

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Final stages



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The exterior of the new Arts Place visual arts building at the northwest corner of Walnut and Harrison streets is substantially complete. The organization's expansion and renovation project is ongoing with construction expected to be complete by the end of June. Dedication events will be held in October.

### Arts Place renovation and expansion work is expected to be completed by the end of June

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

A project that has been in planning for years and construction since last fall is entering its final stages.

Much of the exterior work on the \$2.4-million renovation and expansion project at Arts Place is finished, with only a handful of final details left. Crews have mostly turned now to interior work.

The project is expected to be substantially complete by the end of June.

"That's just construction," said Arts Place executive director Eric Rogers. "There will be lots of little details to finish out that are not construction."

As for the timeline? "We're right on target," he said.

Some of the major aspects of the project have been finished. Those include the construction of a new visual arts building — interior work such as painting is still in process — at the northwest corner of Walnut and Harrison streets as well as structural fixes and a new brick facade for the existing facility at 131 E. Walnut St. The new visual arts building is about 2,100 square feet and will house a 2-D art room, 3-D art room, storage, a waiting room and space for smaller exhibits.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Also already addressed are drainage issues that were compromising the structural integrity of the building.

"The water was going toward us rather than away," said Rogers. "That's been addressed. And then of course the phenomenal masonry. It looks just great. And it takes care of a big moisture problem. The building is going to last."

Also already complete are upgrades to the Hugh N. Ronald Gallery, including new lighting, grinding and refinishing the floor and painting.

New lighting has also been installed in Goodrich Hall, the new ensemble room, rehearsal rooms, conference room and Rogers' office located on the west side of the building are substantially finished.

See **Stages** page 2

## Portland officer benched after incident

*Suspension follows allegation of discussing sexual conduct with 'minor'*

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

A Portland police officer has been suspended following an incident Thursday night.

Portland Police Department suspended officer Joshua Clark after a Predator Catchers video on Facebook alleged he messaged, planned to meet and discussed engaging in sexual conduct with someone he believed to be a 14-year-old girl from Avon.

Clark, 36, messaged a 14-year-old "girl" — he was actually messaging moderators of the online page used to expose pedophiles — and they agreed to meet for dinner at an Olive Garden restaurant. He allegedly made sexual comments via text and indicated that he was 17.

About 20 minutes into the Facebook video posted at 7:13 p.m. Thursday, the Predator Catchers team walked up to Clark inside the restaurant and began questioning him.

Allegedly, after being told the girl was a minor, he asked "her" to delete the texts stating she was 14 years old. When confronted in the video, he said he didn't believe she was that young and believed she was 18.

"I'm an idiot," Clark repeated several times through the video.

Clark, who started as a Portland officer March 7, was suspended from the department without pay after local police were made aware of the video. Portland Police Department posted to Facebook at 10:05 p.m. Thursday in response to the situation. See **Officer** page 2

## Airport runway funding is OK'd

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

It's official, the city's cost for construction of its airport runway extension will be zero.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration on Thursday announced nearly \$900 million in funding for infrastructure and safety products, including more than \$1.4 million for the second phase of the runway extension at Portland Municipal Airport.

The FAA funding includes about \$70,000 the city would have been responsible to pay in the regular funding procedure for such projects.

"I think that's wonderful," said Portland Mayor John Boggs. "We can divert the money to other areas."

*Portland project is among \$900 million approved by FAA*

"But I think the important this is, as soon as that's built, I think it's going to have a dramatic impact on the economy of Portland."

See **Runway** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

### Opening tonight

The cast of Jay County High School's production of the musical comedy "Pajama Game" dances during Saturday's rehearsal. Performances are 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday as well as 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$6 and will be available at the door.

#### Deaths

Sara Lake, 71, Portland  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 66 degrees Thursday. The low was 40.

The forecast calls for a low of 46 tonight. Expect partly sunny skies Saturday with a high of 69.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

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

#### Coming up

**Saturday** — Results from the Midwest Athletic Conference track championships.

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



# Stages ...

Continued from page 1  
Crews are currently working on the expanded reception and lobby area and community gallery, with a new bump-out window on the north side of the building. Other work that still remains includes painting Goodrich Hall, putting finishing touches on the visual arts building, construction of offices and an expanded kitchen, finishing the large piano studio and expanding the stage support area, including the installation of new storage cabinets. The final part of the project will include landscap-

ing and paving the west parking lot.  
Exterior work left to be completed on the buildings includes installation of gables and coping.  
Arts Place has been working toward the ongoing construction and expansion project — it got underway with a groundbreaking in late September — since 2014. After several years of planning, Arts Place launched a capital campaign in September 2017 and has brought in more than \$2.2 million.  
The project represents the lat-

est expansion for Arts Place, which began more than 50 years ago as Jay County Arts Council. The organization moved to its current location, the former site of Indiana Michigan Power, in 1983. A \$2 million expansion project in 2000 tripled the size of the facility.  
Limberlost Construction is leading the current project. The construction work itself is about \$1.45 million with about an additional \$200,000 in architectural fees, permits and contingencies. (Other funds from the capital campaign had already gone toward building

stabilization work and heating, ventilation and cooling that were more immediate concerns.)  
When construction is complete, additional work will include finishing donor plaques and possibly adding new theatre lights if funds are available. Goodrich Hall floors will be cleaned. And generally the facility will be prepped for an unveiling to the public.  
“We will be doing a lot of cosmetic things that really should be addressed because we want the entire building to look sparkling,” said Rogers.

“There’s lots and lots of little details to finish up.”  
Plans are being finalized to dedicate the upgraded facility with multiple events in October. Arts Place staff is planning an open house for the general public to tour the buildings and a celebration for those who donated to the capital campaign and a 2021-22 performance series kick-off concert.  
“We want to have a number of events so people get a chance to experience the facility,” said Rogers. “We want everybody in the community to be able to enjoy it.”

## CR almanac

Saturday 5/15	Sunday 5/16	Monday 5/17	Tuesday 5/18	Wednesday 5/19
<b>70/52</b>	<b>72/55</b>	<b>66/55</b>	<b>74/59</b>	<b>75/62</b>
Partly sunny during most of the day. Skies may become cloudy at night. Otherwise, it will be warm.	Partly sunny skies with warm temperatures. There is a 50% chance of rain at night.	There is a 50% chance of rain, which will likely continue all day and night.	Another potential day of rain with a 30% chance of showers. Otherwise partly sunny.	There is a 40% chance of rain early and thunderstorms throughout the day.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$183 million	41-45-53-56-63-65-79 Cash 5: 13-15-20-39-43 Estimated jackpot: \$105,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$430 million	<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 6-6-3 Pick 4: 2-6-5-7 Pick 5: 2-1-0-8-9 Evening Pick 3: 8-4-3 Pick 4: 4-9-7-5 Pick 5: 7-5-5-0-5 Rolling Cash: 16-19-24-25-39 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 7-3-9 Daily Four: 4-9-7-7 Evening Daily Three: 8-1-1 Daily Four: 3-4-3-3 Quick Draw: 3-4-5-9-10-13-14-17-20-22-25-30-34	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.87 Wheat .....6.85	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.93 June corn .....6.93 Beans .....16.34 Sept. beans .....13.59 Wheat ..... 6.96
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.99 June corn .....7.11	<b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.98 May corn.....6.98 Beans .....16.18 May beans .....16.18 Wheat .....6.62 July wheat.....6.62
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.97 June corn .....6.97 Beans .....16.37 June beans .....16.37 Wheat ..... 6.96 June wheat..... 6.86	

## Today in history

**On May 14, 1955,** representatives from eight Communist bloc countries, including the Soviet Union, signed the Warsaw Pact in Poland. (The Pact was dissolved in 1991.)  
**In 1643,** Louis XIV became King of France at age 4 upon the death of his father, Louis XIII.  
**In 1787,** delegates began gathering at the State House in Philadelphia to draw up the United States Constitution; the convention did not achieve a quorum of seven states until May 25.  
**In 1796,** English physician Edward Jenner inoculated 8-year-old James Phipps against smallpox by using cowpox matter.  
**In 1804,** the Lewis and Clark expedition to explore the Louisiana Territory as well as the Pacific Northwest left camp near present-day Hartford, Illinois.  
**In 1863,** Union forces defeated the Confederates in the Battle of Jackson, Mississippi.  
**In 1940,** the Netherlands surrendered to invading German forces during World War II.  
**In 1948,** according to the current-era calendar, the independent state of Israel was proclaimed in Tel Aviv by David Ben-Gurion, who became its first prime minister; U.S. President Harry S. Truman immediately recognized the new nation.  
**In 1961,** Freedom Riders were attacked by violent mobs in Anniston and Birmingham, Alabama.  
**In 1971,** a fire caused by a water heater’s pilot light resulted in the death of 2-year-old Kristopher Kent Landess of Redkey.  
—AP and The CR

## Citizen’s calendar

**Monday**  
4 p.m. — Jay School Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.  
5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.  
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.  
6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.  
7 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

## Obituaries

**Sara Lake**  
*July 5, 1949-Jan. 20, 2021*  
A graveside service for Sara H. Lake, 71, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at Little Salamonina Cemetery, south of Portland.  
Sara passed away this past winter on Jan. 20, 2021, at her home in Portland, Indiana.  
A longtime resident of Portland, Sara was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on July 5, 1949. She was the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Murphy) Kontos. Sara married Paul Lake in 1972. She retired from home health care with Jay-Randolph Developmental Services and, for many years, operated Phillips 66 in Portland with her husband.

Sara was a member of Hickory Grove Church, west of Portland. She was also a member of the Lady Lionesses and the Moose Lodge in Portland. Sara was a passionate animal lover, including horses, cats, dogs and birds. As hobbies, she was a seamstress and enjoyed collecting jewelry, crocheting doilies, needlepoint and knitting. She also was a member of several Portland bowling teams.  
Survivors include:  
Her husband — Paul Lake, Portland, Indiana  
One sister — Leona Pyle, Portland, Indiana



Lake

Two brothers — Wayne Lake (wife: Diana), Portland, Indiana, and Fred Lake (husband: Alexander), New York, New York  
She was preceded in death by two sisters, Ann Ridgway (husband: Jim Ridgway) and Pauline Jellison (husband: Steve Jellison); and one brother, Mark Lake.  
Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.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.*

## Deeds

MSG Properties LLC to William Likens, warranty deed — Lot 5, Sullivan George Addition, Dunkirk  
Rhonda D. Case to Fred T. Pullins, warranty deed — Part of Section 26, Richland Township, Redkey  
George L. and Madonna L. Phelps to Rachel L.A. Girton, warranty deed — Part of Lot 15, McLaughlin Addition, Portland  
David Rezits to David Rezits Life Estate and Friends of the Limberlost Inc., warranty deed — Section 3, Jackson Township, 5.77 acres  
Jay School Corporation to Der-

ran F. McGill, corporate warranty deed — Part of Section 20, Wayne Township, 6 acres  
Larry G. Denney to Homan Properties LLC, warranty deed — Part of Section 26, Knox Township, 55.03 acres  
Steven A. Kaiser (deceased) to Chelsea and David Albers and Holly and Nicholas Brunswick, personal representative deed — Part of Section 17, Madison Township, 37.03 acres  
Steven A. Kaiser (also known as Alton S. Kaiser; deceased) to Lester and Marlene Kaiser, personal rep-

resentative deed — Part of Section 21, Madison Township, 37.34 acres  
Sherry L. and Thomas E. Weaver to Rose Stephen, warranty deed — Lot 140, Woodlawn Park Addition, Portland  
Crystal L. Smith (also known as Crystal L. Jordan) to Todd A. McCulloch, quit claim deed — Part of Section 4, Jackson Township, about 0.81 acres  
Vernon L. Adair (deceased) to Mary and Thomas E. Jutte, personal representative deed — Part of Section 3, Noble Township, 11 acres

## Runway ...

Continued from page 1  
In 2014, a justification study showed the airport could expect about 800 additional operations (take-offs and landings) each year if the runway was extended to 5,500 feet from the current 4,000 feet. Boggs is hopeful that more owners will also rent hangar space to store their planes in Portland.  
The city has expected to receive the \$1,409,115 it requested for the project since Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act earlier this year. (The legislation includes \$608 million that is earmarked to cover state and local costs for airport projects this year.) Thursday’s announcement confirmed those expectations and guaranteed Portland will pay none of the construction cost for the work.  
(Airport projects are typically 90% funded by the FAA, with 5% coming from Indiana Department of Transportation and the remaining 5% from the municipality. But funds from the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and the American Rescue Plan Act are being used to pay for the state and local shares.)  
Thanks to the federal COVID-19 relief funds,

Portland saved about \$190,000 in construction costs on the project. The total project — it will be completed in two phases beginning this year and ending in 2022 — is expected to come in at \$3.8 million, the entirety of which will be funded by the FAA.  
Other Indiana projects the FAA announced Thursday that total more than \$1 million in funding are South Bend International (\$13.3 million) to reconstruct its taxiway; Gary/Chicago International (\$4.03 million) to rehabilitate its taxiway; Indianapolis Executive in Zionsville (\$1.8 million) for a runway extension; White County (\$1.3 million) for a runway extension; and Kentland Municipal (\$1 million) for apron construction. Randolph County Airport in Winchester was approved for \$91,376 to construct a taxi lane. In all, 16 Indiana projects were awarded funding totaling \$27.7 million.  
“Investing in our nation’s infrastructure is how our country helped spark an aviation industry that now supports millions of jobs,” said U.S. Secretary of Transportation and former South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg in a press release. “These Airport Improvement Program

grants will help modernize America’s airports and ensure that our air transportation system remains the safest and most efficient in the world.”  
HIS Constructors of Indianapolis is tentatively scheduled to begin site prep for phase one of the Portland Municipal Airport project May 26 with work to start June 1. A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for 3 p.m. June 2. Phase one of the extension project includes leveling the land to the west of the current runway and enclosing 555 feet of Alexander Ditch. Construction is expected to continue into November.  
The second phase of the extension involves paving and lighting. It is slated for bidding this summer and construction next year.  
The city has been working to extend the airport for decades, finally receiving approval for the project in January 2015.  
Funding for the first phase of construction was OK’d last fall.

## Officer ...

Continued from page 1  
“Any crime allegedly committed against a child is appalling; one involving a law enforcement officer is completely unacceptable,” the department post said.  
Portland Police Department has started an internal investigation into the matter and is assisting Avon Police Department with its investigation as well.  
“That’s the last thing we want to see — somebody like that in uniform,” said Portland investigator Jeff Hopkins.

## SERVICES

### Saturday

**Bell,** Jerry: 11 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Lake,** Sara: 2 p.m., Little Salamonina Cemetery, rural Portland.

Service listings provided by

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- Ability to learn

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Send resume to Doug Inman, Executive Director, 107 South Meridian Street, Portland, IN 47371

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## Knowledge has become a burden

DEAR ABBY: My husband works out of town with his brother, who is married. While I'm not close to my sister-in-law, I like her just fine.

My problem is, my husband keeps sharing with me that his brother is unfaithful while he travels. I cannot express how much this boils my blood.

I feel stuck with deciding whether I should share this information with my sister-in-law, or if it would be overstepping some kind of boundary where it's not my business. Because I don't talk with her often, I'm afraid I would just cause drama where I shouldn't have put my nose. But I believe she's a good wife and mother, and I feel awful and burdened by the knowledge that her husband isn't faithful to her.

Should I keep this to myself and rely on "karma" to one day reveal his transgressions, or should I give her the information I have? — TEMPTED IN TENNESSEE

**DEAR TEMPTED:** Your brother-in-law is a conscienceless, immature braggart. "Karma" won't protect your sister-in-law from syphilis, chlamydia, gonorrhea, herpes and HIV, to name only a few of the STDs her husband has been exposing her to. Tell her it's important she schedule an appointment with her doctor to be tested for all of them. Isn't that

Dear Abby



what you would want if the situation were reversed?

DEAR ABBY: I have two adult daughters. One of them is self-centered and refuses to give any gifts for my birthday or for Christmas, even though she very much likes receiving them.

If this is her position, then I suppose that's OK because I don't need much, and it's really the thought that counts. I enjoy giving gifts, but I feel like I'm being taken advantage of.

In the past, I have bailed her out of some sticky situations. I know that's a different issue, but this gift thing has frustrated me twice a year for the past 10 years, and it's time for a better plan. Help, please. — GOOD DAD IN OREGON

**DEAR DAD:** I believe in communication. Have a long-overdue talk with your daughter. Showing thoughtfulness isn't supposed to be a one-way street, which is what your daughter has made it. From where I sit, if she doesn't bother to call or text you on these special occasions, I think your generosity has been taken advantage of.



## Optimists donate

Portland's Breakfast Optimist Club recently made a couple of donations. Pictured above, Optimist president Jeff Bowen presents a check for \$2,500 to Jay County 4-H representatives Dru Mercer and Beth Stephen for capital improvements to 4-H facilities at Jay County Fairgrounds. Below, Bowen presents a \$200 check to Gary Maitlen for Jay County Scout Facility.



## Fifty-seven donated at drive

Fifty-seven donors gave blood last month during a drive at Jay Community Center.

Donors included Thomas Clutter, Jane Switzer, Amanda Wendel, Elizabeth Schoenlein, Ernest Schoenlein, Mark Tillman, Franklin Hogle, Damarra Dennis, Marlene Runyon, John Janak, Michael Schmidt, David Osenbaugh, Kay DeVoss and Charles Bentz.

Also John Hart, Phil Laux, Billy Sipe, Ana Minnich, Jack Freeman,

Jill Hemmelgarn, Joyce Eldridge, Charlotte DeVoss, David Hendrickson, Jeremy Roessner, Troy Atkinson, Jerry Zicht, Samuel Grubb and Ron Laux.

Also Jayne Pearson, John Roessner, Dennis Negele, Gaqy Schmiessing, Teresa Burgess, Doris Muhlenkamp, Constance Ronald, Josua Stephenson, Shannon Stigleman, Donna Bruggeman, Rose Howell, Nila Newton, Michael Willman and Lindzy Upp.

Also Dave Cromeenes, Joseph Schmidt, Denise Glentzer, Stephen McBridge, Kim Thomas, Amy DeVoss, Jodi McKee, Leigh Chalfant, Monty Sibery, Maria Snow, Bonita Frazee, Paula Sibery, Kathy Wood, Darwin Johnson and Susan Myers.

Dee Humbles, Shirley Bennett, Edith Dickey, Linda Moore, John Moore, Cletus Rines, Rose Snow, Emily Stevens, Shirley Hayden and Julia Schwomeyer.

## 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 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 pregnan-

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

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

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

**NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

**ALZHEIMER'S CARE-GIVER SUPPORT GROUP** — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

**FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY** — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

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

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.

## Thank you

To our family, friends and neighbors for all of your kind words, cards, flowers, gifts and donations to the charities. Miller's Merry Manor-Dunkirk for their wonderful care and friendship during Virgil's stay. Baird-Freeman Funeral Home and employees for their caring service and the pallbearers. A special thanks to Pastor Herb Hummel for a wonderful service.

The family of Virgil Brackman



### Now Seeking: Skilled Trades Maintenance Worker

The Skilled Trades Maintenance Worker will be responsible for installation, operation, and upkeep of equipment and buildings throughout the Swiss Village community. This position will be 40 hours/week, Monday – Friday, 8:00am-4:30pm with rotating on-call requirements. Qualified candidates must have carpentry and construction experience. Seeking candidates with good work habits, the ability to efficiently use materials and equipment, and committed to following policies and procedures. This position is eligible for benefits including health, dental, vision, and life insurance, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

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### Now Seeking: Director of Nursing

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Swiss Village  
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Or email: [careers@swissvillage.org](mailto:careers@swissvillage.org)  
Application Deadline: Friday, May 21, 2021

# JCDC is key for economic growth

To the editor:  
The International Economic Development Council has declared May 9 through 16 as "Economic Development Week." Many who know me recognize that I am not often one to publicly celebrate, but it occurred to me that this is a good opportunity to share information about Jay County Development Corporation (JCDC).

Let's dig in.  
Our story reaches back to a global recession in the late 1970s and early '80s that left many communities in the Midwest suffering from a loss of manufacturing jobs. Locally, the closure of Sheller-Globe cost approximately 1,000 jobs. In response, JCDC was formed to lead the effort to attract new companies and jobs. The organization was, and continues to be, funded primarily through revenue from the economic development income tax (EDIT), a tax authorized by the state specifically to fund organizations like ours and other economic development projects. In the early days, the organization's focus was cen-

## Letters to the Editor

tered on creating industrial parks and attracting new industries. These efforts helped lead to the opening of several new-to-us industries like Jaytec (FCC) and JCI (MSSL Wiring Systems). The intent was to encourage industrial investment and create jobs to drive up local tax revenues and provide residents with the means to support themselves.

As time passed, it became apparent that there was a reciprocal relationship between industrial recruitment and many other pressing community needs. So, in 2000, the community development position was created with the goal of helping to build community resources and bring state and federal funds into our community through grant work. The roles of eco-

conomic and community development go hand-in-hand with each serving the other. To put it directly — companies want to locate where they can find a workforce and people want to live where they can enjoy life and find reliable work.

This is where JCDC comes in. Our mission is "to enhance the quality of life in Jay County by assisting in the creation, retention and reinvestment of wealth and increasing the number and quality of employment opportunities." In short, we are here to facilitate investment and job creation. We do this through several activities including industrial retention and recruitment; applying for and managing grants; assisting with the execution of EDIT spending; supporting long-term community planning; connecting businesses with resources ranging from incentives and loans to training opportunities and business advisors; and advising local elected officials on a variety of topics. To sum it up, we do whatever is necessary to facilitate investment, job creation and long-term

community viability. Each of these activities merit their own explanation, but space constraints will force those discussions to another day.

To coordinate our efforts, we are following our five-year strategic plan. This plan was created in coordination with Purdue University using input from our community stakeholders and my personal favorite, data analysis. The plan contains four main goals. The following are examples of our work for each of the four goals:

1. Economic development — This is evidenced by the continued growth of our local industries. You often learn of this growth through the approval of tax abatements for large investments. I would be remiss not to point out that in rural communities roughly 90% of the growth comes from existing industries. This truly is important.
2. Housing — We created a housing task force, had a housing study performed, located areas for potential development and have had lots of positive dialogue with potential developers.

Expect to hear more in the coming months.

3. Infrastructure — The Community Crossings grant program has paved many miles of streets and roads in the county that could not have otherwise been funded.

4. Workforce — We host HoosierOpportunity.com, a job-matching website for Jay, Randolph and Wayne Counties that currently has over 200 jobs posted. Also, the addition of Signing Day this year is connecting local companies with our graduating seniors and providing interview experience for the students. What a win-win.

In summary, JCDC's work is integral to the long-term success of Jay County. We appreciate the cooperation we get from across the county and intend to continue serving for many years to come.

Happy Economic Development Week.  
Sincerely,  
Travis Richards  
Executive director  
Jay County Development Corporation

## Deducations are eroding tax base

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Retentive readers will recall gross assessed value (GAV) is purported to approximate the market value of all taxable residential, commercial, industrial and agriculture properties.

Sum up the GAV of all the properties in your county and you'll have the county's GAV. The sum of the counties would tell us the desirability of Indiana as a place to live and operate a business.

If GAV is all these things, it should be a target metric for state and local economic developers. GAV may not be comparable across state lines, but it should be comparable across county lines. If county assessors are following the manual of the Department of Local Government Finance, and if DLGF is auditing those valuations, the following should be of interest.

The GAV of Indiana rose by an average of 2.05% over the past 10 years. Leading the state in GAV growth were Benton, Boone, Knox and Hamilton counties, each above a 4% average annual growth rate. Trailing all counties were Switzerland, Ohio and Vanderburgh, each exhibiting a very small average annual decline of less than 0.4%.

Growth alone, however, should be considered with variability, the year-to-year changes in growth rates. Very small rates of growth or decline will inflate variability ratings. Case in point: Vanderburgh County ranked 90th among 92 counties in average GAV growth rate and first in variability.

When politicians quote annual growth rates, Indiana Republicans are likely to quote a respectable average annual GAV growth rate above 2% for the past decade they were in office. The out-of-office Democrats will say the state actually fell well below that 2% rate of growth.

Both sides are correct because the rates they use are calculated differently. The Republicans have a 2.05% rate computed as the average of each separate annual growth rate.

### Eye on the Pie



**Between 2010 and 2020, Indiana's population grew by less than 0.45% per year while real GAV advanced by only 0.24%.**

The Democrats are using a 1.97% rate, a compound average smoothly connecting the first and last years.

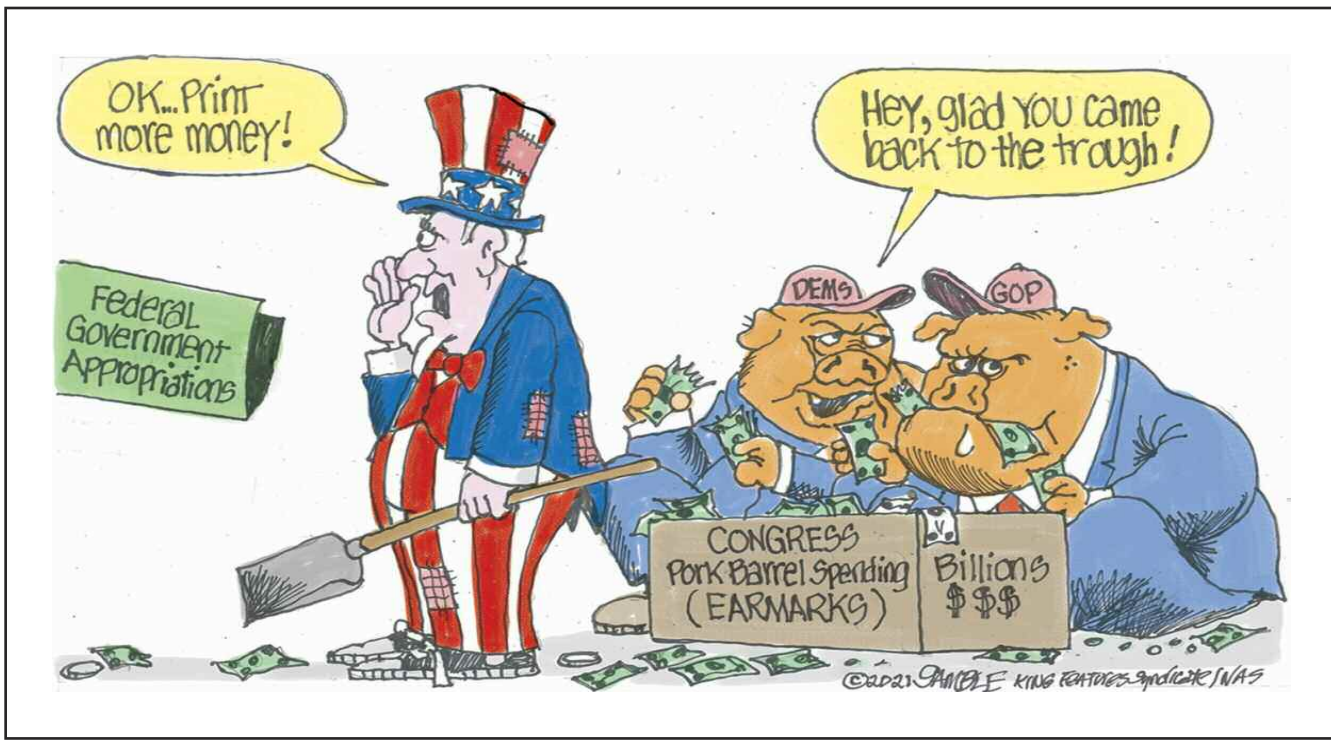
If the Democrats are on their game, they'll stick the average national inflation rate into the mix. That's a 1.73% rate over the same period. They'll proclaim Indiana's compound average annual GAV growth rate 1.97%, when adjusted for inflation, was a real annual growth rate of only 0.24%.

We believe the purpose of assessing property is to develop a base for collecting revenues local government can use to provide services to local people. Between 2010 and 2020, Indiana's population grew by less than 0.45% per year while real GAV advanced by only 0.24%.

Thus, the property tax base for our communities is not growing fast enough to support our very slow growing population. That's before we take into account the massive legislative deductions which further erode the property tax base.

Is the idea to rid Indiana of the property tax and/or make local governments vassals of the state?

Marcus is an economist. Email him at [mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com](mailto:mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com).



## Teens can be vaccine ambassadors

By LEANA S. WEN  
Special To The Washington Post

The Food and Drug Administration has authorized the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine for 12- to 15-year-olds, a decision that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is expected to affirm Wednesday. The first adolescents in this age group could be getting their inoculations as early as Thursday.

This is not just big news for teens and their parents. It could be transformative in the race to vaccinate America.

By sheer numbers, it will make a big difference to have nearly 17 million more people eligible for vaccination. This is particularly important because vaccination has been slowing. Demand rather than supply is now the limiting factor in many parts of the country. The United States is at a tipping point where our level of immunity could be enough in the coming months to dramatically slow infection rates; having an additional 5% of Americans available to be inoculated will bring us there that much faster.

The timing of the decision also means that high school-age students can be inoculated before returning to school in the fall. While schools can keep transmission rates low with masks, distancing, testing, keeping students in pods, improved ventilation and other mitigation measures, vaccines provide a key layer of protection that can replace other, more onerous strategies. By the start of the next school year, I can imagine high schools looking much more like pre-pandemic times, especially if community transmission rates continue to fall, as expected. Youth sports, choir practice and extracurriculars that have been paused may all resume. And if nearly all teachers, staffers and students are vaccinated, schools can potentially do away with masks and other restrictions.

Vaccinating this age group also

paves the way for younger children to be vaccinated in the near future. The FDA has announced that its independent advisory committee will meet in June to discuss the potential of inoculating 2- to 11-year-olds. The studies for this younger age range are more complex: Unlike 12- to 15-year-olds, who receive the same dose of the vaccine as adults, younger children will be tested with different doses. As the mother of two children under 4, I will be much more relieved when all of our kids can benefit from these extraordinary vaccines.

For the time being, I'm hoping adolescents can show us what a return to normal can look like. Within a matter of weeks, vaccinated teens will be able to resume sleepovers, parties and indoor meals with their fully vaccinated friends. They can hang out in shopping malls and dine out in restaurants with little fear of contracting the coronavirus and passing it on to others. They can feel safe in summer camps, some of which could probably remove restrictions if everyone is vaccinated in time. Many families will move from "mixed" vaccination status to entirely vaccinated, allowing them to travel with ease and safely socialize with one another.

I hope teens will celebrate their newfound freedom openly and proudly. Just as health-care workers once posted their vaccine selfies, I hope young people will post pictures of themselves going to the movies, attending game nights and hanging out in one another's homes. I hope they will make videos and tell everyone about all the things they haven't

been able to do during this last challenging year — and everything they are now able to resume because they and their peers are vaccinated.

Some might argue that such a display is premature. Isn't there a chance that vaccinated people can still spread the coronavirus? This might have been a reasonable argument a few months ago, but now we have overwhelming evidence that being vaccinated substantially reduces the likelihood of getting COVID-19 and infecting others with the coronavirus that causes it. We need to stop applying restrictions to vaccinated people, because they are not a public health threat. Instead, we should focus on the risk from those not yet vaccinated.

There are others who'd call this celebration insensitive and a prime example of American exceptionalism. How can we be flaunting parties and leisure travel when much of the world still cannot vaccinate their at-risk populations? I certainly agree that much more must be done to increase vaccine supply for the world. But the reality is that Americans have access to vaccines now, and the fact that many of them are hesitant to take them isn't helping anyone. If young people illustrating the power of vaccines can move the needle and help convince people who are on the fence to get inoculated, it will bring us closer to ending the pandemic for everyone.

The coronavirus vaccines are a remarkable scientific achievement that we as a society have yet to truly celebrate. Teens can be the ambassadors of the crucial message that these vaccines are the key to resuming our pre-pandemic lives.

Wen is a visiting professor of health policy and management at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health and a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Leana S. Wen



# The Commercial Review

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



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# Gaza death toll is rising

By **FARES AKRAM** and **JOSEPH KRAUSS**  
Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Palestinians grabbed their children and belongings and fled neighborhoods on the outskirts of Gaza City on Friday as Israel unleashed a heavy barrage of tank fire and airstrikes. Israel said it was clearing a network of militant tunnels.

Separately, in the West Bank, Palestinian health officials said seven Palestinians were killed by Israeli army fire in several locations.

Israel has massed troops along the border and called up 9,000 reservists as fighting intensifies with the Islamic militant group Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip. Palestinian militants have fired some 1,800 rockets, and the Israeli military has launched more than 600 airstrikes, toppling at least three high-rise apartment buildings, and has shelled some areas with tanks stationed near the frontier.

As Israel and Hamas plunged closer to all-out war despite international efforts at a cease-fire, communal violence in Israel erupted for a fourth night. Jewish and Arab mobs clashed in the flash-point town of Lod, even after Israel dispatched additional security forces.

The Gaza Health Ministry says the toll from the fighting has risen to 119 killed, including 31 children and 19 women, with 830 wounded. The Hamas and Islamic Jihad militant groups have confirmed 20 deaths in their ranks, though Israel says that number is much higher. Seven people have been killed in Israel, including a 6-year-old boy and a soldier.

Of the seven Palestinians killed in the West Bank, most were killed in stone-throwing clashes in several locations, although one was killed while trying to stab an Israeli soldier, the health officials said. About 100 were injured, most by live fire, they said.

The protests took place in several locations across the West Bank, signaling a new wave of unrest there as part of the escalation of fighting between Israel and Gaza's Hamas rulers.

Before dawn Friday, Israeli tanks and warplanes carried out an intense barrage on the northern end of the Gaza Strip.

# Leaders reach an agreement

By **KEVIN FREKING** and **MARY CLARE JALONICK**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The top Democratic and Republican members of the House Homeland Security Committee have reached an agreement on legislation to form a bipartisan commission to investigate the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol. The measure had stalled amid partisan differences.

Under the terms of the agreement announced Friday, the commission would have an equal number of Democrats and Republicans, five from each party. It would have subpoena power and be charged with issuing a final report by Dec. 31, along with recommendations to prevent future attacks.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said the legislation could be considered by the House "as soon as

next week," along with a spending bill to pay for security improvements to the Capitol. Lawmakers are considering how to toughen security after hundreds of President Donald Trump's supporters pushed past police on Jan. 6, broke in through windows and doors and sent lawmakers fleeing for their lives. The commission bill also needs Senate approval.

For months, Republican and

Democratic lawmakers have been at odds over the scope and make-up of the commission with GOP leaders — including Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell — saying the investigation should focus not just on the Jan. 6 insurrection, but also on violence after the death of George Floyd while in police custody.

It's unclear how many Republicans will vote for the commission.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy said after the announcement that he had not read the details yet and did not signal whether he would support it.

The insurrection is an increasingly fraught subject in the House GOP conference. While almost every Republican member condemned the violent mob that day, and many criticized Trump for his role in egging them on, a growing number of them have downplayed the attack as time has gone on. At a hearing investigating the siege this week, several members denied that there was an insurrection at all.

The House impeached Trump one week after the insurrection for telling his supporters to "fight like hell" in a speech just before the attack. The Senate acquitted him in February.

## Legislation would form a bipartisan commission to investigate Jan. 6 attack



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Story time

Former Jay County High School theatre teacher Carol Gebert tells a story Saturday afternoon during Harmony Players' Mother's Day Festival at Hudson Family Park in Portland.

# Stefanik elected to replace Cheney

By **ALAN FRAM** and **MARY CLARE JALONICK**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republicans vaulted Rep. Elise Stefanik into the ranks of House leadership Friday, electing an ardent Donald Trump defender in hopes of calming their searing civil war over the deposed Rep. Liz Cheney's unremitting combat with the former president.

Stefanik, R-N.Y., a moderate turned Trump loyalist who's given voice to many of his false claims about election fraud, was

elected as expected to the No. 3 post that Cheney, R-Wyo., held for over two years.

Backed by Trump and the House's top two Republicans, Stefanik defeated challenger Rep. Chip Roy, R-Texas, by 134-46 in a secret ballot vote conducted behind closed doors. A member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus, Roy was a prohibitive long shot whose candidacy seemed a signal to GOP leaders that hard-right Republicans expect a robust voice moving forward.

Stefanik, 36, gives Republicans a chance to try changing the subject from the acrimonious fight over the defiant Cheney by installing a Trump loyalist — and one of the party's relative handful of women in Congress — in a visible role.

But GOP schisms are unlikely to vanish quickly. Many hard-right conservatives have misgivings about Stefanik's centrist voting record, tensions remain raw over Trump's taut hold on the party and Cheney's rancorous ouster, and Cheney has said she

will remain a vocal foe of Trump.

At a time when Cheney and other anti-Trump Republicans are trying to pull the party away from him, Stefanik reaffirmed her view of his importance, underscoring his continued sway within the party.

"Voters determine the leader of the Republican Party, and President Trump is the leader that they look to," she told reporters after the vote. She added, "He is an important voice in the Republican Party and we look forward to working with him."

## Ohio holding vaccine lottery

By **ANDREW WELSH-HUGGINS**  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine unveiled a lottery system Wednesday to entice people to get COVID-19 shots, offering a weekly \$1 million prize and full-ride college scholarships in a creative bid to overcome the vaccine hesitancy that remains a stubborn problem across the nation.

The move comes as governors, health officials and community leaders are coming up with creative incentives to get more shots in arms, including insider access to NFL locker rooms and an Indianapolis 500 garage, cash incentives, various other promotions.

With three weeks to go before most state restrictions lift, DeWine rolled out the big-ticket incentives during a prime-time address. Beginning May 26, adults who have received at least one vaccine dose may enter a lottery that will provide a \$1 million prize each Wednesday for five weeks. In random drawings, the state will also provide five full four-year scholarships to an Ohio public university —

including tuition, room-and-board, and books — to vaccinated Ohioans under 18.

The money will come from existing federal pandemic relief dollars, DeWine said, and the Ohio Lottery will conduct the drawings.

State Rep. Emilia Sykes, the top House Democrat, questioned the use of federal funds.

"Using millions of dollars in relief funds in a drawing is a grave misuse of money that could be going to respond to this ongoing crisis," she said.

DeWine acknowledged the unusual nature of the financial incentives.

"I know that some may say, 'DeWine, you're crazy! This million-dollar drawing idea of yours is a waste of money,'" he said. But the real waste, when the vaccine is now readily available, "is a life lost to COVID-19," the governor said.

The White House and Treasury Department had no immediate comment on the governor's plan.

All Ohio's COVID-19 orders except those applying to nursing homes and other long-term care facilities will end June 2.

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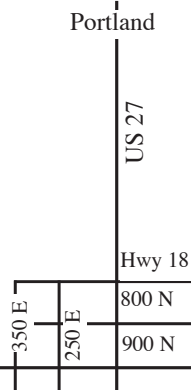
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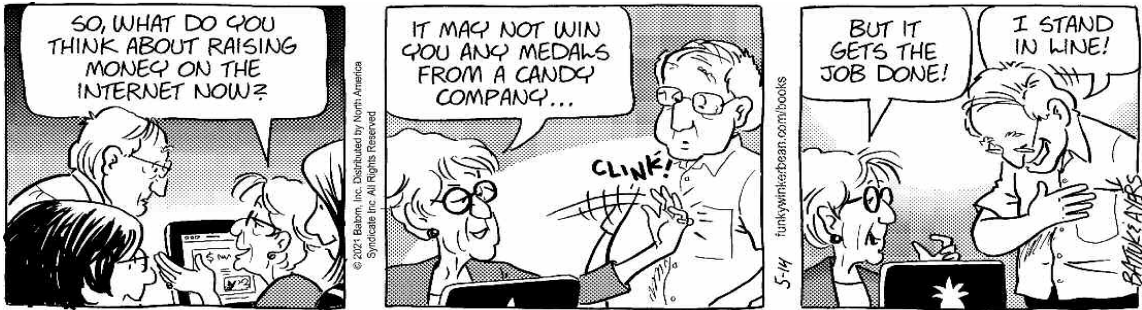
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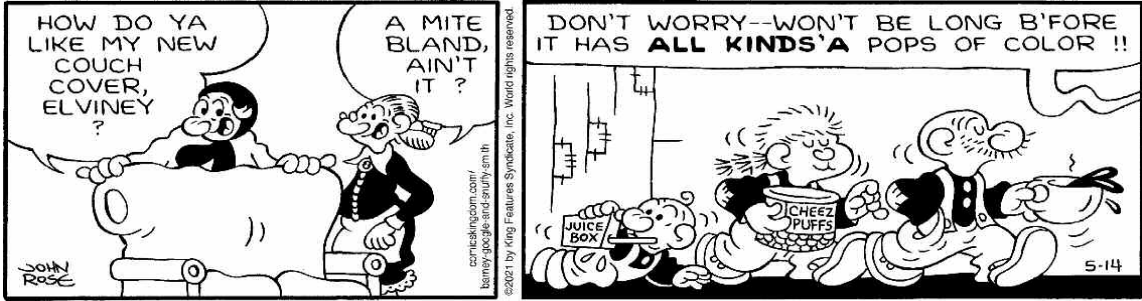
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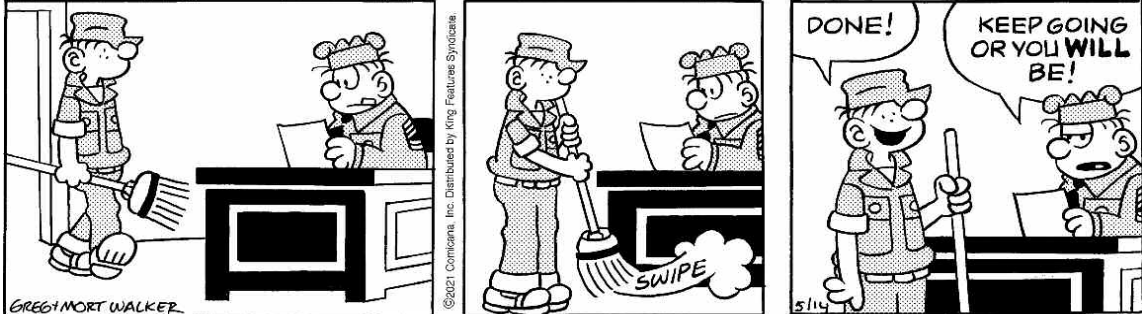
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# Fateful ...

Continued from page 8  
Brenna Homan, who paced the Indians with two hits, started the game with a single and reached second base on a sacrifice bunt. A passed ball put Homan on third, and she scored on a Jackie Homan groundout.

Jackie Homan also grounded out in the third inning to score Kensey Gaerke, who had singled.

Although the Indians were bounced from post-season play, their season is not over. They travel to take on the Minster Wildcats at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, a game that was postponed April 29, for a share of the program's first conference championship.

Minster, which is the No. 1 seed in the Wapakoneta District and plays fellow MAC foe Parkway in the district semifinal, is 5-1 in MAC play while Fort Recovery is 4-2.

A Minster win gives the 'Cats the outright championship, while a Tribe win means Fort Recovery, Minster and Coldwater (5-2) all share the title.

"At the beginning of the year our goal was to compete with every team in the MAC," Thien said. "We've done that up to this point. Now we have a shot to actually earn a share of the MAC."

Box score					
No. 5 seed Fort Recovery Indians at No. 3 seed Lincolnview Lancers					
Fort Recovery (17-10)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
BHoman c	3	1	2	0	
Grisez ss	2	0	0	0	
JHoman p	3	0	0	2	
Perason 1b	3	0	0	0	
Guggenbiller 3b	3	0	1	0	
Tebbe dp	3	0	0	0	
Schoen rf	2	0	1	0	
Wendel 2b	3	0	0	0	
Gaerke cf	3	1	1	0	
Shinabery lf/1	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	
Lincolnview (22-3-1)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Bollenbacher ss	4	2	2	2	
Post p	4	0	1	2	
Coil c	4	2	3	0	
Boroff rf	4	1	2	0	
Jackman 3b	2	1	0	0	
Stevens lf	3	0	1	0	
Young dp	3	0	0	1	
Webb cf	3	2	2	0	
Mendenhall 2b	3	1	1	0	
King 1b/lf	0	0	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>Fort Rec.</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Lincolnview</b>	<b>001</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9</b>
LOB — Fort Recovery 6. Lincolnview 5. HR — Lincolnview 2 (Bollenbacher, Coil). SB — Lincolnview 3 (Stevens 2, Webb).					
IP H R ER BB SO					
<b>Fort Recovery</b>					
JHoman, L	5.2	9	8	5	1
Perason	0.1	3	1	1	0
<b>Lincolnview</b>					
Post, W	7.0	5	2	2	1

"They've known that. I don't have to tell them that. I think we'll be fine on Saturday."

# History for Jay in limbo

The host Patriots did their part. Whether or not they've made history will be determined tonight.

Three home runs, including two more by Rielej Brewster, propelled the Jay County High School softball team to a 10-0 victory over the Heritage Patriots in six innings on Thursday.

The win over Heritage puts Jay County and Woodlan, who have identical 13-6 (5-1 Allen County Athletic Conference) records, tied atop the conference standings.

Adams Central, situated at 4-1 with its only loss to Jay County, finishes ACAC play tonight against Heritage. An Adams Central win creates a three-way tie for the league title, giving Jay County a share of its first conference title in school history.

A Heritage win, however, would leave just Jay County and Woodlan at 5-1, with Woodlan being the ACAC champion as it owns the tiebreaker by beating Jay County 4-3 in Woodburn on April 30.

Brewster, a senior who leads JCHS with 10 home runs, hit her first of the night Thursday in the bottom of the second inning, two batters after freshman Mady Fraley led off the



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School junior Mattie Ardizzone hustles down the third-base line to score during the bottom of the sixth inning of the Patriots' 10-0 victory Thursday over Heritage. The win was their third in a row by shutout after beating Southern Wells 20-0 Tuesday and Bluffton 10-0 Wednesday.

game with her fifth round-tripper of the season.

Brewster's second of the game was a three-run shot in the fourth inning to put the Patriots on top 6-0 before a four-run sixth inning marked the run-rule victory. Brewster, who also doubled, finished with a

career-high five RBIs. Taylor Brown and Fraley ended with two hits each, as Brown drove in a pair of runs as well.

Haleigh Clayton earned her ninth win of the season, scattering two hits over six innings. She struck out three and walked one.

It was the third shutout in as many days for the Patriots, who beat Southern Wells 20-0 Tuesday and Bluffton 10-0 Wednesday.

Jay County travels to Gaston tonight to meet the Wes-Del Warriors ahead of a Saturday doubleheader at Hagerstown.

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday, May 15, 2021  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATED: Sapphires Reception Center (1100 W Votaw St, Portland IN)

**ANTIQUES-FURNITURE-APPLIANCES-**  
Metal carousel horse, Ornate oak dresser, Victorian loveseat, Oval marble top stand, Ornate easel, 5 gallon milk can, Antique pictures and frames, Antique hand painted pictures, Cane chest, Vollmond cuckoo clock, Ice cream set with four chairs, Small cast iron bell, Oil lamps, Large cedar blanket chest, Shadow box with mirror, Antique and globe style collectible lamps, Galvanized and porcelain tubs, Wooden rocking chair, Lincoln and JFK busts, Large set of amber sandwich glassware, Large lot of Indiana glass, Pottery, Glass jugs and jardinieres, Large lot of carousels, 4 piece wicker full size bedroom set, Wicker dresser, Wicker daybed with trundle, 55 inch flat screen TV, Element 32 inch flat screen TV, Amana double door refrigerator, much more not listed. **VEHICLE-TRAILER\_COINS\_TOOLS\_MISC.**

1998 Buick Park Avenue, 1987 14-foot Wells Cargo trailer, 1941 Walking Liberty half dollar, Old pennies, Eisenhower dollars, Kennedy half dollars, Old stamps, Large lot of hand and power tools and many more items.

**COVID-19 Information:** To protect both our customers and employees, please remember to social distance. Limited supply of masks and sanitizer is available. Terms on personal property: Cash - Good Check - Credit Card **OWNER:** Jerry and Sarah Miller Estate Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad.

Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate AC31800004 **AUCTIONEERS** Pete D. Shawver Lic# AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver Lic# AU10500168 260-729-2229 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com.

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located at the Jay County Fairgrounds Bubb Exhibition Hall Saturday Morning May 22, 2021 at 10:00 A. M. **HOUSEHOLD OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS:** Frigidaire front load, Heavy duty washer & dryer, 3pc Blonde Oak bedroom suite, Sleeper sofas, Sectional sofa, Dressers w/ mirror, Jenny Lind baby bed, Organonic organ w/ bench, Panasonic microwave, Singer sewing machine in cabinet, Cricut machine, Old English Ironstone set of dishes, Pyrex cookware, Easter & Christmas decorations, Cookbooks, and many other items not listed. **TOOLS-LAWN ITEMS:** Toro riding mower, Craftsman 10" radial arm saw, Cement lawn decorations, and many other items not listed. Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU1031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Troy Foust AU19800068

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 4422 E 350 S Winchester, IN Saturday, May 15th, 2021 10:00am **REAL ESTATE:** Ranch style home with 2 bedrooms, 1 full bathroom and containing 1214 square feet of living area. Home has an attached 1 car garage and sets on 2.527 acres. There is a 30 x 30 pole barn with cement floor on this parcel. Home is a fixer upper but would make a good country starter home.

**TOOLS-LIFT TRUCK-SEMI TRAILERS** Ross 1953 lift truck with forks; ; Lincoln 225 welder; semi trailers for storage; large gears, bearings, cogs, fly wheel; acetylene torches; acetylene tanks-oxygen; green house frame; lot of scrap; and many other items not listed.

**OLD & COLLECTOR ITEMS - HOUSEHOLD** New Whirlpool gas range; Union Pacific RR brass spittoon; RR light parts; metal Coke display; Squirt case; Coors Light, Budweiser advertising cut outs; cardboard movie poster; circus posters; advertising thermometers; and many other items not listed.

Del Flory, Deceased by Susan Szymczak Loy Auction AU31600027 260-726-2700 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU1031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Troy Foust AU19800068

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday, May 22, 2021 10:00 A.M.  
LOCATION: 9502 N 250 W, Ridgeville, Indiana  
Allis Chalmers D-17, Allis Chalmers B, Allis Chalmers G, Allis Chalmers 60 All Crop Combine, metal working machinery and tools, garage items, yard items, household, old Marvel comic books  
Go to auctionzip.com search auctioneer 9332 for full listing and pictures  
Mrs. Harold (Ruth) McCormick, Owner Whitey's Auction Company Where the SON shines at every auction 2 Corinthians 8:21 (765)730-2350 Auctioneers: Gary M. "Whitey" White AU19800069 Laci Smitley AU10600051

**SURPLUS AUCTION**  
Location: Bricker Auction Building 414 N Meridian St. Portland, IN Saturday, May 22nd 10:30 AM  
This auction will contain items from The Jay County Sheriff Department, Highway Department, and other county buildings. This Auction will be a webcast auction so you may attend and bid live or bid online at www.bidbricker.com. There will be several trucks, cars, tools, vintage filing cabinets, laser, level and more. Tel: 260-251-4445 Cell: 260-703-0839 Bricker Auction Company Chad Bricker-Auctioneer AU11600027

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**THE DUNKIRK PARK BOARD** is accepting applications for the following position until May 19th, certified life guards. Applications can be picked up at the City Building from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday. EOE

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

**HELP WANTED - CERTIFIED**  
Lifeguard City of Portland The Portland Water Park is looking to hire CERTIFIED lifeguards on a full time and part time basis for the 2021 season. There is a potential need for admission and concession employees as well. The guards need to be certified in Lifeguarding, CPR and First Aid Training and Aquatic Attraction. There are courses being offered in the surrounding area if you would like to become certified. The starting pay is \$9 per hour. The Water Park is open 7 days per week and employees will be expected to work weekends. If you are interested in becoming a lifeguard at the Portland Water Park, please contact Missy Bader at bader-swimming@yahoo.com The City of Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**130 MISC. FOR SALE**  
**ALUMINUM SHEETS** 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

**190 FARMERS COLUMN**  
**AG RENTAL** Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

**TRIPLE J FARMS CUSTOM BAILING** For custom hay mowing, raking or bailing and straw for sale call Joe 260-251-9271

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**230 AUTOS, TRUCKS**  
**WE PAY CASH** for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 or 1-765-857-1071. Slocum's Salvage

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## Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

**Bidding quiz**  
You are South in each of the following four problems. What would you bid at the point where the question mark appears?  
1. ♠AKJ8 ♥K107 ♦AKJ4 ♣96  
South North  
1♦ 1♥  
2♣ 3♣  
4♥ 4♠  
2. ♠AK1092 ♥KQ83 ♦Q9 ♣A2  
South North  
1♦ 2♦  
2♥ 4♥  
3. ♠Q7 ♥K8652 ♦9863 ♣A10  
Pass 1♣  
1NT 3♥  
4. ♠9542 ♥AQ1072 ♦A8 ♣93  
South North  
Pass 1♦  
1♥ 4♥  
\*\*\*  
1. Pass. Without a doubt, you have a very good hand, but partner already knows approximately what you hold from the combination of your opening diamond bid, your jump-shift in spades (indicating at least 19 points) and your delayed heart raise. If he was interested in slam, he would have bid more strongly. Since you have no values beyond those already expressed, it's best to pass. Partner may have something like ♠Q952 ♥A983 ♦852 ♣J4, in which case even four spades is in some jeopardy.  
2. Four notrump. Partner's raise to four hearts indicates that he wants to be in game even if you have a minimum opening bid. Since you are well beyond a minimum, however, an attempt to get slam is fully justified. If partner shows only one ace in answer to your Blackwood inquiry, you should still bid six hearts. The ace you're missing will most likely be the only loser.  
3. Four clubs. This is a slam try showing the club ace and implying an excellent heart fit. Partner may have something like ♠AKJ82 ♥AQJ4 ♦A4 ♣76, and you'd certainly want to be in six hearts in that case.  
4. Five diamonds. This hand is also on the verge of a slam, since partner must have at least 20 points and has no idea you have nearly an opening bid. It would be dangerous to go directly to six hearts, as you could have two immediate losers in one of the black suits.  
Five diamonds shows the ace of diamonds and interest in slam. You hope this will enable partner to bid six (or seven) with the necessary controls in clubs and spades.

**Tomorrow:** A matter of entries.  
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**5-14 CRYPTOQUIP**  
B N B ' Z F H B S F H S C S  
C N P B W C S Q C N C P B, B C V J C D Q  
T P B S F Z D Q O L A W E T H H O. A E C A ' Q  
J E L P L B I P C J A E L V B H S.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip:** WHAT DO YOU THINK A THIEF COULD APPLY TO HIS SKIN BEFORE SWIPING STUFF? ROBBING ALCOHOL.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

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READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

## Fourth frame fateful for Fort

**Lancers plate five runs to get past Indians in sectional final**

By CHRIS SCHANZ  
The Commercial Review

VAN WERT, Ohio — Ryan Thien couldn't have scripted it any better.

The Indians, playing for just their third sectional title in the last 12 years, were leading the Lancers by one after three innings.

But that's when the opposing batters started to time Tribe pitcher Jackie Homan. Then things started to unravel from there.

The Fort Recovery High School softball team, seeded fifth in the district, surrendered five runs in the fourth inning and had their tournament dreams lanced with a 9-2 loss to host and No. 3 seed Lincolnview on Thursday in the Division IV Wapakoneta District sectional final.

"For three innings that game played out exactly how I wanted it to," said Thien, whose team drops to 17-10 on the season but meets the Minster Wildcats on Saturday for a chance to share the Midwest Athletic Conference championship. "We played some small ball, got a couple runs across, Jackie was pitching great and then a couple of their hitters timed her up, got a few hits and then kind of the wheels fell off a little bit."



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz



Lincolnview coach Brad Doidge, whose Lancer squad improved to 22-3-1 and won its third consecutive sectional championship, was thankful for benefitting from an error that eventually gave the home team the lead it never relinquished.

"We kind of put a little pressure on their defense," said Doidge, whose team advances to the district semifinal against No. 2 seed Crestview on Tuesday. "Routine ground ball helped us out; tips off her glove and then we were able to tack on from there. Just one little error and that was the ball game right there. Five runs came in."

"Super team, though. (The Indians) are good. They were bothersome for me. I know the kind of program (Thien) runs

and how good the girls are down there. We just got a little fortunate with an error."

As the Lancers trailed 2-1 heading into the bottom of the fourth inning, Destiny Cil and Winter Boroff singled through the left side of the infield to start the frame, then Makayla Jackman drew a six-pitch walk — just the sixth free pass Homan had issued this season in more than 100 innings pitched.

Addysen Stevens hit a grounder to shortstop Chloe Grisez, whose throw to Cali Wendel was a little off the mark. Two Lancers scored on the play for a 3-2 LHS advantage. Consecutive bunts from Andi Webb and Annie Mendenhall loaded the bases again.

Kendall Mendenhall, who hit a solo home run in the third inning, grounded out, then Taylor Post hit a two-run single before being cut down trying to extend it into a double for the final out of the inning.

"I just told them to relax and just have fun," Thien said of his plan to keep the Indians focused. "We were only down two runs at the time that inning, then it ended up being 6-2. Four runs we can make four runs up."

"Just couldn't get the bat squared up on the ball, but when we did man, their outfield, they can move out there. They can cover some ground."

Coil hit a solo homer in the fifth inning to put Lincolnview on top, 7-2, and the Lancers added a pair of runs in the sixth.

Chloe Grisez of the Fort Recovery High School softball team fouls off a pitch during the third inning of the Division IV Wapakoneta District sectional final against the Lincolnview Lancers on Thursday at LHS. The Indians, the district's No. 5 seed, lost to the third-seeded Lancers 9-2.

Doidge credited his offense, which combined for 13 hits off Homan and relief pitcher Sophie Pearson, for being patient at the plate.

"Just discipline at the plate," he said. "Homan likes to paint the outside, especially against our left-handed hitters ... Just got to be patient. She's a good pitcher. Brenna (Homan) behind the plate calls a good game, so there's a good sync between them."

Coil led the Lancers with three hits, while Bollenbacher, Boroff and Webb each had two. Taylor Post and Bollenbacher each had two RBIs.

Fort Recovery jumped on top of Lincolnview 2-0 with a run in each of the first three innings. See **Fateful** page 7

## Jay falls to Heritage

The host Patriots were ahead in the second inning.

The lead vanished in the third. And the deficit grew insurmountable in the fourth.

Jay County High School's baseball team gave up five runs in the third inning and nine more in the fourth in an 18-5 loss to the Heritage Patriots on Thursday at Don E. Selvey Field.

The loss drops JCHS to 8-7 (3-2 Allen County Athletic Conference).

Quinn Faulkner doubled for Jay County's only extra-base hit, while Heritage had three of its eight hits go for doubles.

Sam Myers, Crosby Heniser, Austin Curts and Kess McBride all had singles, with Faulkner, Myers, Heniser and Curts registering RBIs.

Jay County used a half dozen pitchers, as Heniser took the loss as the team's starter. He allowed five runs — four earned — on just one hit with three walks and five strikeouts.

Gavin Myers, who tossed two-thirds of an inning, was the only JCHS pitcher to not surrender a run.

### Indians outlast Redskins

WAPAKONETA, Ohio — Fort Recovery's baseball team scored three runs in the 10th inning for a 4-2 win over the Wapakoneta Redskins on Thursday.

Kendrick Wendel and Ryne Post started the top of the 10th with a walk and a single, respectively. Wendel scored on an error following an attempted sacrifice bunt by Troy Homan to break the 1-

### Local roundup

1 tie which stood since the sixth inning. Post and Homan later scored on wild pitches, giving Fort Recovery (8-15) a 4-1 advantage.

Wapakoneta got one run back in the home half of the frame but the rally attempt came up short.

Cobe Wendel led the Indians with three singles, while Dillan Evers and Post recorded the Tribe's other two hits. Brock Dues accounted for the team's only RBI on a groundout in the third.

### Jay tops SA

The Jay County boys golf team picked up a 175-206 victory over South Adams on Thursday at Portland Golf Club.

Patriot senior Griffin Mann earned match medalist honors by firing a 4-over-par 39. His round included par on the first five holes and also on the par-4 ninth.

Caleb DeRome also had five pars, and birdied the par-5 sixth hole on his way to a score of 40. Simon Pryor was third on the team with 46, and Kyle Sanders shot 50 to round out the team total.

Brock DeHoff also competed, but his 54 did not factor into the team total.

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**CALL 260-726-8141 with questions**  
The ad will appear in the graduation issue of your choice.

Fort Recovery High School - Friday, May 21 (deadline Friday, May 14)  
Jay County High School - Wednesday, June 16 (deadline Wednesday, June 9)

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