

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Funds rescinded



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Judge Haynes Elementary School sits empty Wednesday morning. The former Jay Schools building is the potential site for a new child care facility. Doug Inman of The Portland Foundation approached county officials in November asking for \$975,000 to make necessary repairs to the building. Jay County Council previously designated up to \$700,000 in federal coronavirus funds toward the project, but it rescinded that decision Wednesday.

## County council pulls back funds committed to child care facility, plans to tour site with commissioners

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Will Jay County invest in a countywide child care facility? Jay County Council rescinded a decision Wednesday to allot \$700,000 in American Rescue Plan Act funds toward renovations to the former Judge Haynes Elementary School for that purpose. Council previously agreed to contribute the funds in December. Council member Ted Champ made the motion to allot the monies Dec. 7 with three board members absent. He also made a motion to rescind that decision Wednesday.

"I made a motion that we give quite a bit of money to the day-care center, and the full board was not here," Champ said. "And I think that if you're going to do that, the full board should be here." Council then unanimously rescinded the allocation. Council member Harold Towell asked if Wednesday's discussion about the American Rescue Plan Act monies means decisions should only be made when the full board is present. "Is that the precedent we're going to set?" Towell asked. "I think it should be because we're dealing with almost \$4 million dollars here, just for

the whole county," council member Jeanne Houchins said. "And honestly, in my opinion, I don't think we had all the information that we needed on that money for that building." Jay County was announced in November as one of the first three communities chosen to be involved in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program, a year-long program administered by the state's Office of Community and Rural Affairs. It is designed to help communities with their usage of federal coronavirus relief funds. Houchins and Jay County Commissioner Chad Aker are meeting with state officials later

this month and will share details about HELP with their respective groups. In November, Doug Inman of The Portland Foundation shared plans with council and commissioners to purchase the building, renovate it and develop it into a child care facility. Renovations are estimated to cost around \$1.3 million, which includes tearing down the west wing, where the roof is failing, and installing a new sprinkler system. Jay School Corporation has agreed to donate the former elementary school as its contribution toward the project. See **Rescinded** page 2

## County stays orange; numbers rising

*Case totals have been in double digits for nine days in a row*

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review  
Jay County stayed orange. It was one of the few holdouts. In the Indiana State Department of Health update Wednesday, Jay County was one of just 11 in the state to be rated "orange" (high risk for the spread of coronavirus). The other 81 were rated "red" (extreme risk). Still, local numbers are going up. Jay County's cases per 100,000 residents — it is one of the two metrics the state department health uses to determine coronavirus risk, along with a seven-day positivity rate — more than doubled to 601. It was 283 a week earlier.

The local positivity rate climbed to 10.52% as of Sunday — Wednesday's updates are based on Sunday numbers — after coming in at 7.33% last week. It had continued to climb to above 11% as of Wednesday. (The threshold to move to red is 15%.) Jay County had seen a dip in cases in the second half of December, with a run of six consecutive days with new cases in single digits. New cases have been in double digits for nine consecutive days, with an average of 17 per day. District 6 hospitalizations, which were down to 313 on the final day of 2021 after being in the upper 300s earlier in the month, climbed back to 362. The district covers 13 counties, including Jay. The county had its first COVID-19 death of 2022 on Monday, bringing the total for the pandemic to 63. See **Orange** page 2

## Curriculum bill scaled back

By CASEY SMITH  
Associated Press/Report for America  
INDIANAPOLIS — Republican lawmakers in Indiana are rolling back the language in a series of bills they said would increase transparency around school curricula, after the proposals drew national attention and widespread opposition.

State senators on Wednesday held back their bill, one of three "education matters" proposals being pushed by conservative lawmakers in both chambers of the General Assembly that would mandate that classroom materials be vetted by parent review committees and place restrictions on teaching about racism and political topics. The House education committee also amended out what teachers called some of the most vexatious parts of another bill, which included a requirement that all school curricula, such as daily lesson plans, be posted publicly

### Senate measure is held; House amends another

online. Republican Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said Tuesday that legislators needed additional time to work on language in the Senate bill authored by Republican Sen. Scott Baldwin. Baldwin's exchange with a teacher during testimony on the bill last week sparked national news coverage and social media backlash after he said teachers must be "impartial" when discussing Nazism and other political ideologies. Talk show host Stephen Colbert stepped in, too, highlighting

Baldwin's remarks for nearly three minutes during his "Late Show" monologue Monday evening and joking that Baldwin's proposed limits on teaching would "leave shop class and six hours of dodgeball" as the only things taught in Indiana schools. Baldwin has since walked back his comments, saying in a statement Monday that he meant to say he "unequivocally" condemns Nazism, fascism and Marxism, and that he agrees that teachers "should condemn those dangerous ideologies." See **Bill** page 2



The Washington Post/Oliver Contreras

## Honoring Reid

Supreme Court justices Elena Kagan, right, and Sonia Sotomayor pay their respects to former Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nevada, at the Capitol on Wednesday. Reid, who had been treated for pancreatic cancer, died last month at the age of 82.

### Correction

Information in a story in Wednesday's edition of The Commercial Review about an arrest for attempted murder incorrectly identified the 911 caller because of incorrect information provided by police. The individual, who called 911 and is related to the 2-year-old victim, was Diane Camp.

### Weather

Jay County's high temperature was 41 degrees Wednesday. The low was 32. Tonight's low will be in the mid-20s with a chance of flurries and/or light rain. Expect a high of 32 Friday under mostly cloud skies. Friday's low will drop into the teens. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Ted Champ, a Redkey Democrat, was the lone individual to add his name to the list of candidates Wednesday for the primary election in May. Champ will seek re-election to his District 1 seat on Jay County Council.

### Coming up

**Friday** — A look at the Jay County Show Choir Spectacular scheduled for Saturday at JCHS.

**Saturday** — Results from the semifinal round of the ACAC boys and girls basketball tournaments.



# Orange ...

Continued from page 1  
The 81 counties rated red marked a significant increase after 48 were at that level last week. Delaware and Randolph counties were among those at the state's highest risk level. Adams, Blackford and Wells counties joined Jay in being rated orange.  
Indiana has also seen a shift in what type of coronavirus is most prevalent. After the delta

variant had dominated the state since mid-June, omicron variant cases began popping up in early December. As of the last week of 2021, omicron accounted for more than 80% of the state's cases.  
The best way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 is vaccination, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Boosters are now recommended for everyone 12 and

older five months after the initial vaccination. (The CDC also recommends that masks be worn indoors in areas of "substantial or high transmission," which includes Jay County.)  
The state's website indicates Jay County currently has eight vaccination sites — CVS in Portland and Dunkirk, Walgreens in Portland and Jay County Health Department, as well as IU Health Jay and its

primary care provider practices. (Vaccines for children 5 to 11 years old are available only at the health department and the IU Health Jay sites.)  
Jay County continues to rank sixth-lowest in vaccination rate among Indiana's 92 counties. Its rate is 38.8%. Marion County is highest in the state at 77.2%.  
Coronavirus is mainly spread through droplets or particles

from an infected person coughing, sneezing, talking or breathing.  
The virus causes a range of symptoms, including fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea, which can appear two to 14 days after exposure.

## CR almanac

Friday 1/14	Saturday 1/15	Sunday 1/16	Monday 1/17	Tuesday 1/18
<b>32/17</b>	<b>24/13</b>	<b>32/20</b>	<b>30/21</b>	<b>34/27</b>
Mostly cloudy skies are expected Friday, with a low around 17 degrees.	Saturday should be mostly cloudy with highs in the mid 20s. The wind may reach 15 mph.	There's a 30% chance of snow after 1 p.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Martin Luther King Jr. Day will be mostly cloudy. The low will be around 21.	Skies will be partly sunny Tuesday with a high near 34 degrees.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> 12-21-22-30-33 Power Ball: 24 Power Play: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$48 million	Cash 5: 2-4-11-12-13 Hoosier Lotto: 1-23-31-38-39-41 Estimated jackpot: \$5 million
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$325 million	<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 8-6-8 Pick 4: 1-4-5-1 Pick 5: 5-9-2-3-3 Evening Pick 3: 4-5-8 Pick 4: 3-5-5-4 Pick 5: 3-5-9-5-9 Rolling Cash: 3-12-14-24-34 Classic Lotto: 15-20-28-35-37-38 Kicker: 1-0-2-6-2-8 Estimated jackpot: \$20.1 million
<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 7-2-0 Daily Four: 3-1-6-0 Evening Daily Three: 7-7-1 Daily Four: 3-0-0-6 Quick Draw: 3-12-13-14-15-23-25-27-28-29-30-41-47-51-58-61-67-70-74-75	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....5.91 Feb. corn.....5.94 Wheat .....7.31	Wheat ..... 7.35 Feb. wheat ..... 7.35
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.01 Feb. corn.....5.96 March. corn .....5.96	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....5.81 Late Jan. corn.....5.81 Beans .....13.65 Late Jan. beans.....13.65 Jan. wheat ..... 7.43
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....5.81 Feb. corn.....5.86 Beans .....13.60 Feb. beans .....13.60	<b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b> Corn.....5.81 Feb. corn .....5.81 Beans .....13.45 Feb. beans .....13.50 Wheat .....7.09

## Today in history

**On Jan. 13, 2021,** President Donald Trump was impeached by the U.S. House over the violent Jan. 6 siege of the Capitol, becoming the only president to be twice impeached; ten Republicans joined Democrats in voting to impeach Trump on a charge of "incitement of insurrection." (Trump would again be acquitted by the Senate in a vote after his term was over.)  
**In 1733,** James Oglethorpe and some 120 English colonists arrived at Charleston, South Carolina, while en route to settle in present-day Georgia.  
**In 1794,** President George Washington approved a measure adding two stars and two stripes to the American flag, following the admission of Vermont and Kentucky to the Union. (The number of stripes was later reduced to the original 13.)  
**In 1898,** Emile Zola's famous defense of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, "J'accuse," was published in Paris.  
**In 1941,** a new law went into effect granting Puerto Ricans U.S. birthright citizenship. Novelist and poet James Joyce died in Zurich, Switzerland, less than a month before his 59th birthday.  
**In 1972,** Portland resident Glenda Redford, 14, was hospitalized after she was struck by a car while crossing Meridian Street near Portland High School. She had a cut on her chin and complained of hip pain.  
**In 2000,** Microsoft chairman Bill Gates stepped aside as chief executive and promoted company president Steve Ballmer to the position.  
—AP and The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.	Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	<b>Thursday, Jan. 20</b> 3 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners, executive session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
<b>Wednesday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

# Rescinded ...

Continued from page 1  
(There are other interested parties in the building that closed its doors about three years ago.) The Portland Foundation will also cover up to \$500,000 in architectural and engineering costs as well as equipment and supplies.  
That would leave Jay County and the City of Portland to pay for renovation costs. Inman proposed in November county officials contribute \$975,000 and Portland contribute \$325,000.

Jay County will receive nearly \$4 million in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan Act. It may also gain another \$1 million for being a HELP community.  
Other uses of the federal monies being considered include new infrastructure for housing — commissioners approved a feasibility study for the land just south and east of Jay County Highway Barn in December — and a new multi-faceted facility for Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Health Department and Jay County Coroner's Office.  
Jay County Commissioners tabled a decision Dec. 14 on the county's contribution until they

could do a walkthrough of the building.  
"We've not seen this building, and they're already talking (about putting) a million dollars in it," Houchins said.  
John Hemmelgarn of Jay Building and Planning said he is working on a date when both council and commissioners could meet to walk through the building. (As long as there is a quorum of either group, the gathering is considered a public meeting.)  
"The building is an issue. Also, who's going to run it?" asked council member Ray Newton. "We're going to put all this money into this building, what happens if nobody wants to do it?"  
Council member Mike Rockwell noted there are a few organizations interested in running the facility, but none have committed to it.  
Houchins said she would like for council to learn more about the project as well as the extent of American Rescue Plan Act monies before making decision. Champ voiced similar wishes.  
"We were told to take it slow. We didn't have to hurry to spend that money," Champ said. "There are other issues

that (are) going to be facing the county. And to me, I know I personally will have to prioritize to see where that money goes. Because there's only so much money there, \$700,000 is a lot of that money."  
Also Wednesday, council amended a resolution from last year designating solar farm Rose Gold Solar as an economic revitalization era.  
Nick Weber, a consultant for Leeward Renewable Energy through firm Faegre Drinker, noted the resolution includes an additional 10 acres north of county road 150 South and east of county road 200 South. When Leeward originally set the scope for the project, he explained, it was planning to use a certain type of solar panels.  
"(A) supply chain challenge, which is challenging everyone, has made getting those panels a little more difficult, so we're pivoting to just a different panel," Weber said. "It's all the same structure, all the same height, all that's the same, but the panel we're pivoting to doesn't produce quite the same amount of electricity, so we have to have more panels."

Houchins also announced council will meet in a special joint session at 6 p.m. Feb. 2 to discuss Jay County Country Living (formerly known as Jay County Retirement Center) and its finances.  
In other business, council:  
•Appointed several board positions, including Houchins as president, Ted Champ as vice president and Bill Hinkle as the council's attorney.  
•Made the following additional appropriations: \$146,811 from grant monies for Jay County Community Corrections and \$4,881.04 for the sheriff's department to purchase bulletproof vests.  
•Transferred \$10,000 in the assessor's fund for an ongoing tax appeal case — council also agreed to allot \$25,000 toward the case for attorney fees — and \$1,400 in the reassessment fund for a new tablet.  
•Made several encumbrances, including \$360,000 for Jay County Highway Department to purchase new vehicles. (The equipment was supposed to be delivered in December, explained highway superintendent Donnie Corn, but delays have pushed that delivery to at least February.)

# Capsule Reports

**Walmart accident**  
Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500 after a Portland woman backed her vehicle into a Portland man's car in the Walmart

parking lot in Portland about 5:20 p.m. Wednesday.  
Catherine L. Garringer, 60, was backing her 2012 Toyota Tundra out of a parking space at 950 W. Votaw

St. when she backed into another parking spot, occupied by a 2015 Ford Escape registered to 52-year-old Jeffrey A. Burk of Portland. Her 2012 vehicle collided with the Ford.

# Felony arrests

**Methamphetamine**  
Three Jay County residents were arrested this week for possession of methamphetamine.  
Cody A. Brenner, 31, 339 E. North St., Dunkirk, is being held in Jay County Jail on \$3,000 bond following his arrest Tuesday on two Level 6 felony charges, possession of methamphetamine and possession of a narcotic.  
Clint A. Evans, 36, 5322 W. 950 South, Geneva, was arrested this morning and preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony. Mindy J. Weaver, 31, 4337 N. U.S. 27, Portland, was also arrested this morning

and preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for possession of methamphetamine and possession of cocaine or a narcotic drug.  
Evans and Weaver are both being held on \$4,500 bonds in Jay County Jail.  
**Unlawful possession**  
A Muncie man was arrested Wednesday for unlawful possession of a syringe. Christopher P. Tapley, 29, 2301 W. Barcelona Drive, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.  
He's being held in Jay County Jail without bond.

# Bill ...

Continued from page 1  
Bray said Tuesday evening that Baldwin and other lawmakers are continuing "to make sure that we have the right landing spot" for the bill.  
"It's difficult to craft the kind of legislation I know Sen. Baldwin has worked for weeks ... to try and make sure that language is correct. It is a difficult thing to do," Bray said.  
Baldwin faced scrutiny in the past after his name was included on a list of purported members of the far-right Oath Keepers mili-

tia group. He denied involvement, however, telling The Indianapolis Star that he made a \$30 donation to the group during an unsuccessful 2010 bid for county sheriff but had no interaction with the Oath Keepers since.  
Baldwin has maintained that his intent is to prevent certain "discriminatory concepts" from being taught in classrooms. He was absent from Senate proceedings Wednesday due to a coronavirus exposure, Republican Sen. Jeff Raatz said ahead of the

education committee's meeting.  
Rep. Tony Cook of Cicero, who authored the House bill revised on Wednesday, emphasized that new language in the legislation ensures educators can still discuss "social injustices" and that "schools can and should teach that Nazism is bad."



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## SERVICES

**Today**  
**Dugan, Chris:** 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Friday**  
**Schlechty, Jacqueline:** 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Gillum, Daniel:** 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.  
**Franks, Joan:** 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Saturday**  
**DeVoss, Kay:** 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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# Now is the time to start eating healthy

By MELISSA J. KANNEY

January is a common time for people to create New Year's resolutions that often include eating better and getting healthier. This may seem like a daunting task to some people but eating healthier does not have to be difficult (or expensive). Here are some cheap and easy ways to incorporate healthy eating into our daily habits.

What are some easy ways to get healthier?

1. A common healthy eating habit that is often overlooked is eating five or more servings of fruit and vegetables a day. Fruits and vegetables are easy to

## Your Health Matters



grab and go, packed full of nutrients and generally low in calories. One serving of fruits or veggies is about one cup (or the size of your fist). Try filling half of your plate with veggies at each meal.

2. Another good healthy eating habit is to plan ahead. Making a menu for the week can help you to

stick to healthier food choices. You can also prepare some fresh fruits and veggies to grab for snacks and pack in your lunch.

3. Add nuts and seeds to your grocery list. Nuts and seeds such as almonds, cashews, pistachios, peanuts, etc. contain beneficial nutrients including Vitamin E, folic acid, potassium and fiber. They are also great sources of protein and healthy fat. Nuts and seeds are typically high in calories so be sure to keep serving sizes small.

4. When grocery shopping, stick to the outer

edges of the grocery store. Healthy and fresh produce, meats and dairy are typically located around the outer edges of the grocery store. The inner aisles usually include highly processed items with extra sugar and artificial ingredients.

5. When it comes to grocery shopping, you can also avoid going when you're hungry. Efforts to purchase healthy foods and beverages can easily get derailed by cravings. Eat a healthy snack before heading to the supermarket to avoid unhealthy cravings and purchases.

6. Avoid sweetened drinks. Sugary drinks can pack on calories quickly. Replace sweetened drinks with water, sugar-free flavored water, seltzers or other unsweetened beverages. Water is an important nutrient that is often forgotten. The Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics recommends 9-12 cups of water a day. Drinking a glass of water before eating can satisfy thirst and keep you from eating and drinking unnecessary calories. Sometimes when we feel hungry, we are actually thirsty!

7. Staying active is a

very important part of becoming healthier. Try to get at least 30 minutes of physical activity each day. Walking, jogging, cycling, yoga are just a few examples.

By being mindful of the foods you are buying and eating, healthier eating can become much easier! Healthy eating does not require a complete overhaul of your diet. By making a few small diet changes at a time, you can achieve your New Year's resolutions.

Kanney is a clinical dietitian at IU Health Jay.

# Porn addiction leads man to end relationship

DEAR ABBY: For the past three years I've been with a man I believe is the love of my life. Early on, he admitted to a porn addiction that has plagued him his entire life and sabotaged past relationships. With my support, he began his first real attempt at recovery, which included a team of mental health practitioners.

His progress over the past three years, while not linear, has been tremendous. He's an entirely different person. I would describe our relationship as 90% joyful, 10% agony (he has had four brief relapses, during which he has said incredibly hurtful things to me). I agree the cycle

## Dear Abby



off the mortgage on the house we bought less than two years ago. He swears it has nothing to do with me, and that if it weren't for this addiction, he would spend the rest of his life with me.

If his plan is to live alone, be single or celibate, and focus on recovery, why wouldn't he also pause on major financial decisions? Why is he so completely done when there is clearly hope for recovery and reconciliation? — BROKEN-HEARTED IN OREGON

DEAR BROKEN-HEARTED: You have involved yourself with someone who has a terrible track record when it comes

to relationships. Whatever his plans for the future may be, he does not want a committed relationship with you, nor does he want the financial responsibility and the tie to you that the house represents, which is why he wants off the mortgage. It is time for you to start looking after your needs and goals. If you stay busy and don't isolate yourself, it will lessen the pain you are feeling.

DEAR ABBY: My dear friend "Francine" loves male attention and flirts with men, married or unmarried, at parties and on other occasions. I don't think

flirting with married men is proper because it sends the wrong message. I also don't think their wives appreciate her behavior. Am I off base? — OLD-FASHIONED IN ARIZONA

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: Your dear friend may do this not because she's trying to break up a marriage, but because she needs validation and wants to reassure herself that she is attractive. If the wives find her behavior a threat, they can tell her that themselves, or exclude her from their gatherings.

P.S. Is it "proper"? No. Does it happen? Quite often.

## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Wednesday's Solution

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

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.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

PTSD SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 6 p.m. every Thursday at the Portland American Legion Post, 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second

Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

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

### Saturday

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

### Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant. BRYANT AREA COM-

MUNITY 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 — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., 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.

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

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.

### Tuesday

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

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.

# Find Local Businesses & Services

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# Compensation growth has lagged

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Last week in this space, data showed Indiana performed well compared to most other states in the COVID-induced economic decline and rebound of 2020-21.

Today, consider a longer period of time, 2007 through 2019.

Why this 12-year span? Because 2007 was the last year before the financial debacle required massive and novel recovery measures. 2019 was the last year before the worldwide coronavirus pandemic from which we are still recovering.

While the shorter run is important, the longer period tests our state's economic development policies.

Jobs are the favorite economic talking point for many politi-

## Eye on the Pie



cians. How did Indiana do adding jobs from 2007 to 2019?

The number of jobs grew by 9.3% nationally and by 6% in Indiana. But that national figure gives more weight to the bigger states than the smaller ones. Hence, with California and Texas, and their combined growth rate of 17.8%, the nation's rate was elevated from 7.4% to 9.3%.

However, the median job growth rate of the 50 states was

a modest 5.8%. In that light, Indiana's 6% rate was just above that median figure, and 23rd in the nation.

This enables our state's professional puffers to proclaim proudly, "We're in the top half of all the states."

The story is different if we consider employee compensation, which has two components: wages and salaries plus employer-paid supplements. The latter includes the amount paid by employers for health, unemployment and disability insurance, plus other benefits paid by employers on behalf of employees.

In 2007, the average compensation for Indiana workers was \$47,388, 31st highest in the nation, and 14% below the national average of \$54,969. A

dozen years later, in 2019, the average compensation of Hoosier workers was up to \$61,262, without accounting for inflation. That was a fall to 35th place among the states, and 16% below the U.S. average of \$72,981.

Thus, while our growth rate in jobs (6%) was a respectably mediocre 23rd nationally, the dollar growth in compensation for our work ranked 44th nationally, at \$13,874.

It is true, Indiana's rate of growth in average compensation was 29.3%, whereas the nation achieved a 32.8% growth rate. That puts us just 3.5 percentage points behind the U.S. average growth rate.

"Posh, that tweren't nothin' worth sneezin' over," many members of our sonnambu-

lant General Assembly would say.

However, Hoosiers know percent points don't buy groceries, pay the mortgage or utility bills. It takes dollars to do those things and the average Hoosier employee in 2019 was \$11,719 short of the average American employee.

And, please, don't spew that oft repeated excuse: "The cost of living in Indiana is lower than elsewhere, so we're OK with lower compensation."

In truth, the cost of living is largely determined by housing prices, which turn out to be closely related to — wait for it — the compensation of employees.

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

# Banning licenses is a terrible idea

The Republic (Columbus)

With rights come responsibilities, and the right of law-abiding citizens to carry a handgun must be balanced against the responsibility we all should feel to keep the public safe.

Indiana law currently requires anyone who wishes to carry a handgun to obtain a license to do so. This is not an onerous process. It requires filing an application that is reviewed for approval by Indiana State Police, and applications are approved unless there is justifiable legal cause not to do so.

Why might an application be rejected?

For starters, felons cannot get a permit to carry a handgun, and they face serious criminal charges if they even are caught possessing one. The application for a license to carry a handgun in Indiana, which takes just a few minutes to fill out online, asks if applicants have been convicted of a felony. It also asks a few basic background questions: has the applicant ever had a license to carry a handgun revoked or suspended; does the applicant have a misdemeanor conviction on his or her record; has the applicant ever been treated for mental illness; and, is he or she prohibited by a court order from possessing a handgun.

These are all sound, common-sense reasons why it might not be in the interest of public safety for a particular individual to carry a handgun, and ISP may choose not to grant a license in some such cases. That seems like reasonable discretion that law enforcement ought to have on a case-by-case basis, and anyone who is denied a license to carry a handgun may appeal that decision.

Yet Republicans in the Indiana House of Representatives want to get rid of these checks and licenses to carry handguns entirely. House Bill 1077 would do that, though felons would still be prohibited from possessing a firearm. The bill passed the House Public Policy Committee on a party-line vote Wednesday.

You could be forgiven if you have a sense of déjà vu.

The Indiana House passed similar legislation last year, but the bill died in the Indiana Senate. There is no indication whether the bill will advance in the state Senate this year, but there is no clear compelling reason it should.

You also could be forgiven if you have a sense of déjà vu hearing the argu-

## Hoosier Editorial

**Opponents include law-enforcement officials who say licenses are about the only tool they have to ensure someone carrying a gun in public is, in fact, a law-abiding gun owner.**

ments for and against the legislation. Just as in 2021, some gun-rights advocates argued the right to carry should not be subject to prior government approval.

Opponents include law-enforcement officials who say licenses are about the only tool they have to ensure someone carrying a gun in public is, in fact, a law-abiding gun owner.

So why on earth would responsible, law-abiding gun owners want to eliminate licenses identifying them as such?

Without licenses, those responsible for enforcing our laws and ensuring public safety would be placed in a terrible position when they encounter individuals who are carrying a handgun. The license to carry immediately resolves the question of whether that person may legally carry.

Gun-rights absolutists will argue that only the law-abiding get licenses to carry anyway. Yet that is precisely the point. Indiana's handgun licensing scheme should be preserved to clearly identify who can lawfully carry a handgun and who cannot.

A reasonable question for Indiana lawmakers is, why would you want to create doubt about something as serious as that?



# Education is being attacked

By PAUL WALDMAN

The Washington Post

For the last year or so, Republicans have used the "issue" of education as a cudgel against Democrats, whipping up fear and anger to motivate their voters and seize power at all levels of government.

Isn't it about time Democrats fought back?

Republicans have moved from hyping the boogeyman of critical race theory to taking practical steps to criminalize honest classroom discussions and ban books, turning their manufactured race and sex panic into profound political and educational change. Meanwhile, Democrats have done almost nothing about it, watching it all with a kind of paralyzed confusion.

Look no further than Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, who is pushing legislation with the colorful name of the Stop Woke Act. As the Republican governor told Fox News this weekend, we need to allow people to sue schools over their curriculums, not only because of CRT but also because "there's a lot of other inappropriate content that can be smuggled in by public schools."

If you liked the Texas bill that effectively banned abortion in the state, you're in luck. Republicans apparently want to use a version of that bill's tactic — putting enforcement in the hands of private vigilantes — to make teachers and school administrators live under the same fear as abortion providers.

It's happening elsewhere, too. A bill in Indiana allows the same kind of lawsuits. And last week, during a hearing on the bill, a GOP state senator got in trouble for saying that "I believe that we've gone too far when we take a position" on things like Nazism, because in the classroom, "we need to be impartial." The state senator, Scott Baldwin, previously attracted attention when it was revealed that he made a contribution to the far-right Oath Keepers (though

he claims he has no real connection to the extremist group).

Everywhere you look, Republicans are trying to outdo one another with state laws forcing teachers to parrot far-right propaganda to students. A Republican bill in Oklahoma would ban teachers from saying that "one race is the unique oppressor" or "victim" when teaching the history of slavery in America; its sponsor says that would bring the appropriate "balance" to the subject.

So ask yourself: What are Democrats telling the public about schools? If you vote for Democrats, what are you supposed to be achieving on this issue? If any voters know, it would be a surprise.

We're seeing another iteration of a common Republican strategy: Wait for some liberal somewhere to voice an idea that will sound too extreme to many voters if presented without context and in the most inflammatory way possible, inflate that idea way beyond its actual importance, claim it constitutes the entirety of the Democratic agenda and play on people's fears to gin up a backlash.

That was the model on "defund the police." Now it's being used on schools, which Republicans have decided is the issue that can generate sufficient rage to bring victory at the polls.

Devoted as they are to facts and rational argumentation, liberals can't help themselves from responding to Republican attacks first and foremost with refutation, which allows Republicans to set the terms of debate. So their response to the charge that critical race theory is infecting our

schools is something like this: "No, no, that has nothing to do with public education. It's a scholarly theory taught mostly to graduate students."

But that doesn't allow for this response: "Republicans want to subject our kids to fascist indoctrination. Why do they want to teach our kids that slavery wasn't bad? Why are they trying to ban books? Who's writing their education policy, David Duke? Don't let them destroy your schools!"

That, of course, would be an unfair exaggeration of what most Republicans actually want. Is a state senator who worries that public school teachers might be biased against Nazism really representative of the whole Republican Party? Let's try to be reasonable here.

Or maybe being reasonable isn't the best place to start when you're being overrun. Maybe Democrats need to begin not with a response to Republican lies about what happens in the classroom, but an attack on what Republicans are trying to do to American education.

After Glenn Youngkin won the Virginia governorship with a campaign largely focused on schools, Republicans everywhere decided that nurturing a CRT-based White backlash is the path to victory. That is their plan, whether Democrats like it or not.

This isn't just coming from national Republicans. At the state and local level, far-right extremists are taking over education policy, leaving teachers terrified that if they communicate the wrong idea to students — like, apparently, being too critical of Nazis — they might get sued.

The implications of the GOP war on schools and teachers are horrifying, and with some exceptions, Democrats are watching it happen without anything resembling a plan to do anything about it. It might be time for all the party's clever strategists to give it some thought.

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Waldman is an opinion writer for the Plum Line blog.

# The Commercial Review

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

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**Asbury United Methodist**  
204 E. Arch St., Portland  
Joe Boggs  
(260) 726-8464  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
asburyministries.org

**Banner Christian Assembly of God**  
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland  
Michael Burk  
(260) 726-4282  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Bellefontain United Methodist**  
440 S. 600 East  
Gordon Jackson  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Bethel United Methodist**  
Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Bluff Point Friends**  
80 E. 650 South  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Boundary St. Paul**  
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East  
Ava Gannon  
(260) 726-2373  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Bryant Wesleyan**  
209 S. Hendricks St.  
Paul VanCise  
(260) 997-6231  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.  
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

**Calvary United Methodist**  
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk  
Susan Durovey-Antrim  
(765) 499-0368  
Services: 10 a.m.  
susan.duroveyantrim@in.umc.org

**Christ Chapel**  
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery  
Quentin Elsea  
(419) 733-1469  
christchapelfr.com

**Church of Christ (Southside)**  
1209 S. Shank St., Portland  
Bob Graham  
(260) 726-7777  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

**Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)**  
8472 S. 800 East, Union City  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Church of God of Prophecy**  
797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland  
Nanette Weesner  
(260) 766-9334  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nanybell@yahoo.com

**Church of the Brethren**  
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland  
Kevin McClung  
(260) 729-7295  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Church of the Living God**  
South Broad Street, Dunkirk  
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

**Collett Nazarene**  
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27  
Billy Stanton  
(260) 251-2403  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Cornerstone Baptist**  
211 E. Main St., Portland  
Wayne Ward  
(260) 726-7714  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Dunkirk Nazarene**  
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk  
Tom Fett  
(765) 768-6199  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Evangelical Methodist**  
930 W. Main St., Portland  
Steve Arnold  
(260) 251-0970  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Fairview United Methodist/Jay County**  
2875 E. 200 South  
Gordon Jackson  
Lay leader: Beth Stephen  
(260) 726-9184  
Services: 10:15 a.m.

**Faith Community**  
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk  
Joe Schmit  
(260) 251-5254  
Services: 10 a.m.

**Family Worship Center**  
200 E. Elder St., Portland  
Ronald Willis  
(260) 726-4844  
Services: 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m. Wednesday  
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

**Fellowship Baptist**  
289 S. 200 West  
Hugh Kelly  
(260) 726-8873  
Services: 10 a.m.  
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

**First American Baptist**  
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk  
Dan Coffman  
(765) 768-7157  
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

**First Church of Christ**  
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery  
David J. Nicholson  
(419) 375-2860  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
fccfcrecovery.org

**First Community Baptist**  
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey  
Everett Bilbrey Jr.  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**First Free Will Baptist**  
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk  
Marion Donathan  
Sunday school: 10 a.m.  
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

**First Presbyterian**  
402 N. Ship St., Portland  
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu  
(260) 726-8462  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.  
firstpcportland.org

**Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene**  
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff  
(419) 375-4680  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
frnaz@frontier.com

**Fort Recovery United Methodist**  
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery  
Rev. David Porath  
Rev. James Stilwell  
(419) 678-2071  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle**  
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk  
Robert Thomas  
(765) 348-4620  
Services: 9:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

**Geneva First United Methodist**  
100 W. Line St., Geneva  
Barry McCune  
(260) 368-7655  
Services: 9:30 a.m.

**Geneva Nazarene**  
225 Decatur St., Geneva  
(260) 525-8609  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.  
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

**Gilead Church**  
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren**  
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26  
Earl Doll  
(260) 731-4477  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**High Street United Methodist**  
435 High St., Geneva  
Rev. Joseph Hampton  
(260) 368-7233  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Holy Trinity Catholic**  
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday  
churchofthemostholyltrinity.com

**Hopewell of Life Ministries**  
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1  
Rev. Ruth Funk  
(260) 251-8581  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Immaculate Conception Catholic**  
506 E. Walnut St., Portland  
Fr. Peter Logsdon  
(260) 726-7055  
Services: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

**Kingsley Full Gospel**  
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk  
Stuart Phillips  
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Mary Help of Christians**  
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Ned Brown  
(419) 375-4153  
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

**Mount Tabor United Methodist**  
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk  
John Retter  
(765) 768-7273  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Mount Zion United Methodist**  
County roads 600 East and 200 North  
Rev. Darrell Borders  
(260) 726-4786  
Services: 9 a.m.

**New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine**  
4017 W. 200 South  
Randy Smith  
(260) 251-2406  
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.  
nbholiness.com

**New Covenant Fellowship**  
1238 W. 450 South  
Chuck Myers  
(260) 251-0063  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**New Life Ministries**  
415 S. Helen St., Portland  
Dr. Kay Fairchild  
(260) 755-6354  
Services: 4 p.m.  
drkayfairchild.com

**New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist**  
5905 S. Como Road  
Tim Wallace  
(765) 499-7838  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Noble Congregational Christian**  
1964 N. 800 East  
Aaron Huey  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Oak Grove United Methodist**  
829 S. Indiana 1  
Mark Dennis  
(765) 730-3770  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Pennville United Methodist**  
190 W. Main St., Pennville  
Gary Newton  
(765) 669-1070  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Pleasant Hill**  
9945 N. 800 East, Union City  
Bruce Bryan  
(765) 964-3664  
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.  
mypleasanthillchurch.org

**Portland First Church of Nazarene**  
920 S. Shank St., Portland  
Steve Cecil  
(260) 726-8040  
Services: 10:45 a.m.

**Portland Friends**  
226 E. Main St., Portland  
Herb Hummel  
(260) 729-7393  
Services: 10 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

**Praise Chapel Church of God**  
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)  
Rev. David Parry  
(765) 584-7045  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redeemer Lutheran**  
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant  
Father Dan Layden  
(260) 997-6787  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Redkey Faith Ministries**  
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey  
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman  
(765) 369-2920  
Services: 10 a.m.  
RedkeyFaith.org

**Redkey First Christian**  
Union and Malin streets, Redkey  
Jeff Hammers  
(765) 468-6172  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Redkey United Methodist**  
122 W. Main St., Redkey  
Lori McIntosh  
(765) 369-2085  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**Redkey Church of the Nazarene**  
801 W. High St.  
Chuck Hollandbeck  
(765) 369-2676  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

**River of Life**  
722 W. Main St., Portland  
Susan Hathaway  
(260) 729-1095  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**The ROCK**  
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland  
Matt Ransom  
(260) 726-7474  
Services: 10 a.m.  
matt@therockjkc.org

**Salamonia Church of Christ**  
3900 S. 600 East  
Bruce Phillips  
(260) 335-2017  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Second Chance at Life Ministries**  
228 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792  
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

**St. James Lutheran**  
County road 600 East, south of county road 400 South  
Robin Owen  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**St. Joseph Catholic**  
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Ned Brown  
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

**St. Mary's Catholic**  
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk  
Rev. Kevin Hurley  
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

**St. Paul Catholic**  
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Ned Brown  
Services: 8:30 a.m. Sunday

**St. Peter Catholic**  
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery  
Rev. Ned Brown  
Services: 10 a.m. Sunday

**Sugar Grove Nazarene**  
County roads 400 North and 550 West  
Rev. Mike Heckman  
(260) 731-4733  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

**Sugar Grove United Methodist**  
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk  
Scott McClain  
Services: 9 a.m.

**Temple Baptist**  
Indiana 167, between Dunkirk and Albany  
(765) 768-7708  
Services: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

**Trinity Lutheran**  
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery  
Robin Owen  
(419) 375-4498  
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)  
pastorrobino@gmail.com

**Trinity United Methodist**  
323 S. Meridian St., Portland  
Joe Boggs  
(260) 726-8391  
Services: 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 10:30 a.m.  
portlandtrinity.com

**Union Chapel**  
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant  
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene**  
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)  
Fred Stevens  
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

**Walnut Corner**  
County roads 200 North and 500 West  
Steve Rogers  
(260) 251-1113  
Services: 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

**Westchester United Methodist**  
4487 E. 400 North  
(260) 726-6311  
Services: 10:35 a.m.

**West Walnut Church of Christ**  
204 W. Walnut St., Portland  
Gil Alcega  
(260) 726-4691  
Services: 10 a.m.  
westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

**Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
Darrell Borders  
218 E. High St., Portland  
(260) 726-8832  
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com  
Services: 10:30 a.m.

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12 insertions. \$1.52/word  
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309 West Main St., Portland.  
Front Office Hours:  
Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Circulation Department Hours:  
10:00 am - 4:30 p.m.

**90 SALE CALENDAR**

**LAND AUCTION**  
Saturday, January 29th, 2022  
TIME 10:00 A.M.  
AUCTION LOCATION:  
Bryant Community Center  
(107 South Main Street, Bryant, IN)  
REAL ESTATE  
This auction consists of two land offerings; one offering in Adams County, and the other within Jay County. Both offerings are a part of the WRP Program and are excellent hunting and recreational areas! All land will be auctioned from the Bryant Community Building at the address above, but for inquiries or to see the land, contact the auctioneers!  
**JAY COUNTY OFFERING**  
This offering consists of 43 +/- acres, located within Section 3 of Wabash Township in Jay County, Indiana.  
OWNER(S): William & Janet Knapke, and Martin Collins  
ADAMS COUNTY OFFERING  
128 total acreage located within Section 17 of Wabash Township in Adams County, Indiana. The land is non-tillable and will be offered as one of three tracts:  
OWNER(S): William & Janet Knapke  
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver  
Lic. #AU10500168  
260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver  
Lic. #AU19700040  
260-726-5587  
More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Saturday, January 22nd, 2022  
TIME 10:00 A. M.  
LOCATED: Sapphire's Reception Center - 1100 West Votaw Street, Portland, IN  
ANTIQUES  
Oak 12-ft bar-back from Cromer Brother's store in Portland, Oak double-drawer drop-front secretary, Large cherry double glass-door display cabinet, ornate Victorian love-seat & sofa, Oil lamps, Book collection.  
**HOUSEHOLD - MISCELLANEOUS LG 50-in** Flatscreen TV, Fishing poles & supplies, Several items not mentioned.  
**\*\*NOTE: The Joy's were avid antique collectors - This is a truly outstanding high-quality auction! Check out the photos online at either Auctionsoft, or AuctionZip, to see this wonderful collection!\*\***  
OWNER: Dick Joy (deceased) & Lola Joy (owner)  
**SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE**  
AC31800004  
AUCTIONEERS  
Zane Shawver  
AU10500168  
260-729-2229  
Pete D. Shawver  
AU19700040  
260-726-5587  
More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com

**CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer**

**ACROSS**

1 Egg on 40 Parched  
5 Science room 45 "Brigadoon"  
8 Arm bone lyricist  
12 Actress Gilpin 49 Buffalo's county  
13 Hosp. area 50 Miss Piggy's pronoun layer  
14 Wedding cake 52 French waterway position  
15 Bridge 53 —  
16 Not "agin" Romeo  
17 "Snap out —!" 54 Canine greeting  
18 Monet or Debussy 55 Summit  
20 Wards off 56 Ogler's look  
22 "— 57 "— -haw!" (cowgirl's cry)  
23 Be sick 58 Monopoly card  
24 Healthy 59 Monopoly card

**DOWN**

19 AMA member briefly  
2 Bell thing sound  
3 — Major  
4 Ceremony 26 Palmist's prediction  
5 Not enlarged or reduced  
6 Tennis feat  
7 "Ironside" star  
8 Perfect place  
9 Game show  
10 Astronaut Armstrong  
11 Sciences' partner

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

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Yesterday's answer 1-13

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**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located at 333 Blaine pike ( former DAV Building), Portland IN, Sunday Afternoon, JANUARY 16, 2022 12:30 P.M.  
**OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS-TOOLS**  
Oak rocker; child's horse rocker; Large assortment of rods and reels; Coke and Pepsi cases; whale copper weather vane top; knives; pocket knives; several oil cans including Gulf Pride and Texaco; large assortment of fishing lures; Advertising Thermometers to include Farmers Bank/Salamonia, Main Street Service Station/Portland, and Locker Oil/Portland; Rain Gauges to include Price Implement, Portland Lumber Supply and Laux Grocery; and many other items not listed.  
**SMITH FAMILY**  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU1031608  
Ben Lyons AU10700085  
Travis Theurer AU11200131  
Troy Foust AU19800068

Forefront ...

Continued from page 1  
Ison and Hines are coming off of runner-up regional finishes at 170 and 182 pounds, respectively.

Ison is Jay County's top returning medalist from last season, having placed third. She sports a 13-6 record with 10 pins this year and will wrestle either Kaitlin Gay of New Prairie or Kasey Cruse of Pendleton Heights in the quarterfinal round.

Friday will mark the first state medal for Hines, who entered the regional with a losing record but fought her way through to the championship match. At 7-9 on the season, she awaits the first-round winner between Delta's Kelsey Temple and Northview's Morgan Hughes.

Lothridge (11-9) could also earn her first state medal with an opening-round win over Jeffersonville's Kaylea Beauchamp. A victory would push her into the top eight and give her a quarterfinal match against Calin Campbell of North Montgomery.

Dollar (22-2) is the most experienced of the bunch as a three-time medalist. She would need an opening-round win over Kylie Smith-Foster of Greenfield Central to make it four. Her second-round match would be against Emily Anderson of Hamilton Southeastern.

"Tricia has faced some pretty tough competition," said Myers. "She has a pretty nice headlock, so she works to get to that. And she has good defense. She's pretty tough on top.

"All those girls, as long as they get to the places and positions that they're best at and dictate where the match goes, they'll be in good shape."

While Winner goes in as the favorite in her weight class, any of

*'You bond with those girls differently. It's more like a family. It's something that we're all there for each other and we're all looking forward to going (to state) together.'*

—Mallory Winner, JCHS freshman

the Patriots in competition could become the school's first girl's wrestling state champion.

Dollar has come the closest in the five previous years of the IHSGW State Finals — Jay County has earned a dozen medals in all — having finished second in both 2019 and 2020 before placing fourth last season.

"She brings a lot of experience," said John Winner. "She's in a meat-grinder of a weight class. We're going to see some girls that we wrestled last week and gave us some fits. Hopefully we can go win some little battles and get a better outcome. I think Lizzie's in there for a top-four finish again."

Girls wrestling is a growing sport in Indiana, with more than 350 athletes competing at last weekend's regional meet. That's up about 100 from the previous year. (For reference, the boys regional level has nearly 1,800 competitors.)

Jay County has been one of the schools are the forefront of the sport, with a goal of it eventually becoming

sanctioned by the Indiana High School Athletics Association. The Patriots competed in the first all-girls wrestling dual meet in state history in November, falling 31-30 on tiebreaker criteria to Columbia City, which has eight competitors wrestling in the state finals. (Jeffersonville will have six wrestlers in Friday's event.)

"I think it's pretty awesome," said Myers. "It just says a lot of girls and about our wrestling program and our community. ... Our group was able to take girls wrestling and run with it. There was no hesitation there. ... We're just trying to provide the best opportunities we can for our girls and our guys to be successful.

"We've treated our girls just like our guys. Sometimes girls take a little bit of a back seat. We're trying to make sure that that doesn't happen."

"It feels pretty great," added Mallory Winner. "You bond with those girls differently. It's more like a family. It's something that we're all there for each other and we're all looking forward to going (to state) together."

Pacers fall to the Celtics

By MICHAEL MAROT  
AP Sports Writer  
INDIANAPOLIS — Jaylen Brown and Jayson Tatum packed a punch Wednesday night. Dennis Schroder added his own touch.

Brown scored 34 points, Tatum added 33 and Schroder finished with 23 as the Boston Celtics rolled past the Indiana Pacers 119-100.

Boston snapped a six-game road losing streak while beating Indiana for

the second time in three days and the fourth straight time.

With Brown, Tatum and Schroder operating at full throttle, the Pacers struggled to get in synch as two starters — Malcolm Brogdon and Caris LeVert — returned after being cleared through the health and safety protocols.

That left it up to Myles Turner, who had 18 points and Domantas Sabonis added 17 points, six rebounds and six assists.

Collegiate ...

Continued from page 1  
Alli Vaughn  
FRHS - 2021

Led the Huntington University women's basketball team in rebounds Wednesday in a 69-35 loss to NAIA No. 11 Indiana Wesleyan.

Vaughn grabbed six rebounds in just 11 minutes of action off the bench. She also hit one field goal as she finished with two points and one assist.

The freshman also had five points, including a 3-pointer, and one rebound

Saturday as Huntington fell 70-57 to seventh-ranked Marian.

Olivia Patch  
FRHS - 2020

Saw some spot action for the Hillsdale College women's basketball team in a couple of recent wins.

Patch played three minutes in a 78-66 victory over Lake Erie on Jan. 2. She recorded one steal.

She also got in for two minutes of action off the bench Saturday as the Chargers blasted Malone 91-61.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Wrestling at Homestead - 6:30 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Blackford - 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. heritage - 6 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Marion Local - 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Marion Local - 5 p.m.

**Friday**  
Jay County — Girls basketball Allen County Athletic Conference tournament semifinal vs. Southern Wells - 6 p.m.; Boys basketball Allen County Athletic Conference tournament semifinal vs. Southern Wells - 7:30 p.m.; Girls wrestling state finals at Kokomo - 7:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs.

Ansonia - noon; Boys basketball at Marion Local - 6 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Junior varsity wrestling at Tri High - 9 a.m.; Junior high wrestling at Belmont Invitational - 9:30 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. South Adams - noon

TV schedule

**Today**  
7 p.m. — NHL hockey: Philadelphia Flyers at Boston Bruins (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Portland Trail Blazers at Denver Nuggets (TNT)  
Midnight — Men's college basketball: Arizona vs. Colorado (FS1)

**Friday**  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Purdue vs. Nebraska (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan vs. Ohio State (BTN)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Iona vs. Manhattan (ESPNU)  
7:45 p.m. — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Boston Celtics (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. Bonaventure vs. VCU (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nebraska vs. Minnesota (BTN); Illinois vs. Michigan (FS1); Richmond vs. Davidson (ESPNU)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN  
Saturday Morning January 15, 2022 10:00 a.m.

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS- OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS**

Oak ¾ decorative antique bed; Oak dresser with acorn pulls and mirror; Oak secretary; drophead desk; Oak 3 drawer dresser; (2) chairs with tractor seats; lightning rod with cow weathervane; Aladdin lamps; Coleman items; fishing items; local advertising items; spinning wheel; stained glass hanging light; and many other items not listed.

**MOWER-TOOLS**

Toro push mower with bagger; aluminum step ladder; galvanized funnels; metal work lights; shop vac; small garden tools; and many other items not listed.

**MAXINE HARTZELL, DECEASED**  
Loy Auction AC#31600027  
Auctioneers  
Gary Loy AU01031608  
Ben Lyons AU10700085  
Travis Theurer AU11200131  
Troy Foust AU1980006

90 SALE CALENDAR

**UPCOMING AUCTIONS**

Bricker Auction Company 414 N Meridian St. Portland, IN Jan. 15th - Covington Personal Property Auction Online Only Auction - First item will be closing @ 7:00 PM  
**BIG collection of Coca - Cola memorabilia, garage items, Hot Wheels cars, furniture, Life Magazines, assorted vintage items, and much more!** Jan. 22nd - Cunningham Auction Online Only Auction - First Item will be closing @ 7:00 PM  
Garage items, household items, commercial weight bench, other work out items, and much more !  
Previews are held on Fridays from 12:00 - 5:00  
Download our app (Bricker Auction Company) from your Apple or Google Play Store to view our current and upcoming auctions!  
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Bricker Auction Company Chad Bricker-Auctioneer AU11600027

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90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**

Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN  
Saturday Morning January 22, 2022 9:30 a.m.

**OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS -GUNS**

Bowser 1913 gas pump; Dr Pepper sign; Mail Pouch sign; Moxie sign; GE Automotive Bulbs display case; Havoline porcelain double sided sign; 1886 Elgin pocket watch; Moline pocket watch; knives; Hitler photograph/card; old military pins; Sam Holt Arms Co. Belgium double barrel 12 gauge stage coach gun; and other items not listed.

**COINS**  
1851, 1853, and 1856 \$1 gold pieces; 1910, 1911, and 1912 \$2 ½ gold pieces; 1909 \$5 gold piece; 100+ Morgan Silver Dollars ranging from 1878-1921 including 1878 CC and 1890 CC; and many other coins not listed.

**TOOLS**  
Power Twin 50T press with 3" shaft; Sears 36 x 10 lathe, Lincoln 225 arc welder; die grinder; welding helmet; and many other items not listed.

Please note that we will be running 2 rings. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. day of sale for preview.

**FRED KAUFMAN**  
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130 MISC. FOR SALE

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Alcohol & Tobacco Commission  
**LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**  
The Alcohol Beverage Board of Jay County, Indiana will hold a public hearing at 11:00 am on January 25, 2022 at the Court House, Auditorium, in the city of Portland in said county, to investigate the propriety of holding an alcoholic beverage permit by the applicants listed herein to wit:  
RR3888481 Beer & Wine Retailer - Restaurant RE-NEWAL  
PIZZA HUT OF FORT WAYNE, INC. 1502 N. MERIDIAN Portland IN  
D/B/A PIZZA HUT  
TODD HOLLMAN 7194 N. 329 E. Huntington, President  
MATTHEW FORTNEY 2001 FALCONVIEW PLACE WEST Fort Wayne, Secretary  
RR3833963 Beer & Wine Retailer - Restaurant RE-NEWAL  
MORSTOR, INC. 231 S MAIN STREET Dunkirk IN  
D/B/A PIZZA KING  
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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

Upcoming Auctions

**Jan. 15th - Covington Personal Property Auction**

Online Only Auction

First item will be closing @ 7:00 PM  
**BIG collection of Coca - Cola memorabilia, garage items, Hot Wheels cars, furniture, Life Magazines, assorted vintage items, and much more!**

**Jan. 22nd - Cunningham Auction**

Online Only Auction

First Item will be closing @ 7:00 PM  
Garage items, household items, commercial weight bench, other work out items, and much more !

Previews are held on Fridays from 12:00 - 5:00  
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Bricker Auction Company

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Chad Bricker - Auctioneer

AU11600027  
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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bad luck is not to blame

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

**NORTH**  
♠ J 10 9  
♥ Q 5 4  
♦ A Q 8 2  
♣ 10 7 3  
**EAST**  
♠ 6 4  
♥ 8 2  
♦ K J 6 3  
♣ 9 6 5 4 2

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K Q 8 7 3  
♥ A K 7 3  
♦ 10 9 4  
♣ A

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1♣ 2♥ 2♠ Pass  
4♠

Opening lead — King of clubs.

Assume you're declarer at four spades and West leads the king of clubs. You win with the ace, cash the A-K of spades and finesse the diamond ten, losing to East's jack.

East returns the eight of hearts, and when you follow low, West's nine forces dummy's queen. You cross to your hand with a trump or ruffing a club and lead the nine of diamonds, finessing again. East wins with the king and delivers the killing blow by returning the deuce

of hearts. West cashes two heart tricks, and you go down one.

You could, of course, claim that you were unlucky. You could argue that West, who entered the bidding, should have had either the king or jack of diamonds. But if you analyze your play objectively, you discover that you misplayed the hand. It wasn't just bad luck that beat you; there was a sure-fire way to make the contract, and it was not really difficult.

When East returned the eight of hearts at trick five, you should have played the king instead of following low. This would have forced West to take his ace, and the contract would then have been secure regardless of what he returned or where the king of diamonds was located.

Thus, suppose West returned the jack of hearts after taking the ace. You'd win with dummy's queen, ruff a club and try another diamond finesse. The finesse would lose, but you would be home free. East would not have a heart to return — he could not really have more than two hearts considering West's heart overall — and when he returned a club instead, you would ruff and dispose of your heart loser on dummy's fourth diamond.

# Sports

## At the forefront

Jay County High School will have five athletes competing at the girls wrestling state finals Friday night in Kokomo

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Penn, Columbia City, Jeffersonville.

That's it. That's the list.

Only three squads will have more athletes competing Friday than the Jay County High School girls wrestling team as it heads to the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling State Finals in Kokomo.

Five Patriots will take to the mat, with regional champion Mallory Winner leading the way. She is joined by three-time state medalist Lizzie Dollar, Tricia Ison, Lilly Lothridge and Molly Hines.

"I'm just really excited for those girls," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "There's a great atmosphere at Memorial Gym in Kokomo. It's a great experience for those girls and we're looking forward to it."

"We're really excited," echoed John Winner, one of the program's army of assistant coaches. "It's going to be fun. ... Just the opportunities that the girls are getting to go, and getting better, is pretty exciting for me."

Winner, Ison and Hines have already earned themselves state medals — they go to the top eight wrestlers in each weight class — by placing in the top two at the regional meet. Their reward is a first-round bye at the state tournament, which puts them in the quarterfinals.

Winner, a freshman, goes to state competition after winning the 160-pound regional title with a 4-1 decision over Grace Hiroms of Rochester. The top-



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Jay County High School wrestlers Mallory Winner (left) and Lizzie Dollar (right) practice together Tuesday afternoon in preparation for Friday's Indiana High School Girls Wrestling State Finals. Winner, a freshman, is the top-ranked wrestler at 160 pounds and Dollar is a three-time state medalist for the Patriots.

ranked wrestler in her class, she had an opening-round by and then needed just a total of 89 seconds to dispose of her quarterfinal and semifinal opponents.

Her quarterfinal match Friday will be against the winner of an opening-round bout between Clarissa Robles of Penn, which has a tournament-high 13 wrestlers com-

peting, and Sierra Holder of Warren Central.

Winner is perfect in her 22 matches this year and has won 16 of them by pin.

"She just needs to stick with

her game plan, keep wrestling her style, being tough on top and wrestling fairly aggressively on her feet," said Myers.

See Forefront page 7



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## LeFevre wins two

Robby LeFevre got his 2022 started in style.

The 2019 Fort Recovery High School graduate won both of his events Saturday as the Fordham University men's track team hosted the Fordham Alumni Meet.

LeFevre proved to be the top sprinter at the meet. His first win came in the 60-meter dash in 7.17 seconds, just 0.07 seconds faster than Anthony Urbancik of Stony Brook. He added a victory by more than one second in the 200 dash as he finished in 23.28.

Fordham had opened its season a month earlier at the Bill Ward Invitational hosted by St. John's. At that meet, he placed sixth in the 200 dash with a time of 23.01. He trailed athletes from Georgetown, Iona and Golden Eagle.

He posted a time of 7.18 for 23rd in the 60 dash.

**Kierra Wendel  
Fort Recovery - 2021**

Has been the first player off the bench for the Edison State Community College women's basketball team in back-to-back victories over Wilberforce and Owens.

Wendel played 20 minutes Monday as

### Collegiate Check-up

Edison State clobbered Wilberforce University's junior varsity squad 107-66. She was second on the team with five assists while also totaling five points, three rebounds and two assists.

The freshman had six points and two rebounds in 25 minutes off the bench Wednesday as the Chargers topped Owens 72-66.

**Lita Chowning  
Jay County - 2021**

Helped the Indiana Tech women's wrestling team to a seventh-place finish last week in its first appearance in the National Wrestling Coaches Association National Duals at Kentucky International Convention Center.

Chowning, a freshman, finished in sixth place at 116 pounds. The 11th-ranked Warriors are now 6-5 on the season.

See Collegiate page 7

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