

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

County revisits animal control

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Formal countywide animal control plans are in the works.

Jay County Commissioner Brian McGalliard revisited the discussion about animal control in the county at Monday's commissioners meeting.

McGalliard announced he has been talking with local officials about a countywide animal control ordinance. He said he would like for the entire county to work under the same ordinance.

County attorney Bill Hinkle added work is underway on a proposal to have Jay County

Commissioners discuss possibility of contracting with humane society

Humane Society handle animal control in the county.

Animal control officers Bill and Kathy Fields contracted with the county and City of Portland before they retired at the end of

2020. Both the humane society and Midwest Pet Refuge gave verbal consent at a December meeting to provide animal control for the county for the first quarter of 2021. No formal contract has been

drafted yet. Each organization was offered \$5,500 for the service, although neither have been paid yet either.

Currently, there are three different animal control ordinances, Hinkle explained, one each for the county, Portland and Dunkirk.

"I think it's a good idea, but I think this, to me, is a little bit hinged upon whether the humane society is willing to take that responsibility," he said.

Commissioners plan to invite humane society and Midwest Pet Refuge representatives to their next meeting March 22.

If the humane society agrees

and signs a contract, it will be formally responsible for animal control across the county.

Humane society president Mindy Weaver explained in a phone call later the shelter has been taking calls regardless of location.

"Of course we love animals so any calls we get we're going to respond," she said, adding she's not sure if the group will be able to keep up if the volume of calls increases. "Right now it seems like it's OK."

She's not sure everyone in the county understands they're the place to call for stray dogs or cats. See **Animal** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Choir 'Climb'

Alix Englehardt performs "The Climb" on Sunday evening during the Fort Recovery High School choir concert in the elementary/middle school auditoria. Englehardt performed the Miley Cyrus hit along with Mackenzie Steinbrunner.

Dunkirk utility fee is passed

Funds will go toward stormwater upgrades

By ROSE SKELLY
The Commercial Review

DUNKIRK — A new monthly utility fee is intended to help pay for flooding mitigation and stormwater upgrades in the city.

Dunkirk City Council approved an ordinance on first reading Monday to establish a \$10 monthly stormwater utility fee.

It will be up for approval on second reading at council's next meeting.

The utility fee, which was given the green light at council's Feb. 22 meeting, will be charged for each parcel of land in the city limits. It will be assessed on property tax bills, with residents and landowners paying \$60 twice a year.

While the fees collected during the first two years will go toward setting up the utility and to the regular stormwater operating costs, they will eventually start to accumulate in a non-reverting fund.

That fund will be used to pay for upgrades to the city's stormwater utility system, which should help mitigate flooding. The city's utility plan includes an estimated \$2 million in needed improvements, including replacing storm sewers, improving the retention pond and updating the GPS and GIS databases.

Council president Jesse Bivens noted while the city has tried to prevent flooding with various projects, only infrastructure upgrades will solve the problem.

"The broken stuff is still broken," Bivens said. "We need to stop the reoccurring things by fixing them."

Council member Bryan Jessup said even though he's reluctant to institute new fees, he supported the stormwater utility fee as a necessary step for the city.

"Ever since I've been on this council we've had people in here again and again and again with flooding problems and damage to their homes, damage to their property, and we don't have the money to do anything about it," Jessup said.

See **Fee** page 5

Quarry pitch faces opposition

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

U.S. Aggregates continued to make its case for expanding its operation to the north.

Some local residents continued to express their opposition to the project. The company presented

additional information about its operation and heard public comments during an informational meeting it hosted Monday evening at The Rock Church in Portland.

U.S. Aggregates is hoping to expand its stone quarry to a parcel of land

between county road 100 South and Tyson Road, east of county road 200 West. Its rezoning request for the project also includes two smaller parcels that would be used for storage.

Area operations manager Eric Reynolds noted

another parcel that sits north of Tyson Road is no longer part of the rezoning request. Also, vacating part of county road 100 South, which the company had previously mentioned as a possibility in the future, is not included. He added U.S. Aggregates

has recently met with representatives from Tyson Mexican Original, which would sit east of the new quarry with a woods in between, and the company no longer has any objection to the expansion.

See **Quarry** page 5

Jay Republicans re-elect Blasdel

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Local Republicans kept their leader in place.

Jay County Republicans held their reorganization meeting Saturday at The Rock Church in Portland, re-electing Jenae Blasdel as chairman without opposition. She will serve her second term as the party's chair.

Blasdel was the only member of the party who applied in writing for the chairman position.

"I'm really excited about the second term," said Blasdel. "I've learned a lot ...

"My No. 1 thing is to protect this party, and that is what I will do."

She said her goal is to help keep the party in control locally and statewide in addition to retaking the White House in 2024.

Each of the other positions were filled via nominations from the floor, with about 20 Republicans in attendance at the meeting. Only one nomination was made for each role.

Matt Goldsworthy was elected vice chair of Jay County Republicans. The role was previously held by Caleb Lutes.

"I look forward to working with the whole party," said Goldsworthy, who serves on Portland City Council, while encouraging any member of the party to reach out to him for anything they might need. "I'm excited to help everybody."

Michael Brewster and Lenny Muhlenkamp were elected to continue in their roles as secretary and treasurer, respectively.

See **Republicans** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County Republican chair Jenae Blasdel speaks Saturday during a meeting at The Rock Church in Portland while party secretary Michael Brewster keeps track of the proceedings. Blasdel was re-elected chair, with Matt Goldsworthy as vice chair.

See **Fee** page 5

Deaths

Nancy Hardymon, 84, rural Portland
Jeffery Timmerman, 54, Fort Recovery
John Eicher, 91, rural Geneva
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature was 64 degrees Monday in Portland. The low was 30. Tonight's low is expected to be in the mid 40s. Wednesday will be partly sunny and breezy, with a high of 66 and winds gusting as high as 40 miles per hour. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Dunkirk Foundation is continuing to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The organization is running a "\$50 by 50 people" campaign in an effort to raise funds. Those interested in donating can send a check to The Dunkirk Foundation, P.O. Box 202, Dunkirk, IN 47336.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of tonight's Portland Board of Zoning Appeals meeting.

Friday — Coverage of Thursday's Jay County Plan Commission meeting.



Obituaries

Nancy Hardymon

April 19, 1936-March 7, 2021
Nancy Hardymon, age 84, a resident of rural Portland, passed away on Sunday, March 7, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Nancy was born on April 19, 1936, in Ohio, the daughter of Ralph and Reba (Slick) Bretz. Nancy worked for Jay Garment in Portland for eight years and retired from CTS in Berne after 34 years of service. She married Carl Hardymon on Nov. 8, 1952.

Nancy enjoyed the outdoors,

where she would always plant a garden and spend time watching birds. She also enjoyed going to car shows with her husband.

Survivors include:
Her husband of 68 years — Carl Hardymon, Portland, Indiana
One daughter — Susan Jones (husband Rick)- Land O' Lakes, Florida

Three sons — Randy Hardymon (wife: Jewel), Portland, Indiana.



Hardymon

Mike Hardymon, Zephyrhills, Florida, and Kevin Hardymon, Portland, Indiana

Two sisters — Mary Brinley, Greenville, Ohio, and Joan Mangus (husband: Bill), Union City, Indiana

One brother — Jim Bretz (wife: Judy), Union City, Indiana

Several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Beverly Ann Hardymon.

Visitation will be held on Friday from noon to 2 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod

Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Nancy's life will follow at 2 p.m. on Friday. Pastor Hugh Kelly will officiate the service and burial will follow in Gravel Hill Cemetery west of Bryant.

Memorials may be directed to Friends of the Limberlost.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Jeffery Paul Timmerman, Fort Recovery, June 23, 1966-March 7, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church in Fort Recovery.

John Henry Eicher, rural Geneva, Feb. 21, 1930-March 8, 2021. Services will be at 9 a.m. Thursday at the Eicher residents, S. 50 East, Geneva.

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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

Wednesday 3/10	Thursday 3/11	Friday 3/12	Saturday 3/13	Sunday 3/14
66/55	66/47	56/35	45/30	46/36
Mostly cloudy skies with warm temperatures and 15-25 mph winds. Chance of rain late at night.	70% chance of rain and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy skies and strong winds.	Temperatures will begin to drop for the week-end. Skies will be mostly cloudy.	Skies will be mostly cloudy during the day but during the night.	30% chance of rain at night. Otherwise mostly cloudy with cool temperatures.

Lotteries

Powerball Saturday 11-31-50-52-58 Powerball: 18 Power Play: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$155 million	Estimated jackpot: \$358,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$68 million	Ohio Monday Midday Pick 3: 0-7-2 Pick 4: 9-8-6-1 Pick 5: 6-3-4-9-5 Evening Pick 3: 9-3-7 Pick 4: 1-9-3-9 Pick 5: 2-1-7-1-5 Rolling Cash 5: 12-19-20-22-35
Hoosier Monday Midday Daily Three: 4-9-3 Daily Four: 6-2-9-6 Evening Daily Three: 1-0-8 Daily Four: 5-0-4-4 Quick Draw: 7-17-19-27-28-29-31-32-33-38-39-42-53-54-56-70-72-73-76-77 Cash 5: 2-3-4-23-24	Estimated jackpot: \$110,000 Classic Lotto: 4-5-9-31-33-39 Kicker: 8-1-3-8-2-0 Jackpot: \$5.5 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.47 Wheat6.19	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.42 April corn5.44 Beans14.30 April beans14.30 Wheat 6.41 July wheat 6.16
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.54 April corn5.56	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.47 April corn5.52 Beans14.27 April beans14.32 Wheat6.04 April wheat6.59
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.50 April corn5.50 Beans14.44 April beans14.37 Wheat 6.55 April wheat 6.55	

Today in history

On March 9, 1841, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *United States v. The Amistad*, ruled 7-1 in favor of a group of illegally enslaved Africans who were captured off the U.S. coast after seizing control of a Spanish schooner, *La Amistad*; the justices ruled that the Africans should be set free.

In 1916, more than 400 Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa attacked Columbus, New Mexico, killing 18 Americans. During the First World War, Germany declared war on Portugal.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. B-29 bombers began launching incendiary bomb attacks against Tokyo, resulting in an estimated 100,000 deaths.

In 1959, Mattel's Barbie doll, created by Ruth Handler, made its public debut at the American International Toy Fair in New York.

In 1964, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *New York Times Co. v. Sullivan*, raised the standard for public officials to prove they'd been libeled in their official capacity by news organizations.

In 2011, Jay County residents learned it would be a few weeks before they knew if they would be receiving help from the federal government to cover damage from recent flooding.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
5 p.m. — Portland Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Wednesday
5:55 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners special meeting, commis-

sioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

7 p.m. — Jay County Council, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Animal ...

Continued from page 1
Still, they were nearly at full dog capacity in the last week, she said, although they have adopted out a lot of animals recently. Midwest Pet Refuge has been working with the humane society to help house animals as needed.

Getting financial compensation for their work would be helpful, Weaver added.

She mentioned the Jay County Animal Control Task Force is still working on proposals for a new animal control facility. The current building has been designated as outdated and too small for regular operations.

Plans for a new shelter have been met with opposition at several county, city and town meetings because of its high price tag — an estimated \$1.3 million.

Also, commissioners Mike Leonhard, Chuck Huffman and Chad Aker approved \$275,000 in funding for the proposed project Dec. 29. After their term began, new commissioners McGalliard and Rex Journey and returning commissioner Aker rescinded the funds Jan. 12.

Also Monday, Aker mentioned Portland Police Department has a new code enforcement officer who will be patrolling, including ticketing vehicles parked in the spaces surrounding the courthouse for longer than the allotted two hours. Courthouse employees will need to display parking permits in their vehicles. If they do not have tags, they can request those from county auditor Anna Culy. Those serving on jury duty should also receive some sort of identification to hang or place in their vehicles.

Parking is also limited in the northern lot where courthouse employees normally park. McGalliard suggested adding parking space for the courthouse

and commissioners discussed what options might be available.

Culy reminded commissioners the deadline for county employees to use comp time for extended hours during the pandemic is March 31. She said as far as she knows, most county employees have used their extra time off although there are a few who have not, including some Jay County Health Department employees who have been focused on the pandemic.

"They've been under a lot of stress, if (there's) anything we can do to help, I'm all for it," McGalliard said.

Aker proposed extending the deadline a month, and both Journey and McGalliard agreed. They voted to extend the deadline to April 30.

Commissioners also agreed to meet at 5:55 p.m. Wednesday to sign into effect a resolution opening Jay County Courthouse to normal business. Employees will be required to wear facial covers and social distance as possible. (Commissioners and Jay County Council will meet at 6 p.m. that day in a joint-executive session to discuss threatened litigation, with county council's regular meeting to follow at 7 p.m.)

Also, Todd Titus, government affairs director for the Upstate Alliance of REALTORS, introduced himself to commissioners Monday. He explained he's from the Fort Wayne-based affiliate of the National Association of REALTORS. His position includes advocating for local property rights, homeowners' rights and Realtors as well as supporting economic development.

Titus, who started his position in October, explained his predecessor was not actively involved in Jay County, but he would like to be. He said he has spoken with Jay County

Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards about working with the local housing task force.

In other business, commissioners:

•Announced a special session for Monday in the council room at the Portland Fire Station about discussing radio equipment upgrades. The time of the meeting has not yet been set.

•Heard from highway superintendent Donnie Corn that U.S. 27 at the intersection with county road 400 North will be switched to one-lane traffic starting in April for a reconstruction project. The Indiana Department of Transportation project will include several new culverts. Construction is expected to last until June 2022, although INDOT anticipates reopening the second lane in October.

•Agreed to terminate plans made in November for a 15-year agreement with Florida-based Future Energy Solutions to install night lighting at the jail. Bryant-based All Circuit Electrical has replaced about half of the lights in the facility so far, Aker said. None of the commissioners or county attorney Bill Hinkle felt comfortable with the long-term contract.

•OK'd a request from Culy to look into fiber-optic internet service for the courthouse. She has been working with Comcast since last year to increase internet speed, but it's still not fast enough, she said.

•Heard from emergency management director Amy Blakely that her administrative assistant, Jessica Ridenour, will be leaving her position. Blakely will be seeking two new employees, one as the emergency management deputy and the other to fill Ridenour's current role.

•Discussed having commissioners take part in Jay County Development Cor-

poration's executive committee meetings. McGalliard said the full board's meetings, which are held every other month, don't provide as much insight as the executive committee meetings might offer. Aker agreed, reminding both commissioners the county largely funds JCDC. Journey disagreed, stating it's an independent entity and should be run as such. (No action was taken.)

•Selected bids for two new chassis (\$74,136 apiece from Columbia City based W.A. Jones Truck Bodies and Equipment) and a 2022 Western Star truck from New Haven based Stoops Freightliner-Quality Trailer for Jay County Highway Department.

•Accepted a \$950 donation from POET Biorefining of Portland to Jay County Emergency Medical Service for its "Stop the Bleed" program training equipment.

•Signed claims for the following: \$1,198.49 to Ja-Mar TV and Appliance for a Jay County Retirement Center purchase made in 2019; \$8,890.33 to Arms Auto Body of Portland for repairs to a Jay County Sheriff's Office 2016 Ford Explorer after it hit a pole; and \$149,000 for the new body scanner at Jay County Jail, which is covered by CARES Act funds.

•Received a copy of the five-year mitigation plan created by the Jay County Emergency Management department.

•Read a letter from Arts Place thanking commissioners for their annual donation to the Arts in the Parks program.

•Signed the title of a totaled dump truck over to Bliss McKnight Inc. to file an insurance claim.

•Had Aker sign the second page of the annual agreement with Purdue Extension for this year because it was overlooked when previous commissioners signed it in 2020.

Capsule Reports

Missing teen

A Hartford City teen remains missing.

Hartford City Police Department is looking for 16-year-old Audreauna Davidson. She was last seen Feb. 6.

Davidson is described as 5 feet, 3 inches tall and 115 pounds with brown hair and brown eyes. She's

also described as biracial with Hispanic and white heritage.

Anyone with information can call the police department at (765) 348-4819 or The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children at (800) 843-5678.

Curbside collision

A Dunkirk teen failed to see an

eastbound vehicle and collided with it on Main Street in Portland about 10:14 a.m. Sunday.

Madison M. Rinker, 17, was pulling away from the curb near Wayne Street with her 2005 Pontiac Grand Prix when she drove into a 2006 Ford Escape driven by Katelyn M. Crump, 28, Portland. Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

SERVICES

Thursday

Eicher, John: 9 a.m., Bunker-hill Cemetery, rural Geneva.

Timmerman, Jeffery: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

Friday

Hardymon, Nancy: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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The worst may soon be behind us

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

We survived February. There were a few days when I had my doubts that March would ever come. Winter was colder than what we have been used to lately. The snow shovel got quite a workout. Even though it is warmer and the snow has melted, I'm not ready to put the snow shovel away yet.

Today is bright and sunny and the predicted daily temperatures are supposed to be above freezing for the rest of the week. After so many cold days anything above freezing feels warm.

I do miss the annual get together at Mom's. It was always an excuse to bake a birthday cake for all of us who were born in February and have a nice visit with my family. My brother Michael, his son Ricky, my other nephew Jady, my sister-in-law Sue, her

As I See It



granddaughter Molly, and my long lost Aunt Carol who shares a birthday with me, all were born in that chilly month. There are probably a few people I have omitted but you get the picture.

This year we sent birthday cards. No presents, no birthday cake and no visiting except by phone. Honestly, I don't miss the presents. Gone are the days when I could browse the toy aisles and come up with something I thought they would like. I was usually wrong. The cake and sometimes cookies made up for my lousy taste in gifts.

Actually, the only cards

I received this year was one from my cousin, Kim, and one from my brother and sister-in-law, Joe and Diane.

At some time during my birthday I gave myself a present and called my daughter. I usually try to keep our conversations short because she is either driving or being mobbed by kids. But on my birthday I talk as long as either of us want to.

I found out that their water lines have been fixed and the heat is back on. She tells me that she is glad they have to wear face masks at work because it hides the smile on her face when one of her patients inadvertently says something funny. She tells me to watch for videos because baseball season has begun.

We finally hung up and a few minutes later I called her back because I

The warmth lasts long enough for us to believe it is real then overnight winter will remind us that it isn't quite finished.

forgot to ask her something.

A day or so later a package arrived for me. It is a decorative flower pot. It is a good present as my empty flower pots seem to be disappearing. I wish I had taken more of mom's pots home than I did. That is too late now. So a new pot from my daughter is very welcome.

The paperwhites and hyacinths I received for Christmas are beginning to bloom. They smell like spring. Both my mom and my daughter despise their

aroma. I still have some bulbs in the refrigerator enjoying their false winter.

Outside, the miniature heat wave is waking up the bulbs. They are poking the tips of their noses above ground. If the weather holds we should see the first of the spring bloomers showing off their blossoms soon. The tiny snowdrops and the showy Lenten roses tend to bloom first. The snowdrops show off their nodding flowers then disappear for another year. The Lenten roses hang around.

Mine grew new leaves along with their old ones last year and held their flowers until early summer.

The month of March is a fickle month. It teases us with warm weather, and even the tiny ephemerals, like snowdrops and spring beauties, also known as little, bitty flowers that I don't know what they are, are fooled into believing spring is here. The warmth lasts long enough for us to believe it is real then overnight winter will remind us that it isn't quite finished. If we have put away the snow shovel and set a few of the houseplants outside for a day or so, then we can almost hear the weather gods laugh as we quickly drag everything back inside.

Yes, February is over. Now if we can get through March and April we should have the worst behind us.

Son consumed by regret over treatment of father

DEAR ABBY: I brought my 68-year-old immigrant father to live with me permanently with the intention of caring for him. He was completely dependent.

Halfway through the year, I got angry, told him to move back and vowed to myself I would never ever care for him again. It wasn't that he did anything wrong; I don't know why I got so angry.

He wound up living alone, being helped by his friends. I visited him, but I became disconnected. I knew he was suffering, but I couldn't bring myself to bring him back to live with me. I was extraordinarily cruel, and it hurt him deeply. I let his green card lapse. He passed away two years later.

Since then, I have been overwhelmed with guilt. As a son, I should have cared for my

Dear Abby



father. I am depressed over my actions. I am a horrible son. I have been crying and asking for forgiveness. Please tell me how I can move forward.

— GUILT-RIDDEN IN THE WEST
DEAR GUILT-RIDDEN:

Performing the role of caregiver is an enormous undertaking. While it can be rewarding, it can also be exhausting, unrelenting and stressful. Caregivers have been known to lose their tempers because of the pressure, but because you had bitten off more than you

could chew, your reaction was extreme.

If you are religious, talk about this with your clergyman. If you aren't, please consider scheduling some appointments with a licensed mental health professional who can help you more fully understand what happened between you and your father and help you cope with your guilt. And in the future — once you are able — consider atoning by volunteering for a charity that serves the elderly.

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DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a functioning alcoholic for more than 30 years. He was once funny and nice and a good dad. But over the years he has become unbearable to live with. He doesn't shower or brush his teeth. He was always mainly a beer

drinker, but now he is drinking hard liquor and stays drunk most of the time he is awake.

I told him I thought he was depressed and a severe alcoholic, and he should talk to his doctor, but he refuses. He walks around cursing under his breath, and nobody wants to be around him. I keep him off the road when he has been drinking, but I'm terrified he will hurt someone. I am pretty sure he is drinking on the job, and I'm scared he will hurt himself. I am ready to leave him, but afraid that if I do, he will be completely lost. Please guide me. — LOST IN THE SOUTH

DEAR LOST: You don't need me to tell you that your husband is in bad shape. I don't know what his job involves, but if he's interacting with others, I am surprised he can get away with having such poor hygiene

and being stoned on alcohol.

Because he refuses to talk to his doctor about this, you should. I hope you are beginning to realize that, on the path he is on, you cannot "save" him. I have mentioned Al-Anon many times in my column. The organization is an offshoot of Alcoholics Anonymous and was started to help families and friends of individuals who are unable to control their drinking. You will gain insight about what to do next if you attend some of their meetings. Find one by going to al-anon.org/info.

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

Community Calendar

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB

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

Includes activities and devotional time.

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.

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

Thursday

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at Richards Restaurant in Portland.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday 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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

BREAKING NEWS

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Thank you for supporting teams

To the editor:
What a season. Jay County High School basketball was full of surprises in 2020-21.

COVID-19 affected all of us in some way or another. Some students were in the classroom and some did virtual learning. But we played basketball.

The girls and boys basketball teams would like to thank all of those who supported them by cheering for them at games, financially supporting them and hanging with two "old" coaches that care about kids.

Basketball at Jay County is now a family affair, and we could not do what we do without you.

The 2021-22 season will be here before you know it. We will be in the

Letters to the Editor

weight room and on the basketball courts this spring and summer to begin preparation for a successful season.

Sectional and regional championships are now realistically in our sights.

We strive to put a good product on the court each night to make you, our community and fans, proud.

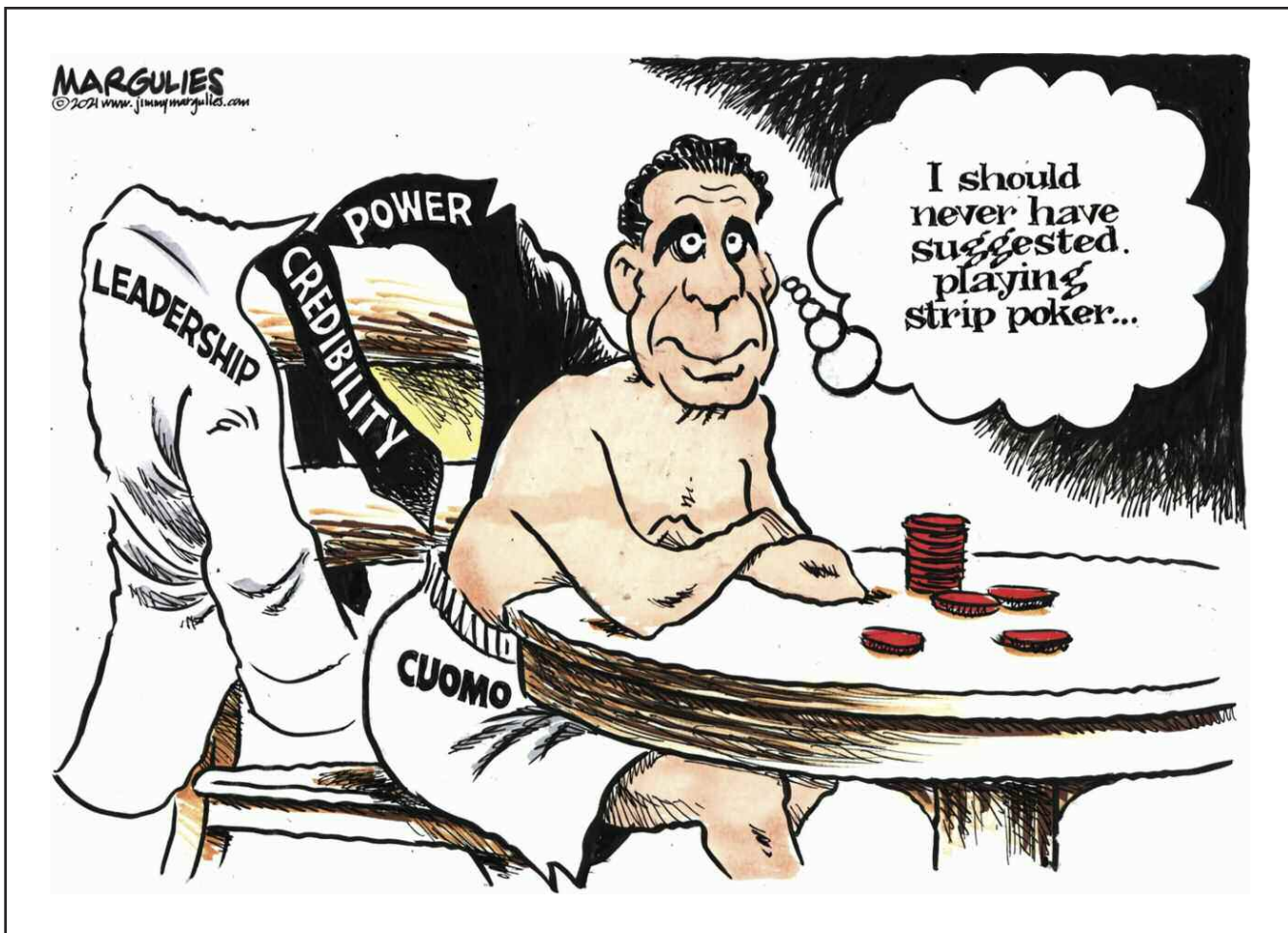
Thanks again for the support.

Go Patriots.

Sincerely,

Coach Kirk Comer

Coach Jerry Bomholt



School \$ is biggest challenge

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

Last week's column on school funding in Indiana stirred a great deal of conversation around the state.

I am glad it did, but cannot take credit for the interest.

Most Hoosiers are keenly attentive to their local schools and concerned about the economic performance of their cities and towns. These issues are intimately linked, yet too few Hoosiers appreciate how fully they are connected.

For example, more than one person tried to explain that we could not afford more money for schools because higher taxes would slow the economy.

He was wrong.

My column is not politically biased; a desire for a better economy is hardly a partisan position. I'm an economist, and insofar as I have anything useful to write about education, it is about its effect on the economy.

Among the most repeatedly demonstrated facts in the social sciences is the link between educational attainment and economic performance. On average, better-educated people are more productive, which means they produce more per year in goods or services and earn a higher income. Likewise, better-educated counties are more productive and earn more income. This relationship holds for cities, states, nations and continents. This is no accident.

Better educational attainment both causes and is caused by a better economy. Educational attainment is the most important factor in determining regional economic conditions, and the performance of schools is the most important factor in household location decisions. A well-educated place attracts more well-educated families. Those relationships can hardly be in doubt. But, how important is school spending on educational attainment?

The report from the Next Level Teacher Compensation Commission mentioned several studies from the nation's top education economists. Among the 379 footnotes were studies from the Hoover Institution, a highly respected conservative think tank. They raised precisely the same concerns I did last week. The report also cited the nation's top K-12 researcher, whom I would describe as a center-left economist. His study notes that when it comes to educational outcomes, "the question of whether money matters is essentially settled." He is right; education dollars do matter, and it is time for Hoosier taxpayers and policymakers to acknowledge this. As I wrote last week, if we spent the

Michael J. Hicks



same share of our state's GDP on education that we did in 2010, it would be \$1.3 billion more per year for schools.

I am well aware of Indiana's claims and nationwide reputation for having a good business climate, low taxes, a modest regulatory burden and a ready workforce. Unlike some, I have no doubt that Hoosier policymakers who undertook these policies did so with the best of intentions. They want the economy to grow, and they felt this was the right path forward. I used to believe that myself. But when the facts change, I change my mind, as should we all.

From the summer of 2009 when the recession ended, through the end of 2019, Indiana grew at only 41 percent the rate of the nation as a whole. For all our claims about having a strong workforce, a good business climate and smart regulatory policies, the facts say otherwise. Businesses and families are overwhelmingly choosing places other than Indiana. It's time to do something differently.

As I described last week, Indiana spent the last decade reducing inflation-adjusted school spending by a full 7.0 percent per student. This happened during the longest economic expansion in U.S. history, when we should have been making historic investments in people and places.

This won't be popular, but I think the evidence demonstrates the school choice reforms were largely effective and should remain an integral part of education policy. I think both micro studies of student performance and the state's overall test scores suggest school choice is a net benefit. But, simply imposing competition on local schools was not enough. We took the wrong lessons from the early successes of school choice and neglected the rest of public education.

The best way to think about this is to consider what Hoosier families did when they were offered educational choice. Most chose to stay where they were, in part because family location decisions are so heavily influenced by local school quality. So, 86.4 percent of kids attend their local public schools.

But, among families who chose other schools for their kids, the number one choice was another

public school. Even with vouchers, private school enrollments crashed by 21 percent since 2007. Last year another 5.8 percent chose a different local public school, 4.1 percent chose a charter school, the plurality of which are run by local public schools. Only 3.3 percent chose a private school voucher. If you admire the usefulness markets have in signaling value, it is pretty obvious where the value in K-12 education lies.

Today, the biggest risk to continuing Indiana's successful school choice experiment isn't a teacher's union or courts. The biggest risk to school choice is that it will be blamed for the heavy budget reductions for everyone else's education and the lackluster economic outcomes that resulted. If you support continued school choice, you must also support the 86.4 percent of families who choose local public schools.

The recovery from the COVID recession will favor people and places with strong educational attainment. The next decade will amplify the trends of higher demand for educated workers. Without vigorous intervention, this will prove tough for Indiana's economy. We should do everything we can to prevent another failed recovery like the last one. Dedicating more resources to education is the most urgent remedy we can undertake.

Finally, education alone won't solve the problem, and a teacher's pay increase won't, by itself, solve our educational challenges. We need more Hoosiers to leave high school and then graduate from college. We need to attract more educated people from other states and nations, and we need to make more of our communities inviting to new residents. Doing all of this takes time, and it involves much more than additional tax dollars.

Still, our local schools serve two key functions. They both produce the foundation of educated people and serve as the most important magnet for those families who value education. Indiana's unwillingness to sustain school funding and expand educational attainment sends a strong signal to businesses and families around the nation. The question isn't really whether or not we can afford to spend more money on education in Indiana. The real question is how can we afford not to?

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.

Powell's words can roil market

By MOHAMED A. EL-ERIAN

Bloomberg Opinion

Judging from the initial market reaction to remarks by Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Thursday, he would have been well advised to follow Aaron Burr's advice to Alexander Hamilton in the hit musical "Hamilton": "Talk less, smile more." This is not because he said anything inherently wrong. He didn't. Rather, it is because whatever he had to say had little chance of resonating well in markets given where they have been and where they wish to go.

Few economists or policymakers could take issue with what Powell said at a Wall Street Journal webinar. He was right to point to the rising likelihood of a pickup in inflation, which, based on technical factors and current economic conditions, is more likely to be a one-off phenomenon than the start of a serious inflationary process. Of course, the recent volatility in U.S. Treasuries in what is regarded as the most liquid financial market has caught his attention. And it should come as no surprise that the Fed will remain patient, maintaining its current policy approach until it believes that labor market slack is well on the way to being eliminated.

Yet despite this, his words were the main driver of a sharp steepening in the yield curve between the two-year note and both the 10-year note and 30-year bond as well as a 900-point trading range for the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which ended down 346 points, or 1.1%. The Nasdaq lost 2.1%, and the S&P 500 Index finished down 1.3%.

Reconciling these two realities — warranted economic comments and significant market volatility — provides important insights into both the mindset of markets and the intensifying communication challenge for the Fed.

Long driven — and now highly dependent — on central bank liquidity injections, markets wanted Powell to strike a tricky balance between two things: On the one hand,

Mohamed A. El-Erian



continued reassurance that the liquidity spigot will remain not just fully open but also supplemented by new dovish measures such as a revival of Operation Twist; and, on the other, an affirmation that earlier and coming large amounts of fiscal and monetary stimulus will not overheat the U.S. economy, which would inflict both immediate and longer-term damage.

This is a clear example of what I have detailed in earlier columns as an increasingly tight corner policywise for central banks that confronts them with an ever more uncomfortable lose-lose situation. This is likely to continue as the U.S. economic recovery quickens, the bond market looks to price in the prospects of both higher real growth and inflation, and the Fed finds itself torn: Should it allow genuine fixed-income repricing that risks destabilizing risk assets that have been driven excessively by actual and anticipated liquidity injections, or should it intervene further in markets and risk additional distortions and damage both to efficient market functioning and its own policy credibility?

The answer to this policy dilemma is to accelerate structural reforms and fiscal measures aimed at enhancing high, durable, inclusive and sustainable growth that would help validate existing elevated prices for many risk assets. Pending this, the Fed would be well advised to the extent possible to follow Burr's advice to Hamilton. Any other action risks volatility that involves unsettling pockets of illiquidity in the most liquid markets of all.

El-Erian is president of Queens' College, Cambridge; chief economic adviser at Allianz, the parent company of Pimco; and chair of Gramercy Fund Management.

The Commercial Review

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



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We welcome letters to the editor. Letters should be 700 words or fewer, signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and clarity. Email letters to news@thecr.com.

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VOLUME 148-NUMBER 222
TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 9, 2021

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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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Quarry ...

Continued from page 1
U.S. Aggregates representatives and others presented similar information to that offered at Portland Plan Commission's meeting last month and last week's Portland City Council meeting. Focusing on noise, dust, blasting and water, presenters noted that the company must follow state and location regulations.

In the case of dust, and specifically "respirable crystalline silica," it is governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration with "fine grind" operations monitored yearly. (The fine grind operation in Portland would stay at the company's current site, which sits to the south of the proposed expansion area.)

Steve Benson of Austin Powder, the company that handles blasting for U.S. Aggregates, explained that the U.S. Bureau of Mines sets regulations for vibrations per square inch. (Indiana's restrictions are even more strict.)

'I would hope that the planning commission and city council would deny the expansion ... and I encourage you to seek another site farther away.'

—Joe Johnston

He said decades of science shows that as long as those regulations are met, nearby structures will not be damaged.

Mark Basch of Indiana Department of Natural Resources spoke about water issues, noting that state law protects domestic wells from operations that are considered "high capacity." He said DNR can take a baseline water level now in order to better evaluate the quarry's impact if there is an issue with wells in the future.

"This quarry currently, compared to other quarries in the state, the amount of water they use seems substantial ... but compared to a lot of quarries we have in the state their water withdrawals are not that substantial," he said.

About 10 local residents from the crowd of more than 50 asked questions or commented during the two-hour meeting that at times became heated. Their questions including the height

of berms — Reynolds said they are typically 15 to 20 feet tall — concerns about whether the berms and other areas would be well tended to, property/home values, noise, damage to homes, traffic, hours of operation and others.

"I don't know why as a community ... we would consider expanding a major heavy industrial stone quarry toward the community rather than farther away from it," said Joe Johnston, a resident of Rose Drive. "I understand the value and I appreciate what we have here in this community with aggregates ... but I think there's a better place that it could be ..."

"This is a serious decision that affects every home owner in the area. I would hope that the planning commission and city council would deny the expansion ... and I encourage you to seek another site farther away."

The issue of notification of nearby residents was again

brought up multiple times. Such notifications are handled by Jay/Portland Building and Planning Department and are regulated by local zoning ordinances and state code. Only adjoining property owners were required to be notified.

U.S. Aggregates representatives again reiterated their desire to mitigate fears and assured those in attendance that regulations are followed and monitored closely.

"We've been where we are currently for over 50 years," said Reynolds. "I'd ask that you keep that in mind as well. We've been in this neighborhood. We've been in this community for a long time. We're just asking to move and continue to business ... to the north."

"We want to be a good neighbor," added U.S. Aggregates president John Schmidt while thanking all those who attended the meeting. "I feel we have been a good neighbor."

Fee ...

Continued from page 1
"This is one of those things where it's not something that you really want to do — I don't want to impose any fees — but it's something I think that has to be done."

While the money collected from the new utility fee will not be enough to fund all of the necessary improvements, the city will have funds avail-

able to seek matching grants for the work.

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

•Gave approval for the volunteer fire department to host a boot drive on March 19.

•Appointed Eva Kreps, Lisa Charles and Nathan Brown to the West Jay

Community Center board of directors.

•Heard Dunkirk Park Board has decided to keep the basketball courts open until 3 a.m. to allow play at night. The rest of the park closes at 10 p.m. The board will also now allow alcohol to be served in the park with a permit and the approval of council and the board.

•Declared that several funds were dormant, resulting in \$3,178.24 returning to the general fund. Also canceled \$2,241.22 in uncollectible outstanding utility debts.

•Were informed that

the bids for repaving Moore Avenue, Walsh Court and Ellis and Layne drives through Indiana Department of Transportation's Community Crossings grant will be opened March 17.

•Paid claims of \$167,464.23.

•At Monday's Dunkirk Board of Works and Public Safety meeting, Dunkirk Mayor Jack Rob-

bins and Street, absent Dan Watson, approved paying Peerless Midwest \$13,492 to rebuild a pump at the water plant. The board also paid \$2,410 to Cargill Inc. for salt, heard that a new full-time dispatcher has been hired at Dunkirk Police Department.

Republicans ...

Continued from page 1
State Rep. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City), who represents Jay and Randolph counties and part of Delaware County, was in attendance and spoke briefly to the about 20 Republi-

cans in attendance. He offered his support and praise for Blasdel as the county's GOP chair and added that the party should be focused on keeping its electoral advantages both locally and statewide.

"We need to make sure we keep our foot on the gas," he said, "continue to have balanced budgets, continue conservative Republican policy. We do not want to become complacent."

Cindy Newton volunteered herself and her husband Ray Newton to serve as parade coordinators, and Muhlenkamp said he would assist.

Blasdel noted that there was no Republican event early this

year because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. She said the party hopes to hold a casual event for its members this summer and to be able to hold a Lincoln Day dinner in the fall.

Proclaimed

Mayor John Boggs recently signed a proclamation recognizing March 7 through 13 as Girl Scout Week in Portland. Pictured with Boggs are Tessa Miller (left) of Troop 3175 and Makinsey Murphy of Troop 2348.



Felony arrests

Drug possession

Several were arrested recently for drug possession.

Jamie R. Dudgeon, 28, 108 Autumn Lane, Wapakoneta, Ohio, was arrested Friday and preliminarily charged two Level 6 felonies for possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs and unlawful possession of a syringe. He was booked into Jay County Jail on \$6,000 bond.

Hailey A. Curts, 19, 408 Moore Ave., Dunkirk, was arrested Monday and preliminarily charged two Level 6 felonies for possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs and maintaining a common nuisance. She was also preliminarily charged a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. Curts is being held at Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.

Dustan L. Chapman, 39, 223 E. Market St., Bluffton, was arrested Monday and preliminarily charged a

Level 3 felony for possession of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs and a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance. He was also preliminarily charged two Class A misdemeanors for possession of paraphernalia and marijuana. Chapman is being held at Jay County Jail without bond.

Austin M. George, 18, 295 S. Hale St., Geneva, was arrested Monday and preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He's being held at Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond.

Criminal recklessness

A Portland man was arrested Friday for alleged criminal recklessness.

Robert A. Songer, 32, 997 S. Boundary Pike, was preliminarily charged a

Level 6 felony along with two Class A misdemeanors for resisting officers and driving while his license was suspended and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He paid \$4,500 to bond out of Jay County Jail.

Probation violation

A Portland man was arrested Monday for violating his probation.

John W. Yates Jr., 34, 1610 W. 650 South, Portland, has an original charge for dealing in narcotic drugs, a Class A felony. He was booked into Jay County Jail without bond.

Resisting enforcement

An Ohio man was arrested Monday for allegedly resisting law enforcement.

Dakota A. Baker, 21, 1025 Camp St., Piqua, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony. He bonded out of Jay County Jail for \$5,000.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Add a string to your bow

North dealer.

Both sides vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ 6 3
♥ A 9
♦ A J 9 5 3
♣ K J 8 4

WEST
♠ K J 9 2
♥ 7 5
♦ Q 7 6 2
♣ 10 7 5

EAST
♠ A 10 7 4
♥ 6 4 2
♦ K 10 8
♣ Q 9 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K Q J 10 8 3
♦ 4
♣ A 6 2

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	4 ♥	

Opening lead — two of spades.

While declarer should certainly formulate a plan at the start of play, he also should remember that he is not playing in a vacuum. He has real live opponents who won't sit idly by and allow him to achieve his goal without putting up a fight.

Consider this deal where the obvious approach at four hearts would be to negotiate a spade ruff in dummy, thereby limiting your losses to at most two spades and a club. That is a fine idea if the opponents let you get away with it. But when the deal occurred, East won the opening spade

lead with the ace and promptly shifted to a trump.

South won the heart in dummy and, in keeping with his game plan, led a spade to the queen and king, whereupon West returned a second trump. Unable to ruff his losing spade in dummy, declarer now had to rely on a club finesse. But when the jack of clubs later lost to the queen and East returned a spade, the contract was down one.

The final result was due directly to South's failure to adjust to the defense he encountered. Once East shifted to a trump at trick two, declarer should have abandoned his initial plan and instead sought an alternative to staking everything on the club finesse. He might then have spotted a better approach.

When the trump is returned at trick two, South should win in his hand and lead a club to the jack. If the finesse succeeds, his worries are over. But if, as in the actual deal, the finesse fails, all is not yet lost.

Assume East returns a trump to dummy's ace at trick four. Declarer cashes the diamond ace, ruffs a diamond and draws the remaining trump. He then makes his contract because the missing clubs are divided 3-3, allowing him to discard his third spade on dummy's fourth club.

This line of play is superior because it gives South two chances to succeed instead of only one.

Tomorrow: Choosing among alternatives.
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3-9 CRYPTOQUIP

LM T BLBTESLH MLUO TIP

V PK P Q SK L G L E B T J L B

OAQLHTU RLQG ENEQSNI, VNAUR

LS JP ETOPR GLEB BNEB?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HAIR LOSS THAT SALESMEN GET BY DELIVERING LENGTHY SPIELS OVER AND OVER: MALE PATTERN BALDNESS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals F

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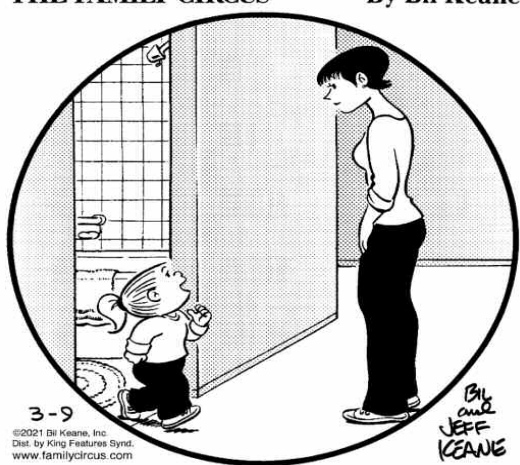
SPEED BUMP

Dave Coverly

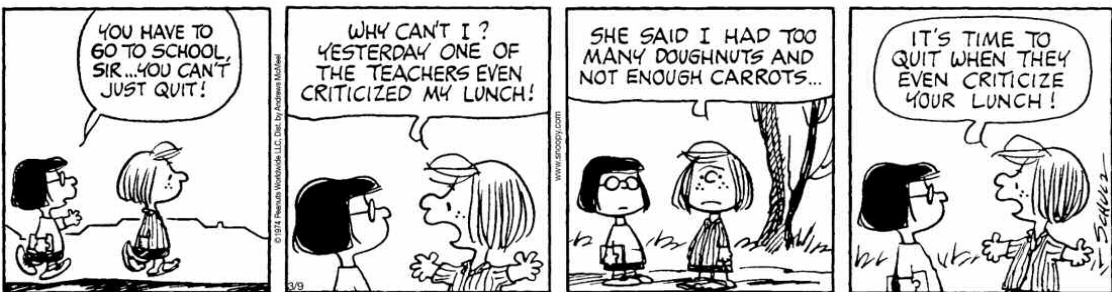


THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



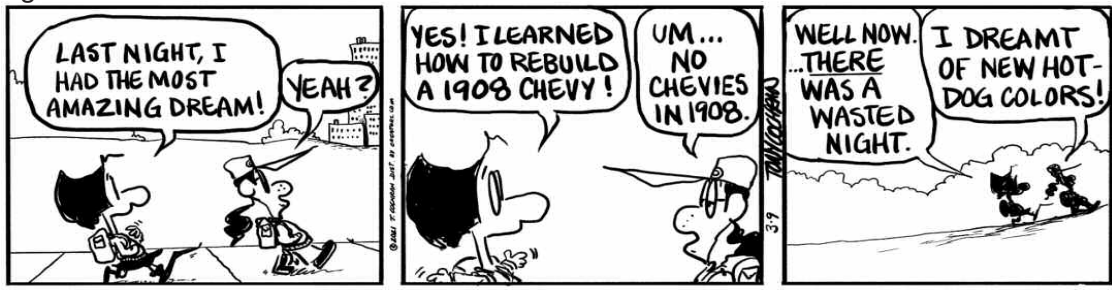
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Wayne Township, Jay County, Indiana
Cash and 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
01	Township General Fund	\$32,933.42	\$61,287.31	\$59,442.01	\$34,778.72
11	Firefighting Fund	\$87,518.13	\$69,889.91	\$62,830.00	\$94,578.04
61	Rainy Day Fund	\$9,586.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,586.32
81	Township Assistance Fund	\$23,263.00	\$69,001.07	\$89,697.24	\$2,566.83
91	Levy Excess Fund	\$641.16	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$641.16
95	Payroll Withholdings Fund	\$-1,684.63	\$13,507.67	\$12,970.01	\$-1,146.97
Total All Funds		\$152,257.40	\$213,685.96	\$224,939.26	\$141,004.10

Wayne Township, Jay County, Indiana
Detailed Receipts 2020

Governmental Activities	General Fund	General Property Taxes	County Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT) Property Tax Replac	Local Income Tax (LIT) for Levy Freeze	Financial Institution Tax distribution	Vehicle/Aircraft Excise Tax Distribution	Commercial Vehicle Excise Tax Distribution (CVET)	Local Income Tax (LIT) Certified Shares	Earnings on Investments and Deposits	Total Township General Fund	
Township			\$29,634.41	\$2,699.68	\$8,984.00	\$323.30	\$2,151.69	\$411.94	\$17,041.84	\$40.45	\$61,287.31
Firefighting Fund			\$5,987.14	\$5,053.00	\$1,813.64	\$4,636.87	\$149.00	\$245.26		\$69,889.91	
Township Assistance Fund			\$46,921.14	\$3,620.48	\$399.53	\$2,658.99	\$509.06	\$14,592.00	\$89.87	\$200.00	\$69,001.07
Payroll Withholdings Fund											\$13,507.67
Total Township Assistance Fund											\$13,507.67

Fund/Category/Vendor Name	Amount
Township General Fund Personal Services	
IRS	\$1,453.46
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$14,838.16
Rines, M Steven	\$2,000.00
Gaskill, Debra	\$2,000.00
Brewster, James E	\$16,992.00
Charles Denney	\$1,000.00
Township General Fund Supplies	
Cardmember Service-Wal Mart	\$339.20
A. E. Boyce Co., Inc.	\$462.91
Cardmember Service-Fam. dollar	\$21.40
Postmaster US postal ser	\$76.00
Cardmember service-USPS	\$110.00
Mark King	\$78.00
Cardmember Service	\$136.04
Extinguisher Co. # 1	\$27.55
Progressive Office Products	\$82.96
Township General Fund Services and Charges	
Indiana Dept of Revenue	\$29.45
Terry May	\$5,400.00
Indiana Michigan Power	\$1,062.60
Century Link	\$2,821.32
Indiana Township Assn.	\$250.00
Ohio Valley Gas Corp.	\$1,263.49
Coldren, Frantz & Sprunger	\$650.00
Carl Steed & Assoc	\$35.00
The Graphic Printing Co., Inc.	\$306.47
Indiana Farmers Mutual Ins. Co	\$1,272.00
Jay County Treasurer	\$100.00
American Legion Post 211	\$500.00
CNA Surety	\$120.00
Great Lakes Lawn Service	\$5,190.00
Micro Spectrum LLC	\$700.00
Denise Brewster	\$88.00
Township General Fund Other Disbursements	
First Financial Bank	\$36.00
Township General Fund	\$59,442.01
Firefighting Fund Services and Charges	
City of Portland	\$62,830.00
Firefighting Fund	\$62,830.00
Township Assistance Fund Personal Services	
IRS	\$3,582.12
Eldridge, Nichelle	\$18,900.00
Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield	\$13,660.57
Brewster, Denise R	\$27,768.00
Township Assistance Fund Township Assistance	
Brent Cline	\$600.00
Indiana Michigan Power	\$5,654.97
Ohio Valley Gas Corp.	\$1,087.29
Katelynn Place	\$450.00
Evolve Management/Properties	\$325.00
Williamson-Spencer-Penrod	\$9,000.00
Ruiz Rentals	\$325.00
Baird Freeman Funeral Home	\$2,400.00
Circle H Rentals	\$325.00
BCJS Properties LLC	\$325.00
Jayland Properties LLC	\$450.00
Spencer Apartments	\$1,600.00
Brad Gage	\$375.00
Wind Rush Homes	\$330.00
Sutton Rentals	\$325.00
Paul or Vicki Keen	\$400.00
Maple Heights Apts.	\$375.00
Mark Osborne	\$350.00
Oakwood MHP	\$575.26
City of Portland	\$174.03
Country Place Apts.	\$340.00
Township Assistance Fund	\$89,697.24
Payroll Withholdings Fund Other Disbursements	
IRS	\$9,309.90
Indiana Dept of Revenue	\$3,660.11
Payroll Withholdings Fund	\$12,970.01

State of Indiana
SS: Jay County
I, James E. Brewster, Trustee of Wayne 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.
James E. Brewster, Wayne Township Trustee
Telephone: 260-726-4607
Date this report was to be published March 9, 2021
Subscribed and sworn (or affirmed) to before me, the Chairman of the Township Board of Wayne Township at its annual meeting this 18th day of February, 2021
M. Steven Rines, Township Board Chairman
This report was received, accepted, and approved by the Township Board at its annual meeting, this 18th day of February, 2021.
Wayne Township Board:
M. Steven Rines
Debra Gaskill
Charles Donough
CR 3-9-2021 - HSPAXLP

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Sports

Homan back in the game

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

FORT WAYNE — Meaningful football games in the spring are abnormal.

What transpired when the Cougars finally took the field Saturday was a long time coming, but a familiar feeling for one of them.

Will Homan, a 2018 Fort Recovery High School graduate, scored two touchdowns Saturday in leading the University of Saint Francis football team to a 24-10 victory against the Taylor Trojans at Bishop D'Arcy Stadium.

"It's really special," said Homan, a redshirt sophomore. "I've been grinding in the weight room and putting everything I could on the field to get that one chance."

"I think I took advantage of it today."

Two other athletes with local ties — Jay County graduate Ethan Theurer and South Adams product Drew LeFever — also saw action Saturday.

Homan, who holds every rushing record at Fort Recovery, suffered a broken ankle prior to his freshman season at USF and was forced to take a medical redshirt. The following year he only had one meaningful carry, late in the 2019 season.

With the 2020 schedule pushed to this spring by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, Homan had to wait even longer to get his first crack at important carries.

"It felt amazing," he said, noting it had been 470 days since the Cougars (1-0), who are ranked ninth in NAIA, last played a game because their season-opener Feb. 27 against Madonna was can-

celed. "Everybody was just hungry to play."

He didn't see the field during the first quarter that saw Taylor take a 3-0 lead. The Cougars evened the score with a field goal early in the second quarter.

Later that period, the 5-foot, 9-inch, 189-pound Homan entered the game. He had to block on his first snap, but then his second was vintage Homan.

He took a handoff from quarterback Matt Crable on an outside zone to the left. He cut up the field, bounced off a would-be tackler and tried to wrestle off another but was tackled after he gained 28 yards, the longest play of the day for the Cougars.

In the third quarter with the game still tied at 3-3, Saint Francis blocked a punt deep in the Trojan zone and took over at the 1-yard line. Homan re-entered, and his first carry stopped short of the goal line. He wasn't touched on the next play until he had already crossed into the end zone for his first career touchdown.

"The defense, they blocked the punt and made it easy for me to walk in," he said.

On the next Saint Francis possession, Eli Wallace had four carries for 25 yards, and Crable completed two passes for eight yards. Homan then entered and rushed for three yards, getting the Cougars to the Trojan 24.

On the next play, Homan ran a wheel route down the left side as Crable was flushed out of the pocket to his right. Seeing Crable scrambling, Homan found an empty spot in the Taylor



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

secondary and streaked into the end zone toward the back right corner.

Crable saw his open teammate and lofted a pass on the run that Homan caught as he fell to the turf for the touchdown.

"It was the first time I've ever got to play in a big, game-time chance," he said. "To just help the team

win was an awesome feeling."

Homan finished with 75 yards on 11 carries and the one reception.

"He had major surgery," Donley said of Homan. "I didn't know if he'd ever play again. But he's a tough kid. Resilient. Man, he just hung in there and worked and got better."

"(He) certainly made some big plays today."

Theurer, a 2018 Jay County graduate, got the start at defensive end for Saint Francis, and he finished with three tackles. He had a solo tackle and assisted on another in the second quarter, and had an assist in the second half.

"I think I can definitely

improve," Theurer said. I wanted a sack today (but) didn't get it. That's next week. (I was just) making big plays and doing my job."

Adams product Drew LeFever got the starting nod at running back for Taylor. He had 51 hard-earned yards on a team-high 16 carries.

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Kenney comes up short

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

LAS VEGAS — Casey Kenney went punch-for-punch against one of the greatest competitors in this history of his division.

He just didn't do quite enough to get the win.

Kenney dropped a 30-27, 29-28, 28-29 split decision Saturday to 11th-ranked Dominick Cruz, a former two-time bantamweight champion, in their bout as part of UFC 259 at UFC Apex.

"I left it all out there, went toe-to-toe with a legend," said Kenney, a 2009 Jay County High School graduate. "You can never control a judges' decision. Props to Dominic. It is what it is. On to the next one."

Each of the first two rounds were essentially even, with Cruz (23-3) slightly outstriking Kenney (16-3-1) in the official statistics. Cruz had a 26-23 advantage in significant strikes in the opening round and a 36-33 advantage in the second.

"This is real close, and both corners expressing some urgency in between rounds," said commentator Joe Rogan on the ESPN broadcast as the third round began.

Though he had a 27-18 advantage in significant strikes in that final round, it was likely takedowns that shifted the fight to Cruz. He caught Kenney with a single-leg takedown about 25 seconds into the final period, with Kenney countering with a choke while Cruz kept the top position.

"I thought I had that choke," Kenney said. "We had talked about it in the back, if I get the opportunity I'm going to lock my hands. Normally I put people to sleep there in practice with that choke. He froze, so I knew it was tight, but he held on."

Kenney eventually let go of the choke attempt at the 3:18 mark and was on his feet seven seconds later.

The fighters traded flurries of punches as the clock ticked past the 1:30 mark before Cruz recorded a double-leg takedown with 43 seconds left.

"This could cement him the win," said Rogan at the time.

Cruz continued to stay on top of Kenney

JCHS graduate loses by split decision on Saturday

for the remainder of the fight.

"That (takedown) was good on his part," Kenney said. "I felt like that was his round because of that. It was a close fight."

The first judge's score that was announced was in Kenney's favor, but the other two went to Cruz. Two of Kenney's three losses as a professional have come by split decision.

The former Patriot said he had hoped to put together more combinations, with plans to follow up his punches with kicks. He added it may have also benefited him to turn more to his grappling, but for the most part he stuck to his game plan well.

"I thought I did really well being patient," said Kenney, who is staying in Las Vegas this week and will be in the corner for Cortney Casey for her women's flyweight bout this weekend against JJ Aldrich as part of UFC Fight Night. "That was one of the things that I said coming into the fight. There were a handful of times I kind of chased him a little bit, but I thought I was trying to figure out the puzzle. ... I wasn't landing as many shots as I wanted to ... but he did his normal Dominick Cruz stuff. He made me miss a few times. He hit his shots. ... Everything didn't go perfect, but a lot of things went right."

The win over Kenney bumped Cruz up to No. 9 in the division rankings that were updated this week. Cruz's only career losses have come with the bantamweight title on the line — two in title defenses and the third in a bout for the belt against Henry Cejudo in May 2020.

Kenney's only other UFC loss came against No. 12 Merab Dvalishvili. He now holds a 5-2 record in the sport's top promotion.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

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

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

TV schedule

Today
7 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Mount St. Mary's at Bryant (ESPN2); Oakland vs. Cleveland State (ESPN)
9 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Oral Roberts vs. North Dakota State

(ESPN2); BYU vs. Gonzaga (ESPN)

Wednesday
6 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Butler vs. Xavier (FS)
6:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Kansas State vs. TCU (ESPN); Minnesota vs. Northwestern (BTN)
9 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: DePaul vs. Providence (FS1); Nebraska vs. Penn State (BTN)

Thursday
11:30 a.m. — Men's College Basketball: Michigan State vs. Maryland (BTN)
6:30 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: Indiana vs. Rutgers (BTN)

Local notes

Registration opens Saturday
Portland Junior League will have two registration days beginning on Saturday. The session will be from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday and March 20 at Jay Community Center, 115 E. Water St., Portland.
Registration forms can be picked up at JCC, or they're available online at PJL's Facebook page.
The league is open to boys and girls ages 5 to 15.
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To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.)