

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Four in a row

The Jay County High School girls swim team, with senior Eliza Bader (center) holding the trophy, celebrates after winning its fourth consecutive sectional championship Saturday. The Patriots won seven of 12 events and scored 381 points to lead runner-up Norwell by 39 in the 13-team field. For more on the meet, see page 10.

County revisits solar proposal

Changes considered for Dunkirk fire/EMS facility

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Dunkirk may be getting solar panels.

Commissioners heard a proposal from Ryan Hurt of All Circuit Electrical of Bryant Monday about installing solar panels at the Dunkirk Fire Department and Jay County Emergency Medical Service Dunkirk base. He said he had approval to move ahead per Dunkirk Board of Works member Dan Watson.

(Former commissioner Chuck Huffman requested Hurt get the city's approval because the building is shared with Dunkirk.)

The approximately \$20,500 system Hurt proposed is smaller, meaning it's likely the county will not be reimbursed by the electric company for its power usage. It is, however, less than his original proposal to commissioners Dec. 15, when he estimated between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

He figured the county pays about \$3,000 for electricity per year at the 24-hour base. An average of \$1,572 would be saved with the system each year, meaning it would likely take about 13 years for the unit to pay for itself.

Current commissioners Brian McGalliard and Rex Journey were not in office when Hurt originally proposed the project. They agreed to review the information packets given to former commissioners (Mike Leonhard and Huffman) and current commissioner Chad Aker before making a decision.

Hurt also briefly discussed installing lights at Jay County Jail — commissioners Huffman, Leonhard and Aker debated going through Hurt's business for light installation instead of another company.

In November, commissioners agreed to move forward with drafting a 15-year contract for installing new lighting at the jail. The agreement with Florida based-Future Energy Solutions would replace all of the interior and exterior light bulbs and fixtures with efficient LED bulbs and provide regular maintenance.

Commissioners agreed to wait for Future Energy Solutions to visit the next meeting until taking action.

Also Monday, Sheriff Duane Ford, deputy Patrick Wells and 911 director Bill Baldwin requested about \$26,327 for a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning unit to be installed by Jay County Jail's service provider, Havel. All three officials noted the system software is created by Havel, making it difficult to contract through anyone else, and that the current system is no longer factory supported.

See County page 5

Dunkirk makes ordinance updates

By ROSE SKELLY
The Commercial Review

DUNKIRK — The first round of ordinance updates is going into effect.

Dunkirk City Council members approved changes to 13 of the city's ordinances at their meeting Monday, most having to do with public safety.

Over the past few months, city attorney Wes Schemenaur has been working with council president Jesse Bivens and Dunkirk Police Chief Dane Mumbower to update the ordinances pertaining to public safety and police matters. It was part of an ongoing larger effort by council to update the city's ordinances for each department.

One of the larger changes included increasing the speed limit on Highland Avenue from 5th Street to county road 1150 West from 30 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour.

Changes address speed limit, make other minor adjustments

Other changes were minor, with several merely updates with clarified wording for the ordinances about rubbish accumulation and littering. The ordinance prohibiting skateboarding on sidewalks and city streets was updated to include rollerblades, roller skates and hoverboards; meanwhile, council removed previously unenforced requirements for bicycles to be inspected, registered and licensed with the city.

Two ordinances related to the park were changed — law enforcement officers are now allowed to

carry weapons in the park. Previously, parks had a blanket weapon prohibition. Additionally, posting signs and posters in the park will not be allowed without permission from the city.

The other changes were to designate an additional parking spot for the police department on Main Street, to allow the Dunkirk Board of Works and Public Safety to appoint Dunkirk Police Department reserve officers and to remove a fee for soliciting in the city limits.

Council tabled an ordinance that

seemingly prohibited carrying a knife of any length to determine if a knife length limit would be more appropriate.

"We're covering a lot of stuff that hasn't been done, a lot of them since '83" said Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins.

Two other ordinances were also approved Monday, including one that will allow council to pay city employees for unused vacation time in extraordinary circumstances.

At council's last meeting, it approved paying police officers for unused vacation days from 2020, as they were unable to take days off because of short-staffing in the department.

The policy covers any city department, but Robbins emphasized that employees were encouraged to take their vacation days if possible, rather than carrying them over into the next year.

See Ordinance page 2

Trump's trial begins today

Impeachment arguments scheduled in the Senate

By LISA MASCARO, ERIC TUCKER, MARY CLARE JALONICK and JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Donald Trump's historic second impeachment trial is an undertaking like no other in U.S. history, the defeated former president charged by the House with inciting the deadly mob attack on the U.S. Capitol to

overturn the election in what prosecutors argue is the "most grievous constitutional crime."

Trump's lawyers insist as the Senate trial opens Tuesday that he is not guilty on the sole charge of "incitement of insurrection," his fiery words just a figure of speech, even as he encouraged a rally crowd to "fight like hell" for his presidency. The Capitol siege on Jan. 6 stunned the world as rioters stormed the building to try to stop the certification of President-elect Joe Biden's victory. Five people died.

No witnesses are expected to be called, in part because the senators sworn as jurors, forced to flee for safety, will be presented with graphic videos recorded that day.

See Trial page 6



The Washington Post/Octavio Jones

Super subdued

The Super Bowl arrived in Tampa, Florida, as the country continued to struggle with the global pandemic. Typically a two-week festival of football-related events and activities, the celebration of the sport was subdued this year because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Deaths

Oneida Wheeler, 81, Delavan, Wisconsin
Ruth Rauch, 95
Carolyn Craig, 72, Englewood, Ohio
Details on page 2.

Weather

The temperature hovered between 16 and 19 degrees Monday in Jay County. There was a trace of snow overnight. Tonight's low will be 13. Expect a high of 20 Wednesday with show showers developing in the afternoon.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

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

Coming up

Wednesday — Results from tonight's JCHS boys basketball game against South Adams.

Friday — An update on legislation in the Indiana General Assembly.



Capsule Reports

Buggy accident

An Illinois man driving on Indiana 67 collided with Berne residents driving a buggy about 1:24 a.m. Monday.

Anthony P. Howe, 57, Leaf River, Illinois, was driving a semi truck west on Indiana 67 just past county road 450 East when he drove into a buggy in his lane. Howe hit the buggy with the passenger side of his vehicle, causing the buggy and its passengers (Paul E. Shetler, 19, and Matthew E. Shetler, 16, both of Berne) to be thrown into the yard at 3884 E. Indiana 67.

Both Shetlers were transported to Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. The hospital would not release details on their conditions this morning. Both vehicles were towed, and the horse died.

The semi is registered to Wal-

mart Transportation LLC of Bentonville, Arkansas. Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Icy roads

Damage is estimated between \$25,000 and \$50,000 after a Geneva resident lost control of his vehicle about 8 p.m. Thursday.

Branden L. Beer, 17, Geneva, was driving east on county road 200 South just east of the intersection with county road 425 East when he drove across a slick part of the road. It was also snowing heavily. His 2004 Chevrolet Silverado slid off the road and into a ditch on the north side of the road. It then collided with a telephone pole, slid farther onto the property of 4624 E. 200 South and drove into about 25 feet of fence on the

property of Travis Richards. The vehicle was towed.

Several other drivers lost control of vehicles because of icy roads recently.

Andrew M. Jessup, 18, Dunkirk, was driving west on county road 400 South just west of county road 1100 West about 9:50 a.m. Thursday when he slid off the north side of the road and into a ditch. His 2002 Dodge Ram Pickup also hit a utility pole, causing damage estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Michael D. Plake, 46, Elizabethtown, Kentucky, was driving southwest on Indiana 67 about 9 a.m. Friday when he started turning onto county road 700 South. The semi truck began sliding on the icy road, causing the vehicle to hit both guard rails on either side of the road. Damage is esti-

mated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The vehicle is registered to Ryan Bergman of Tipton, Indiana.

Robert A. Howell, 43, Portland, was driving east on county road 400 North about 11:21 p.m. Sunday when his vehicle started sliding on the ice. His 1998 Dodge Ram Pickup slid across the road and into a utility pole. Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Deer hit

A Portland resident driving on Boundary Pike hit a deer Tuesday.

Courtney R. Snell, 45, Portland, was driving north on the road when a deer running from the east hit the front passenger side of her 2015 Toyota 4Runner. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Also, a Montpelier resident

driving on Indiana 1 hit a deer Saturday. Briann R. Emshwiller, 25, Montpelier, was driving north on the highway just north of county road 50 South about 9:40 p.m. when a deer entered the roadway. She was unable to avoid hitting the animal with her 2019 Chevrolet Equinox. Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500, and her vehicle was towed.

Hit and run

A Portland resident reported someone hit his parked vehicle Friday.

Carlos N. Esquivel told Portland Police his 2003 Chevrolet Silverado was parked on the side of 1313 W. Meadow Lane when he found the damage, which is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

CR almanac

Wednesday 2/10	Thursday 2/11	Friday 2/12	Saturday 2/13	Sunday 2/14
22/12	20/11	19/7	15/2	12/-6
Still cool with a 50% chance of snow during the day and night. Also cloudy with 10 mph winds.	Cooler with a 20% chance of snow in the afternoon. Otherwise mostly cloudy. Some wind.	Cooler under mostly cloudy skies with temperatures dipping into the single digits at night. Cloudy.	Cooler and mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of snow in the afternoon. Near 0 degrees late.	Mostly cloudy with temperatures plunging well below freezing at night.

Lotteries

Powerball Saturday 1-16-48-49-65 Powerball: 8 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$42 million	26-28-29-31-33-35-43-48-56-58-61-71-72-73-75 Cash 5: 6-13-17-19-45 Estimated jackpot: \$924,500
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$68 million	Ohio Monday Midday Pick 3: 4-4-5 Pick 4: 9-5-0-1 Pick 5: 0-0-9-6-7 Evening Pick 3: 5-8-4 Pick 4: 4-4-9-9 Pick 5: 2-7-3-3-3 Rolling Cash 5: 5-27-28-29-30 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000 Classic Lotto: 1-39-41-44-47-49 Kicker: 8-5-2-5-8-8 Jackpot: \$4.3 million
Hoosier Monday Midday Daily Three: 2-7-4 Daily Four: 2-1-4-2 Quick Draw: 1-3-6-8-12-16-24-26-27-28-32-38-40-43-46-48-52-55-65-74 Evening Daily Three: 8-5-6 Daily Four: 7-3-5-6 Quick Draw: 4-6-9-11-23	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.70 Wheat6.16	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.58 March corn5.61 Beans14.01 March beans14.01 Wheat 6.36 March wheat 6.38
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.77 March corn5.74	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.43 March corn5.48 Beans13.84 March beans14.02 Wheat6.26 March wheat.....6.26
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.66 March corn5.71 Beans14.07 March beans14.07 Wheat 6.51 March wheat 6.51	

Today in history

On Feb. 9, 1825, the House of Representatives elected John Quincy Adams president after no candidate received a majority of electoral votes.

In 1943, the World War II battle of Guadalcanal in the southwest Pacific ended with an Allied victory over Japanese forces.

In 1950, in a speech in Wheeling, West Virginia, Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wisconsin, said the State Department was riddled with Communists.

In 1964, the Beatles

made their first live American television appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show" on CBS.

In 1971, a magnitude 6.6 earthquake in California's San Fernando Valley claimed 65 lives. The crew of Apollo 14 returned to Earth after man's third landing on the moon.

In 1996, the Jay County High School boys basketball team finished on a 14-2 run, including eight points from the free-throw line, to knock off the visiting Delta Eagles 56-48.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.	Thursday 8 a.m. — Upper Wabash River Basin Commission, Wells County Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., Bluffton.
Wednesday 7 p.m. — Jay County Council, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	Friday 3 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Obituaries

Oneida Wheeler

Feb. 1, 1940-Feb. 1, 2021
Oneida L. (Greer) Wheeler joined the life everlasting on Feb. 1, 2021, exactly 81 years from the day she was born in 1940.

She was the daughter of Basil F. and Jessie M. Greer, long-term residents of Portland, Indiana. Oneida was a graduate of Portland High School. She married C. Gene Simons, also a resident of Jay County, on Feb. 2, 1958. Together they had four children, Gina (Simons) DeBolt, Joni (Simons) Gustafson, Dana Simons and Ryan Simons. Oneida had a second marriage to Ron Wheeler of Delavan, Wisconsin. Both husbands preceded her in death.



Wheeler

Oneida spent most of her adult life in Delavan. She had a successful career as a Realtor and was consistently a top performer in Delavan Lake area. She was an active member of her church and community. Oneida truly enjoyed family parties and gatherings. She loved to travel, play bridge, go boating, family games nights and hunting for treasures at antique stores.

In addition to her four children, Oneida has one surviving sister, Marlene (Greer) Schmid of Greensboro, North Carolina. Her brother Ronald Greer preceded her in death. She was also blessed with 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. She always enjoyed being entertained by their activities.

Visitation is at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13, in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, Portland, Indiana. Following will be services at 11 a.m. with Pastor Gil Alicea presiding. Oneida will be laid to rest in Green Park Cemetery next to her parents. A celebration of life event will be scheduled at a future date.

Anyone wishing to express condolences may do so in her name at the Alzheimer's Association (Alz.org). For the comfort of all in attendance, masks are requested.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Ruth Rauch

May 24, 1925-Feb. 4, 2021
Ruth E. Rauch, age 95, passed away Thursday morning, Feb. 4, 2021, at her daughter's home, after an extended illness.

She was born in Randolph County, Indiana, May 24, 1925, the daughter of Orville and Nellie (Fields) Starr, attended schools there and had been employed in county government in Jay County several years as a social worker in the family service/family planning division.

She leaves behind her husband, Max Rauch; stepson Scott Rauch; stepdaughter Nicole Hilliard; her two daughters, Dr. Teresa E. McDaniel and Pamela Griffith; a daughter-in-law, Sherry Fowler; and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, step-grandchildren, step-great-grandchildren, step-great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two sons, Monte Fowler on March 10, 2014, and Ted Fowler in 2019. A stepson, Rex Rauch, also precedes her, along with one brother and four sisters.

Ruth's final wishes were to be cremated, with interment at Weimer Cemetery near Saratoga, with her parents and siblings. A memorial service will be at a later date.

Waters Funeral Home, 501 W. Washington St., Hartford City is handling arrangements. Condolences may be sent to the family at watersfuneralhomes.com.

Carolyn Craig

Carolyn M. (Bozarth) Craig, age 72, of Englewood, Ohio, passed away Saturday, Feb. 6, 2021. She was a loving wife, mother, mamaw, sister and friend.

Carolyn loved spending time with her family. She retired from

the State of Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation with nearly 20 years of service and also owned C.M. Limited tax services.

Carolyn was a member of First Light Church in Vandalia, Ohio, and a member of TWIG's and the American Business Women's Association.

She is survived by her husband of 28 years, Wendell Craig; son, Scott (Sally) Moore of Englewood; grandchildren, Matthew (Dani), Nicholas and Mark; great-grandson Maddox; stepson Ronald (Barb) Craig of Union, Ohio; step-grandchildren Ronald (Jami) Craig and Kristina Craig; step-great-grandchildren Griffin, Bennett and Dillon; brothers Gayle (Carol) Bozarth of Vandalia and John (Donna) Bozarth of Fort Recovery; nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Johnnie and Dorothy (Tucker) Bozarth; and nephew, Craig Bozarth.

A walk-through visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021, at the Kindred Funeral Home, 400 Union Blvd., Englewood. Funeral Services will be at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 12, 2021, at the First Light Church, 140 Elva Court, Vandalia, with Pastor David Starry officiating. Interment will be at 2:30 p.m. on Friday at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Union City, Indiana.

If desired, memorial contributions may be made to First Light Church.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the family asks that you please wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

Condolences may be made to the family at KindredFuneralHome.com

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

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

Ordinance ...

Continued from page 1
"This is leaving this up to council whether we pay or not," Robbins said. "It's not mandatory, if we don't think that was a good enough reason, we don't have to pay, but it's in there so we can."

The other change clarified that employees could not earn overtime pay by taking a vacation day, bringing the city into compliance

with the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

In other business, council members Tom Johnson, Lisa Street, Bryan Jessup, Kevin Hamilton and Bivens:

- Heard that the city's new animal shelter should be operational within three weeks, as the building now has electricity hooked up.
- Approved adjustments of

\$3,489.67 for a leak on the city's side in a resident's home and \$458.60 for an underground leak at another residence.

- Heard Robbins commend city employees for quick snow removal over the past week.
- Canceled \$485.19 in uncashed checks from 2016 through 2018.
- Approved paying claims of \$174,040.38.

SERVICES

Wednesday
Stone, James: 1:30 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Friday
Craig, Carolyn: 10 a.m., First Light Church, 140 Elva Court, Vandalia, Ohio.

Saturday
Wheeler, Oneida: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Ryan, Ashlee: 2 p.m., All Season's Banquet Facility, 141 W. State St., Albany.

Service listings provided by
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Vaccine is easier than one would expect

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

That was far easier than I expected. When we pulled into the almost full parking lot of the local health department we assumed that we had a long wait before my appointment. We were wrong. I have never experienced that kind of efficiency before.

Easy to read signs pointed us in the right direction. Almost before we knew it we were in the waiting room waiting for a timer to go off. Fifteen minutes later we were back in the car and headed home.

I'm talking about getting the COVID vaccine. Everybody was very nice, extremely competent and relaxed. Whoever set things up deserves our heartfelt praise. There wasn't time to get the last minute jitters. The people were so efficient that if they had chosen to, and

As I See It



had enough vaccine, they could have vaccinated the entire town in the matter of a few days.

I am well aware that there are people who shun the shots. That is their right. With all the hullabaloo about what is and isn't true, I'm surprised that most people, including us, believe that the vaccine will help.

I have seen many photographs of people standing in line for hours to get the vaccine. This is the exact opposite of what I experienced. Perhaps those places could take a clue from a small town in Indiana.

When I was little we

lined up at the courthouse to get our polio shots. I had heard that there was an oral vaccine that would offer the same protection as the shot. Alas, all of us in line were doomed to get stabbed. I would guess that the majority of the kids in school were in that line.

At the time polio was the scourge of the day. My mom married the guy down the street when I was 14 or 15. Harvey had polio when he was a child. He dealt with the effects for the rest of his life.

The first time I saw him without a shirt I was surprised. He was washing up in the kitchen sink after work. His bad side looked like a normal man. His good side looked like he went to the gym every day. I doubt if he ever stepped foot in a gym. Hard work had shaped his body. Polio had left its mark.

These days one rarely knows anyone who has

The people were so efficient that if they ... had enough vaccine, they could have vaccinated the entire town in the matter of a few days.

had polio. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in the 1940s polio disabled in excess of 35,000 people each year. There have been no cases of polio that have originated in our country since 1979. This didn't prevent people from other countries inadvertently bringing the disease in. The last time this occurred was in 1993.

My mom was extremely hard of hearing. She also

had some comprehension problems. She said that she had measles as a child and that adversely affected her hearing.

Mom and Harvey had diseases that today are mostly wiped out because of vaccines. We may be afraid of the current push to vaccinate as many people as possible but my mom and step-dad are examples of what happens when vaccines aren't available.

Do we really want to take a chance on our children having to deal with side effects from COVID? Do we really want to subject our kids to having to take care of us if we have side effects years after we opted to not get the shot?

The process of getting vaccinated is quite easy. If you won't do it for yourself, then do it for the people who will have to take care of you. Do it for those you love.

Cheating fiance in Ohio still wants some privacy

DEAR ABBY: Because my fiance and I had bad experiences in the past, we settled on just living together for the last 17 years. He has been like a husband to me and faithful all these years. Recently, however, I caught him in an online affair.

I checked his phone one day out of the blue — something I have never done before because we respect each other's privacy. The emails were daily, back and forth, with only one mentioning a sexual encounter at the beginning.

He confessed that he had made a big mistake once and refused to see her again in person but had kept up the correspondence. He begged me to forgive him and I agreed, since we were together for so long.

The problem is, now we argue about his phone. He still expects the same privacy with it. I don't feel comfortable with that now. Does he still deserve the same privacy? — HUNG UP IN OHIO

Dear Abby



DEAR HUNG UP: No, he does not. What he deserves is the chance to rebuild your trust, and that involves accountability on his part, which includes allowing you access to his phone if you feel insecure.

After 17 years together, both of you have a large emotional investment in this relationship. Because of that, it might be beneficial to schedule some sessions with a licensed relationship counselor to figure out where it went off the rails.

DEAR ABBY: I read your col-

umn every day. I know sometimes you suggest people see a doctor, either medical or psychological. What do you do if you are terrified of doctors?

I have asthma and consult my doctor via a computer, but some doctors (like dentists) can't do that. I have horrible panic attacks and anxiety. Then my asthma kicks in, I can't breathe, and I cry uncontrollably. I don't want to take medications because they make me sleepy. Because I'm so doped up, someone has to come with me to the doctor to drive me home and watch me be an uncontrollable mess. Also, missing a whole day of work for a one-hour doctor appointment is, in my opinion, ridiculous. I think I'd rather be sick than go to the doctor. My family insists it's all in my head and I should just get over it, but because of many horrible experiences at doctors' offices, which I believe caused my fear, I just can't. The current situation

with the worldwide COVID epidemic has made my anxiety worse. Your thoughts? — TERRIFIED TO GO THERE

DEAR TERRIFIED: My thought is that you need to ask your doctor or your insurance company for a referral to a licensed psychologist who specializes in phobias and panic attacks. Many of them consult with their patients online these days. Once you finally get a handle on that problem, the rest will be easier. While few people relish the idea of going to the doctor or dentist, NOT doing what is necessary to protect your health can be dangerous.

DEAR ABBY: My husband passed away unexpectedly. It was and is a tremendous loss to my two daughters and to me.

While writing my thank-you cards to individuals who attended his viewing and church service, I

noticed someone had written "Mick Jagger" as attending his viewing and "Rod Stewart" as attending his church service. I was floored and deeply hurt when I realized the handwriting belonged to one of our pallbearers — my husband's sister's husband. Our teenage daughters also saw it and told me they thought it was disrespectful. I don't know if I should tell my sister-in-law or let it go. I want to ask him why he would do such a thing. Or am I overreacting? — HURT IN TEXAS

DEAR HURT: No, you are not overreacting. What your brother-in-law did was, to put it mildly, insensitive. A funeral memorial book is the wrong place to attempt a bad joke. By all means tell your sister-in-law about it. And when you do, be sure to mention how it affected you and your daughters. You all deserve an apology for his inappropriate behavior.

Community Calendar

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

Tuesday

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

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB

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

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Wednesday at Jay Community Center and 10:30 a.m. to noon each Wednesday at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk. The public is welcome.

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

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

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

BRYANT/NEW CORYDON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — For caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, the group will meet at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Blackford Community Hospital conference room, 410 Pilgrim Boulevard in Hartford City. For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-3900.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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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Voting is most fundamental right

To the editor:

The Republican party seems to be wanting to bring into existence a 21 century version of the poll tax, as if participating in and inciting an insurrection were somehow lacking in serving their agenda.

To spite there being zero evidence of election fraud, 106 bills have been filed in various state legislatures to "tighten" election laws and thereby making it harder to vote. The rationale used is that there were problems in the last election.

Yes, there were, the big lie

Letters to the Editor

spread by a sore loser, wanna-be autocrat who had a hard time believing 81 million voters didn't like him as president and the 74 million voters who were gullible enough to believe the big lie he spread like manure on an Indiana cornfield.

I should mention, most of the voter "reform" that is being proposed is in traditional "red" states like Arizona and Georgia as well as in the swing state of Pennsylvania. This 21st-century version of a poll tax includes making mail-in voting more restrictive, removing election drop boxes, calling for two forms of identification or providing proof of citizenship.

Some election officials make no attempt to hide why they want voting to be more restrictive. According to Alice O'Lenick, who heads the Gwinnett County

Board of Registration and Elections, Republicans have "... got to change the major parts of them (election laws) so that we at least have a shot at winning."

The legislature in Arizona wants to have the power to overrule the secretary of state's ability to certify an election.

In Texas, the legislature gives a perfect example of Orwellian double-speak in calling for "election integrity." This is in spite of the fact that Texas already has low voter participation because of antagonistic and punitive voting laws.

The right to vote is fundamental to the survival of our democracy. As citizens, this is our most sacred and, sadly, our most under-appreciated right.

We, as a nation, witnessed how fragile our democracy is on Jan. 6. Do not be deceived, it can happen again.

There are a plethora of examples as to how important it is for a nation's citizens to have a voice, and, unfortunately, what happens when their voices are silenced.

Michael Kinser
Portland

Is Joe Biden the man of this hour?

By MARK FRANKE

"With malice toward none; with charity for all ..."

Abraham Lincoln concluded his second inaugural address in 1865 with those words. That, too, was a time of crisis brought on by deep divisions in American society. No one understood better than Lincoln what had been at stake, and, more importantly, what continued to be an existential threat to the nation and the lives of her citizens.

What Lincoln hoped to do was to bring the nation back together under a shared ethos, commonly understood and valued by all. He knew he had to help reconcile the triumphant victors, some of whom were planning a retributive punishment for those they held guilty; and the demoralized and defeated, some who vowed never to surrender. "Binding up the nation's wounds" was his slogan, if you will, for his second term of office.

Would Lincoln's vision have come about? We'll never know, as John Wilkes Booth put paid to Lincoln's dream for a reunited nation. What followed was a bitter and often violent Reconstruction that solved some problems while arguably exacerbating others.

2021 is not 1865, at least not in terms of the death and destruction that America's bloodiest war wreaked.

Perhaps, though, we are getting close as several recent authors have hypothesized a new secession crisis in our near future. One can easily see parallels between the past decade and that of the 1850s in terms of overwrought rhetoric and playground name calling, let alone the targeted violence. Things spiraled out of control back then, and some think we are experiencing the same descent into violent extremism now.

This can be Joe Biden's hour. He ran in the Democrat primaries as a moderate alternative to the other candidates' race to the extreme left. He then positioned himself against Donald Trump as one who would unite rather than divide the nation. That theme resonated with many voters who, although conservative in ideology, were fed up with Trump's incessant political bullying.

His inaugural address contained the expected unity statements and verbal imagery of much of what unites us as Americans. His call to ratchet

Mark Franke



down the rhetoric resonated well with most commentators whom I have read. I particularly liked his characterization of politics as "a raging fire." Nearly all can agree with that.

All good so far, but what is it are we supposed to unite around? The Democrats won the White House and managed a tie in the Senate while seeing their House majority decrease. Does this open the door for carefully crafted initiatives that can rise above rank partisanship?

Or will a "winner take all" mentality rule, fueled by the extremists who feel that this is their mandate to remake America in their image?

I don't expect to like most of Biden's policies and legislative initiatives. After all, I am a classical liberal in the sense the Founding Fathers were. I worry about the influence the cancel culture crowd will have in the Biden administration.

Will Biden listen to his instincts "to be a president who does not seek to divide, but unify," as he proclaimed on the campaign trail?

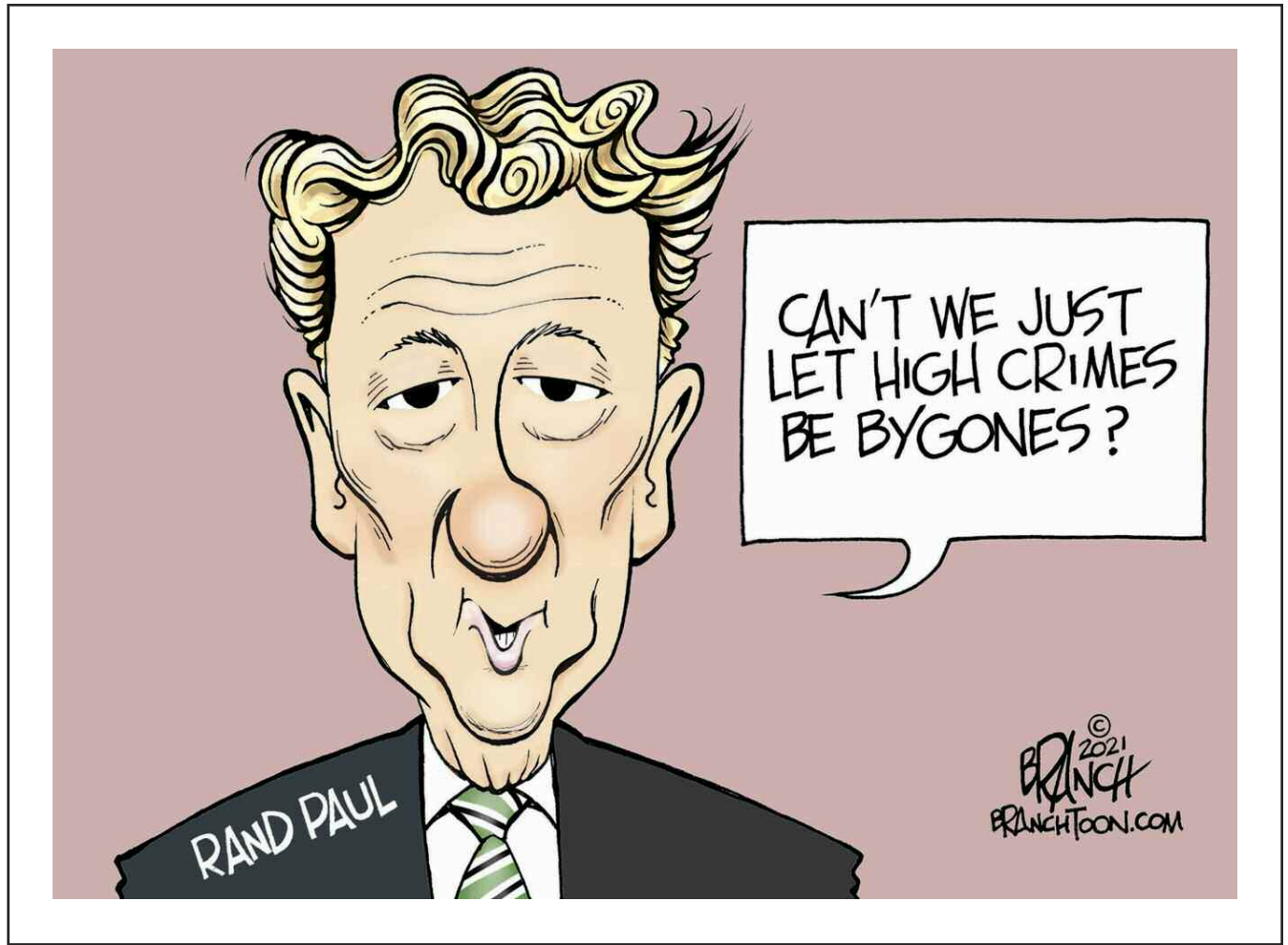
Or will the loudest voices in his party co-opt the agenda?

"The man and the hour have met," if I may appropriate another political quote from the 19th century. The speaker was rather premature in his prediction of that newly elected president's success in office.

Is Joe Biden the man for this hour or will success as president elude him? While not optimistic that Biden can rise to the occasion, I fervently hope that he does. He is president for us all, not just the half that voted for him.

Lincoln concluded his address with "... to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves ...". Will Biden be another Lincoln? Probably not. But then, almost no one can. Still, I wish him success in being the unifying Biden of his inaugural address.

.....
Franke is an adjunct scholar of the *Indiana Policy Review* and previously served as associate vice chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.



Shultz achieved great influence

By CONDOLEEZZA RICE

Special To The Washington Post

"It is the best job in government." I had just called to tell George Shultz that I had been nominated to be secretary of state. I wanted to hear from my mentor, friend and soon to be predecessor. But then he quickly corrected himself. "Except for when I was a captain in the Marine Corps."

That was quintessentially George Shultz. He loved his country and loved serving it — whether on the battlefields of World War II or the gilded rooms of diplomacy in foreign capitals around the world.

Shultz will be remembered as one of the most influential secretaries of state in our history. He was President Ronald Reagan's most trusted adviser as the Cold War was drawing to a close. His deft touch in reading and encouraging Reagan's instincts, first to challenge the Soviet Union, then to find common ground through diplomacy, served the president and the country well.

"Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall," in Berlin. And: "What part of zero do you not understand," in proceeding with the deployment of Pershing II missiles in Europe when the Soviet Union refused to remove their intermediate-range forces. These words were classic Reagan, but it was Shultz who translated those instincts into policy wins. His diplomatic skills were on display most memorably in negotiating a landmark Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty that eliminated a whole class of nuclear weapons for the first time in history. Reagan — with Shultz by his side — laid the foundation for the peaceful end of the Cold War.

As secretary, he greatly influenced policy in the Middle East, even though the bombing of the Marines in Lebanon in 1983 haunted him, personally, throughout his life. And just a few years after the establishment of relations with the People's Republic of China, many credit Shultz with laying down a path for regular and successful diplomacy with Beijing on everything from trade to human rights. Diplomats knew him as a good listener and a practical man. His

Condoleezza Rice



favorite tactic was to say to his counterpart, "You write down what worries you and I will do the same, and then we will work our way down the list." And yet, he never lost sight of the centrality of freedom to the human experience and to human dignity. His integrity was unquestioned by friend and foe alike.

Even if secretary of state was his "best job" in the Cabinet, he will also be remembered for his work as treasury secretary and director of the Office of Management and Budget where his belief in the power of markets made him a force with two presidents. Yet, when one spent just a little time with Shultz, he would turn to a set of achievements that were core to him. He was immensely proud of his work in civil rights and equal opportunity — as secretary of labor for President Richard Nixon.

Shultz remained seized with questions of equality at home, particularly in education. That concern led him to champion K-12 school reform and parental choice and — with his wife, Charlotte — to single-handedly save an inner-city school in Palo Alto, Calif., that needed more funding to survive. Too few people knew that side of George Shultz. He just went about that work. He believed deeply that the United States could lead with moral authority abroad only if it was true to its values at home.

In 100 well-lived years, Shultz made an impact in corporate, academic and governmental institutions. He did so by deed but also by imparting lessons that we could all apply when we were called to lead. "Be sure to garden," he would say, insisting that relationships — particularly with allies — were like flowers in a garden and needed constant tending.

"Never point your weapon unless you intend to fire it," he would say,

recalling what his master sergeant had said to the young Marine. That was an admonition to be careful with threats and "red lines" that you could not or would not enforce.

"Democracy is not a spectator sport," a phrase that he proudly wore on his favorite tie, and a message that we need desperately to remember in our challenged and battered country today.

Shultz never stopped learning. There was always another intellectual frontier to cross, and so after government, he would become consumed with the challenges of climate change, learning the science and technology and pairing that knowledge with his grasp of political and economic realities. At Hoover, we called him the "great convener." There was always a working group or task force or seminar that brought people together to learn and share ideas.

With his colleagues Henry Kissinger, William Perry and Sidney Drell, Shultz renewed his commitment, first expressed in the Reagan administration, to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Like so much that he touched, it was a big idea — not achievable in the short term but still worth pursuing. In large ways and small, Shultz shaped and changed the world, both with policy breakthroughs of his own and by inspiring others to do their part in improving the human condition.

Now, we will have to carry on the work that he challenged us to do: to love freedom, to provide opportunity for all and to never lose a thirst for learning. We will miss him. Yet, we could not have asked for more than to have shared in his passionate embrace of life's joys and challenges. George Shultz ran his race and finished strong until the very end. For that we should be grateful, because even as we mourn his passing, we are all so much better for having been a part of the consequential life that he lived.

.....
Rice, the director of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, was secretary of state from 2005 to 2009.

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

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VOLUME 148—NUMBER 203
TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 9, 2021

www.thecr.com

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Senate votes to override veto

By TOM DAVIES
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Republican lawmakers took the first step Monday toward overriding the Indiana governor's veto of a bill blocking cities from regulating rental properties, which opponents argue would take away the ability of local officials to protect tenants from abusive landlords.

The state Senate voted 30-17 to override the veto that Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb issued in March following the end of the 2020 legislative session.

The bill establishes uniform statewide regulations, which Republican Sen. Aaron Freeman of Indianapolis called a "one kind of floor for landlord tenant issues in the state" rather than a "hodgepodge" of local regulations.

"All we're saying is there should be in 92 counties a standard of what we're going to do and how we're going to treat landlords and how we're going to treat tenants," Freeman said.

Tenant advocates, however, have maintained the proposal would be unfair to the estimated 30%, or some 2 million, of Indiana residents living in rental housing and tilt state law heavily in favor of landlords.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

'Tonight' to state

Jay County High School's winter guard competed for the first time Saturday with its show titled "Tonight" and wasted no time qualifying for the state finals. With a third-place finish in their round and sixth place overall in competition at Anderson, JCHS qualified for the state finals. Jay County's score of 65.37 surpassed the state-qualifying score for the week. Penn scored 74.16 points to win the competition by more than 2.5 points over Lebanon.

County ...

Continued from page 1
Commissioners approved moving forward with the project.

Ford, Wells and Baldwin also mentioned they will soon need to invest in a new camera system. The current cameras installed by Wisconsin-based Accurate Controls is 12 years old and need replaced, Ford explained. He said replacing the system and cameras will come with a price tag near \$260,000.

Five analog DVRs currently run the jail system, Wells added, and they will need to update to a digital system. It's not the camera that's expensive, Ford explained, but the programming itself. Ford has requested the same business that installed the courthouse cameras, Digital Video Solutions, attempt installing new cameras and wiring into the current Accurate Controls' system.

"If we can, that's gonna bring that (cost) way down," Ford said.

Wells noted that the company often does maintenance over the phone, but for a representative to come in-person and do repairs or maintenance costs the jail about \$3,000. Commissioners asked jail officials to look for more quotes, and Ford agreed and said they

just wanted to keep commissioners informed.

Commissioners also heard from courthouse superintendent Bruce Sutton about quotes for six new boilers in the building. They came from Building Temperature Solutions of Logansport (\$78,980), Allied Mechanical Incorporated of New Haven (\$77,093) and All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning of Portland (\$64,755.04). County auditor Anna Culy estimated it has been at least 20 years since the current boilers were installed, and four of eight are not currently working. Sutton warned that if the courthouse fell down to three boilers, it likely wouldn't be able to keep any warmer than 50-some degrees in the building.

Answering a question from Jounay, Sutton explained that the new boilers are more efficient and thus only six will be needed instead of eight.

McGalliard pushed for the local bid because of its lower price and proximity. Commissioners questioned if each proposal included a warranty and wondered about how long the installation would take for each.

"(Hopefully) before spring so I

could sleep at night," Sutton remarked.

Sutton agreed to contact each company to learn more. Commissioners agreed to meet before the next meeting after Sutton learns more so the process can move swiftly.

Also, commissioners heard from highway superintendent Donnie Corn that the department had seven dump trucks not working last week. (At least three were working again Monday, and Corn hoped to have another two or three working by today.) One dump truck needs a new part that is no longer manufactured.

Commissioners gave the OK for Corn to seek quotes for a new dump truck and four new snow plows for highway salt trucks — the current plows are more than 30 years old, he explained.

Corn then proposed two bids for a new salt spreader, and commissioners chose a bid for \$23,285 from Meyer Truck Equipment of Zionsville.

He noted local residents and Jay Schools bus drivers have requested the intersections of county road 200 South with county roads 700 East and 600 East be changed to a four-way stop. Corn

said there have been at least four deaths resulting from accidents in those areas.

"My opinion is, if we can save one life, it's worth it," he said.

Commissioners agreed to take action at the next meeting.

Corn mentioned that he, new emergency management director Amy Blakely, Ford and Jay Schools met Friday and have been keeping in touch about ongoing weather and emergency events. They hope to continue "staying on the same page" in the future, he added.

Culy later presented quotes to commissioners for the county to receive an actuarial report. A full package would cost about \$6,500, and an interim report — Culy noted that would need to be done more often — would cost about \$3,000. She added that although an actuarial report is technically required, there are no penalties for not investing in one. Commissioners asked her to check with county attorney Bill Hinkle, who was not present at the meeting, and learn more information before they decide.

In other business, commissioners:

- Signed claims for a \$5,500 cot

for Jay County Emergency Medical Service, the annual \$24,192 payment for the Geographic Information System and a \$10,000 commitment toward the Jay County Development Corporation's use of the Hoosier Opportunity local jobs website, a partnership between Jay, Randolph and Wayne counties.

- Signed a one-year lease agreement with Enos Schwartz of Bryant for the pasture west of Jay County Retirement Center for \$180 per acre and agreed to set the payment date for April 1, 2021.

- Accepted two donations totaling about \$1,405 for the retirement center.

- Heard from retirement center director Hope Confer that the resident who has refused to leave despite being evicted is still living at the facility, although he will be moving to Portland Place Apartments at the end of the month.

- Approved a bid from Progressive Office Products for two laptop computers at total of \$4,898 for Jay County Prosecutor's Office.

- Enacted an ordinance to update the JEMS fee schedule.

- Scheduled an executive session for 3 p.m. Thursday in the commissioners' room.

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Washington Post/John McDonnell

Newly confirmed Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg addresses his first public event with transportation workers behind him at Union Station on Friday in Washington, D.C.

Buttigieg to quarantine

By **MICHAEL LARIS**
The Washington Post

A member of Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg's security detail tested positive for the coronavirus Monday, sending Buttigieg into a 14-day quarantine less than a week after being sworn in.

Buttigieg tested negative Monday and has had no symptoms, according to a statement from chief of staff Laura Schiller.

"He received the first dose of the vaccination in recent weeks, and will receive the second dose when his quarantine is completed," the statement said. Buttigieg was in "close contact" with the agent, including on Monday morning before the agent's positive result, according to the statement.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines close contact as being within six feet of someone for a total of at least 15 minutes "over a 24-hour period

starting from 2 days before illness onset," or, if the person is showing no symptoms, starting from two days before going in for a test.

Following an immediate contact tracing effort, a second member of Buttigieg's security detail was also deemed a "close contact," according to Schiller's statement, but no one else fit that category.

Buttigieg was confirmed by the Senate on Feb. 2. In an email to department employees the following morning, he said he was "honored and delighted to be officially on board." He said he looked forward to spending the next few weeks learning about the staff's critical work.

"When it's safe, I look forward to walking the halls and traveling the country to get to know you and your colleagues in person," he wrote.

Buttigieg has been active, making TV and other appearances, including one where he met transporta-

tion workers Friday at Union Station in Washington to discuss COVID-safety efforts, including mask use. A photo from the event, tweeted by the department, showed a masked Buttigieg standing in formation in front of masked Amtrak workers and a locomotive, with a header that read: "Name this band."

In a previously scheduled interview on CNN with Erin Burnett on Monday night, Buttigieg said the agent also showed no symptoms despite his positive test.

"This is why masks matter. This is why testing matters. You can get up, go to work, feel fine, and it turns out that you're positive," he told Burnett.

Buttigieg said it is frustrating to be "confined to quarters," especially because he has to be separated from his husband, Chasten, but said he remains thankful he's among the Americans who can do their jobs from home if necessary.



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Trial ...

Continued from page 1

Holed up at his Mar-a-Lago club in Florida, Trump has declined a request to testify.

The first president to face charges after leaving office and the first to be twice impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors while in office, Trump continues to challenge the nation's civic norms and traditions even in defeat. Security remains extremely tight at the Capitol. While acquittal is likely, the trial will test the nation's attitude toward his brand of presidential power, the Democrats' resolve in pursuing him, and the loyalty of Trump's Republican allies defending him.

"In trying to make sense of a second Trump trial, the public should keep in mind that Donald Trump was the first president ever to refuse to accept his defeat," said Timothy Naftali, a clinical associate professor at New York University and an expert on Richard Nixon's impeachment saga, which ended with Nixon's resignation rather than his impeachment.

"This trial is one way of having that difficult national conversation about the difference between dissent and insurrection," Naftali said.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Monday that Biden will be busy with the business of the presidency and won't spend much time watching the televised proceedings. "He'll leave it to his former colleagues in the Senate," she said.

In filings, lawyers for the former president lobbed a wide-ranging attack against the House case, dismissing the trial as "political theater" on the same Senate floor invaded by the mob.

Trump's defenders are preparing to challenge both the constitutionality of the trial and any suggestion that he was to blame for the insurrection. They suggest that Trump was simply exercising his First Amendment rights when he encouraged his supporters to protest at the Capitol, and they argue the Senate is not entitled to try Trump now that he has left office.

House impeachment managers, in their own filings, asserted that Trump had "betrayed the American people" and there is no valid excuse or defense.

"His incitement of insurrection against the United States government — which disrupted the peaceful transfer of power — is the most grievous constitutional crime ever committed by a president," the Democrats said.

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Tesla plans to accept Bitcoin

By **MATT OIT**
AP Business Writer

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Holders of Bitcoin may be able to cash in some of their investment in the digital currency for a brand new electric car.

Electric automaker Tesla said Monday that it has invested around \$1.5 billion in Bitcoin and it plans to begin accepting the digital currency as payment soon. The price of Bitcoin soared 15.4% to around \$44,500 Monday in reaction to Tesla's announcement, according to Coinbase.

The California-based electric car maker headed by Elon Musk revealed the new strategy in a filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.



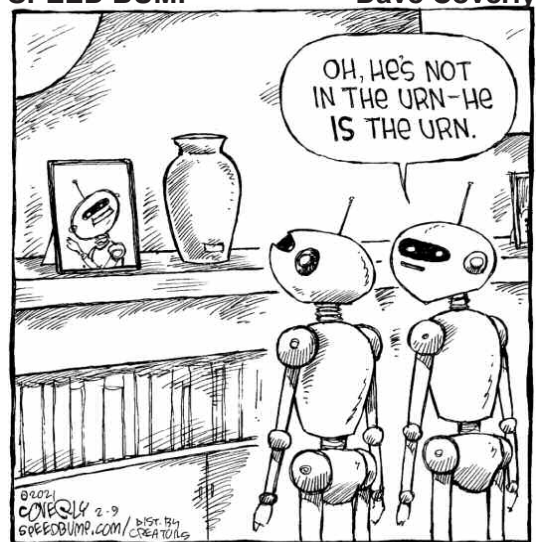
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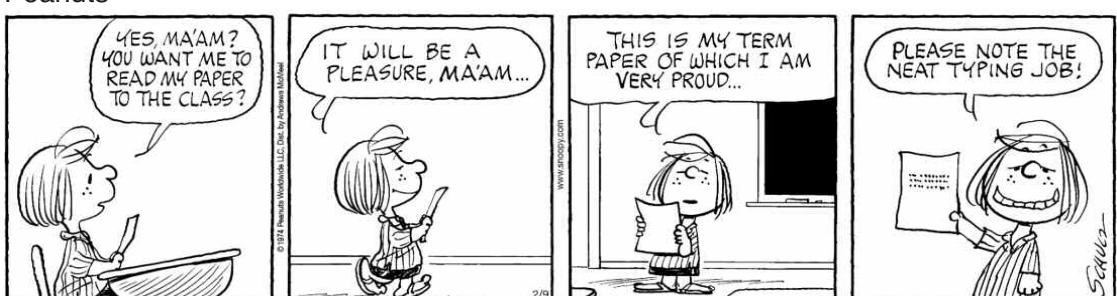
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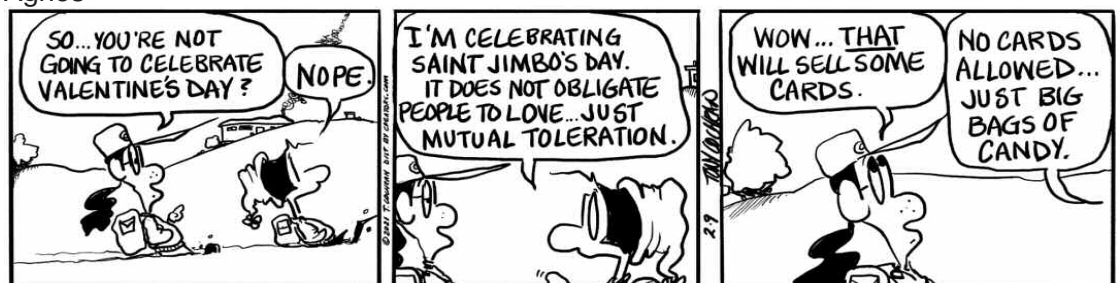
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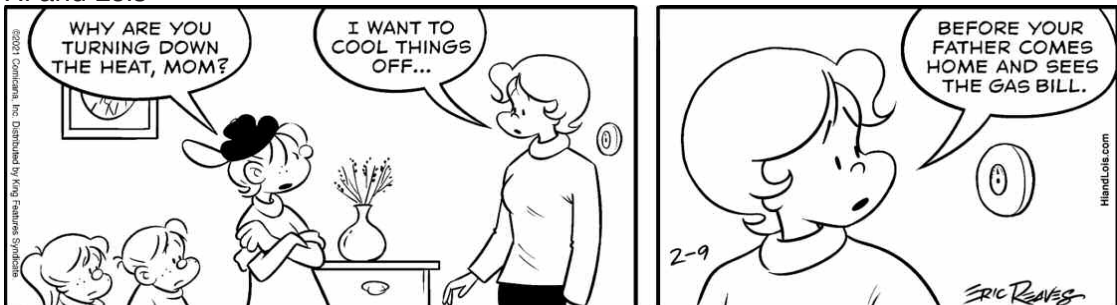
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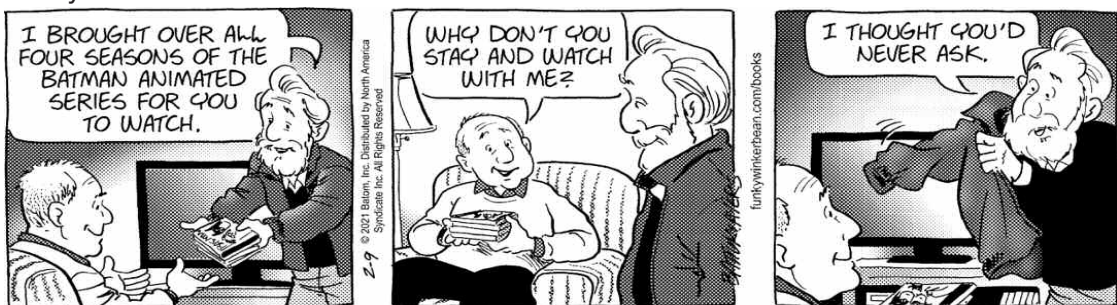
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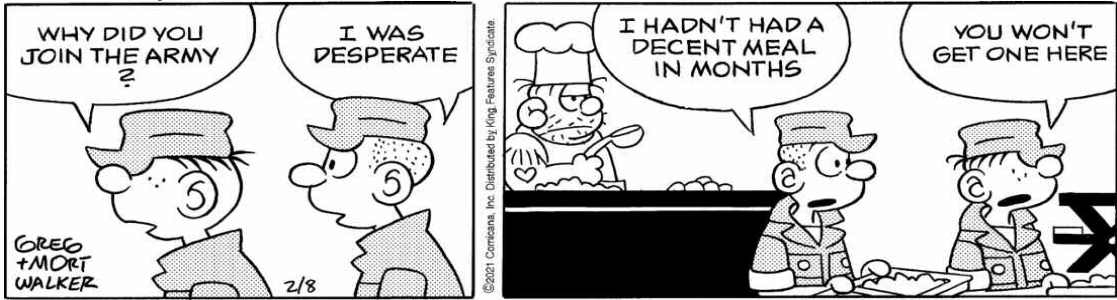
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10:00am
Antiques-Old & Collectors Items; Clark 3 dower spool cabinet; hump back trunk; metal train pieces; crocks: #3 western, #12, #10, #6 heart; jewelers anvil, vise with anvil; Lamps: Alladin; arrowheads; Hudepohl Beer metal keg; WWII leather flying helmet; and many other items not listed.
Auctioneers Note: This auction offers a nice selection of antiques and collectibles. Auction preview will be held on Friday February 12th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm. It is recommended you follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a facial mask and social distancing
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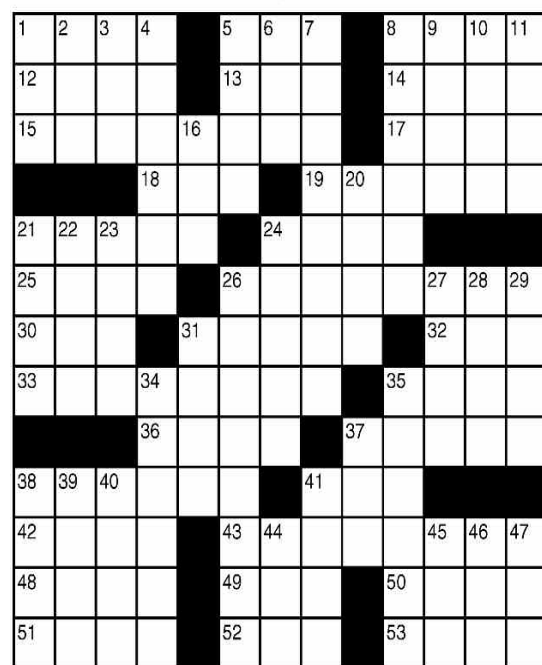
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Yesterday's answer 2-9



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Title turned over

Late giveaway hampers No. 11 Jay County in sectional final loss to seventh-ranked Hamilton Heights

By CHRIS SCHANZ
The Commercial Review
NEW CASTLE — There was little room for error against the highly touted Huskies.

Playing in its first sectional title game in six years, the Patriots were on the cusp of tying the score or taking the lead with less than 16 seconds to play.

But the ensuing possession ended up in their 16th and final turnover.

Jay County High School's girls basketball team had its bid for a sectional title come up short with a 46-42 loss to the Hamilton Heights Huskies in the championship game of the Class 3A Sectional 24 tournament on Saturday night at New Castle Fieldhouse.

"I'm really proud of the kids," said JCHS coach Kirk Comer. "We have outstanding kids and I thought it would come down to a possession or two. When two good teams go at it, the little things come into play and that's what happened tonight."

"But you sure can't fault our kids' effort because they gave every single thing they had. I've said this before, but this is one of my all-time favorite teams. They're just a special group. I hate to see it come to an end."

The seventh-ranked Huskies (18-1), who won their fifth sectional title, advance to the regional semifinal against Benton Central at noon Feb. 13 at Bellmont.

"Jay County is a really good ... great basketball team," Hamilton Heights coach Keegan Cherry said. "Coach Comer is one of the all-time greats. He's one of the good guys. I told him before the game, win or lose, I feel good about tonight because I feel like one of the good guys is going to win this one so I

feel bad for him and his locker room.

"But man, our girls are fighters. They're fighters. (Jay County) killed us on the backboard. We never quit. That ball game was in the balance the whole way."

The Patriots (19-4), who were 11th in the final Class 3A poll voting and had to fight tooth-and-nail in the semifinal Friday night against Yorktown while the Huskies cruised past host New Castle, trailed 43-39 with 45 seconds remaining after a Sydney Runyan bucket.

The Huskies had a chance to build on that lead but missed the front end of a one-and-one, and the Patriots pulled within a point as Renna Schwieterman split a pair of free throws and Madison Dirksen put back her own missed 3-pointer to make it 43-42.

Camryn Runner, who finished with a game-high 25 points, made the front end of two bonus free throws with 16.8 seconds to go. Just as Jay County brought the rebound across mid-court following Runner's miss on the second, the Huskies' defense created yet another turnover.

Forced to foul, the Patriots sent HHHS senior Jillian Osswald to the line and she made both free throws with 5.9 seconds to go to seal the win.

"Camryn Runner is just an absolute beast," Cherry said. The freshman was 9-of-10 from the field, including 4-of-5 from the 3-point line, and made three of her four free-throw attempts.

See Turned page 9



46



42



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School senior Aubrie Schwieterman leaps to intercept a pass intended for Ella Hickok of the Hamilton Heights Huskies during the second quarter of the Class 3A Sectional 24 championship game on Saturday at New Castle Fieldhouse. The No. 11 Patriots came up short against the seventh-ranked Huskies, 46-42.

In review

Bringing back

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Cardinals are bringing back catcher Yadier Molina for an 18th season, agreeing Monday to a \$9 million, one-year deal with the nine-time Gold Glove winner.

The 38-year-old Molina hit .262 with four home runs in 42 games during the pandemic-shortened 2020 season, his last under a \$60 million, three-year deal.

The nine-time All-Star and two-time World Series champion has appeared in 2,025 games for St. Louis since breaking into the majors in 2004, third on the franchise list behind Hall of Famers Stan Musial (3,026) and Lou Brock (2,289).

He trails only Ivan Rodriguez (13) and Johnny Bench (10) for most Gold Gloves by a catcher.

Will return

NEW YORK — Seven-inning double-headers and runners on second base to start extra innings will return for a second straight season under an agreement for 2021 health protocols reached Monday between Major League Baseball and the players' association.

The deal did not include last year's experimental rule to extend the designated hitter to the National League or expanded playoffs. After allowing 16 teams in the postseason last year instead of 10, MLB had proposed 14 for this year before withdrawing that plan last month.

Last year's expanded playoffs agreement did not come together until hours before the season's first pitch.

—Associated Press

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♠10
♦Q 7 5
SOUTH
♠A Q
♥A Q J 10 4 3
♦6 2
♠J 8 4
The bidding:
North East South West
1 Pass Pass 4♥ 4♦
Pass Pass 4♥ 4♦
Opening lead — ace of diamonds.

about it," he said. "You lost two fitnesses. East had a singleton diamond, and West also had to lead a diamond to beat you. I should have doubled four diamonds; they would have gone down three."
After North had finished, East pointed out that declarer could have made the contract by ducking the queen of diamonds at trick two. East said it was obvious from the bidding that the king would be trumped if it was played.
If it was not played, he continued, the defenders would then have found it impossible to stop the contract. If East discarded on the queen of diamonds and West led a third diamond, East could ruff, but South would overrun, draw trump and establish the clubs to bring home 10 tricks. His spade loser would eventually go off on dummy's fourth club.
Nor would it help East to trump the queen of diamonds, because declarer would then still have the king of diamonds in dummy on which to discard his queen of spades. South would lose only a diamond, a diamond ruff and a club on this line of play.
North had listened quietly to East's analysis, which was clearly correct. When East was through, North turned back to his partner and snapped, "Well, how come you didn't play it that way?"

Tomorrow: A choice of fitnesses.
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2-9 CRYPTOQUIP
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QJZWRJL GT MXR AJU AREJPLR
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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
JAY COUNTY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
38C01-2101-EU-000005
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
HAROLD E. YOUNG,
Deceased
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that JERRY E. YOUNG AND SHARON J. MICHAEL were, on the 1st day of February, 2021, appointed personal representatives of the estate of HAROLD E. YOUNG, deceased, who died on December 31, 2020, and were authorized to administer said 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 at Portland, Indiana, this 2nd day of February, 2021.
Jon Eads
Clerk, Jay Circuit Court
Timothy K. Babcock
Attorney No. 21526-90
DALE HUFFMAN & BABCOCK
1127 North Main Street
Bluffton, Indiana 46714
Attorney for Estate
CR 2-9-16-2021 HSPAXLP

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Public Notice
Jay Circuit Court
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2020 TERM
Case No.
38C001-2011-EU-000030
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Estate
of JACKIE LEE CAVANAUGH, Deceased
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Sharon Kay Cavanaugh was on the 13th day of November, 2020, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Jackie Lee Cavanaugh, deceased, who died on the 22nd day of October, 2020. 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 at Portland, Indiana, this 13th day of November, 2020.
Jon Eads
CLERK OF THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
COLDREN, FRANTZ & SPRUNGER
Attorneys
CR 2-29-2021 HSPAXLP

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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
CAUSE NO.
38C01-2101-EU-000003
IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF:
PATRICK L. WALLACE,
(Deceased)
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Sonja Phillips and Aaron Wallace were appointed as Co-Personal Representatives of the estate of Patrick L. Wallace, deceased, on the 20th day of January, 2021, who died on the 15th day of December, 2020. 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 at Jay County, Indiana, this date January 25, 2021.
Jon Eads;
Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court, Indiana
Attorney for Estate
John W. Longaker, III
Attorney-at-Law
940 Meridian Street
Anderson, Indiana 46016
CR 2-29-2021 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
SS:
COUNTY OF JAY CASE NO. Cause # is 38C01-2101-MI-2. IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF:
Emily Nicole Corn
Petitioner.
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Emily Nicole Corn, Whose mailing address is:
206 1/2 West Main Street
Portland, IN 47371
And, if different, my residence address is:
JAY County, Indiana hereby gives notice that she/he has filed a petition in the JAY Circuit Court requesting that his/her name be changed to Emily Nicole Wallace.
Notice is further given that hearing will be held on said Petition on the 9th day of March, 2021 at 9 o'clock AM.
Emily Corn
Petitioner
Date January 19, 2021
Jon Eads
JAY CIRCUIT COURT CLERK
CR 2-29-16-2021 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
IN THE JAY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
ESTATE NO.
38C001-2101-ES-000001
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: SARAH L CRAIG, DECEASED
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JAY COUNTY, INDIANA
Notice is hereby given that Guardian Advocates Inc was, on January 25, 2021, appointed personal representative of the estate of Sarah L Craig deceased, who died on December 16, 2020. All persons having Claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Jay County, Indiana, this date January 25, 2021.
Jon Eads;
Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court, Indiana
Attorney for Estate
John W. Longaker, III
Attorney-at-Law
940 Meridian Street
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CR 2-29-2021 HSPAXLP

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LEGAL NOTICE
The Jay County Property Tax Assessment Board of Appeals will meet Tuesday, February 16, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Jay County Courthouse Auditorium, 120 North Court Street, Portland, Indiana. The board will consider any appeals of property tax assessments for assessment year 2020, exemption applications and any other business properly brought before the Board.
Robin Alberson
Jay County Assessor
CR 2-9-2021 HSPAXLP

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
DLC#B403-217
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-1911-MF-000035, wherein AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC was Plaintiff, and Daminic Skinner, was a Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 11th day of March, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. of said day, at the 120 N. Court Street, Ste. 305, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana:
Lot Number Seventeen (17) in Meeker's Second Addition to the town (now city) of Portland, Jay County, Indiana.
38-07-21-204-115.000-034 and commonly known as: 709 E Main St, Portland, IN 47371.
Subject to all liens, encumbrances, rights of redemption, easements and restrictions of record not otherwise foreclosed and extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause #38C01-1911-MF-000035 in the Circuit Court of the County of Jay Indiana, and subject to all real estate taxes, and assessments currently due, delinquent or which are to become a lien.
Said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's Attorney.
F Dwane Ford
Jay County Sheriff
Doyle & Fouty, P.C. a
41 E Washington St, STE 400
Indianapolis, IN 46204
CR 2-9-16,23-2021 HSPAXLP

Larson grateful for 2nd chance in NASCAR

By JENNA FRYER
AP Auto Racing Writer

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Kyle Larson loaded his motorhome and drove to Daytona International Speedway by himself, alone for some seven hours to prepare for his return to NASCAR competition.

The excitement of a new season settled his nerves and he felt optimistic about his future.

After serving a six-month suspension for his use of a racial slur that nearly cost him his career, Larson was just appreciative of the opportunity ahead.

“I feel extremely grateful because, you know, I really never

thought I would get another chance to race in NASCAR and I kind of accepted that,” Larson said Monday as he waited for the Daytona infield to open.

“I hope to do a good job on and off the track and really take advantage of a second chance.”

Larson’s career imploded early in the pandemic during a night of virtual racing. He used the N-word to address his spotter over the livestream and it was heard by everyone following online.

The clip quickly spread and the fallout was swift: Larson was dropped by nearly every sponsor and fired by Chip Ganassi Racing

within a day. He’d been headed into free agency, poised to sign the most lucrative contract of his life, and suddenly found himself unemployed at 27 years old.

He began a path to redemption that went far beyond the sensitivity course NASCAR ordered him to take during his suspension. Larson took it upon himself without publicizing his actions to pursue a hands-on education in racial inequality and injustice.

Larson volunteered with a Minneapolis foundation focused on youth development and empowerment, visited with former Olympian Jackie Joyner-Kersey and resumed work with a

Philadelphia nonprofit that helps minorities advance in motorsports. Although he’s half-Japanese and advanced through NASCAR’s diversity program, Larson had his eyes opened to his childhood of privilege coming from a middle-class, two-parent household.

NASCAR reinstated Larson late last year and he found a soft landing with Hendrick Motorsports, one of the top teams in motorsports. Rick Hendrick wanted to offer Larson that second chance and his support has been unwavering — he’s willing to fund the No. 5 Chevrolet out of pocket if needed and the sponsor

for Sunday’s season-opening Daytona 500 is a Hendrick automotive company.

Larson spent most of 2020 rebuilding his image and is ready to prove his character in and out of a race car.

“A lot of people do things and they just say ‘I’m sorry’ and go right on running their life. And that’s all they have to do and people say ‘OK, we’ll give you another shot,’” Hendrick said. “This guy did 10 times that. He’s created an image and (done) things in that community that people really respect.”

“It was Kyle’s heart and Kyle’s desire that got him back.”

Family ... Turned ...

Continued from page 10
“I’m really proud of those guys and their work ethic and the way they’re adjusting and improving.”

In consecutive weeks, the Woods and Rowles became the program’s first father-son sectional and regional champions. But the sons can do what their fathers didn’t if they win a semi-state title.

“It’s just awesome,” Tony Wood said. “It’s great. Me and (Cody) growing up together and running regional is amazing.”

Another Jay County freshman, Cameron Clark, wrestled for the 132-pound championship but dropped a major decision to Belmont’s Dominic Litchfield. Clark, who is now 26-4, defeated Cowan’s Preston White and Yorktown’s Ben Edwards by 5-4 and 8-3 decisions, respectively, to reach the final.

“He’s battling a little bit of mobility issues,” Myers said, referring to a left knee Clark had braced each of the last two weeks. “Every week that he gets to recover he’s going to improve.”

“He improved quite a bit from last week to this week. He’s still not 100% but he’s getting there.”

Freshman Tye Curtis (113) and senior R.J. Heskett (138) were each third in their respective weight classes.

Curtis defeated TJ Fritz of Daleville in the quarterfinal before falling to eventual champion Issac Ruble of Belmont in the semifinals. Ruble, who is ranked third in the state, was state-runner up at 106 a year ago.

Curtis then bounced back with a win over conference rival Colton Bollenbacher of South Adams to place third.

Heskett, who along with

Rowles and Wood was a sectional champion, scored a late reversal and three-point near fall for a 9-5 decision in his third-place match. Heskett got a second-period pin in the quarterfinal before a 15-8 loss to Daleville’s Julius Gereser, the eventual regional champion.

“I thought he looked excellent today,” Myers said of Curtis. “He’s got Ike Ruble in there and that’s going to be a tough match every time.”

Jay County senior Blake Pruett also qualified for semi-state by placing fourth at 160 pounds. He defeated Muncie Central’s Jagger Scott in the quarterfinal before getting pinned by Cowan’s Austin Jones in the first period in the semifinal round. Pruett then dropped a 4-2 decision to Belmont’s Isaac Freidt to place fourth.

Saturday marked the end of the season for four Patriots, including returning state qualifier Ethan Reiley, who lost his 126-pound quarterfinal match.

Cameron Gage (152), Bryce Wenk (182) and Peyton Bennett (285) all lost in the first round.

“Ethan is in a tough weight class and he knew that,” Myers said. Reiley lost a 7-5 decision to Brandon Kinnick of Daleville. “He did everything that he could to win that match ... He went from a freshman to a sophomore captain. We put a lot on his shoulders and he’s done a great job with it. He’s obviously disappointed he didn’t move on but he was one of the first guys out there to support his teammates that were moving on.”

“I think that says a lot about the kind of person he is and his character.”

Continued from page 8
“Jillian Osswald being a senior leader, she’s been in the trenches for the last three years I think her experience really paid off down the stretch here late.”

Cherry said he knew the sectional title would come down to which team would make the last mistake, or at least the fewest number of them.

“We pressed from the tip essentially and we knew that’s what we had to do to win,” he said. “Turn them over and win in transition by trying to get some easy run-outs, and we were able to do that late.”

Jay County never led by more than two points, while Hamilton Heights’ biggest lead turned out to be the final margin, a difference it reached four times.

“I wouldn’t say tonight was our best performance, but you definitely have to give them credit,” said Comer, whose team had a 34-21 edge on the glass with 13 offensive rebounds. “They played really good defense. They’re a really good basketball team.”

“They’ve only lost one game, so we got beat by a really good basketball team tonight.”

Madison Dirksen and Schwieterman each scored 13 points to lead the Patriots, and Dirksen also had a game-high 11 rebounds.

Saturday night was the final game in a Patriot uniform for two seniors, Aubrie Schwieterman and Grace Saxman. They leave the program having helped the team to a 66-30 record including two Allen County Athletic



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School junior Madison Dirksen shoots in front of Hamilton Heights defender Sydney Runyan during the fourth quarter of the Class 3A Sectional 24 tournament championship on Saturday at New Castle Fieldhouse. Dirksen had 13 points and a game-high 11 rebounds in the Patriots’ season-ending loss, 46-42.

Conference tournament championships.

And each of them got to play their final season with younger siblings.

“They’re outstanding,” Comer said. “Every year I want to try to win for the seniors. We have two outstanding seniors. In the

locker room after they game they spoke up. They are just class all the time.

“They are great examples for the rest of our team and the rest of our kids. We’re going to miss them tremendously. It’s just a sad night because it’s their last game.”

Flex ...

Continued from page 10
The winner of each swimming event advances to the state finals while the top four divers will compete in the Hamilton Southeastern regional Tuesday.

Jay County went into the day with six No. 1 seeds and held them all while also adding a championship from sophomore Mara Bader in the 200 individual medley. She entered the day as the No. 3 seed for the event after trailing Norwell’s top-seeded Ella Krug by 2.73 seconds in Thursday’s preliminaries, but it ended up being a different Knight who posed the biggest challenge to Bader.

After Bader took the early lead, Norwell’s Sarah Mahnensmith put together a strong backstroke leg to take a half-second lead. But Bader needed just

25 yards of the breaststroke to reel Mahnensmith in and then pulled away for a win in 2 minutes, 19.6 seconds.

“I was really excited because I knew I had to step it up and I knew I could go faster and I knew I could beat them,” said Bader, who erased a 2.53-second deficit to win the same event in the 2020 sectional meet. “So I was just really happy with the time I did and what the outcome was.”

The rest of Jay County’s wins were never in doubt, with the Bader sisters, Dow and Brewster dominating the opening 200 medley relay by nearly 10 seconds in 1:50.1. Clemmons, Dow and the Baders later won the 200 freestyle relay by more than seven seconds with their time of 1:41.61.

Eliza Bader and Dow each added two individual wins over swimmers they practice with every day.

Bader first fended off Union City’s Elly O’Connor, who like Baldwin trains with the Patriots, for a victory in the 50 freestyle in 24.43. She came back after the intermission to post a time of 57.82 to win the 100 butterfly with Baldwin in second place and Brewster third.

Dow then rolled to a first-place time of 53.44 in the 100 freestyle with O’Connor again as the runner-up. And in the 100 breaststroke, long a signature event for JCHS, Dow (1:06.68) and Bader (1:09.24) posted a one-two finish.

“Ashlyn needed to be in that 1:06 range,” said Slavik of the senior who holds the Patriots’ top seed in the state finals at No.

23 in the breaststroke. (For a state preview story, see Thursday’s edition of The Commercial Review.) “She was focused on trying to be seeded decent next weekend ... It will give her a legit shot to make it back Saturday.”

“From the time she split out a 27 in that medley relay, I knew she was on to great things today. Every time she stepped on the block she approached it with confidence.”

In the diving competition, which was contested Friday night, Natalie Wehrly of the Patriots earned a regional berth by placing fourth with 228.65 points. She trailed champion Jocelyn Mercier (305.5) of Burris, Brianna Cook (304.45) of Adams Central and Marlee Wenger (249.2) of Norwell.

Local ...

Continued from page 10
New records

ROSS, Ohio — Teigen Fortkamp, a Fort Recovery High School freshman, set two new records Saturday in helping the Tribe girls swim team take second in the (Coldwater) Cavalier Invitational held at Ross High School.

The host Cavaliers won with a score of 155, and Fort Recovery scored 116 to edge New Bremen by three points for second place.

Versailles totaled 167 to win the boys’ meet. Minster totaled 116 for second and Fort Recovery had 66 for third place.

Fortkamp was runner-up in the 100-yard freestyle in 54.2 seconds, and her time broke Cassidy Martin’s school record by 0.17. The youngster also won the title in the 50 freestyle, beating the 40-person field with her meet-

record time of 24.59 seconds.

Ava Bulp (200 individual medley — 2:21.5) and Autumn Burk (100 butterfly — 1:07.59) also had individual victories.

Tribe routs

FORT RECOVERY — A strong start from the perimeter guided the Fort Recovery boys basketball team to a 70-53 victory against the Ridgemont Golden Gophers on Saturday at Fort Site Fieldhouse.

The Indians (10-9) made five 3-pointers during the first quarter as it opened a 23-18 lead after one period of play. The offensive surge carried over into the second as the Tribe outscored Ridgemont 21-14 to go into the break leading 44-32.

The Golden Gophers cut the margin by three in the third quarter but

they could not get any closer in the final eight minutes.

Cale Rammel scored 11 points in that first quarter, including three 3-pointers, and finished with a game-high 21 points. Clay Schmitz was second with 18 points and Brian Bihn chipped in a dozen points.

Tear continues

Jay County Junior High School’s wrestling team continued its tear as it improved to 10-0 on the season.

The Patriots defeated South Adams on Thursday, 71-27, before winning twice in the Coldwater Duals on Saturday. There, Jay County beat Spencerville 57-30 and the host Cavaliers 69-22.

On Monday, the Patriots shut out Heritage, 96-0, then topped Southern Wells

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys basketball triple-header 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.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Celina — 6 p.m.

Wednesday
Jay County — Gymnastics at New Castle — 6 p.m.

Thursday
Jay County — Junior high boys swimming at Norwell Invitational — 5 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Girls swimming state final preliminaries at IU Natatorium at IUPUI — noon; Boys basketball triple-header at Heritage — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Versailles — 5:30 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball at Versailles — 5 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Wrestling semi-state at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne — 8:30 a.m.; Girls swimming

state finals at IU Natatorium at IUPUI — 3:30 p.m.; Boys basketball at Delta — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Swimming sectional at Deffance Aversville — 4 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. South Adams — 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 16
Jay County — Junior high swimming at Muncie Southside — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Delta — 5:30 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Houston Rockets at New Orleans Pelicans (TNT)

9 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: West Virginia at Texas Tech (ESPN)
10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Utah Jazz (TNT)
11 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: New Mexico at Colorado State (FS1)

Wednesday
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Brooklyn Nets (FSN)

Thursday
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Detroit Pistons (FSN)

Box score

No. 7 Hamilton Heights Huskies vs. No. 11 Jay County Patriots

Class 3A Sectional 24 championship

at New Castle

Girls varsity summary

Jay County (19-4)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
ASchwtrmn	2-5	0-0	4	
Bilbrey	1-1	0-0	2	
Rodgers	2-6	0-0	6	
RSchwtrmn	4-14	4-6	13	
MDirksen	4-13	4-5	13	
SSaxman	1-2	0-0	2	
GSaxman	0-0	0-0	0	
BDirksen	1-1	0-0	2	
Muhlknmp	0-0	0-0	0	
Totals	15-42	8-11	42	
	.357	.727		
Hamilton Heights (18-1)				
	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS	
Hickok	0-5	0-1	0	
Osswald	0-7	6-7	6	
Runner	9-10	3-4	25	
Runyan	3-7	0-0	6	
Moran	3-8	0-2	6	
Cherry	0-3	0-0	0	
Rhoton	1-2	0-0	3	
Totals	16-42	9-14	46	
	.381	.643		

Score by quarters:
Jay Co. 13 5 11 13—42
HHHS 12 8 9 17—46

3-point shooting: Jay County 4-11 (Rodgers 2-3, RSchwierman 1-4, MDirksen 1-4), Hamilton Heights 5-19 (Runner 4-5, Rhoton 1-2, Osswald 0-6, Hickok 0-3, Cherry 0-2, Runyan 0-1).

Rebounds: Jay County 34 (MDirksen 11, RSchwierman 8, Rodgers 4, team 4, BDirksen 3, SSaxman 2, ASchwierman, Bilbrey). Hamilton Heights 21 (Moran 6, Hickok 4, Osswald 3, Runyan 2, Cherry 2, team 2, Runner, Rhoton).

Assists: Jay County 7 (RSchwierman 4, MDirksen 2, Rodgers). Hamilton Heights 7 (Osswald 5, Hickok, Cherry).

Blocks: Jay County 3 (MDirksen 2, RSchwierman). Hamilton Heights 2 (Hickok, Runyan).

Personal fouls: Jay County 15 (RSchwierman 3, SSaxman 3, BDirksen 3, GSaxman 2, ASchwierman, Rodgers, MDirksen, Muhlenkamp). Hamilton Heights 11 (Osswald 3, Runner 3, Runyan 3, Moran 2).

Turnovers: Jay County 16, Hamilton Heights 7.

Jay County girls come up short in sectional final, see story page 8

Sports

Boys fall to Warriors

WOODBURN — Ethan Dirksen and Joe Reidy dueled during the first quarter.

Each had 10 points, but Dirksen's supporting cast had the Patriots on top, 14-13.

The Patriots fell flat after that.

Jay County High School's boys basketball team managed just five points in the second quarter of a 56-46 loss to the host Woodlan Warriors on Saturday.

Local roundup

The loss drops the Patriots, who travel to South Adams tonight, to 5-5 (3-1 Allen County Athletic Conference), while Woodlan improved to 6-9 (2-2).

Reidy, who finished with a game-high 27 points, continued his first-half tear with eight points in the second quarter as the Warriors outscored the Patriots 17-5 and led 30-19 at the break. Jay County cut the margin by two points, 41-32, with one quarter to play, and it couldn't make up the rest of the difference in the final period.

Dirksen led the Patriots with 14 points before fouling out, and Gavin Muhlenkamp had a career-high 13 points. Quinn Faulkner scored seven points in the fourth quarter and ended with 10 points, a new career best.

Jay County's junior varsity team won 40-30 for its fifth consecutive victory. Brady Davis led the way with 10 points, while Adrek Pogue, Gavin Myers and Blake Bogenschutz each had seven points.

See Local page 9

#4PEAT!



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Eliza Bader of Jay County High School swims ahead of Norwell's Ella Krug (background) during the 100-yard butterfly at Saturday's sectional meet. Bader won both the 100 butterfly and 50 freestyle for the host Patriots, who earned their fourth consecutive sectional championship.

Patriots flex muscles in winning fourth consecutive sectional championship

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

points over the Norwell Knights.

The Patriots walked onto the deck Saturday with "#4PEAT" written on the inside of their biceps.

Then they flexed their sectional muscles, winning five of the first six events.

And they added two more titles to walk out with the trophy to back up the inscription.

Jay County High School's girls swim team spent the bulk of the sectional meet celebrating as it earned its fourth consecutive sectional title by 39

"Amazing," said senior Lilli Clemmons, who was part of the Patriots' winning 200-yard freestyle relay team. "To be a part of this team for four years and to consecutively win four sectional meets is just an amazing feeling. We got here as a team and now we get to go to state and I'm very excited."

"I've been swimming with these three girls for 10, 12 years," added fellow senior Rieleley Brewster, referencing teammates Ashlyn Dow, Eliza

Bader and Clemmons standing next to her. "For us to make history like this is amazing. I feel so honored to be a part of this team."

Jay County won seven of 12 events as it racked up 381 points to lead the 13-team field. No other team earned more than one victory, as Norwell followed with 342 points and Muncie Central was a distant third with 250.

It marked the Patriots' fourth consecutive title and sixth overall, with all of them coming in the last seven years.

"As much as we want to look

at swimming as an individual sport, this is truly a team, truly a family," said JCHS coach Matt Slavik, whose team has also won four consecutive Allen County Athletic Conference titles. "And they push each other. They pick each other up. ... They went out there for each other, and it came down to that. ..."

"They did it as a team for the last four years."

Winchester's Ella Baldwin, who trains with the Patriots, earned a state berth with a victory in the 100-yard backstroke.

See Flex page 9



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School freshman Tony Wood, front, competes against Bluffton's Austin Lewis in the 120-pound championship match of the IHSAA wrestling regional tournament on Saturday at Jay County. Wood won by 11-1 major decision as one of two Patriots to claim a regional title.

All in the family

Patriot freshmen follow in fathers' footsteps by winning regional titles

By CHRIS SCHANZ
The Commercial Review

Pat Rowles and Bruce Wood won regional titles more than three decades ago.

Their legacy lives on in their freshmen sons.

Freshmen Cody Rowles and Tony Wood followed in their fathers' footsteps Saturday in claiming their respective championships in the IHSAA wrestling regional tournament.

"It's really neat," said Jay County High School wrestling coach Eric Myers, whose Patriot team had six of its 10 competitors advance semi-state berths. "A lot of their success is attributed to their dads with how hard they've worked with them as they've grown up. They gave them a solid foundation to get into high school wrestling."

Bruce Wood, a 1989 graduate, won his regional title as a junior, and Pat Rowles earned his championship the following season as a sophomore.

Bellmont scored 131 points to claim consecutive regional championships and its 33rd overall. Jay County was the distant runner-up with 90 points, and Bluffton scored 76.5 points for third.

The top four in each weight class

advance to the semi-state tournament, set for Feb. 13 at Allen County War Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne.

Cody Rowles made quick work of his three opponents in claiming his 106-pound title. He pinned fellow freshman Royce King of Delta in just 24 seconds, then handled Joey Cline of Yorktown in his longest match of the day — 52 seconds. The championship match against Norwell's Cayden Smithley — Rowles (34-1) defeated him to win the sectional crown a week earlier — lasted a mere 35 seconds. In all, his three matches totaled 1 minute, 51 seconds.

Tony Wood qualified for semi-state by pinning Landon Hutchens of Wapahani in 25 seconds, then received a victory over Silas Loshe of South Adams by injury default. The Jay County 120-pounder, who is now 34-3, dominated Allen County Athletic Conference rival Austin Lewis of Bluffton in getting a 11-1 major decision.

"Cody and Tony both beat those kids for the third time, and each time they've ramped it up a little bit which says a lot about even though they're winning those matches, they're still making adjustments to get better rather than being content with just winning them," Myers said.

See Family page 9

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