at closing. Sale not subject to buyer obtaining financing. Arrange financing if needed prior to auction. Final sale subject to owner confirmation.  
Owner Larry Denney & Others  
Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad.  
Shawver Auctioneering & Real Estate  
AC31800004  
Visit  
www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com for pictures. Pete D. Shawver AU19700040  
260-726-5587  
Zane Shawver  
AU10500168  
260-729-2229

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday, February 27th  
10:00 pm

4-H Building, at Jay Co. Fairgrounds Portland, IN  
Alsip Auctioneering will be selling the estate of Morris Alsip due to a sudden illness. Our intent was to hire a third party auction service because of the personal nature of the sale. However, I know my father would want me to handle this for him. I became an auctioneer at the age of 20 and he has been by my side every step of the way. I want to thank the Auctioneers and the ones who have asked to help with set up. The weather is making set up more difficult so pictures will be added on a day to day basis prior to the sale.

We have a large amount of Antique smalls including Jewelry, Silver and Gold, Advertising Signs, Furniture, Toys, Guns and a lifetime of tools.  
There is also a car hauler trailer and a corn pellet stove. We are not sure what we will find and this is just a start to the listing. Make sure to check back for updates. This will be a great sale we hope you can attend.  
Terms Cash, good checks, and credit cards (3% Service Fee)  
Maurice Alsip Estate  
Chad Alsip, Auctioneer  
AU19400112  
Terry Drake, Auctioneer  
AU10600020  
Chad Briker, Auctioneer-  
AU11600027  
All Statements made day of the auction take precedent over any written materials.

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**ALUMINUM SHEETS**  
23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

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**250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Public Notice**

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:  
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NO: 38C01-2102-EU-000006  
IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF:  
JOHN E. HANLIN, (Deceased)  
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
Notice is given that TAMARA K. HANLIN on the day 8th day of February, 2021, was appointed Personal Representative of the estate of JOHN E. HANLIN, deceased, who died on January 31, 2021. The Personal Representative is authorized to administer the estate without Court supervision. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or Within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.  
Dated: February 8, 2021  
Jon Eads  
Clerk of The Jay County Court  
Natalie J. Booher  
Schwarz Law Office, PC  
310 N. Chicago St.  
PO Box 637  
Royal Center, Indiana 46978  
574/643-9999  
Supreme Court I.D. No. 33965-71  
Attorney for the Estate  
CR 2-13,20-2021 HSPAXLP

**200 FOR RENT**

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**260 PUBLIC AUCTION**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
SALE WILL BE HELD IN THE 4-H BUILDING AT THE JAY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS IN PORTLAND INDIANA.

**February 27, 2021**  
10:00 AM

Alsip Auctioneering will be selling the estate of Morris Alsip due to a sudden illness. Our intent was to hire a third party auction service because of the personal nature of the sale; however, i know my father would want me to handle this for him. I became an auctioneer at the age of twenty and he has been by my side every step of the way.  
Sale will be held in the 4-H Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds in Portland Indiana. I want to thank the auctioneers and the ones who have asked to help with set up. The weather is making the set up more difficult so pictures will be added on a day to day basis prior to the sale.

We have a large amount of antique smalls including jewelry, silver and gold advertising signs, furniture, toys, guns and a lifetime of tools. there is also a car hauler trailer and a corn pellet stove. We are not sure what we will find and this is just a start to the listing. Make sure to check back for updates.

**THIS WILL BE A GREAT SALE WE HOPE YOU CAN ATTEND.**  
Terms Cash, Good Checks And Credit CARDS (3% SERVICE FEE)  
**MORRIS ALSIP**

AUCTIONEER CHAD ALSIP AU19400112  
AUCTIONEER TERRY DRAKE AU10600020  
AUCTIONEER CHAD BRICKER AU11600027  
All statements made day of auction take precedent over any written materials.  
CR 2-20-2021

**Visit Us At: thecr.com**

**260 PUBLIC AUCTION**

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds on Saturday Morning

**FEBRUARY 27, 2021**  
10:00 A.M.

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS-Mobility Carts:**  
Hover Round mobility cart; Jazzy mobility chart; 1 pc flatdoor cabinet; Kneehole desk; Oak 4 drawer dresser w/mirror; 4 drawer marble top commode; 4 drawer chests; dresser w/ mirror; electric hospital bed; dining table w/5 chairs; 4 pc bedroom suite; 3 cushion sofa; Bavaria 4 place setting china; Samsung flat screen TV; hall tree; buffet; lamps stands; 2 Lazy Boy recliners; plant stands; metal display shelf w/glass; occasional chairs; Lance pretzel jar; Camel lighters; pressure cooker; Oster blender; Frigidaire air conditioner; Western Flyer wagon; trunk; metal stools; card table w/chairs; flatware; utensils; George Foreman grill; crock pots; porcelain coffee pot; dehydrator; Coke crates; cast iron skillets - Wagoner, National; cookware; jewelry; oil lamps; Corning ware; Pyrex; Fire King; Tupperware; microwave; food choppers; brass figures; lamps; galvanized water can; steins; cookware; white porcelain; metal ship; Napa model car/semi; Napa radio controlled truck; Zenith stereo/phono; wash board; bedding; rugs; towels; fans; wood crate; records; metal file cabinets; bottles; canning jars; games; tins; burlap bags; afghans; craft supplies; books; and many other items not listed.

**MOWERS - TOOLS:**  
Quality Pro 20 hp. 46" deck riding mower; John Deere 5.5 hp. 21" electric start push mower; Poulan 4 1/2 hp push mower; Troy Bilt weed eater; Craftsman electric blower; Craftsman 5 hp chopper/shredder; jump box; electric portable heater; 1 1/2 Ton floor jack; work bench; Black & Decker circular saw; battery tester; 10 amp. Charger; lawn cart; come-along; ventless gas wall heater; flashlights; 1.5 hp shop vac; hand tools; meat saw; pipe wrenches; gas cans; car ramps; broadcaster; horse shoes; cement bird bath; golf clubs; plastic lawn chairs; fence posts; gas grill; and many other items not listed.

Auctioneer's Note: This is only a partial listing of the items to be sold. Please note that we will be running 2 rings during a portion of the day.  
\*\*It is recommended you follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a facial mask and social distancing.

**BYE FAMILY**  
LOY AUCTION-AC#31600027  
AUCTIONEERS  
Gary Loy-AU01031608 Ben Lyons-AU10700085  
Travis Theurer-AU11200131 Aaron Loy-AU11200112  
Troy Foust-AU19800068

CR 2-20-2021

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# Jay's Murphy advances to diving regional

A Patriot diver is moving on. The state's defending champion broke a record that's older than he is. Jay County High School senior Justice Murphy squeaked into the final qualifying spot and Delta's Sam Bennett set a new pool and sectional record in the IHSAA diving sectional Friday at JCHS. The top four advance to regional, which is set for 5 p.m. Tuesday at Fishers. Bennett, last season's state champion who was also fourth

## Local roundup

as a sophomore, won the regional title with 674.05 points. The Delta senior beat the previous record, set by Jay County's Caleb Bye 21 years ago, by 143 points.

The Eagles swept the top three positions, with sophomore Jackson Condie a distant second with 334.85 points, and sophomore Tre Phillips third with 328.6 points. Murphy totaled 279.7 points, a mere 1.45 points higher than fifth-place finisher Mason Whitton of Muncie Central. Delta is in position to win its seventh straight sectional title as swimming consolation and championship heats are set for 1 p.m. today. The Eagles have 53 points, and Muncie Central is

second with 30. Jay County (15) is in third. **Tribe rallies past Cards** FORT RECOVERY — An 18-point third quarter helped the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team surge past the New Bremen Cardinals on Friday for a 55-50 victory at Fort Site Fieldhouse. The win moves the Indians to 11-11 (4-4 Midwest Athletic Conference) while the Cardinals fall to 14-8 (6-3 MAC). Fort Recovery trailed 17-13 at

the end of the first period before trimming the margin to three points, 28-25, at halftime. The Tribe outscored the Cardinals 18-9 in the third quarter and held off a potential rally in the fourth. Brian Bihn had a game-high 14 points to lead the Indians, who also got 10 points from Cale Rammel and nine apiece from Clay Schmitz and Regan Martin. Trevor Bergman scored 11 points to lead the Cardinals in the losing effort.

## Fresh ...

Continued from page 10 "He kind of got in the scramble position, those get to where you're 50/50," Myers said. "He was right there where he was going to finish that takedown and that Haines kid made a small adjustment and we ended up giving one up. "That early takedown that we gave up really kind of hurt us." Wood, who was a sectional and regional champion as well as semi-state runner-up, ends his year 37-5. Rowles, a 106-pounder, wasn't able to get any offense going in his match against fifth-ranked Natham Smith, a Southport junior. Rowles had Smith in a headlock but wasn't able to score the two-point takedown or get the pin early in the first period. Instead, he got rolled onto his back, giving Smith two points, and then Smith scored a three-point near fall. Rowles (37-3) almost got a reversal later in the period but surrendered another near fall, this one two points, and he was down 7-0 after two minutes. Smith got a takedown in the second period for the final points of the match. "I just didn't wrestle like myself," said Rowles, who like Wood was a sectional and regional champion. "I didn't wrestle great at all. I let him control the match when I should have. "I almost had him a couple times but I just didn't do what I could." So he'll be using this as fuel going forward. "Now I've got a chip on my shoulder and I'm going to come back and place

high the next three years because that was not fun," he said. Based on state rankings, Clark had the toughest match of the three Patriots as he squared off against No. 4 Kysen Montgomery of Brownsburg in their 132-pound quarterfinal. Montgomery, now a four-time state medalist, dominated the match to a 16-0 tech fall in 4:40. Montgomery led 9-0 after the first period and was ahead 14-0 at the end of the second. Despite the lopsided loss, Clark (28-7) was not disappointed as he walked off the mat. "I still feel like I wrestled pretty good," he said. "He was a really tough kid. I got to his legs a few times, about took him down (and) about reversed him a few times. "He's just really good on top and really good at tilting so he got a lot of near-falls. But overall I feel like I wrestled pretty good against him." Despite having three state qualifiers for the first time since 1987 and none of them earning a medal, the youngsters hope they have set the tone for the rest of their careers. "When things don't go the way you want them to you just have to take positives out of it," Myers said. "These guys had the opportunity to come down here and feel what it's like to wrestle in the state finals and get that experience. "You just hope that they take what they learned here and build on it for another season and they're ready to come back and place here."



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School junior Ethan Dirksen tries to get a shot up between Norwell defenders Luke Graft (12) and Eli Riley (4) during the third quarter Friday at JCHS. Dirksen was called for a charge on the play. And he later blocked the potential game-winning 3-pointer as the Patriots beat the Knights, 47-45.

## Seals ...

Continued from page 10 They took a 41-40 lead on a Dirksen bucket from the right baseline with 3:45 remaining, then got a 43-40 advantage when Dirksen assisted on a Dusty Pearson layup with 1:06 to play. McBride, who led all players with 27 points, brought the Knights (8-12) within one, 43-42, on a layup with 36.9 ticks left. Dirksen was sent to the line for a one-and-one with 34.5 seconds remaining and he made both, putting Jay County on top 45-42. McBride drained his seventh and final 3-pointer from the left wing with 18 seconds to go, and on the ensuing possession Josh Dowlen was

fouled on the floor with 1.5 seconds left. He sank both, and at the other end Dirksen got a hand on McBride's potential game-winner from in front of his team's bench. "We finally got in situations at the end that we practice and (are) trying to get over the hump," Bomholt said. "That's what was so frustrating up to this game is we practice those situations but we never really got ourselves in those situations to try to win the basketball game at the end." Dirksen led Jay County with 19 points, and Bennett Weitzel was second with 10. Pearson chipped in eight points. Dowlen, who's two free throws proved to be the game-win-

ning points, finished with seven. Brody Bolyn had 10 points to join McBride in double figures for the Knights. **Junior varsity** A slow start offensively and a Knight surge in the third quarter resulted in a 45-30 loss for Jay County. The Patriots (7-9) trailed 8-2 at the end of the first quarter and had the same margin, 16-10, at halftime. The Knights had a 15-9 edge in the third quarter for a 31-19 lead and continued to pull away down the stretch. Brady Davis led Jay County with 13 points, and Blake Bogenschutz ended with 11 points.

## Sports on tap

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Jay County — Boys basketball vs. Seton Catholic — 6 p.m.  
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**TV schedule**  
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Noon — Men's College Basketball: Michigan State at Indiana (ESPN)  
1 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: UConn at Villanova (FOX); Kentucky at Tennessee (CBS)  
2 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Texas Tech at Kansas (ESPN); Missouri at South Carolina (ESPN2)  
3 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: West Virginia at Texas (ABC)  
4 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Auburn at LSU (ESPN)  
5:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Purdue at Nebraska (BTN)

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# Sports

## Fresh out

*First-year Jay County grapplers fall short in opening round, leaving Patriots without a medalist for the first time since 2015*

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

INDIANAPOLIS — Having the Patriots reach the state meet is nothing out of the ordinary.

Returning without hardware, however, is.

Jay County High School freshmen wrestlers Cody Rowles, Tony Wood and Cameron Clark each lost in the opening round of the IHSAA Wrestling State Finals on Friday at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

It marks the first time since 2015 and just the second time in nine seasons Jay County hasn't had a state medalist.

"It's upsetting," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "You like to put another name on that podium and get another medalist."

"It's upsetting today to not have anybody wrestling into Saturday. I think in a few days we'll be pretty happy with what we accomplished."

Winners in each weight class Friday are guaranteed a top-eight finish and a medal as the state finals resume at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Tony Wood, a 120-pounder, was the only Patriot to score a point during his match. The ninth-ranked Wood fell behind 2-0 to No. 15 Braden Haines of Brownsburg in the first period before an



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Cody Rowles, a Jay County High School freshman, tries to turn Nathan Smith of Southport for a takedown during the first period of their 106-pound opening-round match of the IHSAA Wrestling State Finals on Friday at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis. Rowles lost by major decision, 9-0, and all three JCHS freshmen dropped their opening matches, marking the first time since 2015 the Patriots have not had a state medalist.

escape and a takedown gave Wood a 3-2 lead heading into the third period. Haines broke free

from his bottom position 10 seconds into the third period, then took Wood to the mat with 18 sec-

onds to go in getting a 5-3 decision.

See Fresh page 9

## Dirksen block seals victory

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

Ethan Dirksen made nine baskets.

It was the one he stopped on defense that really made the difference.

Dirksen, a Jay County High School junior, blocked the potential game-winning 3-pointer from Norwell sophomore Luke McBride with half a second remaining as the Patriot boys basketball team hung on for a 47-45 victory Friday against the visiting Knights.

"Ethan is Ethan," said JCHS coach Jerry Bomholt. "He has been our most consistent player all year (and he) continues to be. Plays on both ends of the floor. He's the one guy we have right now, he doesn't take possessions off."

"I'm not saying we have other guys that do, but you never, ever, can look at him and say that was just a lack of effort on his part. He plays both ends of the floor the way a high school player needs to play."

The Patriots (6-8), who snapped a four-game losing streak, were down 28-21 at half and 38-36 after three quarters.

See Seals page 9



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