

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

Senate nearing vote on relief measure

\$1.9 trillion package includes payments, vaccine funds

By ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate steered today toward a voting marathon on Democrats' \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill after enduring a half-day holdup forced by a Republican foe of President Joe Biden's top legislative priority.

The chamber planned to begin voting around midday on a mountain of amendments, mostly by GOP opponents and virtually all of which were destined to be rejected. That would set the Senate on course toward approving its reworked version of the massive measure, probably over the weekend, and shipping it back to the House so it could whisk the final package to Biden for his signature.

Moments after the Senate took up the legislation Thursday, Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wisconsin, forced the chamber's clerks to read aloud the entire 628-page measure. The task took the staffers 10 hours and 44 minutes and ended shortly after 2 a.m. EST, with Johnson alternately sitting at his desk and pacing around the mostly empty chamber.

Democratic leaders made more than a dozen late additions to their package Thursday. That reflected their need to cement unanimous support from all their senators — plus Vice President Kamala Harris' tie-breaking vote — to succeed in the precariously divided 50-50 chamber.

The Senate's 51-50 vote to start debating the package, with Harris pushing Democrats over the top, underscored how they were navigating the package through Congress with virtually no margin for error.

See **Senate** page 6

Police proposal

Portland officers make pitch for a new facility citing various shortcomings of current space

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Portland Police Department has outgrown city hall.

Portland police officers on Thursday made their pitch to the city's board of works to begin considering the possibility of a new facility for the department.

Assistant police chief Erica Post and investigator Jeff Hopkins made the presentation to board members Portland Mayor John Boggs and Jerry Leonhard, absent Steve McIntosh, citing a variety of challenges the department currently has as it occupies the east side and the bulk of the second floor at city hall.

Among the key concerns were:

- Shared interview rooms and offices — There are no dedicated interview rooms, either for suspects or victims. Instead, offices double as interview rooms and the break room is used if those spaces are not available or already in use.

- Insufficient storage space — Case records and evidence storage areas are cramped, with files in many cases stacked floor to ceiling. "A lot of these are records that we have to retain for a number of years," said Hopkins.

- A lack of parking — Currently, the city rents the bulk of its parking area from Dru Hall, who owns a property to the east of city hall. There are just a handful of parking spaces available on city hall property.

- Handicapped accessibility — Most of the current facility's parking is in a stone lot. Some of the doors in the building do not accommodate wheel chairs. Training room is upstairs and does not allow for handicapped access.

While not necessarily suggesting it as an option, Post and Hopkins used the current Jay School Corporation administrative building — it is currently on the market at an asking price of \$325,000 — as an example of what a new department site could provide.

Among the positives of such a site would be the ability to park police vehicles indoors. It also has more on-site parking, which is paved.

There would also be more space for document and evidence storage, the ability to have dedicated space for department leadership, officers and interview rooms.

See **Police** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Portland assistant police chief Erica Post and investigator Jeff Hopkins on Thursday made a pitch to the city's board of works for a new police station. They listed a number of issues with the current location in city hall, including insufficient storage space for records. Pictured, case files are stacked in a room on the second floor of the building.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Former Jay County Democratic Chair Dominic Martyne addresses a group of eight local residents Thursday at the party's Portland headquarters. Martyne, who was elected as party chair in July 2019, decided not to pick up another term as party chair. He plans to focus on his role as a precinct committeeman and his job.

Elliott to lead local Dems

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Jay County Democrats have new officers.

The local political party voted three Democrats into leadership positions Thursday at its Portland headquarters.

Democrats elected Tina Elliott as chair, "Watermelon" Jim Phillips as vice chair and James Brewster as treasurer. The group of eight in attendance at Thursday's meeting chose to hold off electing a secretary until later because there were no volunteers for the role at the meeting.

Former party chair Dominic Martyne told party members he chose not to run for chair again because he wants to focus on his role as a precinct committeeman and his job. Martyne works as an instructional assistant for Jay

Dunkirk clerk-treasurer selected as party chair

School Corporation and as a professor at Purdue Polytechnic in Anderson teaching American history.

"I've been gathering research materials because I want to write my own textbook now," he later explained.

Martyne has held the position since July 2019, with a good por-

tion of his term lasted through the coronavirus pandemic. He was unable to attend the Democratic watch party during local elections in November because he and his wife were quarantined.

Of the newly elected officers, Elliott was formerly the vice chair, and Brewster was formerly treasurer. Phillips was the only one of the new officers in attendance at the meeting.

Elliott, who is the midst of her second term as Dunkirk's clerk-treasurer, said in an interview this morning she's thankful for the Democratic Party members who voted for her.

"I hope I can live up to their expectations," she said.

Martyne will be working with her for the next year before primaries to learn her newly assigned duties.

Deaths

Patricia Haviland, 92
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 41 degrees Thursday. The low was 28.

Tonight's low will be 23. Expect sunny skies this weekend with highs in the low 40s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, the parking lot east of Redkey Post Office and the parking lot south of Salamonia Fire Station.

Coming up

Saturday — Preview of JCHS graduate Casey Kenney's fight at UFC 259.

Wednesday — Coverage of Monday's Dunkirk City Council meeting.



Muncie teen charged

MUNCIE, Ind. (AP) — A Muncie teenager was jailed early Thursday in connection with the shooting deaths of three Michigan men found in a Muncie apartment.

Chandler Willard Harris II, who turned 18 on Thursday, was being held without bond in the Delaware County Jail, The Star Press reported. He faced preliminary charges of murder and robbery, jail records indicated.

Muncie police on Feb. 19 found the bodies of three Detroit men — Adrian Demar-lo George Jr., 30; Devonte Earl Hollis, 25, and Terence Thomas, 27 — in a unit at the Elgin Manor Apartments.

Another teenager who reported the shootings, 18-

18-year-old jailed in connection with murder of Michigan men

year-old Juniyah Yvette Simmons of Anderson, was arrested Feb. 20 and charged with obstruction of justice in the case. Jami Brown, a Muncie police investigator, wrote in an affidavit that Simmons “lied multiple times” with “repeated inconsistencies” in the information she provided to authorities.

Authorities also allege that

after finding the victims’ bodies, Simmons “removed several items of evidence” and took them to Anderson. Those items, not specified in an affidavit, were apparently recovered when “a search warrant was executed in that jurisdiction,” Brown said.

It was not immediately clear if Harris and Simmons are connected to each other.



Photo provided

Proclaimed

Portland Mayor John Boggs recently signed a proclamation declaring March as Disabilities Awareness Month in the city. Pictured with Boggs (center) are Jay-Randolph Developmental Services director of services Jan Bruggeman (left) and JRDS client Rob Walter.

CR almanac

Saturday 3/6	Sunday 3/7	Monday 3/8	Tuesday 3/9	Wednesday 3/10
44/22	43/30	58/41	62/48	62/53
Sunny with temperatures dropping below freezing at night. Clear skies at night.	Clouds will begin to develop in the skies at night, but otherwise sunny with higher temperatures.	Mostly sunny skies with a few clouds. Warmer temperatures through the day and night.	Temperatures will be the warmest of the week so far with mostly sunny skies.	There is a 30% chance of rain at day and 50% chance at night. Mostly cloudy skies.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$138 million	Cash 5: 1-4-16-33-35 Estimated jackpot: \$279,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$55 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 9-2-1 Pick 4: 3-8-4-3 Pick 5: 7-9-1-8-8 Evening Pick 3: 2-5-4 Pick 4: 0-0-2-5 Pick 5: 6-6-7-5-4 Rolling Cash: 8-9-22-27-36 Estimated jackpot: \$140,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 8-7-0 Daily Four: 2-5-5-3 Quick Draw: 5-6-7-9-10-13-17-20-21-26-29-30-31-39-42-46-51-67-73-77 Evening Daily Three: 7-7-8 Daily Four: 4-9-9-5 Quick Draw: 3-5-6-10-13-18-31-38-40-46-52-54-55-59-62-65-66-73-77	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.46 Wheat6.17	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.43 April corn5.45 Beans14.29 April beans14.29 Wheat6.41 July wheat 6.12
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.52 April corn5.54	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.45 April corn5.52 Beans14.25 April beans14.30 Wheat6.02 April wheat6.57
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.48 April corn5.48 Beans14.40 April beans14.33 Wheat 6.52 April wheat 6.52	

Today in history

On March 5, 1953, Soviet dictator Josef Stalin died after three decades in power.

In 1770, the Boston Massacre took place as British soldiers who'd been taunted by a crowd of colonists opened fire, killing five people.

In 1927, “The Adventure of Shoscombe Old Place,” the last Sherlock Holmes story by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, was published in the U.S. in Liberty Magazine.

In 1933, in German parliamentary elections, the Nazi Party won 44 percent of the vote; the Nazis joined with a conservative nationalist party to gain a slender majority in the Reichstag.

In 1971, John Glover of Portland announced plans to open Glover’s Show Store at the corner of Meridian and Walnut streets in the former home of Sherman’s Hardware.

In 1982, comedian John Belushi was found dead of a drug overdose in Hollywood; he was 33.

In 1998, NASA scientists said enough water was frozen in the loose soil of the moon to support a lunar base and perhaps, one day, a human colony.

In 2006, AT&T announced it was buying BellSouth Corp., a big step toward resurrecting the old Ma Bell telephone system.

—AP and The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners’ room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, Community Room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, vot-

Obituaries

Patricia Haviland

April 4, 1928-Feb. 28, 2021
Patricia June Haviland, 92, passed away Sunday.

The daughter of Charles Sr. and Helen Twigg Loper, she was

born on April 4, 1928. She married Glen Haviland on Nov. 9, 1946, and he preceded her in death on Sept. 24, 2003.

Survivors include a son, Jon W. Haviland; his companion, Karen, Fort Wayne; two brothers, Mike Loper of New York

and John Loper of Portland; and two granddaughters and several great-grandchildren in Fort Wayne.

.....
The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area

free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

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

Police ...

Continued from page 1
“It would be nice for all the sergeants and what we call ‘brass’ to have their own offices,” said police chief Josh Stephenson, who was in attendance at the meeting.

In the case of the current school administration building, there are already cameras and other security features in place. It also has multiple handicapped-accessible entrances as well as about five acres of land that could be used for outdoor events such as the annual National Night Out.

Post also noted that the additional space would allow the department to host training sessions, which could bring in money through inviting other law enforcement officers to attend. (At times, Portland police had to use Portland Fire Department or Jay County Sheriff’s Office for training because of the lack of space at

city hall.)

Post and Hopkins said they have not yet looked into what it would cost if the city were to decide to build a new police department building.

“This is a proposal for a possible new building in the future,” said Post. “The old armory is for sale, so we just used that as an example of what that could give us ... or a new building in the future, based on issues that we’re having here now.”

Leonhard asked about how a new location might impact officer response times, with Post and Hopkins saying they should not change because officers are generally out patrolling rather than being at the station.

“I knew there were issues,” said Boggs, “and we talk about them one at a time. But to see them all together is pretty compelling.”

“It’s something to think about,” said Leonhard.

The board also approved the purchase of two new vehicles from John Jones Auto Group of Salem at a total of \$48,414. The city will be trading in its current K-9 officer vehicle as well as the mayor’s car, which Boggs does not use.

In other police-related business, it approved: the hiring of Luke Darby and Josh Clark as police officers who will be sworn in today; spending \$12,280 for required upgrades to the radio system; a new reimbursement amount — \$14,997, which is up by about \$3,000 — that officers must repay if they do not fulfill their three-year contract.

In other business, the board approved the following: hiring Brandon Swoveland as new street department employee; a leak adjustment for a water bill.

Felony arrests

Drug possession

A Portland man was arrested Wednesday for drug possession.

Dylan M. McKibben, 26, Portland, was preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for possession of marijuana and maintaining a common nuisance. He paid \$7,500 to bond out of Jay County Jail.

Another Portland man was arrested this morning for drug possession.

Jordan M. Lemaster, 26, 640 E. Floral Ave., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for possession of a narcotic drug. He was also preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for visiting a common nuisance and a Class C misdemeanor for

possession of paraphernalia.

He was booked into Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.

Unlawful possession

A Portland woman was arrested this morning for unlawful possession of a syringe.

Bethany J. Howard, 29, 128 W. 3rd St., was prelim-

inarily charged a Level 6 felony for possession of a syringe, along with a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She was booked into Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.

Exchange is renewed

commissioners approved the exchange’s renewal for two years on a 2-1 vote after only one resident voiced opposition during a public hearing.

The county’s exchange had been operated by Aspire Health Indiana until last June, when it was placed in limbo after the commissioners did not vote on extending the program, The Herald Bulletin reported.

Julie Foltz, director of infectious disease for Aspire Indiana Health, said the nonprofit would resume the program on Wednesday.

Needle exchange programs provide people with clean syringes to discour-

age needle sharing and reduce the spread of disease.

Jeremy Turner with the Indiana Department of Health said needle exchanges help Indiana reduce the spread of HIV and hepatitis C.


Madison County’s needle exchange began in 2015 and was initially overseen by the county’s health department.

Aspire Health Indiana then took over the program in 2018.

Madison needle program approved

ANDERSON, Ind. (AP) — A central Indiana county’s needle exchange has been renewed, months after its commissioners failed to extend the program that aims to prevent the spread of diseases among intravenous drug users.

The Madison County



Swiss Village

Now Seeking: 2nd Shift Charge Nurse

Swiss Village, Inc. is seeking a Full-Time Healthcare Charge Nurse for 2nd shift. Position will be 3pm-11pm with 12-hour shifts every 4th weekend required. This position will be responsible for the overall nursing care of the residents assigned to him/her and for the supervision and performance of personnel. Candidates must be licensed in the State of Indiana as a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse and be dependable, flexible, and have excellent interpersonal skills. Position eligible for insurance benefits, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

If interested, please submit a Resume and Cover Letter to:
Taylor Lehman, VP of Human Resources
Swiss Village
1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711

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Cheating husband suspected

DEAR ABBY: I suspect that something has been going on with my husband and our daughter-in-law. My husband has become obsessed with her, and they both seem to become nervous when they are around me at the same time. My husband is always checking to see when I'm leaving.

My son and daughter-in-law and their three kids live in our duplex, but my son isn't home most of the day. Should I be concerned about what's going on with them? Everything in me is telling me something is not right. — WORRIED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR WORRIED: I hope you are wrong, but if "everything in you" is telling you something is not right, listen to your intuition. Continue monitoring the situation and keep a journal of your observations.

If your marital relationship with your husband has changed, it's a red flag. Talk to him about it. It may take the services of a licensed marriage and family therapist to get your marriage back on track. Share the journal with your therapist during some of the sessions, or with your attorney, if the need arises.

DEAR ABBY: My mom died five years ago. I didn't talk to her the last few months before her death because of the extreme stress she put me under. I finally told my brother it was his turn to deal with her because she had

Dear Abby



always been sweet to him. I dealt with her issues for 40 years and could no longer continue. Mom was greedy, self-centered and narcissistic. She caused many issues between my brother and me.

My question concerns her ashes. I have them. My brother wanted nothing to do with them, and I don't know how to dispose of them. I have considered spreading them in the mountains since she liked camping and fishing, but I don't know if it is legal. Otherwise, they will sit in my basement forever. — NEEDS A SOLUTION

DEAR NEEDS: Contact the funeral home or crematorium that handled your mother's remains and ask what the rules are in your state about the disposition of ashes. Because rules differ in different states, counties, etc., the people there would be in the best position to assist you.

DEAR ABBY: I have a relationship problem I hope you can help me with. I have loved this woman for years. We grew up together. We parted because I had to move away to Japan.

Well, a few years ago, we met

again. We began to communicate, and all my feelings for her rushed back after all these years. I know she doesn't feel the same way about me. How can I let her know how bad it hurts, this unrequited love? — SMITTEN IN THE WEST

DEAR SMITTEN: I don't think that's such a good idea. Knowing this woman doesn't reciprocate your feelings, do you really think informing her that "all those feelings have rushed back" will endear you? It may cause her embarrassment. You will be happier if you stop dwelling on your unrequited love from the past, resolve to live in the present and, from now on, look for companionship from candidates who are emotionally available.

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 www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby."

Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Library opens photo contest

What is the highlight of your recent photos?

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

Photos for the contest can be anything from scenic to wildlife to family or pets. They must be taken with a smartphone.

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

Prizes will be awarded to the top three photos in two age groups, with voting set to begin March 22.

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

Taking Note

the FAFSA and get one step closer to fulfilling their educational goals, said Bill Wozniak, co-chair of College Goal Sunday. "With FAFSA filing rates across the country down significantly this year's event is more important than ever."

For more information, visit CollegeGoalSunday.org.

HSE classes offered
John Jay Learning Center is offering free classes for earning a High School Equivalency diploma.

Previously called the General Educational Development diploma (GED), it is the standard equivalent to a high school diploma.

Classes are Monday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Those interested can call (260) 729-5525 or email info@johnjaycenter.com for more information.

John Jay requests attendees wear masks during class and practice social distancing when possible.

Offering help

As part of College Goal Sunday, Ivy Tech Community College is offering assistance from financial aid professionals. The event is set for 2 p.m. Sunday.

Students can get help with filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that is required for federal grants, scholarships and loans. The form must be filed by April 15 in order to be eligible for Indiana financial aid.

"We hope all Hoosiers who have not filed already, take advantage of College Goal Sunday, file

Community Calendar

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

Saturday

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

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

Monday

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

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

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after

pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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

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

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

PORTLAND CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI — Will meet at 11 a.m. the second Monday of each month at the Portland Fire Department. For more information, call

Nick Miller at (937) 239-0022.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Preferred Insurance Center, 809 W. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

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

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

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

KNOX DYNAMITE KIDS 4-H CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 9, at Mount Tabor United Methodist Church.

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.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creager 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.

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

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

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

A BETTER LIFE - 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.

Sudoku

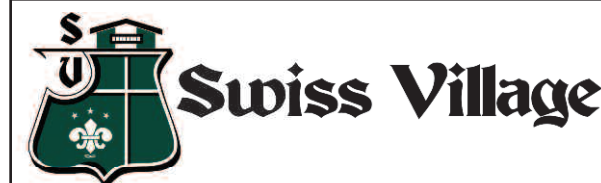
						8		4
9		2		7				
	1							7
		6		5		1		8
				3	2			
		5			8	6		
1								
			3		5	4		
	6	7		4		3		

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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.



LPN/RN

Swiss Village is now offering a \$5,000 sign-on bonus for Full-Time LPNs or RNs on night shift! Positions will be 36 hours/week, 6pm-6am, with every third weekend required. Positions eligible for benefits including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation. **Come join our team!!**

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org, in-person, or send Resume to:

Taylor Lehman, VP of Human Resources
Swiss Village
1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711

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Thank you for supporting effort

To the editor:
The family and friends of Mandy Theurer would like to thank the many people who in some way made the fundraising benefit event such a success.

To the generous members of this wonderful community who donated an auction item, bid on items or came to carry out a delicious meal, we thank you for your support.

Thank you to the following for their contribution to the meal: Bizy Dips for donating the cookies and cake pops; Doug and Kelli Bihn of Vonderhaar's Custom Meat and Fisher Meat for preparing the meat and potatoes, respectively; Rick and Kathy Neargarder for donating the potato chips; members of Delta Theta Tau sorority who served the meal; and the staff of Jay Community Center for

Letters to the Editor

their assistance the night of the meal.

Lastly we want to thank you, this community, for the support in any way of our effort to help others while keeping Mandy's memory alive. Your kind words mean more than you know, and remember all money raised stays here, at home, to help others.

We plan to do this again next year, and look forward to seeing everyone, in person, at that time.

With so much gratitude,
Roger and Charlene Theurer
Jay County



Pay reflects deeper issues

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

The Next Level Teacher Compensation Commission released their report in mid-December. All Hoosiers should be interested in what it did and did not say about teacher pay, along with recommendations they offered. I begin with some stark observations about education finance.

After adjusting for inflation, Indiana spending per student is down more than 7% since 2010, and Indiana dropped from 22nd nationally in school spending per student in 2004 to 36th by 2018. It wasn't in the report, but school spending, as a share of Indiana's Gross Domestic Product, dropped from 2.6 to 2.2 percent since 2010. That means by last year we spent roughly \$1.3 billion less per year on education than we would have if we grew educational spending at the same rate as the overall economy in that same time period.

The Commission figured that the actual cuts to K-12 spending works out to about \$580 million per year. That is almost identical to the \$600 million they claim it would take to bring teacher pay back to 2010 levels. In other words, almost 97 percent of the reduction in educational funding came out of teacher's salaries. This should make clear two important facts. First, it is unlikely that there are excess savings hidden somewhere in school budgets. Second, the difficulty Hoosier schools have in recruiting teachers is not a supply-side problem. It is about pay.

The Commission also listed 37 policy or tax issues. Not all of these address teachers' pay. The most numerous recommendations were those that privatize local school services, reallocate money from one use to another or make lump-sum payments to pension plans. There were 13 of these recommendations, but the cost savings from these aren't clear. The Commission also recommended three administrative changes that had no dollars attached to them.

The Commission suggested five policies that would allow schools to achieve some economies of scale in purchasing goods or services. They offered three recommendations that would save schools money by consolidation or outsourcing of staff. Six recommendations called for shifting spending from existing state or local taxes to school salaries. Two proposed cutting teacher benefits and using the savings for teacher salaries. Three recommendations involved increasing state and local spending on schools.

As best as I can tell, 35 recommendations in this study might free up \$50 million to \$100 million per year for teacher pay, though

Michael J. Hicks



... if you take time to read the full report and the footnotes, the problem is clear — we spend far too little on education.

most of this comes from cutting teacher benefits. Commission members might dispute my estimates, but, with all due respect, I've written several technical studies and a book on cost savings from government and school consolidation. A potential \$100 million savings from implementing all these 35 steps is optimistic.

The bottom line is that, to get school spending per student back to 2010 levels, Hoosier taxpayers would need to spend an additional \$500 million or so on K-12 education each year. Even then, this would only get us back to where we were a decade ago and would leave teachers with fewer benefits.

The report was less forthright than it should have been about Indiana's decade of funding cuts to education. Even their gingerly treatment of that fact didn't prevent the report from being delayed until after the election. Also, the study claimed that Indiana's spending across 12 categories was not an outlier relative to other states. That is simply not true. In fact, Indiana spending is a full standard deviation below the national average in total spending, instructional spending, and student support spending. Indiana school spending is the very definition of an outlier.

Nonetheless, if you take time to read the full report and the footnotes, the problem is clear — we spend far too little on education. What the report hinted at is that this has deeper and longer-term impacts on Indiana. These were mostly buried deep in the footnotes. They should've been the first bullet point in the executive summary. I will be blunter. From 2010 to 2019, Indiana's worker productivity actually declined. That is the first time that has ever happened. As a consequence, our per capita personal income saw its largest relative decline in history. It is an unpleasant thing to say, but the cause of this is the declining relative quality of our workforce.

Economists have understood for decades that human capital (really, the educational attainment of our workforce) is the strongest causal force in economic growth. Today, the share of adults who attend and complete college is the primary difference between regional wages and productivity. In that key metric, Indiana ranks 40th across states and territories. To put that in context, Tennessee

ranks 39th and Puerto Rico ranks 41st, and both are actively improving. In contrast, Indiana's share of adults with a bachelor's degree declined in 2019. We are closer to Mississippi than the U.S. average, and we are heading downward.

The teacher salary problem is real, but it is only a symptom of a much wider and more pernicious problem. Indiana's policies towards education and training are failing. That failure is slowing our economy, and the poor decisions of the past decade will continue to bear bitter fruit for another decade. Our problem isn't just funding, which is too bad. That would be an easy remedy. Hoosiers are among the least taxed people in the developed world. We have plenty of room to better fund education. The problem is in how we approach workforce training, how we crowd K-12 instruction with dubious workforce preparation, how we incentivize public universities to attract out-of-state students, and most shamefully, how we ended the aspirational approach to education.

Indiana is failing at the single most important thing the state does to ensure a growing economy — educate our children and young adults. Our 'Mississippi Strategy' of low taxes, declining educational attainment and huge tax incentives to businesses is finally having an effect. It is precisely what an economic model would predict; declining relative wages, declining productivity and the need to offer even larger incentives to lure employers into our state. That isn't a strategy any Hoosier should be proud of supporting. But, it is certainly having an effect.

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at m.hicks@bsu.edu.

Chip shortage is a serious problem

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

I'm not the most patient person.

So I'm beginning to get peeved about the Playstation 5, Xbox Series X and new computer parts being difficult to purchase.

It's been months of this, and my first thought is — what have companies done to fix the shortage?

I've got a bone to pick with those buying multitudes of limited items and flipping them online for two or three times the original price. We call those people scalpers.

To be fair, although they are part of the problem, it's not their fault we have a shortage. It's much more complicated than that.

My boyfriend, Justin, and I have been trying to get our hands on two graphics processing units (GPUs) since the latest model released in November. It's now March, and we have yet to see one in stores or available readily online.

In the fall, we finally decided to bite the bullet and build our own PCs. We figured they could be multifunctional for office work and gaming.

Justin, a tech whiz, put together both our PCs. Both should be functioning just fine. Key word: "should."

We weren't planning on building a second PC, so when Justin built his black and red model, he borrowed an outdated GPU from a coworker. Despite having the older graphics card, his PC runs like a dream.

Sadly, the white and pastel pink tower sitting below my desk at home hasn't even been touched since we assembled it in November. It won't turn on without a GPU.

The model we're looking for is an AMD Radeon rx6800 GPU. (Try saying that 10 times fast.) It retails about \$600, which is a heavy sum, but try tripling that cost on eBay. We're definitely not paying that price for one, much less two of them.

Likewise, each time the item is restocked online, it sells out within minutes. That's partly

On the Line



because of the scalpers, but also because there's a global chip shortage, something which I learned recently from a Washington Post article.

Computer chips are used in virtually everything from cars to plug-in appliances. They're essential in the modern world.

The coronavirus pandemic played a part in the shortage. Parts of the economy shut down around the United States and consumers impulsively spent more online. The demand for products went up, and production went down.

But the shortage became an issue before COVID-19 hit the states. There are a number of reasons for this, including that 5G phones now use more computer chips. The trade war with China decreased some of our chip intake because about 10% of the world's chip production comes from a Chinese government-owned semiconductor company, SMIC. Bitcoin demand even contributes to it.

Why not increase output? Production companies have done their best to do so, but computer chips — also known as semiconductors — have a special manufacturing process. A controlled environment and as much as two years are needed to produce a batch.

At present, it may take months or years before enough chips enter the market again.

The shortage reaches beyond a couple of frustrated gamers like Justin and me. It reaches a majority of consumers in the 21st century, and it's a serious issue that likely won't be solved any time soon.

Me, well, I just want to use my shiny new computer. But that also won't be happening any time in the foreseeable future.

The Commercial Review

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

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Senate ...

Continued from page 1
The bill, aimed at battling the killer virus and nursing the staggered economy back to health, will provide direct payments of up to \$1,400 to most Americans. There's also money for COVID-19 vaccines and testing, aid to state and local governments, help for schools and the airline industry, tax breaks for lower-earners and families with children, and subsidies for health insurance.

"We are not going to be timid in the face of a great challenge," said Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York.

The new provisions offered items appealing to all manner of

Democrats. Progressives got money boosting feeding programs, federal subsidies for health care for workers who lose jobs, tax-free student loans, and money for public broadcasting and consumer protection investigations.

Moderates won funds for rural health care, language assuring minimum amounts of money for smaller states and a prohibition on states receiving aid using the windfalls to cut taxes. And for everyone, there was money for infrastructure, cultural venues, start-up companies and after-school programs.

Even with the late revisions,

there was a good chance lawmakers will make yet another one and vote to pare back the bill's \$400 weekly emergency unemployment benefits to \$300.

That potential change could also extend those emergency payments another month, through September. It was described by aides and a lobbyist who spoke on condition of anonymity to describe internal conversations.

Biden and Senate leaders had agreed Wednesday to retain the \$400 weekly jobless payments included in the version of the relief bill the House approved Saturday. The reduction to \$300 — which seemed likely to occur

once the Senate begins a "vote-arama" on scores of amendments later this week — seemed to reflect a need to secure support from moderate Democrats.

It also left House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-California, the task of keeping her chamber's numerous progressives on board. Liberals already suffered a blow when their No. 1 priority — a federal minimum wage increase to \$15 hourly that was included in the House package — was booted from the bill in the Senate for violating the chamber's rules and for lack of moderates' support.

In another bargain that satisfied moderates, Biden and Senate

Democrats agreed Wednesday to tighten eligibility for the direct checks to individuals. The new provision completely phases out the \$1,400 payments for individuals earning at least \$80,000 and couples making \$160,000, well lower than the original ceilings.

"My hope is they don't screw around with it too much," Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass., said of the Senate in an interview. "If they do there could be some problems."

Congress wants to send the bill to Biden before March 14, when a previous round of emergency benefits for people tossed out of work by the pandemic expires.

In review

Signaled

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden today signaled support to replace decades-old authorizations for the use of military force in the Middle East, a little more than a week after he relied on the authorizations to carry out a retaliatory airstrike against Iranian-backed militia in eastern Syria.

The Biden administration announced its position after a bipartisan bill was introduced earlier this week that would repeal the 1991 and 2002 authorizations for the wars in Iraq that presidents from both parties have relied on for legal justification to carry out strikes in the region.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki said Biden was committed to working with Congress to "ensure that the authorizations for the use of military force currently on the books are replaced with a narrow and specific framework that will ensure we can protect Americans from terrorist threats while ending the forever wars."

Approved

TORONTO — Canada is getting a fourth vaccine to prevent COVID-19 as the country's health regulator has cleared a Johnson & Johnson shot that works with just one dose instead of two, officials said today.

Health experts are eager for a one-and-done option to help speed vaccination. Canada has also approved vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca and is the first country to approve four difference vaccines, said Dr. Supriya Sharma, Health Canada's chief medical adviser.

Like many countries, Canada does not have domestic production and has struggled with an immediate shortage of vaccines.

—Associated Press



Texas Farm Bureau

Freeze killed

Mike Helle and his son, Mike, examine their decimated watermelon crop. They lost 160 acres in last week's Texas freeze. Across Texas — the leafy greens in the Rio Grande Valley, onions and cabbage in the Winter Garden area near Laredo, fruit trees in Hill Country in Central Texas, greenhouse operations in Dallas — the weather spared almost nobody who works in the fresh produce industry, said Dante Galeazzi, chief executive of the Texas International Produce Association.

YouTube removes Myanmar channels

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — YouTube removed five channels run by Myanmar's military for violating its guidelines, it announced today, as demonstrators defied growing violence by security forces and staged more anti-coup protests ahead of a special U.N. Security Council meeting on the country's political crisis.

YouTube said it is watching for any further content that might violate its rules. It earlier pulled dozens of channels as part of an investigation into content uploaded in a coordinated influence campaign.

The decision by YouTube followed Facebook's earlier announcement that it has removed all Myanmar military-linked pages from its site and from Instagram, which it also owns.

The escalation of violence by security forces has put pressure on the world community to act to restrain the junta, which seized power on Feb. 1 by

ousting the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi.

Large protests against military rule have occurred daily in many cities and towns. Security forces escalated their crackdown this week with greater use of lethal force and mass arrests. At least 18 protesters were shot dead on Sunday and 38 on Wednesday, according to the U.N. Human Rights Office. More than 1,000 people have been arrested, the independent Assistance Association for Political Prisoners said.

Protests continued in the country's biggest cities, Yangon and Mandalay, and elsewhere today, and were again met by force from police.

Many cases of targeted brutality have been captured in photos and videos that have circulated widely on social media. Videos have showed security forces shooting people at point-blank range and chasing down and savagely beating demonstrators.

Capsule Reports

Housing discussed

The Jay/Portland Building and Planning Interlocal Board met Thursday and spent the bulk of its meeting discussing ways to spur local housing.

Jay County Commissioner Brian McGalliard, who sits on the board along with Mike Aker, Jerry Leonhard, Amy Runyon-Barrett and Ron Laux, floated the idea of potentially utilizing county-owned land to put in a pond that could potentially serve as a draw for developers. That idea started a general discussion about the need for housing developments, potential locations and how such projects can be attracted.

The board also reviewed the 2020 annual report that showed \$20.6 million in construction last year with 327 permits granted

and 20 new homes built. That's the lowest number since \$11.6 million in 2013, but assistant director Pati McLaughlin noted construction rebounded quickly after a drop at the beginning of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The board also elected McGalliard as its chairman, replacing the outgoing Chuck Huffman, and confirmed the reappointment of Laux as its citizen representative.

Deer hit

Two wild animals caused accidents Thursday evening.

Rachel D. Reff, 29, Portland, was driving south on county road 450 West near its intersection with county road 800 South about 7:34 p.m. when she drove into a deer. Damage to her 2005 Toyota Highlander is

estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Tristan M. Parrish, 23, Dunkirk, was driving west on Indiana 26 near county road 500 East about 8:35 p.m. when he drove into a deer. His 2018 Ford EcoSport was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Intersection collision

A Ridgeville woman backed her vehicle into the car behind her at the intersection of Water and Meridian streets about 6:47 a.m. this morning.

Nellie L. Phillips, 71, began backing her 2014 Chevrolet Suburban because it was too far into the intersection and collided with a 2010 Toyota Rav-4 driven by Eldon B. Frasher, 52. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

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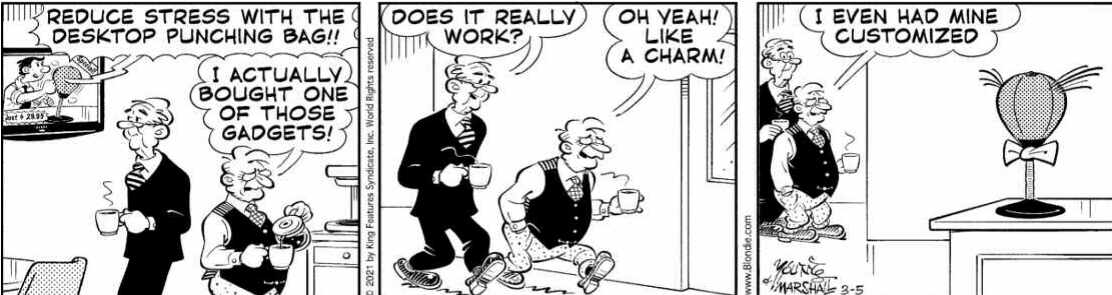
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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Saturday, March 6, 2021 10:00am

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Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN
Saturday, March 6th, 2021 10:00am

Household-old & Collector items-tools: Smith Brothers leather sofa; Smith Brothers leather chair; Lazy Boy leather recliner; Hitachi 53" TV; Maple dressers; Trunk; Crocks; Milk cans; Jewelry; Pocket watches; Cast iron skillets; German plates and Crystal dishes; Boyd bears; Comic books; Football, Baseball, and Basketball cards; Toro Power Throw 724 snowblower; Chain saw; and many other items not listed. It is recommended you follow COVID-19 guidelines by wearing a facial mask and social distancing

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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20 Challah unit
22 Chic, to Austin Powers
23 Pearl Harbor site
27 "Norma"
29 Aerie builders
31 Farm units

DOWN
1 Slobber
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3 Spanish girlfriend
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5 Not on the road
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7 Horse's halter?
8 Filch
9 Equi-
10 Religious sch.
11 Indent key
17 Ocean motion
21 Sigmund or Anna
23 Gawked at
24 Carte lead-in
25 Height of fashion?
26 Dos
28 Ninny
30 Flight stat
31 Fire sign?
32 Tax pro
33 Director Howard
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Yesterday's answer 3-5

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Drives ...

Continued from page 8
Bomholt has had limited time with his team. Their normal summer slate of workouts and scrimmages were scrapped. Then, when it was time to get the season underway, they were sidelined as the old ball coach contracted COVID-19. Two other positive tests put the season on hold.

In spite of all working against him getting acclimated with his new squad, Bomholt poured everything he had into the boys. The emotion in his voice when speaking with media following games was an indication of how much he loved his players.

It didn't matter if it was after a victory or defeat, sometimes it seemed talking about the team was going to bring him to tears. Tuesday's loss to Delta in the

sectional opener was the closest he's come to breaking down after a game. It wouldn't have been the first time this year he's been brought to tears in an interview.

We're glad to have you back, coach.

Youth movement

There's a good chance you didn't get to catch the Jay County wrestling team in action this season because of the attendance restrictions.

Next year, when hopefully there will be a sense of normalcy again, go catch a meet.

This is not a suggestion. It's a demand.

The youth movement among the Patriot wrestling team is in full force.

Cody Rowles, Tony Wood and

Cameron Clark — all freshmen — qualified for the state finals. In the 45-plus years of the JCHS wrestling program, only two others have represented the Patriots at the state tournament as freshmen. One of them, Ethan Reiley, is still in the program (he's a sophomore now).

Fellow freshman Taye Curtis, Conner Specht and Bryce Wenk made a name for themselves as well and are on the verge of deep tournament runs.

And AJ Myers, who is an eighth grader this year, was a middle school state champion in January and will be joining the high school team next season.

This team has become a must-watch.

Good girls

They've graced this space

once already this year, but it bears reiterating: Jay County's girls basketball team was one of the most fun hoops teams to watch these last eight seasons.

The Patriots were perhaps the nicest group of girls anyone would want to be around, and it started with the team's two seniors, Aubrie Schwieterman and Grace Saxman.

Don't be deceived by the niceness, however. Once the game was underway, these girls were among the fiercest competitors. Schwieterman just might rip off a limb trying to steal the ball away from someone if the rules allowed it. She knew how to control that intensity like a light switch.

But the way the team seemed to have someone step up at just the right moment made each

game a treat. It was always a question of who it was going to be on any given night.

Yes, the likelihood of it being Renna Schwieterman — she's on pace to become the school's all-time leading scorer — was pretty high, but other girls got in on the action too.

At times it seemed as if we wouldn't have a fall sports season, let alone a winter one as well. Nevertheless, we're two-thirds of the way through the high school sports calendar year.

With the winter season — full of much to celebrate in terms of the Patriots and Indians — behind us, let's spring anew in a couple weeks as we head outdoors to baseball and softball diamonds, tracks, tennis courts and golf courses.

Nuggets beat Pacers to end 1st half

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Denver forward Michael Porter Jr. struggled at the start of the the Nuggets' recent 10-game stretch.

He finished it with a flurry. Porter had 24 points and 11 rebounds Thursday night, outshining Nikola Jokic, in leading the Denver Nuggets past Indiana 113-103.

"Every great player goes through stretches like this," Porter

said. "But I knew I would get out of it and I couldn't wait to have that one big game. Then once you get it, it just starts flowing."

Porter has five double-doubles in the last six games, a stark contrast from an 0 for 8 performance Feb. 16, the first of eight road games in a 10-game stretch.

But with Porter rolling and Jokic playing at his usual All-Star level, the Nuggets are rolling. They've

won four straight road games for the first time since 2011-12.

And everyone has a part. While Jokic had 20 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists, Jamal Murray finished with 23 points, his 12th straight with 22 or more.

"We've been a team that thrives in adversity," coach Michael Malone said. "We're very resilient, a ton of grit and we never find excuses. We find solutions."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Monday
Jay County — Junior high swimming at Belmont — 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. South Adams — 6 p.m.

Thursday
Jay County — Junior high wrestling at Bluffton — 5:30 p.m.

Friday, March 11
Jay County — Junior high swimming hosts ACAC championships — 5:30 p.m.

TV schedule

Friday
3 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los

Angeles Dodgers at Kansas City Royals (ESPN)

Saturday
Noon — Men's College Basketball: Florida State at Notre Dame (ESPN2); South Carolina at Kentucky (ESPN); Georgetown at UConn (CBS); Rutgers at Minnesota (FOX)
2 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Alabama at Georgia (CBS); Arizona at Utah (FS1)

2:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Villanova at Providence (FOX)
4 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Illinois at Ohio State (ESPN); Butler at Creighton (FOX); Virginia at Louisville (ESPN2); USC at UCLA (CBS)
6 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Duke at North Carolina (ESPN)
7 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Seton Hall at St. John's (FS1)

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Saturday, March 13, 2021 11:00 am 40 Acres on St. Rt. 49 Rockford, OH

Auction to be conducted at 9920 St. Rt. 49 Chattanooga, OH next to the Chattanooga Fire House.

This Real Estate Parcel of real estate contains 40 acres more or less with 39.4610 acres tillable and 0.0830 acres of woods, the farm has average tilling.

Terms on real estate: \$30,000 down day of auction, balance at closing within 30 days. The Real estate will selling with no contingencies. Possession to be the day of auction. The taxes and assessments will be prorated to the day of closing.

Note: Contact the auctioneers, Frank Arling or Brandon Arling for information packet.

Owner: Paul E. Wrenn Jr. & Burt Worthing Trust, Lisa Harper Successor Trustee for Paul E. Wrenn Jr.

Terms: Any statements made day of sale supersede prior statements or advertisements, not responsible for accidents. Portions of this auction may be recorded. Auctioneer licensed by the State of Ohio.

Licebsed Real Estate Agent in Ohio. Go to our website at www.arling-evers.com or auctionzip.com

Frank (Wills) Arling-Osgood, OH
419-582-3801 or 937-670-6886

Brandon Arling-Maria Stein, OH
567-644-4851

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110 HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF REDKEY IS accepting applications for a Full Time and Reserve Police Officers. Applications may be picked up at The Redkey Town Hall, 8922 West State Road 67, Redkey, IN. Applications must be submitted before 4 p.m. on March 16th, 2021.

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your play

1. You are declarer with the West hand at Three Notrump. North leads the queen of hearts, on which South plays the king, and you duck. When South returns the eight of hearts, you win with the ace and cash the A-K of diamonds, learning that South started with three to the jack. How would you continue?

West: ♠ A J 10 9, ♥ A 3, ♦ 10 9 7 6, ♣ A K 7
East: ♠ Q 6, ♥ 6 5 4 2, ♦ A K Q 5 2, ♣ 3

2. You are declarer with the West hand at Four Hearts. South having overcalled your partner's opening one-diamond bid with one spade. North leads the queen of spades. How would you play the hand?

West: ♠ 9 5 2, ♥ K Q 6 4 2, ♦ Q J 6 3, ♣ A
East: ♠ A 6 4, ♥ J 7 3, ♦ A K 10 7 4, ♣ Q 10

1. It would be wrong to take a spade finesse at this point, because if it lost to the king in the North hand, you could go down one, losing four hearts and a spade. A far better plan is to lead a heart from dummy at trick five and discard a diamond! This allows you to eventually score five

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.

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200 FOR RENT

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3-5 CRYPTOQUIP

GXJW VLCXW TIVAZIYU OJPP J

BADIGDAY EXIWICBJEXAB GXI

XJT ZAOIVA J OAPAZBLWU? J

TXIIWLDC TWJB.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DIMWITTED CANADIAN CARTOON CHARACTER WHO'S A REALLY HANDSOME, MACHO GUY: STUDLY DO-RIGHT.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals R

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Penn Township Public Library, Jay County, Indiana
Cash & Investments Combined Statement-2020

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan. 1, 2020	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec. 31, 2020
0	General	\$31,221.85	\$26,477.09	\$21,940.20	\$35,758.74
0	Rainy Day	\$6,270.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,270.44
3	Gifts	\$2,670.87	\$320.00	\$79.48	\$2,911.39
	Total All Funds	\$40,163.16	\$26,797.09	\$22,019.68	\$44,940.57

CR 3-7-2020 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan. 1, 2020	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec. 31, 2020
1	Fire Fighting	\$55,260.77	\$13,542.48	\$7,141.00	\$61,662.25
2	Park And Recreation	\$65,613.22	\$11,759.17	\$17,712.00	\$59,660.39
3	Rainy Day	\$7,451.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,451.22
4	Township	\$109,928.37	\$36,106.37	\$25,146.47	\$120,888.27
3	Township Assistance	\$50,808.22	\$7,847.08	\$6,646.01	\$52,009.29
	Total Funds	\$289,061.80	\$69,255.10	\$56,645.48	\$301,671.42

Penn Township, Jay County, Indiana
Detailed Receipts 2020

Governmental Activities

Fire Fighting
General Property Taxes \$8,839.95
Local Income Tax (LIT) for Levy Freeze \$797.00
Financial Institution Tax distribution \$21.24
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution \$507.29
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET) \$3.00
Local Income Tax (LIT) Certified Shares \$3,374.00
Total Fire Fighting \$13,542.48

Park And Recreation
General Property Taxes \$7,843.69
Financial Institution Tax distribution \$14.18
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution \$523.69
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET) \$3.61
Local income Tax (LIT) Certified Shares \$3,374.00
Total Park And Recreation \$11,759.17

Township
General Property Taxes \$22,314.66
County Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT) \$2,608.00
Property Tax Replac \$3,879.00
Local Income Tax (LIT) for Levy Freeze \$47.25
Financial Institution Tax distribution \$1,744.70
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution \$12.01
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET) \$3,374.00
Local Income Tax (LIT) Supplemental Distribution \$424.00
Earnings on Investments and Deposits \$1,302.75
Donations, Gifts, and Bequests \$400.00
Total Township \$73,106.37

Township Assistance
General Property Taxes \$7,340.35
Financial Institution Tax distribution \$13.27
Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution \$490.08
Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET) \$3.38
Total Township Assistance \$7,847.08

Penn Township, Jay County, Indiana
Disbursements by Vendor 2020

Fund/Category/Vendor Name	Amount
Fire Fighting Personal Services	Town of Pennville \$7,141.00 Fire Fighting \$7,141.00

Park And Recreation Services and Charges	Indiana & Michigan Electric Co. \$1,183.14
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Park And Recreation Other Disbursements	Wickey Construction \$16,528.86 Park And Recreation \$17,712.00
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Township Personal Services	Steven Cash \$6,999.96 Brenda Cash \$3,699.96 Ronald Paxson \$525.00 Douglas Geesaman \$525.00 Scott Benter \$525.00
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Township Supplies	Miller Pantries \$10.39 Ag Best Express, LLC \$455.99 Pennville Postmaster \$55.00 Walmart \$184.81 AE Boyce Co. \$246.52 Steve Cash \$249.00
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Township Services and Charges	Hity Engine, INC \$1,906.36 Corwin Trenching \$485.45 Coldren, Franz & Sprunger \$200.00 Indiana & Michigan Electric Co. \$709.92 Auto Owners Insurance \$1,017.00 CN Surety \$180.00
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Township Other Disbursements.	US Treasury \$899.00 Jay County Treasurer \$80.00 Graphic Printing Co. \$175.13 Ron O'Dell \$5,076.98 Chris Renberger \$940.00 Township \$25,146.47
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Township Assistance Township Assistance	Walker Glancy Funeral Home \$1,500.00 Williamson Spencer Penrod Funeral Home \$1,800.00 Indiana Michigan Electric Company \$1,419.93 Pennville Utilities \$248.65 Johnson Oil Company \$281.29 Eagle Loan \$274.78 Miller Pantries, LLC \$21.36 Thomas Paxson \$1,100.00 Township Assistance \$6,646.01
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State of Indiana
SS: Jay County
I, Steven G Cash, Trustee of Penn Township, Jay County, Indiana, do solemnly affirm under the penalty of perjury that the preceding report is complete, true and correct; that the sum with which I am charged in this report are all of the sums received by me; and that the various items of expenditures credited have been fully paid in the sums stated; that such payments were made without express or implied agreement that any portion thereof shall be retained by or repaid to me or any other person. I further affirm that a complete and detailed annual report, together with all accompanying vouchers showing the names of persons having been paid money by the township, have been filed as required by law in the office of the County Auditor, and that copies of such annual report are in custody of the Township Board and the State Board of Accounts. Said report is subject to inspection by any taxpayer of the township.

Steven G. Cash, Penn Township Trustee
260-731-3945
Date this report was to be published 3-5-2021

Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, the Chairman of the Township Board of Penn Township at its annual meeting this 26th day of February, 2021

Ronald J Paxson, Penn Township Board Chairman
This report was received, accepted, and approved by the Township Board at its annual meeting, this 26th day of February, 2021.

Penn Township Board:
Ronald J. Paxson
Douglas Geesaman
Scott Benter

Sports



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Sophomore stretch

Josh Dowlen, a Jay County High School sophomore, stretches to knock the ball away from Delta's Blake Jones during the second quarter of the Class 3A Sectional 24 semifinal on Thursday at New Castle Fieldhouse. The Patriots lost 42-26 and were held to their fewest points of the season in what turned out to be the final game of the year.

We made it through the sports season

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

The calendar doesn't reflect it yet, but spring is here.

The local high school sports winter season came to a conclusion Tuesday with the Jay County boys basketball team falling in its sectional opener.

The Fort Recovery girls squad had its year end Feb. 25, and the Tribe boys got bounced from the tournament a day later.

And Saturday, the Patriot gymnastics team had its schedule completed with its sectional meet.

The winter season began nearly five months ago when the JCHS girls hoops team kicked things off Nov. 13.

What a long way we've come since then.

We're a couple weeks away from the best season of the year, but first let's take a look at some of the highlights of the winter season.

We did it

After nearly 12 months of uncertainty, we did it. We made it through two full sports seasons without any enormous hiccups locally.

Sure, attendance was severely limited at times. It was a hassle for family members having to choose who got to attend contests because of limited ticket availability. Early in the hoops season, there were times the general public was not allowed whatsoever.

But with the introduction of coronavirus vaccines, cases in Jay County

Line Drives



have plummeted since the pandemic's height back in November.

If the winter sports season would have lasted longer, even more fans would have been allowed at contests, giving athletes a bit of normalcy we all so desperately desire.

Jay County's boys basketball team had to quarantine three times. The girls' program was at times affected with schedule changes, a limited roster or by having varsity-only contests.

Fort Recovery had very few changes to any of its three winter sports teams. Everyone locally was able to complete their respective seasons.

We did it.

Welcome back

When news broke of his hiring back in April, the buzz around coach Jerry Bomholt and the JCHS boys basketball program began.

Unfortunately, few casual fans got to watch the man in action for his second stint leading the Patriots because of the pandemic.

In due time, however, they will.

I just wish more people got the same glimpse of him that I had this season.

See Drives page 7

Patriot girls top Tigers

BLUFFTON — The Patriot girls got their first win of the season.

The boys are still searching for theirs.

Jay County Junior High School's girls swim team won all but two events Thursday to earn a 117-68 victory against the Bluffton Tigers.

The boys fell 114-53.

Aubrey Millspaugh and Lauren

Fisher were double winners for the Patriot girls. Millspaugh was first in the 100-yard individual medley and 100 backstroke races, while Fisher won the 50 butterfly and 100 breaststroke.

Morgan DeHoff (200 freestyle), Avery Wentz (400 freestyle) and Maddy Snow (diving) all won their respective events.

Wentz, Fisher, DeHoff and

Millspaugh teamed for a victory in the 200 medley relay, while Kenzie Huey, Gretchen Link, Maisey Keller and Sophia Hoevel got a win in the 200 freestyle relay.

Huey, DeHoff, Millspaugh and Fisher were victorious in the 300 freestyle relay.

Lincoln Clamme had the only win for the Jay County boys. He was first in the 100 IM.

JAZZ THINGS UP

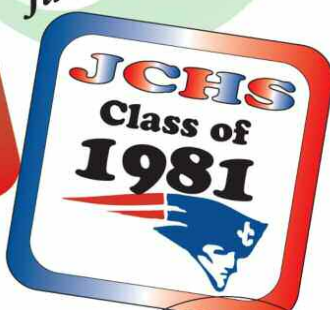
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To check if you or someone you know qualifies, go to [OurShot.IN.gov](https://www.ourshot.in.gov). Seniors can also call 211 to learn more.



Remember, we need to keep wearing masks and following other protective measures to keep everyone safe.