

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Plans approved



Invenergy

Invenergy received approval Thursday that its plans for Skycrest Solar in northwest Jay County meet the county's regulations set out in its solar ordinance. Pictured above are solar panels from the company's Woodville facility located in Kawartha Lakes, Ontario, Canada.

Invenergy's proposed Skycrest Solar facility meets regulations as set out in county ordinance

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Skycrest Solar meets local regulations.

Jay County Plan Commission found the proposed solar facility with sustainable energy company Invenergy to be compliant with the current solar ordinance Thursday.

Invenergy is planning a \$150 million, 155-megawatt facility on about 2,500 in Penn and Jackson Townships. The company has gained

approval for a tax abatement as well as decommissioning and road use agreements. An economic development agreement is still pending approval from Jay County Commissioners, who will meet Monday. (They chose to hold off approving the agreement until after hearings this week.)

Approval of the economic development agreement means about \$1.75 million in payments will be made to the county over the course of four

years, making it the largest of payments received by the county from renewable energy projects.

The facility is expected to increase the county's overall assessed value by about \$55 million. An estimated \$40 million in payments will be made to participating landowners.

After the agreed 35 years, the solar panels will be decommissioned and removed.

The county developed its solar ordinance over

the course of more than a year from summer 2018 through fall 2019. There was minimal comment from residence on the ordinance during public hearings at that time.

Nine residents from the Bryant area voiced their opinions Thursday against the project. All of the rural Bryant residents live near land where the solar panels will be placed.

"How far are you going to put (those) things away from my property

line?" asked Richard Reef.

Schoder said the company is exceeding the ordinance's 150-foot setback from residences — the facility will be 250 feet, at least, from all non-participating landowners. Neighboring farms (not residences) will be 30 feet from the facility, he added. There is also a deer fence around the facility and a vegetation buffer along roads and residence neighborhoods. See **Approved** page 2

G-7 makes vaccine pledge

Countries agree to provide 1 billion doses

By ZEKE MILLER, AAMER MADHANI and JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

CARBIS BAY, England — British Prime Minister Boris Johnson greeted world leaders on a wooden boardwalk on the freshly raked sand of Carbis Bay to open the Group of Seven summit Friday, offering elbow bumps to dignitaries gathering for the first time since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. The virus was set to dominate their discussions, with leaders of the wealthy democracies club expected to commit to sharing at least 1 billion vaccine shots with struggling countries.

A commitment from U.S. President Joe Biden to share 500 million doses and one from Johnson for another 100 million shots set the stage for the G-7 meeting under gray and moody skies in southwest England, where leaders will pivot Friday from their "family photo" by the seaside directly into a session on "Building Back Better From COVID-19."

"We're going to help lead the world out of this pandemic working alongside our global partners," Biden said. The G-7 also includes Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

The leaders hope the meeting in the resort of Carbis Bay will also energize the global economy. On Friday, they are set to formally embrace a global minimum tax of at least 15% on corporations, following an agreement reached a week ago by their finance ministers. See **Vaccine** page 5

Arachnid experiment

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Lisa Wood has been teaching the lesson about conducting ethical experiments and producing valid results for a decade.

This year marked the first and experiment involved a live animal in her classroom.

It was a tarantula.

Jay County High School seniors Kaleb Weaver and Kelly Strausburg designed their experiment to determine if arachnophobia has a significant effect on the body, not just the mind.

Their determination — it does.

"There was a significant increase in heart rate when people looked at a spider," said Weaver. "So, arachnophobia is real."

For the lesson in Wood's biomedical class, students are free to develop their own experiment.

Weaver suggested bringing in a tarantula. Strausburg just happened to be his partner.

"He was like, 'We should bring in a tarantula and test

JCHS students set up study to determine the impact of tarantulas on heart rates

people's heart rates for our experiment," she said. "And I said, 'If you get a tarantula, sure, we can totally do that.'"

For the experiment, Weaver and Strausburg first recorded their subjects' resting heart rates. Then, the subject was blindfolded. After allowing time to ensure that heart rates weren't being impacted by the blindfold, the subject's hand was placed into a container with Grizzle the tarantula. Then the blindfold was removed, allowing the subject to see the predicament they were in.

"We basically just wanted to test people's fight or flight instinct," said Strausburg.

"And what better way to do that than to put their hand in a cage with a tarantula."

The result showed that the fear is not just in the mind.

While some subjects showed no change in heart rate, there was an average increase of nearly 14 beats per minute. Two subjects had their heart rates jump by 30 beats per minute.

"It was interesting to see how much the outward appearance of how much they were freaking out correlated with their actual heart rate," said Weaver. "We wanted to make sure the direct causation was the tarantula and not any of the other factors."

See **Experiment** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Grizzle the tarantula was part of an experiment set up by Jay County High School seniors Kaleb Weaver and Kelly Strausburg to determine whether a fear of spiders has a significant effect on the body in addition to the mind.

Deaths

Kathryn Bergman, 93, Fort Recovery

Lois Wilson, 85, Avon Park, Florida

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 86 Thursday with humidity as high as 94%. The low was 68.

Scattered showers and thunderstorms are possible tonight with a low of 67. Saturday's high will be 88 with a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms. See page 2 for an extended forecast.

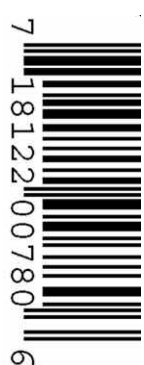
In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — A longtime Jay School Corporation employee is headed for retirement.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County High School Honors Night.



Approved ...

Continued from page 1
Amos Schwartz, who will have solar panels on three sides of his property, asked about cameras. (There are not cameras at the fences or on solar panels, but there will likely be security cameras at the sole operation maintenance building.) He expressed disappointment in the county and farmers for moving forward with the project.

"It ruins it for me, and I'm not happy," Schwartz said.

Others at the meeting asked if they would benefit personally from the project.

"What's our chances that we get booked in for life for free electricity?" asked Robin Myers. Her question prompted a few laughs from the crowd. (The electricity will be sold to a utility company, Schoder responded.)

Myers added her father is a farmer and that she doesn't

agree with using farming ground for other purposes.

"If you don't want to farm this, why buy the ground?" she asked.

Several others had similar feelings.

"I might as well be living in a city," commented Jacob Wengerd.

Attorney Mary Solada, who is representing Invenergy for the project, said it takes up 1% or less of the farmland in Jay County. "Resting the land" for 35 years, she continued, should help promote better soil quality. (Invenergy will be planting prairie grasses in between panels, which should help to control weeds, prevent soil erosion, promote soil quality and provide stormwater management.)

David Graber and Ryan McFarland inquired about radiation coming off the panels.

McFarland expressed concern about the electromagnetic fields affecting his children over a long period of time.

The panels produce direct current electricity, explained project engineer Tommy Cleveland.

"It takes electricity and puts it on the grid immediately, so it's not being stored on site," he said. "It's being put into those power lines that are already there."

The radiation resulting is minimal, he added, noting there was radiation coming off the ceiling lights in the courthouse auditorium as he spoke.

"It's a different radiation (from these lights) ... it's the same magnetic field that does move a compass," he said. (The solar panels' electromagnetic field, he clarified, is weaker than a compass' magnetic field.)

McFarland asked if panels

will leak any cadmium or other harmful metals.

The silicon-based panels being used at Skycrest Solar — they are 75% tempered glass, Cleveland said — do not leak any substances.

Amy Schlichter encouraged those in attendance to express their opinions when they vote in elections.

"I do know my constitutional right of going to the ballot," she said. "I'll look up every single one of these people, and if I don't like what they voted on, I'll make sure that I gather my friends and go vote them out."

(With the exception of representatives from commissioners and county council, plan commission members are appointed, not elected.)

Plan commission approved Skycrest Solar's ordinance compliance unanimously.

Obituaries

Lois Wilson, Avon, Park, Florida, a former Fort Recovery resident, May 7, 1935-April 14, 2021. A celebration of life service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene.

Kathryn A. Bergman, Fort Recovery, April 12, 1928-June 9, 2021. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

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.

CR almanac

Saturday 6/12	Sunday 6/13	Monday 6/14	Tuesday 6/15	Wednesday 6/16
88/67	83/61	86/60	80/53	77/54
There is a 50% chance of rain and thunderstorms Saturday. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	The forecast for Sunday appears to be sunny under clear skies.	Sunny skies through the day and clear evening skies. No rain projected.	Another sunny day with temperatures reaching the low 80s.	More sun is in the forecast Wednesday with no rain expected.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$31 million	67-68-70-72-76 Cash 5: 3-20-30-36-39 Estimated jackpot: \$85,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 5-0-9 Pick 4: 9-6-1-6 Pick 5: 1-4-3-1-7 Evening Pick 3: 2-7-1 Pick 4: 9-6-6-7 Pick 5: 0-1-6-8-2 Rolling Cash: 5-6-17-25-33 Estimated jackpot: \$165,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 2-2-1 Daily Four: 6-4-1-5 Evening Daily Three: 8-5-2 Daily Four: 7-6-0-9 Quick Draw: 8-11-13-20-28-37-40-42-45-48-56-61	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.86 July corn.....6.86 Wheat6.62	Wheat 6.62 July wheat 6.62
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....7.21 July corn.....7.26 Aug. corn6.97	Central States Montpelier Corn.....7.16 July corn.....7.16 Beans15.34 Nov. beans13.94 Wheat 6.70
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....7.01 July corn.....7.01 Beans15.26 July beans15.26	Sunrise St. Anthony Corn.....7.24 July corn.....7.26 Beans15.18 July beans15.18 Wheat6.37 July wheat.....6.37

Today in history

On June 11, 1993, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled that people who commit "hate crimes" motivated by bigotry may be sentenced to extra punishment.

In 1509, England's King Henry VIII married his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

In 1770, Captain James Cook, commander of the British ship Endeavour, discovered the Great Barrier Reef off Australia.

In 1776, the Continental Congress formed a committee to draft the Declaration of Independence.

In 1947, the government ended sugar rationing for households and "institutional users" (restaurants and hotels) at midnight.

In 1971, The Commercial Review announced that city editor Gary Hengstler would become the newspaper's new managing editor. He succeeded Mike Lewis, who left Jay County for a position at The Chronicle-Telegram in Elyria, Ohio.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
1 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, Hinkle, Raster and Schemenaur, 121 W. High St., Portland.
3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

4 p.m. — Jay County Public Library Board, Community Room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Jay County Regional Sewer District Board, commissioners room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Capsule Reports

Scooter accident
A Portland teen's scooter hit a parked vehicle near Hudson Family Park about 7:25 p.m. Thursday. Samuel C. Bracy, 17, was driving a 2011 TPGS-805 when he lost control, driving into the side of a 2012 Chevrolet Malibu registered to Traci L. Gross of Portland. Gross' vehicle was parked at 509 S. Wayne St.

Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

Failed to stop
Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 after a Portland teen backed into a Kokomo man's vehicle on North Street and left the scene about 1:05 p.m. Wednesday. Thomas McDonough, 55, was driv-

ing a 2014 Ram 1500 east on North Street near Boston Street when a 2008 Chrysler 300, driven by 15-year-old Makia Spencer, backed into his vehicle. Spencer left the scene. He was cited for failing to stop after the accident and driving without a license. The vehicle McDonough was driving is registered to Indiana Michigan Power Company of Lima, Ohio.



Photo provided

Concert support

Jay County Visitor & Tourism Bureau director Gyneth Augsburger presented a \$500 check recently to Leland LeMaster of Jay County Optimist Club to support a mariachi concert from 4 to 7 p.m. July 15 in the Farmer's Building during the Jay County Fair.

SERVICES

Saturday
Bergman, Kathryn: 10 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.
Eads, Goldie: 10 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.
Huber, Renee: 10:30 a.m., Precious Blood Catholic Church, 35 Maple St., Maria Stein, Ohio.
Wilson, Lois: 2 p.m., Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene, 401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery.

Wednesday
Markley, Jackie: 11:30 a.m., St. Jude Catholic Church, 5353 McFarland Road, Indianapolis.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS
120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

Experiment ...

Continued from page 1
Another duo tested the effects of "3D audio" on heart rates this year. In the past, experiments have involved tabasco sauce and regular Coca-Cola versus the caffeine-free variety. Wood noted the importance of teaching students how to set up an experiment properly.

"Their whole goal is to learn how to set an experiment up and how to get valid results," she said. "Every year we get an interesting (experiment)."
This year, the interesting experiment involved a bristly, eight-legged creature in her classroom.

"We had to, from scratch, design an experiment, collect the data, determine the data, do background research," said Weaver. "It was really just an all from scratch experiment that took the years of what we learned in here ... It was the culmination of four years of this kind of class."

Felony arrests

Resisting officer
A Muncie man was arrested for resisting an officer Thursday. Aaron J. Herbert, 26, 3200 S. Chippewa Lane, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony. He was also preliminarily charged a second count of resisting an officer, and failing to stop for an accident and operating a vehicle while intoxicated, all Class B misdemeanors. He's being

held in Jay County Jail on \$4,500 bond.
Strangulation
A Portland man was arrested for strangulation Thursday. Daryl L. Cooper, 72, 2981

South U.S. 27, was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for the alleged crime and a Class A misdemeanor for invasion of privacy. He's being held in Jay County Jail on \$500 bond.

Trinity Lutheran Church
ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Sunday, June 13, 2021 • 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Downtown Fort Recovery, Ohio - on the corner of Wayne Street and St. Rte. 49 in church basement - rain or shine

FLAVORS
Vanilla, Chocolate, Strawberry, Maple Nut, Pineapple, Peach

HOMEMADE ICE CREAM
(By the scoop or 1/2 Gallon)
Pie, Angel Food Cake
Cookies or Brownies

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Creamed Turkey, Hot dogs, Sloppy Joes, Coney Dogs

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Photos provided



Donated, elected

Portland Lions Club recently held a hog roast to benefit Jay County Special Olympics. Pictured, Bill Cook presents a check for \$1,220 to a group of Special Olympics participants and volunteers. The club also elected officers for the 2021-22 year. Pictured below, front row from left, are director Susan Szymczak, president Mindy Weaver and secretary Julie Szymczak. In the back row, from left, are past president Dwane Ford, treasurer Mark Tillman, liontamer Bill Cook and membership chair Rob Weaver. Not pictured are first vice president Josh Gibson and directors Babs Cook, Paul Szymczak and Ron Bisel.

Friend prefers telling tall tales

DEAR ABBY: Twenty years ago, I reconnected with a childhood friend. When we were in high school together, she used to love telling stories, not all of them true. Most were harmless and cast her as the center of an interesting adventure.

After graduation, I headed off to college, she started a job and we lost touch for almost 30 years. Now we see each other once or twice a year, but text almost daily.

She recently sent me a photo of a now-closed department store and told me she had worked there right after high school, in its pet department. The problem with her story is that it was I who had that job.

Thinking maybe she had taken the job after I left, I asked a few questions. But it quickly became obvious that she had snatched my work experience as her own. I couldn't think of a kind way to challenge her, so all I texted was "Interesting." Now I find myself not believing any of her stories. I don't think she has dementia, but I can't understand why anyone would co-opt someone else's history like this. Should I challenge her at this late date or chalk it up to more of her "storytelling"? — STOLEN LIFE IN INDIANA

DEAR STOLEN: For whatever reason, your old chum seems unable to separate fact from fantasy. She may do this because she has low self-esteem. I see nothing positive to be gained by confronting her, but it may be time to ask yourself how much you want to continue a relation-

Dear Abby



ship with a compulsive fabulist.

DEAR ABBY: My husband of many years died. We were close and spent a lot of time together. How do I graciously decline visits from people I care about but am not close to? I know they mean well, and I don't want to cause hurt feelings. I think we may all grieve differently. Even after several months, I'm still not ready to entertain a visitor. I may never be, although I appreciate their thoughts. — CONTINUING TO GRIEVE

DEAR CONTINUING: When you wrote that everyone grieves differently, you nailed it. It's the truth. For some, the process can take a short time. For others, it takes longer. Several months is still a relatively short time, but please do not isolate yourself completely.

Consider meeting a close friend or two out in public for a brief visit. Going out, exercising and getting some sunshine each day is healthy and can help to lessen depression. Your husband is irreplaceable, but isolating yourself won't bring him back. If your inability to move forward persists, I urge you to discuss it with your physician.

Summer meal details finalized

Plans for the summer meal program have been finalized.

Jay School Corporation announced this week that it will have a summer meal program for all children younger than 18 available from June 15 through July 27.

Meals will be available for pick-up from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays in the parking lots at Westlawn,

Taking Note

Redkey, East Jay and Bloomfield elementary schools. Packages will include five breakfasts and five lunches for each child.

Only parents/guardians or students will be allowed to pick up the meals. (Students do not have to be present.)

For more information, visit jayschoolcorp.nutrislice.com.

Camps are open

Minnetrista has opened registration for a series of summer camps for children ages 8 through 14.

The Muncie facility will host a glass artist camp June 14 through 19 for 8 through 10 year olds.

Young cooks camps are scheduled for July 5 through 9 for 8 through 10 year olds and July 12 through 16 for 11 through 14 year olds.

Registration deadlines vary.

For more information, visit minnetrista.net.

Community Calendar

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

Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Is open from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church.

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

Sunday

ABBOTT REUNION — Will be held Sunday, June 13, at Bryant Community Center. Meal will be at noon. Please bring a covered dish.

Monday

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 CITIZENS' POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI — Will meet at 11 a.m. the second Monday of each month at the Portland Fire Department. For more information, call Nick Miller at (937) 239-0022.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

REDISCOVERING JOY — The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Preferred Insurance Center, 809 W. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio. Physical therapist Brandi Brackman will be the guest speaker. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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 Pub-

lic 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

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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.

Geneva Shores Apartments

One - Two - Three Bedroom Apartments
295 S. Hale St.
Geneva, IN 46740

Website: genevashores.net

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Swiss Village

Now Seeking: Night Shift Charge Nurse

Swiss Village, Inc. is seeking a Full-Time Healthcare Charge Nurse for night shift. Position will be 6pm-6am with every 3rd weekend required. This position will be responsible for the overall nursing care of the residents assigned to him/her and for the supervision and performance of personnel. Candidates must be licensed in the State of Indiana as a Licensed Practical Nurse or Registered Nurse and be dependable, flexible, and have excellent interpersonal skills. Position eligible for insurance benefits, Paid Time Off (PTO), and 403(b) retirement plan participation.

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org, in-person, or send Resume to:

Taylor Lehman, Vice President of HR

1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711

Or email: careers@swissvillage.org

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Youth employment changes coming

By MICHAEL MYERS

The countdown is on — and employers have less than a month left to prepare for a change in youth-employment law in Indiana.

In the 2020 legislative session, the General Assembly amended youth-employment law to eliminate work permits for minor employees effective July 1. But that change comes with a new responsibility for Hoosier employers, and one that bears a penalty of up to \$400 per infraction if an employer is found to be out of compliance with the new law.

Starting July 1, employers who hire five or more minor employ-

Michael Myers



ees (under age 18), per location, must register those employees in the new Youth Employment System (YES for short).

Schools will no longer be responsible for tracking and reporting minor employee data. That responsibility will rest with the employer.

This change will help take

administrative burden off of the schools, simplify the process for both students and employers, and enable employers to more quickly onboard minor employees. And with the summer getting into full swing, which is also the largest youth-employment season of the year, this change comes at a crucial time.

Schools will continue to have the opportunity to monitor which employers are hiring minor employees in their communities via YES, and can request public information in the system specific to their students. This will enable schools to continue to collaborate with employers to balance a student's employ-

ment and academic performance throughout the school year.

To help employers prepare for this change, the Bureau of Youth Employment (a division of the Indiana Department of Labor) launched YES on June 1, giving affected employers time to set up their accounts and test-drive the system before the new law goes into effect. Employers can get started by visiting dol.in.gov/youthemployment.htm and selecting the YES! button.

Employers and local business organizations can also request a digital communication kit to help inform their Indiana affiliates and local employers about this change in youth-employ-

ment law. To request a kit, organizations can email media@dol.in.gov and type YES KIT in the subject line.

We strongly encourage employers who are affected by this law to set up their YES accounts today and be compliant before July 1 when the law goes fully into effect.

For questions about YES or the change in youth-employment law, please visit dol.in.gov/youthemployment.htm.

Myers is director of Indiana Department of Labor's Bureau of Youth Employment. Email him at MMyers@dol.IN.gov.

Election could bolster Mexico

The Washington Post

Though he has gotten less attention than his counterparts in Brazil, Turkey or the Philippines, Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador is one of a crop of populist nationalists who have taken power in once-thriving middle-income countries in recent years — and proceeded to mismanage their economies and threaten democratic institutions.

Consequently, the results of Mexico's congressional, state and local elections Sunday should be taken as modest good news: The president's Morena party lost dozens of seats in the 500-member lower house and fared badly in local elections in the country's three largest cities, including the sprawling capital of Mexico City.

Morena will still command a majority in the lower house of Congress, thanks to alliances with smaller parties, and it appears to have won two-thirds of the 15 state governorships that were up for grabs. Maybe that's why López Obrador, who in the past has refused to accept losses in elections, quickly endorsed this vote, calling it "free [and] clean." There's not much chance AMLO, as he is widely known, will be chastened by his losses. But they will ease concerns that he could attempt to ram through changes to the constitution during the remaining 3 1/2 years of his six-year term, including extending his tenure in office; he will lack the necessary two-thirds congressional majority.

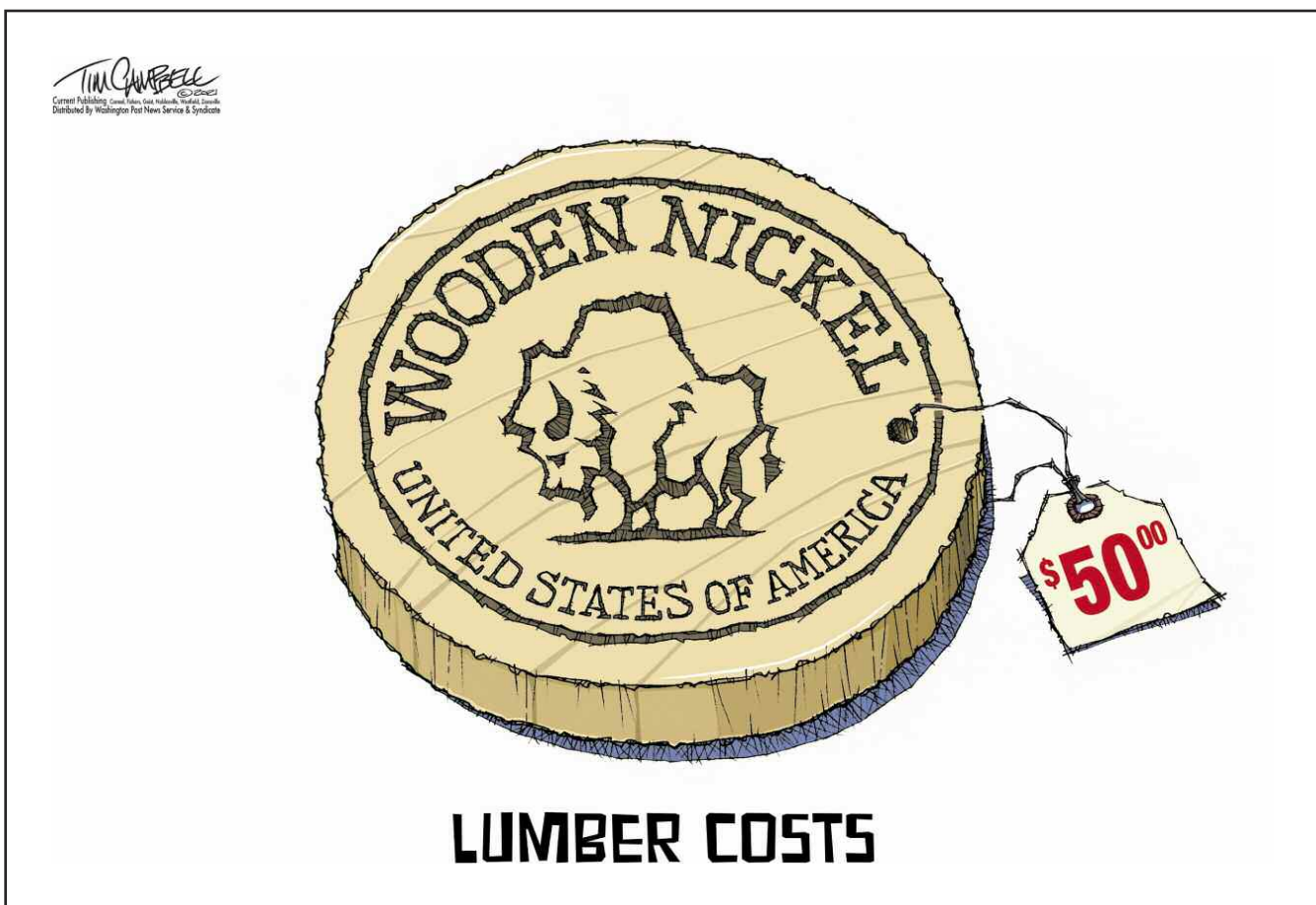
As it is, López Obrador has done plenty of damage to Mexico's institutions and its chances for rapid development. By favoring state industry, such as the chronically dysfunctional Pemex oil company, he has driven off private and foreign investment, including in alternative energy sources. He has launched wasteful infrastructure projects and handed control of some of them to the military, whose domestic role and power have expanded on his watch. His gross mismanagement of the COVID-19 epidemic has contributed to an estimated 350,000 Mexican fatalities, one of the highest death rates in the world, while badly damaging the economy, which has shrunk by 8.5%.

Guest Editorial

By favoring state industry ... he has driven off private and foreign investment, including in alternative energy sources.

López Obrador, who is 67, came of age at a time when the Institutional Revolutionary Party, to which he belonged, ruled Mexico autocratically, and he is widely viewed as nostalgic for that time. He has attacked independent agencies that were set up in recent years as checks on the president's power, along with the media. He used his congressional majority to extend the term of a friendly Supreme Court justice, and has staged referendums of dubious legitimacy to ratify controversial steps, such as canceling a partly built new airport for Mexico City.

Though he styles himself as a leftist and champion of the poor, López Obrador cultivated good relations with President Donald Trump and swallowed his abusive policies toward immigrants, including forcing thousands of asylum seekers to remain in Mexico. López Obrador's policies have contributed to a marked increase in Mexicans seeking to cross the border in search of U.S. employment; the Mexican economy has shed 850,000 jobs since López Obrador took office. The Biden administration has little alternative to working with him until his term expires. But it must hope that the latest elections results will bolster Mexico's beleaguered democracy, and perhaps open the way for more enlightened leadership after 2024.



Rollout is a big success

By MAX BOOT

Special To The Washington Post

I came of age in the 1980s as a Reagan Republican distrustful of "big government." In 2016, I left the Republican Party, but former president Donald Trump's unethical and incompetent conduct only further heightened my suspicion of the government. Why should I trust Washington when the previous president abused his power so badly that he was twice impeached?

I am hardly alone in my skepticism. The Pew Research Center finds that the percentage of Americans who trust the federal government to do what is right has fallen from 73% during the Eisenhower administration to just 24% today.

Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg is correct when he says: "I think a lot of the mistrust in our country right now is the result of policy failure." Americans have seen decades of government mistakes — Watergate, Vietnam, 9/11, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, Hurricane Katrina, the 2008 crash, the 2020 pandemic and recession — accompanied by government failures to tackle deep-rooted, long-term problems like global warming, gun violence, racial injustice and income inequality. (By supporting the invasion of Iraq, I played my own small part in fostering this distrust.)

The blowback from those fiascos has been exacerbated by the ever more extreme anti-government ideology spread by Republicans. Trump even waged war on the civil service in the guise of fighting a mythical "deep state." His abuses, in turn, made many liberals — normally the strongest statist constituency — wary of the overweening power of the federal government.

The COVID-19 pandemic shows where such distrust can lead — but also a possible path back.

Why does the United States have the most confirmed COVID-19 deaths — at least 596,000 — even though we have the most sophisticated medical system in the world? (Brazil and India may soon overtake us, if they haven't already, but their statistics are not as

Max Boot



reliable.) The answer is simple: Because so many Americans distrusted public health guidance to wear masks and engage in social distancing. Now, many people distrust public health guidance on vaccination, even though doing so will allow them to take off their masks and stop social distancing safely.

While 51.6% of Americans have already gotten at least one vaccine shot, 32% say they either don't want to get a shot or are taking a wait-and-see attitude. Naturally, vaccination rates are highest in blue states such as Vermont and Massachusetts, where trust in government is high. The 19 states with the worst vaccination percentages all have Republican governors.

That vaccine hesitancy is making it hard to reach President Joe Biden's goal of having 70% of the public at least partially vaccinated by Independence Day. That, in turn, makes it harder to achieve herd immunity and makes it more likely we will see future outbreaks of COVID-19 — including the worrisome possibility of variants that may evade existing vaccines.

This blinkered anti-vaccine prejudice — spread by the extreme left and extreme right — is deeply frustrating, because if anything should restore trust in government it is the rapid development and deployment of astonishingly effective vaccines. This is a bipartisan success story. The creation of these sensational shots was the result of a federal-private sector partnership started by Trump: Operation Warp Speed. Their rapid dissemination is due to a federal-state partnership turbocharged by Biden. Only 16.5 million Americans had been partially or fully vaccinated when Biden took office. Now, 139 days

later, it's up to 171.3 million and counting.

I'm one of them — and so are all of my family members. Getting the shots wasn't easy at first; it meant having to navigate multiple, confusing websites. But once we were able to make appointments, everything proceeded with impressive efficiency. We received our Pfizer shots at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in Manhattan, where, at its peak, a combination of civilians and National Guard troops were vaccinating 10,000 people a day. By the time we arrived, the operation was running so smoothly that getting each shot took only an hour door-to-door.

Now we are able to return to our old lives — eating indoors at restaurants, attending dinner parties with friends, working out at the gym, even watching a movie inside an actual theater. The same is true of our neighbors. New York City, a virtual ghost town at the height of the deadly pandemic, has sprung back to glorious life.

Thank you, Uncle Sam. This wouldn't have happened without the much-maligned government. Indeed, the vaccination rollout may be the most dramatic governmental success story of my lifetime. Its most obvious rivals — the moon landings, the Persian Gulf War, and the end of the Cold War — occurred so long ago that no one under 30 will have personal memories of them.

The massive mobilization to defeat COVID-19 has restored some of my faith in the government's ability to solve problems. I hope it will do the same for other Americans. Government isn't always the solution, but it isn't always the problem, either — and corrosive distrust of authority only handicaps our ability to tackle our toughest problems. Now the Biden administration needs to focus on getting more people around the world vaccinated to reverse the world's loss of faith in the United States.

Boot is a Washington Post columnist and a senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations.

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Andie aims

Redkey Elementary student Andie Jones shoots a water gun Wednesday during the school's field day. Outdoor activities were spread across the school playground for students to celebrate the end of the school year.

State closing testing sites

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indiana Department of Health will close state-sponsored coronavirus testing program at the end of the month, delegating future tests to pharmacies, community clinics and local health departments, officials announced Thursday.

The COVID-19 testing sites run by state contractor OptumServe Health Services will end June 30. An increase in locally sourced COVID-19 testing has reduced the need for the Optum sites, health department officials said. Local health departments also received state grants last fall to open nearly 100 testing sites.

State health Commissioner Dr. Kristina Box added that demand for testing has decreased across the state and noted that free testing will remain available at more than 250 sites after the Optum locations close.

"While our case counts have fallen significantly, we must continue to take steps to reduce the spread of disease," Box said. "We remain committed to ensuring that any Hoosier who wants or needs to be tested can receive that testing in a location that's convenient."

The 14-month partnership with OptumServe, a division of insurance giant UnitedHealth Group, was announced by Gov. Eric Holcomb in April 2020 to bring large-scale coronavirus testing to Hoosiers.

More than 541,000 free COVID-19 tests have been provided at the sites since then, the health department said. At its peak, OptumServe provided testing in 53 counties. Currently, 30 counties still have an operating testing site.

Judge halts farm relief \$\$

By ANDREA SALCEDO
The Washington Post

In the months since Congress included around \$4 billion in the latest stimulus bill to forgive loans for Black and other minority farmers, thousands of them have been pushing to finally see the money. The Department of Agriculture promised to start paying for loans this month.

But now, that relief is again on hold thanks to a lawsuit brought by a conservative group on behalf of White farmers, who argue the program is unconstitutional because it discriminates against them.

On Thursday, a federal judge in

Wisconsin sided with the plaintiffs and issued a temporary restraining order on the program.

"The Court recognized that the federal government's plan to condition and allocate benefits on the basis of race raises grave constitutional concerns and threatens our clients with irreparable harm," Rick Esenberg, president and general counsel with the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty, which filed the lawsuit, told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

A spokesperson with the U.S. Department of Agriculture did not immediately respond to a message from The Washington Post.

The assistance program, which was passed by the Senate in March as part of the Biden administration's \$1.9 trillion stimulus relief package, sought to correct long-standing disadvantages faced by Black, Latino, and other minority farmers in getting loans from banks and the government. As COVID-19 disproportionately affected communities of color, those groups also had a more difficult time accessing relief programs due to systemic racism and other issues, the Biden administration argued.

"Over the last 100 years, policies were implemented that

specifically twisted in a way that disadvantaged socially disadvantaged producers," U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack said. "There's no better example of that than the covid relief efforts. Billions of dollars went to White farmers, because the system is structured in a way that gives them significant advantages."

When the package passed, advocates told The Post that it was a major step toward correcting a century of mistreatment of Black farmers, with some describing it as reparations for a long history of racial oppression.

Vaccine ...

Continued from page 1
The minimum is meant to stop companies from using tax havens and other tools to avoid taxes.

It represents a potential win for the Biden administration, which has proposed a global minimum tax as a way to pay for infrastructure projects, in addition to creating an alternative that could remove some European countries' digital services taxes that largely hit U.S. tech firms. But the endorsement from the G-7 is just one step in the process; the hope is to get many more countries to sign on, and that could be particularly difficult in nations that depend on a low corporate tax base to survive.

For Johnson, the first G-7 summit in two years — last year's was scuttled by the pandemic — is a chance to set out his vision of a post-Brexit "Global Britain" as a midsized country with an outsized role in international problem-solving.

It's also an opportunity to underscore the U.K.-U.S. bond, an alliance often called the "special relationship" — but that Johnson said he prefers to call the "indestructible relationship."

Climate change is also a top issue on the agenda, and hundreds of protesters gathered in Cornwall to urge the leaders to take action. Some activists sent a barge floating off the coast that was carrying large inflatable figures depicting Biden and Johnson. At one protest, demonstrators carried flags that read "G7 drowning in promises" and "Action not words."

The official summit business kicked off Friday, with the customary formal greeting and a socially distanced group photo. Later the leaders will meet Queen

Elizabeth II and other senior royals at the Eden Project, a lush, domed ecotourism site built in a former quarry.

The G-7 leaders have faced mounting pressure to outline their global vaccine-sharing plans, especially as inequities in supply around the world have become more pronounced. In the U.S., there is a large vaccine stockpile and the demand for shots has dropped precipitously in recent weeks.

Biden said the U.S. will donate 500 million COVID-19 vaccine doses and previewed a coordinated effort by the advanced economies to make vaccination widely and speedily available everywhere. The commitment was on top of 80 million doses Biden has already pledged to donate by the end of June.

Johnson, for his part, said the first 5 million U.K. doses would be shared in the coming weeks, with the remainder coming over the next year. He said he expected the G-7 to commit to 1 billion doses in all.

"At the G-7 Summit I hope my fellow leaders will make similar pledges so that, together, we can vaccinate the world by the end of next year and build back better from coronavirus," Johnson said in a statement, referencing a slogan that he and Biden have both used.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she hoped the summit would show the world "we're not just thinking of ourselves," while French President Emmanuel Macron welcomed the U.S. commitment and said Europe should do the same. He said France would share at least 30 million doses globally by year's end; Germany is also planning on donating that amount.

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The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Griffin Mann, a Jay County High School senior, watches his chip shot on the eighth hole during the IHSAA boys golf sectional tournament on Monday at Hickory Hills Golf Club. Mann had his career come to a close Thursday with his round of 91 in the regional tournament at The Players Club in Muncie.

Patriot pair ends season

MUNCIE — A pair of Patriots had their season come to an end on in the IHSAA boys golf regional tournament Thursday at The Players Club.

Local roundup

Caleb DeRome, a Jay County High School freshman, made par eight times on his way to a final score of 84, three strokes better than his sectional round at Hickory Hills Golf Club on Monday.

was the fifth and final individual qualifying score.

Eels win opener

FORT RECOVERY — The Fort Recovery Eels won their season opener against the South Adams Summer Swim Club and the Darke County Stingrays on Thursday at Ambassador Pool.

The Eels totaled 765 points for the win. Darke County (381) was the runner-up and South Adams (301) placed third.

Triple-event winners for the Eels were Maverick Huelskamp (8-and-younger), Hope Evers (9-and-10-year-old), Makenna Huelskamp (11-and-12-year-old), Joelle Kaup (13-and-14-year-old), Carson Fullenkamp (13-and-14-year-old), Teigen Fortkamp (15-and-older) and Audra Bulp (15-and-older).

Getting two wins apiece were Natalie Wenning, Haley Wenning, Leo Faller, Kayden Ranly and Kendall Ranly.

Korbin Ranly, Isla Kaiser, Kolson Bechtol, Wyatt Gann, Will Faller, Autumn Leuthold, Olivia Albers and Caleb Smith had one win each.

Donathan leads Lions to win

Irik Donathan was one hit shy of the cycle Thursday in leading Lions Club to a 16-7 victory against Portland Optimist in Portland Junior League's Willie Mays contest.

Junior League roundup

Donathan tripled, doubled and singled while knocking in a pair of runs. Andrew Day and Finn Hemmelgarn each hit a triple and a single with two RBIs. Logan Wendel contributed two doubles and two RBIs, while Danton Hanlin hit a double, a single and drove in a run.

singles and scored twice as well. Easton Johnson collected two doubles, two singles and four runs, while Gabe Bentz also had two doubles and a pair of singles while scoring three times.

Easton Sprunger had a triple and an RBI to lead Optimist in the loss. Javier Hernandez singled.

Sawyer Young led Pak-A-Sak with two doubles and two singles. Henry Teeter had four singles, while Luke Weigant had a pair of hits as well.

Pioneer 17, Pak-A-Sak 10

Bryce VanSkyock and Khoden Bentz each hit homers in leading Pioneer Packaging to its Rookie baseball win.

VanSkyock also tripled twice, singled and scored twice, while Bentz hit two

See Leads page 7



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