

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



Wintry workout

Horses trot behind a truck to get a workout along the outside of the track this morning at the grandstand at Jay County Fairgrounds.

The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

JCDC reviews details of job

Community development position to be posted next week

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Jay County Development Corporation will begin its search for a new director of community development soon.

The organization's board discussed the position Tuesday during its first meeting of 2021 with board members slated to review the job description in the coming days. JCDC executive director Travis Richards said he plans to begin advertising for the position next week.

The director of community development position has been open since Nov. 14 when Ami Huffman announced her resignation.

The job description remains much the same as it was when Huffman was hired a decade and a half ago. It includes items such as collaborating with communities to develop community plans, promoting volunteerism, researching and applying for grants, providing support for fundraising initiatives associated with community development projects and helping to develop ties between local communities and organizations. Additional language was added to include supporting communities through the grant process and assisting Main Street organizations, reflecting duties Huffman had already taken on in the role.

"In general, I think this job description that was written in 2005 is still pretty appropriate for what we're doing and what we want to do," said Richards.

See Job page 2

Park board OKs purchase of mowers

By RILEY EUBANKS
The Commercial Review

Portland Street and Parks Department is getting some new lawnmowers.

The city's park board at its meeting Tuesday approved the purchase of two new Country Clipper mowers from Portland's AMX Motorsports for \$7,862. The grass cutters will be added to the department's four-mower rotation alongside two Grasshopper mowers it

purchased around this time last year.

Park manager Matt Shauver explained that the department trades in mowers after two years to keep their rotation fresh while retaining values for the trade-ins. The now two-year-old mowers, both 72 inches, were traded in for the quicker 60-inch Country Clipper mowers.

"They just scalp too hard," Shauver said about the 72-inch mowers, which

the department was trying out for the first time.

The other bid Shauver gathered was for two Grasshopper mowers totaling \$11,200 from Hull Brothers of Fort Recovery.

Reviewing the goals the department presented to the board at January's meeting, Shauver also presented two quotes to have the roof of the amphitheater at Hudson Family Park power washed and sealed. Fort Recovery's Al Warnock Painting had the

lowest bid at \$3,400, though the board agreed to go with the slightly pricier Bruce Smith for the job at \$3,638 because he is based in Jay County.

"Even though it is \$238 more, we want to support our local businesses," board member Brian Ison said.

Shauver also told the board that the department is paying \$1,280 to Bluffton's Aquatic Management Inc. for it to fix and reinstall the fountain-

heads at Hudson Family Park.

"I think they've been in the water so long that they need some attention," Shauver said, adding that the electrical wires for the fountain often get kinked.

In other business, board members Giles Laux, Glen Bryant, Chris Compton and Ison, absent Shauver, tasked Ison with helping to create a five-year strategic plan for the park board.

Bill focuses on farmers

By RILEY EUBANKS
The Commercial Review

INDIANAPOLIS — A new bill making its way through the Indiana Senate would provide further protection for farmers who sell grain to financially ruined yet still licensed buyers.

Senate Bill 364, authored and introduced by State Sen. Travis Holdman (R-Markle), would allow "banking irregularities" during a grain purchase to trigger an audit of sorts and possible suspension of a license for a grain elevator, among other changes. It received a hearing at Tuesday's Senate Tax and Fiscal Policy committee meeting.

Two financial "failures" from grain elevators, which essentially assume temporary ownership of grain so it can be stored until its time to sell, in Huntington and Wells counties prompted Holdman, who represents parts of those counties in addition to Jay County, to introduce the bill, he said.

Matt Gilbert, who grows soybeans in northeast Indiana, told the committee that he received checks totaling \$200,000 from Salamonie Mills and Agland Grain Co. that later

Holdman's measure would provide protection for those who store grain for later sale

bounced. However, since this occurred prior to those grain elevators designated "failure" date, Gilbert was not fully reimbursed from the state's grain indemnity fund for storage fees and other financial costs.

"I personally know of at least 24 others in the same situation," Gilbert told the committee, which did not take a vote on the bill at the request of Holdman.

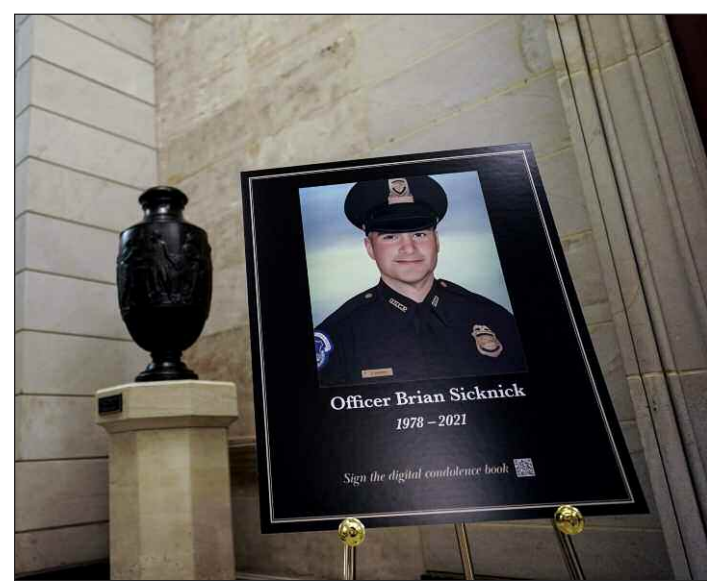
The state's grain indemnity fund, which farmers voluntarily pay into, is designed to repay farmers like Gilbert for 100% of costs related to storage and 80% of other costs after a licensed buyer fails to pay for acquired grain.

Designation of that failure,

however, currently comes from the state department of agriculture. Those checks bouncing "should've been red flags to the (Indiana Grain Buyers and Warehouse Licensing Agency)," Gilbert said, but ultimately went unchecked until the grain elevators voluntarily forfeited their licenses months later, past the deadline for him to qualify for full reimbursement.

Sen. Jean Leising (R-Oldenburg) raised concerns that the bill, as written, would extend cases of the already-established 15 month "look-back" period for grain buyers after a financial mishap during the selling of grain.

See Bill page 5



Washington Post/Salwan Georges

Officer honored

A sign memorializes U.S. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, 42, whose remains were brought to the Rotunda of the Capitol on Tuesday evening. The officer was responding to the riot at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021, when he was fatally injured while physically engaging with the mob. Sicknick, who joined the force 12 years ago, is the fifth deceased person who was not a public official or military leader to lie in the Rotunda.

Deaths

Gregory Pfeifer, 52, rural Bryant
Julie Gambill-Flesher, 55, Portland
Charlene Bergman, 52, Geneva
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 32 degrees Tuesday. The low was 16.
Tonight's low will be 18.
The high will climb to 37 Thursday with a mixture of rain and snow in the afternoon and winds at 15 to 25 miles per hour.
For an extended outlook, see page 2.

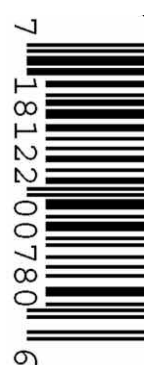
In review

The Portland Foundation is accepting nominations for the Jack Cole Award of Volunteerism. Nominations should include the individual's name and address, and a brief background of why he or she is deserving. They should be sent to the foundation office, 107 S. Meridian St., Portland. The deadline is March 18.

Coming up

Thursday — Update on the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Saturday — Results from Friday's JCHS girls basketball sectional semifinal.



Job ...

Continued from page 1

There was brief discussion about the job description's "preference" that the prospective employee either be a Jay County resident or be willing to relocate to Jay County. Board members Ron Laux and Mike Medler indicated their preference to hire the best candidate regardless of residency. Angela Paxson pointed out that the job is not a 9-to-5 type and requires community engagement on evenings and weekends. Board members agreed the job description is written in a way that provides enough flexibility for them to weigh those issues.

The position will be advertised locally as well as on the Indiana Economic Development Association website. The board did not set a timeline for when it would like to have the position filled.

Huffman's resignation came after a few weeks of controversy over a comment she made in a private Facebook group — a screenshot of the post was later circulated publicly — regarding the Oct. 25 "Ameri-

can Patriots Day" event in Portland. She had been in the role since August 2005.

Richards also updated on the board on various developments since its last meeting in October. He noted that there was work done at the former Pennville Elementary School with a goal of having it available for events soon. He also said JCDC representatives have met with three potential housing developers in the last few months, though currently no projects are imminent.

Also Tuesday, the board:
•Approved Jay County Commissioner Brian McGalliard and Rob Keisling of Indiana Michigan Power as new members, replacing former commissioner Chuck Huffman and Ashley Savieo of I&M.

•Heard from Gyneth Augsburg of Jay County Visitors and Tourism Bureau that the Jay County Fiber Arts Festival that was scheduled for March has been canceled. She said a virtual event is being planned.

Pet of the week

Scooby, a male mastiff mix that is neutered and up to date on vaccinations, can be adopted for \$100 from Jay County Humane Society, 1313 Shadeland Ave., Portland. The shelter can be reached at (260) 726-6339.

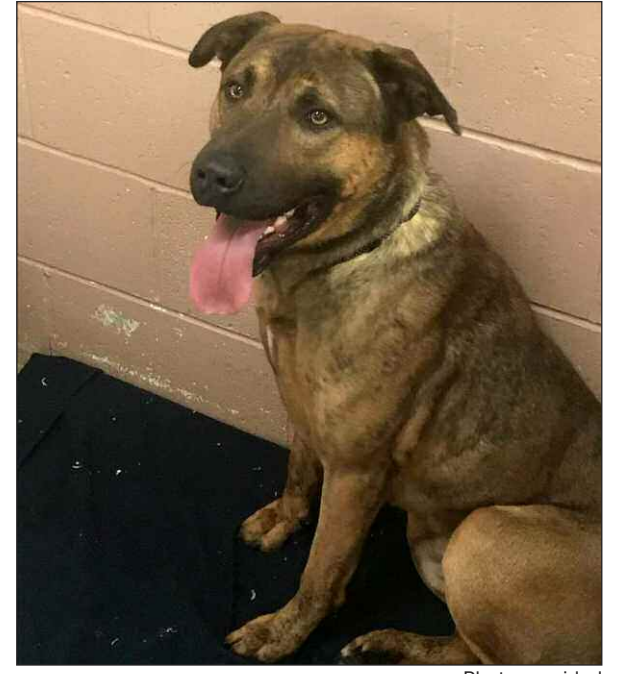


Photo provided

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Thursday 2/4	Friday 2/5	Saturday 2/6	Sunday 2/7	Monday 2/8
37/20	24/9	22/8	14/0	14/6
Warmer with a 80% chance of a rain-snow mix all day. Less than an inch of snow possible.	Cooler with temperatures dipping below the teens at night. Mostly cloudy. Windy.	Cooler under mostly sunny skies with a 30% chance of snow in the late evening. Cloudy night.	Temperatures will dip to 0 under mostly cloudy skies. High in the teens during the day.	Warmer at night but still cold under mostly cloudy skies. Still cold on Tuesday.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Daily Four: 3-8-9-5 Quick Draw: 10-14-17-26-39-41-45-48-52-54-60-62-65-66-69-71-72-73-76-78 Cash 5: 8-17-23-25-36 Estimated jackpot: \$723,500
Mega Millions 13-37-38-40-67 Mega Ball: 10 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$54 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 0-9-0 Pick 4: 0-6-7-3 Pick 5: 6-2-0-8-4 Evening Pick 3: 4-3-1 Pick 4: 2-6-5-8 Pick 5: 4-0-1-8-9 Rolling Cash: 3-22-25-31-38 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 3-00-5 Daily Four: 3-6-6-5 Quick Draw: 2-3-5-6-10-11-21-23-31-48-52-53-58-61-62-68-70-76-77-80 Evening Daily Three: 8-2-6	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.43 Wheat6.02	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.33 March corn5.36 Beans13.53 March beans13.53 Wheat 6.22 March wheat 6.24
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.50 March corn5.47	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.15 March corn5.20 Beans13.35 March beans13.50 Wheat6.09 March wheat.....6.09
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.41 March corn5.46 Beans13.51 March beans13.63 Wheat 6.37 March wheat 6.37	

Today in history

On Feb. 3, 1959, rock-and-roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson died in a small plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln and Confederate Vice President Alexander H. Stephens held a peace conference off the Virginia coast; the talks deadlocked over the issue of Southern autonomy.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, providing for a federal income tax, was ratified.

In 1916, Canada's original Parliament Buildings, in Ottawa, burned down.

In 1971, former Muncie police officer Michael Jones received a suspended sentence in Jay Circuit Court after pleading guilty to second degree burglary and safe burglary.

—Associated Press

Citizen's calendar

Thursday 10 a.m. — Portland Board of Works via Zoom	4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, Community Room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 11 a.m. — Dunkirk Police Pension Board, city building, 131 S. Main St. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 6 p.m. — Jay County Regional Sewer Board, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Obituaries

Gregory Pfeifer

Dec. 10, 1968-Feb. 1, 2021
Gregory A. Pfeifer, age 52, of rural Bryant passed away Monday evening, Feb. 1, 2021, in Visiting Nurses Hospice in Fort Wayne.

He was born in Portland on Dec. 10, 1968, the son of Robert and Kathy (Stults) Pfeifer. Greg was a truck driver for the Jay County Highway Department and had worked in excavating for Guy Tressler and John Corwin. He was a 1987 Jay County High School graduate and an MTA Diesel Mechanic graduate from Columbus, Ohio. He served on the Bryant Volunteer Fire Department.



Pfeifer

Surviving are two sons, Christopher Pfeifer of Bryant and Alexander Pfeifer of Bryant; one brother, Andy Pfeifer (wife: Carol) of Sanford, North Carolina; and nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be Saturday

at 10 a.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Darrel Borders presiding. Burial will follow in the Gravel Hill Cemetery in Bryant. Visitation will be Friday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Cancer Society.

Julie Gambill-Flesher

March 22, 1965-Feb. 2, 2021
Julie Marie Gambill-Flesher, 55, of Portland, Indiana, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2021, in Decatur.

Julie was born on March 22, 1965, in Decatur to Earl and Dolly (Dulin) Gambill. On Nov. 9, 1984, Julie married Ron Flesher; he preceded her in death in 2010.

Julie managed Canterbury Apartments in Portland, Indiana.

She is survived by her parents, Earl and Dolly Gambill of Decatur; a son, Ethan Flesher of Portland; a daughter, Brittany Flesher of



Gambill-Flesher

Decatur; a brother, Mark Gambill of Decatur; and a sister, Jackie (Patrick) Abbott of Decatur.

There will be no services or viewing.

Burial will be in Gravel Hill Cemetery in Bryant, Indiana.

Memorials may be made to Canterbury Apartments Assistance Program in Portland, Indiana.

Arrangements were handled by Haggard-Sefton-Hirsch & Zelt Funeral Home.

To sign the guest book, visit hsh-funeralhome.com.

Charlene Bergman, Geneva, Sunday, March 3, 1968-Feb. 1, 2021. Services will be at 1 p.m. Thursday at Gravel Hill Cemetery in rural Bryant.

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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.

Portland City Court

Judge Donald Gillespie

Fined and sentenced
Bennie C. Conley, Hartford City, speeding 50 mph in a 40 mph zone, \$145.50.

Failed to appear

Michelle L. Hill, Hartford City, expired plates; Brigget R. Lykins, Portland, no valid license; Eldar Abbasov, Brooklyn, New York, speeding 80 mph in a 55 mph zone; Donnie A. Seelye, Connersville, driving while suspended.

Trials scheduled

Rebecca J. Archer, Portland, driving while suspended, March 3; Jake D.

Boolman, Portland, speeding 67 mph in a 55 mph zone, Feb. 3; Kelsey L. Johnson, Muncie, driving while suspended, Feb. 3; Ashley A. Robinette, Portland, noise ordinance violation (two counts), Feb. 3; Kara J. Antoinette Williams, Indianapolis, speeding 53 mph in a 30 mph zone, March 3.

Waivers

Jake L. Schwartz, Bryant, hunting violation, \$160; Austin E. Harris, Decatur, hunting violation, \$160; Ambrocio Martinez, Portland, no valid license, \$160.50; Ashley N. Taylor, Portland, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150.50; Magdalena Cholom, Port-

land, no valid license, \$160.50, and driving the wrong way on a one way, \$25; Jonathan E. Resler, Winchester, expired plates, \$160; Gideon M. Baldrige, seat belt violation, \$25; A. Pain, Fort Wayne, disregarding stop sign, \$160.50; Simon C. Brumfield, Dunkirk, hunting violation, \$160; Karen G. Jarrett, St. Cloud, Florida, disregarding stop sign, \$160.50; Paul V. Villari, Union, Kentucky, speeding 74 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$154.50; Nicholas H. Gibbs, Dunkirk, speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$145.50; Jeffrey M. Cosner, Portland, speeding 58 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$163.50; Pau D.

Tuang, Fort Wayne, passing violation, \$160.50; Deanna Hofmann, Eaton, Ohio, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150.50; Taylor S. Klarer, Portland, hunting violation, \$160; Ruby F. Maynard, Portland, speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$145.50; Mary R. Reum, Portland, no valid license, \$160.50; Victoria L. Wallace, Portland, speeding 40 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$145.50; Dakota C. Cole, Anderson, speeding 44 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$149.50; Natasha D. Jones, Dunkirk, speeding 72 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$152.50; Margarita Perez, Portland, disregarding stop sign, \$160.50.

Felony arrests

Criminal confinement

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for alleged criminal confinement, strangulation and other related charges.

Skyler L. Petty, 28, 26 W. 600 South, was preliminarily charged with a Level 5 felony for criminal confinement resulting in bodily injury, a

Level 6 felony for strangulation and two Class A misdemeanors for interference with reporting a crime and domestic battery. Petty is being held in Jay County Jail without bond.

Probation violation

Two local residents were arrested Tuesday for violating their proba-

tion. Both were previously charged with Class C misdemeanors for theft.

Tiffin S. High, 45, 372 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk, was booked into Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond.

Travis J. Guntle, 21, 308 W. Indiana 28, Ridgeville, was booked into Jay County Jail on \$650 bond.

Deeds

Zachariah L. and Samantha M. Chenoweth (also known as Samantha M. Bihn) to themselves, quit claim deed — Part of Section 8, Noble Township, 12.63 acres

Chelsea R. Aker and Kari L. Fields to Eric W. Morehous and Amanda C. McDowell, warranty deed — Lots 5 and 6, original plat of Bryant

Michaela A. Walter to Dana L. James, warranty deed — Part of Section 1, Knox Township, 2.2 acres

Albert T. and Mary R. Elliott (both deceased) to Kama Acres LLC, personal representative deed — Parts of Section 14, Jefferson Township, 50.50 acres

David G. Kesler to Susan K. Kesler-Simpson, trustee deed — Parcels of Section 16, Knox Township, 235 acres

Lola A. Gadbury (deceased) to Bryant L. Harden, personal representative deed — Part of Section 3, Richland Township, 1.6 acres

Randy and Karla Hopkins to Five Brothers LLC, warranty deed — Part of Lot 44, Baker Addition, Portland

Youth Service Bureau of Jay County Incorporated to Cidney Bickel, warranty deed — Part of Lot 5, Jamie Addition, Portland

Zane Shawver to David C.R. and Esther A. Graber, warranty deed — Part of Section 4, Greene Township, 2 acres

Franches R. Whitenack Revocable Trust to Philip J. Whitenack, trustee deed — Part of Section 19, Pike Township, 1.97 acres

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.

Flowers & Gifts for Your Valentine

Flowers, Candy Bouquets, Balloons, Candles, and MORE

Free delivery in Portland and to the schools
Call or text 260-703-0304 to order!

Remember VALENTINE'S DAY

Open Valentine's Day 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Bricker's Flowers & More
414 N Meridian St. Portland
Open daily from 9am to 6pm

SERVICES

Thursday
Bergman, Charlene: 1 p.m., Gravel Hill Cemetery, rural Bryant.

Saturday
Pfeifer, Gregory: 10 a.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

Snowy night inspires prose

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. Poet Laureate

Here's a lovely poem about snow falling on San Antonio by Mo H. Saidi, an obstetrician and writer who, in addition to his medical training, has a Master's degree in English and Literature from Harvard.

American Life in Poetry

about love, faith and the cyclical nature of history in his work.

The Night of the Snowfall

Snow falls gently in the Hill Country
covering the meadows and the valleys.
The sluggish streaks of smoke climb quietly
from the roofs but fail to reach the lazy clouds.

On Alamo Plaza in the heart of the night
and under the flood of lights, the flakes float
like frozen moths and glow like fireflies.
They drop on the blades of dormant grass.

They alight on the cobblestones and live awhile
in silence, they dissolve before dawn.

The wet limestone walls of the mission
glow proudly after the night of snowfall.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2010 by Mo H. Saidi from his most recent book of poems, The Color of Faith, Pecan Grove Press, 2010. Poem reprinted by

permission of Mo H. Saidi and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004 to 2006. Editor's Note: This column (450) is a reprint from the American Life in Poetry archive as we bid farewell to Kooser.

Cornerstone events planned

Calling all artisans, art aficionados and performers of the arts.

Cornerstone Center for the Arts in Muncie has two events scheduled for the month:

•“A Tribute to Glass,” a mixed-media exhibit created by local artist Terrika Clark, in the Judith Barnes Memorial Gallery on the second floor of the Cornerstone Center on Thursday from 5 to 8 p.m. “Clark challenges viewers to see more than just their reflection in her work,” according to a Cornerstone press release. The opening reception will begin in conjunction with Muncie DWNTWN’s First Thursday event, and it will remain on display until Feb. 26.

•“Recycled Valentines” craft-ing workshop with board mem-

Taking Note

ber Carol Bradshaw on Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. The workshop will lead participants through creating paper using scarps, dried flowers, glitter and other items. Tables are \$5 and can seat up to six people. “Take & Make” kits will also be available to buy.

Also, beginning Feb. 22, Cornerstone will offer 12 weeks of spring session classes in visual and performing arts. Eager participants can register for classes

in ballet, painting, drawing, ceramics, yoga, Bollywood dance and more.

Murder reshaped

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

A new look at the case is scheduled for Thursday.

Mike Medler, a Portland resident 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. Thursday.

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

First-time mom too tired for sex

DEAR ABBY: I am a first-time mommy of a beautiful 2 1/2-month-old little boy. I should also mention that I'm 40 years old. My husband is constantly asking for sex. I mean, every day. I honestly do not feel like having it. I'm so worn out by the day-to-day chores of being a wife and motherhood that when the baby goes to sleep, I go to sleep immediately.

My husband refuses to understand how exhausted I am, and his constantly asking for sex makes me want it even less. I try to reassure him that it's not him, because he thinks he has done something wrong or that I'm not attracted to him anymore. But he also doesn't help me out much around here. So, basically, I'm asking what can I do? — TOUCHY SUBJECT IN WEST VIRGINIA

DEAR TOUCHY: You and your husband are overdue for a frank talk. Sit him down and explain EXACTLY what you need from him. Tell him you need his help so the entire burden of taking care of his home and his baby isn't entirely on your shoulders. After you have finished doing that, point out that if he contributes to the household tasks and baby duties, it will take the pressure off you and make it more likely

Dear Abby



long-lasting. The National Domestic Violence Hotline (thehotline.org; 1-800-799-7233) and Stop Abuse for Everyone (stopabuseforeveryone.org) serve male victims of abuse as well as female. Urge him to contact one or both of them.

DEAR ABBY: I have married into a family that celebrates birthdays of members who have died. They are not observing the passing, but doing full-fledged birthday events. I don't want to be disrespectful, but it seems really odd, especially since many of those people died years ago. It's becoming difficult to do more than express my sympathy for their loss. Is this done by other families? — BEWILDERED IN FLORIDA

DEAR BEWILDERED: If there is anything I have learned in the course of writing this column, it is that individuals, families and cultures do not have identical ways of grieving or honoring their deceased loved ones. While it may seem unusual to you, this is the way they remember their loved ones.

Talk with your spouse about how to navigate this issue without causing hurt feelings.

that you can relax and get in the mood for something more pleasant.

DEAR ABBY: My son is in an abusive marriage. He is verbally, mentally and emotionally abused by his wife constantly. She does everything she can to force him to leave. She tells him it is her house and she wants him to go. They bought the house together, and they both work and pay the bills. He won't leave because he doesn't want to leave his kids. Is there any kind of support for abused men? — CONCERNED DAD IN N. CAROLINA

DEAR DAD: There certainly is, and I hope you will tell your son to reach out for it. No one should be harassed the way your son is being, because the effects can be not only devastating, but also

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

Davis at (765) 369-2085.
STRESS AND ANXIETY CLASS — Meets each Wednesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (206) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

PENNVILLE FAIR BOARD — Will meet at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Pennville Community Center.

SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

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

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Kevin Culy at (260) 251-2843.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

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

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

BREAKING NEWS

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Side effect of vaccine? Euphoria

By JACK RONALD

The Commercial Review

As is so often the case during this pandemic, it came down to a matter of chance.

Our kids had been bugging us to get vaccinated for COVID-19, but my wife and I had been holding off to allow for those more important — first responders and health care workers — and those who are older to get their shots.

We also have friends with ongoing health problems, including cancer survivors whose immune systems have been compromised.

So we held off.

But when Jay County Health Department announced that those 70 and older were now eligible, we didn't have a valid excuse for not getting in line.

It was time to check it out. I went to the appropriate website and went through what was a simple process. I attested that I was over 70 and entered my date

Back in the Saddle



of birth. First time around, I was sent to a "waiting room" for about seven or eight minutes. Then I entered our zip code.

That sent me to a list of vaccination sites. Trouble is, at that point the Jay County Health Department site was booked. There were other possibilities: Decatur, Richmond, Anderson and others.

But we figured we'd just wait and try later.

That's how it came to pass on a Friday morning a few weeks back that I logged on for a second try. I hadn't had my coffee yet, but I was able to remember my date of birth and zip code.

This time around, two things were different. There was no "waiting room," making the process faster. And when the list of vaccination sites came up, there was a new one: IU Health Jay.

I clicked on it, clicked next available date, and found myself with an appointment for Friday, Jan. 22, at noon. A few minutes later and my wife's appointment at the hospital was set for 20 minutes after mine.

We did not know it at the time, but that Friday was only the second day the hospital was providing COVID-19 vaccinations. Our appointments so early in the process were purely a matter of chance. By that time, we knew of friends who had clocked some significant mileage to get their shots. And we knew of friends and family in other states who still didn't know when — or if — the vaccine would be available to them.

Chance may have dictated the

scheduling, but it had nothing to do with the process. That was a matter of precision and professionalism.

Not knowing what to expect, we both took books along with us. Would there be lines? Would there be delays? Who knew?

What we encountered was a well-oiled machine.

We were met in the hospital lobby where we were screened, given new disposable face masks and had a chance for another dose of hand sanitizer.

A hospital auxiliary volunteer then led us to the vaccination clinic, renewing a valued friendship and catching up on the news.

There was a further check-in process, though we'd registered additional information online. They checked and double-checked our phone numbers to make sure they could keep in touch via text.

Then it was on to the next station for a few more questions and

another check of our contact information. Then the shot.

At the third station, we were walked to a waiting area and handed timers set for 15 minutes so that we could be observed for any reaction to the vaccine. At that point, for the first time, we were able to crack open our books and read for a few minutes.

Finally, with cards listing our appointments for the second shot and information on which vaccine we had received (Moderna), we completed the process, with one more check on our phone numbers.

We were back in the car and heading for home just about 40 minutes after our arrival at the hospital.

As I said, it was a matter of precision and professionalism.

That night, texting back and forth with my sister about the experience, she asked if we'd had any reaction to the vaccine.

Just one, I told her: "Euphoria."

Cigarette tax should go up

Herald Bulletin (Anderson)

Raising the cigarette tax in Indiana could provide added incentive for smokers to quit while generating a much-needed boost for funding of public health initiatives.

But Hoosier lawmakers should also consider this: Smoking is legal and shouldn't be taxed into oblivion. Raising the tax too high would put an outsized financial burden on Hoosier smokers, many of whom are struggling financially during the pandemic.

Twenty-two health organizations have called jointly on the state to hike its tax on a 20-pack of cigarettes from \$1 to \$3. That seems extreme, considering that Hoosier smokers currently pay an average of \$5.75 for a pack. Add two more dollars, and the \$7.75 cost would be comprised of 39% excise tax, not to mention the 7% state sales tax.

House Bill 1434, authored by state Rep. Julie Olthoff, R-Crown Point, takes a more reasonable approach. It would add \$1 per pack to the cigarette tax. HB 1434 would also impose an 8-cent tax per milliliter on e-liquids containing nicotine.

Olthoff's bill would nudge Indiana's cigarette tax closer to the middle of the Midwestern pack. Illinois' cigarette tax is \$2.98, while Michigan charges \$2, Ohio \$1.60 and Kentucky \$1.10. The average state cigarette tax is \$1.89.

The \$1 increase in Indiana, which hasn't raised its cigarette tax since 2007, would generate about \$175 million in revenue that could be channeled to public health care, where the state's spending ranks 48th nationally. The new revenue could be used for smoking cessation efforts, as well as other health initiatives to deal with the pandemic and to address Indiana's litany of health concerns, including maternal and neonatal care.

Studies have shown that the cost of a pack of cigarettes does discourage some smokers from lighting up.

Research reported in

Hoosier Editorial

More than 1,100 Hoosiers die each year from smoking and about 1,400 die of exposure to secondhand smoke ...

the publication *Epidemiology* in 2017 found that a \$1 increase in the price of a pack of cigarettes prompts a 20% decrease in cigarette purchases.

The proposed \$1 per pack increase in Indiana's cigarette tax would cost three-pack-a-week Hoosier smokers, who currently pay about \$900 a year to support their habit, an additional \$160 annually. While that amount wouldn't break the bank for most, it might be yet another factor encouraging them to quit tobacco.

The stakes are high. More than 1,100 Hoosiers die each year from smoking and about 1,400 die of exposure to secondhand smoke, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The economic cost of smoking is colossal, as well.

Smoking-related illnesses demand almost \$170 billion for direct medical care annually across the country, according to the CDC. Indiana is hit harder than most. Nineteen percent of Hoosier adults smoke, exceeding the national average of 16%.

Given the staggering costs and the need for better funding of public health care in Indiana, the General Assembly should move decisively to pass HB 1434 and raise the cigarette tax for the first time in 14 years.



Khabar Lahariya's work is inspiring

By JASON REZAIAN

The Washington Post

A new documentary film following the courageous journalists behind India's only all-female-run news organization provides an essential portrait of the fight for press freedom — and illustrates the lengths to which some reporters are willing to go to expose difficult truths in the face of incredible obstacles.

"Writing With Fire," by wife-and-husband team Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh, tells the story of one of the world's most improbable newsrooms, Khabar Lahariya, an all-online news operation in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh. "The reporters are all Dalit, Muslim or from other marginalized communities. It's important that the reporting voice is of marginalized rural women, that's the objective of the work," Thomas tells me.

In India's millennia-old caste system, Dalits fall entirely outside the structure. Once pejoratively referred to as "untouchables" due to the hereditary nature of family occupations passed on from one generation to the next, over centuries Dalits have remained oppressed by tradition and the rest of Indian society.

"I tell my daughters, their caste identity will always follow them. This is how our society is structured, but it's important to keep challenging the system," says Meera Devi, the outlet's chief reporter who is the main protagonist of the film.

But day after day, the women defiantly expose sexual violence against women and the corruption of illegal mining operations in rural India. "We don't trust anyone except you. Khabar Lahariya is our only hope," the husband of a woman who has been repeatedly raped by a group of men in their village tells Devi in one of the rare moments in the film in which a man acknowledges the organization's value and impact.

"Changing and repairing a millen-

Jason Rezaian



nia-old system of patriarchy and misogyny is never easy, but I feel that's what the women in Khabar Lahariya are doing through their work — chipping away at these structures that exclude them," Thomas told me.

Although India is considered the world's largest democracy and contains more newspaper readers than there are citizens of the United States, press freedom has suffered in recent times, with an increasing number of journalists targeted for their work.

"I believe journalism is the essence of democracy. When citizens demand their rights, it is us journalists who can take their demands to the government. This is how one fights for justice in a democracy, and journalists must use this power responsibly," Devi says in the film, as she leaves her family and home and heads off to investigate another rape in her community.

The tension between these old cultural norms and the realities of modern life are palpable throughout the film, as these brave storytellers are talked down to time and time again by men in their communities, who simply can't accept that a woman can do this work — or any kind of work outside the home, for that matter.

"What can I say about Khabar Lahariya? They've managed so far. But I never expected them to achieve anything," Devi's husband says to the camera. "So far, so good for them. But they won't last for long."

Yet here they are, nearly two decades into their important mission.

One of the film's most poignant scenes is a newsroom discussion in which management explains to the staff of reporters why they will be moving from print to an all-online format. Some of the reporters are scared. One doesn't understand enough English to use the smartphone she has been given. Another worries she might break it.

In another memorable scene, a young reporter named Suneeta goes with a group of male journalists to question a police chief about the death of a miner in a blast that isn't being investigated. After the session, in which she grills the official, her male counterparts offer some friendly professional advice. "Always start with a feel-good question. Not the way you did. Ask him about all the good things he's done."

"There's enough praise from you all," Suneeta replies with a mischievous smile.

While tradition and stigma work against these women, they also fuel their thirst for justice. Khabar Lahariya's results speak for themselves. Based on the news outlet's reports, rapists have been prosecuted, roads built and irrigation systems repaired. Khabar Lahariya's YouTube channel has over 100 million views. "Writing With Fire" highlights what Ghosh calls the "the raw power of independent journalism."

"In the toxic media landscape we're all a part of now, it allows us to go back to the basic tenets of journalism and to reimagine the word 'news' itself," he said.

Attacks on the press are not new, but the threats faced by journalists in democracies have rarely, if ever, been as extreme as they are right now. "Writing With Fire" reminds us that there are always people who, despite incredible odds, will choose to do this work.

.....
Rezaian is a writer for *Global Opinions*.

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

In review

Approved

WASHINGTON — Pete Buttigieg won Senate approval Tuesday as transportation secretary, the first openly gay person to be confirmed to a Cabinet post. He'll be tasked with advancing President Joe Biden's ambitious agenda of rebuilding the nation's infrastructure and fighting climate change.

Buttigieg, a 39-year-old former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and Biden's one-time rival during the Democratic presidential primaries, was approved on a 86-13 vote.

"I'm honored and humbled by today's vote in the Senate—and ready to get to work," Buttigieg tweeted shortly after he was confirmed.

Leaving

NEW YORK — Jeff Bezos, who founded Amazon as an online bookstore and built it into a shopping and entertainment behemoth, will step down later this year as CEO, a role he's had for nearly 30 years, to become executive chairman, the company announced Tuesday.

Bezos, 57, will be replaced in the summer by Andy Jassy, who runs Amazon's cloud-computing business.

In a blog post to employees, Bezos said he planned to focus on new products and early initiatives being developed at Amazon. He said he would have more time for side projects, including his space exploration company Blue Origin, his philanthropic initiatives and overseeing The Washington Post, which he owns.

Charged

YANGON, Myanmar — Police leveled their first formal charge against Myanmar's ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi, members of her party said today, giving military authorities who staged a coup a legal reason to detain her at least through the middle of the month.

The charge — that Suu Kyi was in possession of illegally imported walkie talkies — came to light two days after she was placed under house arrest and appeared to be an effort to lend a legal veneer to her detention, though the generals have previously kept her and others locked up for years.

The military announced Monday that it would take power for one year — accusing Suu Kyi's government of not investigating allegations of voter fraud in recent elections.

—Associated Press

Law enforcement bill advances

By CASEY SMITH
Associated Press/Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS — A bipartisan bill aimed at increasing police accountability and enacting criminal justice reform advanced to the Indiana Senate after lawmakers unanimously approved the measure in a House vote Tuesday.

House Bill 1006, co-authored by more than 80 Republican and Democratic legislators, includes provisions for mandatory de-escalation training, misdemeanor penalties for officers

who turn off body cameras with intent to conceal, and bans on chokeholds in certain circumstances.

If adopted, the bill will also establish a procedure for the law enforcement training board to decertify officers who commit misconduct, and would ease the sharing of officers' employment records between police departments, thus helping to identify "bad actors" and keep them from moving jobs.

Lawmakers additionally added \$70 million to the measure in

committee to help the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy implement the changes made necessary by the bill.

"It is encouraging, with so much division today, that there is something that we all seem to agree on," Democratic Rep. Vernon G. Smith said in a statement Tuesday. "I am glad our colleagues across the aisle have joined us in this next step."

The draft legislation is inspired by the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus' proposed package of police accountability

and criminal justice reforms released over the summer, following protests against racial injustice and police brutality spurred by the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis police custody.

Their policy agenda during this Legislative session includes 36 proposed bills, including those that would legalize marijuana, create a database of police misconduct, provide more specificity to Indiana's hate crime laws, and make it easier for drivers to reinstate suspended licenses.



Bloomberg/Jeenah Moon

Snowy city

A food delivery worker rides a bicycle during a snowstorm in New York on Feb. 1, 2021. New York's Central Park received 19.3 inches since Sunday, which makes the storm the city's ninth heaviest since 1869, said Rob Carolan, owner of Hometown Forecast Services Inc. The bulk of the snow fell Monday, setting a record for the date, according to the National Weather Service.

Bill ...

Continued from page 1
"I applaud a lot of the things Sen. Holdman has in the bill," Leising said while suggesting amendments to limit how far back the fund can be used to repay farmers in these type of situations.

She continued, recognizing the fund "is an important thing for farmers. And it's farmer's money."

Farmers opt into the fund by paying a 0.2% premium on all grain transferred to licensed buyers during a collection period, which happens when the fund is below \$25 million. Two such collection periods have happened during the late 1990s and 2010s. The fund currently sits at about \$31 million.

As written, the bill would allow that repayment period currently set at 15 months to date back to the

first banking irregularity from a licensed grain buyer, as determined by the director of the licensing agency.

Beginning July 1, the bill as it currently stands would prohibit grain elevators "from entering into a deferred pricing agreement or a delayed payment agreement in connection with grain purchases that extends beyond one year from the date of delivery of the grain," which Holdman said would keep this sort of problem from happening again.

Joe Miller of Rose Acre Farms put it bluntly while testifying against the bill, saying that farmers who store grain beyond a 12-month period are acting off "speculation" of future market prices.

"Farmers are expected to practice at least decent business practices. ... Any

farmers that ignore these (guidelines) aren't following good business practices," Miller said.

Amendments and a potential vote on the bill are expected to happen at a future committee meeting.

Electronic filing

Earlier Tuesday, the Senate committee on transportation voted to send a bill authored by Holdman to the full chamber for a vote.

Senate Bill 400, also authored by Sens. Chris Garten (R-Charlestown) and Michael Crider (R-Greenfield), would require Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles to electronically process liens by the summer of 2022 and ownership titles by the summer of 2023.

Garten introduced the bill to the committee and

said as written it would have "no fiscal impact on the state to implement these procedures."

He continued, saying many BMV locations are already equipped to make the transition to this electronic filing system.

Bob Falk from Purdue Federal Credit Union said during the committee meeting that it's currently easier for his company to file a lien in Ohio than it is in Indiana.

"The pandemic really showed us the weakness of the current process," Falk said, "so the time is now."

New bills

In addition to the nearly dozen he has already introduced, Holdman was added as an author to three bills in recent Senate sessions.

Senate Bill 257, first introduced by Sen. David

Niezgodski (D-South Bend), would require certain state departments to annually report the number of employees improperly classified as independent contractors.

Senate Bill 275, first introduced by Sen. Eddie Melton (D-Gary), would allow counties to establish a property tax amnesty program.

Senate Bill 380, also authored by Sens. Erich Koch (R-Bedford) and Mark Messmer (R-Jasper), would reorganize new courts and judges in Hamilton, Decatur, Hancock, Huntington, Knox, Lake and Delaware counties.

Holdman was also added as a sponsor to House Bills 1004 and 1462, both of which are available to view along with every other bill at iga.in.gov.

Capsule Reports

Missed turn

Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000 after a California man driving on Como Road missed the curve and slid into a yard Monday.

Zhan Chensheng, 42, Rowland Heights, was driving north on the road near county road 450

West about 6:42 a.m. when he glanced at his GPS and missed the curve near 3515 S. Como Road. He later told Jay County Sheriff's Office he tried to brake and slid his 2015 Volvo through the yard of Aaron and Kristy Inman, striking several trees on the property.

Icy road

A Portland resident driving on county road 500 South slid across ice Monday.

Christine F. Brown, 25, was driving west on the road about 2:28 p.m. when her 2012 Chevrolet Equinox started sliding on the icy surface. Brown later told

Jay County Sheriff's Office she tried to correct her vehicle and failed to do so, instead sliding off into the south side of the road and striking a large rock. Her car was towed from the scene.

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

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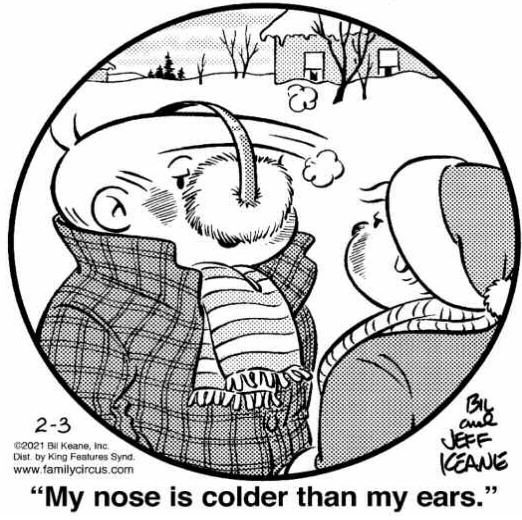
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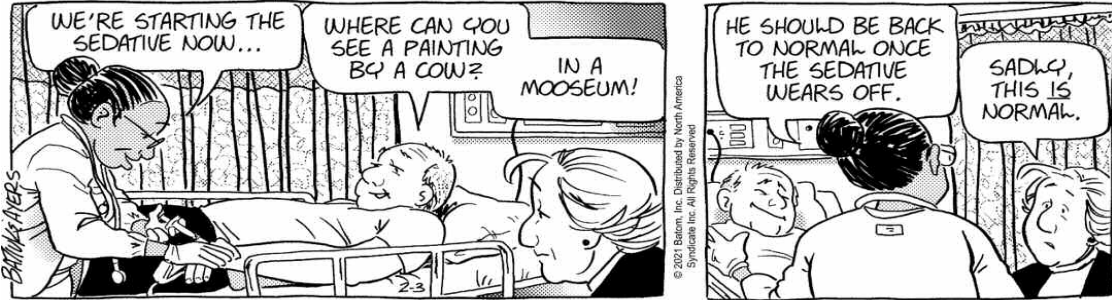
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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Grid for the crossword puzzle with numbers 1-61 and some filled cells.

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Far ...

Continued from page 8
Jay County was almost 42% (13-for-31) in the final two quarters. Having to rely rather heavily on Schwieterman over their last four contests — the sophomore standout averaged more than 30 points per game in that span — the Patriots dished 11 assists and had seven players with at least two points.

'We didn't shoot very well, but hopefully things even out and maybe we'll shoot a little better on Friday.'

—Kirk Comer, Jay County girls basketball coach

Turnovers were an issue for both teams as well as there were a combined 44 giveaways. The Eagles were responsible for 25 of them. Schwieterman led all players with 18 points. Dirksen finished with 11 points, and Izzy Rodgers added seven. Delta junior Addie Chester had just two points in the first half and ended with a team-best 16, including four 3-pointers. But she had to work for her points, as she took 26 shots.

Jay County played one of its toughest games when it knocked off Yorktown more than a month ago. That night, Schwieterman scored what was then a season-high 26 points. (She broke the school's single-game scoring record with 43 points Jan. 8). The Patriots were down six at half-time and by as many as a baker's dozen. "They're a very good team," Comer said. "They have two really good guards

Box score table for Delta Eagles vs. No. 11 Jay County Patriots. Includes Class 3A Sectional 24 quarterfinal at New Castle and Girls varsity summary. Delta won 6-2.

Rally ...

Continued from page 8
Purdue then committed a turnover before attempting a final shot. "If we would have gotten a couple stops down the stretch, we would have won," Ivey lamented. "It's tough, but we'll get back in the gym, keep working as a team and hopefully bounce back next game." Ivey's misfire with 23 seconds remaining opened the door for the Terrapins, who were 0-4 at home in the Big Ten before pulling

this one out. "It was a great win," said Aaron Wiggins, who had 18 points and 11 rebounds. "We knew what we had to do to get the job done today, and we were tough enough to do the little things." Ayala scored 16 and Morsell tallied 11 for Maryland (10-8, 4-7). The Terps went 8 for 13 from beyond the arc in the second half after going 1 for 12 from long range over the first 20 minutes.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Thursday
Jay County — Girls swimming hosts sectional preliminaries — 5:30 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Oak Hill — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. South Adams — 6 p.m.
Friday
Jay County — Girls basketball sectional semifinal vs. Yorktown at New Castle — 6 p.m.; Girls swimming hosts diving sectional — 6 p.m.
Saturday
Jay County — Wrestling hosts regional — 8:30 a.m.; Boys basketball tripleheader at Woodlan — noon; Girls swimming hosts

sectional championships — 4 p.m.; Girls basketball sectional final vs. TBA at New Castle — 7:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling at Coldwater Invitational — 10 a.m.
Monday
Jay County — Gymnastics at Muncie Central — 6 p.m.; Junior high swimming vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling hosts Southern Wells and Heritage — 6 p.m.
Tuesday
Jay County — Boys basketball tripleheader at South Adams — 6 p.m.; Junior high girls swimming at Norwell Invitational — 5 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Winchester Driver — 5:30 p.m.

that are hard to guard. We did some things defensively that we thought worked so we'll try that again. Hopefully we have as much success as we did that night.

"We have to be ready for the press. They like to press. We have to be able to handle their pressure and attack it rather than let them attack us."

40 NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one day's 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.

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

110 HELP WANTED

THE CITY OF PORTLAND WILL BE accepting applications for the position of Street & Park Department General Laborer. Minimum job requirements are high school diploma or its equivalent and a CDL B license or greater or able to obtain such license. Equipment used: heavy trucks, tractors, skid loaders, street sweeper, lawn mowers, asphalt roller, trash truck and any other equipment required by the Department head. General outlines of duties: Patch and maintain streets, sweep streets, plow snow, clean sidewalks, mow lawns, pick up trash, maintain parks and park equipment, ball diamonds and other recreational facilities, maintain street signs and complete small concrete installations. Applications will be available at Portland Police Department at City Hall, 321 N. Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, Friday, January 29 thru Thursday, February 4, 2021. No applications will be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 4, 2021. The City of Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

200 FOR RENT

2ND SHIFT WAITRESS NEEDED ASAP Plus a 2nd shift cook. Work 3 days on/3 days off, 2pm-10pm. Call Jinny's Cafe 260-997-8300 between 8am & 2pm

THE JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS and Jay County Highway are taking applications for the position of Highway Department Road Foreman through 9:00AM on Monday, February 8, 2021. Must have a CDL or obtain one in 90 days. Applications may be picked up at and returned to the Jay County Auditor's Office at 120 North Court Street in Portland, Indiana. Job Description available upon request. Jay County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2021 TERM CAUSE No. 38CO1-2101-PL-0002 CG Investment LLC, Plaintiff vs. CrossRoads Financial Federal Credit Union, First National Bank f/k/a First Merchants Bank. Yolanda Hare, Jill Goetz, all unknown heirs of John Hare as well as any and all persons, or entities, whomsoever who may claim an interest in the Real Estate sought to be quieted Defendants NOTICE OF QUIET TITLE ACTION

Public Notice

Comes now CG Investment LLC and gives notice that it has filed its complaint to quiet title to the following described real estate: Lots Numbered Fifty-seven (57), Fifty-eight (58) and Fifty-nine (59) in the Mt. Auburn Addition to the Town, now City of Dunkirk, Indiana. Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of January, 2021, the Plaintiff filed its complaint for quieting of the title to said real estate against the named Defendants and any other person, corporation or entity claiming any interest whatsoever in the said real estate. Any persons, corporations or entities claiming an interest in said real estate should file their answer objecting to the quieting of said title in the Plaintiff with the Jay Circuit Court in this cause no later than thirty (30) days following the date of the last publication of this notice. Failure to make known such objections to the Court may result in judgement by default being entered for the relief demanded in the complaint. The attorney representing the Plaintiff is William W. Hinkle, 121 W High St., Portland, IN 47371. Jon Eads, Clerk Jay Circuit Court CR 1-27,2-3-2021 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Salamonia Civil Town Jay County, Indiana Annual Financial Report - 2020 Cash & Investments Combined Statement

Table with 6 columns: Local Fund Number, Local Fund Name, Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan. 1, 2020, Receipts, Disbursements, End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec. 31, 2020. Includes Governmental Activities, Wastewater Utility, and Total All Funds.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Formula for failure
East dealer. East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 8 2
♥ 10 4
♦ A Q 7 5
♣ K 9 5 2
WEST
♠ A J 3
♥ Q J 9 8 2
♦ 10 8 6 3
♣ 7
EAST
♠ 10 9 6 4
♥ 7 6 5 3
♦ 9
♣ A 10 8 4
SOUTH
♠ K 7 5
♥ A K
♦ K J 4 2
♣ Q J 6 3
The bidding:
East South West North
Pass 1 NT Pass 3 NT
Opening lead — queen of hearts.
A declarer who plunges blindly ahead on the assumption that the key suits will break normally is sure to experience bitter disappointment from time to time. Consider this deal where South took for granted at the outset that he would make three notrump and soon found himself headed for down one.
He won the heart queen with the ace and, observing that nine tricks could not be made without establishing his clubs, played the queen. East, took the ace and returned a heart to South's king.
When declarer next cashed the

jack of clubs and West showed out, the contract suddenly lost its glamour. He could cash his club and diamond winners to bring him to eight tricks but could not then avoid losing three hearts and the spade ace to finish down one.
Since South was sure to succeed if the clubs were divided 3-2, he should first have stopped to ask himself if there was anything he could do to overcome a possible 4-1 club break. Had he done that, he would surely have seen the wisdom of approaching that suit in an entirely different way.
The best line of play is to cross to dummy with a diamond at trick two and lead a low club toward the closed hand. East cannot afford to go up with the ace — if he does, South immediately has nine tricks — so declarer wins the club with the queen. Dummy is then entered with a second diamond, and another low club is led. Again East has to play low, and South's jack wins the trick as West shows out.
Since South has now scored two clubs to add to the two hearts and four diamonds he started with, he simply abandons clubs and leads a spade to acquire his ninth trick.
Note that if West, rather than East, started with four clubs, South can eventually finesse dummy's club nine to bring in nine tricks.

Tomorrow: Sylvia strikes again.
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2-3 CRYPTOQUIP
E B H X Z G L P Q O D I O B H L P D
I J M Z L S G G Q J S Q B F F G Y D B J X G V
Y E D Z X P L M . E D I G J J E ' H
X Z G B M G V H B P L I X .
Yesterday's Cryptiquip: IF IT IS DIFFICULT FOR CERTAIN PEOPLE TO MAKE ANY MISTAKES, I GUESS THEY'RE HARD OF ERRING.
Today's Cryptiquip Clue: X equals T

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

NEED MORE STORAGE? Pj's U-Lock and Storage, most sizes available. Call 260-726-4631.

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

JAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LAND OCCUPIERS TO BE HELD FOR THE JAY COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT To all occupiers of lands lying within the boundaries of the Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, notice is hereby given that on the 24th day of February 2021, beginning at 11:30 A.M., an annual meeting will be held for the purpose of making a full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting and to elect a supervisor for the Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District of the State of Indiana. All land occupiers and other interested parties are entitled to attend. The meeting will be held at Harmony Café, 121 North Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Kurt Theurer- Chairman Jordan Wall – Vice Chairman Randy Fennig – Secretary Rick Imel – Treasurer Barry Fennig – Supervisor Steve Rines – Associate Supervisor Carl Walker – Associate Supervisor Dated this 13th day of January 2021 CR 2-2021 HSPAXLP

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION
Harness racing equipment to be sold at the Jay County Fairgrounds Portland, Indiana, Bubp Hall (located behind the grandstand)
Saturday, February 6, 2021
10:00 A.M.
SPONSORED BY
LOY AUCTION & REAL ESTATE
Proceeds for the Maintenance of the
Harness Racing Track
at Jay County Fairgrounds
Consignments accepted Friday, February 5, 2021 between 4:00 – 6:00 pm
And Prior to Sale Time Saturday, February 6
Contact:
Gary Loy – Auctioneer – 260-726-5160 - AU 01031608
Ben Lyons – Auctioneer – AU 10700085
Travis Theurer – Auctioneer – AU 11200131
Aaron Loy – Auctioneer – AU 11200112
Loy Auction and Real Estate
Auction Company #31600027
Lunch – Heated Building – Seating
CR 2-3-2021

Sports

Far from perfect

Patriots not their best, but prevail over Eagles in sectional opener

By CHRIS SCHANZ
The Commercial Review

NEW CASTLE — It was hardly their best game of the season. It was far from it, actually.

But the Patriots had a familiar feeling afterward. They were winners.

Jay County High School's girls basketball team overcame a sluggish start and benefitted from a poor shooting performance by the Delta Eagles to get a 52-27 victory in the Class 3A Sectional 24 quarterfinal Tuesday at New Castle Fieldhouse.

"I think we had some nerves which, hopefully, we got that out of our system," said JCHS coach Kirk Comer. "I know Renna (Schwieterman) said she was nervous. She's played in a lot of big games with AAU. You'd think she'd be beyond that, and we had a lot of girls where tonight was their first night playing in a sectional."

"Not to make excuses, but the big thing I'm disappointed in is mentally we were not focused. Talking with the girls at halftime they said they think they took this game lightly and you can't do that."

The Patriots, who finished 11th in the final Class 3A poll of the season, move to 18-3 on the season and advance to the sectional semifinal at 6 p.m. Friday against the Yorktown Tigers (15-5). Jay County overcame a 13-point deficit to beat the Tigers when they met Dec. 29 in Yorktown.

On Tuesday, Jay County's first seven possessions ended without points. It had three turnovers and missed six consecutive shots.

Nearly six minutes had gone off the clock before Madison Dirksen stopped the cold spell as she converted a Breanna Dirksen assist. Fortunately for the Patriots, Delta was struggling in its own right as well, and the score was just 2-2 at that point.

After Jay County led 8-6 at the end of the first period, the Patriots were able to find a bit of a rhythm offensively and started to pull away. Izzy Rodgers and Schwieterman scored consecutive JCHS buckets to make it 12-6 and force a Delta timeout.

The Eagles (5-16) made it a four-point game with a pair of free throws but then Jay County scored the final 11 points of the first half, including six straight from Schwieterman.

Delta, which was 16.7% from the field in the first quarter, didn't make a field goal in the second and went into halftime shooting just 8.3%. The Eagles also had 14 turnovers and finished with 11 giveaways on the night.

"We're lucky they missed a lot of shots," Comer said. "Hopefully some of that was due to our defense. We're going to have to be a lot better offensively on Friday night and defensively in order to have a chance to move on."

Shooting difficulties were not only an issue for Delta. Jay County was 9-of-25 (36%) in the first two quarters, but was able to turn things around a bit over the final 12 minutes. The Patriots opened its biggest lead of the night, 30-8, by scoring the first seven points of the third. Gabi Bilbrey had her only three points of the night while Madison Dirksen and Schwieterman each had a bucket.

See Far page 7



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Breanna Dirksen, a Jay County High School freshman, drives toward the basket around Delta defender Sydney Stroble during the second quarter of the Class 3A Sectional 24 tournament quarterfinal on Tuesday at New Castle Fieldhouse. The Patriots won, 52-27, and advance to the semifinal at 6 p.m. Friday against Yorktown.

Pacers snap Grizzlies' streak

By PHILLIP B. WILSON
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Just two days removed from a humbling home loss in which Indiana squandered a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter, the Pacers looked to right that wrong against the NBA's hottest team.

This time, building a substantial lead proved to be enough.

Domantas Sabonis had a season-high 32 points and 13 rebounds as the Pacers beat Memphis 134-116, snapping the Grizzlies' seven-game winning streak.

"We were just playing loose out there," Sabonis said.

The Pacers built a double-digit lead early and kept adding to it, finishing with a season-high point total. The sooner they could get back on court after Sunday's inability to finish against Philadelphia, the better.

"It was important, especially after last game," Sabonis said of seizing control. "We felt like we gave it away."

Sabonis made 11 of his first 12 shots and had a double-double (24 points, 11 rebounds) by halftime. He recorded his 14th double-double in 16 starts.

Sabonis puts in season-high 32 points, grabs 13 boards in 134-116 home win

"This team has a ton of fight in 'em," Pacers coach Nate Bjorkgren said. "They play for each other. I've never questioned that."

Malcolm Brogdon added 23 points and Myles Turner 22 for the Pacers (12-9).

The Grizzlies entered with the NBA's longest active win streak and ended up one victory shy of matching the franchise record of eight straight wins set four times, most recently in 2015.

The lethargic visitors were playing for the third time in four days on the road. But the team's leading scorer for the season, Ja Morant, blamed himself after finishing with just 10 points, half of his average.

"I have to be extremely better," Morant said. "I feel like I was a no-show. We can't have that."

The Pacers started strong and led

by as many as 15 points, on the way to a 37-27 edge after one period. The 37 points were a season high for the first quarter.

The Pacers kept the pressure on, building a 71-50 lead at halftime. The 71 first-half points were another season high.

"We just didn't have it tonight," Grizzlies coach Taylor Jenkins said. Dillon Brooks led Memphis with 25 points.

The Pacers' Jeremy Lamb finished with 19 points. He has scored in double figures in seven of eight games after starting the season late due to injury.

Indiana improved to 5-5 since trading All-Star Victor Oladipo. Turner leads the NBA with 70 blocked shots, 17 more than any other player. The Pacers are No. 1 in points in the paint with an average of 54.4.

Ayala, Maryland rally past Purdue

By DAVID GINSBURG
AP Sports Writer

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Purdue appeared well on its way to justifying its position in the Top 25 when suddenly, almost nothing went right.

Shots bounced off the rim, turnovers mounted and the key rebounds went to Maryland. And just like that, the No. 24 Boilermakers absorbed a cringe-worthy defeat and that could cost them their place in the AP poll.

Eric Ayala made two free throws with three seconds left, and the Terrapins scored the final six

points to rally for a 61-60 victory Tuesday night.

One day after reaching the Top 25 for the first time this season, Purdue (12-7, 7-5 Big Ten) built a 60-55 lead with 1:43 remaining.

Then, while the Boilermakers repeatedly failed to increase the margin, Maryland guard Darryl Morsell drilled a 3-pointer and Ayala finished up with three free throws. Ayala made 1 of 2 at the line with 48 seconds to go and hit the final two after missing a layup, collecting his own rebound and getting fouled by Jaden Ivey.

See Rally page 7

Thursday - 7:30 p.m.

Jay County Patriots

Portland, 4-4
Coach: Jerry Bomholt, fifth year (40th overall)
Conference: Allen County

Saturday at Blackford: Jay County allowed 16 3-pointers and didn't shoot particularly well itself in a 78-49 loss to the Class 2A No. 7 Blackford Bruins. Luke Brown of Blackford hit seven threes on his way to 32 points, and Jack Wors had seven threes as well in scoring a career-high 27 points. Ethan Dirksen scored 13 points for JCHS.

Season leaders (per game): Points — Ethan Dirksen 12.6, Bennett Weitzel 9.0, Josh Dowlen 8.0. Rebounds — Bennett Weitzel 6.4, Ethan Dirksen 6.3. Assists — Ethan Dirksen 3.4.

VS.

Oak Hill Golden Eagles

Converse, 9-7
Coach: Keven Renbarger, 16th year
Conference: Central Indiana

Saturday at Lapel: Oak Hill fell flat in the second half and lost a 14-point lead at halftime in a 50-47 loss to the Lapel Bulldogs. Caleb Kroll led Oak Hill with 13 points and Mason McKinney had 10 points.

Season leaders (per game): Points — Landon Biegel 18.3, Kian Hite 11.9, Matthew Strange 5.7. Rebounds — Landon Biegel 8.1, Kian Hite 3.5. Assists — Kian Hite 3.5.

Game notes: This is the first meeting between Jay County and Oak Hill ... The Golden Eagles are coming off back-to-back losses, while the Patriots had their three-game losing streak snapped on Saturday ... Jay County is averaging 45.8 points per game and allowing 47 each night on defense, meanwhile Oak Hill scores 52.6 PPG game and gives up 51.6 PPG ... The Golden Eagles average 16 attempts per game from the 3-point line, and are shooting 32.1% from the arc ... Jay County has a Sagarin rating of 60.1, which is 65th in Class 3A and 229th overall. Oak Hill's 62.7 Sagarin rating is four spots ahead of JCHS in the class and 207th overall.

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