

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Request pulled



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

U.S. Aggregates, which is hoping to expand its operation north of its current site (pictured) at 2228 W. 125 South, has withdrawn its request to rezone about 115 acres, most of which sits between county road 100 South and Tyson Road, east of county road 200 West. Portland Plan Commission had voted 6-2 April 1 to recommend that Portland City Council deny the request.

### US Aggregates withdraws its rezoning application after negative vote from Portland Plan Commission

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Portland City Council won't be deciding on US Aggregates' rezoning request, at least not for now.

Jay/Portland Building and Planning Department reported Tuesday that US Aggregates has pulled its request to rezone land in order to allow an expansion of its stone quarry.

Portland Plan Commission on April 1 voted 6-2 to recommend that

Portland City Council deny the rezoning request. That decision then had to be certified within business 10 days, with Portland City Council then to act on the request within the next 90 days.

Rather than having the request move to city council, US Aggregates' attorney Josh Atkinson requested that the application be withdrawn. City attorney Bill Hinkle determined that plan commission rules allow for such a with-

drawal, so the request has been honored.

In an official statement, the company indicated plans to modify its application for rezoning in an effort to gain approval both from the plan commission and city council.

"US Aggregates ... felt that it was important that they have favorable support from the Planning Commission prior to moving forward and want to work with the members of the commission to understand the

issues that remain of concern related to the rezoning," the statement said. "Once US Aggregates has had an opportunity to evaluate and see if they can address the concerns they plan to resubmit their application for rezoning and have another meeting with the Planning Commission, where they hope to gain their support."

The company reiterated its desire to continue to be a part of the community.

It noted that the public

can send questions, concerns and letters of support to info@usagg.com.

US Aggregates has been advocating for a couple of months for the rezoning of a parcel of land (about 115 acres total), the bulk of which is between county road 100 South and Tyson Road, east of county road 200 West. The company hopes to open a new quarry site on the property, which sits north of its current site at 2228 W. 125 South.

See **Pulled** page 2

## State Senate passes budget

*Committee will work out differences with House version*

By KAITLIN LANGE

The Indianapolis Star  
Tribune News Service

The Indiana Senate passed its version of the \$35.8 billion state budget Tuesday by a 39-10 vote, with one Democrat joining all Republicans to approve the measure.

Democrats unsuccessfully tried to amend the budget Monday to raise the minimum wage, increase the cigarette tax, restore various line items that had been cut 15% during the pandemic, increase teacher pay and put an end to phased-in corporation tax cuts implemented under former Gov. Mike Pence, among other amendments.

"It's still not a budget that I can vote for," said Sen. Eddie Melton, D-Gary. "There's still some things in here that doesn't address in totality what I feel that every single Hoosier want to see accomplished or needed in this session."

Sen. David Niezgodski, D-South Bend, broke with the rest of his 11-member caucus to vote to approve the budget.

Key difference between the House and Senate versions will have to be worked out in a conference committee and then face one last vote in each chamber before it can head to Gov. Eric Holcomb's desk.

Still, Democrats had concerns about the lack of a cigarette tax increase, absence of action to address teacher pay and what they see as an inequitable school-funding formula. They unsuccessfully tried to amend the budget and likely will try again before it passes the full Senate.

See **Budget** page 5

## Protests continue

By KIM HYATT,  
ANDY MANNIX  
and LIZ SAWYER

Star Tribune  
Tribune News Service

BROOKLYN CENTER, Minn. — Law enforcement moved in with heavy force against protesters outside the Brooklyn Center Police Department Tuesday night, bringing the third straight evening of mass demonstrations over the police killing of Daunte Wright to a dramatic ending.

The protests began peacefully at 4:30 p.m., with activists gathering in droves in front of the police station and demanding that state officials appoint an independent investigation into Kimberly Potter, the Brooklyn Center officer who shot Wright during a traffic stop Sunday.

Activist and attorney Nekima Levy Armstrong told the crowd that she recently spoke to Gov. Tim Walz about introducing nine police reform bills to the Legislature, including ending qualified

### Demonstrators are calling for independent investigation

immunity, the legal principle that makes it difficult to sue police officers individually.

"Ending qualified immunity is an example ... to stop killing people on the taxpayer's dollars. ... We want an independent body to investigate police killings and not the BCA," she said, referring to the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

The crowd marched to the nearby FBI Field Office, where speakers continued to demand justice for Wright, and then back to the police station.

After the rally, as night fell, an estimated 800 to 1,000 protesters remained outside the station.

Dozens of police officers in riot gear, along with National Guard members, stood on the other side of a large metal fence erected around the perimeter of the station earlier this week.

As members of the crowd shouted and shook the fence, police began deploying flash-bang grenades.

Protesters responded by throwing objects such as water bottles back, striking some officers on their helmets. The Minnesota State Patrol declared the group unlawful around 8:30 p.m. Scores of troopers moved toward the crowd, firing riot gas, projectiles and more flash-bangs.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Holiday treats

Two-year-old Harry Long reaches for an Easter egg during the City of Dunkirk's event Saturday at Dunkirk City Park. Harry was visiting the park with his grandpa, Gary Wilson.

#### Deaths

**James Jackson**, 88, rural Portland

**Barbara Bryan**, 75, Portland

**Jill Gonzalez**, 61, Portland  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 63 degrees Tuesday. The low was 41.

Tonight's low will drop into the mid 30s. Expect a windy day Thursday with gusts to 25 miles per hour and a high of 54 under mostly sunny skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Jay County Health Department is now accepting walk-ins for the coronavirus vaccine for those 18 and older from 1 to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Walk-ins will also be available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday.

Those interested in getting the vaccine can also make an appointment at ourshot.in.gov.

#### Coming up

**Thursday** — Coverage of tonight's Jay County Council meeting.

**Saturday** — Results from the JCHS softball team's game against Norwell.





# Felony court news

## Unlawful possession

Three men were sentenced to jail recently after pleading guilty to unlawful possession of a syringe, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Anthony M. Fisher, 26, 25 E. Sheridan St., Redkey, was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 180 days credit

for 90 days served. He was assessed court costs of \$185. As part of his plea agreement, two Level 6 felony charges for possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a common nuisance were dismissed.

Trenton A. Ray, 26, 301 Pierce St., Ridgeville, was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail

with all but 30 days suspended and given two days credit for one day served.

He was placed on probation for 11 months and assessed court costs of \$185.

Joshua I. Sparrow, 20, 411 E. 36th St., Marion, was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 32 days credit

for 16 days served. He was assessed court costs of \$185.

## Escape

A Redkey man recently pleaded guilty to escape, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Jason C. Miller, 47, 900 W. High St., Redkey, pleaded

guilty to the Level 6 felony charge of escape — knowingly or intentionally violating a home detention order or intentionally removing an electronic monitoring device. He was sentenced to 240 days in Jay County Jail and assessed court costs of \$185.

See page 5

# CR almanac

Thursday 4/15	Friday 4/16	Saturday 4/17	Sunday 4/18	Monday 4/19
<b>51/35</b>	<b>58/37</b>	<b>55/40</b>	<b>58/39</b>	<b>63/45</b>
Another day of mostly cloudy skies and high winds, which are expected to reach 15 to 25 mph.	Mostly cloudy skies to start the weekend. Winds may reach 10 to 15 mph but will calm by the evening.	Overcast throughout the day. Some winds may blow, but otherwise cool temperatures.	Some sun during the morning only to be followed by a 20% chance of rain later.	Mostly cloudy during the day, with winds reaching between 10 and 15 mph.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$67 million	19-23-39-41-46-50-53-57-59-60-62-63-66-68-69-71-78 Cash 5: 8-9-12-17-40 Estimated jackpot: \$272,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> 10-15-19-45-68 Mega Ball: 9 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$240 million	<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 8-7-1 Pick 4: 1-0-2-0 Pick 5: 5-9-2-6-3 Evening Pick 3: 5-3-9 Pick 4: 6-7-5-6 Pick 5: 4-4-8-8-0 Rolling Cash: 5-9-16-18-19 Estimated jackpot: \$182,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 6-6-3 Daily Four: 1-6-8-8 Evening Daily Three: 2-0-4 Daily Four: 6-8-0-5 Quick Draw: 11-14-18-	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.05 Wheat .....6.31	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....5.96 May corn.....5.97 Beans.....14.37 Sept. beans.....12.25 July wheat.....6.25
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.14 May corn.....6.16	<b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.06 May corn.....6.06 Beans.....14.23 May beans.....14.25 Wheat.....6.08 July wheat.....6.10
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....5.97 May corn.....6.01 Beans.....14.38 May beans.....14.38 Wheat.....6.46 May wheat.....6.46	

## Today in history

On April 14, 1912, the British liner RMS Titanic collided with an iceberg in the North Atlantic at 11:40 p.m. ship's time and began sinking. (The ship went under two hours and 40 minutes later with the loss of 1,514 lives.)

In 1828, the first edition of Noah Webster's "American Dictionary of the English Language" was published.

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot and mortally wounded by John Wilkes Booth during a performance of "Our American Cousin" at Ford's Theater in Washington.

In 1910, President William Howard Taft became the first U.S. chief executive to throw the ceremonial first pitch at a baseball game as the Washington Senators beat the Philadelphia Athletics 3-0.

In 1935, the "Black Sunday" dust storm descended upon the central Plains, turning a sunny afternoon into total darkness.

In 1960, Tamla

Records and Motown Records, founded by Berry Gordy Jr., were incorporated as Motown Record Corp.

In 1965, the state of Kansas hanged Richard Hickock and Perry Smith for the 1959 "In Cold Blood" murders of Herbert Clutter, his wife, Bonnie, and two of their children, Nancy and Kenyon.

In 1970, President Richard Nixon nominated Harry Blackmun to the U.S. Supreme Court. (The choice of Blackmun, who was unanimously confirmed by the Senate a month later, followed the failed nominations of Clement Haynsworth and G. Harold Carswell.)

In 1971, Pennville Lions Club hosted a public meeting to discuss the town's sewer system. L. Robert Carter of the state's water pollution control office reported that the state planned to move against cases of stream pollution wherever they existed.

—AP and The CR

## Citizen's calendar

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

**Thursday**  
5 p.m. — Redkey Town Council executive ses-

sion, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.  
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

**Friday**  
10 a.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

# Obituaries

## James Jackson

July 3, 1932-April 12, 2021

James L. Jackson, age 88, of rural Portland passed away Monday, April 12, 2021, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.

He was born in Muncie on July 3, 1932, the son of Herschel and Helen (Pence) Jackson. He was married on April 18, 1992, to Vera Imel, who survives. He was retired as a truck driver for Union City Body Company and also had been a barber. He was a Korean Conflict veteran serving in the U.S. Air Force. He was a member of American Legion Post

#211, where he served on the Honor Guard, D.A.V. and Westchester United Methodist Church. Jim was active in harness racing for several years.

Surviving are his wife Vera; one son, Doug Jackson (wife: Debbie) of Portland; three daughters, Jane Newhouse (husband: Bill) of Latrobe, Pennsylvania, Barbara Stahley of Portland and Sandy Love of Bluffton; three step-children, Gene Steveson (Rogina Prescott) of Portland, Larry Steveson of Linn Grove and Juanita Basham (Jeremy Stocker) of Portland; seven grandchildren; several great-grandchildren; and two step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by a son, Robert Jackson; and grandson, Chris Jackson.

Funeral services will be Friday, April 16, 2021, at 2 p.m. with Pastor Darrell Borders presiding in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. Burial will follow in Gravel Hill Cemetery with military graveside rites by American Legion Post #211. Visitation will be Friday from noon to 2 p.m. the funeral home.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

## Barbara Bryan

April 11, 1946-April 13, 2021

Barbara S. Bryan, age 75, of Portland passed away at her residence Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

She was born in Ashland, Kentucky, on April 11, 1946, the daughter of Henry and Sarah (Crawford) Bellomy. She was married on March 3, 1966, to Cline Bryan who survives. She was a homemaker and had worked for Youth Service Bureau and Ludwig's. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church where she was active in various church committees. She was past president of Jayceette in Boyd County, Kentucky.

Barbara was a loving mom and grandma and enjoyed working on her flowers.

Surviving are her husband Cline; two daughters, Lisa Fields (husband: Ron) of Portland and Angie Bell (husband: John) of Richmond; one brother, Bill Bellomy of Ashland, Kentucky; two sisters, Sharon Pope of Lexington, Kentucky, and Peggy Arthur of Ashland, Kentucky; six grandchildren, Andrew, Nicholas, Matthew, Kaitlyn, Addie and Alexis; and one great-granddaughter, Paisley.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Bellomy.

Funeral services will be Friday at 7 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. Visitation will be Friday from 5 to 7 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

## Jill Gonzalez

March 1, 1960-April 11, 2021

Jill A. (Nethery) Gonzalez, age 61, of Portland passed away Sunday, April 11, 2021, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.

She was born in Gary, Indiana, on March 1, 1960, the daughter of Herb and June (Stoddard) Nethery.

Jill was a well-known criminal attorney for Delaware, Jay and surrounding counties. She was a deputy public defender for Delaware County since 2015. She was one of the selected few to be chosen to attend and graduate from National Forensic College taught by Berry Scheck in the summer of 2016. She was a 1978 Jay



Bryan



Jackson



Gonzalez

County High School graduate and a graduate of Ball State University with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice/criminology and a 2000 graduate of Thomas M. Cooley Law School. She was a member of the Indiana Bar since 2000, member of Delaware County Bar Association and member of Trial Lawyers of America.

Jill was an avid Chicago Cubs fan. Her favorite place to be was in Chicago cheering on her Cubs. Jill did not know a stranger. She treated everybody she was close to like family. She loved her family very much. You could tell by the way she spoke about them. Her family was her everything.

Surviving are her children, Courtney Nichols and her favorite son-in-law Johnny Nichols of Portland, Chrissy DeVoe of Pennville, Indiana, and Christopher "Buddy" Gonzalez of Portland; grandchildren Emily DeVoe, Kelsey DeVoe, Tea Nichols, Trey "her Trey baby" Nichols and Taylee Nichols, all of Portland; great-grandchildren Aleah Cox, Layden Boyd, Lincoln Bailey, Grant Furner and Eli Furner, all of Portland; and one brother, John Nethery of Colorado.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Herb and June Nethery.

Funeral services will be Saturday, April 17, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home in Portland with Pastor Randy Davis presiding. Burial will follow in the Hillcrest Cemetery in Redkey. Visitation will be Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. in the funeral home.

Memorials can be made to the family.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

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

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

# Pulled ...

Continued from page 1

Officials from the company have said there is three to five years worth of material remaining at the current site. The new site, they said, would extend the life of the operation by about 30 years.

US Aggregates representatives first spoke about the request publicly at the Feb. 16 Jay School Board meeting and made their first presentation to Portland Plan Commission three days later.

Its proposal was met with opposition from the start, with those who live in the Beacon Heights addition, on Tyson Road, on Rose Drive and elsewhere in the vicinity of the proposed expansion attending meetings and sending letters to the building and planning department. They have raised a variety of concerns, including about property values, noise, dust, traffic, well water levels, aesthetics and other issues.

US Aggregates officials have consistently maintained that the company wants to be a good neighbor. In response to concerns it has noted that it must follow regulations laid out by a variety of federal and state agencies.

The issue came to a vote at the April 1 Portland Plan Commission meeting after a presentation from US Aggregates, about an hour of public comment and

discussion among the commission members.

The nine-member plan commission, which currently has one seat vacant, first deadlocked 4-4 on a vote to recommend to Portland City Council that the rezoning be approved. It then voted 6-2 to recommend to city council that the request be denied. City council makes the ultimate decision on all rezoning requests.

Had city council denied the request, US Aggregates would have to wait a year before resubmitting.

Having pulled the request, US Aggregates has the option to modify it and resubmit it.

If a rezoning request is eventually approved, US Aggregates would need to seek a special exception from the city's board of zoning appeals to allow mining at the site.

## Company plans to resubmit application

## SERVICES

Today

**Giddings**, Phyllis: 1 p.m., Meacham Funeral Service, 648 W. State St., Albany.

Friday

**McClain**, Cathy: 1:30 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Jackson**, James: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Bryan**, Barbara: 7 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday

**Gonzalez**, Jill: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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**2018 Chevrolet Cruze LT** \$13,900

bluetooth, remote start, backup camera, heated seats, 19,900 miles

**2020 Chevrolet Malibu LT** \$15,900

remote start, Bluetooth, backup camera 37,500 miles

**2017 Ford Escape Titanium FWD** \$14,300

Bluetooth, remote start, backup camera, local trade, 59,000 miles



# FR library book sale is next week

There's an opportunity to both donate items and acquire them at a discount. Fort Recovery Public Library is preparing for its annual used book sale.

The library is currently accepting donations for the sale. Items must be clean and in good condition, and encyclopedias, text books, magazines and VHS tapes will not be accepted.

The sale will begin Monday,

## Taking Note

April 19, and run during regular hours — 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Following state guidelines, library staff will be wearing masks to help keep the community safe.

## Drives set

The American Red Cross will host a series of blood drives in April, including one each in Portland and Bryant.

There will be a drive from 2 to 7 p.m. April 20 at Bryant Wesleyan Church, 209 S. Hendricks St.

A drive is also scheduled for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 27 at Jay Community Center.

To schedule an appointment visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call (800) 733-2767.

## April activities

Jay County Public Library has a series of activities scheduled for April.

The library is looking for local poets who are willing to submit and read their original piece.

Poems must be original and must be able to be read in 3 minutes or less.

Submit entries to the library by email at [jaylibrary315@gmail.com](mailto:jaylibrary315@gmail.com) by Tuesday. A live reading will be scheduled for the last week of April.

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.

# Daughter threatens to leave

DEAR ABBY: My best friend (since we were babies) and I are having a disagreement. She had two kids when she was 16 and 17 who are now in their early 20s. One of them still lives rent-free under her roof.

My friend struggled her whole life but got a college degree, bought a house five years ago and owns two cars all on her own. She has recently started having friends over on the weekends and drinking. While I don't do that, I understand she had kids early and wants to have a little fun now in her 40s. She's very responsible and pays her bills.

The other day I walked in and her daughter started screaming at me that I need to tell her mom to stop and saying that she was moving out. I was shocked that she spoke to me that way.

My friend started crying because she loves her daughter and doesn't want her to move. I say, let her go. She needs to learn to respect her elders, and she'll soon realize living on her own isn't easy. My friend didn't agree and hasn't said anything to her daughter about how she spoke to both of us. I want to help my friend because she comes to me for advice, but I don't know how. —DISAPPROVING FRIEND

DEAR FRIEND: People often say things in the heat of anger. You walked in on a fight between your friend and her daughter. You have no idea

## Dear Abby



was so damaged by the abuse he received that he could not go on, and I respect you for wanting to prevent something similar from happening to your sister. Groups such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention ([afsp.org](http://afsp.org)) offer counseling referrals after a family member takes his own life. You may be able to find a qualified referral there.

DEAR ABBY: I usually send special occasion flowers to my wife at work. I was wondering if it could make some co-workers who do not receive flowers from their partner or husband feel neglected, and worse, cause friction between them and my wife. If you feel this could be a potential problem, I can have the flowers delivered to our home. — EXCLUDED IN FLORIDA

DEAR EXCLUDED: If receiving flowers at her job has caused any tension in the past, you probably would have heard about it. However, you should ask your wife what she would prefer because she may enjoy the public gesture of husbandly love.

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](http://DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

what started it, and you shouldn't have inserted yourself. When you tried to "help," your input was rejected.

You have already said enough. Now, resist the impulse to stir the pot and step back so your friend can handle this herself.

DEAR ABBY: I come from a family with incest and physical and psychological abuse. I need to talk with my little sister about it. How do I get through it without breaking down before I can help her? My little brother died by suicide six months ago. I have been having nightmares over it. How do I go about getting through to her about it all? —BAD HISTORY IN IDAHO

DEAR BAD HISTORY: Before attempting to do that, it's important that you talk with a licensed therapist about what happened to you in that unhealthy environment. Once that is done, ask if you can bring your little sister to some sessions.

It is tragic that your brother

# Dreams mix with lullabies

By KWAME DAWES

It must be one of the great mercies of life that time provides us with the magical capacity to turn memories of the complete alarm of caring for an infant child into a delightful bit of nostalgia.

Adrian Matejka manages to capture both the splendor and bewilderment of early fatherhood in this tender poem.

Matejka was born in Nuremberg, Germany, and grew up in Indianapolis. He is a graduate of Indiana University and earned a

## American Life in Poetry

master's degree at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

He is the author of "The Devil's Garden," which won the New York/New England Award and "Mixology," a winner of the 2008 National Poetry Series.

## Up, Up from Daydreams/Lullaby

Your eyes close as soon as I put you in the plastic moon of a car seat. Connect the seatbelts, check the seat-to-car belts. Face turned to one side, brown like mine. Fists instead of hands just like me. Is this all you got from me? At least the seat is installed right thanks to a fireman at Station 37. At least you smile when you sleep & sleep like it's your job since I still don't know what I'm supposed to do when you wake up. In your dream of passing cars & Oregon hills underneath us, I sing a made-up song while Federico Aubele & the car's intemperate hum really lullaby: *Little one, this is a start. Little one, it starts with a heart.*

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([poetryfoundation.org](http://poetryfoundation.org)), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2020 by Adrian Matejka, "Up, Up from Daydreams/Lullaby" from The Chattahoochee Review (Fall 2019/Winter 2020). Poem reprinted by permission of Adrian Matejka and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2021 by The Poetry Foundation.

# Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

## Today

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 - BRIANNA'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 infor-

mation, 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 (206) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

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 con-

ference room, 410 Pilgrim Boulevard in Hartford City. For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-3900.

## Thursday

STITCH 'N' CHATTER QUILT CLUB — Will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 15, in the Community Room at Jay County Public Library.

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.

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.

SENIOR CITIZENS CARD CLUB — Will meet at 1 p.m. on the first, second, third and fifth Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

## Friday

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its program meeting at noon on Friday, April 16, at Harmony Cafe in Portland. Members are encouraged to wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

## Tuesday's Solution

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

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# Coca-Cola news sparked memories

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

News that Jay County's Coca-Cola production facility will be closing hit home.

It also prompted a flood of memories:

•When I was about 7 years old and in second grade, I discovered that the handles on the drawers in our kitchen cabinets could double as an opener for a Coke bottle. They worked perfectly. But my mother soon noticed that the popping of the bottle cap also left a discernible dent in the front of her kitchen cabinets. And I was quickly identified as the perpetrator of the damage. That ended that.

•It was always a little exciting to get a bottle from an exotic location like, say, Union City. As everyone above a certain age knows, Coca-Cola bottles during the first half of the 20th century bore the name of the original bottling plant on the bottom of the green glass bottle. Because folks moved around, bottles that originated in one location might eventually end up in another. There,

## Back in the Saddle



they'd be cleaned, sanitized and recycled, then filled with another 6.5 ounces of the pause that refreshes.

•I was probably about 10 years old before I encountered the terms "soda" or "pop." When you grow up in a Coke town, all soft drinks are Coke until you learn otherwise. "What kind of Coke do you want?" "How about a Seven-Up?" "Sounds good."

•My understanding is that the original bottling plant in Portland was just west of the Hood Building, where The Commercial Review has its offices and both The CR and The News and Sun are printed. The building has been gone for more than 40 years. Several years ago, the company re-paved the spot where the bot-

ling plant had been located. That involved some excavation, and the excavation turned into a bit of soft drink archaeology. Apparently, off-brand bottles were routinely pitched out the back door. Some of them were intact, and a few are still at the newspaper office. Others made their way to local antique stores.

•One Coke memory always prompts a bit of guilt. In a childhood caper I have written about before in this space, some of my fellow hooligans in the neighborhood and I once boosted a case of warm Coca-Cola from a family's garage. Taking it to our makeshift "hideout," it suddenly occurred to us that we needed to get rid of the evidence of our petty theft. So we drank it. All of it. Warm. Maybe even hot on a summer afternoon. No better punishment could have been devised.

•Coke machines are fine, but there was nothing like a Coke cooler. The Mobil station located where Cook's Nursery and Trim now operates had the best. Bottles of Coca-Cola were swimming in

icy cold water. You had to reach in and guide the wet, cold bottle of refreshment through a maze to get to its exit. A delight.

•Given today's emphasis on food security at places like Coca-Cola and Tyson Mexican Original, it's remarkable to think back on a childhood field trip through the Portland bottling plant when it was located on Arch Street in what is now the home of Museum of the Soldier. Hands down, it was the coolest field trip ever.

•By the 1970s and 1980s, Coke was outgrowing the Arch Street building. Owner/patriarch Bob Delauter kept hinting at plans for a new plant, and I kept pestering him to submit to an interview so I could do a story for the paper. He kept putting me off. What he didn't want, he explained, was to go public with his plans then have some unforeseen problem crop up that scuttled things. I understood, but I still kept after him. Finally he relented. We did the interview. I wrote the story. The paper published it. Then — exactly as he had feared — there was a speed bump and the plans were shelved.

•At least that story was written. There was one I wanted to do that was nixed by the Coca-Cola powers that be. About 2010, I got wind of the fact that the Jay County Coke plant was so team-oriented and so cross-trained that it didn't really need a plant manager. Think about that for a second: A production facility that knows what it is doing, works consistently as a team, fills in for one another and still hits the top quality marks, all without someone designated as "the boss." It would be one heck of a story, a national story as far as I was concerned. But there would be no green light. And without corporate cooperation, business stories have a tendency to die on the vine. Still, I was proud that when the plant was named North American Profit Team of the Year for 2012, they invited me to the celebration. Not the mayor. Not the Chamber of Commerce. Not Jay County Development Corporation. Just a guy who messed up his mother's kitchen cabinets opening Coke bottles after school when he was 7 years old.

# Keep notices in newspapers

Herald Bulletin (Anderson)

Some Indiana lawmakers seem intent on undermining government transparency, a linchpin of democracy.

Specifically, bills to take public notices out of newspapers — where they belong — have been introduced year after year in the General Assembly. The majority of lawmakers have ultimately turned back these proposals. But that doesn't stop their colleagues who would throw a veil over information that should be easy to find.

The current effort, Senate Bill 409, includes a clause that would remove the requirement that townships have specific receipts and expenditures published in a local newspaper. Instead, the information would be available for public inspection in the county auditor's office.

Here's the problem: Very few Hoosiers make regular trips to the county auditor's office or ever peruse the auditor's website.

Millions of Hoosiers, on the other hand, read print newspapers or visit newspaper websites. Newspapers are widely read because they contain a wide range of useful information, including public notices.

Government websites? Not so much.

Supporters of Senate Bill 409, which passed through the Indiana Senate without a single dissenting vote and awaits a vote on the House floor, argue that it's too expensive for public notices to be posted in newspapers, and it is true that newspapers charge for the service.

But public notice fees are just a drop in the bucket for local government units. Elkhart County, for example, spent just 0.13% of its budget in 2020 on public notices. The county seat, Goshen, spent even less, 0.01%.

While the cost of publishing in the local newspaper is modest, the cost of not doing so would be steep for Hoosiers who want to know about sheriff's sales, government spending, public school

## Hoosier Editorial

*Millions of Hoosiers, on the other hand, read print newspapers or visit newspaper websites. Newspapers are widely read because they contain a wide range of useful information, including public notices.*

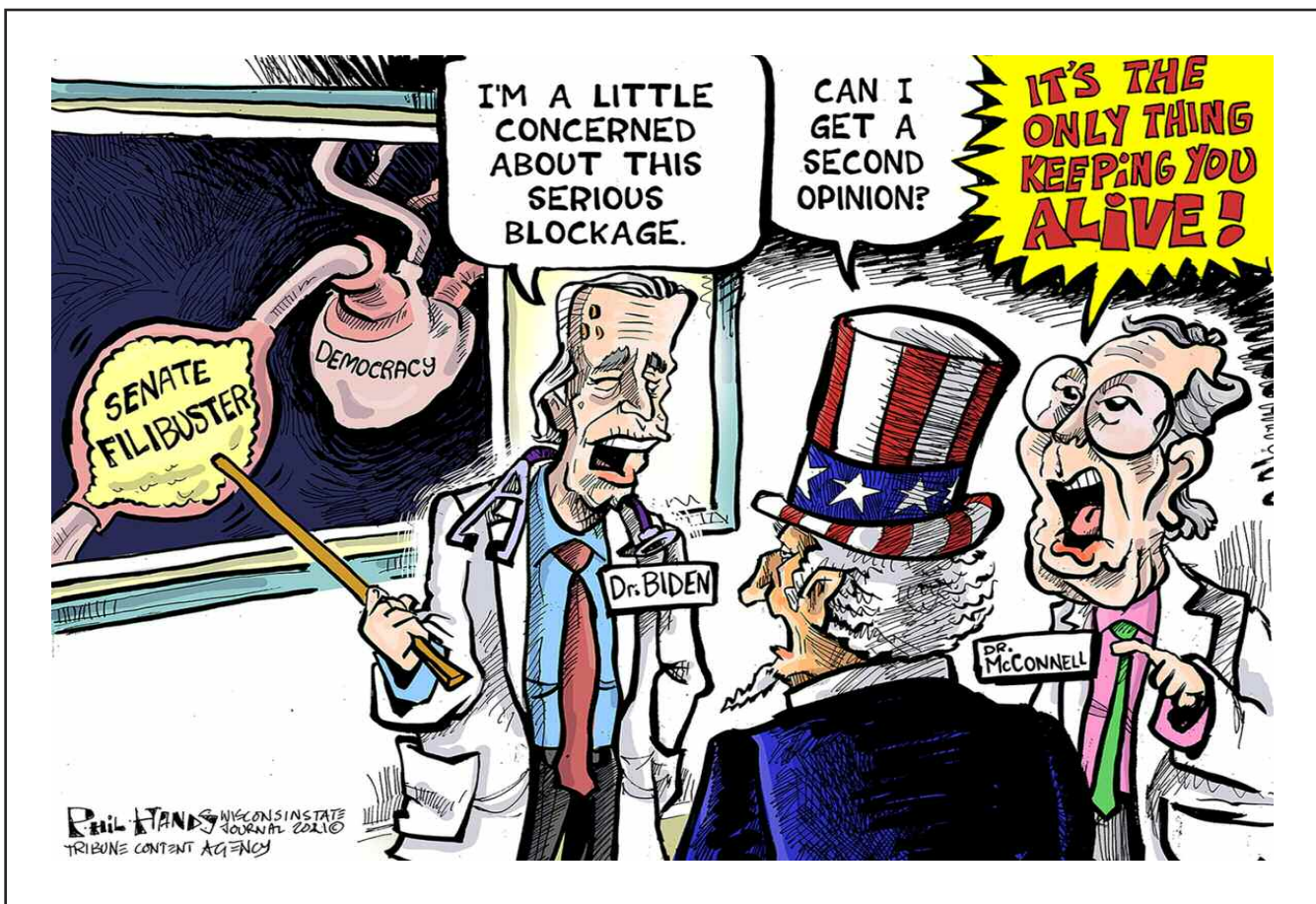
performance and a wide range of other government activities.

Transparency of township transactions, the target of SB 409, is a prime example of the public's need to know. As detailed in a 2018 investigative report by CNHI News Indiana, township government costs Hoosiers nearly half a billion dollars a year and is a petri dish for inefficiency, poor record keeping, nepotism and fraud.

So do Indiana lawmakers really want to put township financial records in a place where almost nobody will go looking for them?

For millions of Hoosiers, that's a rhetorical question.

.....  
*This column was provided to The Commercial Review through the Hoosier State Press Association Information Network.*



# Real people have been excluded

By BETH ROTMAN  
The Fulcrum  
Tribune News Service

When working-class Americans embrace the possibilities born of democracy, it often highlights that our government of, by and for the people is a work in progress. This is certainly the case when it comes to empowering working-class Americans to compete for a congressional seat. Just ask Nabilah Islam.

Islam ran for Congress in Georgia last year without a living wage or medical insurance. The Federal Election Commission then lacked the quorum required to issue an advisory opinion, requested by the candidate, as to whether she could use campaign funds to pay for health insurance.

So Islam had to go without coverage while campaigning for elected office last spring, during the first surge of the COVID-19 pandemic. (She finished third in the Democratic primary for an open House seat north of Atlanta.)

This scenario was unsafe for her. And it was unhealthy for our democracy.

Congressional candidates who represent the diversity of America — Islam only recently turned 30 and would have been the state's first Muslim member of Congress — must be able to seek office in Washington without worrying about a living wage or health insurance. Only 2 percent of the members of Congress have working-class backgrounds, and millionaires make up more than half of Congress, even though they amount to fewer than 5 percent of the national population.

Consequently, public policy decisions made by Congress too often reflect the interests and preferences

Beth Rotman



of the wealthy instead of the priorities and views of the vast majority of Americans. Historical economic inequity along the lines of race and gender has translated to a lack of political representation for Americans of color and women.

Big Money still determines who can run for office and win, and what elected officials must work on when they get into office. Possibility is born of democracy, but Big Money has our democracy in a stranglehold. We must make it easier for everyday Americans to represent us in Washington.

Islam is now petitioning the FEC, which finally has a quorum so it can resume regulating the campaign finance system, to make clear that candidates may tap their campaign accounts to pay for health insurance. She is also asking the agency to strengthen rules that have long allowed candidates to draw a limited salary from their campaigns while running for federal office; Islam wants the regulations altered to include a living-wage floor as part of the the salary formula to make the funds available from the beginning of a candidate's campaign.

This would be a great start toward elevating opportunities for working-class Americans to run for Congress, and my organization supports her petition enthusiastically.

We need to go even further: Congress must pass the For the People Act, which passed the House last month as HR 1 and is now awaiting debate in the Senate as S 1, because the legislation would help curb the dominance of wealthy special interests drowning out the voices of working-class people.

Our system is out of balance and wealthy special interests now use their power to amplify their own voices and drown out the voices of everyday Americans.

Small-donor programs such as the one included in the For the People Act, and the one I led in Connecticut, work to combat these inequities and elevate the policies that favor large swaths of everyday Americans. (The legislation in Congress would establish a voluntary public financing system for congressional candidates, under which donations up to \$200 would be matched six-fold, so long as the candidates agreed to forswear almost all Big Money contributions.)

Following implementation of the Connecticut program, the state became the first in the nation to enact sweeping health care coverage for its service workers.

Real people have been excluded from democracy by a disproportionate number of millionaire members of Congress. Working Americans embody our nation's hope, possibility and promise.

These are the voices we need seeking elective office in Washington and across the country, and it is time we take every step necessary to end the millionaire's club. Nabilah Islam's efforts at the FEC are a great start.

.....  
*Rotman is director of money in politics and ethics for Common Cause.*

# 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](mailto:news@thecr.com).

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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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## Budget ...

Continued from page 1  
The House had passed its version of the budget in February. The Senate's version passed out of committee Thursday.

It includes money for police training to replace dollars that usually comes from the purchase of lifetime handgun carry permits. Senate president Pro Tempore Rodric Bray had promised to make the permit free when he killed a bill that would have killed the permit required to carry a handgun.

On the mental health side, the Senate is dedicating \$50 million for the Health Issues and Challenges Grant Program and \$100 million to the Family and Social Services Administration from federal COVID-19 relief money to address mental health issues.

The budget also provides for money to so-called "pro family" organizations, including the anti-abortion group Real Alternates, and \$600,000 to fund a Food Empowerment Pilot Program, designed to increase quality food access and teach people to prepare healthy meals.

Differences between the two chambers will have to be worked out before lawmakers adjourn later this month.

Here's what else is in the budget:

### No cigarette increase

Bray said the Senate was not interested in a cigarette tax increase, partially because it is a regressive tax, meaning it impacts lower-income households at a disproportionate rate. He also argued the House's proposed increase was not large enough to truly impact smoking rates in Indiana.

The House's version of the budget had called for a 50.5-cent cigarette tax increase per pack, which would have brought the total tax to \$1.50 per pack. The House also would have established a new 10% retail tax on electronic cigarettes.

### \$408m for schools

The Senate budget proposal includes \$408 million new dollars for K-12 schools through tuition support, slightly more than the House's proposal for \$378 million and Gov. Eric Holcomb's proposed increase of \$377 million.

Senate Democrats suggested a funding formula that would have allocated another \$300 million to increase teacher pay, a subject on which the Republican budget is silent. That amendment was not adopted.

### Choice expansion

The Senate did include an expansion of the state's robust private school choice programs — including the new Education Scholarship Accounts. However, it's a substantial cut from the program the House had proposed to fund and expected to be a point of contention when the two chambers come together to reconcile differences between the two budgets.

The ESAs would be brand new for Indiana, allowing parents who opt in to the program to receive state dollars to pay for educational expenses such as private school tuition or other services. The money would go to families, in lieu of the public school their student would have otherwise attended.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Technique tutoring

Instructor Asia Coffee of Cakes by Coffee, Indianapolis, demonstrates a technique to Erin Aker during Saturday's Jay County 4-H youth cake decorating workshop in the Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds.

## Capsule Reports

### Jay wins fine arts

The Jay County Academic Team picked up a victory in one discipline Tuesday while earning ribbons in all of them in a five-team Eastern Indiana Academic League

competition. The fine arts team of Hannah Boggs, Mackenzie Brown and Sarah McClain took first place in the final league meet of the season. The team will compete the regional competition Tuesday.

Earning second-place ribbons were the English team (Lainey Reynolds, Brooke Stauffer and Ava Stockton), the social studies team (Alex Ardizzone, Mackenzie Brown and Tessa Miller) and the interdis-

ciplinary team (Alex Ardizzone, Mackenzie Brown, James Larrow, Sarah McClain, Tessa Miller, Lainey Reynolds and Brooke Stauffer). The team was third in science and math.

## Felony court news

Continued from page 2

### Possession

Several Jay County residents were sentenced to jail recently after pleading guilty to drug possession charges in Jay Superior Court.

Cindy L. Myers, 48, 58 E. Charles St., Redkey, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 180 suspended and given two days credit for one day served. She was placed on probation for one year, assessed court costs of \$185 and ordered to pay a \$350 substance abuse program fee and a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, a Class B misdemeanor charge for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor charge for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Cierra M. Rockwood, 25, 1007 Blaine Pike, Portland, pleaded guilty to possession of a narcotic drug and unlawful possession of a syringe, both Level 6 felonies. She was sentenced to 540 days in Jay County Jail and given 496 days credit for time served. Rockwood was assessed court costs of \$370 and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony charge of maintaining a common nuisance was dismissed.

Troy D. Easton, 52, 316 N. Hickory, Dunkirk, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 38 days credit for 19 days served. He was assessed court costs of \$185 and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor charge of driving with a suspended license was dismissed.

Natasha M. Newsome,

23, 333 N. Main St., Dunkirk, pleaded guilty to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 44 days suspended and given eight days credit for four days served. She was placed on probation for 321 days, assessed court costs of \$185, ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee and ordered to submit an evaluation within 30 days for substance abuse counseling. As part of her plea agreement, two Level 6 felony charges for possession of methamphetamine and maintaining a common nuisance were dismissed.

### Resisting

A Portland man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Gerald R. Hoffman Jr., 38, 918 W. High St., also pleaded guilty to operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Class C misdemeanor. He was sentenced to 547 days in Jay County Jail with all but 120 days suspended and given four days credit for two days served. He was ordered to serve 116 days on house arrest and placed on probation for 427 days. Hoffman was assessed court costs of \$185.50 and ordered to pay a \$200 drug and alcohol countermeasures fee and a \$350 substance abuse program fee.

As part of his plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor charge of operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15 or more and a Class C misdemeanor charge of reckless driving were dismissed.

### Drunk driving

A Dunkirk woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to operating a vehicle while intoxicated and endangering a person with a passenger less than 18 years old, a

Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Paige S. Guffey, 27, 240 E. Commerce St., was sentenced to 18 months in Jay County Jail with all but 30 days suspended and given four days credit for two days served. She was placed on probation for 17 months, assessed court costs of \$185.50 and ordered to pay a \$200 drug and alcohol countermeasures fee.

Guffey was also ordered to submit an evaluation within 30 days for substance abuse counseling and pay \$9,367.04 in restitution to Jodi Hines. The court recommended Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles suspend Guffey's license for 145 days. As part of her plea agreement, a Class B misdemeanor charge for leaving the scene of an accident was dismissed.

### Auto theft

A Portland man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to auto theft, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Jeffrey S. Mast, 42, 1218 S. Miller Ave., was sentenced to 547 days in Jay County Jail with all but 120 days suspended and given eight days credit for four days served. He was placed on probation for 427 days and assessed court costs of \$185.

As part of his plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor charge of criminal mischief was dismissed.

### Firearm theft

A Losantville man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to theft of a firearm, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Superior Court.

Austin M. Blevins, 24, 7466 E. 875 North, was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but eight days suspended and given eight days credit for four days served. He was placed on probation for 357 days, assessed court costs of \$185 and ordered to pay \$700 in restitution to Shelley Wilburn.

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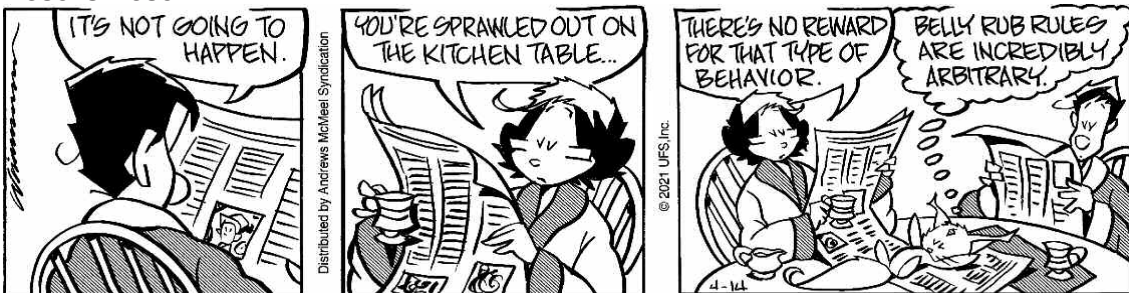
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**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

- Theater box
- Little rascal
- First victim
- Norwegian saint
- Grazing land
- Ridge (race-horse)
- Stravinsky ballet, with "The"
- Arduous journey
- Port city of Libya
- Interfere
- Sault — Marie
- In — (shortly)
- Cato's 1200
- Aunt, in Acapulco
- Rascal
- Saudi native
- Quarterback Brady
- Gymnast Korbut
- Fizzy drinks

**DOWN**

- Barn area
- Hodge-podge
- Attire
- Civil rights leader
- Very nice!
- Sea, to Henri
- "Top Chef" host
- Chrysler Building's style
- Avian sound
- Daring
- Nichivel
- Michigan, e.g.
- Cigar remnant
- Island near Java
- Yemen neighbor
- Actress Sorvino
- Asia's — Sea
- Riga resident
- Shock partner

**Solution time: 23 mins.**

H	O	W	E	Q	U	A	H	E	L	P
U	G	H	S	U	R	N	O	R	A	L
F	R	I	E	D	E	G	T	I	N	A
F	E	Z	A	R	E	O	C	E	A	N
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G	O	L	I	A	T	H	B	A	S	T
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Yesterday's answer 4-14

**00 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.

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# Sports

## Jay girls first, boys second

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

The Patriot girls cleaned up the field events.

It included the top three spots in the shot put.

The boys got a handful of wins, too, but just not enough.

Jay County High School's girls track team had nine event wins to take first place while the Patriot boys were second out of three squads Tuesday in a senior-night meet with Allen County Athletic Conference foes Adams Central and South Adams.

"I'm very pleased with how everything went," said JCHS track coach Joe Imel. "I think we had a really strong meet."

The JCHS girls scored 70 points for first place, moving to 5-0 on the season. South Adams, which has won the last three ACAC championships, scored 52 points for second while Adams Central totaled 25 points for third.

South Adams' boys had 87 points to get the win, with Jay County (45) in second and Adams Central (24) in third. The Patriots are now 3-2 on the young year.

Kinsey Shannon and Elisa Parazzi, the latter of whom is an exchange student from Italy, both had a pair of individual wins. Shannon won the 100-meter dash, edging out South Adams sophomore Ali Smith for the win.

Shannon nabbed the lead with 80 meters to go for a win in the 400 dash as well.

"Kinsey today, a really strong showing in the 100 and coming back in the 400," Imel said. "She works on that (400) in practice really, really hard."

Parazzi led a one-two punch in long jump with Cash Hollowell, and then she won high jump as well.

"Elisa Parazzi, we asked her to



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School's Natalie Wehrly, left, hands the baton to Makinsey Murphy between the second and third legs of the 4x100-meter relay during a meet with the Adams Central Jets and South Adams Starfires on Tuesday. Along with Bralee VanSkyock and Shae Bailey, the Patriot girls won the race and went on to win the meet as well.

step in at long jump as well," Imel said. "She is an extremely talented high jumper. She won long jump, so that's going to help us as we move forward in our season."

Imel got the biggest smile on his face while simply saying "One, two, three in girls shot put," referring to the Patriots sweeping the top three spots in the event. Kylie Klopfenstein, who was third in discus, had the top put, with Chelsea Frontz second and Gabi Bilbrey third.

Bilbrey was first in discus, completing the field event sweep for the Patriots.

"I feel like we're strong and

we're poised to continue to get better," he said.

Sophia Fugiett had the Patriots' other individual win as she led almost wire-to-wire in the 800 run.

Bralee VanSkyock, Natalie Wehrly, Makinsey Murphy and Shae Bailey teamed for a win in the 4x100 relay, while Abby Benter, Natalie Miles, Bailey and Shannon combined for a victory in the 4x400 relay.

Winning times and distances in the girls events were not provided.

Isaac Kunkler had the only individual win for the JCHS boys, taking the top spot in high

jump, which was the final event to be completed for the night. Kunkler had a height of 5 feet, 6 inches.

He also helped the 4x400 relay team which included Griffin Lennartz, Dylan Knapschafer and Aaron Funkouser to a time of 3 minutes, 48 seconds, which was first place.

Skyler Bee, Gavin Farmer, Owen Ransom and Adrek Pogue won the 4x100 relay in 47.49 seconds.

Imel noted the boys' 4x100 and 4x400 relays ran their fastest times of the season.

"I'm really pleased with how we did," he said.

## Long ball lifts Patriot softball

The Patriots hit the ball all over the field.

They hit it past the outfield, too. And often.

The Jay County High School softball team blasted eight home runs in a 21-0, five-inning thrashing of the Eastbrook Panthers on Tuesday.

Mady Fraley hit the first homer of her career on the first pitch in the home half of the first

### Local roundup

Rieleley Brewster, Renna Schwieterman and Haley Gillette hit back-to-back-to-back homers as Jay County (3-1) scored six runs in the first inning.

Aubrie Schwieterman went yard as part of a five-run second inning, then Renna Schwieterman added her second bomb of the day, a three-run blast, in the third inning.

Riah Champ and Taylor Brown hit the first round-trippers of their career in the fourth, during which the Patriots struck for seven runs.

Renna Schwieterman led the way with five RBIs, while Brown collected four hits and four RBIs.

The Patriots out-hit the Panthers 23-3.

Haleigh Clayton got the win pitching, striking out six and walking a pair in five innings.

### Early lead carries Jay

A seven-run first inning carried the Jay County baseball team to a 15-5 victory over the Eastbrook Panthers on Tuesday.

Trailing 1-0 heading to the bottom of the first inning, Jay County (2-2) started the frame with a walk and three consecutive singles, the last of which a two-run knock from Blake Caldwell that gave the Patriots the lead they never relinquished.

Dusty Pearson, Austin Curts, Sam Dunlavy and Josh Dowlen all brought in runs as well, with Dunlavy hitting an RBI double and then scoring on a passed ball.

The Patriots added three more runs in the third inning and put up a five spot in the fourth before the Panthers made the defeat a little more respectable with a four-run fifth.

Crosby Heniser and Caldwell had three hits each. Quinn Faulkner tripled, singled and knocked in four runs.

Pearson moved to 2-0 on the mound, allowing five earned runs on seven hits with five strikeouts and one walk.

In 10 innings this season, Pearson has a 3.50 ERA with 13 strikeouts and two walks.

## Tribe softball keeps rolling

ROCKFORD, Ohio — The Indians just keep rolling.

Fort Recovery High School's softball team pushed its winning streak to seven games, opening its Midwest Athletic Conference schedule with an 11-4 victory Tuesday over the host Parkway Panthers.

The Indians are now 10-2 (1-0 MAC), and have 10 or more wins for the 10th time in the last 24 seasons.

Fort Recovery struck for three runs in the first and third frames, and led 7-1 at the end of the fourth. The Indians added four runs in the sixth before allowing the Panthers to score three runs over the sixth and seventh innings.

Jackie Homan had a home run and a pair of doubles while finishing with four RBIs to lead the Indian offense. Maddie Guggenbiller had a homer, a single and two RBIs, while Sophie Pearson collected three singles and two RBIs. Cali Wendel also drove in a pair of runs.

Homan also got the win, allowing four runs — three earned — on nine hits in 6 1/3 innings. She struck out one and walked one.

### Fort Recovery roundup

#### Tribe falls on late rally

FORT RECOVERY — Parkway scored five times in the sixth inning to hand the Fort Recovery baseball team a 7-5 loss Tuesday.

Fort Recovery (3-3, 1-1 Midwest Athletic Conference) scored three runs in the fifth inning to break a 2-2 tie, only to have the Panthers even the score again and take the lead.

Parkway collected five singles and a pair of walks to overtake Fort Recovery and get the win.

Brock Dues paced the Tribe offense with a double and a single. Riley Will finished with a single and three RBIs, as Ryne Post and Cobe Wendel had singles as well.

Dillan Evers suffered the loss, allowing seven runs — six earned — on eight hits over 5 1/3 innings. He walked four and struck out six.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Boys golf at Wapahani — 4:30 p.m.; Track at Delta — 5 p.m.; Softball at Fort Recovery — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Bluffton — 5 p.m.; Junior high golf at Winchester Driver — 4:30 p.m.; Junior high track hosts Monroe Central and Wes-Del — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Track hosts quad — 4:30 p.m.; Softball vs. Jay County — 5 p.m.; Baseball at New Knoxville — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. St. Marys — 5 p.m.; Junior high track at Coldwater quad — 4:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
Jay County — Softball vs. Norwell — 5 p.m.; JV softball at Norwell — 5 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Softball vs. Anna — 5 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Girls tennis at Eastern Hancock — 9 a.m.; Softball at Richmond Invitational — 10 a.m.; Baseball doubleheader at Centerville — 10 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Baseball double-

header vs. South Adams — 11 a.m.; Softball quad at Celina — 2 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Boys golf at Delta — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. St. Henry — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis vs. Winchester — 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Belmont — 5 p.m.; Junior high track hosts South Adams and Woodlan — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Baseball vs. Shawnee — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Wapakoneta — 5 p.m.; JV baseball at Franklin Monroe — 5 p.m.; Junior high track hosts tri — 4:30 p.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Houston Rockets (FSN)  
9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Dallas Mavericks at Memphis Grizzlies (ESPN)

**Thursday**  
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Atlanta Hawks (TNT)

10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)

**Friday**  
3 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Utah Jazz (FSN)  
7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)  
9:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: New York Knicks at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

**Saturday**  
3 p.m. — National Hockey League: Pittsburgh Penguins at Buffalo Sabres (NBC)  
4:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: New Orleans Pelicans at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
3:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Miami Heat (ESPN)

**Sunday**  
1 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Atlanta Hawks (FSN)  
7:07 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta Braves at Chicago Cubs (ESPN)

## Jay County Solid Waste Management District

# April 17th

# 9am - Noon

## at the District Office

## Rain Barrel Workshop

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# April 22nd

## at 6PM At the District Office

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