

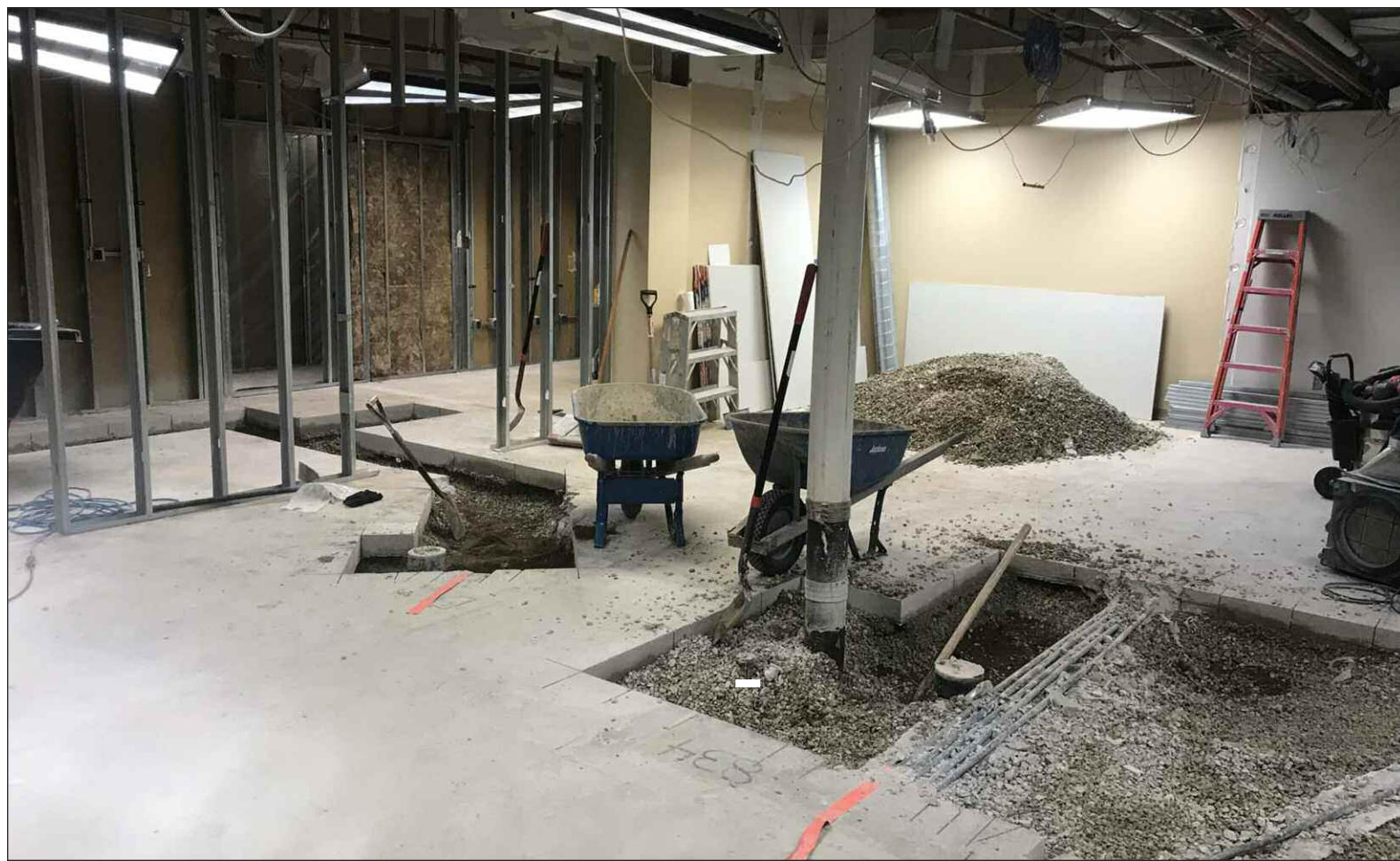
# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Work underway



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Renovation work has already begun at IU Health Jay to expand the Family First practice. Three other projects are scheduled for this year, with new spaces to be created for the hospital's cardiac and pulmonary outpatient rehabilitation unit, outpatient physical therapy unit and outpatient behavioral health unit.

### Capital improvements at IU Health Jay are expected to be complete by the end of 2021

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Jay County's hospital is in the midst of a year-long makeover.

Work is already underway at IU Health Jay on projects that were announced in December and will continue throughout 2021.

The hospital work stems from \$5 million that IU Health set aside for capital improvements as part of its integration with Jay County Hospital. (The agreement was reached in November 2017, with integration following a few months later.)

The IU Health Jay Board was responsible for deciding what to do with those funds and in December announced plans for projects to relocate outpatient physical therapy, outpatient

behavioral health and cardiac and pulmonary outpatient rehabilitation from satellite buildings to the hospital and expand the Family First practice. Those projects are expected to cost about \$3.75 million. The remaining \$1.25 million has been transferred to The Portland Foundation to establish the IU Health Jay Hospital Legacy Endowment Fund to "benefit the health and well-being of the residents of Jay County."

IU Health Jay president Jon Vanator explained that when looking at how to spend the \$5 million, the board focused on investments that would serve the hospital well for the long term. They used market and demographic data as part of that evaluation.

"What sort of things do we

think are going to grow?" said Vanator, noting oncology, cardiology and orthopedics tend to be at the top of the list. "And those have been IU Health's three target areas for the last couple of years and it's really no different here."

Primary care and surgery are two other key areas. But Vanator noted they are both going through significant change, specifically citing the shift to telemedicine for primary care during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

He added staff leaders were consulted to help cultivate ideas.

"A lot of them really helped with input on the plans," he said. "We can incorporate a lot of those good ideas that people have always had tucked away in

the back of their head into our plans."

One part of the renovations is already complete, with a new educational area created at the southeast corner of the hospital's second floor. That area includes classroom space as well as a former patient room which now serves as a simulation room. The renovations were handled by IU Health's in-house maintenance staff.

The first of the four major portions of the renovations is underway with three others to follow.

#### Family First

The Family First offices, which are situated at the center of the hospital on its south side, will be expanded to the north.

See Underway page 5

## Yager killed in crash

Jay man's vehicle went off county road 400 North

A Jay County man died following a traffic accident Thursday.

Eric B. Yager, 57, was found dead after a single-vehicle accident late Thursday on county road 400 North.

According to information from Jay County coroner Michael Brewster, Yager was driving on county road 400 North when his vehicle went off the road. The crash occurred just east of the intersection with county road 650 West.

Yager was found dead when first responders arrived to the scene. His 2005 Dodge Caravan was upside down and appeared to have rolled, Brewster explained.

Additional details were not available as of press time.

An autopsy has been scheduled, Brewster said.

## Officers retained for '21

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Not much changed for Jay County Plan Commission this year.

The commission re-elected its officers from last year for 2021 at its organizational meeting Thursday.

Re-elections included Scott Hilfiker as president, Steve Ford as vice president and Matt Minnich as secretary. The commission also designated Pati McLaughlin as recording secretary and Bill Hinkle as legal council.

McLaughlin noted Tom Laux resigned from his position this week on Jay County Plan Commission. (He had also served as the county plan commission's ex-officio representative on Portland Plan Commission.) Jay County Commissioners will need to reappoint a new citizen member to his position later, and the county plan commission will need to name a new ex-officio representative to the city's plan commission.

McLaughlin also mentioned there is outdated language in the current zoning ordinance that needs to be changed, although she didn't name specific examples. She said the plan commission will likely begin working on it in the summer.

Jay County Commissioner and plan commission member Chad Aker brought up the Indiana House Bill 1381.

"If this House Bill 1381 passes, then that may affect some of our ordinances — the wind farm and the solar farm ordinances we've got," Aker said.

The bill would establish standards for setbacks and other requirements for wind and solar operations.

See '21 page 5

## Powers defended

By CASEY SMITH  
Associated Press and Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS — Officials in Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's administration on Thursday defended his use of emergency powers during the COVID-19 pandemic as lawmakers continued to push bills that would limit the governor's executive orders authority.

A half dozen top Holcomb staffers told a state Senate committee the governor's capacity to quickly address emergencies has been critical to the state's response, arguing limitations to those powers could hinder the state's current progress and delay urgent reactions to future public health emergencies or natural disasters.

Their testimony came as a response to bills advanced by the House and Senate that would curb a governor's authority to impose emergency restrictions such as mask rules and

business closures. The differing proposals would set up ways to either force the governor to call lawmakers into a special session during a long-lasting emergency or give legislative leaders new authority to take such action.

Senators contended they've been shut out of conversations about how to respond to emergency situations, however. They said the proposed legislation wouldn't impede how the state responds to emergencies, but instead would involve lawmakers in decision-making.

### Officials say governor's ability to act quickly was crucial in pandemic

"I find it interesting that so many members of the administration find it threatening that legislators want a seat at the table," said Republican Sen. Susan Glick of LaGrange. "We are part of the Constitution, we are a branch of this government. For a year now, we've been very patient. But we've been simply ignored on many occasions. We have attempted to deal with the governor's office... and state government, and we have repeatedly, like our constituents, been stymied."

See Defended page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Caden at Cabaret

Eighth grader Caden Marchal performs "Lies" on Sunday during Cabaret 2021, which featured performances by members of the Fort Recovery high school and junior high choirs.

#### Deaths

Robin Stults, 57, Bluffton  
Marjorie Loyd, 75, rural Portland  
Juanita Buening, 83, Coldwater, Ohio  
Gloria Miller, 84  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

The high temperature Thursday in Jay County was 64 degrees. The low was 43.  
The forecast calls for a low of 30 tonight. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with a high of 51.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

#### Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's junior high ACAC swim meet.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay School Board meeting.



Defended ...

Continued from page 1
Indiana State Health Commissioner Dr. Kristina Box said the governor's emergency orders allowed the state health department to "quickly and directly" work with hospitals to address statewide shortages of staff and equipment early in the pandemic.

"Our ability to respond efficiently and effectively to this once-in-a-lifetime emergency has been tied to the governor's executive orders," Box said. "This was especially crucial in those first several months when we had to deal with issues as they arose and address them immediately."

The executive orders have additionally streamlined the state's access to federal funding and allowed health and safety agen-

cies to expedite the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, said Indiana Homeland Security Executive Director Steve Cox. Lapses in emergency declarations could "jeopardize" those resources, Cox said, and "potentially affect our ability to save lives."

"If this continues to move forward, introducing a new layer of approvals and analysis into decisions that need to be made with extreme urgency could drastical-

ly change the way Indiana responds to emergencies in the future," Cox said. "Currently, we're in the middle of this pandemic ... this response still. We have many lessons to be learned, and I think it would be very good for us to make sure that we go through that process before we make substantive changes."

The debate arrives as the state reaches a full year under a public health emergency from the pan-

demic, which has killed some 12,800 in Indiana, according to the state health department.

Action to stem the coronavirus spread occurred soon after Indiana lawmakers ended their 2020 session, with Holcomb issuing a stay-at-home order that closed businesses deemed nonessential two weeks later. The Legislature didn't meet again until November, despite some lawmakers calling for a special session.

CR almanac

Table with 5 columns: Saturday 3/13, Sunday 3/14, Monday 3/15, Tuesday 3/16, Wednesday 3/17. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts (e.g., 51/34, 52/31).

Lotteries

Table listing lottery games: Powerball, Mega Millions, Hoosier. Includes estimated jackpots and drawing times.

Markets

Table listing market prices for Cooper Farms Fort Recovery, POET Biorefining Portland, The Andersons Richland Township, Central States Montpelier, and Sunrise St. Anthony.

Today in history

On March 12, 2020, the stock market had its biggest drop since the Black Monday crash of 1987 as fears of economic fallout from the coronavirus crisis deepened; the Dow industrials plunged more than 2,300 points, or 10%.
In 1664, England's King Charles II granted an area of land on the East Coast of present-day New Netherland to his brother James, the Duke of York.
In 1864, Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant assumed command as General-in-Chief of the Union armies in the Civil War.
In 1912, the Girl Scouts of the USA had its beginnings as Juliette Gordon Low of Savannah, Georgia, founded the first American troop of the Girl Guides.
In 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered the first of his 30 radio addresses that came to be known as "fireside chats," telling Americans what was being done to deal with the nation's economic crisis.
In 1947, President Harry S. Truman announced what became known as the "Truman Doctrine" to help Greece and Turkey resist Communism.
In 1955, legendary jazz musician Charlie "Bird" Parker died in New York at age 34.
In 1976, Teamsters Local 135 was seeking recognition as the official bargaining agent for employees of Coca-Cola Bottling Co. in Portland.
In 1980, a Chicago jury found John Wayne Gacy Jr. guilty of the murders of 33 men and boys. (The next day, Gacy was sentenced to death; he was executed in May 1994.)
In 1994, the Church of England ordained its first women priests.
In 2009, disgraced financier Bernard Madoff pleaded guilty in New York to pulling off perhaps the biggest swindle in Wall Street history; he would be sentenced to 150 years behind bars.
—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Obituaries

Robin Stults

Robin Stults, 57, a former Portland resident, died Tuesday at her home in Bluffton.

Services are pending at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

Marjorie Loyd

Dec. 24, 1945-March 11, 2021
Marjorie Loyd, age 75, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Thursday, March 11, 2021, at her home.

Marjorie was born on Dec. 24, 1945, in Portland, the daughter of Curney and Anna Fern (Reef) Lindsey. She graduated from Bryant High School in 1963, worked at CTS in Berne for many years and retired from W&M Manufacturing after 23 years.



Loyd

She was a member of West Walnut Street Church of Christ in Portland.

Marjorie married James Loyd on April 9, 1967.

Survivors include: Her husband of 53 years — James Loyd, rural Portland, Indiana

Two daughters — Misty Runyon (husband: Brandt), Portland, Indiana, and Myra Brotherton (husband: Mark), Dunkirk, Indiana

Two sisters — Mary Lou Frye, Bryant, Indiana, and Margaret Lindsey, Portland, Indiana

One brother — Dave Lindsey (wife: Mary Ann), Bryant, Indiana

Six grandchildren, two step-grandchildren, one great-grandson and three step-great grandchildren

Visitation will be held on Monday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Marjorie's life will follow at 1 p.m. on Monday at the funeral home. Pastor Gil Alicea will officiate the service and burial will follow at a later date in Green Park Cemetery in Portland.

Memorials may be directed towards State of the Heart Hospice or West Walnut Street Church of Christ.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Juanita Buening

Jan. 1, 1938-March 10, 2021
Juanita M. Buening, 83, of Coldwater, Ohio, died Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at Briarwood Village, Coldwater.

She was born Jan. 1, 1938, at her home in Indiana to the late Linus and Esther (Krieg) Muhlenkamp. On Aug. 31, 1957, she married Paul H. Buening who died Jan. 22, 2010.



Buening

She is survived by four children, Susan (Michael) Ripplloh of Minster, Ohio, Janice (Jeff) Muhlenkamp of Geneva, Larry Buening of Coldwater and Jean (Bernard) Hummel of Kalamazoo, Michigan; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; siblings and in-laws, Lou Ann Knoth of Coldwater, Tom Carlisle of Dayton, Ohio, Kathy Coon of Little Rock, Arkansas, Elmer Kuess of Celina, Ohio, Janet Muhlenkamp of Portland, Ivan (Sue) Muhlenkamp of Saint Joseph, Michigan, Lavaughn (Doris) Muhlenkamp of Portland, Ben (Susan) Muhlenkamp of Baldwin, Missouri, Dorothy Buening of Coldwater, Betty Jane Buening of Coldwater, Mary DeMange of Ansonia, Ohio, and Marita (Tony) Grillo of Celina.

She was preceded in death by a son, Dale Buening; a daughter, Mary Buening; siblings and in-laws Alvin (Dolores) Muhlenkamp, Ernest Muhlenkamp, Cletus Knoth, Irma Kuess, Elaine Carlisle, Ernest Buening, Urban (Rita) Buening, Albert Buening, Greg (Helen) Buening, Roman (Norma) Buening, Robert DeMange, Louis Buening and Clarence Buening.

She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Coldwater, Coldwater Eagles and the Coldwater American Legion Auxiliary, and was past president of the St. Cecilia Knights of St. John. Juanita worked at Coldwater Community Hospital for 20 years and for 10 years as housekeeper at Holy Trinity Catholic Church rectory, and was bookkeeper for Larry's Mowing Service for 25 years.

A Funeral Mass following all Centers for Disease Control and Preven-

tion guidelines will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, March 13, 2021, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Coldwater, with live stream at coldwater-cluster.org/information/watch-mass-online. Burial will follow in St. Elizabeth Cemetery, Coldwater.

Family may call from 4 to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Public viewing from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday and 9 to 10 a.m. Monday at the Hogenkamp Funeral Home in Coldwater.

Memorials may be made to Mercer County Council on Aging or Arc of Mercer County, serving people with intellectual and mental disabilities.

Condolences may be expressed at hogenkampfh.com.

Gloria Miller

Dec. 3, 1936-March 6, 2021
Gloria Jean Miller, a Portland native, died March 6, 2021. She was 84.

Gloria was born on Dec. 3, 1936, in Portland, the daughter of Hugh and Luella Miller.

She attended Portland High School and was a drum majorette for the marching band. She attended Hanover College and graduated from Pacific Lutheran University in Parkland, Washington.

Gloria married William David Hill of Portland on Feb. 14, 1957. She was employed by Catholic Community Services.

She was active in Job's Daughter's and attained the status of honored queen of her local chapter.

She lived in Fort Benning, Georgia, Fort Leonhardwood, Florida, Fort Lewis, Washington, and Fort Richardson, Alaska.

She is survived by her children, U.S. Navy Cmdr. Paul Hill of Texas and Karin Bradley of Washington.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brother Dr. Charles Miller of Portland; and sister Patricia Miller of Los Angeles.

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.

Broadband plan considered

By MIKE GRANT

Washington Times Herald

The Daviess County Council received a report on plans to develop an infrastructure development zone covering the entire county. The zone would be used as part of a public-private partnership to bring high-speed internet to every business and home in the county.

"The EDC and Commissioners are working with RTC Communications to establish this," said Bryant Niehoff, executive director for the Daviess County Economic Development Corp. "What we saw during the recent COVID pandemic is that there is a lot bigger need for expanded broadband availability. We saw that with our students trying to do elearning from home and with people trying to work from home."

"We are looking to improve the quality of life in Daviess County," said County Commissioners President Michael Taylor. "A broadband expansion would be huge for the entire county."

The formal plan is expected to be pre-

sented at the next commissioners meeting. It calls for a 10-year tax exemption for RTC for installing the broadband network. RTC CEO Kirk Lehman told the council the company has already invested \$30 million in the last 10 years in expanding broadband and under the latest plan will spend another \$25 million in the next five years to bring broadband to all the homes and businesses in the county.

Officials project the tax exemption over 10 years would be around \$1-million. "We are taking advantage of every grant and program out there," said Lehman. "The tax exemption would be part of this funding."

"This is an absolutely good thing for the county," said President of the Daviess County Council Tony Duncheon. "This not just good for business development, but as we saw during the COVID outbreak it is good for our students. It is also something positive for our farmers. High speed internet has become a necessity for a community to grow."

SERVICES
Today
Hardymon, Nancy: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Monday
Buening, Juanita: 10:30 a.m., Holy Trinity Catholic Church, 120 E. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio.
Loyd, Marjorie: 1 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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Photo provided

## Officers installed

Cincinnatus League of Jay County installed new officers at its March 5 meeting. New officers are president Drew Houck, vice president Cheryl Lucas, treasurer, Judith Zearbaugh and secretary Karen Bailey. Pictured, outgoing president Barbara Street passes the gavel to Houck while Zearbaugh (left) and Lucas (right) watch.

# Art exhibit is underway

Student art is on display. The Regional Student Art Exhibit is now open to the public at Arts Place in Portland.

The exhibit features work from students in Jay County and the surrounding area. It is open during regular Arts Place hours — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday.

### Activities scheduled

Minnetrissa has a variety of activities scheduled for this month, including a Bob Ross Painting workshop Saturday. The workshop, which is for teens, will run from 3 to 6 p.m.

Other events this month include:

- St. Patrick's Day Brunch — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. March 14.
- Glass Workshop — Participants will create Easter eggs in 45-minute sessions from 9 a.m. to noon.

### Taking Note

•Family Adventure Day — Event features a "choose-your-own-adventure" in addition to virtual activities with sessions from 10 a.m. to noon, 1 to 3 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m.

### Photo contest open

Jay County Public Library is looking to highlight the best local photos with its Picture Jay County: Smartphone Photography Contest.

To participate, submit up to three photos by email to jaylibrary315@gmail.com by March 17.

For more information, visit jaycpl.lib.in.us.

# Mom longs to reunite despite friends' advice

DEAR ABBY: I recently got into a huge fight with my boyfriend, which caused us to break up and me to move two hours away to stay with my mom. We have a beautiful 6-month-old daughter, and I still love him very much. He has begged me to move back and has shown me he still has feelings for me.

Because of past abuse from family and previous partners, I find it very hard to trust. I would love to go back, but I keep being told that it would be a mistake. I want to be a family again, but I don't want the people who tell me it's a mistake to be mad at me. Must I give in and stay away or follow my heart and go back? — MIXED UP IN MISSOURI

DEAR MIXED UP: I wish you had disclosed more about the fight that caused you to move away and take the baby.

## Dear Abby



**this man to a licensed couples counselor for help in resolving your problems before they get out of hand again, and deciding what would be in the best interest of your child.**

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I just got married. We have only one problem: his ex-girlfriend. She used to be my best friend, but we fell out years ago.

She hadn't contacted him in a long time, but since she found out we got married, she has been texting him begging to meet up. She messaged me once asking for all of us to get together, but she messages him to meet her alone and "talk." He ignores her and shows me the messages.

Should I step in and tell her to back off or ignore her as he is doing? I trust and love my hus-

band, but she's becoming a pest and starting to annoy me and him. — TROUBLED IN TENNESSEE

DEAR TROUBLED: Because silence hasn't successfully conveyed the message that you and your husband aren't interested in renewing the relationship, HE should be the one to tell her — in plain English. If he doesn't do that, then you should.

DEAR ABBY: Last year was a tough one for me and my family. In addition to the COVID mess, I lost my best friend of 30 years, and one of my sisters-in-law lost her best friend of 50 years.

We were talking about each of our losses recently, and she mentioned that she has no pictures of her and her friend together. I said the same about my friend.

Right then I decided that no matter how bad my hair, makeup, etc. looked, I wouldn't shy away from having my photo taken. Sometimes we don't realize how much a candid snapshot can mean until it is too late. Do you agree? — MOMENT IN TIME IN TEXAS

DEAR MOMENT: Yes, as a matter of fact, I do. I have been guilty of photo-dodging, and I am sure many others have been, too. After reading your letter, I am resolving to do better in the future. Thank you!

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

# Community Calendar

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

### Saturday

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

### Monday

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

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

PING PONG — Will be

played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — For those 55 and older from 12:30 to 3 p.m. at West Jay Community Center in Dunkirk.

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

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month in room 106 at John Jay Center for Learn-

ing, 101 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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

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

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

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

PENN HUSKY HOOSIER HOTSHOTS 4-H CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 15, at Pennville United Methodist Church.

### Tuesday

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

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

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.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

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

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.

March Specials at The CR

1/4 page full color  
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# Will we be lost in the darkness?

To the editor:  
Adolph Hitler, the author of "Mein Kampf," said: "If you tell a big enough lie and tell it frequently enough, it will be believed."

There are, ostensibly, enough Republicans that are willing to believe the "big lie" of Donald Trump as well.

I have previously written a letter to the editor in regard to some states seeking to reform their, according to them, "inadequate" voting laws. It has been pretty well disseminated over the last week or so as to just how sincere, yet malicious, this effort is evolving in placing barriers to citizens exercising their constitutional rights.

Some Republicans seem willing to enact a 21-century version of the old "Jim Crow" laws in order to ensure future election "victories." Their solution

## Letters to the Editor

seems to be, "let's break it so we can fix it."

Or to use Orwellian double-speak: the fewer people who vote the better.

Hitler also said: "A man who has no sense of history, is like a man who has no ears or eyes."

"Democracy Dies In Darkness" are the words under the banner of The Washington Post.

And it remains to be determined whether we will cover our ears and close our eyes, and thus, give our consent to the darkness and the death of our democracy.

Michael Kinser  
Portland



TIRED OF THE MASK? GET OVER IT!

# Wage isn't the only option

By IDA AUKEN

Special To The Washington Post

It must be extremely expensive to eat at McDonald's in Denmark, or so Americans could be forgiven for thinking after Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York, noted that the chain's workers here in Denmark are paid \$22 an hour and get six weeks' paid vacation a year.

"It is utterly embarrassing that 'pay people enough to live' is a stance that's even up for debate," she tweeted, as her fellow lawmakers battled over whether to include a \$15-an-hour minimum wage mandate in the pandemic relief bill making its way through Congress.

Well, our Big Macs are not that expensive. A burger in Denmark costs roughly a dollar more than it costs in the United States.

But this has nothing to do with a minimum wage. We don't have one.

What we have is the Danish labor-market model, also known as "flexicurity" because it offers flexibility and security for workers and employers alike. Ocasio-Cortez is right to look to us Danes for inspiration; she is not right in linking Danish McDonald's workers' pay to her call for a government-controlled minimum wage.

The Danish model is a decentralized system in which pay and working conditions are established by collective-bargaining agreements between trade unions and employers' organizations. Our unions are strong, mostly because employers and employees both gain from the relationship. If the labor agreements are not respected, workers have the right to go on strike and, conversely, the employers have the right to lock out workers. The state interferes only if negotiations break down. They rarely do.

Workers benefit from flexicurity because the social safety net includes universal health insurance and paid sick leave, and collective-bargaining agreements generally include paid maternity leave and a pension plan, as well as good wages.

Workers who pay into an unemployment insurance fund get up to two years of unemployment benefits after losing their jobs, and the government runs aggressive training and counseling services to help them return to work quickly.

As for employers, they can shed workers easily because severance pay and termination

Ida Auken



notices are limited, there are few procedural hurdles, and the government picks up the tab on benefits such as health care. That same streamlining allows employers to hire workers back quickly when demand for their products or services goes up. Win-win.

In Denmark, we have very few working poor who can't sustain themselves and their families with a full-time job. Not even a low-skilled or unskilled worker has to take multiple jobs to make a living, if they work in the parts of the labor market covered by collective-bargaining agreements.

All public employees are organized according to such agreements.

For the private labor market, they account for three out of four companies. Danes do have industries that aren't covered by collective agreements, especially those that include companies arising from the growth of the platform economy. This is a problem, and we have started looking for solutions.

Yes, the Big Mac aside, goods are generally more expensive here, and taxes are high, but the costs are offset by the strong social safety net.

We are a wealthy country with a very high employment rate.

In the fourth quarter last year, even during a pandemic, 74 percent of the working-age population was employed, compared to 67.9 percent in the United States, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. We recover more quickly from crises because of the flexicurity model, too.

Just as companies can easily scale down during economic downturns, they can scale up fast.

When COVID-19 shut down our society, Denmark saw rising unemployment just as other countries did. But we also saw an immediate positive influence on the statistics as soon our working life got back closer to normal. And the people who lost their jobs did not need to fear for their future because of our high levels of social protection

and vigorous labor market policy.

According to the Employment Relations Research Centre at the University of Copenhagen, Danes in general are happy with the Danish model, not only because it makes economic sense but also because it creates a sense of common purpose that ensures the dignity of every citizen. It can also encourage social mobility.

For example, my colleague Leif Lahn, a fellow member of the Danish Parliament, grew up in a poor family 50 years ago. His father was an unskilled worker at the harbor in Aarhus, Denmark's second-largest city. Leif recalls how he lived in an impoverished neighborhood, and how his dad pointed to the rich families in the wealthy neighborhood: "You will never be able to live like them," he would tell Leif.

History proved his father wrong.

Leif began his working life driving trucks at the harbor. Because of collective bargaining, he and his fellow workers were ensured decent pay. In 1995, he moved into the very neighborhood his dad had said was beyond his reach. He still lives there.

Leif's story is not uncommon in Denmark, where the working class can be lifted into the middle class. This mobility stabilizes our society and ensures that our cities are mixed.

By and large, we have avoided being split into gated communities and projects.

Our kids grow up getting to know children of other economic, educational and social backgrounds, which means less of the political polarization we see in other democracies and reinforced by social media.

The United States, by contrast, is experiencing rising inequality. The median income has risen nearly 40 percent since 1980. But if you look at the median income of just the middle class, it has increased only marginally.

Fighting inequality is one of the most pressing tasks facing world leaders today.

Is a mandated minimum wage the answer?

Not in Denmark.

And perhaps not in the United States, either, if other economic policies do not change, as well.

.....  
Auken is a Social Democratic Party member of the Danish parliament.

# Developed land must be converted

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Spring must be near.

The clocks will need to be changed. Waterfowl fly northward across the sky. The creek behind the house travels fast and full from the runoff of developments upstream. Tiny green shoots appear in the garden.

So too did Faye of the Forest, as before perched on the deck rail.

"You've seen it?" she asked.

"Yes," I said. "The map from the Department of Metropolitan Development highlighting encroachment on environmentally sensitive areas in Marion County; it's most concerning."

"Most concerning?" she sneered. "Don't your eyes tell you that right here in your backyard is the center of the most concentrated amount of residential development in all of Marion County?"

I fell silent before a flood of words rivaling the flow of the creek just yards away.

"Don't you see the need to stop development, not only here, but in most counties of this state?"

I knew this was a declaration, not a question.

"Frankly, Faye," I flustered, "I don't see that. If development is stopped, it will just spill over into adjoining counties. We'll be repeating errors of the past, turning farmland, open space and timbered acres into more roofs tops and paved areas, generating more automotive and truck traffic."

"But," she challenged, "wherever more people, buildings, cars and trucks locate means more pollution, congestion and pressure on every resource. It would chock the city, the driver of growth for the entire state?"

"And what would you, a figment of cerebral fermentation, do?" I asked. "Deny people the right to live where and how they please?"

"I'd have strict enforcement of regional zoning based on strengthening the entire metro area," she responded. "We've seen the results when developers and irresponsible local governments chase the easy dollar. Design transportation corridors for tomorrow's technologies not just

Eye on the Pie



It is not about juggling power but joining in purposeful progress.

rebuilding and extending the past. Let's end the silly contests for power, glory and property taxes among the competing suburbs."

"It's been thought of," I objected, "and it doesn't work."

"That's the whole point," she said, emphasizing each syllable. "Indianapolis is too important to be left to Marion County residents alone."

"So!" I had her now. "You support Republican efforts to take power away from the city and give it to the surrounding parasites. You'd prefer a dysfunctional conglomeration over the well-entrenched chaos we have now?"

"Look," Faye smiled at me. "If the suburbs don't understand how metro areas thrive through joining forces, sharing resources and building strong networks, they'll suffer. It is not about juggling power but joining in purposeful progress."

She was on a roll.

"Every bit of under-utilized, previously developed ground in every core city needs to be incorporated into today's world," she continued, "either through preservation, redevelopment, or by set-aside to maintain environmental quality."

"Sure," I said, "and let me sell you shares in a bridge from my hometown."

But Faye had faded.

.....  
Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

# The Commercial Review

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



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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." - Thomas Jefferson

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## Farms honored

Two local farms were recently honored with Hoosier Homestead Awards, which recognize owned and maintained by the same family for 100 years or longer. Recognized this year from Jay County were the Johnson farm (family pictured at left), which received a Sesquicentennial Award, and the Rockwell farm, which received a Centennial Award. To be eligible, farms must be 20 acres or larger or produce more than \$1,000 worth of agricultural products per year.

## Underway ...

Continued from page 1  
The project, which is already underway, will expand the practice by about 1,500 square feet to a total of 6,040 square feet.

The practice will get additional space for evaluating patients and will be generally repurposed to better utilize space.

"It helps by adding more exam rooms, but also it helps with the workflow too," said Jennifer Dale, regional facility manager for IU Health. "We had a lot of exam rooms that were there that were tied up with being employee areas."

It is scheduled to be complete by the end of June, with a new doctor expected to join the practice July 1. The expansion is estimated at a cost of \$767,500.

The expansion of Family First was planned to include the hospital's Healthy Beginnings program, which was implemented last year as the facility phased out birthing services. But the program has grown faster than expected. For that reason, Healthy Beginnings will get its own dedicated space, located across the hallway west of First Family.

"With all the stuff they've got

going, it won't even fit in the back (of Family First)," said Vanator.

Like the educational area on the second floor, the new Healthy Beginnings space is being handled by in-house staff.

"They've got some space carved out now," said Vanator. "That was kind of a late addition to the plan, but it fit nicely."

### Cardiac and pulmonary

IU Health Jay's cardiac and pulmonary outpatient rehabilitation services will be shifted from its current home in the Jay Family Medicine building to space on the hospital's second floor.

Like Family First, the unit will get expanded space, from about 1,191 square feet to 3,500 square feet. But just as important is the space will be designed specifically for cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation. The current unit is located in space which previously served as Dr. Stephen Myron's office.

"They have a really small blueprint over there at Jay Family Medicine," said Dale. "They're going to be increasing their footprint and then also making it much more efficient as far as their space goes."

Rather than being split off into rooms, the new unit will have more of an open concept modeled after the one at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. It will include a short track for walking and testing.

"It's a pretty big improvement as far as the facility space goes," said Vanator.

The work, estimated at \$821,100, is scheduled to begin in May, with the unit to open in September.

### Physical therapy

IU Health Jay's outpatient physical therapy service will make the move from the former Vormohr building on county road 100 South to the area of IU Health Jay which at one time housed inpatient behavioral health on the north side of the hospital. That unit was shut down in early 2020 and the rooms were converted to negative pressure for treatment of COVID-19 patients.

For the outpatient physical therapy unit, it will represent an increase to 4,500 square feet from the current 3,265 square feet. And, like the cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation unit, the

space will be designed for physical therapy (modeled after the unit at IU Health Blackford) rather than being converted former medical offices.

"It was just a space where we put something to make it work whereas this will be much better for patient flow and having everything in one specific location," said IU Health Jay chief nursing officer Christina Schemenaur.

The renovation will also include the addition of an exam room for the adjacent emergency department.

The project is estimated at \$1.26 million with plans to start construction in June and open in October.

### Behavioral health

Like physical therapy, IU Health Jay's outpatient behavioral health unit will shift from the former Vormohr building to the hospital. Current administrative office space on the north side of the hospital will be slimmed down to accommodate the unit.

Like the other relocations, the move is intended to make the unit more user friendly for both patients and health care providers. (The total space will

stay the same at about 3,500 square feet.) The goal is also to make sure proper technology is in place to accommodate new services, such as the Virtual Intensive Outpatient Program that was implemented last summer.

"A lot of the stuff is getting more high tech," said Vanator.

There will also be a direct patient entrance for the behavioral health unit on the north side of the building to improve privacy. The hospital's employee entrance will be moved to the northwest corner of the building.

In addition to the various improvements to the facilities, Vanator added it will be helpful to have staff on a single campus. (Once the former Vormohr building is vacated by hospital staff, it will be put up for sale.)

"There's something to be said about having people together," said Vanator.

The outpatient behavior health work, estimated at a cost of \$1.16 million, is expected to begin late this summer and be completed no later than Dec. 31.

"The intent is to have all of these projects finished by the end of the year," said Dale.

## '21 ...

Continued from page 1  
It would limit local government units from implementing regulations that are more restrictive than those standards.

Aker said the bill has met with opposition from various commissioners around the state. As written, though, Jay County's ordinances will likely not need to change much because they are less restrictive than the state's proposal, he explained.

## Capsule Reports

### Intersection crash

A Portland woman driving through the intersection of Meridian and Walnut streets in Portland crashed into the back of a tractor trailer about 9:18 a.m. Wednesday.

Cynthia L. Stewart, 66, was driving her 2005 Honda Pilot north on Meridian Street and following behind a 2018 International Tractor when it stopped. She later told Portland police she was unable to stop because of a leg cramp and crashed into the vehicle driven by Quentin Hine, 68, Millersburg.

The tractor trailer is registered to Rush Truck Leasing Inc. of Chicago. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

## Felony arrests

### License suspended

An Auburn man was arrested this morning for violating his license suspension.

Paul E. Carpenter, 46, 1858 W. Auburn Drive, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for being a habitual traffic violator with a lifetime suspension. Carpenter was released from Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond.

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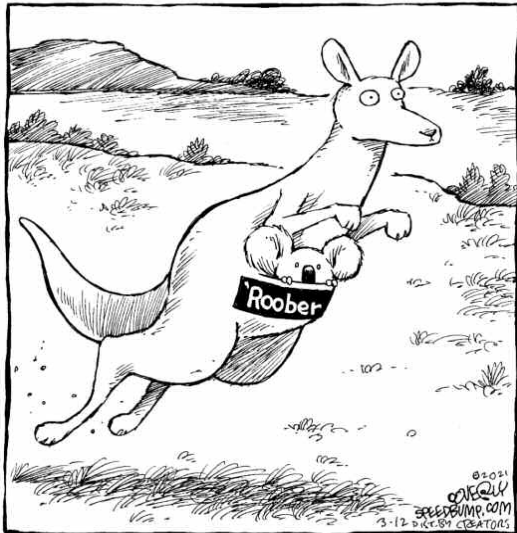
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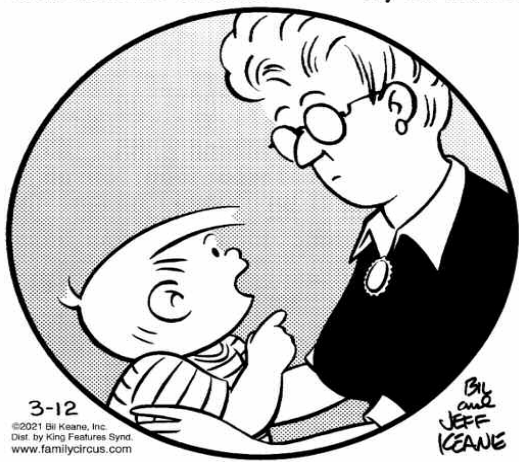
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**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

By Bil Keane

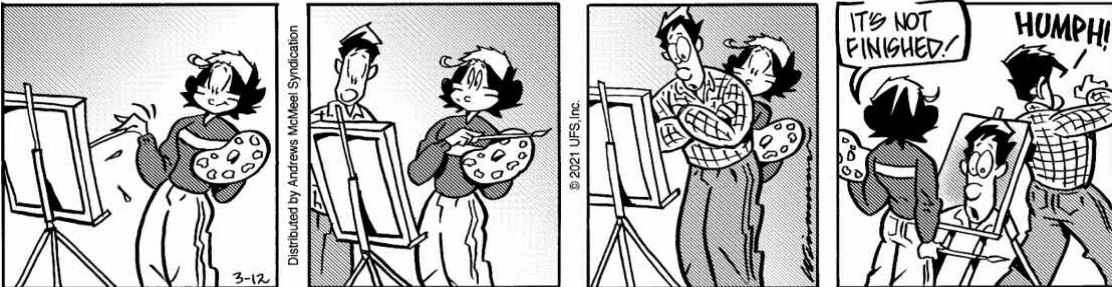


3-12  
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"Could you buy junk food when you were little, Grandma, or was it just homemade?"

**Peanuts**



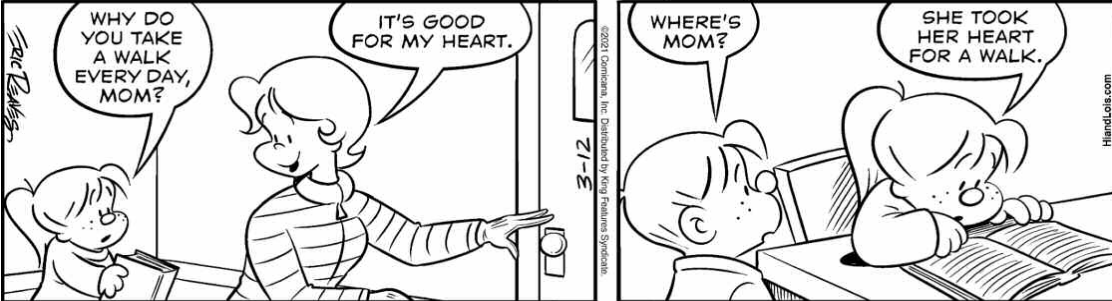
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Yesterday's answer 3-12

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## McDermott, No. 17 Creighton rout Butler

By RALPH D. RUSSO

AP College Sports Writer

NEW YORK — With coach Greg McDermott back on the bench after a one-game suspension, No. 17 Creighton seemed to put a tense 10 days behind and have some fun.

The veteran Bluejays cruised into the semifinals of the Big East Tournament with an 87-56 victory against Butler on Thursday night.

Second-seeded Creighton (19-7) moves on to face No. 3 seed Connecticut on Friday night at Madison Square Garden after the Huskies routed DePaul 94-60 in the last quarterfinal.

McDermott was suspended for the final game of the regular season for making racially insensitive remarks to his players. The 56-year-old coach creat-

ed a firestorm by twice using the term "plantation" as part of an analogy urging team unity after a recent loss.

"I'm proud of those guys in the locker room," McDermott said in a postgame interview with FS1. "They were really forced to mature a lot in the last 10 or 12 days because someone they really trusted made a mistake. And it was a hurtful mistake to them. We had to work our way through it. I'm proud that they allowed me to pour my heart out to them and at the same time poured their heart out to me so that we could come on this court tonight, come together and try to put our best foot forward. And obviously they did that. It's been a tough 10 days, without question, and that's all on me."

The university suspended McDermott indefinitely after he coached the team in a loss last week at Villanova. He missed the season-fine victory at home against Butler on Saturday and was reinstated Monday.

"We've had a lot of conversations obviously over the last 10 days. Especially in New York. More one-on-one with me. Just continuing to work through this process," McDermott said in his postgame news conference. "But the message I left all of them with is you have to enjoy this."

McDermott's return went off drama-free in a mostly empty MSG, pulling his face mask up and down to periodically give directions.

Creighton scored the first

seven points and was never challenged.

Damien Jefferson scored 11 points in the first eight minutes and Marcus Zegarowski led the Bluejays with 18 points.

Zegarowski made two 3-pointers within the first two minutes of the second half to put Creighton up by 20.

McDermott was able to clear the bench over the final six minutes and let little-used reserves such as Devin Davis and Andrew Merfeld, son of longtime assistant coach Steve Merfeld, get on the scoreboard.

That got a charge out of the small contingent of Creighton fans in the building as well as the Bluejays starters on the bench.

"We're at our best when we're hootin' and hollerin' and smil-

ing and laughing. That's when this team functions at its best," McDermott said.

Zegarowski re-iterated his support for his McDermott.

"He's not only a great coach, he's a great person to have in your corner," Zegarowski said. "He's a real role model for all of our guys."

The junior guard added: "It's great to have him on our side. I feel really good when he's out there coaching us up."

Bryce Nze had 21 points to lead No. 10 seed Butler (10-15), which trailed by 33 in the second half after edging seventh-seeded Xavier 70-69 in overtime Wednesday night.

"When they got away from us, we just couldn't reel them back in," Butler coach LaVall Jordan said.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

### Come back here!

Ethan Theurer, a University of Saint Francis sophomore defensive end, reaches to stop and grab a hold of Taylor running back Brendan Lamb during the second quarter of their game Saturday at Bishop D'Arcy Stadium. Theurer, a 2018 Jay County High School graduate, got the start and tallied three total tackles in the NAIA No. 9 Cougars' 24-10 victory in their season opener.

## Rutgers ousts IU from tourney

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ron Harper Jr. and Jacob Young scored 13 points each as Rutgers knocked tenth-seeded Indiana out of the second round of the Big Ten Tournament on Thursday, 61-50.

Rutgers (15-10) was seeded seventh into the tournament, its highest seed ever, and will square off against second-seeded, and No. 3-ranked, Illinois (20-6) in a Friday quarterfinal. Rutgers beat the Illini 91-88 in their only meeting this season.

The Hoosiers (12-15) led by as many as 10 in the first half, and Rutgers needed to lead at the break, 33-32, on Geo Baker's dunk.

Trayce Jackson-Davis scored 19 points to lead Indiana, but six came after halftime. He threw down consecutive dunks midway through the second half, each time cutting the Rutgers lead to three, and he also blocked two shots down the stretch.

Aljami Durham added nine points, two after halftime as Indiana's shooting

fell off to 28% after the break (8 of 29).

Armaan Franklin lifted Indiana to a 48-47 lead with just under 10 minutes left, but Young scored with a jumper to give the Scarlet Knights the lead for good and consecutive 3-pointers from Paul Mulcahy boosted Rutgers ahead 55-48 lead by the final TV timeout with 3:14 remaining.

The baskets gave Mulcahy 10 points, his first double-digit scoring since Dec. 29. Myles Johnson also scored 10 points and grabbed 13 rebounds for his eighth double-double.

The Hoosiers, meanwhile, went scoreless for 6:36 as Rutgers inched away. Indiana missed nine shots in a row and also whiffed on a pair of free throws before Durham sank two from the line with 2:35 remaining.

Caleb McConnell put an exclamation point on Rutgers' third win over Indiana this season with his fast-break dunk with 43 seconds left after Harper rebounded an Indiana miss.

## Minor leagues to experiment with robo ump's

AP and staff reports

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball will experiment with several rule changes in the minor leagues this season, including an automated strike zone, restrictions on defensive positioning and larger bases.

The league said in a statement Thursday the "changes being tested are designed to increase action on the basepaths, create more balls in play, improve

the pace and length of games, and reduce player injuries."

The league's automatic ball-strike system will be used at some Low-A Southeast League games, the closest that computer umpires have come to the majors. ABS has already been used in the independent Atlantic League and the Arizona Fall League. It got mixed reviews from players, with complaints about

how the TrackMan system grades breaking pitches down in the zone.

Infielders at Double-A will have to keep both feet in the infield at the start of every play. While a defensive team must have at least four players within the outer boundary of the infield dirt, there won't be a ban on shifting three or more defenders to either side of second base, although the league may experiment with such a rule pending results of the initial experiment.

Triple-A is getting larger bases, expanding first, second and third from 15 by 15 inches to 18 by 18. MLB said it hopes to reduce player injuries and collisions, and also that the shortened distance between bases should

"have a modest impact" increasing stolen bases and infield hits.

Pitchers at the lower levels will also be restricted in their ability to hold baserunners. At all High-A levels, pitchers will have to fully disengage from the rubber prior to throwing to a base under penalty of a balk. The rule will eliminate the most effective style of pickoff move used by left-handed pitchers — perhaps most effectively by Steve Carlton and Andy Pettitte.

In all Low-A leagues, pitchers will be limited to two step offs or pickoff attempts per plate appearance with at least one runner on base. Pitchers may attempt a third pickoff in the same plate appearance,

but if the runner returns safely to his base, the pitcher will be charged with a balk. MLB says it will consider limiting pitchers to one step off or pickoff per plate appearance, pending the results of the initial experiment.

"We are listening to our

fans," said Michael Hill, MLB senior vice president of on-field operations. "This effort is an important step towards bringing to life rules changes aimed at creating more action and improving the pace of play."

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