

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

A Haven for halo

Therapy is now available in Fort Recovery

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Halotherapy is now available in the village.

Salty Haven opened for halotherapy, an alternative medicine practice, in the back room of Sunshine Boutique, 128 Wayne St., Fort Recovery, early last month. It is now available for appointments Tuesday through Saturdays.

“Salty Haven is my little piece of Sunshine,” owner Nikki Kremer wrote on the business’ Facebook page.

The back room of the boutique now has a smaller “salt room” for the treatments. Salt rooms are used for halotherapy, which is said to reduce inflammation in the throat and lungs.

A halogenerator machine attached to the wall infuses the air with salt and disperses it throughout the room. The approximately 10-foot by 10-foot space also has two Himalayan salt wall panels and several Himalayan salt lamps.

Halotherapy provides relief for sinus problems, stuffy noses, coughs and other similar health issues, Kremer said. It helps flow oxygen into athletes’ lungs, and it has also helped those suffering from long-term effects of COVID-19, she added.

Sunshine Boutique owner Krista Muhlenkamp added she has heard it can also help singers or actors struggling with a hoarse voice the day before a performance.

“We’re just really excited to help people in a new way, in a new fashion,” Kremer said. “We’ve had lots of kiddos in with colds — its just nice to have an option aside from medication.”

Although the treatment has yet to be scientifically proven, Kremer advocates for its effectiveness from her past experiences.

Kremer’s late daughter, Ava,



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Krista Muhlenkamp (left) and Nikki Kremer sit in the salt room, a space dedicated to halotherapy in the back of Fort Recovery’s Sunshine Boutique. The alternative medicine treatment is said to help clear sinuses and soothe respiratory problems.

had Mucopolysaccharidosis, a degenerative disease categorized by symptoms such as respiratory problems and chronic pneumonia. She used to visit Nature’s Green Nursery in Celi-

na for halotherapy treatments two or three times a week.

“It was very therapeutic for her and greatly improved her quality of life,” Kremer said.

After the nursery in Celina

closed — the original Fort Recovery location owned by Nikki Stone is still in business — Kremer had the opportunity to purchase its halogenerator.

See Haven page 2

Relief bill deal struck

Democrats strike deal with W.V. senator

By ALAN FRAM

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders and moderate Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin struck a deal late Friday over emergency jobless benefits, breaking a nine-hour logjam that had stalled the party’s show-piece \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill.

The compromise, announced by the West Virginia lawmaker and a Democratic aide, seemed to clear the way for the Senate to begin a climactic, marathon series of votes expected to lead to approval of the sweeping legislation.

Manchin is probably the chamber’s most conservative Democrat, and a king-maker in a 50-50 Senate that leaves his party without a vote to spare. With Democrats’ slim majorities — they have a mere 10-vote House edge — the party needs his vote but can’t tilt too far center without losing progressive support.

The episode tossed fresh complications into the Democrats’ drive to give quick approval to a relief bill that is President Joe Biden’s top legislative goal. And while they still seemed likely to pass the package, the problem underscored the headaches confronting party leaders over the next two years as they try moving their agenda through Congress with such slender margins.

“People in the country are hurting right now, with less than two weeks from enhanced unemployment checks being cut,” Biden said at the White House, referring to the March 14 end to the current round of emergency jobless benefits.

See Deal page 2

Retrospect

Board considered modifications to library

Twenty-five years ago this week, a local board was making minor modifications to a major construction project as work on the building was already underway.

The March 5, 1996, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of Jay County Public Library Board’s meeting as construction of a new library was underway at the intersection of Arch and Ship streets in Portland.

The board unanimously approved an expenditure of \$4,349 for “X-braces” to increase wind residence and reduce the

risk of drywall cracks. The braces were not required by code but recommended by architectural firm K.R. Montgomery and Associates of Anderson.

It also approved installing additional “grab bars” to make restrooms handicapped accessible.

Board members held off on other proposed changes, including paying for the use of Densglas, a sheathing material designed to protect against weather. The Densglas cost about \$1,125 more than what the board had originally planned.

“We don’t want to send any signals (to the contractor) that we’re being unreasonable,” said library board president Bill Hinkle. “On the other hand, these are tax dollars.”

The board also tabled a proposal to move roof vents from the restrooms from the front of the building to the back at a cost of more than \$4,000.

Board members expressed dissatisfaction that the vents were not originally located correctly in the architect’s drawings and said they felt the fix should be far less expensive.



The Commercial Review/Ed Balint

An employee from W.A. Sheets and Sons of Fort Wayne walks atop the roof of the new Jay County Public Library on March 4, 1996. The new library was under construction at the corner of Ship and Arch streets in Portland.

Deaths

Timothy Bost, 63, rural Portland
Kathy Godsey, 63, Ridgeville
Details on page 2

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 45 degrees Friday. The forecast calls for sunny skies this weekend with high in the mid 40s. Expect a low of 22 tonight and 31 Sunday. Monday’s high will climb to near 60 under mostly sunny skies.
See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

U.S. Aggregates will host an informational meeting to provide information about its operation and proposed expansion at 6 p.m. Monday at The Rock Church.

Coming up

Tuesday — Results from JCHS graduate Casey Kenney’s UFC bout tonight.

Thursday — Coverage of Wednesday’s Jay County Council meeting.



Obituaries

Timothy Bost

Jan. 31, 1958-March 5, 2021 Timothy J. Bost, age 63, of rural Portland passed away Friday, March 5, 2021, at his residence.

Born in Portland on Jan. 31, 1958, he was the son of Cletis and Sally (Rines) Bost. He was married on May 5, 1979, to Patricia Steveson who survives. He had worked at Jay Products for 36 years and was a 1977 Jay County High School graduate. He was an outdoorsman, and enjoyed hunting, cutting wood and spending time with his grandchildren.

Surviving are his wife Patri-

cia; his mother Sally Leiningner of Portland; one son, Justin Bost (companion: Morgan Mowry) of Decatur; one daughter, Stacy Rowles (husband: Zac) of Portland; three brothers Randy Bost (wife: Selena) of Pennville, John Bost of Pennville and Adam Bost (wife: Sherry) of Portland; three grandchildren, Brenna, Kasen and Kamdyn Rowles; and several nieces and nephews.

A family visitation will be held Wednesday, March 10, 2021,



Bost

from 5 to 7 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Kathy Godsey

April 6, 1957-March 4, 2021 Kathy Ann Godsey, 63, Ridgeville, passed away at her residence on March 4, 2021.

She was born April 6, 1957, the daughter of Andrew D. and Anna L. (Daniel) Winningham.

Kathy is survived by her husband, James A Godsey; two daughters, Danielle Godsey and Laura Geesy (Andrew); three

sisters, Vickie Gant (Tony), Teena Hill (Dale) and Donna Halcomb (Tim); three sisters-in-law, Debbie Goodhew (Bryce), Theresa Bibona and Jennifer Lee (Steve); and 13 nieces and nephews as well as several great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; grandparents; several aunts and uncles; sister-in-law Sherrell; and nephew Little Jimmy.

No services will be held at this time, but a private memorial service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to State of the Heart Hospice, stateoftheheartcare.org

or the Alzheimer's Association, alz.org.

The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, is in charge of arrangements and condolences may be directed to the family at meeksmortuary.com.

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

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

CR almanac

Table with weather forecasts for Sunday 3/7 through Thursday 3/11, including temperature ranges and brief descriptions of conditions.

Lotteries

Lottery results for Hoosier, Powerball, and Mega Millions, including pick numbers and estimated jackpots.

Markets

Market prices for various commodities including corn, wheat, and beans in different regions like Cooper Farms, POET Biorefining, and Central States.

Today in history

On March 6, 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court, in Dred Scott v. Sandford, ruled 7-2 that Scott, a slave, was not an American citizen and therefore could not sue for his freedom in federal court. In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, fell as Mexican forces led by General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna stormed the fortress after a 13-day siege; the battle claimed the lives of all the Texan defenders, nearly 200 strong. In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II. In 1962, what became known as the Ash Wednesday Storm began pounding the mid-Atlantic coast; over three days, the storm resulted in 40 deaths and caused more than \$200 million in property damage. In 1964, heavyweight boxing champion Cassius Clay officially changed his name to Muhammad Ali. In 1971, the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team earned its third consecutive sectional title with a 73-57 victory over Ohio City-Liberty at Celina. In 1981, Walter Cronkite signed off for the last time as principal anchorman of "The CBS Evening News." In 1987, the first "Lethal Weapon" movie, starring Mel Gibson and Danny Glover, was released by Warner Bros. In 2002, Independent Counsel Robert Ray issued his final report in which he wrote that former President Bill Clinton could have been indicted and probably would have been convicted in the scandal involving former White House intern Monica Lewinsky. —AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, Community Room, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St. Tuesday 5 p.m. — Portland Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Haven ...

Continued from page 1 She wasn't sure where to put it until Troy Muhlenkamp, Krista's husband, suggested they use the back room at Sunshine Boutique.

The space was originally used as a work area and break area before Krista Muhlenkamp purchased

the second floor of the building. About three years ago, the room was remodeled and served as a spot to display a men's clothing line, shoes and sale items.

Recently Troy Muhlenkamp and Kremer's husband, Clint, constructed a smaller room in the

back for the halotherapy business. They also installed new doors in the back and repainted the entire boutique in white.

Halotherapy sessions last about an hour, and the room can hold up to six people at one time. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays. Each session costs \$20 and package deals are available.

Kremer can be reached for halotherapy appointments by calling the Sunshine Boutique phone number at (419) 375-5700.



Washington Post/Salwan Georges

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., appears at a news conference on Capitol Hill last month. Senate Democratic leaders reached an agreement over unemployment benefits with moderate Democratic Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., late Friday, ending a nine-hour standoff that threatened to derail action on President Joe Biden's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief bill.

Deal ...

Continued from page 1 He called his bill a "clearly necessary lifeline for getting the upper hand" against the pandemic.

The relief legislation, 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.

The package faces a solid wall of GOP opposition, and Republicans used the unemployment impasse to accuse Biden of refusing to seek compromise with them.

"You could pick up the phone and end this right now," Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said of Biden.

The standoff and a host of eleventh-hour deals Democratic leaders were cutting with rank-and-file lawmakers reflected the

delicate challenge of navigating the precariously divided chamber.

The House version of the massive relief package provides \$400 weekly emergency unemployment benefits — on top of regular state payments — through August.

In a compromise with moderates revealed earlier Friday, Senate Democrats said that would be reduced to \$300 weekly but extended until early October. The plan, sponsored by Sen. Tom Carper, D-Del., would also reduce taxes on unemployment benefits.

Later, lawmakers said Manchin was backing an alternative by Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, that would provide \$300 weekly benefits until mid-July.

"I don't know where he is," No. 2 Senate Democratic leader Richard Durbin of Illinois, said of Manchin's latest stance on jobless benefits. Asked if Democrats could simply accept the GOP's version, Durbin said: "We don't want to. We want to get this wrapped up."

That was a nod to Democrats' need to move the overall relief bill

once again through the House, which has a large numbers of liberals. It approved an initial version of the legislation last weekend, which the Senate has since changed.

Manchin has been a leading voice among moderates trying to rein the relief bill's costs. Democratic leaders were trying to reach some agreement with Manchin, and his office did not return requests for comment.

"I feel bad for Joe Manchin. I hope the Geneva Convention applies to him," No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Thune of South Dakota told reporters about the pressure on the West Virginian.

Before the unemployment benefits drama began, senators voted 58-42 to kill a top progressive priority, a gradual increase in the current \$7.25 hourly minimum wage to \$15 over five years.

Eight Democrats voted against the proposal, suggesting that Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vermont, and other progressives vowing to continue the effort in coming months will face a difficult fight.

Man rescued from storm drain

CONNERSVILLE, Ind. (AP) — An eastern Indiana man who became lost after entering a storm drain to avoid his probation officer was rescued early Friday after spending at least three days in the chilly drainage system, police said.

A Connersville police officer heard the 35-year-old man crying for help about 2 a.m. Friday and followed his cries to where the man was below ground in the drain, police said. Firefighters and emer-

gency medical personnel later pulled the man through a manhole in the middle of a street.

Connersville's assistant fire chief, Nate Stevens, told The Indianapolis Star the man had become lost in the dark of the storm sewer beneath the city.

Fire department personnel reported the man was found wearing pajama pants and a sweatshirt when he was rescued, and a police report states that he

was "shaking violently" after his ordeal.

Nighttime temperatures in the area fell below freezing over the last few days, according to the National Weather Service.

After the man was taken to a hospital, he told police he entered the drainage system "at least three days" prior near the White-water River, about a quarter-mile from where he was found.

The man, who was convicted in 2019 of dealing

methamphetamine, told officers he "entered the pipe because he was running from his probation officer."

The probation officer told officers he had reached out to the man Monday "only to verify his address."

SERVICES Saturday McLaughlin, Curt: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland. Dixon, Kelley: 2 p.m., Green Park Cemetery Chapel, Portland. Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

Swiss Village logo. 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

Geneva Shores Apartments. One - Two - Three Bedroom Apartments. 295 S. Hale St. Geneva, IN 46740. Website: genevashores.net. Now Accepting Applications. Criminal Background Check & Landlord references required. Applications can be picked up in front office. Hours: Mon. 9-3 Thurs. 9-3 (260) 368-9129 TTD 1-800-743-3333. Equal Housing Opportunity logo. "This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider."

Falling out has become awkward

DEAR ABBY: I'm married to the most patient, loving and wonderful husband in the world. Recently, I had a falling-out with his friend group. I admit I was not a good friend due to mental illness, and I know I may never earn their forgiveness. I'm taking responsibility for my actions and seeking help. Now I want to move on and forget I ever knew them.

The problem is, my husband still hangs out with them. He defended me when they talked negatively about me, and continues to support me in all my

Dear Abby



struggles, but they're still buddy-buddy as if nothing ever happened.

The last thing I want is to break up a friendship, and I know it's petty to be angry that my husband still hangs with them, but it still leaves a sour taste in my mouth. How can I learn to

let go knowing they will be a constant presence in my life and a reminder of how horrible I was? — KEEP-ING DISTANCE

DEAR KEEPING: You have a mental illness and you acted out. Your illness caused it, and it does not make you a bad person.

You cannot wave a magic wand and expect this to go away. You have already taken an important first step by admitting to yourself that you have a mental illness. If you are now in treatment, you have also

taken the second step. When you are strong enough, apologize to his friend group for any pain, embarrassment or disruption.

You should not expect your husband to drop his friends because you messed up. They probably WILL be present in your lives for the foreseeable future, but that doesn't mean you will always be at odds.

DEAR ABBY: We moved into a beautiful new house a few months ago, and we're having an issue with

a neighbor whose dog barks all night. This has been going on since the first night. I have tried to ignore it. I wear earplugs or put a pillow over my head, but nothing helps, and it's starting to affect my mood because I'm not getting enough sleep.

I'm receiving mixed advice from family about whether I should talk to the neighbor in person or anonymously submit a complaint with the city. Any advice on this would be so helpful. — SLEEP-DEPRIVED IN ARIZONA
DEAR SLEEP-

DEPRIVED: It would be interesting to know WHY your neighbor's dog barks all night. Because you are shy, write your neighbors a polite letter explaining that their dog's barking is preventing you from getting a good night's sleep and ask if they can do something to help you out. Give them a chance to rectify the problem. However, if the animal is being ignored and mistreated, contact the animal control department in your city and report it.



Photos provided

Optimists donate

Portland Breakfast Optimist Club recently made donations to local organizations. Pictured above left, club president Jeff Bowen presents a \$500 check to Cindy Denney for Jay County Special Olympics, and, above right, he presents a \$200 check to Patty Johnston for Pregnancy Care Center.

Births

Stiening
Archer Tyler Scott, a son, was born March 2 at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital in Winchester to Erica and David Stiening of Parker City. He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Scott and Diana Swingley of Portland. Paternal grandparents are Jessica Stiening of Farmland and Dan Stiening of Greenfield.

Great-grandparents are Judy Kimmel of Portland, Nancy Barger of Portland, Alton Swingley of Portland and Joan Stiening of Bloomington.

Marriage licenses

Kalen J. Roberts, 29, Redkey, and Alecia L. Mongold, 30, Redkey

Johnathan M. Gierhart, 18, Portland, and Clarissa E. Reidt, 18, Portland

Community Calendar

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

Today

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 CORY-

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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.



Fort Recovery Industries, Inc.

Maintenance Technician Positions

Fort Recovery Industries, Inc. a leading manufacturer of aluminum and zinc die casting is currently interviewing for Maintenance Technicians! Applicants will be responsible for the PM, repair, and troubleshooting of production as well as plant equipment. Desired skills include Electrical from 3 Phase to low voltage controls, PLC, Hydraulic, Pneumatic, CNC, Robotic, Plumbing, and Welding. This is an excellent opportunity, with rates for a Technician starting at \$24.45/hr up to \$29.18/hr (with 2nd and 3rd shift receiving a \$2.00/hr shift differential), and is promotable to a Master Technician starting at \$30.77. Responsibilities for this position will include but not be limited to:

- Maintenance of facility equipment
- Installation, troubleshooting and repair of facility equipment.
- Preventative Maintenance

Apply online or in person from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery Industries, Inc.
2440 State Route 49, PO Box 638,
Fort Recovery, Ohio, 45846-0638

www.fortrecoveryindustries.com EOE



Swiss Village

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

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

For Jay County Schools March 8-12

Monday: Main Entrees: Sloppy Joes **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing, **Side for all meals:** Oven baked curly fries

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Fajita style chicken, soft flour tortilla, shredded cheddar cheese, salsa, **Alternate entrees:** Apple cinnamon muffin fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **sides for all meals:** seasoned corn

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Rotini with Italian meat sauce, breadstick **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing, **Side for all meals:** Savory green beans

Thursday: Main Entrees: Breaded chicken drumstick, mashed potatoes, whole grain dinner roll, chicken gravy **Alternate entrees:** Apple cinnamon muffin fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing **sides for all meals:** Rainbow veggie medley

Friday: Main Entrees: Classic pepperoni pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Pancake fun lunch, ham and cheese chef salad, saltine crackers, light ranch dressing, **Side for all meals:** Savory green beans

Accepting New Patients **John Cascio, DDS**



Cascio Family DENTAL CARE

110 W. North St. • Portland, IN 47371
(260)726-7006

casciofamilydentalcare.com Find us on Facebook

Left seeks to ban speech it hates

To the editor:
While I normally disagree with Michael Kinser, his letter to the editor regarding our giving up critical thinking was excellent. He explains how our privacy and freedom have been co-opted by Facebook, Twitter and Google. He also stated the truism that algorithms can't tell the difference between fact and fiction. Aaron Loy built on that idea with his letter stating that differing opinions are important to preserving freedom and democracy.

Letters to the Editor

Republicans have always held that the answer to speech you don't like is more speech. Unfortunately, some on the left support the idea that the answer to speech you don't like is silencing the voices of the opposition.

First, it was shadow banning and now it is openly banning conservative voices from social media. And while the excuse is that they are banning hate speech, the truth is that they are banning speech that they hate. An example of Democrat hate speech was on the same page as Kinser's letter in a column from Colbert I. King of the Washington Post. He states that senators voted to acquit Trump "not on the merits but because they are scared to death of Trump and his base." And, "We knew that

Republican senators, as jurors, would betray their oaths to defend the Constitution." Three times the haters in the house voted to impeach Trump on charges which had no basis in reality or that met constitutional standards of common sense or due process. He was impeached for a quid pro quo with the Ukraine despite the fact that every witness admitted they had no actual proof he did. He was impeached for failing to comply with illegal subpoenas that Schiff issued before the

House voted him subpoena power. And he was impeached for a speech asking his supporters to protest "peacefully" and despite the FBI saying the attack on the capital was planned before his speech. It was in fact every Democrat and a handful of Republicans who based their votes on hate or partisan politics and in doing so spit on the Constitution and even more deeply divided our Republic. Stephen Erwin Portland

Unite to address mental wellness

Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)

Some may think "life is easy for kids these days." That statement couldn't be further from the truth.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, issues youth faced were complex and vast: the influences of social media; intense academic pressures; and keeping up with activities deemed necessary for future marketability and success.

The pandemic has intensified those stressors; youth now must navigate eLearning and have had to learn time management skills even experienced adults can't master. They've faced isolation, anxiety and been forced into responsibilities they should not have to carry at such a young age.

Student mental health issues resulting from or made worse by the pandemic "are very serious," according to Megan Kirk of the Vigo County School Corp.

The school district had 89 students referred for crisis assessments for 2020-21 and is on pace to pass last year's numbers, Kirk told the Tribune-Star's Sue Loughlin.

"This year, I am hearing more cases of students attempting suicide — not just having ideations about it," Kirk said.

Hesitant to believe officials?

Try this: In October, 61% of Vigo County high school students and 46% of middle school students considered themselves at risk in terms of mental health, according to a survey that collects social/emotional learning data.

The trend is playing out across the nation. Data from the Centers for Disease Control "show the proportion of emergency department visits related to mental health crises has increased dramatically for young children and adolescents since the pandemic started," according to a Nov. 12 Education Week article.

Government officials and community leaders seem to be taking these reports seriously, and the mental health of youth is being given a level of attention possibly never seen before.

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch recently participated in a roundtable with west-central Indiana educators, mental health professionals and elected officials aimed at addressing the needs of Hoosiers.

"What keeps me up at night," Crouch said, "is

Hoosier Editorial

the human cost of this pandemic."

Mayors are on board. And so are local legislators. Parents, too.

"The spirit and emotional well-being of your community is what matters," said Sullivan Mayor Clint Lamb at the roundtable.

State Sen. Jon Ford, R-Terre Haute, attended the discussion. A bill co-sponsored by Ford would require suicide and human trafficking hotlines be printed on or attached to school ID cards.

Parent Mike Frey of Farmersburg also participated. Frey, who lost his son to suicide in the fall, is using his grief to speak out. A parent's voice is sometimes all another parent needs to be awakened to an issue.

Schools play a vital role, with initiatives like Project AWARE, a multi-year, federally funded grant — which Vigo's Kirk oversees for the district — aimed at better responding to the mental health needs of school children.

Other resources, including Youth Mental Health First Aid, can and are being utilized. A group of West Vigo High School students completed the training before the pandemic hit; 385 VCSC staff have also been trained in the program, according to Kirk.

These efforts are admirable, but only a start in what we hope becomes a united attempt to ensure mental wellness for our children and generations to come.

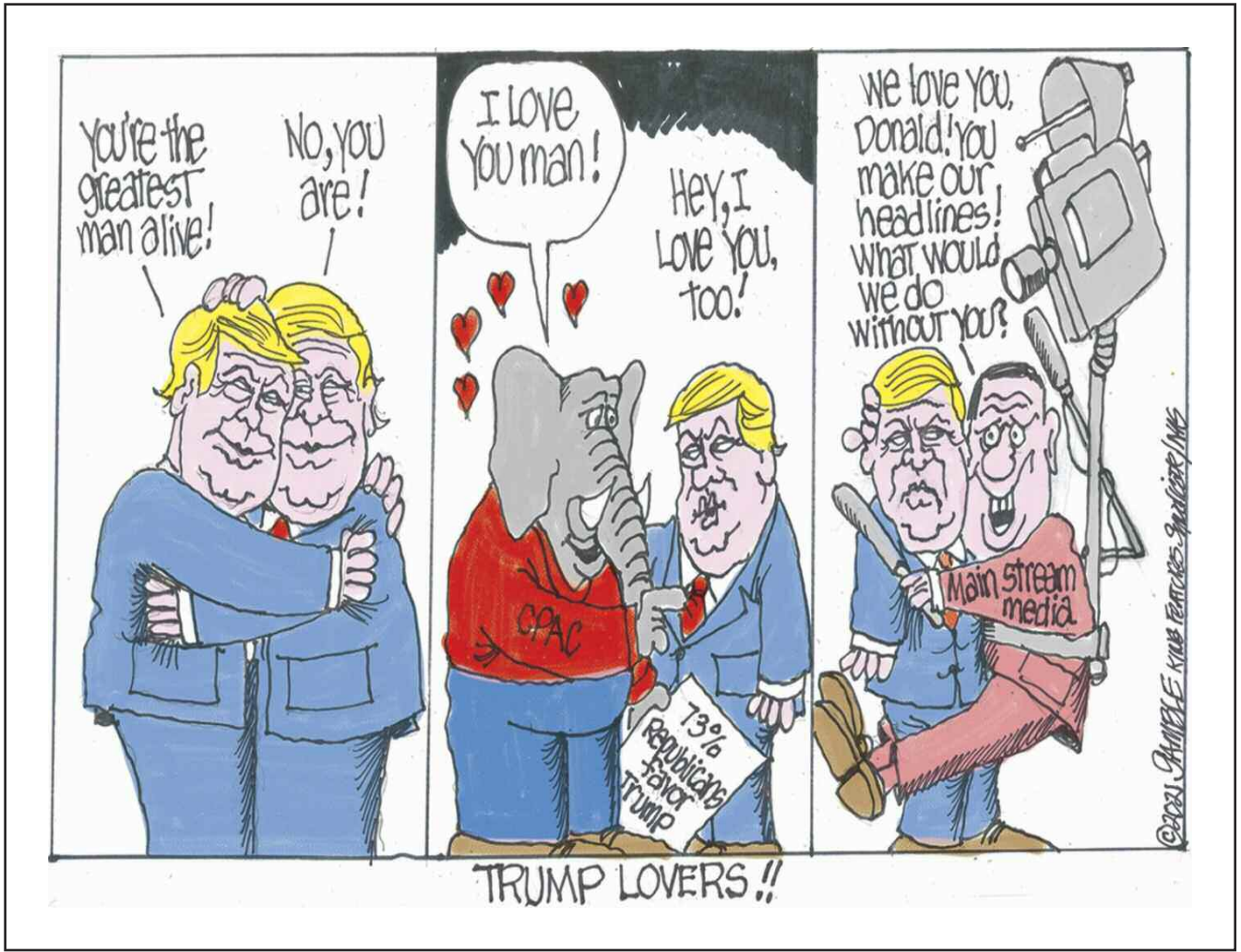
Officials must continue to take a deliberate stance against stigma; as a community, we must ascertain resources that can be used across the spectrum.

We must reach fear with facts and cultivate a better understanding.

Through clear and inclusive messages from lawmakers and office holders, from teachers and parents, from siblings and peers, the discussion becomes less frightening and more commonplace, less surface and of deeper value.

Together we can create impactful change on an issue we've never had a good grasp on and of which we've let get out of hand.

Now is the time. What role will you play?



Hysteria lacks imagination

By ALYSSA ROSENBERG

The Washington Post

Now that beloved children's-book author Dr. Seuss is an "outlaw," per House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-California, and conservative pundit Ben Shapiro is stockpiling strategic reserves of "If I Ran the Zoo," parents across the land face a desperate conundrum. What can they possibly read to their children?

If that paragraph makes no sense, good for you: The Great Seuss Hysteria of 2021 is a faux controversy if there ever were one, worth following only for what it reveals about children's literature and the limits of adults' imaginations.

The short, sensible summary is as follows. Dr. Seuss Enterprises, which controls Theodor Geisel's copyrights, decided not to print more copies of six works that contain racist imagery. This ought to be relatively uncontroversial. The books won't be pulled from public consumption, as Disney did with "Song of the South," or edited to comport with different values. No one proposes treating Dr. Seuss like Woody Allen, a figure whose transgressions render his work untouchable. Everyone seems comfortable with the other 90% of Dr. Seuss's books. But because conservatives don't do much except fight the culture wars these days, they inflated an act of corporate image-burnishing into a catastrophic book-burning, and the rest of the story is predictable.

Amid this thicket of dishonest outrage, however, it's useful to recognize two things that are actually true. First, some Dr. Seuss books for children contain depictions of people of color that, like his cartoons of Japanese people during World War II, are repulsive. Second, insisting that Dr. Seuss books are the alpha and omega of children's literature shows a tiresome lack of imagination.

As the parent of a toddler, I've

Alyssa Rosenberg



been recently reacquainted with the Seussian canon: "Green Eggs and Ham" and "Happy Birthday to You!" are in heavy rotation in our home — and their limitations are clear.

The wordplay can be fun, but its cleverness is undercut by Geisel's penchant for invented words, which is a kind of cheat. Anyone can stick a rhyme scheme or invent a clever rhythm if they don't confine themselves to the English language. Political fables like "The Lorax" and "Yertle the Turtle" are all well and good, if a little dated in their scolding tone. And the Cat in the Hat, perhaps Seuss's most famous character, is more frenetic than emotionally engaging.

Were I to assemble a canonical list of children's-book authors, Dr. Seuss would rank below, say, Peter Spier, the Dutch-American illustrator whose gorgeous picture books were a staple of my childhood and now are vital reading again a generation later.

"People," his compendium of the variety of human society, is a lovely introduction to the world for any young person; it is also proof that even 40 years ago artists could look at difference with excitement, not viciousness. "Bored — Nothing to Do," about two brothers who occupy themselves by building a propeller plane, and "Oh, Were They Ever Happy!," which follows three children as they decide to paint the house while their parents are out, are charming tributes to youthful ingenuity and imagination.

I'd also list the husband-and-

wife team of Alice and Martin Provensen, and the writer and illustrator Barbara Cooney. Among the former's accomplishments are "Our Animal Friends at Maple Hill Farm" and "A Year at Maple Hill Farm," which depict a world that is more bravely engaged with the realities of life, death and idiosyncrasy than the one Dr. Seuss's characters occupied. And in books such as "Miss Rumphius" and "Hattie and the Wild Waves," Cooney offered readers, particularly girls, glimpses of life that are unconventional but graspable.

And at risk of letting a list of past masters dominate this column, let us turn to the present. What a gift it is to have Mo Willems's help in probing the complex emotions and everyday dilemmas of childhood in, among other books, his Elephant & Piggie series. During a year of isolation, Raúl the Third's Little Lobo books have transported our family to the markets and lucha libre rings of a Mexican border town. And as much as "Please, Baby, Please" has inspired our child to new heights of misbehavior, it's a pure delight to have an artist as remarkable as Kadir Nelson making work for the very youngest readers.

Cooney famously said, "Children in this country need a more robust literary diet than they are getting. ... It does not hurt them to read about good and evil, love and hate, life and death. Nor do I think they should read only about things that they understand ... a man's reach should exceed his grasp. So should a child's."

No, Dr. Seuss has not been canceled. But if the only author we think to reach for is Dr. Seuss, our children's literary worlds will be smaller and poorer for our lack of curiosity.

Rosenberg writes about the intersection of culture and politics for The Washington Post's Opinions section.

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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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BOND closes its \$2 billion round

An investment fund led by a Jay County native has closed its second fund.

BOND Capital closed out the fund with \$2 billion in capital commitments, Yahoo! Finance reported this week.

The firm, which includes Portland High School graduate Mary Meeker as a general partner, took a step up from its 2019 debut fund. That round came in at \$1.25 billion.

Led mostly by veterans of Kleiner Perkins Digital Growth Fund, including Meeker, BOND has since expanded its roster. Yahoo! Finance reports that the additions include Jay Simons, the former president of Atlassian who now leads BOND's global enterprise practice.

One of the firm's major investments is in Byju's, which is based in India and is one of the world's

Business roundup

largest education technology companies. Others include London-based online bank Revolut and Australia-based design platform Canva.

Nurse retires

Theresa Bradtmiller will retire later this month as Adams Memorial Hospital's chief nursing officer.

Bradtmiller has served in the role for five years. She announced her retirement at the hospital's board of trustees meeting last month, the Decatur Daily Democrat reported.

I&M donates

Indiana Michigan Power

and American Electric Power this week announced that it has donated more than \$4 million to support non-profits and other initiatives in Indiana and Michigan.

The list of contributions included being the presenting sponsor of Meridian Health Service's Holiday's at the Gresham, a physically distanced drive-thru light display that raised funds for their Child Advocacy Center, and a partnership with Ivy Tech, the NAACP and Forward Vision for scholarships to allow minority students to complete their degrees.

"Indiana Michigan Power, along with the AEP Foundation, is proud to have donated more than \$4 million in 2020 to improve the lives of our customers and communities we serve in Indiana and Michigan," said Toby Thomas, I&M

president and chief operating officer.

Delivery changes

Walmart and Walgreens have each announced recent changes to their delivery services.

Walgreens has launched same-day delivery through Instacart to residents in Illinois. It plans to roll out the service nationwide in the next few weeks.

"Convenience is at the core of what we do and Walgreens is thrilled to be partnering with Instacart to bring customers a simple and trusted same-day delivery option for the products they need right to their door," said Stefanie Kruse, Walgreens vice president of digital commerce and omnichannel, in a press release.

Walmart has dropped its \$35 minimum order requirement for its Express delivery. The option is now

available for any order, though there is a \$10 charge.

"Customers told us sometimes the items they needed in a hurry didn't meet the minimum, so we're removing it, making it even easier for customers to get what they need when they need it," said Walmart senior vice president of customer product Tom Ward in a press release.

Yum buys AI

Yum Brands on Tuesday announced that it has purchased artificial intelligence firm Kvantum.

Yum, which owns Taco Bell and Pizza Hut, will utilize the Kvantum in an effort to optimize its marketing spending, CNBC reported. Yum has already worked with Kvantum in some of its international markets.

"Kvantum is an innovator in data analytics and

marketing optimization and has a proven track record of delivering significant value to several of our international markets by enabling data-driven marketing decisions to increase sales and better leverage media budgets," Yum chief digital and technology officer Clay Johnson said in a statement.

Earnings announced

Dollar Tree on Wednesday announced that its consolidated net sales for the fourth quarter of 2020 were \$6.77 billion, up 7.2% from the previous year.

The company, which also owns Family Dollar, saw its gross profit for the quarter increase by 9.8% from 2019. Net income for the fourth quarter was \$502.8 million.

For the year, consolidated net sales were \$25.51 billion, which was up 8% from 2019. Net income was \$1.34 billion.

Railroads tout trains over trucks in pitch

By JENNIFER A. DLOUTHY and KEITH LAING
Bloomberg

U.S. freight railroads are trying to take advantage of a train enthusiast president who's concerned about global warming with a lobbying campaign depicting their industry as a solution to climate change.

The Association of American Railroads on Monday advanced policy proposals it says would help pare greenhouse gas emissions, including some that would disadvantage competitors trucking goods. Those include replacing the current gasoline tax with a fee on vehicle miles traveled and dedicated government funding for passenger rail that could appeal to President Joe Biden's fondness for Amtrak.

"This administration has been very clear about wanting to weave climate into its broader efforts," said the association's chief executive, Ian Jefferies, chief executive of the association which represents heavy-



Bloomberg/Luke Sharrett

An eastbound grain train passes by flatcars loaded with concrete cross ties on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co. Southern Transcontinental line in Alva, Oklahoma.

weights like CSX Corp. and Berkshire Hathaway Inc.'s Burlington Northern Santa Fe. The rail industry hasn't aggressively engaged on climate policy before, but "it's a very relevant

moment in time to be talking about this."

The lobbying push underscores how climate policy decisions made by the Biden administration and Congress could cre-

ate winners and losers across the U.S. economy. It also illustrates how the administration's focus on climate change is spurring U.S. transportation companies to get more aggressive in shrinking their carbon footprints and shaping federal policy on the issue.

Central to the group's pitch: Rail is the most environmentally sound way to transport goods across the U.S., and policymakers should encourage more of it.

"There's no denying that moving goods by rail is more efficient and emissions-friendly than moving goods over the highway," Jefferies said. "Nobody benefits from sitting in traffic for hours and hours and their freight sitting in traffic."

The transportation sector is the biggest source of greenhouse gases in the U.S., but the vast majority of those planet-warming emissions come from cars and trucks. Rail is responsible for just 2% of sector's emissions, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, even though

railroads account for roughly 40% of U.S. long-distance freight volume.

According to the association, if 10% of freight shipped by the largest trucks were moved by rail, greenhouse gas emissions would fall by more than 17 million tons annually.

The group is lobbying for government-backed research in alternatives for powering trains, building on industry efforts such as a BNSF Railway Co. test of a battery electric locomotive and a Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. and Canadian National LLC pilot project exploring hydrogen fuel cell locomotives.

The association also sees openings in market-based climate policies, such as a tax on greenhouse gas emissions, and opportunities to transport carbon dioxide captured at power plants and manufacturing facilities.

The association's chief push is for overhauling how the U.S. pays for roads, highways and bridges.

State commerce secretary resigns

Schellinger served in business recruitment role for four years

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The head of Indiana's business recruitment efforts has resigned after more than four years in the position.

Indiana Secretary of Commerce Jim Schellinger submitted his resignation effective immediately on Wednesday to Gov. Eric Holcomb and the Indiana Economic Development Corp. board of directors.

Schellinger called his time in the position a "terrific ride," but said "like all great things in life, this too must come to an end."

Holcomb said in a statement that he reluctantly accepted Schellinger's resignation, praising him for helping bring record-breaking job commitments to the state. Holcomb said he would move quickly to appoint a replacement.

Schellinger was previously the CEO of Indianapolis-based CSO Architects and he unsuccessfully sought the Democratic nomination for governor in 2008.

Then-Gov. Mike Pence named Schellinger as president of the Indiana Economic Development Corp. in 2015. Holcomb appointed Schellinger as the state commerce secretary when he became governor in 2017.

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The Commercial Review
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3-6 CRYPTOQUIP

BE IWKUI'G XMF LIUI M
RKUGI BOGCIMN KE M YIMU,
ZMWYI RI LKVFN YI OMZIN
LRBOOW CRI XKKR.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT MIGHT
SOMEBODY CALL A RENOWNED
PHOTOGRAPHER WHO HAS BECOME A
CELEBRITY? A SHOOTING STAR.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: W equals Y

Trivial Review

(Answers are printed below, upside down.)

What about the weather?

- 1) The U.S. ranks first for average
tornadoes each year. What country is second?
2) What state is home to all of the
top five most lightning-prone U.S. cities?

(1) Canada
(2) Florida

3-8 CRYPTOQUIP

QGFU BCHH ZQGZ HGBMHLMT
YMZ RJ SMBFWMUFTY BMTYZQJ
HAFMBH CWMU GTS CWMU:

LGBM AGZZMU RGBSTMHH.
Saturday's Cryptoquip: IF EYORE'S PAL WERE
A HORSE INSTEAD OF A BEAR, MAYBE HE
WOULD BE NAMED WHINNY THE POOH.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals L

CRYPTO FUN
Solve the code to discover words related to frozen foods.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(A. 21 16 22 22 3 22 16
Clue: Cold storage)
(B. 15 22 21 8 9 1 22 16 7
Clue: Extra portions)
(C. 21 15 5 7 2
Clue: Done quickly; in a ___
(D. 20 12 22
Clue: Frozen water)

WORD SCRAMBLE
Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to frozen foods.
ORSFT
Answer: Frost

Guess Who?
I am an Instagram star born in England on March 4, 1999. My parents are a famous soccer player and a former pop star. I made my first television appearance at age 3, and I have three younger siblings. I share my first name with a borough in New York.
Answer: Brooklyn Beckham



PEOPLE FACT:
THIS IS A REGULAR ACTIVITY OR INTEREST DONE FOR PLEASURE OR RELAXATION.
Answer: Hobby

Math Blocks
Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-9.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.
9 2 11
3 12
1 4 10
18 4 11

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY
MAR 5
•1770: THE BOSTON MASSACRE TAKES PLACE.
•1946: WINSTON CHURCHILL DELIVERS HIS FAMOUS IRON CURTAIN SPEECH.
•1982: THE SOVIET PROBE VENERA 14 LANDS ON VENUS.

FROZEN FOODS WORD SEARCH
WORDS: BURGERS, CAKES, DESSERT, FISH, FRENCH FRIES, GARLIC BREAD, HASH BROWNS, ICE CREAM, LEFTOVERS, MEALS, NUGGETS, PANCAKES, PASTA, PIZZA, POT PIE, POTSTICKERS, POULTRY, SANDWICHES, TOASTER CAKES, VEGETABLES, WAFFLES, WHIPPED TOPPING.

How they say that in...
ENGLISH: Bead
SPANISH: Cuenta
ITALIAN: Perla
FRENCH: Perle
GERMAN: Perlen

Get Scrambled
Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.
NKGNTTII EDNESLE
Answer: Knitting needles

New word
PATINA
film or sheen on metals and wood formed by age and oxidation

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 PC 2 Lima's 23 Bikini half
1 Fuel stat alternative land 24 Fun
4 Mama — 37 Comics 3 Tennis and
Elliot cry great games
8 Dross 38 Entertains Steffi 25 Consume
12 Not lavishly 4 Stopped 26 Satchel
'neath 45 MP's 5 World 27 Cushion
13 Jazzy quarry record? 28 Salt
James 46 Lincoln 6 Ollie's Lake
14 Nozzle in-law pal athlete
site 47 — Dhabi 7 Backyard 29 Part of
15 La-la 48 Misplace play MPH
lead-in 49 Actress area 31 Tracked
16 Country Falco 8 Show down
singer 50 La —, indifference 32 "Kon- —"
Jackson Bolivia 34 "—
17 Banister 51 Leg joint 9 Challah Kapital"
18 Throws a 52 Monopoly unit 35 Tied the
hissy fit card 10 "Dream knot
21 Guitar 53 Sailor's on!" 36 Donny-
master assent 11 Hair brook
Paul goops 37 "Frasier"
22 Huge DOWN 19 Envelope pooch
23 The staff 1 Adult part 38 Stroll
of life silkworm 20 Glutton 39 Victor's
26 Cranberry cry
territory Solution time: 26 mins. 40 Plane
27 Young part
seal REM MAE WRIST
30 Harvest QUI PHOTOBOMB
31 Remiss ORG SONIA
32 London gallery LOAF MOD OAHU
ACRES RAE EAGLES
33 Play SPOUSE STE
segment HAND TAT DRAB
SCRAP UNE
34 Pooch BOMB SHELL LIB
35 More ONSET ALE EMO
DEGAS SSA SAP
Yesterday's answer 3-6

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14
15 16 17
18 19 20
21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31 32
33 34 35
36 37
38 39 40 41 42 43 44
45 46 47
48 49 50
51 52 53

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand
West dealer. East-West vulnerable.
NORTH
4 3
—
AKJ 10 4
AKJ 10 4 3
WEST
K 10 6
AKQJ 10 8 7 6 4
—
8
EAST
A 5 2
9 5 3 2
9 8 6 3
6 5
SOUTH
QJ 9 8 7
—
Q 7 5 2
Q 9 7 2
The bidding:
West North East South
1♥ 2NT Pass 5♦
5♥ 6♦ Dble
Opening lead — king of hearts.
Some hands are loaded with dynamite. For example, take this one from the 1984 national men's team championship.
At the first table, with Eric Rodwell and Jeff Meckstroth sitting North-South, the bidding went as shown. The two-notrump overcall by North was "unusual," indicating at least five cards in each of the minor suits.
After Meckstroth jumped to five diamonds, Rodwell tried six diamonds, which East doubled. A spade or club lead would have defeated the contract, but unfortunately for his side, West led a heart. Declarer discarded a spade from dummy, ruffed in his hand and so made the slam to score 1,090 points.
At the second table, the bidding was opened by West with four clubs, a conventional bid indicating a hand that most players would open with four hearts. North overcalled with four notrump, showing length in the minors, and East bid five hearts. South now bid five notrump, in effect announcing he could support either minor suit. After West bid six hearts, North ventured seven clubs, which East (Larry Cohen, playing with Marty Bergen) doubled.
East led the ace of spades, on which West played his lowest spade, the six, whereupon East shifted to a diamond, which he knew from the bidding his partner would ruff. The spade king then provided another trick for the defense, and declarer wound up down three.
Cohen and Bergen were thus plus 500 with the East-West cards at their table, and this, added to the 1,090 points their teammates scored at the other table, produced a total gain of 1,590 points on the deal. With the aid of several similar results on other deals, their team went on to win the championship.
Tomorrow: Add a string to your bow. © 2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

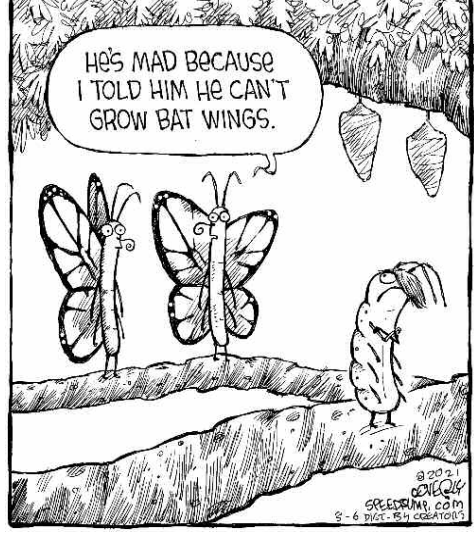
Big things in small packages
East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
7 5 4 3 2
6
7 5 4
K 7 3 2
WEST
QJ 8 5 3
KQ 8 2
J 9 8 6
EAST
J 9
AK 10 9 7 4 2
9 3
10 5
SOUTH
AKQ 10 8 6
—
AJ 10 6
AQ 4
The bidding:
East South West North
3♥ Dble 4♥ Pass
4♣ 5♥ Pass
6♣
Opening lead — queen of hearts.
For the want of a nail, the kingdom was lost" might well apply to many bridge hands where a seemingly insignificant card makes all the difference between success and failure for declarer.
If declarer doesn't have the critical card, then he can't be held accountable for the outcome. But if he has it when play begins and misuses it, he has no one to blame but himself for an unsatisfactory result.
Take this deal where South wound up in six spades after a highly competitive auction. Pleased with his prospects, he ruffed the opening heart lead with the six, drew trump and then played the A-Q-K of clubs, setting the stage for an onramp.
If the clubs had broken 3-3, or if West had started with only two clubs, the plan would have succeeded. South would then have led a diamond to the jack, forcing a diamond return from West into the A-10 or a ruff-and-discard, either of which would have yielded the slam.
As it was, though, when declarer led a diamond to the jack, West won and exited with his remaining club. South ruffed and had to lose another diamond for down one.
As the cards lie, declarer could have made his contract by ruffing dummy's club and leading the jack of diamonds from his hand. But this would not have worked out well if East had started with one of the diamond honors. However, given that the slam was a sure thing from the start regardless of how the opposing cards were divided, that declarer mis-guessed how to play at the end at least served the interests of justice.
To assure the slam, all declarer has to do is ruff the opening heart lead with any spade higher than the six. After drawing trump and cashing the A-Q-K of clubs, he ruffs dummy's last club high and then leads the six of spades to dummy's seven. Now a diamond to the jack truly endplays West.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 40 Mine 22 Madonna's
1 Talk on yield "La —
and on 41 Villain's guy Bonita"
4 Compete blemish 2 Sternward 23 Track
in a bee 43 Eye 3 Ghostly timer
9 Pro Bowl slyly greeting 27 School
stats 45 Source of gum 4 Mouths org.
12 Martian mover arabic 5 Clergymen 29 Skater
13 Quarrel 47 Hoosier St. 6 Ovum Lipinski
14 Like sashimi 48 Long. 7 Moon- 30 Editor's
related "keep it"
15 Octagonal crosser 8 Textbook 32 Avocado
warnings 49 Diamond chapter dip, for
17 Italian position 9 Highway 34 Offici- ated at
article 54 Curved meal Yankee
18 Enzyme suffix line locale Stadium
19 Refuse trimmer 10 Comic Carvey 37 Spec-
trum
recept- 55 Lawn Carvey creators
tacle 56 Colorful 11 Cygnet's 39 Gate
game 16 Bud tender
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33 R-V link B R E A D B O G P U P
35 Doc's R E A P L A X T A T E
"Now!" A C T D O G W I D E R
36 Drink W I N E S A N D D I N E S
eagerly A W O L T O D D A B U
38 Mornings L O S E E D I E P A Z
(Abbr.) K N E E D E E D A Y E
Saturday's answer 3-8

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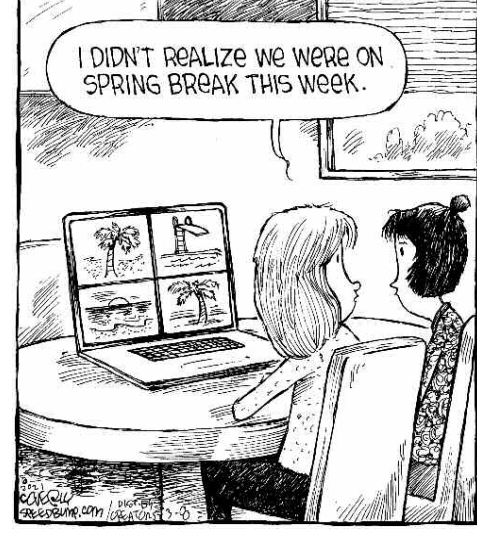
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



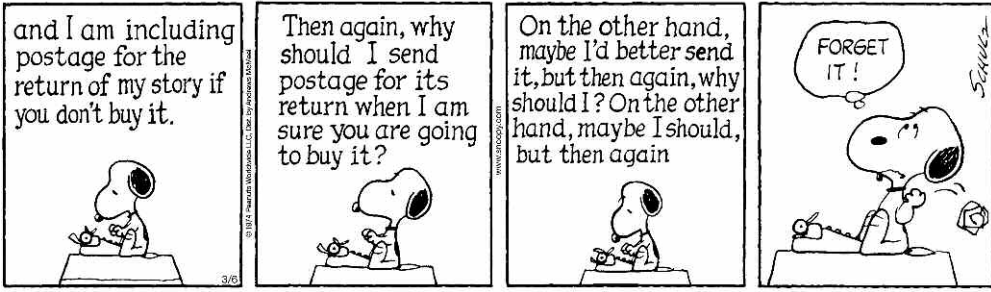
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



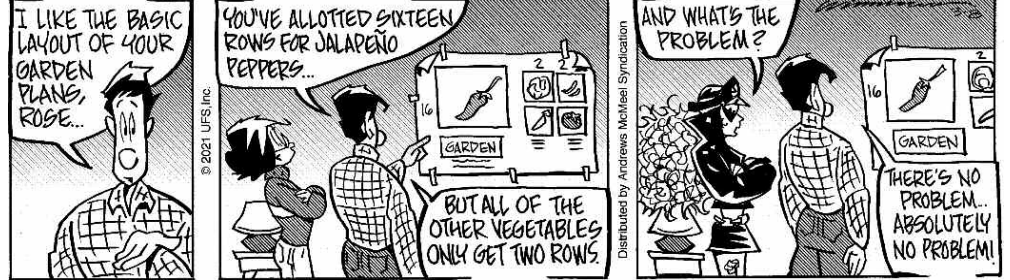
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



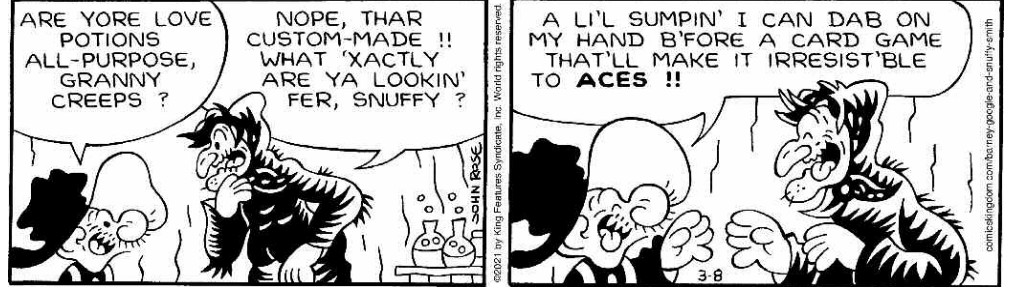
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



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Laughter



Her assertion... agency in which IRS supervisors... more than a year... claims by th... Washington on... hall group of... with agents in the field but didn't... an office... solely responsi... agents were doing... Paz said... ing the... g the... talked about handling... provided... cases, but he thought the term... IRS officials... were merely sho... for all employees... target conserva... applications from... part of a joint... anyone in the... were politically active - conser... ration outside... vative and liberal. Paz said dozens of tea party House Ways and Means... Instead, Paz described an applications set untouched for tee...

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CLASSIFIED ADS 260-726-8141 ADVERTISING RATES 20 Word Minimum Effective 07/01/2018: Minimum charge.... \$12.40 1 insertion.....62¢/word 2 insertions.....81¢/word 3 insertions.....96¢/word 6 insertions.... \$1.14/word 12 insertions. \$1.52/word 26 insertions. \$1.77/word Includes Online.....FREE Classified Display \$6.95/ per column inch No borders or logos allowed on Classified Page Card of Thanks Up to 100 words.... \$13.00 In Memory Up to 100 words.... \$13.00 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.

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

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PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 3413 W 100 S, Portland, IN Saturday, March 6, 2021 10:00am 7+ acres w/4brm, 1 1/2ba, ranch style home. 2011 Lincoln MKX, 1999 Dodge 1500 Laramie SLT, 1978 Dodge PW-250 JD Z-930M, 3010NF diesel non-running, 42 pull-type combine; 2005 Polaris; EZ-Go golf cart; skid steer; 6x10 trailer. Bush Hog; power washer; 5500watt generator; welder; PTO seeder; wrenches shop tools; log chains; 3-wheel bike. Wood washing tub; 30gal cast iron kettle, dinner bell; mantle clocks; furniture; 5gal crock; lamps; mirrors; dresser; twin bed; end tables; gun safe; washer/dryer; upright freezer; kitchen smalls; much more. Dick Haffner Trust Mike Haffner, Trustee Shawver Auctioneering & Real Estate AC31800004 Visit www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com Auctioneer ID #4243 To See Pictures. Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229

PUBLIC AUCTION 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; Cocks; Milk cans; Jewelry; Pocket watches; Cast iron skillets; Germany 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 Coons Family Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Troy Foust AU19800068

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 supercedes prior statements or advertisements, not responsible for accidents. Portions of this auction may be recorded. Auctioneer licensed by the State of Ohio. Licenced Real Estate Agent in Ohio. Go to our website at www.arling-evvers.com or auctionzip.com Frank (Wills) Arling-Osgood, OH 419-582-3801 or 937-670-6886 Brandon Arling-Maria Stein, OH 567-644-4851

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Located on 100 S between S Knox Rd & Hwy1, South Side (Half a mile west of Hy 1 on 100 S) Monday, March 8, 2021 Time 4:30 pm Real Estate: 55 acres located on section 26 of Knox Twp., Jay County, Indiana. Practically all tillable with frontage on CR 100 S. Farm sells on site. Terms on Real Estate: Cash with 10% non-refundable deposit day of auction. Balance due at closing. Sale not subject to buyer obtaining financing. Arrange financing if needed prior to auction. Final sale subject to owner confirmation. Owner Larry Denney & Others Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad. Shawver Auctioneering & Real Estate AC31800004 Visit www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com for pictures. Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice Des. No. 1600828

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is planning to undertake a historic bridge project funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The project is located on State Road (SR) 26 over the Salamonie River, 0.75 mile east of SR 27, in Portland, Jay County, Indiana. Under the preferred alternative, the proposed project would involve removing the existing Bridge No. 026-38-03430A (NBI 7040), a 150-foot-long single span steel Parker through-truss built in 1941 and constructing a new bridge on essentially the same alignment as existing. The new bridge would consist of three spans at 50', 100' and 50' to provide adequate hydraulic capacity for the crossing. The typical section would consist of two 11'-0" travel lanes with 4'-0" shoulders for a clear travel way of 30'-0". Bridge railing would be type FC concrete barriers. The out-to-out measurement of the bridge deck would be 33'-0". Two wall piers and end bents would support the structure. It is anticipated the project will require a total right-of-way acquisition of 0.73 acre. No relocation of residents or businesses will be required for this project. Bridge No. 026-38-03430A, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its engineering significance, is classified as a "Non-Select" bridge by the INDOT Historic Bridge Inventory and, thus, the procedures outlined in Stipulation III.B. of the Historic Bridges Programmatic Agreement (HBPA) will be followed to fulfill FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for the project. Per Stipulation III.B. of the HBPA, INDOT will hold a public hearing for the project prior to completion of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies. The hearing will be advertised at a later date. To satisfy FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for the other historic resources that may be in the Area of Potential Effects (APE), FHWA will comply with the requirements of 36 CFR Parts 800.3-800.6. Regarding other resources in the APE, INDOT, on behalf of the FHWA, has issued a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding for the project. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the views of the public are being sought regarding the effect of the proposed project on the historic elements as per 36 CFR 800.2(d), 800.3(e) and 800.6(a)(4). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the documentation specified in 36 CFR 800.11(d) is available for inspection in the office of SJCA Inc. (formerly Green 3, LLC). Additionally, this documentation can be viewed electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at http://erms.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents. This documentation serves as the basis for the "No Historic Properties Affected" finding. The views of the public on this effect finding are being sought. Please reply with any comments to Scott Henley, SJCA Inc. 1104 Prospect Street, Indianapolis, IN 46203 317.566.0629 or shenley@sjcainc.com no later than April 7, 2021. In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which INDOT needs to provide accessibility to the document(s) such as interpreters or readers, please contact Jeremy Greene, INDOT Project Manager, (317) 467-3472 or jgreene@indot.IN.gov. to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents. SJCA, Inc. 1104 Prospect St., Indianapolis, IN 46203 317-566-0629

CR 3-6-2021NS 3-10-201- HSPAXLP

CR 3-6-2021 HSPAXLP

INMAN U-LOC Storage. Mini storage, five sizes. Security fence or 24 hour access units. Gate hours: 8:00-8:00 daily. Pearl Street, Portland. 260-726-2833

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice CSO NOTIFICATION RULE 327 IAC5-2.1 The Town of Redkey has a combined sewer system. Storm water and sanitary waste are transported to the wastewater treatment plant in the same sewers. During wet weather events, rainfall or snow melt, the sewers may become hydraulically overloaded to the point that some storm and wastewater goes to the receiving stream. Redkey Run or Halfway Creed, without being treated through the plant. When this occurs there is a potential for persons coming in contact with the creek water to become ill. The Town will provide Public Notification when an overflow event occurs to prevent persons from making contact with the water. Notices are posted at the CSO sites that read as follows: CAUTION Sewage Pollution Sewage may be in this water during and for several days after periods of rainfall or snow melt. People who swim in, wade in, or ingest this water may get sick. For more information, please call the Redkey Wastewater Treatment Plant at 765-369-2711. Randy Young Certified Operator Dottie Quakenbush Town Council President Dated this 5TH day of March, 2021 CR 3-6-2021NS 3-10-201- HSPAXLP

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

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT CAUSE NO. 38C01-2101-MF-000002 CROSSROADS FINANCIAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff, VS. DAVID A. BROWN, Defendant. NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a Decree to me directed by the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in cause no. 38C01-2101-MF-000002, wherein CROSSROADS FINANCIAL FEDERAL CREDIT UNION is Plaintiff and DAVID A. BROWN is Defendant, rendering a Judgment in favor of Plaintiff in the sum of \$28,396.61, together with interest and costs thereon, ordering me to sell the real estate hereinafter described to make assets for the payment of said Judgment, and having served notice of this sale upon each owner claiming interest in the real estate hereinafter described, pursuant to the provisions of I.C. 32-29-7-3, including publication upon any owner whose whereabouts are unknown, I will expose for sale at public auction to the highest bidder on the 1st day of April, 2021, at 10 AM, at the Office of the Sheriff of Jay County, Indiana, 224 West Water Street, in the City of Portland, Indiana 47371, the real estate described as follows: Forty-eight feet off and along the entire east side of Lot One Hundred Eight (108) in South Portland, now a part of the City of Portland, Indiana More commonly known as 204 West 2nd Street, Portland, IN 47371 together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof. Said sale will be made for cash and without any relief whatsoever from valuation and appraisal laws, and the purchaser at such sale will receive a Sheriff's Deed to real estate as by law provided. Dwane Ford Sheriff of Jay County, Indiana Attorney Rick Sprunger 1540 Shady Oak Dr. Berne, IN 46711. CR 2-27-3-6,13-2021 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice Des. No. 1600828

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is planning to undertake a historic bridge project funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The project is located on State Road (SR) 26 over the Salamonie River, 0.75 mile east of SR 27, in Portland, Jay County, Indiana. Under the preferred alternative, the proposed project would involve removing the existing Bridge No. 026-38-03430A (NBI 7040), a 150-foot-long single span steel Parker through-truss built in 1941 and constructing a new bridge on essentially the same alignment as existing. The new bridge would consist of three spans at 50', 100' and 50' to provide adequate hydraulic capacity for the crossing. The typical section would consist of two 11'-0" travel lanes with 4'-0" shoulders for a clear travel way of 30'-0". Bridge railing would be type FC concrete barriers. The out-to-out measurement of the bridge deck would be 33'-0". Two wall piers and end bents would support the structure. It is anticipated the project will require a total right-of-way acquisition of 0.73 acre. No relocation of residents or businesses will be required for this project. Bridge No. 026-38-03430A, which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C for its engineering significance, is classified as a "Non-Select" bridge by the INDOT Historic Bridge Inventory and, thus, the procedures outlined in Stipulation III.B. of the Historic Bridges Programmatic Agreement (HBPA) will be followed to fulfill FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for the project. Per Stipulation III.B. of the HBPA, INDOT will hold a public hearing for the project prior to completion of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) studies. The hearing will be advertised at a later date. To satisfy FHWA's Section 106 responsibilities for the other historic resources that may be in the Area of Potential Effects (APE), FHWA will comply with the requirements of 36 CFR Parts 800.3-800.6. Regarding other resources in the APE, INDOT, on behalf of the FHWA, has issued a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding for the project. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the views of the public are being sought regarding the effect of the proposed project on the historic elements as per 36 CFR 800.2(d), 800.3(e) and 800.6(a)(4). Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1), the documentation specified in 36 CFR 800.11(d) is available for inspection in the office of SJCA Inc. (formerly Green 3, LLC). Additionally, this documentation can be viewed electronically by accessing INDOT's Section 106 document posting website IN SCOPE at http://erms.indot.in.gov/Section106Documents. This documentation serves as the basis for the "No Historic Properties Affected" finding. The views of the public on this effect finding are being sought. Please reply with any comments to Scott Henley, SJCA Inc. 1104 Prospect Street, Indianapolis, IN 46203 317.566.0629 or shenley@sjcainc.com no later than April 7, 2021. In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which INDOT needs to provide accessibility to the document(s) such as interpreters or readers, please contact Jeremy Greene, INDOT Project Manager, (317) 467-3472 or jgreene@indot.IN.gov. to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents. SJCA, Inc. 1104 Prospect St., Indianapolis, IN 46203 317-566-0629

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Meet ...

Continued from page 10

Though he said he's thought about the various ways he could beat the veteran, he believes the fight may come down to the mental game and being prepared to go the full 15 minutes.

"I've been training for a long time, pretty much preparing for this moment. ... I think a little bit of patience is going to be the key to this fight," he said. "We've all got fast kicks, hands, knees, can grapple really well. ... He's well-rounded, very skilled in every aspect. So I think ... the mental warfare and patience is going to be key to beating him."

Though Cruz brings the pedigree, Kenney is a slight betting favorite to win the fight.

The two-time wrestling state medalist for Jay County owns a 5-1 UFC record and is riding a three-fight winning streak. He finished Louis Smolka with a guillotine choke in May and then won a pair of October bouts on Fight Island, topping Heili Alateng and Nathaniel Wood each by unanimous decision.

He had targeted a return to the octagon in mid-December and even had the contract drawn up for one more fight in 2020. But, it fell through. Looking back, he said that was probably a blessing as it allowed time for his body to recover after a punishing fight against Wood and to get in a full camp heading into the bout against Cruz.

Kenney's lone UFC loss was by unanimous decision to Merab Dvalishvili, who is now

'He's a former champion, considered one of the greatest of the division. Not necessarily a title shot off of this, but it definitely heads me in the right direction.'

—Casey Kenney

ranked 12th in the division. Cruz is No. 11.

"He's a former champion, considered one of the greatest of the division," said Kenney, noting the opportunity to bump himself up the UFC charts. "Not necessarily a title shot off of this, but it definitely heads me in the right direction."

"It's everything. It's a surreal moment. But it feels like any other fight week, any other fight. That's the mentality that I'm approaching it with inside the octagon. ... This will be my 20th professional bout. ... It is a big step in my career and it feels great, but really it feels like any other fight. That's the mentality and how I want it to feel in there."

Releases ...

Continued from page 10

Smith had Washington off to a 6-3 start that season before breaking his right fibula and tibia in a home game Nov. 18 against Houston. He was hospitalized for almost a month and had a stabilizer on his leg after he was released.

After an arduous rehab, Smith was back in playing shape by last summer and started training camp on the physically unable to perform list. The 2005 No. 1 pick was third on the depth chart behind Dwayne Haskins and Kyle Allen.

It took Rivera benching and demoting Haskins and Allen getting injured for Smith to get on the field. He made his first appearance since the injury Oct. 11 against the Rams and struggled in the poor weather conditions before returning to a backup role.

When Allen injured his right ankle, Smith started at Detroit on Nov. 15 and threw for 390 yards in a 30-27 loss. He won his next four starts before injuring the calf muscle in the same right leg he broke two years earlier but was just healthy enough to lead Washington to a victory in the regular-season finale at Philadelphia to win the NFC East and make the playoffs.

With Smith unable to play against Tampa Bay in the wild-card round, Taylor Heinicke impressed but fell short in a loss to the eventual

Super Bowl-champion Buccaneers.

"Obviously, it's not the way you want to finish the season, so in that sense, it's frustrating," Smith said. "But, bigger picture, to be back playing a role and even being in this situation is something that if had you presented that to me a year ago, two years ago, obviously, I would've jumped at."

Behind the scenes, the gears were already moving in the direction of Smith not returning. While Rivera was non-committal about Smith being on the roster next season, Washington resigned Heinicke to a two-year deal worth up to \$8.75 million and is expected to bring back Allen.

Washington went 11-5 in games Smith started and 5-26 in games he didn't. He could draw interest around the league by teams looking for a mentor figure who could play in a pinch.

That includes the Jacksonville Jaguars, who hired Smith's college coach, Urban Meyer, to lead their turnaround. The Jaguars have the No. 1 pick 16 years after Smith was taken first by San Francisco and figure to select Clemson's Trevor Lawrence.

Smith has thrown for 199 touchdowns, 109 interceptions and 35,650 yards in 14 NFL seasons for San Francisco, Kansas City and Washington. He missed two full years of his career to injury.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Don't jump the pump!

Delta's Riley Woodin flew through the air after biting on a pump fake from Jay County High School sophomore Bennett Weitzel during the first quarter of the Class 3A Sectional 24 quarterfinal on Tuesday at New Castle Fieldhouse. The Patriots lost, 42-26, ending their season 7-11 giving them a losing record for the second consecutive season.

Pavelich dies at facility

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—A member of the "Miracle on Ice" Olympic hockey team has died at a treatment center for mental illness.

Officials in Anoka County, Minnesota, confirmed Friday that 63-year-old Mark Pavelich died at the Eagle's Healing Nest in Sauk Centre, Minnesota, on Thursday morning. The cause and manner of death are still pending.

"We are saddened to hear about the passing of 1980 Olympic gold medalist Mark Pavelich," USA Hockey said in a statement. "We extend our deepest condolences to Mark's family & friends. (He is) forever a part of hockey history."

Pavelich was undergoing treatment at the home as part of a civil commitment for assaulting his neighbor in Cook County, Minnesota, in August 2019, the Minneapolis Star Tribune reported. Pavelich thought the man had spiked his beer.

He was charged with felony assault but a judge found he was incompetent to stand trial because he was mentally ill and dangerous.

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
Jay County — Junior high swimming hosts ACAC championships — 5:30 p.m.

March 13
Jay County — Junior high wrestling in ACAC championships at South Adams — 9 a.m.

March 15
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs.

Blackford — 6 p.m.

March 16
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.

TV schedule

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)
9 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Xavier at Marquette (FS1)

Sunday
Noon — Men's College Basketball: Houston at Memphis (CBS)
Noon — NHL Hockey: Buffalo Sabres at New York Islanders (NBC)
12:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Wisconsin at Iowa (FOX)
1:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Nebraska at Northwestern (BTN)
4 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Texas Tech at Butler (ESPN); Michigan at Michigan State (CBS)
8 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Oregon at Oregon State (FS1)
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: All-Star Game — Team LeBron vs. Team Durant (TNT)

Monday, March 8
9:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Northern Kentucky vs. Oakland (ESPN2)

Fire ...

Continued from page 10

Gragson moved to JR Motorsports, the team owned by Dale and Kelley Earnhardt with a Hendrick Motorsports alliance. He scored two wins last season, his second with the team, but made waves on and off the track.

Earnhardt Jr. told Gragson he was too aggressive and needed to reign it in a bit. Gragson tried for a bit, but found it just didn't suit his style.

"I tried to do what he said, but I just slowed down," Gragson said. "I didn't have the speed. I finally got into the playoffs and I'm like, 'Screw that, I'm going to go out there and race as hard as I can and be comfortable with myself.' And we had really good results."

The bumps continued on the track and off — he landed a right hook to the side of Harrison Burton's face in a July incident — and he's sparred on social media with his detractors.

Now it's ramped up again after last Saturday's race at Homestead-Miami Speedway, where Gragson had nearly a nine-second lead with three laps remaining when he ran into the back of a car he was trying to pass. David Starr was on the lead lap and didn't have to yield position, but Gragson let loose afterward on live TV.

Carl Long, owner of Starr's car, responded by calling Gragson an "over-entitled mouthpiece" who "did not have enough talent to miss our wreck." Fox Sports announcer Mike Joy even got involved.

"Our sport has always had 'funded' drivers," Joy wrote on Twitter. "But its (sic) high time a few of these privileged kids, powered by daddy's pile of cash, realize this whole sport doesn't exist just to make their dreams come true. Take some time to learn from those who've WORKED their way to the top."

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Jay junior high swimming hosts Starfires on Tuesday, see Sports on tap

Sports

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Kenney to meet former champ tonight

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Casey Kenney wants to stand atop the bantamweight division.

He sees no better way than to go through someone who has been there before.

Kenney, a 2009 Jay County High School graduate, is heading into the biggest fight of his career tonight as he takes on former bantamweight champion Dominick Cruz during UFC 259 at UFC Apex in Las Vegas.

"This is a fight I've been working for," said Kenney. "It's why I got into the sport, to fight guys like this. Ultimately, I want to become champion of the UFC."

Jay County graduate is part of preliminary card for UFC 259

This is the exact position I want to be in. Knocking off a former champion is exactly what people want to see when they talk about you fighting for a title. So, here we are."

The Kenney/Cruz fight will be part of the preliminary card,

which begins at 8 p.m. on ESPN and ESPN+. The main card features three title bouts, including Petr Yan putting the bantamweight title on the line against No. 1 contender Aljamain Sterling. Jan Blachowicz will defend his light heavy-

weight title against middleweight champion Israel Adesanya in the main event.

Cruz is the type of opponent for whom Kenney has been waiting.

The 35-year-old from San Diego was UFC's first bantamweight champion, being awarded the title after defeating Scott Jorgensen in 2010. He vacated the title just over three years later because of injuries, but captured it again with a split decision win over TJ Dillashaw in January 2016.

He lost the title to Cody Garbrandt in his first defense before going on a hiatus of near-

ly three and a half years as injuries derailed several planned bouts. He returned to try to reclaim the title in May 2020, but lost to Henry Cejudo by technical knockout.

Sporting a 22-3 career record, all of Cruz's losses thus far have come with the UFC bantamweight title on the line.

Kenney was nothing but complimentary of the former champion, noting his style of switching stances, keeping his hands down, using a lot of head movement and applying pressure in addition to possessing excellent stamina.

See Meet page 9

Washington releases Smith

By STEPHEN WHYNO

AP Sports Writer

Washington released AP Comeback Player of the Year Alex Smith on Friday, a move that was expected but still provides a cold ending to the veteran quarterback's storybook tenure with the organization.

Smith's release clears just under \$15 million in salary cap space for Washington, which is hoping to figure out its long-term QB situation and fill many holes in the aftermath of a 7-9 season, NFC East title and wild-card round loss. Coach Ron Rivera said he met with Smith this week, each side figured it was best to move on, and the organization granted Smith's request to be released.

"I want to thank Alex for his contributions this past year," Rivera said in a statement. "He made such an impact on our young roster, and his leadership was one of the key factors in our late-season success and in making the playoffs for the first time since 2015."

Smith made a triumphant return to NFL action last season, two years after breaking two bones in his right leg and requiring 17 surgeries to repair it. His battle against a life-threatening infection and long rehab process to get back on the field became a documentary and an inspirational tale whether he played again or not. And, of course, he did play again.

"To me, it was more about the attempt and the journey than the outcome," Smith said Jan. 10. "If I had come up short trying to come back, I would have slept just fine at night knowing I tried. To me, it was more about that mindset of actually putting myself out there and attempting and really, really attempting this."

Warm and fuzzy feelings evaporated not long after Smith led Washington to its first playoff berth in five years. Comments by Rivera and new executives Martin Mayhew and Marty Hurney and the financial ramifications of releasing Smith now made it clear he wasn't in the plans for next season as the team looks to find a franchise quarterback.

Smith has indicated he plans to continue playing at age 37. He recently told GQ in his most pointed comments yet that Washington didn't want him to come back from his injury — another indication he knew his future would be elsewhere.

Just three years ago, Smith was Washington's present and future at the position. The previous regime, led by president Bruce Allen, agreed to trade a third-round pick and cornerback Kendall Fuller to Kansas City for Smith and sign him to a \$94 million, four-year extension with \$71 million guaranteed in February 2018.

See Releases page 9



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Sectional smile

Lilly Rogers, a Jay County High School sophomore, smiles while she performs on the floor exercise during the IHSAA gymnastics sectional on Feb. 27 at Concordia Lutheran in Fort Wayne. The Jay team scored 85.65 points, their highest total of the season, and finished seventh.

Gragson under fire in Vegas return

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

LAS VEGAS — NASCAR has a new villain and he doesn't really care what anyone thinks about him.

Noah Gragson is the starring figure in the latest uproar that is typical NASCAR. He crashed while leading last weekend's race and ran his mouth afterward. How it was received depends on how you feel about Gragson.

He can be viewed as a refreshing

young Xfinity Series driver unafraid to show his personality in a sport stuffed with straight-laced corporate promoters. Some instead see him as an entitled 22-year-old from a wealthy family who is underserving of the attention and maybe even his ride.

He's back home in Las Vegas for Saturday's race and finds himself at the center of a heated debate. Should he continue the defiant "I'm going to be me" stance or take a step back?

"That's my job is to get people talking about me. And it's going good right now," Gragson said.

Gragson has been building to this moment the last four years, following a path blazed by NASCAR champions Kurt and Kyle Busch, who are also from Las Vegas. He was in the Truck Series at 18 driving for Kyle Busch's team, but the pipeline that traditionally leads to a Joe Gibbs Racing ride only got him three Xfinity Series races.

See Fire page 9



JOHN DEERE



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