

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Championship edition

Jay County High School's Patriot Edition show choir, pictured performing during a special concert Monday night, took first place in mixed division (tier II) Saturday at the Garrett Railroader Rush Invitational. The group, in its final competition of the season, also took the award for best vocals. Just Treble placed third in the women's division and also earned the award for best crew.

Next step for wireless OK'd

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

New radio towers may be on the horizon for Jay County.

Jay County Commissioners and Portland City Council voted to move forward with scouting for potential locations at a special meeting Monday.

Portland Police chief Josh Stephenson talked about Project 25, a standard created by public safety professionals for digital two-way radio products. As part of an effort to meet those standards, Integrated Public Safety Commission installed radio towers emitting

an 800 megahertz signal that is Project 25 compatible across the state, including one in Redkey.

The Portland Police Department purchased 25 Motorola 800 megahertz radios that are

Project 25 compatible for \$138,749.95 from Fort Wayne's ERS Wireless in December. Although the radios have not arrived yet — they should be coming soon — Stephenson explained that the biggest bene-

fit to this system is interoperability.

"Now in the county, we're pretty much OK set up to where we can communicate with Jay County," Stephenson said. "The problem is if we go to another county

where we have that county respond to us, they will not be able to communicate because we are not on the statewide system."

At present, the tower in Redkey does not provide enough range to adequately serve the county, especially if additional emergency personnel switch to the new system. A new tower or two in Jay County would increase the radio range, making it also possible to effectively use portable radios while inside buildings (the current system does not work well in places such as Jay County Junior-Senior High School).

See **Wireless** page 2

Commissioners, city council allow ERS to move forward with scouting locations

Council to get building appraisal

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Portland Police Department would like to make a new home in the current Jay School Corporation central office building.

Whether or not that is a possibility will come down to appraisals.

While expressing reservations, Portland City Council on Monday voted to seek appraisals on the building at 1976 W. Tyson Road, Portland, as it considers the possibility of relocating the police department.

Portland assistant police chief Erica Post and investigator Jeff Hopkins made the pitch for purchasing the building and converting it to the new home for the police department. As they did during the Portland Board of Works meeting March 4, they laid out a series of concerns about the current site at city hall. Those include a lack of adequate parking, handicapped accessibility, space for record and evidence storage, officer work areas and private interview rooms, among others.

See **Appraisal** page 6

Board seeks final building offers

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Jay School Board had a busy evening Monday as it approved the sale of one parcel, held off on selling another, hired a new business manager, heard an update about food service and listened to comments and information about a proposed

business expansion.

Board members considered offers on two of the three parcels of land it currently has for sale, agreeing to sell its six-acre wooded parcel adjacent to Portland Memorial Park (north of Runkle-Miller Field and west of Hines-Inman Memorial Stadium) to Derran

McGill. (David McGill and James and Phyllis McGill own property adjacent to the parcel.) He made the only offer on the property, matching the asking price of \$35,000.

Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley noted that the corporation received three offers for its administrative

office building, 1976 W. Tyson Road, Portland, all of which met or exceeded the asking price of \$325,000. Rather than choosing one of those offers, board members Phil Ford, Ron Laux, Donna Geesaman, Mike Shannon, Chris Snow, Vickie Reitz and Jason Phillips decided to take a

step back. They asked the three entities involved to turn in their final and best offer, as well as their proposed use for the site, to real estate broker Loy Real Estate and Auction no later than noon March 31. The board plans to consider those offers at a special meeting April 5.

See **Offers** page 6



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Top citizen

Fort Recovery High School swim coach Mindy Bubb smiles at the Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce awards banquet Sunday. Bubb was designated as 2020 Citizen of the Year for her active role in the swim program.

Diller: Streets need some attention soon

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Butler and Boundary streets may be getting work done sooner rather than later.

"Something needs to be done with state route 119 (through village limits)," said village administrator Randy Diller at a Fort Recovery Village Council's meeting Monday. "That's basically where we need to focus this year."

The village is already looking into reconstructing Butler Street (Ohio 119) in the next four to five years. The project is planned to include a new water line, sidewalks, curbs and street, as well as replacing the traffic light at Wayne Street.

Fort Recovery has submitted a

request for an Ohio Department of Transportation grant to partially fund the project.

Diller and village grants administrator Jenn Schoonover are hoping to receive a little more than \$1 million from the department as well as \$500,000 from the Ohio Public Works Commission and an unspecified amount from the County Engineers Association of Ohio. (That leaves about \$2.3 million for the village to pay on the multi-million dollar project.)

Despite these plans, Diller said, at least some work to the street needs to be done sooner than planned.

"What's the best way to spend that money?" he said.

See **Street** page 6

Deaths

Shirley Ramey, 77, Portland
Paul Zorn, 64, rural Portland
Barnie Stephens, 57, Dunkirk
John Jenney, 69, Goshen
Eric Yager, 57, rural Pennville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature was 36 degrees Thursday with a mix of rain and sleet. The low was 28.
Tonight's low will be in the mid 30s. Expect partly sunny skies Wednesday with the high climbing to near 60.
See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

The murder trial for Esther J. Stephen, 30, Portland, began Monday in Jay Circuit Court. The bulk of the day was spent on selecting the 12 jurors and two alternates for the case, with the process finishing about 3 p.m.
Opening arguments in the case were scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m. today.
Stephen is charged with the

Jan. 12, 2020, murder of Shea Briar. Trials for Shelby Hiestand and Hannah Knapke, who are also charged with his murder, are scheduled for later this year.
Briar, 31, Portland, was found injured on a bridge in northern Jay County early on Jan. 12, 2020. He died of a gunshot wound later that day at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.



Wireless ...

Continued from page 1
Steve Dhondt, ERS Wireless government sales manager for Indiana, proposed scouting Jay for potential radio tower sites. "There's not a question in my mind, as a guy who was on the state planning committee for this system and a 30-year firefighter, that the statewide 800 system is the way to go," he said. Of 92 Indiana counties, only three have chosen not to join the system, Dhondt said. Randolph County is one of those. "There are a few counties that are building out standalone systems, and I really equate it as to you're building an island,"

'I'm seeing a lot of dollar signs on this. Is there any state funding for this or grants available for this ...'

—Chad Aker, Jay County Commissioner

Dhondt said. "Although some of those radios may cross-communicate, they're still building an island to a certain respect ... piggybacking off the state system is a more economical way to do that."

The state has a contract with Motorola, and ERS Wireless part-

ners with Motorola as well, Dhondt explained, meaning initial fees for scouting locations would be waived. The state also typically takes care of maintenance and upkeep of each site, he added.

"What's the normal time period from when — let's say we start

it today until when you'd be finished?" asked commissioner Rex Journey. "Are we talking three years? Five years?"

Dhondt said it generally takes anywhere from six to 12 months after a county has decided to invest in new towers. It took about 10 months for Henry County, he added, and it cost about \$1 million for the new infrastructure there. (This does not include costs for more new radios, which can range between \$1,500 and \$6,000 per unit.)

"I'm seeing a lot of dollar signs on this," said commissioner Chad Aker. "Is there any state funding for this or grants available for

this, or is this all going to be funded by the municipalities?"

Dhondt noted there are grants available, specifically mentioning the regional Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the fire department. He also suggested hiring a grant writer for the process. The \$1.9 trillion stimulus bill passed by the federal government last week may also have funding for municipalities, he continued.

After discussion, commissioners and city council, absent commissioner Brian McGalliard and council members Michele Brewster and Matt Goldsworthy, voted for ERS Wireless to move forward with the scouting process.

CR almanac

Wednesday 3/17	Thursday 3/18	Friday 3/19	Saturday 3/20	Sunday 3/21
59/46	52/32	45/26	51/32	60/39
Mostly cloudy skies with a 5 to 10 mph winds with a 90% chance of rain late at night.	Rain will likely continue into Thursday (90% chance). Between three quarters and one inch rainfall possible.	Mostly sunny skies by day and night. Otherwise below freezing in the late evening.	The weekend will continue with warm days and sunny skies. Nights will be cooler, near freezing.	Another sunny day with clear skies and warm afternoon temperatures. Cool evening.

Lotteries

Powerball Saturday 5-11-51-56-61 Powerball: 2 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$184 million	Estimated jackpot: \$516,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$93 million	Ohio Monday Midday Pick 3: 3-7-2 Pick 4: 5-5-0-6 Pick 5: 3-1-9-7-0 Evening Pick 3: 7-0-3 Pick 4: 0-6-8-0 Pick 5: 0-4-5-2-5 Rolling Cash 5: 5-7-10-11-25
Hoosier Monday Midday Daily Three: 9-6-2 Daily Four: 2-7-5-9 Evening Daily Three: 4-6-1 Daily Four: 0-2-3-5 Quick Draw: 2-10-14-21-24-25-29-30-31-38-40-51-54-60-62-65-67-73-75-78 Cash 5: 6-17-36-37-43	Estimated jackpot: \$100,000 Classic Lotto: 6-20-21-28-36-45 Kicker: 3-0-3-1-7-2 Jackpot: \$5.8 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.60 Wheat6.04	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.52 April corn5.54 Beans14.22 April beans14.22 Wheat 6.22 July wheat 5.98
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.70 April corn5.74	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.53 April corn5.60 Beans14.13 April beans14.18 Wheat5.87 April wheat6.42
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.61 April corn5.61 Beans14.27 April beans14.20 Wheat 6.38 April wheat 6.38	

Today in history

On March 16, 1945, during World War II, American forces declared they had secured Iwo Jima, although pockets of Japanese resistance remained.

In 1802, President Thomas Jefferson signed a measure authorizing the establishment of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

In 1926, rocket science pioneer Robert H. Goddard successfully tested the first liquid-fueled rocket at his Aunt Effie's farm in Auburn, Massachusetts.

In 1935, Adolf Hitler decided to break the military terms set by the Treaty of Versailles by ordering the rearming of Germany.

In 1968, the My Lai massacre took place during the Vietnam War as U.S. Army soldiers hunting for Viet Cong fighters and sympathizers killed unarmed villagers in two hamlets of Son My village; estimates of the death toll vary from 347 to 504.

In 1972, in a nationally broadcast address, President Richard Nixon called for a moratorium on court-ordered school busing to achieve racial desegregation.

In 2003, American activist Rachel Corrie, 23, was crushed to death by an Israeli military bulldozer while trying to block demolition of a Palestinian home in the Gaza Strip.

In 2006, Redkey Town Council provided a 30-day reprieve for 82 residents who owed a total of about \$90,000 in delinquent water bills.

—AP and The CR

Obituaries

Shirley Ramey

Aug. 2, 1943-March 12, 2021
Shirley Ann Ramey, age 77, of Portland passed away Friday, March 12, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Shirley was born in Portland on Aug. 2, 1943, the daughter of Ray and Mary (Harmon) Bailey. She was married on June 2, 1963, to Richard Ramey and he passed away on Feb. 6, 2015.

Shirley was retired from Jay County Hospital where she worked as an administrative secretary. She was a 1961 Portland High School graduate and a member of the Eastern Star and American Legion Auxiliary. She donated her time to Jay County Public Library and was an avid reader.

Surviving are two sons, Dave Ramey (wife: Tammy) of Eminence, Indiana, and Mike Ramey of Portland; one daughter, Sarah Dirksen (husband: Patrick) of Rossburg, Ohio; one sister, Vickie Gettinger (husband: Arlo) of Portland; and four grandchildren.

Funeral services will be Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Mike Harris presiding. Burial will follow in the IOOF Cemetery in Pennville. Visitation will be Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Public Library or any local organization. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.



Ramey

parents, Howard Zorn Sr. and Bertha Zorn; and his twin brother, Thomas L. Zorn.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Paul's life will follow at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home. Pastor Mike Harris will officiate the service and burial will follow at Springhill Cemetery in Fort Recovery, Ohio.

Memorials may be directed to Judan Judo Club.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Barnie Stephens

July 1, 1963-March 13, 2021
Barnie C. Stephens, age 57, Dunkirk, died Saturday, March 13, 2021, at home following a brief illness.

Born in Muncie on July 1, 1963, he attended Jay County schools and lived in Portland for several years before returning home in Dunkirk. He worked at Jay/Randolph Developmental Services and participated in Special Olympics through bowling and horseback riding. He belonged to T.O.P.S. in Hartford City where he was the recipient of numerous awards. In earlier years, he was known as "Mountain Dew" on Citizens Band radio and was a member of a local CB club.

Survivors include his parents, James "Barnie" and Mary Stephens, Dunkirk; two sisters, Bobbie Bertram (husband: Brian), Dunkirk, and Stephanie Dargo (husband: Joe), Yorktown; niece Landra Fraley (husband: Doug), Redkey; nephew Jason Christie, Yorktown; four great-nieces and great-nephews, Madyson Fraley, Redkey, Camden Fraley, Redkey, Parker Christie, Yorktown, and Sophia Christie, Yorktown.

His brother, Mark Stephens, is deceased.

Services will be 2 p.m. Thursday, March 18, 2021, at Meacham Funeral Service. Burial will follow at Union Cemetery, Eaton.

Visiting hours are Thursday from noon until 2 p.m. at the funeral home.

Memorials may be sent to Jay County Special Olympics, 2894 Southtown Place, Portland, IN 47371.

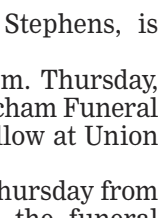
Condolences and other expressions of sympathy may be expressed at MeachamFuneralService.com.

John Jenney

Feb. 18, 1952-March 14, 2021
John W. Jenney, 69, Goshen, passed away Sunday, March 14, at home surrounded by family.



Stephens



Zorn

Paul Zorn

Sept. 6, 1956-March 13, 2021
Paul L. Zorn, age 64, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Paul was born on Sept. 6, 1956, in Coldwater, Ohio, the son of Howard Zorn Sr. and Bertha A. (Shappie) Zorn. Paul was a lifelong farmer in Noble Township. He was a member of Judan Judo since 1977 where he earned his black-belt and competed earning many awards. Paul enjoyed going to the Tri-State Gas Engine Show every year where he would show his tractors.

Survivors include: Two sisters — Viola Cline (husband: Floyd), rural Portland, Indiana, and Delores Dull, Portland, Indiana

One brother — Howard C. Zorn Jr. (fiancé: Debbie Liss), rural Portland, Indiana

Several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews

He was preceded in death by his

SERVICES

Wednesday
Zorn, Paul: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Thursday
Ramey, Shirley: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Stephens, Bernie: 2 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Friday
Jenney, John: noon, 1911 S. Main St., Goshen.
Yager, Eric: 3 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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

Deeds

Wilmington Savings Fund Society and Nationalstar HECM Acquisition Trust to Cinthia Mendez Sandoval and Gilberto Montes Sarmiento, warranty deed — Lot 59, Cartwright and Headington Subdivision, Portland

Patty A. and Dale J. Kuhlman and Doris L. Humphrey Life Estate to Carolyn D. Triplett, warranty deed — Part of Section 2, Richland Township, 15.29 acres

Carolyn D. Triplett to herself and Richard L. Triplett II, quit claim deed — Part of Section 2, Richland Township, 15.39 acres

Andrew D. Houck to himself and Amber K. Houck, quit claim deed — Lots 9 and 10, Munson Addition

Kenley O. and Mabeline L. Barcus to Fred W. Miller Jr. and Danielle M. Miller, warranty deed — Parts of Section 34, Penn Township

Swiss Village

NOW HIRING:
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The Assistant Director of Food Service at Swiss Village, Inc., will be responsible for overseeing food production processes throughout the facility and ensuring quality in taste, appearance, temperature, and sanitation. This position will be responsible for providing input and recommendations on menus, recipes, work simplification, and food production. This position will assist the Director of Food Service in managing all food service employees.

This position requires completion of the Certified Dietary Manager course or willingness to obtain within 2 years of employment. 3-5 years of work experience in food production is required. Catering experience and experience in healthcare food service operations preferred. Seeking candidates with strong supervisory, interpersonal, and teamwork skills. Candidates must be willing to working Monday-Friday, day shift hours, with occasional evening, weekend, and holiday hours required.

This position will be Full-Time with benefits, including insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

If interested, please submit a Resume and Cover Letter to:

Taylor Lehman, Vice President of HR
Swiss Village, Inc. 1350 W. Main St.
Berne, IN 46711
careers@swissvillage.org

Citizen's calendar

Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St. 7 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
Thursday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town	

Holiday coincides with birthday

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

It's almost St. Patrick's Day. When I was in grade school St. Patrick's Day meant two things. We would color shamrocks and if someone wasn't wearing green they would get pinched repeatedly. I don't remember anything else about it.

Later on, the day was one where my step-dad would dance my mom around the kitchen while doing his version of an Irish jig. Trust me, there was not anybody with even a spec of Irish blood who would recognize the dance as Irish. It didn't matter. All that matters is that for those few hours they were happy with each other. I am sad that by the time my brothers were old enough to remember anything the days of dancing in the kitchen were over.

It seems like yesterday that the shamrock coloring pages were brought home by my daughter. I made sure she wore the requisite green so

As I See It



she wouldn't get pinched. Before I knew it, the shamrocks were being colored by my grandchildren. These days even they are too old to be coloring at school except in art class. Where has the time gone?

About 12 years ago the holiday took on a different meaning. It became the day before grandson Jacob's birthday. It is unbelievable to me that he will be 12. It seems like yesterday that we were crouched in a refrigerator box hiding from monsters.

I bought his birthday present last week then tried to find a box for it. I couldn't find anything even close to the size I needed. I stuck it in a big box and packed leftover

bubble wrap around it. But when I got to the post office the lady behind the counter told me it would cost an outrageous amount. Even though the weather had been dry when I got to the post office it was pouring rain when I left.

I took the present back home, thankful that I had driven to the post office and not walked. I cut pieces of the box to fit the present, and used tons of tape to hold the whole thing together. Then I went back to the post office. This time the price was much more reasonable. They estimated that it would arrive in Texas on Monday. Oh, and it had quit raining.

We bought lunch and headed for a nearby park to eat. That is one of the few perks of the pandemic. We eat outside more often. We took the rest of the day to stop at the home improvement store and drop off our regular donation. From there we went to get groceries, where I was once again irritated because

COVID regulations mandated that the cashier was not allowed to touch any bags except the ubiquitous plastic bags that I despise so much. Touching each and every item in my cart is apparently considered safe.

To be fair, we do take an insulated bag for the cold stuff. We pack that one ourselves. This does not make up for the dozens of items that are double and triple bagged in flimsy plastic sacks. I feel sorry for the people who must work through this pandemic. They politely listen to customers who complain about things the cashiers can't do anything about.

Several lifetimes have passed since the last time St. Patrick's Day was here. It seems like yesterday that COVID turned the world upside down. I probably won't do anything for St. Patrick's Day except try to get Jacob to answer his phone so I can wish him a happy birthday.

Ivy Tech is set to return to in-person

Community college classes will be held in person this fall.

Ivy Tech Community College has announced it will offer in-person classes at its campuses statewide beginning in August. It will continue to provide online options as well.

"Ivy Tech is committed to offering flexibility so that our students can earn a degree or certificate that allows them to take that next step for a high-wage, high-value career," said Ivy Tech President Sue Ellspermann. "We look forward to welcoming our students back to campus over the coming months. We know that for many students, success happens best in an in-person setting..."

The next session at Ivy Tech begins March 22. Plans call for about 25% of classes to be offered in person, with those numbers increasing for the summer session and then returning to full capacity in August.

Boyfriend has taken control of relationship

DEAR ABBY: I have been with the same man for almost 30 years. We are not married and have no children together. He is 15 years older than I am.

We have been living in his house for the past seven years. I feel more like a renter than a partner in this relationship. I give him money every month, and we sleep in separate rooms. He wants to control everything in his house, including how to clean, cook or what we eat. I bite my lip to avoid starting a confrontation.

He is a lifelong bachelor, while I have two adult children and a couple of grandkids. I'm not sure

Dear Abby



how much more of this I can take. I work all day; he doesn't. I want to leave, but at the same time, I care and worry about him. What should I do? — DISILLUSIONED IN ILLINOIS

DEAR DISILLUSIONED: Quit biting your lip. Gather your courage and start an honest conversation

with your housemate in which you tell him you have been unhappy with the status quo for a long time. Then outline the changes that would make you happy. If he isn't willing to compromise, then pack your bags and leave because you will know the feelings you have for him are not mutual.

DEAR ABBY: I've been "friends" with a woman for 25 years. For a time, we were best friends and did everything together, but we couldn't be more different. It caused many fights and disagreements over the years. She has deeply

hurt and embarrassed me countless times. She ruined birthdays, damaged other relationships — even ruined my bachelorette party. I don't know why I still bother with her. I think because of our deep roots, it's hard to let go.

At the moment, we haven't spoken in more than two months, and I know she's upset with me yet again. Should I reach out and mend the bond? Do I use this as a stepping stone to start moving on? I love her, but I know it really is a toxic relationship. — OFF AGAIN IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR OFF AGAIN: Please reread the last

sentence of your letter. Do not bother reaching out and trying to mend the breach in your relationship. You cannot fix what's wrong with this old friend, but you can move on. Her silence is giving you the opportunity. Take it!

DEAR ABBY: My son is getting married in a couple of weeks. Due to COVID-19, he and his fiancée are having to downsize the list of invitees. This includes asking those who have already RSVP'd "yes" and/or have already given them a wedding gift not to attend. Should they return the wedding gifts to those they

are disinviting to the wedding? — WONDERING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR WONDERING: Your son and his fiancée should at least OFFER to return the gifts. Considering the reason for the downsizing, some of the no-longer-invited guests may tell them to keep them along with their good wishes, while others will not.

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.

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

ALZHEIMER'S CARE-GIVER 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.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'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.

REDKEY BETTER

WORKERS 4-H CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 16, at Redkey Park Cabin.

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.

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 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

ALANON 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 - BRANNA'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.

FRIENDS OF THE OPERA HOUSE — The Friends of Fort Recovery Opera House committee will have an open meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, in the Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School Auditoria. The public is welcome. Check the Facebook page (Fort Recovery Morvilius Opera House) for potential rescheduling or cancellations.

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.



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NY Strip Steaks \$11.99 lb.	Pork T-Loin (butterflied & tenderized) \$3.69 lb.
Peppercorn Flat Iron Steaks \$7.49 lb.	Chunk Pork T-Loin \$2.99 lb.
Hamburger Patties (frozen) quarter, third, & half pound patties available, sold in 1 lb packages \$4.69 lb.	Ribs \$2.69 lb.
Corned Beef Brisket (3 lb average) Fresh Cabbage & Sauerkraut Available!! \$3.39 lb.	Country Style Sausage \$2.39 lb.

From Fisher's Smokehouse

Premium Hot Dogs \$3.69 lb.	Bologna \$3.39 lb.	Ring Bologna \$3.69 lb.
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Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

Resident opposes quarry expansion

To the editor:
As many people have recently learned, U.S. Aggregates is planning to expand its stone quarry around Indiana 67 and Tyson Road, right at the edge of our city.

Letters to the Editor

Without most people knowing, they bought up land for this project and are now trying to get the zoning changed to allow them to move forward. Jay County High School, Tyson and Jay Petroleum, along with other businesses, will feel the effects of this quarry.

Hundreds of homeowners will also be affected. Blasting, dust, the possibility of wells going dry and truck traffic will be a major problem, not to mention the effects on residential home values.

My husband and I only became aware of this a few weeks ago. U.S. Aggregates has presented at some meetings, trying to convince the school, businesses and homeowners that

this expansion won't really be a problem for us. After attending a few of their meetings, I'm not convinced.

If Portland wants to bring in more people, having a stone quarry at the city limits is not the way to do it.

If U.S. Aggregates wants to expand, it should be looking at other areas in the county where the blasting and dust won't be a problem.

At every meeting, the U.S. Aggregates team keeps saying, "We want to be a good neighbor, and we want to be transparent."

From my perspective, they are doing neither.
Carol Johnston
Portland



Prosecution attacked journalism

By ERIK WEMPLE
The Washington Post

During her trial this week on two misdemeanor charges, Des Moines Register reporter Andrea Sahouri described how she reacted when a police officer approached her at a racial justice protest: "I didn't think it was a good idea to run from officers, because I wasn't doing anything wrong," she said. "I put up my hands and said 'I'm press, I'm press,' and he grabbed me and pepper-sprayed me and told me, 'That's not what I asked.'"

Perhaps there was a time in U.S. history when proclaiming in public, "I'm press," prompted universal deference. If there was, it is certainly no longer the case.

Sahouri stood trial for failure to disperse and interference with official acts in connection with her May 2020 coverage of racial-justice protests in Des Moines. Her boyfriend at the time, Spenser Robnett, attended the protests with Sahouri and faced the same charges during this week's three-day joint trial.

Both were acquitted on Wednesday afternoon after the jury deliberated for less than two hours. In a conversation with The Washington Post's Elahe Izadi, Sahouri described the affair as a "complete waste of the state's time, effort and money." She was being charitable: The prosecution of Sahouri attacked the very act of bearing witness to newsworthy events. In pursuing the case, John Sarcone, the county attorney for Polk County, Iowa, demonstrated an ignorance of how democratic communities work.

The charges stem from the chaos surrounding the George Floyd protests on May 31, 2020. As Des Moines Register courts reporter William Morris noted, officers used their squad car public-address system to issue a dispersal order at 6:30 p.m., though the arrests didn't take place until an hour and a half later near Merle Hay Mall in Des Moines. Both defendants testified at trial that they didn't hear the dispersal order. But if there was any doubt about why Sahouri was on the scene, her tweets from the evening — detailed postings about the goings-on — should have dispelled it.

In his closing argument, defense attorney Nicholas Klinefeldt said, "First and fore-

Erik Wemple



most, Ms. Sahouri was doing her job as a reporter," adding that the prosecution didn't contend that the defendants were participating as protesters. (Sarcone, however, did claim that Sahouri and Robnett were "part of the protests.") Assistant County Attorney Brad Kinkade, in his rebuttal, inveighed against the exculpatory value of journalism. If such a defense were valid, he argued, "it would have been included in the jury instructions. All the law that you have is all the law that is necessary to find the defendants guilty."

Yet the prosecution most certainly did see some value in journalism. To make its case, it relied on news footage from Des Moines station KCCI. "It's almost audacious to use the video of one journalist to claim that another journalist was somehow there unlawfully," says Maribel Perez Wadsworth, president of news at Gannett, which owns the Des Moines Register. "It's pretty preposterous if you think about it."

According to Wadsworth, Sahouri is among six journalists in Gannett's USA Today network who were detained or arrested in the protests that followed George Floyd's killing last May. "The other journalists were either never charged or charges were dropped quickly after it was understood they were working journalists. Still, the Polk County Attorney in Iowa persisted with bringing Andrea's case to trial," wrote Wadsworth in an email to colleagues after the verdict. "They were dug in, they were just dug in," Wadsworth tells The Post, noting that the company tried to make the prosecutors "understand that she was there on assignment, that she was there doing her job."

The U.S. Press Freedom Tracker counts 130 arrests or detentions of journalists in 2020; 14 now face criminal charges. Sarah Matthews, a senior staff attorney at the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, says that dis-

cretion is built in to the various levels of law enforcement, including police officers, judges and, of course, prosecutors: "Why are the prosecutors doing this? That was the most troubling part to me — is that the prosecutors decided to prosecute this case and not drop the charges knowing this was a journalist for the Des Moines Register," says Matthews.

Wesley Lowery, a former Post journalist who has covered many racial-justice protests, was arrested on the beat in 2014 while covering the unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, after the killing of Michael Brown. Along with Ryan Reilly of the Huffington Post, Lowery was arrested at a McDonald's in Ferguson, though it took authorities nearly a year to file charges for trespassing and interfering with a police officer. The charges were finally dropped almost two years after the arrest under a settlement in which the reporters agreed not to sue St. Louis County, Missouri, over the incident. The episode was another moment for denunciations from free-press advocates. But: "No one was more upset about the arrest than I was because I wanted to write some stuff that night," Lowery recalled during an interview.

A couple of months after his arrest, Lowery covered a sit-in by more than 100 protesters at a QuikTrip gas station in St. Louis. Police officers dispersed the protest with pepper spray and made nearly 20 arrests. St. Louis Police Chief Sam Dotson, according to Lowery's reporting, used Twitter to accuse the protesters of throwing rocks at officers. However: "A Post reporter at the QuikTrip did not observe any acts of aggression from protesters toward the police," wrote Lowery at the time.

Looking back, Lowery says, "The on-the-record statements they provided that evening were absolutely untrue and the only reason I was able to keep those untruths out of The Washington Post was because I was there." It's that very role that Polk County authorities targeted with the prosecution of Sahouri. Here's hoping they and their peers across the country got Wednesday's message.

.....
Wemple, *The Washington Post's* media critic, focuses on the cable-news industry.

Openness key to good government

By KEN PAULSON

When government fails, it's the rare public official who says, "Oops. My fault."

That's human nature, particularly for officials in the public eye who may have to run for office again. No one wants to be held directly responsible for letting the public down.

Case in point is the recent catastrophe in Texas, when unexpected winter storms left 4 million homes without power, ruptured pipes and tainted the water supply for many.

Texas' energy grid essentially collapsed. While Texas Gov. Greg Abbott was quick to blame frozen wind turbines, the cause was much more complex than that. To truly understand how things went so terribly wrong will require time, study and research.

So, too, with the coronavirus vaccine distribution. In some states, residents are frustrated with the slow rollout of vaccines. Is it poor distribution? Politics? A flawed strategy? These are literally matters of life and death.

But how do you get to the truth when public officials so rarely step up to take direct responsibility for failures?

The answer is public records. And public meetings. And access to the information that taxpayers deserve.

States throughout the country have laws that guarantee access to government records and meetings. But the details vary widely and there are many statutory exceptions. New challenges to access emerge every year in virtually every state.

The need to fight for government transparency is reaffirmed each year during Sunshine Week, a national awareness event overseen by the News Leaders Association and keyed to the March 16 birthday of James Madison. The fourth president of the United States drafted the Bill of Rights — including the guarantee of a free press — in 1791.

That journalism connection reflects the role news media play in the free flow of information, but it unfortunately can also leave the public with a sense that Sunshine Week reflects the concerns of a single industry.

To the contrary, access to government information is critical to every American who



cares about the quality of his or her community, state and nation.

It's important to see government employees — including elected officials — as the people we hire through our tax dollars to do a good job for all of us. If you run a business or hire a contractor, you wouldn't hesitate to demand a full understanding of how something went wrong. That should be exactly our relationship with government.

Getting that information, though, requires public meetings where residents can ask questions. It also means access to the documents that led to a poor decision. Words on paper can be much more forthright than the dissembling of politicians.

It's critical that we hold government accountable, for better or worse. (It's also important to acknowledge when government leaders are doing a good job.)

How can you help? I have two suggestions.

First, keep doing exactly what you're doing at this moment. Read and support your local newspaper. Local journalists, more than anyone else, will stand up for your right to information. Facebook will not be going toe-to-toe with your mayor.

Second, when you believe government isn't doing its job, demand an explanation. Ask to see the documents. Attend public meetings. And above all, support legislative efforts to make government more transparent.

It's too easy for officials who have failed us to point fingers, blame the media and wait for their side of the partisan fence to rally to their defense. We deserve better. We all pay taxes to support the work of government. We should get our money's worth.

.....
Paulson is the director of the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University, a lawyer and a former editor-in-chief of USA Today.

The Commercial Review

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Purdue Pharma proposes exit plan

By GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press

Purdue Pharma, which helped revolutionize the prescription painkiller business with its drug OxyContin, is proposing a \$10 billion plan to emerge from bankruptcy that calls for it to be transformed into a different kind of company funneling profits into the fight against the nation's intractable opioid crisis.

Those efforts would include a significant boost — more than \$4 billion — from members of the Sackler family who own the Connecticut-based pharmaceutical giant.

The plan, filed late Monday night in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in White Plains, N.Y., after months of negotiations, marks the company's formal offer to settle more than 2,900 lawsuits from state and local governments, Native American tribes, hospitals and other entities.

"Purdue has delivered a historic plan that can have a profoundly positive impact on public health by directing critically-needed resources to communities and individuals nationwide who have been affected by the opioid crisis," Steve Miller, chairman of Purdue's Board of Directors, said in a statement.

Most of the parties in the case are on board with the plan. But attorneys general representing 23 states and the District of Columbia issued a statement saying the offer "falls short of the

accountability that families and survivors deserve." They want more money from the Sackler family members and for Purdue to wind down in a way that "does not excessively entangle it with states."

The group includes most of the Democratic attorneys general across the U.S. and Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, a Republican.

"The Sacklers became billionaires by causing a national tragedy. Now they're trying to get away with it," Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey said in a statement. "We're going to keep fighting for the accountability that families all across this country deserve."

The true size of the family's fortune is unclear. An earlier court filing said family members received transfers of \$12 billion to \$13 billion from Purdue over the years, though a lawyer said much of that went to taxes or was reinvested in the company. In letters to the U.S. House Oversight Committee last week, the two branches of the family that own the company said the family members who were board members had net assets of far less — about \$1.1 billion.

Most of Purdue's plan is similar to what the company proposed a year and a half ago when it first sought bankruptcy protection, a move that halted lawsuits against both the company and Sackler family members.



Photo provided

Into the fire

State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City), who represents Jay County, enters the "live fire" training portion of Fire Ops 101 on Saturday at the Winchester Fire Department training grounds. The event, which included firefighters from Portland Fire Department and each of the departments in Randolph County, allowed local elected officials and others to take part in a one-day, hands-on program to learn about firefighting and rescue operations. Portland clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips was also a participant.

Portland City Court

Judge Donald Gillespie Fined and sentenced

Joey L. Adams, Portland, operating a vehicle with false plates and driving without a valid license, \$185.50; Issac L. Miller, Redkey, operating a vehicle without ever having a license, \$235.50; Derek E. Rogers, Redkey, passing violation, \$160.50; Jake D. Boolman, Portland, speeding 67 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$147.50; Amanda L. Oliver, Dunkirk, driving with a suspended license and speeding 41 mph in a 20 mph zone, \$171.

Failed to appear

David L. Claytor, Portland, driving with a suspended license; Matthew R. Jinks, Dunkirk, being younger than 21 years of age and driving with a blood alcohol content of at

least 0.02% and driving with a suspended license; Garrett T. Snyder, Fort Wayne, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone; Merrill R. Talbot, Muncie, speeding 50 mph in a 40 mph zone; Kyler A. Lawrence, Portland, operating a vehicle without ever having a license; Eldar Abbasov, Brooklyn, New York, speeding 80 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Trials scheduled

Lucas Franks, Dunkirk, driving without a valid license, May 5;

Kara J. Williams, Indianapolis, speeding 53 mph in a 30 mph zone, May 5; Rebecca J. Archer, Portland, driving with a suspended license, May 5; Angela Dixon, Redkey, expired plates, May 5; Davinderjit Singh, Bakersfield, California, disre-

garding a stop sign, May 5; Eric T. Bowler, Dunkirk, knowingly permitting an unauthorized person to drive his vehicle, May 5; Dustin A. Hunt, Hartford City, passing violation, May 5.

Dismissed

Maryann Cortez, Redkey, two counts of a license violation.

Deferrals

Gage A. Matheney, Montpelier, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph zone.

Waivers

Shawn M. Homan, Bryant, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph, \$149.50; Kyle A. Morris, Millersburg, Ohio, speeding 60 mph in a 40 mph zone, \$171; Sarah E. Sutter, Ridgeville, distracted driving, \$160.50; Anthony G. Huelskamp, Fort

Recovery, Ohio, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$149.50; Caleb J. Dunn, Yorktown, speeding 84 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Sarah J. McClure, Rossburg, Ohio, speeding 50 mph in a 40 mph zone, \$145.50; Jacob Miller, Watertown, Wisconsin, speeding 50 mph in a 40 mph zone, \$145.50; Andrew M. Loper, Dunkirk, speeding 82 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Hannah J.

Fitzsimmons, Montpelier, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$149.50; Tristan Parrish, Dunkirk, speeding 47 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$152.50; Austin J. Faller, Fort Recovery, Ohio, speeding 43 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$148.50; Courtney L. Bickel, Portland, distracted driving, \$160.50; Randy L. Mann, Portland, distracted driving, \$160.50; Chad L. Pearson, Portland, hunting vio-

lation, \$160; Kristi L. Stahley, Bryant, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150.50; Timothy Sturgis, Pennville, speeding 73 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$153.50; Matthew L. Isenberg, Muncie, expired plates, \$160.50; Tracie A. Heater, Marion, driving without a valid license, \$160.50; Christopher S. West, Muncie, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150.50.

Felony arrests

Resisting

A Portland man was arrested Saturday for resisting police.

Robert J. Balle, 48, 623 1/2 E. Votaw St., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for resisting an officer and a Level 5 felony for possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs. He was also charged with a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and two Class B misdemeanors for reckless driving and possession of paraphernalia.

Balle was booked into Jay County Jail on \$15,000 bond.

Failed to appear

A Dunkirk man was arrested Friday for failing to appear in court.

Troy D. Easton, 52, 615 N. Hickory St., has three previous charges: a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and two Class A misdemeanors for driving with a suspended license and criminal trespassing. He's being held in Jay County Jail without bond.

Probation violation

A Redkey man was arrested Friday for violating his probation.

Christopher R. Elmore, 36, 80 N. Sycamore St., has an original Level 6 felony charge for theft. He was booked into Jay County Jail and is being held on \$600 bond.

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Appraisal ...

Continued from page 1
“There’s a lack of room to grow,” said Post. “Every room is utilized. Some rooms double to meet our needs.”

In discussing the advantages of the Jay Schools administrative office, they noted plenty of parking (indoors and outdoors), handicapped accessibility that is already in place, a walk-in safe, an existing security system and additional space for offices, interview rooms, training and other uses.

“After looking at the building, seeing all the attributes that it has for a police department — it’s well-built, it’s got security, it’s got infrastructure, it has cameras, it’s wired for internet — I don’t believe that we could build a comparable building for anywhere close to (the \$325,000 asking price),” said Portland Mayor John Boggs.

“And I think it would be amiss of me to let the opportunity to go by without us having the opportunity to look at it.”

Council members, who ultimately will make the decision on whether or not to purchase the building, expressed a variety of concerns, including additional costs for utilities and other costs, whether other options had been researched and whether it makes sense to move the police department away from the downtown area.

“If we’re pulling out of downtown, what message does that send to the community?” asked council member Janet Powers.

Council members mentioned several other options to consider, such as joining Portland Fire Department at 1616 N. Franklin St., renovating a building in the downtown area or purchasing the

building and parking lot east of city hall from owner Dru Hall. Boggs noted any of those would be likely much more expensive. (Hopkins had previously referred to the site as “basically turn-key.”)

When discussing where money for such a purchase could come from, council members Dave Golden and Don Gillespie indicated their feeling that flood mitigation should be the city’s top priority.

Council president Kent McClung noted, as a government entity, the city must follow state rules for how much it can spend when purchasing properties — it is limited to the average of two appraisals. He suggested moving forward with getting those appraisals to determine if purchasing the property is even a possibility.

Council voted 4-1 to take that step, with Mike Aker,

Golden, Gillespie and McClung in favor and Powers dissenting. (Michele Brewster and Matt Goldsworthy were absent from the meeting.)

Council then scheduled an executive session for 5:30 p.m. March 30 to discuss the appraisals and whether to move forward with a final offer for the building. Jay School Board on Monday set a deadline of noon March 31 for final offers on the property (see related story).

Also Monday, Boggs told council the city is expected to see funding from the American Rescue Plan, the coronavirus relief bill approved by Congress last week and signed by President Joe Biden. The mayor said the package calls for \$1.25 million in funding to be allocated to the city.

“The uses and restrictions are not clear yet, but we expect them to be simi-

lar to the CARES Act,” he said.

He added he expects funding in the package for airports will be allocated to pay for the second phase of the runway extension project at Portland Municipal Airport. The Federal Aviation Administration is already funding the entirety of the first phase of the project, which will extend the runway to 5,500 feet from the current 4,000 feet, via funds from the CARES Act.

Boggs also announced Portland City Hall will reopen to the public March 22. It has been closed since March 2020 because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

“The front doors will be open for the first time in a little over a year,” he said.

In other business, the council:

•Approved the Jay County multi-hazard mitigation

plan. The plan, created by Jay County Emergency Management Agency with input from each community, lays out details for how emergency situations will be handled.

•Learned from Boggs that a new “Welcome to Portland” sign has been installed along U.S. 27 on the north side of the city and another will be installed along Indiana 67 on the west side of the city. Portland Redevelopment Commission paid for one of the signs and the city will pay for the other.

•Reviewed and accepted a quarterly update from Rollin J. Lanes, which last year received a seven-year loan of \$50,000 for the purchase of synthetic lanes, operational machines and other equipment.

•Heard Boggs note the retirement last week of long-time water department employee Deb White.

Offers ...

Continued from page 1

Cory Heniser of Brigade Electronics expressed concern about the process, noting his company was one of those that made an offer. The City of Portland also made an offer on the building and discussed it at length at Monday’s council meeting (see related story). The school board did not announce the offer or the offer amounts.

Board members did not discuss the former Judge Haynes Elementary School property, which is also for sale.

The board also hired Shannon Current as the corporation’s new business manager after she had spent the last few months in the role on an interim basis. Tarinna Morris, who died Nov. 16, had served as business manager since February 2019.

Current was hired at a rate of \$84,000 per year. Her hiring includes a quality assurance and technical training support package for a one-year period from Brad DeRome, who served as the corporation’s business manager for nearly 20 years, and Mike Bush, the former superintendent

of Wes-Del Community Schools who helped Jay Schools following DeRome’s departure in late 2018. (A second year is available, if needed.)

Her hiring coincides with a restructuring of the corporation’s business office, which has seen significant turnover in the last year. Violet Current, the corporation’s former deputy treasurer, was hired to train new accounts payable clerk Irene Taylor.

Siobhan Carey of Chartwells, which took over the corporation’s food service at the beginning of the 2019-20 school year, provided an update to board members.

Carey noted the food service fund’s year-end balance had hovered below the \$200,000 mark for several years, including 2018-19. By the end of 2019-20, Chartwells’ first year at the helm, the balance was about \$450,000. It is currently above \$700,000. She said the plan is for the money to be used to purchase equipment for the school corporation.

She added meal participation

has increased, with 63% of students buying school lunch in 2019-20, up from 56% the year before. Participation also went up with the introduction of breakfast in the classroom for elementary school students and an after-school supper program.

Chartwells and the Jay School Corporation food service program are finalists for Innovator of the Year in the Jay County Community Awards for their efforts to provide meals to students when schools were shut down during the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Given the success of the transition, Gulley said he’d like the board look into the possibility of Chartwells’ sister company SSC taking over management of custodial and maintenance services.

The board also heard from several Jay County residents and a representative from U.S. Aggregates, which is hoping to expand its quarry operation to a parcel of land between county road 100 South and Tyson Road, east of county road 200 West. Four residents spoke in opposition to the project, citing traffic, blasting,

dust, aesthetics and other concerns. Eric Reynolds, the company’s area operations manager, again noted it must follow various state and federal regulations. He also answered questions from the board.

Ford reminded those in attendance the school board has no authority in the matter, which will require rezoning approval from Portland Plan Commission and Portland City Council as a first step.

In other business, the board:
•Recognized Redkey Elementary School staff and Dunkirk Kiwanis during the Patriot Pride moment. The Kiwanis club recently awarded more than \$1,500 in grants to the school’s staff for the purchase of supplemental educational materials. Kiwanis also awarded more than \$1,000 in grants to Westlawn Elementary.

•Approved the following: policy updates on topics including student assessment, staff evaluation and school safety; the purchase of nine buses (eight full size and one mini) at a cost not to exceed \$1 million as part of Cur-

rent’s plan to put the corporation on a more efficient bus replacement schedule; the purchase of a walk-in cooler from C&T Design and Equipment at a cost of \$62,517.27 for the former West Jay Middle School building, which is currently undergoing renovations and will house elementary school students next year; and appointed Phillips as its representative on Portland Redevelopment Commission.

•Made several hires, including Erin Bailey as secretary at Redkey Elementary School.

•OK’d one-year contract extensions for JCHS boys basketball coach Jerry Bomholt and girls basketball coach Kirk Comer. Their contracts now coincide with that of recently hired football coach Grant Zgunda, with all three expiring at the end of the 2023-24 school year. The board also made a series of extracurricular assignments, including Dave Cramer as JCHS girls tennis coach, David Haines as JCHS boys golf coach, Lindsey Peterson as JCHS cheer coach and Rhonda Clott as DECA club sponsor.



SUNSHINE MATTERS

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— Thomas Jefferson

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Capsule Reports

JCHS places eighth

The Jay County High School winter guard placed eighth overall Saturday in competition at Bishop Dwenger.

JCHS scored 68.22 points, which was good for fifth in its round and eighth overall, less than a point behind For Wayne North Side. Elkhart posted the top score of 81.85.

Jay County, which has posted a state-qualifying score at each of its events this year, will take part in the state finals April 10 at Center Grove.

Interdisciplinary wins

Jay County High School’s interdisciplinary team took first place Monday as the Jay County High School

academic team competed March 1 in the Eastern Indiana Academic League Invitational. The interdisciplinary team is made up of Alex Ardizzone, Hannah Boggs, Isaac Braun and Ava Stockton.

JCHS was also second for English and third for fine arts and science.

Tailgate set

United Way of Jay County and Second Harvest Food Bank are partnering for a free food tailgate from 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday at Jay County Fairgrounds. Income verification is not required.

Pole hit

A Portland woman drove into a pole in the Walmart

parking lot about 8:18 a.m. Friday.

Susan D. Sommers, 74, was turning left in the lot at 950 W. Votaw St. when she drove into a light pole with her 2016 Buick LaCrosse. The vehicle was towed. Damage was estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Backing accident

A Portland woman backing out of the Country Place Apartments parking lot hit a fence about 6:26 p.m. Friday.

Karen J. Smith, 46, was backing out of the lot at 995 Boundary Pike when she drove her 2004 Chevrolet Malibu off the road and into a fence around a dumpster. Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Street ...

Continued from page 1

“Does it make sense to go in and patch the spots that are worst this year, go back in and patch the spots that are bad next year, you know, just try to buy time until it gets replaced? Or overlay the whole thing somehow? Try to get a few years out of it?”

He mentioned he will likely speak with paving companies for suggestions and report back to council later.

Diller also noted he is working with ODOT and the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio to exempt drivers from the railroad crossing on Ohio 49 near its inter-

section with Railroad Street. (It also crosses on Wayne and First streets.) Those rails through Fort Recovery are virtually unused, he explained.

In other business, council members Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson, Erik Fiely, Al Post and Cliff Wendel, absent Luke Knapke, approved a request from Fort Recovery Merchants Association to open an alcohol stand in the village for the annual Taste of Fort Recovery from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. June 16.

Council also extended three Enterprise Zone agreements with J&M Manufacturing for another year.





The Commercial Review welcomes

AROUND THE WORLD CANDY STORE

to the local business community. Good luck with your new venture!

1309 N. Meridian St., Portland

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

SOCIALIZING WITH BEDBUGS

WELL, THAT WAS AWKWARD.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

3-16
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Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycomic.com

"Grandma didn't get anything to PLAY with."

Peanuts

SIR, IF YOU DON'T COME DOWN, I'M GOING TO DRAG YOU DOWN!

HEY! LET GO!!

LET GO, MARCIE! YOU'RE PULLING THE WHOLE HOUSE DOWN!!

MARCIE! YOU'RE DESTROYING CHUCK'S GUEST COTTAGE!! MARCIE, LET GO! MARCIE!!!

GOOD GRIEF!

Rose is Rose

LOVE LIFTS.

Agnes

OUR SAINT PATRICK'S DAY PARTY HAS BEEN CANCELED DUE TO A SHORTAGE OF FUNNY GREEN HATS. YAY!

I WOULD JUST FIND FUNNY HATS AND PAINT THEM GREEN, BUT I HAVE NO GREEN PAINT.

I HAVE A BLUE FUNNY HAT... WHICH SAINT IS THAT?

LET ME LOOK UP THE PATRON SAINT OF SADNESS.

MY UNCLE JAKE IS VERY UNHAPPY... LOOK UP SAINT JAKE.

Hi and Lois

SPRING SWIM-SUIT Sale

THEY COULD AT LEAST WAIT UNTIL THE TEMPERATURE GOES ABOVE FREEZING.

Funky Winkerbean

I'M AFRAID THAT MY DAYS AS THE ORGANIST FOR THE ST. SPIRES CHOIR ARE NUMBERED, LADIES.

AND UNLIKE OUR PREVIOUS ORGANIST...

I'D PREFER TO WALK AWAY RATHER THAN BE CARRIED AWAY!

Blondie

BOY, THOSE OLD TV WESTERNS ARE GREAT, AREN'T THEY, DAD? YEP!

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THAT THEIR COWBOY SHIRTS ALWAYS LOOK SO FRESHLY LAUNDERED?

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO BINGE-WATCH SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE WESTERNS. ALEXANDER TOOK THE MAGIC OUT OF 'EM.

Snuffy Smith

CLARA BARLOW ACCUSED ME OF SPREADIN' RUMORS ALL OVER TH' HOLLER !!

AW, AIN'T NOBODY GONNA B'LEVE THAT, ELVINNEY !!

EV'RYONE KNOWS YA PLACE 'EM WIF TH' UTMOST PRECISION WHAR THEY'LL HAVE TH' BIGGEST EFFECT !!

Beetle Bailey

BEEBLE, GO GET ME A SANDWICH.

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?!

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN WHAT WAS IN IT FOR ME.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS 260-726-8141

ADVERTISING RATES 20 Word Minimum Effective 07/01/2018: Minimum charge.... \$12.40

1 insertion.....62¢/word

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3 insertions.....96¢/word

6 insertions.... \$1.14/word

12 insertions. \$1.52/word

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Advertising Deadline is 12:00 p.m. the day prior to publication. The deadline for Mondays paper is 12:00 p.m. Friday.

Pre-Payment required for: Rummage sales, business opportunities, jobs wanted, boats and sporting equipment, wanted to rent, motorized vehicles, real estate and mobile homes.

60 SERVICES

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110 HELP WANTED

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR WAITRESS. 20-30 hours per week or part-time. Must be 18 years old. Application can be filled out at The American Legion in Ridgeville, IN.

EXPERIENCED SEMI DRIVER needed in Portland, IN. Monday-Friday dedicated run only, \$0.60/mile, 2500-3000 miles/week. Lots of benefits included. Call/text 260.251.7839 or email customerservice@tjx-pservice.com

JAY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY - Applications now being accepted for the full-time position of Library Assistant. Job requires both strong customer service skills and attention to detail. Job description available at the library and on the library's website at www.jaycpl.lib.in.us. Applications accepted until position is filled

GET IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

You never know what you might find in The Commercial Review Classifieds.

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Go to thecr.com or call **260-726-8141**

30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

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

40 NOTICES

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

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Pike or perch	1 Japanese volcano
5 Chum	2 "— a roll!"
8 Scribbles	3 Bridge
12 Diamond heads?	4 QVC alternative
13 Lanka lead-in	5 Sacred song
14 "Yeah, right"	6 War god
15 Legendary folk singer	7 Designer Claiborne
17 "Encore!"	8 Author of "Ball Four"
18 Hostel	9 Slender woodwind
19 "Kid-napped" monogram	10 Region (Abbr.)
20 Drivers with handles	11 Fr. holy women
21 Bread spread	16 Bikini parts
22 Scary cry	20 Com throw-away
23 Spanish snacks	
26 Areas outside of cities	
30 Actor Baldwin	
31 Coquettish	
32 Santa's sackful	
33 Green Bay footballers	
35 Ice cream holders	

36 Lad

37 Bit of wit

38 Beach buckets

41 Army address

42 Italian article

45 "Casa blanca"

46 46th U.S. President

48 Body powder

49 Leb. neighbor

50 Source

51 Arduous journey

52 Tank filler

53 Curry and Landers

21 "The Holiday" actor

22 Purchase

23 Spigot

24 — carte

25 Chest muscle

26 "Mayday!"

27 Director Howard

28 "Adios!"

29 Snake's sound

31 Weep

34 Dawn goddess

35 Street edge

37 Berth places

38 "Troy" actor

39 Winged

40 Capri, e.g.

41 Slugger Sammy

42 Japanese noodle

43 Inert gas

44 Picnic invaders

46 Springy dance

47 Playwright Levin

Solution time: 22 mins.

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A	L	U	M		I	R	E		T	A	O	S									
R	I	C	A		T	E	A		R	A	G	A									
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				D	A	L	E		R	E	P		A	S	S						

Yesterday's answer 3-16

In order for your advertisement to appear in the next day's paper, or for a correction or stop order to be made for an ad already appearing, we must receive the ad, correction or cancellation before 12:00 pm Tuesday-Friday. Deadline for Tuesday is 12:00 pm on the previous Monday. Deadline for The News and Sun is 3:00 pm Friday. The Commercial Review 309 W. Main Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141

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IU fires Miller, buyout from private donors

By MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

Archie Miller's \$10.3 million buyout was one of college basketball's priciest.

Indiana athletic director Scott Dolson decided keeping Miller would prove even more costly to the storied program.

Dolson fired Miller on Monday, armed with enough cash from private donations to cover the buyout and ready to answer a fan base angered by four straight mediocre seasons.

"Indiana basketball has a long, rich history of success that dates back generations," Dolson said in a statement announcing the decision. "Our five national championships and 22 Big Ten titles make us one of the most accomplished programs in college basketball history. I have high expectations for our program, and we have not competed at a level within the conference or nationally that I believe we should."

That was the case even before Miller arrived in Bloomington.

The Hoosiers haven't been to the NCAA Tournament since 2016, haven't been to the Elite Eight since 2002 and haven't won a national championship since 1987 — the longest drought between titles in school history. Indiana has won just three Big Ten titles since 1993 and it's now had five consecutive non-winning seasons in Big Ten play for the first time since 1911-19. Miller was 67-58 with the Hoosiers and never made

the NCAA Tournament though many believed Indiana would have received a bid in 2020 — had the tourney not been canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Miller never beat rival Purdue, going 0-7. The Boilermakers have now matched their second-longest winning streak in series history at nine. Those numbers put Miller in historically bad territory and were of great concern to Dolson, fans and alumni.

By making the decision before April 2022, Indiana was on the hook for the \$10.3 million. If Dolson had waited another year, the cost would have dropped to \$3.5 million for a university that has lost millions in revenue, cut salaries for coaches and administrators, and put department-wide furloughs in place.

Dolson knew how it would look to pay that much money to fire a coach. The private donations made the decision more palatable.

"In the days following the completion of our season in the Big Ten Men's Basketball Tournament, I have spent a great deal of time evaluating our recruiting, student-athlete development, leadership development, and playing philosophy and strategy," Dolson said. "That review, combined with the on-court results, ultimately led me to conclude that a change in leadership of our program is warranted at this time."



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jacob Monroe of the Jay County Junior High School swim team competes Monday evening in the 50-yard butterfly during the Patriots' meet against Blackford. Monroe went on to win the 50 breaststroke later in the meet. On Friday night, he was part of a pair of second-place relay finishes during the Allen County Athletic Conference Championships.

Capture ...

Continued from page 10

They teamed with Sophia Hoevel and Millspaugh for a win in the 200 freestyle relay with their time of 1:58.52.

Maddy Snow (diving — 131.45 points) and Wentz (100 backstroke — 1:19.79) also won their respective races.

Matthew Fisher had the best individual finish for the Patriot boys, taking second in the 50 butterfly. Lincoln Clamme, Jacob Monroe,

Ayran Montes and Peyton Yowell were runners-up in the 200 freestyle relay, and the 300 freestyle relay team of George Clemmons, David Keen, Monroe and Montes took a second as well.

On Monday, both teams won every event in a sweep of the visiting Blackford Bruins. The girls won 204-94, and the boys got a 137-72 victory.

DeHoff and Fisher were again double winners. DeHoff was first in the 200 freestyle and 100 freestyle,

while Fisher won the 50 freestyle and 400 freestyle. Snow had the top spot in diving and 100 breaststroke, while Kenzie Huey (100 backstroke), Wentz (50 butterfly) and Millspaugh (100 IM) each won a race.

Yowell (200 freestyle, 50 butterfly) and Clamme (50 freestyle, 100 freestyle) were both dual winners. Keen (100 IM) and Monroe (100 breaststroke) had single wins as well.

Both teams swept all three relays.

Hoops temples to take center stage

By MICHAEL MAROT
AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS

George McGinnis remembers every detail from that night he listened to the Indiana state basketball championship in the parking lot of Hinkle Fieldhouse.

It was 1966, and he and his Indianapolis Washington teammates sat in awe as the crowd roared inside the big, brick basketball temple. Like thousands of teenagers across the state, McGinnis and his friends dreamed about playing inside Hinkle, where champions were crowned, hardwood dreams became reality and folk heroes were born.

Even today, at age 70 and after a Hall of Fame career, it's one of McGinnis' fondest memories because it helped spur Washington to return to Hinkle three years later and complete a perfect season, just like

Oscar Robertson did in 1956.

"It was just packed," McGinnis recalled. "There wasn't really a place to park, so we parked illegally and listened to the game on the radio but you could hear the crowd after every basket. We said to ourselves 'That's going to be us one day, that's going to be us.'"

It's one of many yarns that define Indiana basketball and the arenas that helped create its legacy. Six will go on full display when the NCAA Tournament tips off later this week.

The meccas only start with Hinkle's sunlit court, which will host its first tourney games since 1940 — 14 years prior to Bobby Plump of tiny Milan High making the real shot that inspired "Hoosiers."

Five national championship banners hang from the rafters inside Assem-

bly Hall, home of the Indiana Hoosiers. Three of those titles came under former coach Bob Knight, including the 1975-76 team — the last undefeated Division I men's champion.

"The hair on the back of your neck stood up when you ran out on the floor to the roar of Hoosier Nation," said Kent Benson, a starter on that title team. "It shook the building. It was absolutely deafening it was so loud."

At Purdue's Mackey Arena, fans will find the banner honoring John Wooden — the first three-time All-American. And when the arena is full, the decibels resound off the metallic, domed roof, making life as difficult for musicians as Boilermakers opponents.

The other three are just a short drive from Hinkle: Indiana Farmers Coliseum, which opened on the state fairgrounds in 1939

and played host to the Indiana Pacers' three ABA titles; Lucas Oil Stadium, home of the NFL's Colts and where Gordon Hayward's half-court heave came within inches of giving Butler the 2010 national championship; and Bankers Life Fieldhouse, which hosted three games during the 2000 NBA Finals — the first of Kobe Bryant's five title runs.

And the history of these venues stretches well beyond basketball.

The coliseum was built as part of President Franklin Roosevelt's "New Deal" legislation and hosted Indiana's basketball state championships briefly in the 1940s when Hinkle served as a World War II military barracks. The Beatles performed at the coliseum in 1964 and it's where McGinnis watched his first pro game and made his pro debut in 1971.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.

Thursday
Fort Recovery — Baseball scrimmage at Tri-Village — 5 p.m.; Softball scrimmage at Perry — 5 p.m.

Saturday
Fort Recovery — Softball scrimmage vs. Lima Senior — 11 a.m.

TV schedule

Today
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Utah Jazz at Boston Celtics (TNT)
10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: New Orleans Pelicans at Portland Trail Blazers (TNT)

Wednesday
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers vs. Brooklyn Nets (FSN); Milwaukee Bucks at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)

9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

Thursday
5:10 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Texas Southern vs. Mount St. Marys (truTV)
6:27 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Drake vs. Wichita State (TBS)
8:40 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Appalachian State vs. Norfolk State (truTV)
9:57 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — UCLA vs. Michigan State (TBS)

Friday
12:15 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Virginia Tech vs. Florida (CBS)
12:45 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Colgate vs. Arkansas (truTV)
1:15 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Drexel vs. Illinois (TBS)
1:45 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Utah State vs. Texas Tech (TNT)
3 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament — Oral Roberts vs. Ohio State (CBS)

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

It looks wrong, but it's right

West dealer.
East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
♦ Q 3
♥ A K J 4 2
♦ K Q 6 5
♣ Q 5
WEST
♦ A K J 10 7 2
♥ 7
♦ 9 8 2
♣ K 9 4
EAST
♦ 9 8 6 4
♥ 5 3
♦ A J 10
♣ 10 8 6 3
SOUTH
♠ 5
♥ Q 10 9 8 6
♦ 7 4 3
♣ A 1 7 2

The bidding:
West North East South
1♣ Dble 2♠ 3♥
3♠ 4♥
Opening lead — King of spades.

Assume you're declarer at four hearts and West leads the K-A of spades. You ruff, of course, but how do you continue?

It seems normal to draw two rounds of trump and lead a diamond toward dummy. This allows you to make the contract if West has the ace of diamonds or, failing that, if East has the king of clubs.

But if you played the hand this way, you would eventually go down one, losing a spade, two diamonds

and a club.
However, there's a much better approach that is virtually certain to succeed. After drawing two rounds of trump, you should lead a low club toward the Q-5 in dummy, deliberately forgoing the club finesse.

First, let's observe the effect of this play in the actual deal. If West does not rise with the king, he never gets a club trick, and you make the contract easily. And if West does go up with the king, you play the five from dummy and later discard dummy's 6-5 of diamonds on your A-J of clubs to get home safe and sound.

So how are you supposed to know that you should not take a club finesse in this deal? It certainly seems the natural thing to do, but there are nevertheless excellent reasons for rejecting the finesse.

You start by assuming that West has either the ace of diamonds or the king of clubs (or both) for his opening bid. Leading a low club toward the queen is therefore sure to nail down the contract. If West has the club king, you are home free and clear, as described above. And if West does not have the king, then he must have the ace of diamonds, in which case leading twice toward the K-Q-6-5 will limit you to one diamond loser.

Tomorrow: Hot potato.
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110 HELP WANTED

THE DUNKIRK PARK BOARD is accepting applications for the following positions until April 16th pool manager, assistant manager, certified life guards, concessions, admissions, park labor. Applications can be picked up at The City Building is open from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday EoE

130 MISC. FOR SALE

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

190 FARMERS COLUMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

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For more info 765-993-8942

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2021 TERM No. 38CO1-2103-EU-000007 In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: Kelley Dixon, Deceased NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Randy Noble was, on the 8th day of March, 2021, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Kelley Dixon deceased, who died on March 1, 2021, 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 11th day of March, 2021. Jon Eads Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR 121 W. High Street Portland, IN 47371 Attorney CR 3-16,23-2021-HSPAXLP

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2021 TERM No. 38CO1-2103-EU-000008 In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: Jerry B. Miller, Deceased NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Twila E. Teegarden and Crystal J. Cline were, on the 9th day of March, 2021, appointed Personal Representatives of the estate of Jerry B. Miller deceased, who died on January 6th, 2021.

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 11th day of March, 2021. Jon Eads Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR 121 W. High Street Portland, IN 47371 Attorney CR 3-16,23-2021-HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

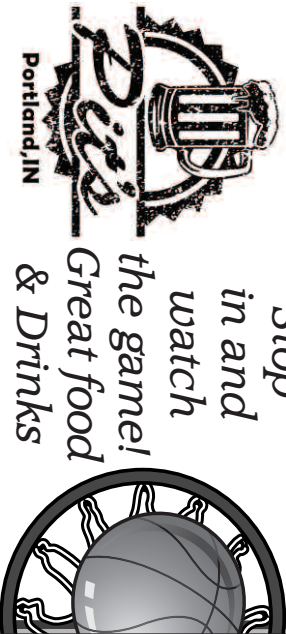
Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2021 TERM CAUSE No. 38CO1-2101-PL-00002 CG Investment LLC, Plaintiff vs.

CrossRoads Financial Federal Credit Union, First National Bank f/k/a First Merchants Bank, Yolanda Hare, Jill Goetz, all unknown heirs of John Hare as well as any and all persons, or entities, whomsoever who may claim an interest in the Real Estate sought to be quieted Defendants NOTICE OF QUIET TITLE ACTION

Comes now CG Investment LLC and gives notice that it has filed its complaint to quiet title to the following described real estate: Lots Numbered Fifty-seven (57), Fifty-eight (58) and Fifty-nine (59) in the Mt. Auburn Addition to the Town, now City of Dunkirk, Indiana. Notice is hereby given that on the 19th day of January, 2021, the Plaintiff filed its complaint for quieting of the title to said real estate against the named Defendants and any other person, corporation or entity claiming any interest whatsoever in the said real estate. Any persons, corporations or entities claiming an interest in said real estate should file their answer objecting to the quieting of said title in the Plaintiff with the Jay Circuit Court in this cause no later than thirty (30) days following the date of the last publication of this notice. Failure to make known such objections to the Court may result in judgement by default being entered in the complaint. The attorney representing the Plaintiff is William W. Hinkle, 121 W High St., Portland, IN 47371. Dated this 22nd day of January, 2021 Jon Eads, Clerk Jay Circuit Court CR 2-24,3-3,9,16-2021 HSPAXLP

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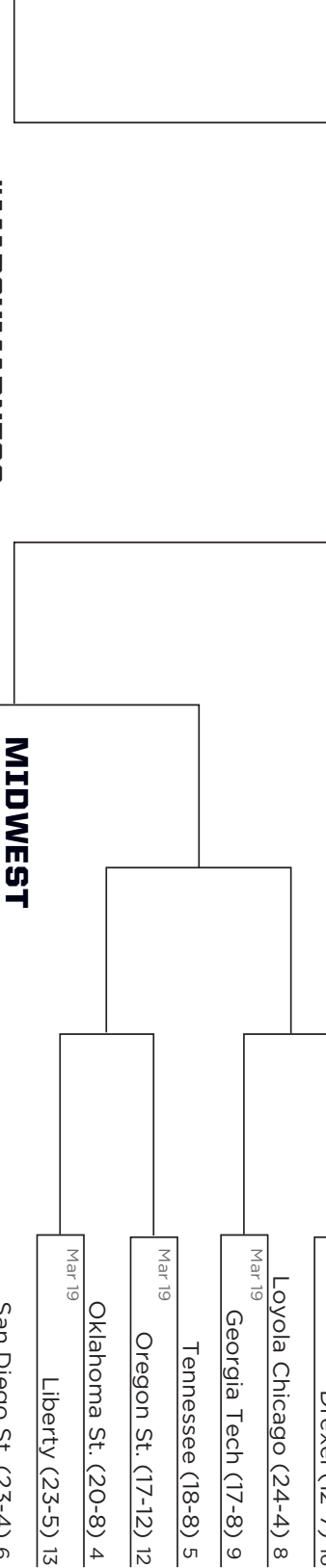
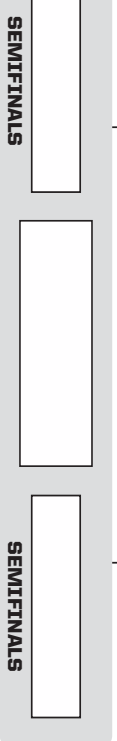
NCAA.com

FIRST ROUND	SECOND ROUND	SWEET 16	ELITE 8	NATIONAL SEMIFINALS	FIRST FOUR	NATIONAL SEMIFINALS	ELITE 8	SWEET 16	SECOND ROUND	FIRST ROUND
MARCH 20	MARCH 22	MARCH 27-28	MARCH 29-30	APRIL 3	MARCH 18	APRIL 3	MARCH 29-30	MARCH 27-28	MARCH 21	MARCH 19
1 Gonzaga (26-0)	16 Norfolk St. (16-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	16 Baylor (22-2)	1	16 North Carolina (18-10)	8	16 North Carolina (18-10)	8
8 Oklahoma (15-10)	16 Norfolk St./App St.	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	16 Hartford (15-8)	16	8 Wisconsin (17-12)	9	8 Wisconsin (17-12)	9
9 Missouri (16-9)	9 Missouri (16-9)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	8 Villanova (16-6)	5	5 Villanova (16-6)	5	5 Villanova (16-6)	5
5 Creighton (20-8)	5 Creighton (20-8)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	12 Winthrop (23-1)	12	12 Winthrop (23-1)	12	12 Winthrop (23-1)	12
12 UCSB (22-4)	12 UCSB (22-4)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	4 Purdue (18-9)	4	4 Purdue (18-9)	4	4 Purdue (18-9)	4
4 Virginia (18-6)	4 Virginia (18-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	13 North Texas (17-9)	13	13 North Texas (17-9)	13	13 North Texas (17-9)	13
13 Ohio (16-7)	13 Ohio (16-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	6 Texas Tech (17-10)	6	6 Texas Tech (17-10)	6	6 Texas Tech (17-10)	6
6 USC (22-7)	6 USC (22-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	11 Utah St. (20-8)	11	11 Utah St. (20-8)	11	11 Utah St. (20-8)	11
11 Wichita St./Drake	11 Wichita St./Drake	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	3 Arkansas (22-6)	3	3 Arkansas (22-6)	3	3 Arkansas (22-6)	3
3 Kansas (20-8)	3 Kansas (20-8)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	14 Colgate (14-1)	14	14 Colgate (14-1)	14	14 Colgate (14-1)	14
14 Eastern Wash. (16-7)	14 Eastern Wash. (16-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	7 Florida (14-9)	7	7 Florida (14-9)	7	7 Florida (14-9)	7
7 Oregon (20-6)	7 Oregon (20-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	10 Virginia Tech (15-6)	10	10 Virginia Tech (15-6)	10	10 Virginia Tech (15-6)	10
10 VCU (19-7)	10 VCU (19-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	2 Ohio St. (21-9)	2	2 Ohio St. (21-9)	2	2 Ohio St. (21-9)	2
2 Iowa (21-8)	2 Iowa (21-8)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	15 Oral Roberts (16-10)	15	15 Oral Roberts (16-10)	15	15 Oral Roberts (16-10)	15
15 Grand Canyon (17-6)	15 Grand Canyon (17-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	1 Illinois (23-6)	1	1 Illinois (23-6)	1	1 Illinois (23-6)	1
1 Michigan (20-4)	1 Michigan (20-4)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	16 Drexel (12-7)	16	16 Drexel (12-7)	16	16 Drexel (12-7)	16
16 Mt. St. Mary's/Texas So.	16 Mt. St. Mary's/Texas So.	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	8 Loyola Chicago (24-4)	8	8 Loyola Chicago (24-4)	8	8 Loyola Chicago (24-4)	8
8 LSU (18-9)	8 LSU (18-9)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	9 Georgia Tech (17-8)	9	9 Georgia Tech (17-8)	9	9 Georgia Tech (17-8)	9
9 St. Bonaventure (16-4)	9 St. Bonaventure (16-4)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	5 Tennessee (18-8)	5	5 Tennessee (18-8)	5	5 Tennessee (18-8)	5
5 Colorado (22-8)	5 Colorado (22-8)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	12 Oregon St. (17-12)	12	12 Oregon St. (17-12)	12	12 Oregon St. (17-12)	12
12 Georgetown (13-12)	12 Georgetown (13-12)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	4 Oklahoma St. (20-8)	4	4 Oklahoma St. (20-8)	4	4 Oklahoma St. (20-8)	4
4 Florida St. (16-6)	4 Florida St. (16-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	13 Liberty (23-5)	13	13 Liberty (23-5)	13	13 Liberty (23-5)	13
13 UNC Greensboro (21-8)	13 UNC Greensboro (21-8)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	6 San Diego St. (23-4)	6	6 San Diego St. (23-4)	6	6 San Diego St. (23-4)	6
6 BYU (20-6)	6 BYU (20-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	11 Syracuse (16-9)	11	11 Syracuse (16-9)	11	11 Syracuse (16-9)	11
11 Michigan St./UCLA	11 Michigan St./UCLA	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	3 West Virginia (18-9)	3	3 West Virginia (18-9)	3	3 West Virginia (18-9)	3
3 Texas (19-7)	3 Texas (19-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	14 Morehead St. (23-7)	14	14 Morehead St. (23-7)	14	14 Morehead St. (23-7)	14
14 Abilene Christian (23-4)	14 Abilene Christian (23-4)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	7 Clemson (16-7)	7	7 Clemson (16-7)	7	7 Clemson (16-7)	7
7 UConn (15-7)	7 UConn (15-7)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	10 Rutgers (15-11)	10	10 Rutgers (15-11)	10	10 Rutgers (15-11)	10
10 Maryland (16-13)	10 Maryland (16-13)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	2 Houston (24-3)	2	2 Houston (24-3)	2	2 Houston (24-3)	2
2 Alabama (24-6)	2 Alabama (24-6)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16	15 Cleveland St. (19-7)	15	15 Cleveland St. (19-7)	15	15 Cleveland St. (19-7)	15
15 Iona (12-5)	15 Iona (12-5)	11 Wichita St. (16-5)	Mount St. Mary's (12-10)	16						



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

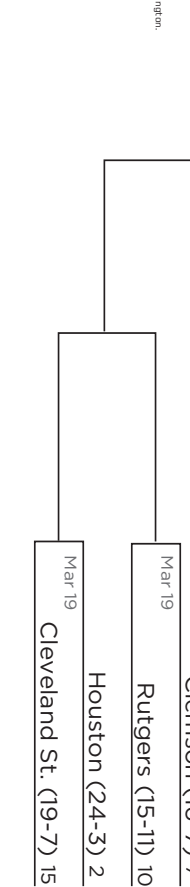
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Sports

Gann hired as FR athletics director

By CHRIS SCHANZ

FORT RECOVERY — Once again, Fort Recovery didn't have to look very far to find its next athletics director.

Fort Recovery school board on Monday unanimously voted to hire Holly Gann as its next athletics and transportation director. Gann will take over for Brent Niekamp, whose resignation after two years in the position was accepted Feb. 22.

"I feel that career-wise this is the next step for me," said Gann, 32, who noted she still plans to coach the Tribe girls basketball team. "I always wanted to become a teacher, but since teaching for the last nine years I've gone back to school to get a master's degree in curriculum and instruction."

Gann, a 2007 FRHS graduate who is also an assistant girls track coach, will assume her new role Aug. 1, the day after Niekamp relinquishes his duties in that position.

"We are excited to welcome Holly Gann to the Fort Recovery Schools management team," Fort Recovery Local Schools superintendent Larry Brown said in a statement released during Monday's meeting. "She offers a great balance of educational knowledge and coaching experience to this position."

Gann has been a teacher in Indiana and Ohio for the last nine years, and is currently a remote learning math and science teacher for Greenville Middle School's seventh and eighth graders. She recently completed her second season leading the FRHS girls basketball team.

"I have a strong passion to teach," she said. "I wanted more leadership roles and this aligns with my goals. That alignment was huge for me. It's just an opportunity to be in an administrative position and put those skills to the test."

"I'm just so happy to be home. I want to be all in with Fort Recovery, be that person for the com-



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Fort Recovery High School girls basketball coach Holly Gann, center, gives direction to her team during halftime of the Division IV sectional semifinal game against Hardin Northern on Jan. 21 at Fort Site Fieldhouse. The Fort Recovery school board on Monday unanimously approved Gann to be the next athletics and transportation director.

munity and work with a great staff in the district."

Niekamp was hired as athletics and transportation director in April 2019, and began Aug. 1 of the same year. Citing a desire to return to teaching, his resignation was accepted by the FRLS board at its Feb. 22 meeting.

Brown's statement said the district received 34 applicants, and the interview committee included administrators and other Fort Recovery head coaches. FRHS principal Tony Stahl and volleyball coach Travis Guggenbiller, both of whom were in attendance Monday, were among those on the

committee. Gann was offered a two-year contract.

Gann, who is currently taking courses to receive her administrative license, will work alongside Niekamp until the end of the school year to make the transition as smooth as possible.

"I'm excited to be able to walk through the spring with Brent," she said. "Try to do as much as I can with him in the spring, walking through things on the back end of my own job."

Also at Monday's meeting, Niekamp was unanimously hired as high school intervention teacher.

'I'm just so happy to be home. I want to be all in with Fort Recovery, be that person for the community and work with a great staff in the district.'

—Holly Gann

Girls capture ACAC

In each event Morgan DeHoff and Lauren Fisher competed in on Friday, they won.

Their efforts helped the team return to the top of the standings after five seasons.

DeHoff and Fisher led the Jay County Junior High School girls swim team as it captured the Allen County Athletic Conference championship Friday, marking the first time since 2016 it has earned the title.

Jay County, which won eight total events, finished with 419 points to earn the trophy. Bluffton scored 313 points for second, edging third-place South Adams by three points.

The Patriot boys were shut out in terms of event wins, but they totaled 238 points for second place behind Bluffton's 427.

DeHoff won the 50-yard freestyle in 28.17 seconds, and had a time of 31.14 seconds to win the 50 butterfly. Fisher was first in the 100 individual medley in 1 minute, 12.79 seconds, and was victorious in the 100 breaststroke in 1:21.15.

Fisher and DeHoff also joined Avery Wentz and Aubrey Millsbaugh for first place in the 200 medley relay, ending in 2:13.83.

See Capture page 8

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