

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Connect is designated

Portland's Main Street organization joins state network

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Portland has a Main Street, officially.

Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs announced Wednesday that Portland Main Street Connect has been designated as 2021 OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network programs.

"Obviously I'm very excited," said Reda Theurer-Miller of Portland Main Street Connect. "Portland Main Street Connect has been dedicated since June of 2019 to accomplish this task. And even though it's the beginning level ... the plan is obviously to work toward the next level of accreditation. ...

"It's just been a truly dedicated, passionate group of people."

Also joining the network are The Beautification Committee of Albany; Knox Main Street United, Inc.; and Main Street Plainfield.

"We are excited to welcome these four communities to the Indiana Main Street network," said Indiana Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch in a press release. "They've proven themselves as changemakers within their communities and are committed to community economic development in their downtowns."

Portland Main Street Connect's designation gives Jay County two organizations in the network, joining Discover Dunkirk.

Other organizations in the east-central Indiana area in the

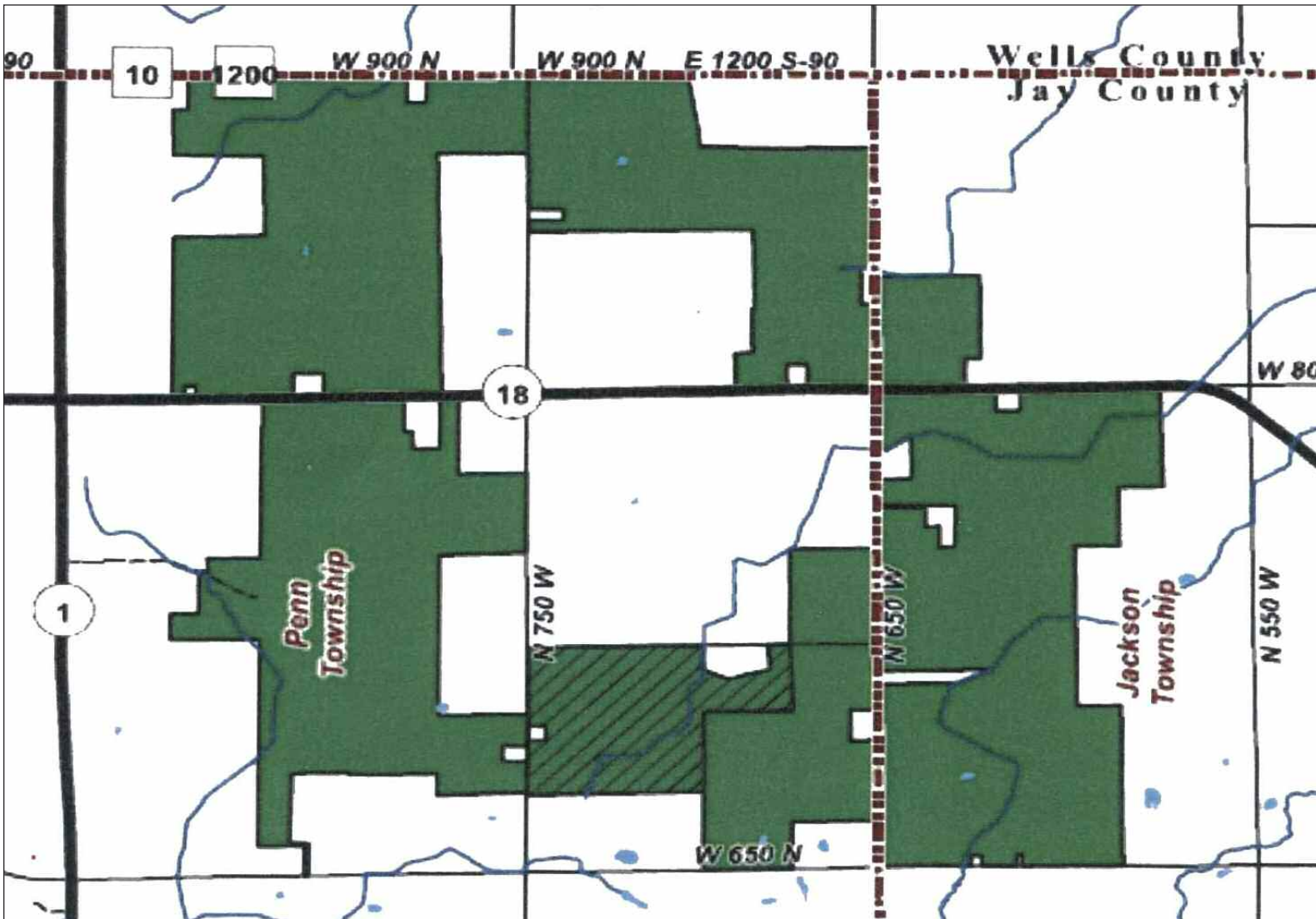
network include Decatur Main Street, Winchester Main Street, Historic Warren Inc., Main Street Gas City Indiana Inc., Main Street Fairmount and The Heart of Hagerstown.

OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network is the base tier of recognition for the Indiana Main Street Program. It signifies a "demonstrated commitment to comprehensive commercial district revitalization in addition to learning and adopting the Main Street Approach." In order to be recognized, local programs are evaluated by Indiana Main Street, which works with Main Street America to identify programs that meet performance standards.

See Connect page 2



Preliminary OK



Graphic provided

The map above shows the area of the Skycrest Solar facility that has been proposed by Chicago-based sustainable energy company Invenery. Jay County Council on Wednesday gave preliminary approval for a tax abatement for the \$150-million project. The company hopes to have the facility operation beginning in 2024.

Jay County Council gives initial approval to Invenery tax abatement request for solar farm

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

The county's first solar project continues to move forward.

Jay County Council signed a preliminary tax abatement Wednesday with sustainable energy company Invenery for its proposed Skycrest Solar facility.

More legislation, including a final tax abatement, is expected in the coming months.

Invenery, a global firm with headquarters in Chicago, is planning a \$150 million, 155-megawatt facility located on about 2,500 acres in Penn and Jackson Townships. Construction is expected to be completed by 2024.

Invenery will save about \$5.8 million in property taxes with

the proposed abatement. Once the abatement has expired, the county will be looking at nearly \$50 million in new assessed value and reduce tax rates around the county, explained Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors representative Jason Semler.

By Indiana law, the two-step process for tax abatement also requires a final agreement to be signed after a public hearing, explained project attorney Mary Solada.

"I view this as an application for abatement," said Solada, who was involved with NextEra Energy Resources and Scout Clean Energy on their wind farm projects in Jay County.

She noted that the project will provide two full-time jobs with an average salary of

\$52,000. There will also be construction jobs — for which Solada said Invenery will seek to hire locally — for the expected year-long construction of the facility.

Solada mentioned some benefits to a solar facility, stating that panels are quiet and don't produce light in the dark, unlike local complaints with wind turbines.

Jay County Commissioners signed road use and decommissioning agreements with Invenery on March 22. An economic development agreement is targeted to be complete by July 5. (The process has been paused while waiting on pending legislation at the Indiana General Assembly which may require changes to such an agreement.)

Semler also reminded council members about some of the county tax benefits that would flow from the project. The increased assessed value will result in reduced tax rates throughout the county.

He estimated the county's cumulative capital improvement fund will increase each year, and once the abatement is finished, the county should expect an additional \$16,400 each year.

Council, absent Ted Champ, approved the preliminary agreement unanimously.

Also Wednesday, council approved a request from Jay County Fair Board for a donation of \$50,000 toward Christmas lights.

See Solar page 2

Cases are up, but Jay remains at blue

Walk-in vaccinations available at health department

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The county's rating stayed the same, but its numbers were up.

In Indiana State Department of Health's updated Wednesday, Jay County was rated "blue" (low risk for the spread of coronavirus) for the second week in a row though its numbers increased for both cases per 100,000 residents and positivity rate.

The county was blue last week and has been blue for seven of the last nine weeks. It was "yellow" (moderate risk) in both the March 24 and March 31 updates.

While Jay County's rating remained blue, its cases per 100,000 residents went up to 78 after coming in at 29 last week. That's the highest mark in more than a month.

The county's positivity rate this week was 3.92%, up from 2.31% last week.

Indiana showed the same trend of numbers going up, with 49 counties rated yellow and one (LaPorte) rated "orange" (high risk). That's up from 45 yellow and no orange last week. Blackford and Wells counties were rated yellow for the second consecutive week.

The remaining 42 counties, including Adams, Delaware and Randolph, were rated blue.

Coronavirus vaccination appointments are open to all Hoosiers 16 and older. Jay County currently has 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.

See Blue page 2

Deaths

Donald Kahlig, 89, Sharpsburg, Ohio
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 59 degrees Wednesday. The low was 41.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low of 35. Patchy frost is possible Friday morning. The high Friday will be in the upper 50s under mostly sunny skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

One section of U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) that has been closed for bridge repairs is expected to open sometime Friday. The resurfacing of the bridge over the Little Salamonie River near Portland Golf Club will be completed and the section of road reopened. The arch bridge near East Jay Elementary School will remain closed.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of tonight's Jay County Development Corporation meeting.

Tuesday — Results from the JCHS girls tennis team's match against Winchester.



Youth service set for Sunday

A local church will be hosting a special service this weekend.

Fort Recovery First Church of Christ will hold its "Youth Sunday" event on Sunday.

The church's youth members will conduct its worship service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. They will also have a coffee bar open beginning at 9:45 a.m.

The church is located at 1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery.

Taking Note

Banquet postponed

Bryant High School Alumni Banquet Board has announced that its 2021 banquet will be postponed because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. It has scheduled next year's alumni banquet for May 14, 2022.

Sale starts Monday

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, 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.

FFA auction

Madison Dirksen takes part in the FFA auction conducted by Zane Shawver during the Jay County FFA banquet Friday night in the auxiliary gym at Jay County High School. More than 500 members and guests attended the banquet, with the auction raising about \$38,000. Sweetheart donations for the Endowment Fund totaled more than \$8,000.



Photo provided

Marriage has become abusive over time

DEAR ABBY: My husband's dad, "Adam," is very mellow and can talk to anyone. His mom, "Eve," is friendly, but a little more reserved.

Early in their marriage, Adam was a drinker, and my mother-in-law has never forgiven him for the way he treated her during that time. She has always treated him disrespectfully, but as they get older, it's becoming worse.

She has hit Adam when we had people over because he didn't do what she told him to do. I told her to stop, and my husband told her she embarrassed him, but Eve forgets or doesn't care and continues to do it. She talks down to him constantly. If that's how she acts when people are around, I hate to think what happens behind closed doors.

When she hits him, Adam sits there expressionless and doesn't react. He's not the man he once was, and he is adored by many people. What can we do to help my

Dear Abby



FIL and make her stop doing this in front of her grandkids and company? Eve claims to be a Christian, but isn't acting like one. — FRUSTRATED IN MICHIGAN

DEAR FRUSTRATED: Your father-in-law may have had a drinking problem years ago, but he has a different problem now. He is a victim of verbal and physical abuse. He may have tolerated it all these years out of guilt for what he put his wife through when he was drinking. He may also have become so beaten down that he can no longer protect himself. He does need help. With your

and his son's encouragement, he can receive it because there are programs available for male victims of domestic violence. Stop Abuse for Everyone (SAFE) is an organization that helps abused individuals of all ages, genders, races and sexual orientations. The website is stopabuseforever.org.

DEAR ABBY: I met a nice friend. He's a widower whose wife has been gone for three years. My husband died 10 years ago.

He makes me laugh, something I haven't done in a while. I really like this guy, but he is still grieving. Some days he's good, but others he's a mess.

I want us to be in a relationship, and I think he could be "the one." We've only been courting for a month, but he has been pursuing me for a year. Should I give it more time, or should I move on with my life? I haven't been intimate with him, but he still makes me feel like

a woman, which is something I've missed. — THINKING IT'S HIM IN MARYLAND

DEAR THINKING: As you know, the process of grieving isn't a straight line. When a loved one dies, the survivors have good periods and ones that are less so. You are further along in this grieving process than your friend because his loss is more recent.

If a relationship (or more) is what you want, allow him more time to work through his feelings. However, if the bad spells don't become less frequent, suggest he talk with his doctor about joining a grief support group in which he can safely vent his feelings.

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

Community Calendar

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

Today

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 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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

BREAKING NEWS

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To the editor:

On March 10, Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act, which provides the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with the authority to issue an emergency waiver of the requirements for ground ambulance providers and suppliers to allow reimbursement for the healthcare services provided when a community-wide EMS protocol prohibiting transport is in place.

As with the other COVID-19 waivers, Congress has not restricted the timing of the waiver, so it can be implemented retroactive to March 1, 2020, as Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has done when implementing similar waiver authority passed by Congress during this pandemic. The EMS profes-

Letters to the Editor

sion appreciates Congress for taking this action to implement the waiver during the public health emergency but advocates for reimbursement for EMS treatment in place be made permanent.

Ground ambulance service providers and suppliers, paramedics and EMTs have been on the front lines of the pandemic responding to emergency medical calls. They often are the first healthcare professionals that patients fighting COVID-19

encounter. In areas overwhelmed by COVID-19, community-wide EMS protocols have been issued restricting the transport of patients who can safely be treated at home to protect these patients from risking exposure to infection or infecting others, as well as to keep hospital beds open for higher acuity patients.

While these practices are standard nationwide, the Medicare program does not reimburse ground ambulance service providers or suppliers for these healthcare services when the patient is not transported to a hospital. Some ambulance service providers and suppliers have seen 30% to 40% of their emergency call volume shift to these treatment in place responses. Without reimbursement, the provision of this care is not sustain-

able. Communities risk losing the very emergency medical providers and suppliers they have relied upon to help reduce hospital surge and decrease the infection rate.

Section 9832 of the American Rescue Plan Act addresses this problem during the public health emergency by giving the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services the authority they need to waive the transportation requirement for reimbursing ground ambulance service providers and suppliers when responding to a 911 emergency call when there is a community-wide EMS protocol in place restricting the transport of patients.

However, ground ambulance service providers and suppliers have provided treatment-in-

place care to their patients for decades without reimbursement. Examples include ambulance crews stabilizing a diabetic emergency by administering glucose; or stabilizing an asthma attack by administering a breathing treatment. In these types of scenarios, it is often clinically appropriate for the patient to seek follow-up care through their regular physician without the need to be transported by ambulance to an emergency department.

Care provided to Medicare beneficiaries by ground ambulance providers and suppliers should be reimbursed, regardless of whether the patient is transported to a hospital.

Sincerely,
John McFarland
Portland

Judge stimulus based on data

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Round two of COVID-19 relief funds have been allocated and billions have been sent out already.

Did you get \$1,400 for each person in your household? Unless you had less than \$80,000 in income (\$160,000 for a couple), you didn't see those checks.

"I don't need that money," says a friend in Elkhart over our statewide Zoom connection.

He's right. But what harm is that money doing?

If he doesn't spend it or give it away, the money won't just sit in his bank. The bank will lend to people, businesses or state and local governments to spend according to their opportunities and needs.

"Won't the U.S. have to raise taxes to pay off this new debt?" demands a college student in New Albany. "We're going to have to pay it back, with interest, someday. It's putting a future burden on my back."

Pay it back to whom, when? From whom was this money borrowed? No foreign country or domestic investor lent this money to the U.S. Treasury.

This money is only an electronic entry in the ledgers of the Federal Reserve System. There is no increase in conventional debt and no interest to be paid to holders of such debt.

"Won't it cheapen the dollar abroad?" asks a woman in Sullivan.

No. The world is in a massive recession. Our dollars will be welcomed by nations exporting to us and greeting us as COVID-safe tourists. Our stimulus will perk up their economies.

"We are in danger of a massive jolt of inflation," declares a participant from Monticello.

Where's the evidence? Stimulus round one didn't give us economy-wide inflation, except in limited corners of the economy.

"Housing! Timber! Gasoline!" counters a gentleman from Toad Hop.

Yes, housing demand jumped when some people started working at home. They wanted more or different space and were able to afford mortgages with low interest

Eye on the Pie



I suggest to the group we now leave this session and our preconceptions, turning instead to what we observe personally, not just gossip disguised as news.

rates. This demand for new structures or remodeled existing homes caused timber prices to rise. It's evidence the initial relief funds did as intended; it helped many workers to get or keep jobs.

Oil prices are a different story. They're dependent on the needs and whims of a few nations with price increases following severe price declines.

"This new stimulus money will be wasted on frivolities," comes a cry from Hobart.

"It will just reenforce laziness, undermining virtuous labor," proclaims a shadowy figure from Greenfield.

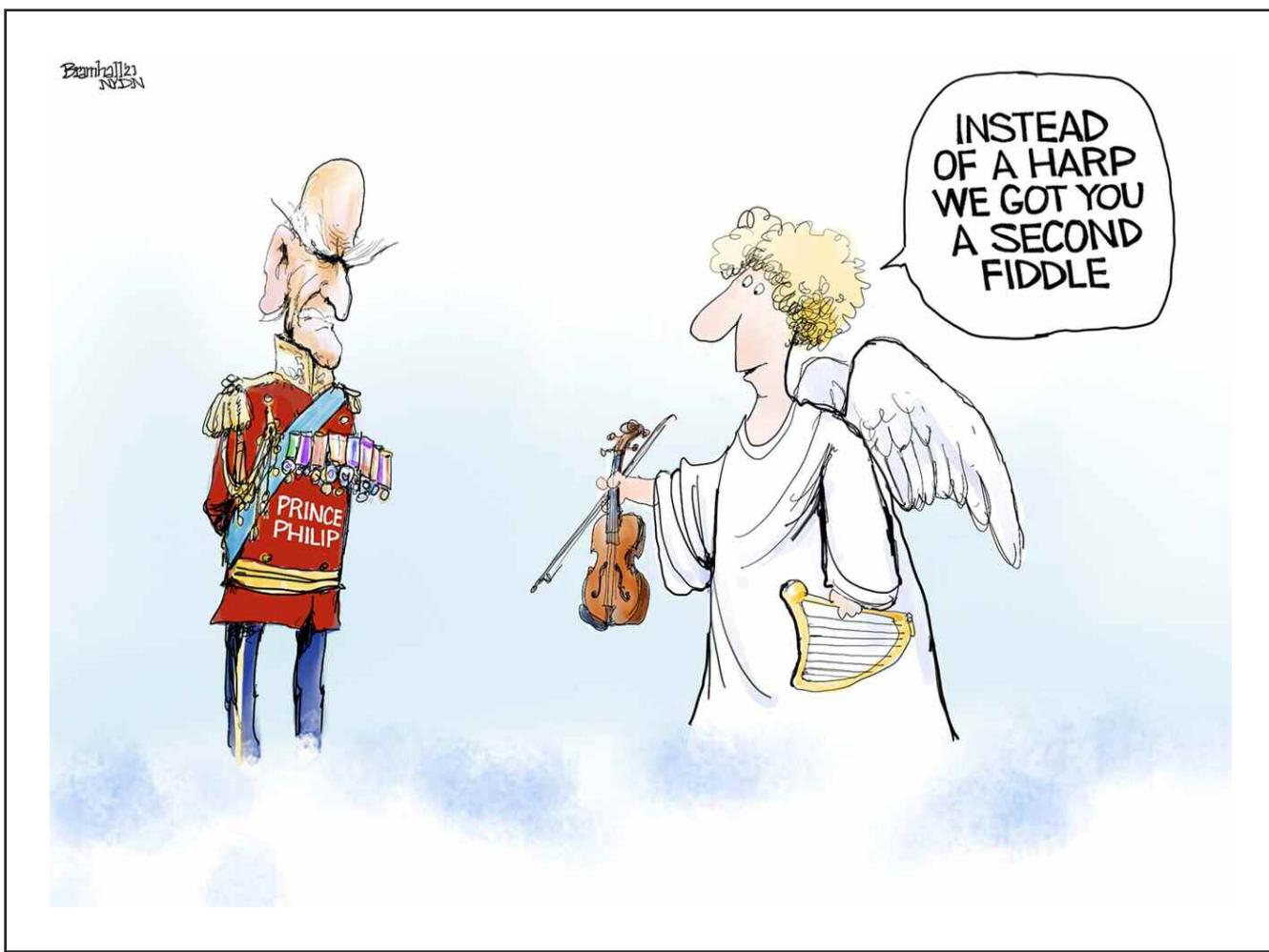
"It's a Communist plot to undermine Capitalism," insists one conspiratorial voice.

The next visionary Zoomer affirms, "It's a Capitalist plot to increase consumption and undermine Socialism."

I suggest to the group we now leave this session and our preconceptions, turning instead to what we observe personally, not just gossip disguised as news.

As a last resort we might see what the available data tell us.

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Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.



Unionization fight is not over

By SCOTT MARTELLE

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Well, it was a valiant effort, that drive to organize workers at an Amazon facility in Bessemer, Alabama, which resulted in a defeat even more embarrassing than the vote count suggests.

Nearly 6,000 workers would have been covered by the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, but only a little more than half of the eligible workers bothered to vote. Of those who cast ballots, only 738 workers supported the union, 1,000 votes fewer than those who opposed.

Another 500 ballots weren't counted after being challenged (mostly by management), but even if you add all of those to the "yes" side (highly unlikely), that would mean a maximum of 20% of the workers voted to unionize, and the percentage in reality is probably much lower.

Ouch. The deck has been stacked against unions for decades through federal laws, state right-to-work standards and questionable legal decisions, among other factors.

But the biggest problem unions face is they have lost the public relations battle. Remarkably, two-thirds of Americans tell pollsters they support unions. Yet, only a sliver of American workers belong to one, and as we just saw in Alabama, the chief hurdle is unions' failure to persuade individual workers that being in a union is better for them than not being in a union.

Oddly, nearly half of non-unionized workers say they would join a union if they had a chance, but what people tell pollsters and what

people actually do are often two different things.

The reasons are myriad, some of them class-based. I worked at the Detroit News in the mid-1990s when it and the Detroit Free Press went out on strike (a long and violent affair; I left Detroit and the strike after 18 months on the picket line), and I recall some of my fellow union journalists expressing unease at walking a picket line with Teamsters, even though we were fighting the same fight against the same owners.

As the nation has moved from a manufacturing economy to a service economy, more and more jobs are white collar. And while office workers are just as susceptible to worksite abuse, pay inequities, job insecurity and the other issues that unions help counter, they tend not to see themselves as the sorts of people who belong to a union.

Anecdotally, over the years I've heard people dismiss unionism because they think they would have to cede control of their work life to union bureaucrats, or that unions are corrupt (I wonder if anyone has done a scorecard of corporate illegality compared with union corruption), or that they don't need a union because they can negotiate fine on their own.

But that misses the improvement in healthcare and other benefit packages unions have more power to effect (for the community

at large, too), established grievance procedures in case a worker gets targeted by a boss, job security and a set formula for determining both the order of layoffs when they are necessary and the severance package when they occur.

The organizing drive in Alabama may in the end prove to have been a one-off. It gathered a lot of attention — including strange political bedfellow Sens. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) and Marco Rubio (R-Florida) — in part because the target was Amazon, not the most popular of businesses in the country. But the campaign was a longshot from the get-go — another reason it attracted so much attention (we love a good David and Goliath story, until Goliath wins).

The Deep South has historically been difficult to organize, and despite persistent stories about sometimes deplorable working conditions in some Amazon facilities, the wages in Bessemer exceed the mandated minimum, and working conditions clearly weren't perceived by Bessemer workers to be sufficiently bad to band together and demand changes.

While the drive failed in Bessemer, that does not mean similar drives will fall short elsewhere. I'm sure union officials will be digesting the organizing plan and the results and figuring out how to do it better next time.

But that sidesteps the biggest issue. American unions not only have to persuade American workers that they are relevant, but they have to bring home the truth that they are vital, and that a key step to restoring the American middle class is to restore unions' role in gaining for workers a bigger share of the spoils of their own labor.

Scott Martelle



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



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

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"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

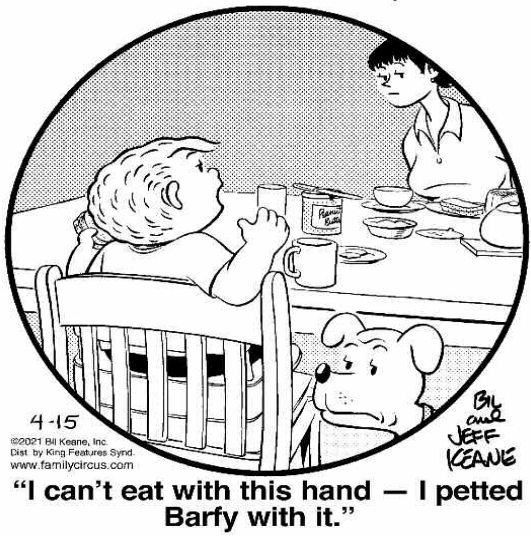
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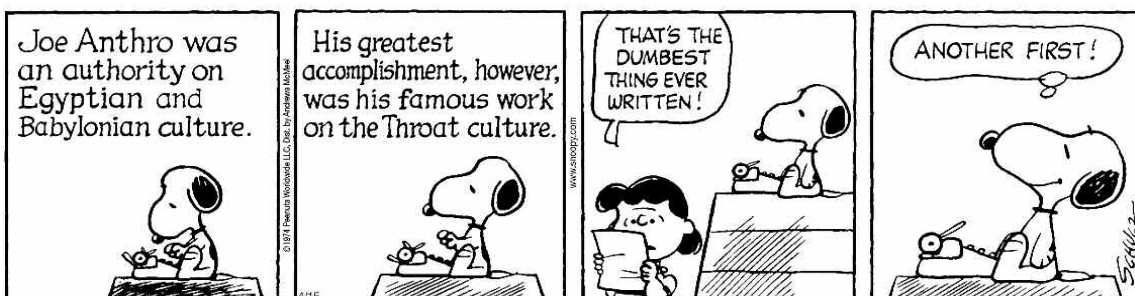
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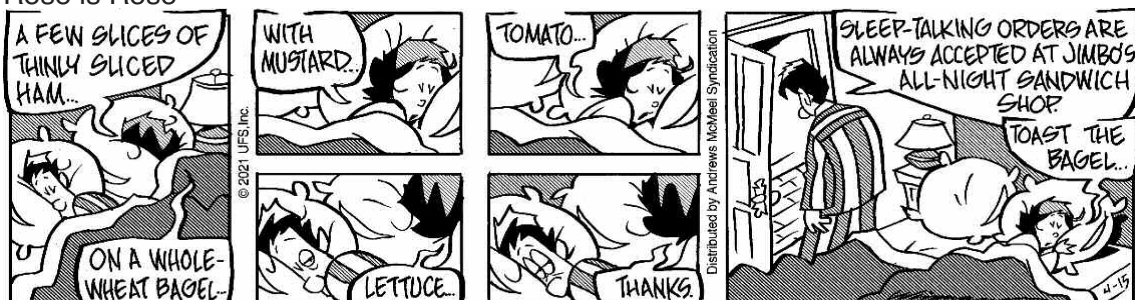
THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



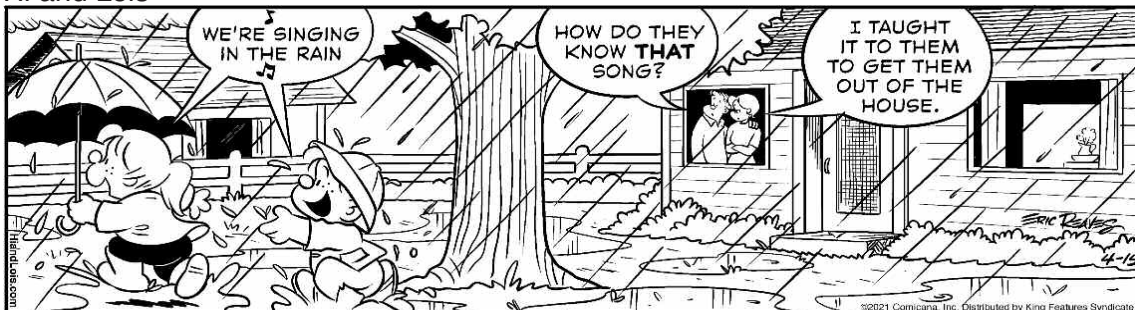
Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 2021 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South. FARM TRACTORS - FARM EQUIP. - CONSTRUCTION EQUIP. - TRUCKS - TRAILERS- VEHICLES- RIDING MOWERS - ATVS - ATTACHMENTS - MISC. NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS STATEMENTS MADE SALE DAY TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER WRITTEN AD. TERMS: CASH OR GOOD CHECK NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SHOWS AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com - Auctioneer ID #4243

PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday, April 24th, 2021

TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3886 W 300 N, Portland, IN 47371 (3.8 mi west of Hwy 27, on CR 300 N - north side)

REAL ESTATE 81 acres located in Section 33 of Jackson Township, Jay County. Being offered as 2 tracts, or in entirety. Tract One is 3 acres containing a 1 1/2 story 3-bedroom home with 816 sq. ft., a 40 ft. by 40 ft. Quonset building, a 20 ft. by 30 ft. outbuilding. Fenced and in a great location! Tract Two contains 78 acres with approximately 60 tillable acres (the balance being wooded).

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, April 11th, 1 TO 3 PM.

Or for private showing phone Auctioneers. TERMS on real estate: Cash with 10% non-refundable deposit day of Auction. Balance due at closing. Sale not subject to buyer obtaining financing. Arrange financing if needed prior to Auction.

Tractors - Vehicles - Farm Equipment - LP Tanks- Antiques- Appliances- Furniture

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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.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 1 Rum cake 5 Don't have 9 West of Hollywood 12 Addict 13 Golf bag item 14 "Life - cabaret ..."

Solution time: 24 mins. LOGE IMP ABEL OLAV LEA RIVA FIREBIRD TREK TOBRUK MEDDLE STE ASEC MCC TIA SCAMP ARAB TOM OLGA COLAS KID LSD LUNK RAF BOBBLE ANIMAL AMAL BACKFIRE LACE AWL ERAT INKS BEE SALT

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Sports

IHSAA moves track, softball state finals

INDIANAPOLIS — The state championships for two sports will be at a more centralized location this season.

The IHSAA on Wednesday announced boys and girls track and softball state championships have been moved to the greater Indianapolis area.

Ben Davis High School, which

Ben Davis to host track state meets, softball will be at Center Grove

also hosts a girls track regional, as well as the unified state championships. The boys meet will be June 4,

with the girls and unified state meets scheduled for the following day.

Softball's state championships will be played at Center Grove in Greenwood on June 11 and June 12.

Track state championships had been originally scheduled to take place at Indiana University's Robert C. Haugh Track and Field Complex in Bloomington, and the softball state finals were to take place at Purdue University's Bittinger Stadium in West Lafayette.

Both Indiana and Purdue confirmed in March they would be unable to host with spectators in attendance.

LaVert, Lamb carry Pacers

By **AKEEM GLASPIE**

The Indianapolis Star Tribune News Service

The Indiana Pacers received a much-needed boost from their second-unit, jumping out to a 20-point first-half lead and holding on for a 132-124 win over the Houston Rockets on Wednesday night.

With Myles Turner (ankle) missing his fifth game in a row, and Doug McDermott unable to play due to an ankle injury suffered Tuesday against the Los Angeles Clippers, the Pacers needed contributions from as many players as possible during the second half of a back-to-back in Houston.

The Pacers never trailed against the Rockets.

Jeremy Lamb's five quick points sparked a 9-0 run early in the second, helping the Pacers take an 18-point lead.

Caris LeVert led the Pacers with 27 points and five rebounds. Domantas Sabonis nearly notched a triple-double scoring 22 points with 11 rebounds and seven assists. Malcolm Brogdon added 21 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists.

Rockets guard John Wall exploited Turner's absence, attacking the basket at will, and scoring 31 points. Christian Wood (25 points, 13 rebounds) provided a solid inside-outside effort, but the Rockets got little production from their second unit.

The Pacers improved to 8-4 in the second game of a back-to-back.

April hasn't been kind to Jeremy Lamb.

See Carry page 7

Homan leads USF ground attack

The remainder of Will Homan's season was in doubt because of a potential serious knee injury.

He returned to the field to lead the Cougars' rushing attack.

Homan, a 2018 Fort Recovery High School graduate, shook off an injury scare to lead the University of Saint Francis football team in rushing yards Saturday in a 41-34 loss to Marian University.

Homan, a junior, hurt his knee in a March 13 loss to Concordia University and missed the next week's game with worries of ligament damage.

Cleared to play soon after, Homan returned to action Saturday and rushed for a team-best 35 yards on seven carries. He racked up almost half that yardage on a 17-yard scamper. Homan also caught one pass from quarterback Matt Crable for 1 yard.

Saint Francis (2-2), which is ranked 11th in NAIA, fell behind No. 10 Marian 20-3 at halftime of the season finale, and the Cougars scored 23 points in the fourth quarter but came up short in the end.

Homan finished his season with 137 yards and two touchdowns on 27 carries. He also caught two passes for 25 yards and another touchdown.

Robby LeFevre Fort Recovery - 2019

Ran for the Fordham University men's track team as it competed in the Metropolitan Championships at Icahn Stadium in New York.

The sophomore was 13th overall in the 100-meter dash with his time of 11.4 seconds. Jacob Leigh of New Jersey Institute won with his time of 10.76 seconds.

LeFevre also joined Manu Guzman, Michael Capone and Safo Kirtan to place third in the 4x100 relay. They stopped the clock in 43.86 seconds.

Host Manhattan won in 42.24 seconds.

Simon Brumfield Jay County - 2017

Competed for the Wabash Col-



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Will Homan, a University of Saint Francis junior, celebrates the first receiving touchdown of his career during a game against the Taylor Trojans on March 8 at Bishop D'Arcy Stadium on Fort Wayne. Homan led the Cougars with 35 rushing yards on Saturday in a 41-35 loss to Marian.

lege men's track team as it opened Little Giant Stadium on Saturday by hosting the Huntsman Family Invitational.

The senior was 15th overall in discus with a distance of 29.29 meters (96 feet, 1 inch). He achieved the distance on his third and final throw.

Brumfield also threw the hammer 32.67 meters (107 feet, 2 inches)

to place 10th.

The Little Giants tallied 209 points to take first out of four teams. Wittenberg was a distant second with 67 points.

Chloe Will Fort Recovery - 2019

Participated for the Tiffin University women's track team in the Flames Invitational on Fri-

day and Saturday at Lee University.

The freshman had a time of 5 minutes, 10.65 seconds, in the 1,500-meter run, to place 37th overall out of 48 runners.

Lee's Celine Ritter posted a time of 4:20.95 for first place.

The Dragons scored 132 points to win the 23-team invitational. See Leads page 7

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