

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Bridge work starts Monday

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Traffic patterns through Portland will be different beginning next week.

Milestone Contractors informed local officials Wednesday that U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) would be closed beginning Monday for an Indiana Department of Transportation project involving two bridges on the highway.

The closure affects the area between Water Street and county road 200 South.

The INDOT work being completed by Milestone involves repairs to the Meridian Street arch bridge that spans the Salamonie River near East Jay Elementary School and the U.S. 27 bridge over the Little

U.S. 27 will be closed between Water Street and county road 200 South

Salamonie River near Portland Country Club.

The arch bridge project is the more extensive of the two, with work expected to last about 45 days.

See **Bridge** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The Meridian Street arch bridge over the Salamonie River will be rehabilitated next week as part of an Indiana Department of Transportation project. The street will be paved, steel railings removed and painted, masonry cleaned and repaired and light fixtures upgraded.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Sixth sorting

Sixth graders from Tracy Christman's class at Westlawn Elementary School in Dunkirk sort through their eggs Wednesday during an easter egg hunt. Dunkirk Public Library held the hunt at the school this year and brought nearly 2,500 eggs for the event. Pictured, from left, are Austin Best, Jenna Bricker, Ella Littler and Chelsea Bessesen. Several Easter events are scheduled for this weekend. The Easter bunny will visit Jay Community Center and be available for photos from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. Easter egg hunts are slated for 10 a.m. Saturday at Redkey Elementary School and 11 a.m. at Redkey Church of the Nazarene. A "Drive Thru Easter EGGstravaganza" will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at Pennville Park. Dunkirk is holding an Easter egg hunt at 2 p.m. April 10 at Dunkirk City Park.

City is out of running to buy building

School property had been considered for new police station

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Jay School Board is expected to make a decision Monday on the sale of its administration building.

The City of Portland will not be the buyer.

In a letter sent Wednesday morning, Portland Mayor John Boggs informed the school board that the city would not be submitting a final bid for the property.

The deadline for final bids was noon Wednesday.

By state statute, a municipality is limited to offering the average of two appraisals when purchasing real estate. After the city had already put in an initial offer, Portland City Council on March 15 authorized Boggs to seek the necessary appraisals. Those were completed and discussed during a council executive session Tuesday.

Boggs' letter to the school board indicated that the appraisals came in at an average of \$297,500, well below the asking price of \$325,000. Therefore, the city was unable to move forward with the process.

"The City of Portland wishes to extend its appreciation for the opportunity to bid on the above-mentioned building and property," Boggs said in the letter. "We felt that moving the police station to the school administration building on Tyson Road would provide the best value to the community for the building in terms of taxpayer savings on a much-needed facility."

See **Building** page 2

Jay County is rated yellow again

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

After five weeks in the blue, Jay County is yellow for the second week in a row.

Jay County was rated "yellow" (moderate risk for the spread of coronavirus) in the Indiana State Department of Health update released Wednesday.

The state's COVID-19 metrics map became more yellow this week, with 37 counties at that rating as compared to 25 last week. Two — Blackford and Wells — were rated orange (high risk) while the other 52 were blue (low risk).

Jay County's rating remained at yellow as its positivity rate continued to increase. It came in at 7.5% this week, up from 5.59% the previous week. It had been as low as 1.87% last month.

The county's cases per 100,000 residents — 68 — was about the same for the third straight week. It

Positivity rate has climbed to 7.5%

came in at 63 last week and was 68 in the March 17 update. It had been as low as 23 in the March 3 update.

Blackford County's orange rating came as its positivity rate was above 10% for the second week in a row. Both Blackford and Wells counties had more than 200 cases per 100,000 residents this week.

Randolph County shifted from blue to yellow this week as its positivity rate jumped to 7.5%.

Delaware and Adams counties remained blue.

On Wednesday, coronavirus vaccine appointments were opened to all Hoosiers 16 and older. Jay County currently has coronavirus vaccination clinics available at Jay County Health Department and IU Health Jay. Appointments can be made online at ourshot.in.gov or by calling the state's 2-1-1 telephone assistance service.

As of Wednesday, more than 7,600 doses of coronavirus vaccine had been administered in Jay County. Nearly 3,100 individuals were fully vaccinated.

Statewide, nearly 2.8 million doses had been administered with 1.13 million fully vaccinated.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines encourage wearing a mask, avoiding close contact when around others, frequent hand washing and surface cleaning as ways to prevent the

spread of COVID-19. Indiana has been under capacity restrictions since March 2020 and a mask mandate since July. Those restrictions are scheduled to be lifted Tuesday, with restaurants, bars and other venues to be allowed to open at full capacity. The state will move to a "mask advisory," meaning masks will be recommended but not required.

Coronavirus is mainly spread through respiratory droplets or small particles from an infected person coughing, sneezing, talking or breathing. The CDC reports that it may be possible those particles and droplets remain suspended in the air for an unknown period of time and travel beyond 6 feet, especially indoors.

The virus causes a range of symptoms, which can appear two to 14 days after exposure. Older adults and those with pre-existing health problems are susceptible to more severe illnesses.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 54 degrees early Wednesday. The low dropped to 26.

There is a chance of snow showers before 7 p.m. tonight

with a low of 21. The forecast calls for sunny skies Friday with a high of 45.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Indiana Sen. Mike Braun's staff will hold virtual office hours from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday. Those interested in participating should email Jerry_Alexander@braun.senate.gov.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of tonight's Portland Plan Commission meeting.

Tuesday — Results from Monday's JCHS softball season opener against Blackford.



Bridge ...

Continued from page 1
According to an INDOT project information packet prepared in August, it will include:
•Milling and patching of the bridge deck. A new “flexible polymeric concrete bridge deck overlay” will then be installed.
•Removal of steel railings and light fixtures. Paint will be removed, and steel components will be galvanized and painted in a black matte finish. They will be reinstalled with new hardware.
•Masonry on the arch, columns and other areas will be cleaned. Deteriorating con-

creted will be removed and patched.
•The sidewalk and curbs will be sealed.
•Meridian Street will be paved 50 feet in each direction from the bridge.
The bridge over the Little Salamonie near the golf course will get a new concrete overlay. That work is expected to take 15 days.
The official INDOT detour will re-route traffic along Indiana 28, Indiana 1 and Indiana 67. (Semis must follow the official detour.) Detours for local traffic will use county road 200

South, Blaine Pike and Floral Avenue for the bridge near the golf course, and Seventh, Wayne and Water streets for the arch bridge.
The shutdown of the section of U.S. 27 will also require some different traffic patterns for East Jay Elementary School.
School parents will be provided with an entry pass to display in their vehicle to allow temporary access via Meridian Street during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times only. Those dropping off or picking up students may also

enter from Water Street. Students are not to be dropped off on the west side of the building. Jay School Corporation suggests building extra time into the pick-up/drop-off process as delays are expected during the construction process.
The bridge work was initially included as part of a larger U.S. 27 project that called for paving the highway through Portland, “right-sizing” Meridian Street between Water and Votaw streets to one lane in each direction with an alternating left-turn lane, making

parking parallel on one side of the street and “reverse angle” on the other and removing traffic signals at Meridian Street’s intersections with Walnut and High Streets.
Portions of that project — mainly the reduction in lanes, reverse-angle parking and removal of traffic signals — drew significant public opposition after they were introduced in 2019.
The bridge work is now its own project. Portland Mayor John Boggs said last week that the paving is now scheduled for summer 2023.

CR almanac

Friday 4/2	Saturday 4/3	Sunday 4/4	Monday 4/5	Tuesday 4/6
45/29	59/42	66/44	71/51	73/53
Sunny skies all day and clear skies at night. Temperatures will begin to get warmer for the weekend.	Another day of mostly sunny skies in the forecast for Saturday. Mostly clear night skies.	Mostly sunny skies by day and clear evening skies by night. Otherwise relatively warm.	Sunshine is the forecast for Monday with temperatures near the low 70s. Partly cloudy at night.	Warm temperatures and mostly sunny skies are anticipated. No high winds projected.

Lotteries

Powerball 3-10-44-55-68 Power Ball: 24 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$32 million	Cash 5: 17-26-37-42-43 Hoosier Lotto: 10-11-22-23-27-32 Estimated jackpot: \$8.2 million
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$168 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 1-5-5 Pick 4: 5-2-9-2 Pick 5: 8-9-7-5-9 Evening Pick 3: 0-6-3 Pick 4: 4-1-9-8 Pick 5: 8-2-5-2-0 Rolling Cash: 8-11-21-23-27 Classic Lotto: 4-16-19-20-46-48 Kicker: 0-9-5-8-8-8 Estimated jackpot: \$6.5 million
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 2-0-1 Daily Four: 0-8-2-9 Evening Daily Three: 1-0-2 Daily Four: 9-8-8-5 Quick Draw: 4-5-8-9-11-14-23-25-27-28-33-47-51-52-54-57-59-65-74-76	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....5.82 Wheat5.80	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.75 May corn.....5.76 Beans14.44 May beans12.28 July wheat 5.75
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....5.89 May corn.....5.91	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.79 April corn5.82 Beans14.33 April beans14.35 Wheat5.60 July wheat.....5.60
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.79 May corn5.79 Beans14.51 May beans14.51 Wheat 6.05 May wheat 6.05	

Today in history

On April 1, 1954, the United States Air Force Academy was established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.
In 1789, the U.S. House of Representatives held its first full meeting in New York; Frederick Muhlenberg of Pennsylvania was elected the first House speaker.
In 1933, Nazi Germany staged a daylong national boycott of Jewish-owned businesses.
In 1945, American forces launched the amphibious invasion of Okinawa during World War II. (U.S. forces succeeded in capturing the Japanese island on June 22.)
In 1970, President Richard M. Nixon signed a measure banning cigarette advertising on radio and television, to take effect after Jan. 1, 1971.
In 1971, Ernest J. Gaston of Portland drove into the side of a house after swerving the semi he was driving to avoid hitting a car and a semi that had collided. The semi Gaston was driving for Juillerat Trucking of Portland damaged the home’s walls but no one inside was injured.
In 1972, the first Major League Baseball players’ strike began; it lasted 12 days.
In 1976, Apple Computer was founded by Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne.
In 1992, the National Hockey League Players’ Association went on its first-ever strike, which lasted 10 days.
—AP and The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Today 6 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, auditorium, Jay County Courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board special meeting, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
Monday 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session,	

Ohio man arrested for molestation

An Ohio man is in custody for child molesting. Paul E. Barnett, 68, Greenville, was arrested Wednesday on a Level 1 felony charge of molesting a child and is being held in Jay County Jail

on \$50,000 bond. Jay County Sheriff’s Office investigator Tony Lennartz, who worked on the case, said the alleged crime happened in 2016 at Paradise Pointe RV Resort in

rural Portland. Barnett allegedly molested a 9-year-old girl at the campground, he said. Anyone who performs or submits to sexual intercourse or other sexual conduct with a child

younger than 14 in the state of Indiana commits child molesting, a Level 3 felony. The charge becomes a Level 1 felony when it is committed by someone 21 or older.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Easter buddies

Calvin Kahlig tries to squirm away from the Easter Bunny while getting his picture taken along with his brother Howie during the Fort Recovery Bunny Hop hosted Saturday by Fort Recovery Merchants Association at Van Trees Park’s Hein Amphitheater.

Holcomb to veto emergency powers bill

By KAITLIN LANGE
The Indianapolis Star
Tribune News Service
Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb plans to veto a bill that would limit his powers during an emergency, legislation that some experts say is unconstitutional. “I remain of the belief that this is unconstitutional,” Holcomb said. “We have supplied our legislative friends upstairs with that background. There is an honest difference of opinion. I’m left with no other alternative.”
At various points in the pandemic, Holcomb has used the disaster emer-

gency order to require Hoosiers to wear masks, close certain types of businesses and limit capacity in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. House Bill 1123 would allow lawmakers to call themselves back into a 40-day session during an emergency. It also establishes an emergency advisory group and gives the General Assembly more control over how certain federal funds are spent.
If lawmakers get called back into session, they could terminate any emergency order from a governor.
The bill has already passed both chambers once, but will have to be

voted on once more due to some changes legislative leaders have to work out in a conference committee. Even if it passes, the legislation has to go through a number of procedural steps before it officially lands on Holcomb’s desk, including getting a signature from Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, all of which could slow walk the process.
Once it officially arrives on his desk, he will have seven days to either sign or veto the bill. Lawmakers could potentially vote to override his veto before session ends with a simple majority.

Building ...

Continued from page 1
Jay School Board in January decided to put three pieces of property — its current administrative offices at 1976 W. Tyson Road, Portland, the former Judge Haynes Elementary School at 827 W. High St., Portland, and six acres of wooded land adjacent to Portland Memorial Park — up for sale. A month later, it hired Loy Real Estate and Auction to handle the sale of the three parcels.
The school corporation received three offers on the administrative office site, which includes about 5 acres of land. All three offers met or exceeded the initial asking price of \$325,000.
During its March 15 meeting, the school board asked that the three interested parties turn in their final and best offer, as well as their proposed use for

the site, to Loy by noon Wednesday. (School officials did not disclose the identities of those who made offers, though Cory Heniser of Brigade Electronics acknowledged his company’s bid at the meeting and Portland City Council discussed the city’s offer at a meeting the same night.) The board set a special meeting for 5 p.m. Monday to discuss the final offers.
Brigade is interested in the site to become its new U.S. headquarters. The city had considered the location as a possibility for a new police station.
School board members last month approved the sale of the wooded acres adjacent to Portland Memorial Park to Derran McGill at a price of \$35,000. The former Judge Haynes building remains for sale.

SERVICES

Friday
Stults, Robin: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday
Wendel, Charles: 10 a.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

Service listings provided by

PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS

120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

THERE IS NO FOOLING.
It’s your Birthday!!

Happy 70th Birthday!

Love, your Family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thank you

We have been overwhelmed with the love, friendship and good wishes from everyone on our 50th anniversary. A special “Thank You” to our two sons and their families, my Mom and sisters, special friends and coworkers for the Celebrations. The many beautiful cards and gifts have meant so much. God has richly blessed our lives and we are thankful for all of you.

Bob and Deb McFarland



Gold at state

Jay County Junior-Senior High School students recently competed in the Indiana State School Music Association contests. Seventh grader Hannah Boggs (left) and sophomore Shea Bailey (right) were among those who earned gold at the district contest. They both moved on to the state level, where they also received gold ratings.



Churches plan special services

Area churches have special services and activities scheduled for this weekend.

Churches with special events include:

•Asbury United Methodist, Portland — Will live stream its Good Friday service at noon Friday. Easter services will be at 8 and 11 a.m. Sunday. The church is located at 204 E. Arch St.

•Zion Lutheran, Portland — Is hosting a carry-in and evening service at 6 p.m. tonight. Good Friday service is at 8 p.m., and Easter service is at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 218 E. High St.

•Church of God of Prophecy, Portland — Will hold a Good Friday service at 7 p.m. with Jerry Qualls as special speaker. Easter service will be at 10 a.m. Sunday. The church is located at 797 Creagor Ave.

•First Church of Christ, Fort Recovery — Easter Sunday will begin with a breakfast at 8:30 a.m. An egg hunt will follow at 9 a.m. with worship and communion service at 9:30 a.m. The church is located at 1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery.

•Redkey Church of the Nazarene — Will host an Easter egg hunt at 11 a.m. Saturday at the church, 801 W. High St., Redkey. There will be more than 2,500 eggs and prizes with four divisions for children up to 12 years old.

Activities scheduled

Jay County Public Library has a series of activities scheduled for April, beginning with a virtual field trip to Portland Police Department. It will be shared on the library's Facebook page at 10 a.m. Friday.

April also marks the return of Story Time and

Taking Note

Mother Goose in the Community Room at the library. The first story time session for preschool children and younger, with their caregiver, will be at 10 a.m. Tuesday. The first Mother Goose session for toddlers and preschoolers will be at 11:30 a.m. April 9.

At 6 p.m. April 27, the library will host an author event with evangelist Phill Jellison.

The library will also have make 'n' take crafts available April 12.

Concert is April 8

"Awakening," scheduled for 7:30 p.m. April 8, will be Arts Place's second live-streamed concert of 2021 following almost a year without live performances because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

The concert will feature Arts Place instructors Pete Vogler (flute), Amelia Freeman (vocals) and Eric Rogers (piano). They will highlight works of six American composers from the late 1800s and early 1900s.

The concert will be available on Arts Place's Facebook and YouTube pages.

Arts Place plans to host another virtual concert this spring and then will return to in-person performances with Dave Bennett for a free concert June 24 at Hudson Family Park.

For more information, visit artsland.org/virtual-performances.

Wife focuses on past relationship

DEAR ABBY: I'm a young wife. I married after three months of dating my military husband. He was previously in an on-again/off-again relationship that lasted about eight years, during which she had a baby with another man, etc. I believe my husband is still in love with her. After constantly asking him, he says he just wishes her well and he doesn't have any romantic feelings. I'm not sure what to do, and I just keep overthinking it. Any thoughts? — HATES HUSBAND'S HISTORY

DEAR H.H.H.: Stop torturing your husband — and yourself — by constantly asking him about his feelings for his unfaithful ex-girlfriend. Get to work building your self-esteem, and you will have less to worry about. Your husband's history (baggage) is his own. You are making a mistake by dragging it into your marriage. If you concentrate on the positive, you will have a happier marriage, and so will your husband.

DEAR ABBY: Shortly after a retired, not-so-close friend moved to another city, he began sending emails about events he had read about in social media, news outlets and magazines. At first there were only a few a

day, but as the days increased, so did his emails. I responded to some of them, but he never commented on them. He just sent more and more to the point that his daily emails are more than I can — or want to — read. I am spending too much time deleting them. What should I do? Should I ask him not to send them anymore, or should I stay quiet so as not to hurt his feelings? — INBOX FULL IN MISSOURI

DEAR INBOX FULL: Your friend may be sending these items because, as a retiree, he has little to do but cruise the internet for entertainment. It would not be rude to tell this not-so-close friend you don't have time to review all of the emails he has been sending and ask him to send fewer. It's the truth. However, if he doesn't comply and the barrage continues, feel free to block them or create a filter for these emails that sends

them to a folder where they can be easily scanned and deleted.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of 32 years often tells me women compliment him on his looks or the way he dresses. I compliment him often, but I think it's his way of telling me that he's still "got it" and I should be proud to have a husband who's hot and good-looking.

Am I crazy for not enjoying hearing what other women think? If anything, it has caused some insecurity on my part. I have asked him to stop sharing these comments and told him I'm tired of hearing them — especially since I have told him repeatedly what I think of him, his looks and his way of dressing. Am I wrong? — LOVES HIM INSIDE AND OUT

DEAR LOVES HIM: I don't think you're wrong. But has it occurred to you that your husband may do this not out of ego but because HE is insecure? People who are secure within themselves do not feel the need to continually toot their own horns the way your handsome, stylish husband does. Try this: The next time he does it, smile, nod in agreement and tell him you agree with his admirer. And repeat as necessary.

Dear Abby



Community Calendar

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

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 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.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For

more information, call (260) 766-2006.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

Friday

SOFT SHOULDERS — A

support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

CINCINNATUS

LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, April 2, at Harmony Cafe in Portland. Members are encouraged to wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

Saturday

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

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

Monday

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

BREAKING NEWS

There's an easy new way to pay for The Commercial Review!

Sign up for monthly auto-pay. (Requires a credit/debit card.)

Monthly auto-pay rates:

\$10 city

\$11 motor route

\$12 mail

\$10 internet only

Whether you're already a subscriber or would like to start a new subscription, you can sign up for easy pay.

Call (260) 726-8141 or email business@thecr.com

SUBSCRIBE & SAVE

Base decision on the overall good

To the editor:
As a Portland native, a Jay County resident, a local pastor and an employee at U.S. Aggregates, I'd like to speak to a few of the concerns that I've heard in light of the mining expansion/rezoning of our quarry.

- Concerns that I have heard:
- A. Blasting happens everyday and all hours of the night.
 - B. Homes will be damaged by the blasts, e.g. walls, ceilings etc.
 - C. Water wells will be damaged and/or dry up.
 - D. Dust contaminates, namely silica, will be detrimental and a health hazard.

Response:
The quarry has been located at its present site since about 1930 and has realized several different owners through the years.

Letters to the Editor

I have been employed by the previous company, Meshberger Bros. and the current owner, U.S. Aggregates for nearly 16 years. In that timespan we have blasted an average of two to four times a month, never at night, and all blasts are conducted by a professional blasting company with many years of experience.

We have always had water and our well has never been damaged even though the proximity to the mine is very close. Never have I witnessed any

cracked drywall, be it ceiling or walls, because of blasting. The blasts only last milliseconds and are over — remember only two to four times a month typically, which amounts to a maximum of probably no more than two to three seconds a month.

Is there dust? Of course. We are a stone quarry. But we use bag houses to collect dust, have a water truck to help suppress dust and where silica is concerned are well underneath government guidelines where safety is concerned.

At 59 years of age, I have worked for several factories, in construction, worked in radio and am a military veteran, and can honestly say that the current company has a better safety track record than any I have ever seen. For U.S. Aggregates

safety really is number one. That includes employees as well as the surrounding neighborhood(s).

I have heard many cons against the expansion. Allow me to share some of the pros (for) it:

1. I can keep my job. OK, I am a little biased in that area, but that's a given.

2. County taxes do not increase. Why? Because trucks would be required to drive further for stone.

3. Local contractors can stay in business because haul rates will not have to nearly double for anyone needing stone.

4. Businesses that rely on our stone to operate will not have to consider relocating or dramatically raise prices.

5. Portland residents and businesses will continue to have a

better price on stone delivery.

6. County roads will continue to be maintained with stone and/or chip and seal because pricing is more affordable, etc.

The local mining operations of U.S. Aggregates are vital to the infrastructure of Portland, as well as important for businesses across this nation that include the glass industry as far away as Washington state, to fertilizer businesses, golf courses and farmers all around the state of Indiana.

The decision to vote yay or nay should be decided based on the facts that have been presented by U.S. Aggregates at the numerous meetings as well as the overall good of the community at large.

Charles W. Myers
Bryant

Quarry is an economic driver

To the editor:
I would like to express my concerns on the impact of not granting the expansion of the local quarry.

I own and operate a local small trucking company employing around 10 full-time employees and utilizing numerous local owner operators as needed. The local quarry is one of our main means of gross revenue and revolves around the operations of the above-mentioned quarry.

By not allowing the expansion of the quarry, this will not only impact the income of the 20-plus employees that work for the quarry, but that of my 10 employees and the many owner operators that I utilize to fulfill stone orders throughout the year as well as many other small businesses and residents in the area.

Not allowing the expansion will have a huge negative impact on the entire community.

I am sure that Jay County Highway Department is one of the largest customers of the quarry and by not allowing the expansion of the quarry it will now be forced to purchase its stone out of county and possibly out of state, also costing the county even more in wages and expenses in the cost of transporting the stone farther.

Why would we want to send our tax money or tax revenue and wages of all the employees associated with the quarry to out of state or even to another county?

We already must face the impacts of not having any interstates or a fully functioning rail system, which limits the possibilities of new industrial and economic growth. I

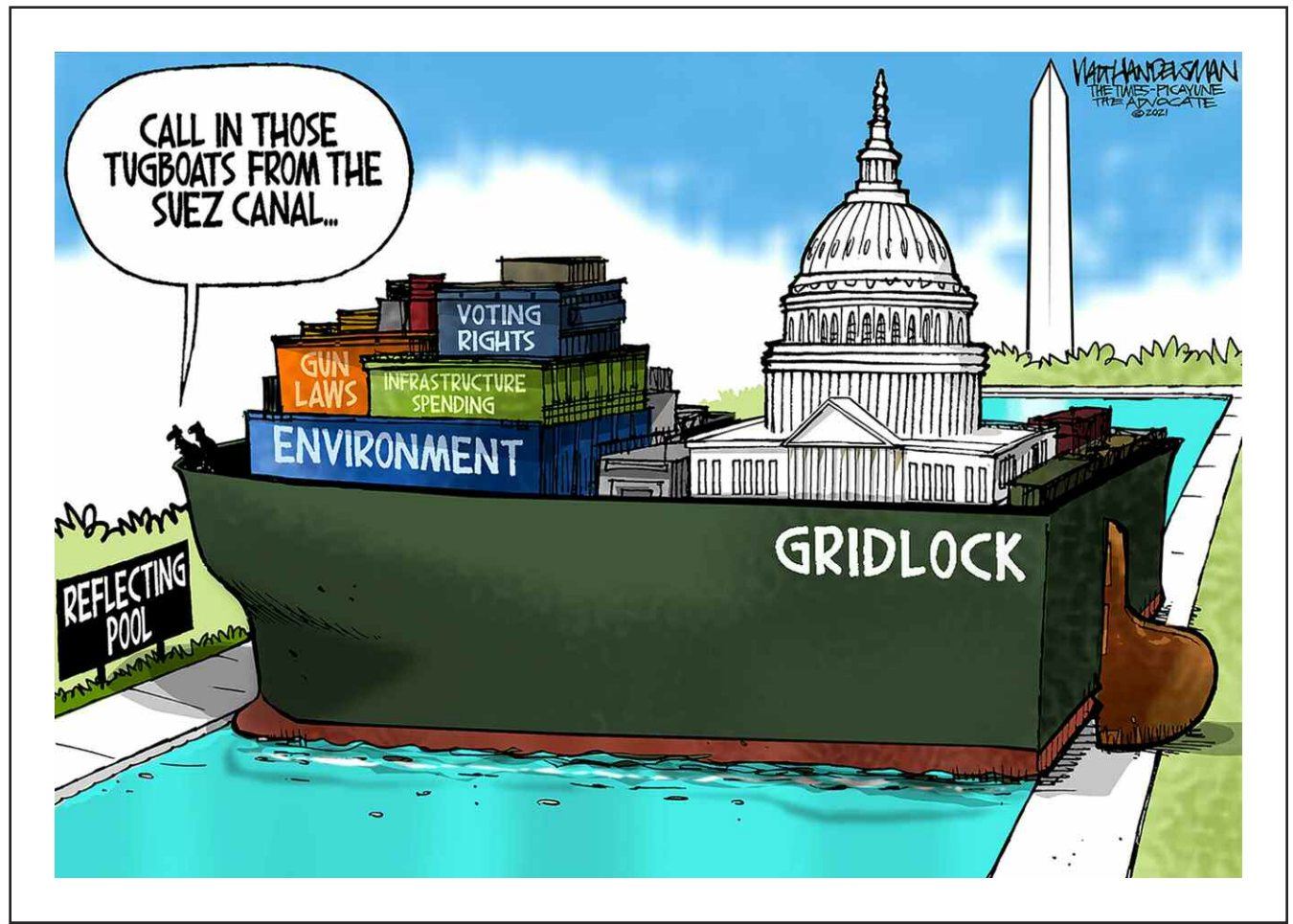
would hope that we would not want to consider forcing out the ones that already exist just to ensure that a few residents out of many more residents are happy.

If so, then this is not a decision being made for the economy but a decision being made to secure the friendship of a very few residents. This kind of decision will turn this community into a ghost town, leaving the possibility of any growth even more limited.

Lastly, as a previous employee of U.S. Aggregates and formerly Meshberger Bros. for almost 10 years, I can say without a doubt that it was a wonderful place to work. Not only does it have an above normal pay rate for the area and wonderful benefits, but every one of them that works from the corporate office down to the men in the hole care not only about the safety of everyone that works there but also about the environmental impact. I can say firsthand that they have daily, weekly and monthly inspections on everything and anything that may have any environmental impact, with an environmental research teams and personnel whose full responsibilities are to focus on the environmental aspect and effects of the quarry, proving that they not only meet the standards but surpass them.

We as a community need to all stand up and support the expansion of the quarry and support the economic growth that this will provide for our community and our county.

Sincerely,
Brian DeVoos
B&D Logistics
Rural Portland



Collecting can get squirrely

By **LEO MORRIS**
Indiana Policy Review
HSPA Infonet

I've been trying to make sense of NFTs, those digital creations called "non-fungible tokens" that can sell for millions of dollars.

So, naturally, I thought of the squirrel.

It showed up one day underneath the tree that stood in the outdoor break area for Fort Wayne Newspapers, the umbrella company for the morning Journal Gazette and afternoon News-Sentinel. Only JG columnist Frank Gray and I were there at the time, and the squirrel walked right up.

One of us, I don't remember which, threw down a bite of a snack brought out from a vending machine, and the squirrel ate it. For the next several days, Frank and I kept going to the tree with snacks, and the squirrel kept coming up to accept them.

Then one day, the squirrel just wasn't there, having gone the way of other squirrels, to a tree in a better neighborhood or to meet his destiny as the blue plate special at the roadkill café.

But he was already destined to become legend. So, on my next birthday, Mary, one of my office pals, gave me a stuffed squirrel as a present. I whipped out my Swiss Army Knife and cut off the tag, which caused Mary to gasp in horror so loudly that I thought she might be having a stroke.

"You have destroyed its value!" she screamed.

Turns out the critter was a Beanie Baby, and Mary was a collector.

Beanie Babies, some of you might recall, became a craze in the 1990s when people started buying them not just as toys but as an

"investment" sure to keep increasing in value, which they did, until, of course, they didn't.

A few people got out at the top of the bubble, when Beanies were selling online for 10 times their original cost and some rare ones went for six figures, making a killing. Their creator, Ty Warner, became a billionaire.

But many more people held on too long until the bubble burst, their thousands in investment suddenly a relatively worthless pile of pellet-stuffed toy animals.

Think of NFTs as the digital equivalent of Beanie Babies. They have no physical reality, existing only as images in the cloud and visible only through electronic devices. When people "buy" one, they are in essence just buying a ticket proving they "own" the original, even though the creator might retain the copyright and millions of reproductions might be viewed for free by anyone with a laptop or a cellphone.

That makes no sense at all.

On the other hand, neither does paying millions of dollars for the original of "Starry Night" or "American Gothic" when anyone can enjoy a perfectly good copy for a few bucks. They're not paying that much because they appreciate art but because they believe the art will appreciate.

I had a print of Edward Hopper's "Nighthawks" on my office wall for 30 years and looked at it every

day, and I now have it at home. The painting's sense of bleak isolation speaks to something primal in me. I went once to see the original at the Art Institute of Chicago and, frankly, it didn't impress me any more than my copy.

As for collectibles, I think they should have some intrinsic value other than their potential to whet my greed.

I once had about 100 cookbooks, until a storm took out a window in my sunroom and they were drenched in rain. Of course, anytime I needed a recipe I googled it, but the books were always there for me to browse, food porn for my depraved gastric needs.

My sister collects cookie jars in the shape of cats. Of course, she doesn't keep cookies in any of them, but I don't see here rubbing her hands together in glee and plotting to buy an island in the Caribbean when she sells them off. She just likes cats.

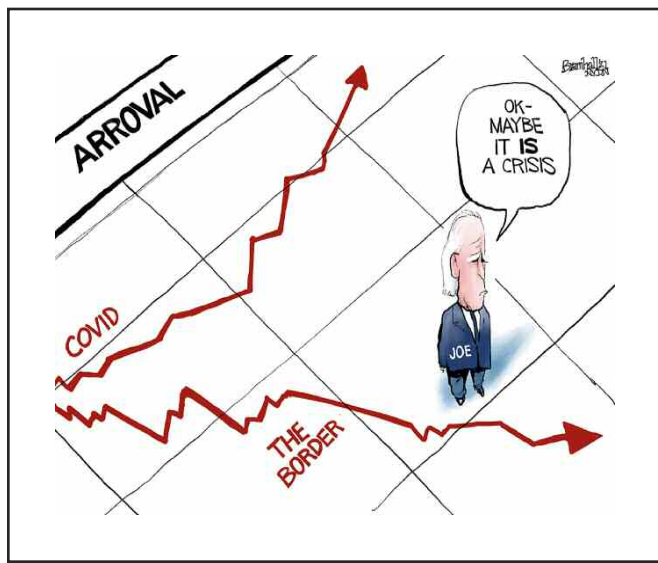
I have my tagless Beanie Baby squirrel at home, now, too, sitting beside my laptop. It's a reminder of a few pleasant days under a tree and serves as a warning not to get stupid with money. If somebody tempts me with an NFT of a squirrel under a tree, eating peanut butter crackers from somebody's hand, I will resist. What's worth \$200 today and \$69 million tomorrow will just be worthless pixels the day after tomorrow.

My brother the computer programmer (who collects guns, which he actually shoots, at his own range) once told me a saying from the early digital age: If you computerize a mess, you just get a faster mess.

That wisdom still holds. If you computerize investment stupidity, you just get faster stupidity.



Leo Morris



The Commercial Review

US PS 125820

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



The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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.

JACK RONALD
President

TONIA HARDY
Business manager

RAY COONEY
Editor and publisher

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

VOLUME 148-NUMBER 239
THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 1, 2021

www.thecr.com

"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

Subscription rates: City delivery and Internet-only pay at the office rates: 13 weeks - \$32; six months - \$60; one year - \$108. Motor route pay at the office rates: 13 weeks - \$39; six months - \$68; one year - \$125; Mail: 13 weeks - \$47; six months - \$77; one year - \$135.

Home delivery problems:
Call (260) 251-9588

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

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
260-726-8141
ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
Effective 07/01/2018:
Minimum charge.... \$12.40
1 insertion.....62c/word
2 insertions.....81c/word
3 insertions.....96c/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.

60 SERVICES

J. L. CONSTRUCTION
Amish crew. Custom built homes, new garages, pole barns, interior/ exterior remodeling, drywall, windows, doors, siding, roofing, foundations. 260-726-5062, leave message.

"SEAMSTRESS NAN" HOMEMADE Sewing and Alterations, Quilts, Baby Blankets, Fleece Blankets, Appliqué, Zippers, Hemming, Memory T-Shirt, Special Orders 260.766.9334

WICKEY CONSTRUCTION Roofing, Siding, Pole Barns. Call for free estimate. 260-273-9776

GOODHEW'S ALL SEASON Construction- Specializing in standing seam metal roofs. When Quality Counts, Count On US. A company you can trust. Member of the BBB. New Installation and repairs. Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191

BANNERS 40" x 13" BUY ONE FOR \$695 GET ONE FOR \$350
Birthdays, Anniversaries, Get Well, Just Because, Valentine's Day, and Many Others.
Graphic Printing, 309 West Main St., Portland.
Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Custom sizes available.

30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

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

40 NOTICES

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

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 11559 West Highway 26, Dunkirk IN Saturday, April 10th, 2021
10:00 am.
Old & Collector items. Household- Frigidaire side by side refrigerator, Maytag smooth top stove, Freedom Security Safe, 3 pc. bedroom suit, Grandfather clock, Crosley radio, Garfield toys, Pink depression, Small hump back trunk, Coke cans, Buggy wheel, Cider press, Schwinn bicycles.
Tools and Tractors- International 504 wide front gas tractor with Freeman loader and 3 pt, 12' Aluminum John boat, Craftman 10" band saw, Belt sander, Circular saw, and much more. Please visit Auction Zip for photos, and contact our office at (260) 726-2700 with any questions.
Gordon & Lucy Kesler, Deceased Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Ben Lyons AU10700085
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Troy Foust AU19800068

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubb Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN
Saturday, April 3rd, 2021
9:30 am
Antique-Old & Collector items-Guns-Indian Artifacts: Oak ice box; Oak glass ball square lamp; Edison Standard Phonograph; Dr. Pepper thermometer; Cola Cola trays; Wards Western Model 16M 20ga. bolt action shotgun; 380 semi-auto pistol.
Stoneware & Crocks: #3 Red Wing Jug, #10 crock, #6 crock. Indian Artifacts: 175+ arrowheads in various colors. Union Pacific Railroad spittoon; EZ Bake Flour sign; Dunkirk bottle; Dunkirk tokens. Fiesta; mixing bowls, teapots, pitchers, various trays, Tumblers, Vases, platters. Roseville; Pinecone (Green & Brown Color), Freesia, Sunflower.
Large amount of Raymor pattern.
Auctioneers Note: This is an outstanding auction with a nice collection of quality items. This collection has been packed and stored for the past 5+ years. Please visit Auction Zip for photos, and contact our office at (260) 726-2700 with any questions.
Gordon & Lucy Kesler, Deceased Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Ben Lyons AU10700085
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Troy Foust AU19800068

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Passing craze
4 "— la Douce"
8 Thompson of "Love Actually"
12 Farm female
13 Site of Apra Harbor
14 Entre —
15 Excrete
17 Deep cut
18 Savings plan acronym
19 How hordes move
21 Gerry-lander
24 Pooch
25 Flamenco cheer
26 Fitting rhyme for "spa"
28 Jazz genre
32 "If it — broke ..."
34 Dress (up)
36 Crème — crème
37 Twangy
39 Central point

DOWN

21 Reddish horse
22 Director Kazan
23 Dig in
27 Sweetie
29 Indebted
30 "The Good Earth" heroine
31 Hunger indicator
33 Interferes (with)
35 Gloomy guy
38 Young bloke
40 Easter head-wear
43 Lost color
45 Fleur-de- —
46 Faxed
47 Sloth's home
48 Summers in Paris
49 Queen of Carthage
53 Black gold
54 Punk-rock subgenre
55 "Fresh Air" ailer

Solution time: 24 mins.

B	E	T	A	I	M	S	V	I	E	W
O	V	O	N	C	A	A	E	S	S	O
R	I	O	C	H	R	I	S	R	O	C
A	L	L	A	H	D	A	S			
C	U	B	E	R	O	O	T	S	O	L
A	G	E	S	T	E	A	D	D	A	M
S	L	A	M	C	A	R	R	A	D	I
H	I	T	A	T	T	O	E	S		
			D	A	B	A	K	I	T	A
			C	H	E	R	R	Y	R	E
			Y	E	T	I	E	I	R	E
			D	E	E	D	S	C	A	D

Yesterday's answer 4-1

100 JOBS WANTED

AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489.

110 HELP WANTED

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

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

RETAIL SALES days, nights & weekends. Clean work environment, good hourly pay. Must be 21 or older. Apply @ Northside Carry Out, 1226 N. Meridian, Portland, IN. Attn: Ruth

Little JJ's Tree Service
Tree Trimming, Removal, Stump Grinding, Firewood available
765-509-1956

BAIL BONDS
Travis Weaver
260-726-3189
across street from Jail

GABBARD FENCE
FARM • COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL • VINYL
"SINCE 1969"
rgfence@yahoo.com
(765) 546-8801

BOOLMAN'S
Auto Sales & Service, Inc.
Highway 67 W,
Portland, Indiana
260-251-9735

Wendel's
Carpets & Upholstery Cleaning
Von Schrader Dry Foam Cleaning
For Quick Drying, Residential & Commercial
Dave Wendel
Ph. 260-726-4520
Cell 260-729-2797

Dave's Heating & Cooling
Furnace, Air Conditioner
Geothermal Sales & Service
260-726-2138
Now accepting MC/Disc/Visa

ROD PENROD, LICENSED AGENT
Local Agent
Medicare Supplements
Medicare Drug Plans
Medicare Advantage
Senior Life Insurance
260-418-9492

Visit Us At:
theocr.com



Indianapolis Star/Tribune News Service/Robert Scheer

Indiana Pacers forward Domantas Sabonis (11) bumps into Miami Heat guard Gabe Vincent (2) on a disputed play that benefited Indiana after review at Bankers Life Fieldhouse in Indianapolis, Wednesday, March 31, 2021, during Miami Heat at Indiana Pacers. Miami won 92-87.

Shoot ...

Continued from page 8
Adebayo kept looking for his shot, drove left in the second quarter and pulled back into a short jumper which rimmed out. He turned upright like a wooden soldier, flexed and screamed at the ground.
Sink or swim: This stretch will determine Pacers direction, playing hard can't be optional.
The Heat couldn't hit. At all. But soon after, neither could the Pacers. Indiana allowed Miami to close out the half on a 13-0 run, cutting the halftime lead that was once destined for double-digits to two points. The Heat hadn't necessarily found their offensive touch (the 27th-worst scoring team in the league rarely ever have it), the Pacers just completely lost theirs.
"We had a good lead there," Pacers forward Doug McDermott said, dejected.
The ball stopped in LeVert's hands, who threw away several

passes after leaping in the air to find space and boxing himself into a decision. Turner, the only Pacers starter to have a hot hand, picked up his fifth foul in the third quarter. The Pacers got a tiny boost from the bench, but it couldn't overcome a dominant stretch from Jimmy Butler and a starting group that all finished with a negative plus-minus.
Who won Oladipo-LeVert trade? With Victor Oladipo getting close to making debut in Heat uniform, it's time to reflect.
"We had a tough stretch there," Pacers head coach Nate Bjorkgren said. "Our spacing wasn't very good."
At the end of the third quarter, T.J. McConnell shot a short jumper which rimmed out, which was picked up by Goga Bitadze, who rimmed out a layup as the buzzer sounded. McConnell grabbed the ball off the rim and shot a short jumper that didn't count, swishing

it and then shaking his head as he headed back to the huddle before a fourth quarter that wouldn't get any better.
Up by one in a game the Pacers had no business losing, Sabonis huddled on the sideline with his teammates, wiped his face with a Gatorade towel and then pelted it to the ground. He was just called for a charge that wasn't a charge. He fumed that a play had been taken away.
But then the officials confirmed Sabonis' opinion. Bjorkgren challenged and won.
It ignited something in Sabonis. He clapped together with his teammates and then encouraged the crowd, which roared louder than it had all game.
The Pacers had to move quick off the inbound. But LeVert stalled on the perimeter, dribbled a few times and before he realized, it was too late. He got off a prayer that grazed the rim.

Reds want to write best-seller

By JIM WALKER

The Ironton (Ohio) Tribune
Tribune News Service

CINCINNATI — Never judge a book by its cover, especially if it was written by the Cincinnati Reds.
Yes, the Reds made the playoffs for the first time since 2013. However, the playoffs were expanded due to pandemic season of 2020 that had teams play just 60 games and the Reds were just 31-29 and squeezed in during the final weekend of the season.

So, what should be a positive outlook heading into 2021 is just another season that has a lot of questions and not a lot of answers.

The first answer needed is the \$25,000-a-year question of a 37-year-old first baseman and if he can perform well enough to be a factor or start looking at retirement homes.

Future Hall of Fame candidate Joey Votto must improve on last season's numbers of a .226 batting average with 11 home runs and 22 runs batted in. It is the third straight season of declining numbers for the former 2010 National League Most Valuable Player.

Votto says he is going to change his approach this season — again — and quit worrying about putting the ball in play and return to being more of a power hitter.

In 2017, Votto was the runner-up by one point for the National League MVP with a .320 batting average, 36 HRs and 100 RBIs. But he was followed by .284, 12 and 67 in 2018 and .261, 15 HRs and 47 RBIs in 2019.

Votto began the spring camp strong but was sidelined when he tested positive for COVID-19 and was on the IL for 10 days.

The biggest bat in the lineup is third baseman Eugenio Suarez who struggled last season coming off an injury that required surgery. Suarez hit 49 home runs the previous season but hit 15 HRs with 38 HRs while batting .202 in the shortened season.

Suarez has lost some weight and hopefully will be the answer to the shortstop position. Suarez has played third base in the past but his original position was shortstop.

The acquisitions last season of Mike Moustakas and Shogo Akiyama didn't exactly light up the scorecard which was a part of the reason the Reds' team batting average of .212 was the worst in the major leagues.

Moustakas — who is known for offense and not

defense — hit just .230 last season with 8 home runs and 27 runs batted in. He will shift from second base to his original position of third base.

Akiyama was supposed to bring a big bat to the lineup but only batted .245 with no HRs and 9 RBI. He is expected to share the center field duties with Nick Senzel who has battled through injuries the past two seasons.

Last season, Senzel batted an anemic .186 with 2 HRs and 8 RBIs as he continued to battle injuries.

Nick Castellanos — a free agent acquisition last season — hit .230 with 14 homers and 34 RBI and will be back in right field. Left field will go to Jesse Winker who hit .255 with 12 HRs and 23 RBI.

The emergence of non-roster rookie Jonathan India has enabled Moustakas to return to third base. India had a very strong spring and will get the start at second base.

Utility man Kyle Farmer can play catcher, outfield and infield and expressed his desire to have a chance to play shortstop this season. He proved himself in the field last season and has a better bat (.266 BA) than any other option. He dropped some weight to become more mobile and was impressive during the Reds' training camp making him the leading candidate at shortstop.

Two sleepers to make the team are Max Schrock and Jonathan India who pounded the ball during the spring. Schrock can play second base while India can play third and second.

The Reds chose not to resign Curt Casali leaving the catching duties to former Gold Glove award winner Tucker Barnhart (.204, 5 HR, 13 RBI). But the Reds are high on Tyler Stephenson who play in just eight games last season but hit .294 with 2 HRs and 6 RBI.

And, there's always Farmer who can be part of the mix.

Off the bench will be versatile Alex Blandino, outfielders Aristedis Aquino and Tyler Naquin and infielder Max Schrock.

The loss of Cy Young winner Trevor Bauer to free agency leaves a hole in the rotation but the Reds shouldn't be devastated by the loss.

The starting rotation is expected to be Sonny Gray, Luis Castillo, Tyler Mahle, Wade Miley and Jeff Hoffman who was acquired in a trade. Jose De Leon is another option but will start in the bullpen.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Friday
Fort Recovery — Softball vs. Mississinawa Valley — 5 p.m.

Saturday
Fort Recovery — Track at Versailles Tiger Invitational — 9 a.m.; Softball vs. Bath — 11 a.m.; Baseball vs. Crestview — 2 p.m.
Jay County — Baseball scrimmage vs. Bellmont — 11 a.m.; Softball scrimmage vs. Winchester — 11 a.m.

Monday
Jay County — Softball vs. Blackford — 5 p.m.; JV softball at Blackford — 5 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Lehman Catholic — 5 p.m.; Softball at Lima Central Catholic — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Franklin Monroe — 5 p.m.; Junior high track hosts tri — 4:30 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
4:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers at Colorado Rockies (ESPN)
7:09 p.m. — Major League baseball: New York Mets at Washington Nationals (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Charlotte Hornets at Brooklyn Nets (TNT)
10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Denver

Nuggets at Los Angeles Clippers (TNT) 10:07 p.m. — Major League Baseball: San Francisco Giants at Seattle Mariners (ESPN)

Friday
8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers vs. Charlotte Hornets (FSN)

Saturday
5:14 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament Final Four — Houston vs. Baylor (CBS)
8:34 p.m. — Men's College Basketball: NCAA Tournament Final Four — UCLA vs. Gonzaga (CBS)
9 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at San Antonio Spurs (FSN)

Local notes

Final chance is tonight
The final chance to register for the 2021 Portland Junior League season is tonight.
The session will be from 6 to 8 p.m. at Jay Community Center, 115 E. Water St., Portland.
Registration forms can be picked up at JCC, or they're available online at PJJ's Facebook page.
No late registrations will be accepted.
The league is open to boys and girls ages 5 to 15.
.....
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Safety first

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

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ 3 ♦
6 ♣
Opening lead — three of diamonds.

There are many deals where declarer can make an error in the play and still survive because of a favorable lie of the cards. This does not mean that declarer's error should be excused; all it means is that he was lucky.
Take this case where South is in six spades and West leads a diamond, ruffed by declarer. Many players would next lead a trump to the king and, in the great majority of deals, would survive what a technical purist would view as an egregious error. Indeed, the purist, in his own mind, would consider that South should

have gone down in a cold contract.
The purist would argue, quite rightly, that leading a spade to the king at trick two makes no provision for the possibility that West has all four missing trumps. While it is true that this play would not cost South the slam whenever East had the Q-10-x-x or the spades were divided 2-2 or 3-1 — all told, a 95% chance — the play would lose the slam the remaining 5% of the time.
Since there is a way to guard against West holding the Q-10-x-x, as in the actual deal, there is no reason to take even such a small risk — particularly when a vulnerable slam is at stake.
Before making a play at trick two, declarer should ask himself what could defeat him. It should not take him long to conclude that the only threat is a 4-0 trump split. He should then ask himself what can be done if either opponent has all four trumps.
Once on this track, declarer should see the advantage of playing the ace of spades at trick two. If both opponents follow suit, no more than one trump trick can be lost. If East shows out, South next leads a trump toward dummy's K-9, covering whatever West plays to limit his trump losers to one. Finally, if West shows out on the ace, a spade to the king followed by a spade toward the jack holds East to one trump trick.
With proper play, all roads thus lead safely home.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
©2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

4-1 CRYPTOQUIP
L Z T R L L V B E B L P K E Y O V Z
L Z W Q J H K P Y U K L R B Q U Z O K E Y
A E Z T K B P R M H A Z E P R A R K J
J R M M K E Y : Y W U U K E - V K E Z K Y .
Yesterday's Cryptiquip: THAT GUY GLADLY PARES POTATOES FOR RESIDENTS OF HIS CITY. HE'S A PEELER OF THE COMMUNITY.
Today's Cryptiquip Clue: L equals C

110 HELP WANTED
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT
Representative(s) Full & Part-Time. Seeking a hard-working, motivated, self-starter with a winning attitude who enjoys a challenge and will attract new clients to print and digital media. Responsibilities: Develop and manage revenue producing relationships with current clients and agencies. Prospect for new business and build a full pipeline of sales products. Analyze client marketing goals and develop needs based solutions to achieve them. Qualifications: Strong problem solving and analytical skills. Have basic computer skills. Be able to work on a deadline. Have good communication skills. Be organized and have a positive attitude. Be able to pay attention to detail. Have reliable transportation & valid driver license. Prior experience with digital & print advertising sales experience preferred but not necessary, we will train. Apply in person along with your resume or mail in your resume to: The Commercial Review PO Box 1049, 309 W. Main St., Portland, IN 47371 Attn: Business Manager or email gpccbusiness@embarq-mail.com

110 HELP WANTED
1ST AND 2ND SHIFT COOKS. 3 days on, 3 days off. Call 260-997-8300 before 2pm.
THE JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS are taking applications for the position of Jay County Retirement Center Maintenance through noon on April 5, 2021. Applications may be picked up at and returned to the Jay County Auditor's Office at 120 North Court Street in Portland, Indiana. Job Description available upon request. Jay County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer
CROWNPOINTE OF PORTLAND is hiring hard working, dedicated Certified Nurse Aids (C. N. A.). Full time, part time, and PRN positions available. Please apply in house at 745 Patriot Drive, Portland, IN 47371 or online at www.cpcommunities.com/portland. For questions please call 260-726-3577.

130 MISC. FOR SALE
ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax.
The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.
190 FARMERS COLUMN
AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309
200 FOR RENT
PIEDMONT APARTMENTS, 778 W 7th Street, Portland, Indiana, accepting applications for 1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments, no application fee. Rent base on 30% of your gross income. Call 260-726-2920, TDD 800-743-3333. This is an Equal Opportunity Housing Complex. This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.
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

200 FOR RENT
LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com
NEED MORE STORAGE? PJ's U-Lock and Storage, most sizes available. Call 260-726-4631.

220 REA ESTATE
FOR SALE 16.24 ACRES BARE LAND on south side of 200 N west of 300 E Portland. Good building land. Contact Ben B. Girod 11464 S 150 E Geneva, IN 46740
230 AUTOS, TRUCKS
CASH PAID FOR JUNK CARS Any year, any condition. Running or not. We tow away. 765-578-0111 or 260-729-2878. Massey's Towing
WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

Out The CR Classifieds www.theocr.com

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

GET IT IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
You never know what you might find in
The Commercial Review Classifieds.
From a new car to a new home, to a new job,
the Classifieds deliver! Go to theocr.com or call
260-726-8141

Sports

Bader second, third in conference tune-up

Alex Bader showed out in the final regular-season meet of her junior year.

Bader, a 2018 Jay County High School graduate, was second in one event and third in another for the Ball State University women's swim team Friday in its final tune-up before the conference championships.

The Cardinals lost to Indiana State (172.5-127.5) and Southern Illinois (184-115).

The junior was the runner-up in the 100-yard breaststroke in 1 minute, 3.87 seconds, then stopped the clock in 2:22.52 for

Collegiate Check-up

third in the 200 breaststroke.

Bader helped the 400 medley relay end fourth, and was also part of the fifth-place 200 freestyle relay.

The Cardinals will compete in the Mid-American Conference Championships from April 15 through 17 at Eastern Michigan.

Max Moser Jay County - 2018

Was hitless in four at-bats for the Huntington University baseball team.

Moser entered as a pinch-hitter Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader against Taylor (a 7-6 loss in 11 innings). He was unable to get on base.

Two days later in another doubleheader against Taylor, he got the start as the team's designated hitter. Moser struck out three times in the Foresters' 4-2 victory.

In 13 at bats for the Foresters, Moser has a pair of hits, an RBI

and a walk. He's been hit by a pitch twice.

Chloe Will Audrey Guggenbiller Fort Recovery - 2019

Ran for the Tiffin University women's track team as it competed in the Greater Midwest Athletic Conference indoor championships Thursday and Friday at Cedarville.

Will took 20th in the 5,000-meter run, ending in a time of 20 minutes, 20.73 seconds. Findlay's Gabrielle Lawrence won with a time of 17:28.69.

Guggenbiller had a time of 6:26.47 for 24th in the 1-mile run. Cedarville's Rachel Sweeney won in 5:03.03.

Cade Wendel Fort Recovery - 2018

Started on the mound for the Lake Erie baseball team Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader against the Findlay Oilers.

Wendel surrendered seven runs — three earned — on six hits in five innings of work, but did not factor into the decision. He struck out seven and walked a pair in a 10-9 loss.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

So, here's the deal ...

Fort Recovery High School baseball coach Jerry Kaup explains ground rules to umpires and Celina coach Andrew Waesch ahead of the Indians' season-opening game Monday. The Tribe won 9-4.

Pacers shoot poorly in loss

By MICHAEL McCLEARY

The Indianapolis Star Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS

Justin Holiday took one dribble in then stepped back into a 3-pointer. It rimmed out. Of course it did. They all did. There were just under two minutes remaining in the half and maybe a minute ago the Pacers had total control. But after four misses and a turnover, Tyler Herro pulled down the miss and dribbled up the court with his Heat team down just four.

He faded to the same spot he hit a 3-pointer a few plays earlier and tried building off its momentum, rising in stride yet immediately regretting it with Holiday in his face. He contorted his body in midair to pass out of it and was heading towards a travel when Holiday overstepped and grazed his arm, awarding him three free throws in a broken play.

For much of the Pacers' 92-87 loss, it seemed as if Indiana didn't need to do much at all. The Heat were shooting awful. The Pacers were shooting bad, just better. Against a Heat team that hasn't beaten an opponent who scored 100-plus points since March 11, the Pacers, ultimately, didn't even need to get there. They had 45 points with two minutes left in the half. The Heat barely had 30.

But then in the final minutes, the Pacers somehow stooped even lower than Miami had. They missed all of their shots, scoring their fewest points this season.

Fox Sports Indiana no more: Pacers broadcasts will look different on Bally

Indiana scores fewest points of the season

Sports Indiana starting Wednesday.

"I think the ball got stagnant a little bit at times," center Myles Turner said. "You put yourself in bad positions like that."

The loss sinks the Pacers further into their futile play at Bankers Life Fieldhouse. Indiana has the longest active streak of winning seasons on their homecourt — since 1989-90 — and now is six losses away from ending that. The Pacers remain the ninth seed in the Eastern Conference, just three games behind fourth-seeded Charlotte.

After a 6-of-9 start for the Heat in Wednesday's game, Miami (24-24, tied for fifth in the East) missed 19 of its next 23 shots and the Pacers cruised. Though not by their own strong play Duncan Robinson, who had hit two quick 3-pointers at the game's start had disappeared. Trevor Ariza missed two free throws. Turner blocked a drive from Bam Adebayo at the rim.

Herro entered the game — normally instant offense — dribbled to the corner and Caris LeVert poked the ball away from him, leaping out of bounds to save it and the Pacers weaved it up the court for a finish in transition.

See Shoot page 7

Report: Reed signs with Colts

By JIM AYELLO

The Indianapolis Star Tribune News Service

The Indianapolis Colts have added another veteran to their offensive line mix. The team signed former Panthers guard Chris Reed on Thursday, according to the NFL Network.

Reed, who will be 29 at the start of the 2021 season, started 14 games at guard for Carolina. He entered the NFL in 2015 as an undrafted free agent with the Jacksonville Jaguars. During his six-year career, Reed has played in 47 games with 23 starts. Last season was Reed's first

extended chance to start, and according to Pro Football Focus, was responsible just one sack allowed in 892 snaps. Reed battled through a bout with COVID-19 early in the 2020 season that caused him to miss the first two games of the year.

NFL mock draft 2021: Colts still have several needs in first round.

With Quenton Nelson and Mark Glowinski set to start at left and right guard, respectively, for the Colts, Reed comes to Indianapolis as more solid depth along the offensive line for a team that has added a lot of it recently.

Reed's signing comes on the heels

of the return of interior lineman Joey Hunt as well as the additions of tackles Sam Tevi and Julián Davenport. Reed will join Hunt, 2020 rookie Danny Pinter and Jake Eldrenkamp as the top interior linemen behind Nelson, Glowinski and starting center Ryan Kelly.

New Colts CBs coach James Rowe has plan to get best out of Rock Yasin.

"When we started having all the injuries on the O-line, we've got to make sure we're prepared for it," Colts General Manager Chris Ballard said in January. "I'm obsessed with depth."

<p>Dr. Thomas Banta 1413 W. Votaw St., Portland 260-726-7822</p>	<p>Home Idea Center 901 Industrial Dr. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-375-4951 www.ehomeidea.com</p>	<p>All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning (260)726-4822 24 hr Emergency Service Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas</p>
<p>Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition 100 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371 Email: jcdpccontact@gmail.com</p>	<p>Williams Auto Parts, Inc. 1127 Detroit Ave. Portland, IN 8-5:30 Mon-Fri, Closed Sat & Sun. Used auto parts since 1951 www.williamsautoparts.com</p>	<p>Baird Freeman Funeral Home 221 N. Meridian St. Portland, IN 260-726-7171</p>
<p>Barnes Sewer & Septic, LLC 3075 N. 100 W., Winchester 765-584-7295 www.barnesseptic.com</p>	<p>Ohio Valley Gas 129 E. Main St., Portland 260-726-8114 www.ovgc.com</p>	<p>Dunn Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8007</p>
<p>Fuqua Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep & Ram 127 E. Commerce St., Dunkirk Garage is open! 765-768-6224 www.fuquachrysler.com</p>	<p>Grube Auctioneering 111 1/4 E. Butler St. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-305-9202 grubeauctioneering@gmail.com Live & online auctions</p>	<p>Cascio Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Suite B Portland, IN 260-726-7006 New patients are always welcome</p>
<p>Fortkamp Foam 3226 Wabash Road Ft. Recovery, OH 419-852-1390 Fortkampfoam.com</p>	<p>All Circuit Electrical, LLC 5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN 260-997-8336 www.allcircuitelectrical.com</p>	<p>Display Craft Signs 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535</p>
		<p>Adair Processing 190 N. Union St. Pennville, IN 260-731-3221</p>

This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50. Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included