

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

JCDC backs quarry expansion

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

A proposal to land allowing for the expansion of the local stone quarry has the support of Jay County Development Corporation.

The JCDC board during a special meeting Thursday voted to support US Aggregates' effort to rezone a parcel of land north of its current site to allow for the expansion of its quarry operation.

US Aggregates has been seeking to rezone (to industrial from agricultural/residential) about 115 acres, the bulk of which is

Board votes 15-1 to support US Aggregates' rezoning request

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 (2228 W. 125 South). Officials have said the

current site has about three to five years of material remaining while the expansion site would extend the life of the quarry by about 30 years.

The company pulled its rezoning request this week after Port-

land Plan Commission on April 1 voted to recommend that Portland City Council deny it. (City council has the final say on all rezoning requests.) Had council denied the request, the company would have had to wait a year before resubmitting.

In pulling the request, US Aggregates said it wants to work with plan commission members to address issues of concern. It hopes to modify and resubmit its request as soon as possible with a goal of receiving a recommendation of approval from the plan commission.

The rezoning has faced opposi-

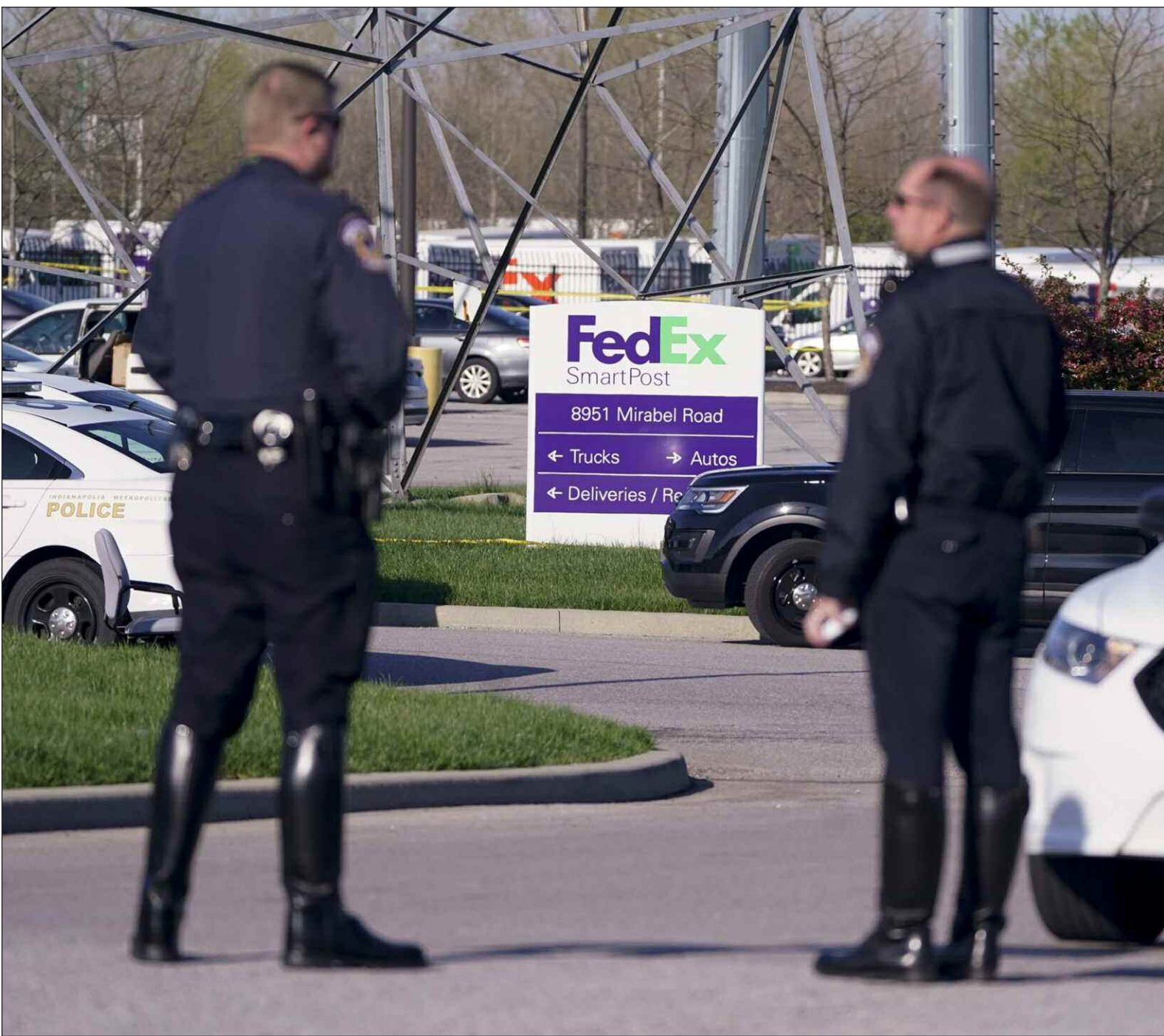
tion, predominantly from residents who live in the area nearby the proposed expansion site.

Thursday's Jay County Development Corporation special meeting stemmed from a discussion during its regular meeting last week about whether the organization should take a formal stance on the project. Both sides were asked to present information JCDC for review prior to the meeting.

In addition to that information, two JCDC board members spoke on opposite sides of the issue Thursday.

See JCDC page 2

8 killed in Indy



Associated Press/Michael Conroy

Police stand near the scene this morning where multiple people were shot at the FedEx Ground facility late Thursday in Indianapolis. A gunman killed eight people and wounded several others before apparently taking his own life in a late-night attack at a FedEx facility near the Indianapolis airport, police said, in the latest in a spate of mass shootings in the United States after a relative lull during the pandemic.

Gunman attacked FedEx facility near airport late Thursday before turning gun on himself

By CASEY SMITH
Associated Press/Report for America

INDIANAPOLIS — A gunman killed eight people and wounded several others before apparently taking his own life in a late-night attack at a FedEx facility near the Indianapolis airport, police said, in the latest in a spate of mass shootings in the United States after a relative lull during the pandemic.

Five people were hospitalized after the Thursday night shooting, according to police. One of them had critical injuries, police spokesperson Genae Cook said. Another two people were treated and

released at the scene. FedEx said people who worked for the company were among the dead.

A witness said that he was working inside the building when he heard several gunshots in rapid succession.

"I see a man come out with a rifle in his hand and he starts firing and he starts yelling stuff that I could not understand," Levi Miller told WTHR-TV. "What I ended up doing was ducking down to make sure he did not see me because I thought he would see me and he would shoot me."

It was the latest in a recent string of mass shootings across the U.S. Last month,

eight people were fatally shot at massage businesses across the Atlanta area, and 10 died in gunfire at a supermarket in Boulder, Colorado.

It was at least the third mass shooting this year in Indianapolis alone. Five people, including a pregnant woman, were shot and killed in January, and a man was accused of killing three adults and a child before abducting his daughter during an argument at a home in March.

Police have not identified the shooter or said whether he was an employee at the facility. They said "preliminary information from evidence at the

scene" indicated that he died by suicide.

"We're still trying to ascertain the exact reason and cause for this incident," Cook said.

Gov. Eric Holcomb ordered flags to be flown at half-staff until April 20, and he and others decried the shooting, with some noting how frequent such attacks are.

"We wake up once more to news of a mass shooting, this time in Indiana. No country should accept this now-routine horror. It's long past time to act," Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, who is from Indiana, tweeted.

See Killed page 5

Council clarifies rules for mobile homes

Permission and permit are required

By ROSE SKELLY
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — The ordinance relating to mobiles and modulars is being modified.

Redkey Town Council voted Thursday to amend the town's mobile and modular home policy to include more specific instructions for obtaining a permit.

Council members also decided which police vehicle to put up for auction after meeting in an executive session earlier that day.

Council was informed that a new mobile home was being set up in town and that utilities were being installed for the trailer. However, council members then realized that the owner had not obtained a permit for the mobile home.

Homeowners must pay \$100 for a permit and seek permission from the town council before setting up mobile homes. The instructions were missing from the ordinance given to those planning to set up a mobile or modular home.

The topic prompted a discussion of whether the town should continue to allow mobile homes to be set up in the town limits.

"If somebody tears down a junky house, which we have plenty of here in town, and sets a trailer in there, it looks nicer than the house they tore down," said council member John Pierce. "That's an improvement."

However, there were also concerns about upkeep of the homes.

"The bad thing about trailers is they fall apart faster," said council member Erik Hammers.

Ultimately, council decided to only change the ordinance to include clear instructions for obtaining a permit and council's permission to set up a home.

Also on Thursday, council decided to auction off the town police department's 2013 Ford Explorer.

See Council page 2

In review

The opening of one of the U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) bridges under construction in Portland has been delayed. Portland Police Chief Josh Stephenson said this morning the bridge over the Little Salamonie River near Portland Golf Club is now slated to open Monday. (It had been previously reported that the bridge would open today.)

Weather

Jay County's high temperature topped out at 48 degrees Thursday. The low was 37.

Tonight's low will also be in the upper 30s. Expect areas of frost Saturday morning followed by mostly cloudy skies with a high of 57. Sunday's high will be 59.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will host a free shred day from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at its office, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS softball game against Norwell.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Portland City Council meeting.



Council ...

Continued from page 1
At its March meeting, council discussed selling one of its surplus vehicles and using the money to fix up another vehicle. In an executive session Thursday, council members discussed the prices they would accept for each vehicle.
Council voted to sell the department's 2013 Ford

Explorer, with sealed bids to be accepted until noon May 19.
In other business, council members Dottie Quakenbush, Gary Gardner, Randy May, Hammers and Pierce:
•Heard that the majority of residents whose downspouts were connected to the town sewer system had removed the infiltrations

after receiving a letter from the town. The town is working to get full compliance from the remaining residents.
•Agreed to change the sewer installation fee from \$500 for residential homes to the actual cost of the installation. Town employee Randy Young told council that for more extensive installations, the town was

losing money with the flat rate.
•Discussed possible detours for construction work slated to take place next spring on Indiana 67 on the west side of town. Indiana Department of Transportation suggested the town use Main Street from Indiana 67 to Indiana 1 as the detour, but council members instead suggest-

ed using Indiana 28 as the detour through Albany. Pierce will contact INDOT to discuss the issue. (INDOT determines the official detour that large vehicles such as semis must follow. It typically follows state and U.S. highways. The town is in charge of setting the detour for local traffic.)
•Voted to seek bids to cut

down a dead tree at the corner of Railroad and High streets.
•Tabled a discussion of the holiday schedule for town employees.
•Approved three underground leak adjustments of \$171.98, \$306.96 and \$550.
•Heard that golf cart registration stickers are now available at the clerk-treasurer's office for \$15.

CR almanac

Saturday 4/17	Sunday 4/18	Monday 4/19	Tuesday 4/20	Wednesday 4/21
58/35	60/42	64/43	53/31	48/33
Overcast throughout the day. Some winds may blow, but otherwise cool temperatures.	Some sun during the morning only to be followed by a slight chance of rain later.	Mostly cloudy during the day, with winds reaching between 10 and 20 mph.	30% chance of rain developing through the day with potential snow in the forecast.	Sunshine and clouds throughout the day. Winds may reach between 10 and 20 mph.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$79 million	42-50-55-63-66-69-72-80 Cash 5: 13-17-22-26-38 Estimated jackpot: \$307,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$240 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 6-2-1 Pick 4: 2-6-6-1 Pick 5: 7-4-3-5-9 Evening Pick 3: 1-1-4 Pick 4: 8-3-4-1 Pick 5: 7-2-0-7-2 Rolling Cash: 7-9-30-34-37 Estimated jackpot: \$278,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 9-6-7 Daily Four: 9-3-4-4 Evening Daily Three: 8-0-7 Daily Four: 7-5-3-7 Quick Draw: 8-10-14-15-17-19-28-31-34-37-39-41-	

Markets

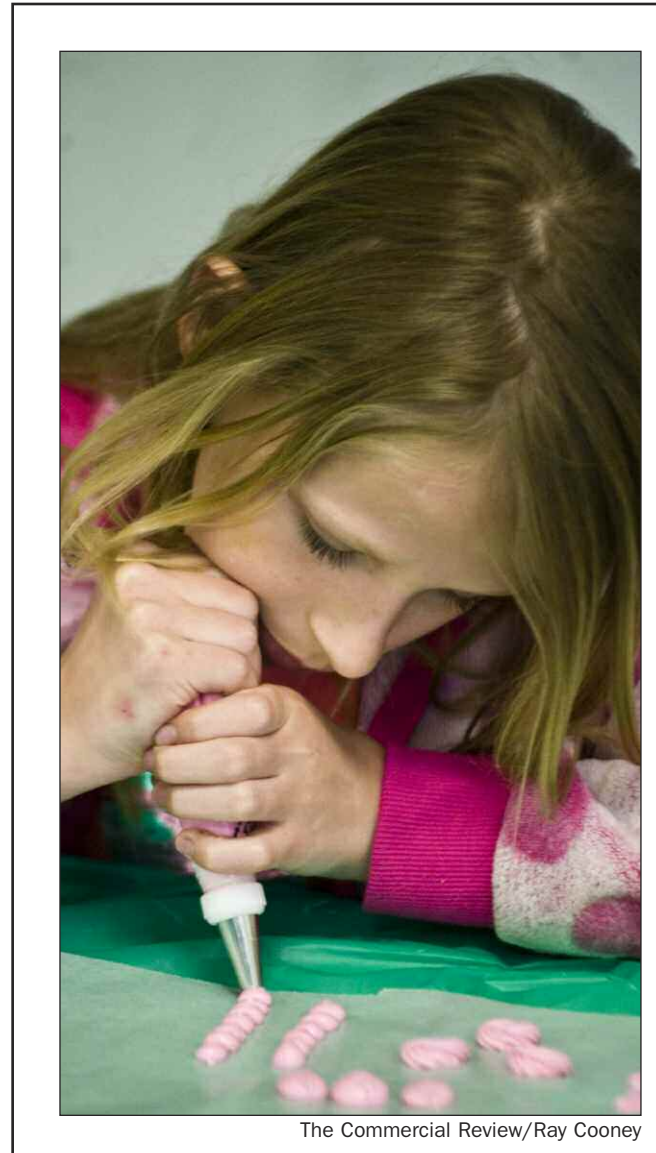
Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.00 Wheat6.28	Central States Montpelier Corn.....5.90 May corn.....5.91 Beans14.52 Sept. beans12.33 July wheat 6.24
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.11 May corn.....6.13	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....5.98 May corn.....5.98 Beans14.38 May beans14.41 Wheat6.07 July wheat.....6.09
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....5.91 May corn.....5.95 Beans14.52 May beans14.52 Wheat 6.44 May wheat 6.44	

Today in history

On April 16, 2007, in one of America's worst school attacks, a college senior killed 32 people on the campus of Virginia Tech before taking his own life.
In 1789, President-elect George Washington left Mount Vernon, Virginia, for his inauguration in New York.
In 1862, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill ending slavery in the District of Columbia.
In 1867, aviation pioneer Wilbur Wright was born in Millville, Indiana (his brother Orville was born five years later in Dayton, Ohio).
In 1912, American aviator Harriet Quimby became the first woman to fly across the English Channel, leaving Dover, England, and arriving near Calais, France, in 59 minutes.
In 1945, a Soviet submarine in the Baltic Sea torpedoed and sank the MV Goya, which Germany was using to transport civilian refugees and wounded soldiers; it's estimated that up to 7,000 people died.
In 1947, the cargo ship Grandcamp, carrying ammonium nitrate, blew up in the harbor in Texas City, Texas; a nearby ship, the High Flyer, which was carrying ammonium nitrate and sulfur, caught fire and exploded the following day; the blasts and fires killed nearly 600 people.
In 1962, New Orleans Archbishop Joseph Rummel excommunicated three local Roman Catholics for fighting racial integration of parochial schools. Bob Dylan debuted his song "Blowin' in the Wind" at Gerde's Folk City in New York.
In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. wrote his "Letter from Birmingham Jail" in which the civil rights activist responded to a group of local clergymen who had criticized him for leading street protests; King defended his tactics, writing, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."
—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.	Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Cake creating

Halle Homan keeps her eyes on her work Saturday afternoon while participating in Jay County 4-H's youth cake decorating workshop in the Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Capsule Reports

Drove off road

Damage is estimated between \$50,000 and \$100,000 after an Ohio man drove off Indiana 1 and rolled the truck he was driving about 9:10 a.m. Thursday.
Ryan A. Brite, 41, Van Wert, was driving a 2011 International Truck Tractor on the highway near county road 50 South. He later told Jay County Sheriff's Office a vehicle started driving in his lane toward him.
Brite said he left the highway to avoid hitting the vehicle and wasn't able to get back on the road. The truck he was driving rolled onto its side, coming to a rest in the yard owned by Shane Anderson at 921 S. Indiana 1.
The truck, which is registered to Flat Rock Transport of Straughn, was towed.

Recycling available
Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennington Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

Mailbox hit
A Portland woman driving on Division Road hit a mailbox with her vehicle about 5:55 p.m. Wednesday.
Charolette E. Coy, 22, was driving her 2008 Honda Ridgeline east on the road just west of county road 200 East when the vehicle went off the road and struck a mailbox. Damage is estimated less than \$1,000.
See page 5

JCDC ...

Continued from page 1
Joe Johnston, who lives about a half-mile away from the proposed expansion site, raised issues that he and others opposing the expansion addressed at the April 1 plan commission meeting. Those include concerns about blasting, dust, noise, impact on wells, potential damage to underground infrastructure, increased traffic and decreased property values. He also argued that a quarry in that area would shut down any potential expansion of Portland to the west of its current city limits.
"None of the people I've talked to ... want US Aggregates to shut down," said Johnston. "That's never been the intention, but the feeling has been that what is being proposed by US Aggregates isn't the best fit for Portland and surrounding neighborhoods. We think other options should be explored."
Fellow board member Josh Atkinson, an attorney who represents US Aggregates, said the operation requires a specific type of rock that is available in the proposed expansion site and said the area is already industrial, pointing out nearby Tyson Mexican Original, Community Fiber Solutions, Red Gold and the current quarry. He added that US Aggregates is heavily regulated by a variety of federal and state agencies and said a significant increase in traffic is not expected.
"There has to be a certain depth, by a railroad, with a particular time of rock. That is this exact field," Atkinson said of the location. "They own this exact field that is right next

to their existing quarry. If another site exists that meets all those criteria, I am not aware of it."
After hearing from both sides, board members asked questions and discussed the rezoning and stone quarry expansion for about 45 minutes. Topics included traffic, monitoring of wells, mitigation if wells are affected, the frequency of blasting (two to three times a month) and the impact of blasting.
Board member Angela Paxson pointed to the JCDC website — it references developing local assets and promoting industrial development — as a guide toward making a decision. Given JCDC's stated mission, she asked her fellow members what it would say about the organization if it was against the US Aggregates rezoning.
Local elected officials — Portland Mayor John Boggs, Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins, Jay County Council president Jeanne Houchins and Jay County Commissioner Brian McGalliard — all spoke in support of the rezoning effort.
McGalliard pointed out that the POET Biorefining ethanol plant built across the street from the quarry site and has not had any issues as a result of blasting. (He and fellow commissioners Chad Aker and Rex Journay previously signed a letter of support for the rezoning request.)
Boggs said while he sympathizes with homeowners, US Aggregates has a huge economic impact on Portland.
Robbins noted the impact of the decision beyond US Aggregates itself, pointing

out that his city's Ardagh glass manufacturing facility purchases materials from the quarry.
"Any little thing that hurts our biggest employer ... is risky," he said. "As far as Jay County, can we afford to lose any business? One business? Two businesses? ...
"US Ag has been there for a lot of years. ...
"I think the whole county ought to do everything we can to keep them."
Houchins mentioned that previous projects, including POET, confined feeding operations and the two wind farms in the county, have also faced opposition.
"This is an existing business that was here long before those houses were here, before the school was built out there," she said. "How can we not promote an existing business? What is that going to say about Jay County?
"We have to look at the huge scope of everything and long-term down the road."
The board members in attendance at the meeting voted 15-1 in favor of supporting US Aggregates' effort to rezone the land and expand its operation. Johnston cast the lone dissenting vote. (Atkinson had excused himself from the meeting prior to final discussion and the vote, citing the board's conflict of interest policy.)

SERVICES

Today 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 Kahlig , Donald: 10 a.m., St. Paul Catholic Church, 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery. Gonzalez , Jill: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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FFA honors

Fort Recovery FFA recently held its annual banquet with about 250 in attendance. The event included the presentation of various awards. Pictured, from left, are Liz Hartings with the Star Greenhand Award, AJ Romer with the Star in Agribusiness Placement Award and Kendra Metzger with the Dekalb Agricultural Accomplishment Award.

Conferences are Wednesday

Parents will have the opportunity to visit with teachers next week.

Jay County Junior-Senior High School will host in-person parent/teacher conferences from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 21.

Parents of junior high students should enter through door 1. Parents of high school students should enter through door 9.

Mid-term grade cards will be available at the appropriate entrances, and teachers will be stationed in the commons area.

Masks and social distancing are required.

Treviño to perform

Steve Treviño is coming back to Portland.

Treviño will perform at 7 p.m. April 24 at Lions Club Civic Center in Portland as part of his "I Speak Wife Tour 2021." Road Rubber Comedy of Portland is hosting the performance.

General admission tickets for group tickets —

Taking Note

tables for eight — are available. They are being sold at roadrubbercomedy.com.

The performance will abide by social distancing guidelines and seating capacity guidelines.

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. Tuesday 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 redcross-blood.org or call (800) 733-2767.

Accusations fly after contracting COVID-19

DEAR ABBY: A friend of 35 years accused me of exposing her and her mother to COVID. She told me she thinks I did it on purpose because I thought so little of them. This is not true!

I had been home for eight days and saw her on a Friday. The following Wednesday I felt sick, so I got tested. When my test the next Monday came back positive, I told her immediately. Since then she has blocked me and won't talk to me to figure out what happened. I don't even know if they got sick.

We have been good friends and helped each other often. I have done a lot for her, but she still refuses to talk to me. What should I do? — BLOCKED BY COVID IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BLOCKED: When people are frightened, they

Dear Abby



reach out to her. Then hope that in light of your long friendship, she'll calm down and you can reconnect.

DEAR ABBY: My ex and I were together 17 years. He was a cheater, a liar, and any other way a horrible husband can be described. I divorced him six years ago.

My problem is a few of our kids think he's a wonderful guy. The older one (25) lived with him until a few months ago. I don't know how to make her understand how horrible he is. I think if she stepped back for a while, she would see it, but she (and several of his other kids) have been completely brainwashed.

She's quick to ask a question, but when I respond in a way she

feels is negative about her dad, she suddenly has to hang up or needs to go do something. I'm lost trying to make her see how their part of the family looks like a cult to everyone else in the family. — KNOWS THE TRUTH IN OHIO

DEAR KNOWS: Trying to reason with your daughter is a waste of time. Trying to "deprogram" your children from the "cult" of loving their father isn't working, so quit trying. By persisting, you will only drive a wedge between you. As you stated, once they have stepped back, they may begin to see the light without help from you. Let it happen on its own.

DEAR ABBY: I've never seen you answer a question like mine.

I have a \$20 bill that was torn. At some point, the two halves became separated in my pocket, and I lost one of them. Is there any way I could get value for the half that I still have? — POOR IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR POOR: I'm sorry, but the answer is probably no. If you had three-quarters of the bill, you could take it to a bank and exchange it for a whole bill. But because you have only half, you are out of luck. Sorry!

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.

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 BREAK-

FAST 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 informa-

tion or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

Tuesday

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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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Contact legislators about funding

To the editor:
There is a bit of an unexpected tussle going on right now in the statehouse.

You see, the Republican supermajority did not expect to have any problem pulling more money away from public education and giving it to private education entities. It turns out that people are pushing back, and the more they learn about the ongoing scheme to give public money to private schools, the less they like it.

One of the chief documents being used to bolster this dubious effort is a 5-year-old literature review from EdChoice titled "A Win-Win Solution." This report claims to be the "gold standard," and yet less than half

Letters to the Editor

of the references in the report were peer-reviewed, and a significant number were published by the very same organization. The idea behind a review of published works is to look at a multitude of diverse sources, not to selectively pick your own. At minimum, the legislature should look at more recent studies.

A 2018 peer-reviewed analysis of Indiana's voucher program, based on publicly reported data

from the Indiana Department of Education, demonstrated with statistical significance that voucher students do poorer on standardized math testing than public school students and that this deficiency is persistent. Although English scores are nominally the same, high-wage, high-demand, STEM-oriented jobs require math skills.

The public school system exists because it is in the best interest of the country to educate the entirety of the population. No one forces you to send your children to public school. You can have your children attend whatever kind of school you wish. However, the public shouldn't have to pay for it. Public funds should only go toward

funding the public school system.

Proponents of school choice would have you believe that our state is clamoring for the privatization of education, but this simply isn't so. The general population overwhelmingly chooses public schools.

Proponents of school choice would have you believe that diverting public school funding for vouchers somehow provides more money for children in public schools (no kidding, they've said this). They would have you believe, in spite of the cited peer-reviewed evidence, that children somehow receive a superior education outside the public school system. They think the public won't spot the potential for racial

and social discrimination, the lack of accountability for the funds spent or the documented cases of fraud within the education scholarship account (ESA) systems in other states.

Please join the legion of parents, teachers and school board members in making your voice heard at the statehouse. Let your state senators and representatives know that you oppose efforts to divert public school funds to expand the voucher/ESA program and weaken Indiana's public school system. Our more than 1 million children in public schools don't deserve this.

Robert M. Stwalley
President
Indiana School Boards Association

Games can't last forever

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

I've never liked winning at board games, and I don't like to beat video games.

Ironic, isn't it? Truthfully, I've never enjoyed playing board games. They — no pun intended — bore me. There are only a select few I genuinely like to play for extended amounts of time.

Still, at family gatherings I often find myself in front of a Monopoly board with some wide-eyed child. I usually try to let the little ones win at least once. It's not fun to lose all the time ... at least, so I've been told.

See, the thing is, I'm unfavorably lucky. And I win. A lot.

It's not fun to win all the time, either. Nor is it fun when you really don't want to be playing in the first place because people get a little peeved at your effortlessness.

So ... I like it when others win.

Games are a staple on my mom's side of the family. Grandpa Moorman actually concocted his own board game, referred to as just "The Game" — it's like a mixture of Sorry! and dice — which has become a regular activity whenever visiting for dinner.

I took home a literal trophy for winning "The Game" competition at a family gathering several years back. (It's engraved and everything.) To say I come from a line of game players is an understatement.

Growing up, my brother loved to pull out the classics like Sorry! or Candy Land and bug me to play a match. I never wanted to play, but sometimes Myles would convince me.

He'd get upset when he lost, too. It took him a while to learn how to lose graciously, and with how our games usually went, I don't blame him. He would have appreciated being lucky a heck of a lot more than I do.

Maybe that's one reason he became fascinated with video games. Many rely more on skill than luck. Skill, Myles likely realized, was something he could improve.

And somehow, Myles roped me into playing video games with him, too. The key difference: I actually like video games.

On the Line



Despite my affinity for the industry, I have a load of games still sitting on my shelf that I've barely touched. Some I've started and fell off after a while, some haven't even been loaded onto my consoles yet.

For being an avid gamer, I'm kind of lazy.

"Have you beat Persona 5 Royal yet?" Myles teased me recently.

"Not yet," I responded, feeling a little embarrassed I've owned the game for a year and haven't made much progress into it. He's been trying to get me to beat the game since it came out — he's beat it four times now — because he wants to discuss the storyline. Apparently it gets pretty intense after a certain point.

I genuinely do want to play it, and I've been making some progress on the weekends. After a while, though, I just find myself wanting to do other things.

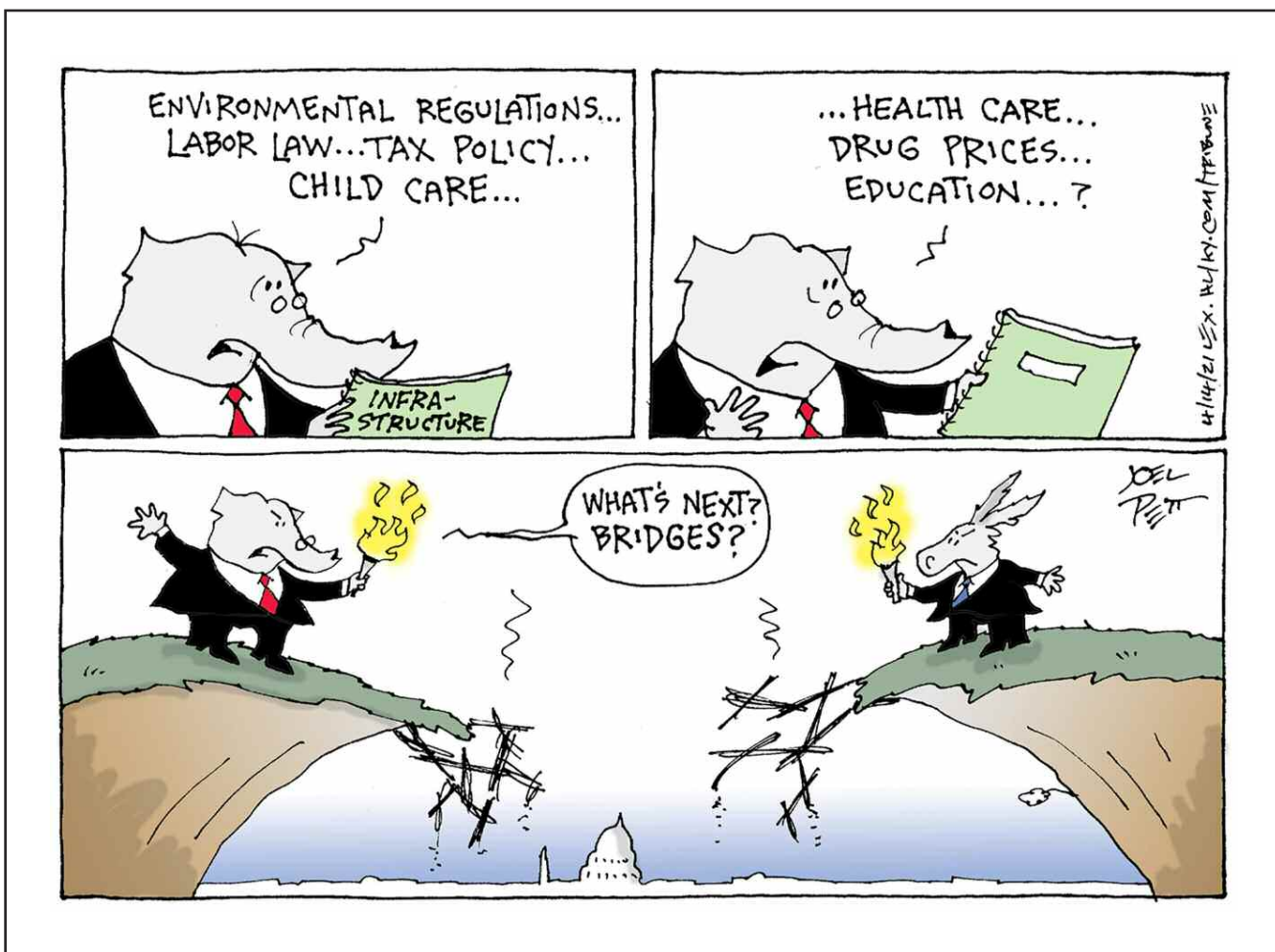
Honestly, a small part of me doesn't want good games to end.

Whenever I've had a long week, I find myself pulling out games from my childhood. Sometimes it's from The Legend of Zelda franchise, sometimes it's from the Harvest Moon franchise. It could be a Pokemon or Kirby release. Other times it's just a random D.S. or Wii game. (Recently my "comfort" game has been Undertale. It's an indie game — games made by little-known creators, often one person or a small team — I highly recommend.)

Nostalgia does wonders for the weary soul.

When playing a new video game I enjoy, I find it hard to accept it has to end at some point. Some part of me wants to hold on to that little bit of thrill for however long I can. But, like all things in life, games don't continue on without end.

The little girl in me roped me into playing video games with her brother about playing Sorry! is thankful games don't last forever.



We need worldwide control

By DOYLE MCMANUS

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Despite recent setbacks in Michigan and elsewhere, the United States is gradually approaching the day when we may be able to declare the COVID-19 pandemic under control — within our borders, that is.

But that won't mean the problem is over in the rest of the world — or even here at home in the long run.

Until there is worldwide control of the virus, the pandemic will continue to affect our health, our economy and even our safety from terrorism.

The first reason is obvious: The coronavirus won't sit still. As long as there are large pockets of people passing the virus, it will mutate, and those variants, potentially less responsive to our current vaccines, will travel here from Brazil, South Africa and anywhere else they appear.

On that count alone, the world's failure to deliver vaccines to needier countries is more than a scandal; it's a crisis. Dozens of countries, especially in Africa, have received no vaccines at all.

The head of the World Health Organization noted last week that in wealthy countries, about 1 in 4 adults have been vaccinated; in poor countries, the number is less than 1 in 500.

To take one example, Pakistan, a nuclear-armed country of more than 230 million, has vaccinated under 0.5% of its population.

Vaccine nationalism has been the rule, not the exception. Governments in rich countries have cornered as much vaccine supply as they can to take care of their own citizens, who not coincidentally are also voters.

Drug companies have rejected pleas from India, South Africa and other countries to waive patent protection for their vaccines. That's understandable from a business standpoint — but if Big Pharma doesn't do more to end the shortage, people around the world will blame

Doyle McManus



the United States and other wealthy nations, not just Pfizer and Moderna.

And that takes us to the other, less obvious effects of a long-term pandemic — and there are many, as two recent reports from the U.S. intelligence community spelled out.

"The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic marks the most significant, singular global disruption since World War II, with health, economic, political, and security implications that will ripple for years to come," the National Intelligence Council's long-range "Global Trends" report warned.

Let's start with the economic impact. Our economy is recovering, but in poor countries the pandemic recession has a long way to go. The intelligence community reported that food insecurity worldwide is on track to more than double, from affecting 135 million people in 2019 to a projected 330 million by the end of 2021.

A prolonged pandemic would be "a profound economic tragedy for those countries," Treasury Secretary Janet L. Yellen said last week, "but [it] would also be a problem for America."

Then there's migration. When poor countries' economies collapse, desperate people move to wealthier places — West Africans and Syrians to Europe, Guatemalans and Hondurans to the United States.

And if people in poor nations believe their governments are handling the pandemic poorly, some of those regimes will collapse, the intelligence community warned.

"Hard-hit developing countries are experiencing financial and humanitarian crises, increasing the risk of

surges in migration, collapsed governments, or internal conflict," the director of national intelligence's annual threat assessment reported on Tuesday.

Failed states can turn into hotbeds of terrorism, as we learned at great cost two decades ago; the intelligence report noted that some countries have reduced their counter-terrorism efforts because they need to focus on the pandemic.

All that instability also presents opportunities, but not necessarily welcome ones. Assertive, autocratic governments like China's may use the moment to shove weaker neighbors around. China is handling COVID-19 well; its neighbor the Philippines is not, and that could make it vulnerable.

Foreign aid to help end the pandemic isn't an act of charity; it's an act of self-interest.

Many global leaders understand this — but wealthy nations, including the United States, haven't acted on it yet.

Former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown proposed putting the Group of Seven in charge of a multinational relief effort that could include a temporary patent waiver. "The cost will be at least \$30 billion a year," he wrote — but that, he pointed out, is "less than 2% of Biden's \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan."

To be sure, the United States has provided \$4 billion to a United Nations program that is trying to get vaccines to poor countries — without much success so far. But ending the pandemic is going to take much more than that.

The pandemic won't be over anywhere until it's under control everywhere. If President Joe Biden sees eradicating COVID-19 as Job One, he'll need to lead a global effort before he can declare his mission accomplished.

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McManus is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

The Commercial Review

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



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Killed ...

Continued from page 1
 Family members gathered at a nearby hotel to await word on loved ones — and some employees were bused there for tearful reunions. But other relatives said they still had no information about their loved ones hours later. Most employees aren't allowed to carry cellphones inside the FedEx building, making contact with them difficult.
 "When you see notifications on your phone, but you're not getting a text back from your kid and you're not getting information and you still don't know where they are ... what are you supposed to do?" said Mindy Carson, holding back tears. Her

daughter, Jessica, works in the facility and she had not heard from her.
 Police were called to reports of gunfire Thursday just after 11 p.m., and officers "came in contact with (an) active shooter incident," Cook said. The gunman later killed himself.
 "The officers responded, they came in and did their job. A lot of them are trying to face this, because this is a sight that no one should have to see," Cook said.
 Craig McCartt, of the Indianapolis police, told NBC Today early today that officers still knew "very little." Chris Bavender, a spokesperson for the FBI's Indianapolis office,

said that they are helping the police with the investigation.
 Attorney General Merrick Garland was briefed on the shooting, and the White House said President Joe Biden would be. Biden's advisors have been in touch with the city's mayor and law enforcement officials.
 A man told WTTV that his niece was sitting in the driver's seat of her car when the gunfire erupted, and she was wounded.
 "She got shot on her left arm," said Parminder Singh. "She's fine, she's in the hospital now."
 He said his niece did not know the shooter.

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Felony arrests

Drug possession

Two men were arrested this week for drug possession.
 Tristan B. Caldwell, 22, 602 E. Indiana Ave., Eaton, was arrested Wednesday and preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of marijuana. He's being held in Jay County Jail without bond.
 Jerrod D. Corn, 32, 611 S. Walnut St., was arrested Thursday and preliminarily charged the following: a Level 6 felony for posses-

sion of cocaine, methamphetamine or narcotic drugs, Class B misdemeanors for possession of paraphernalia and operating a vehicle while intoxicated with a suspended license and a Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated with a blood alcohol level of .15% or higher. Corn was booked into Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.

Drunk driving

An Alabama man was

arrested Friday morning for drunk driving.

Debrandon M. Robinson, 33, 3911 Court K, Birmingham, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle while intoxicated with a blood alcohol level between 0.08% and 0.14%.
 He was booked into Jay County Jail on \$1,000 bond.

Resisting officers

A Fort Wayne man was

arrested Friday morning for resisting an officer and obstructing justice.

Juan E. Chacon, 32, 2236 Smith St., was preliminarily charged Level 6 felonies for resisting an officer and obstructing justice, along with a Class A misdemeanor for resisting an officer and a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended license. He was booked into Jay County Jail and is being held without bond.

Capsule Reports

Left scene

A Portland woman driving on Pleasant Street reported someone drove into the back of her vehicle's car and left the scene about 9:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Betty J. Walter, 70, was driving north on the street when a driver — whose identity remains unknown — disregarded the stop sign at the intersection with High Street and struck the back of the 2005 Toyota Avalon she was driving. The driver

who struck the Avalon drove away, according to a Portland Police Department report.
 Damage is estimated less than \$1,000. Walter's vehicle is registered to Brian S. Ingram of Portland.

Deeds

Daniel I. Davidson to Kyle and Lauren M. Dirksen, warranty deed — Tracts 1 and 2, Part of Section 29, Bearcreek Township, 21 acres
 Greg A. Pfeifer (deceased) to Alexander D. Pfeifer, deed affidavit —

Parts of Section 24, Jackson Township, about 15 acres; Part of Section 19, Bearcreek Township
 Joyce A. and Michael D. Rupe to Arm's Auto Body Inc., warranty deed — Lot 18, Headington and Lafollette Addition

Richard E. and Cheryl Schlechty to Community Loan Servicing LLC, sheriff/marshall deed — Lot 11, Votaws West Addition
 Michael G. Rinker and Debra J. Shelton to Leeward Renewable Energy Development LLC, ease-

ment — Parts of Section 33, Knox Township, about 132 acres
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Grab Saturday's paper for coverage of tonight's JCHS softball game

Sports

Jay County Summer Swim is seeking a new coach, see Sports on tap



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Jay County High School senior Aubrie Schwieterman, left, and Olivia Bright celebrate after scoring on a two-run double from Renna Schwieterman during the top of the first inning against Fort Recovery on Thursday at FRHS. The Patriots scored three runs in the frame and went on to win, 6-3.

Jay stays hot, tops Tribe

By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Coming off perhaps the best offensive game in program history, the Patriots jumped on the Indians early.

Then they came through with some strong defense down the stretch.

Jay County High School's softball team scored three runs in the first inning and kept the red-hot Fort Recovery Indians at bay for a 6-3 victory Thursday.

"We have a great lineup," said first-year JCHS coach Trisha Green, whose team racked up 27 hits, including a school-record eight home runs, on Tuesday in a 25-0 thumping of Eastbrook. "We get on base. We steal and we're moving. We're trying fake bunts and steals. We're just trying to get momentum and get hits and it's been working for us."

The Patriots move to 4-1 on the year

Patriot softball team grabs early lead and shuts down streaking Indians for 6-3 win

while the Indians (10-3) had their seven-game winning streak snapped.

"They were real nice defensively," Fort Recovery coach Ryan Thien said. "For whatever reason their pitcher had us off balance. She had a nice rise ball and we just kept getting underneath it and popping up."

"She definitely had us off balance."

Jay County, which hosts Norwell tonight, led off the game with consecutive singles from Taylor Brown and Olivia Bright. Brown was thrown out

at third on a fielder's choice.

Bright stole third and Aubrie Schwieterman, who reached on the fielder's choice, swiped second to put two runners in scoring position.

Renna Schwieterman, who had two of the Patriots' eight homers Tuesday, lofted a two-run double to right-center field to score Bright and her sister, then Mady Fraley followed with a double to the same spot for another RBI.

See Stays page 7

Patch shuts down Rangers

NEW KNOXVILLE, Ohio — Daniel Patch faced 20 batters. He struck out all but three of them.

Patch shut down the Rangers and Brock Dues provided the offense as the Fort Recovery High School baseball team got an 11-0, six-inning victory against New Knoxville on Thursday.

The Indians move to 4-4 (2-1 Midwest Athletic Conference) while New Knoxville dipped to 1-9 (0-3 MAC).

Patch, a sophomore, struck out the first seven Ranger batters before allowing his only walk with one out in the third inning. He then fanned six in a row until Jay Waterman hit a single, the only hit Patch gave up on the evening. Patch was efficient, too, throwing 77 pitches, 58 for strikes, and getting a half dozen called third strikes.

Dues had a double, two singles and two RBIs for the FRHS offense. Derek Lochtefeld added a triple, and Landon Post hit a double. Troy Homan collected two RBIs on a single and two walks.

Jay gets ACAC win

BLUFFTON — Jay County's girls tennis team picked up a 4-1 win against the Bluffton Tigers on Thursday in Allen County Athletic Conference action.

The Patriots (3-0, 1-0 ACAC) won both doubles matches and two of the singles contests.

Lilly Hedges and Holly Hemmelgarn dropped the first set of their No. 2 doubles tilt 7-5, but rallied to take the final two, 6-1, 6-3, for the three-set win. At

Local roundup

No. 1 doubles, Madison Dirksen and Rachel Muhlenkamp teamed to win 7-5, 6-2.

Grace Brewster had a three-set marathon in her No. 1 singles match. She won the first set 7-5 before losing 6-4. She flipped the script in set three, 6-4, for the victory.

Lyric Garringer got a 6-0, 6-2 victory at No. 1 singles.

Kierston Blunk lost 6-4, 6-2 at No. 3 singles.

Brenna Haines, Courtney Benter and Maggie Dillon all had junior varsity singles victories. Junior varsity doubles teams getting wins were Heaven Hambrock and Chelsea Blankenship; Allison Byrum and Paulina Esquivel; Melana Zimmerman and Haylee Zimmerman.

Golf wins

SELMA — The Jay County boys golf team matched its score from Monday and got a 170-194 victory against the host Wapahani Raiders on Thursday at Cardinal Hills Golf Course.

Freshman Caleb DeRome paced the Patriots (2-0) with 6-over-par 41. Senior Griffin Mann, junior Kyle Sanders and freshman Simon Pryor each followed with matching rounds of 43.

Brock DeHoff shot 44, but his score did not factor into the team total.

Fort girls take second

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians got seven event wins.

The Cavs just had the depth to get by. Fort Recovery High School's girls track team took second in a five-team meet it hosted Thursday.

Coldwater, despite getting five first-place finishes, totaled 140 points to win the meet. Fort Recovery had 117 for second, and Parkway totaled 42 for third.

Parkway ended with 93 points to win the boys' meet. Coldwater had 83 for second, and Crestview was third with 76 points. Fort Recovery scored 68 points.

Brynn Stammen led the Indian charge in the 3,200 run, leading a clean sweep of the top three spots with her time of 13 minutes, 49.42 seconds. Hanna Metzger and Anna Wendel were second and third, respectively.

Natalie Brunswick stopped the clock in 5:27.15 to win the 1,600 run, giving the Indians the sweep of the distance events as well.

Also earning individual wins were Alli Vaughn (high jump — 4 feet, 10 inches), Whitley Rammel (shot put — 36 feet, 4.75 inches) and Mara Pearson (long jump — 14 feet, 6.25 inches).

Kierra Wendel, Allysen Fullenkamp, Abbie Francis and Pearson teamed to win the 4x200 relay in 1:52.49, while Ellie Will, Megan Diller, Wendel and Brunswick had a time of 10:28.79 for a 4x800 relay victory.

The only victory for the Fort Recovery boys came in the 4x200 relay. Owen Moorman, Derek Jutte, Reece Guggenbiller and Gavin Thobe crossed the finish line in 1:38.71.

Rodón tosses no-hitter

By LaMOND POPE

Chicago Tribune

Tribune News Service

CHICAGO — Carlos Rodón was originally slated to start for the Chicago White Sox on Monday but was scratched because of an upset stomach.

He returned Wednesday and flirted with perfection before making history.

Rodón threw the 20th no-hitter in Sox history, striking out seven in an 8-0 victory over the Cleveland Indians at Guaranteed Rate Field.

He was perfect through 8½ innings before hitting Roberto Pérez with a pitch. He then got the last two outs for the second Sox no-hitter in eight months. Lucas Giolito no-hit the Pittsburgh Pirates on Aug. 25.

"It's a pretty special moment," Rodón said. "It feels good to say I did it."

The ninth inning began with a close play at first base. Josh Naylor hit a grounder to first, and José Abreu barely beat him to the bag as Naylor dived head first. The out call was upheld upon review.

Rodón then hit Pérez with a 1-2 slider for the only Indians baserunner.

After striking out Yu

White Sox hurler loses perfect game in ninth

Chang for the second out, Rodón got Jordan Luplow to ground out to third.

"He was very determined," Sox manager Tony La Russa said. "Proved to me he's a finisher."

Rodón said when Yoán Moncada fielded the ball for the final out, he thought: "I can't believe this is happening."

As for Abreu's play to open the ninth, Rodón said: "I didn't want him to blow out his knee. Without that play, we don't get there."

Rodón threw 114 pitches in his first career shutout and second complete game. He said he couldn't recall shaking off catcher Zack Collins all night.

See Tosses page 7

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'17 John Deere Z930R #51345, 60" Deck, Tweels, 574 Hours (FL) \$9,500	'17 John Deere Z950R #111098, 60" Deck, Pneumatic Tires, 160 Hours (FR) \$8,995	'13 Dixon Ram Ultra #113994, 52" Deck, Gas, 335 Hours (FR) \$3,000
'18 Simplicity Citation XT27 #112496, 60" Deck, Gas, 113 Hours (W) \$5,795	'02 John Deere 4310 #113776, MFWD, Hydro, Loader, 2,772 Hours, (LO) \$15,900	'05 Cub Cadet 8454SS #114430, MFWD, Loader w/72" Bucket, Shuttle Shift, 523 Hours (B) \$16,400

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