

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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## Chillin' in Jay

### Swindell will headline 2022 fair

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Cole Swindell will be chillin' in Jay County this summer.

Jay County Fair Board on Tuesday announced that Swindell, a country music artist whose hit songs include "Chillin' It," will be the featured performer at the 150th Jay County Fair in July.

Swindell — he will be joined by fellow country music artists Tyler Rich and Ashley Cook for a concert that kicks off at 7 p.m. Friday, July 15 — headlines a schedule of fair entertainment that also includes a Christian music concert at the grandstand for the second year in a row, bookend Saturdays of demolition derbies and one new attraction.

The Swindell performance will be the second of back-to-back concerts this year, as Faith Night at the Fair will also return. It will feature Christian music group Cain, with Jay County native Vernon Piercey as the group's opening act.

Tickets for both concerts will go on sale at 8 a.m. Monday at jaycountyfair.com.

For the Swindell concert, tickets are \$40 for the grandstand, \$50 for side box seats and general standing room only on the track, and \$65 for center box seats and the "party pit" in front of the stage. (There will be no reserved seating on the track for the show.)

Tickets for Cain are \$15 for the grandstand, \$20 for track reserved seating and \$25 for the "party pit."

Swindell broke into the country music scene with his self-titled debut album in 2014, with "Chillin' It" rising to the top of the U.S. country charts. He was named the Academy of Country Music's best new artist in 2015.

His most recent award nomination was for ACM song of the year for "Break Up in the End" in 2019. And his fourth album, "Stereotype," is set to come out in April.

"Since releasing his debut album in 2014, Cole Swindell has established himself as an adept songwriter and engaging performer," Annie Reuter of "Sounds Like Nashville" said in a review of previous album, "All of It." "(He) has established himself on the heart wrenching ballads, but he's



Photo provided

Cole Swindell, whose new album "Stereotype" is scheduled to be released in April, will be the featured performer for the 2022 Jay County Fair. His concert, which will also include Tyler Rich and Ashley Cook, kicks off at 7 p.m. Friday, July 15. Tickets go on sale Monday.

also well versed in the party anthems."

Cain is a group made up of siblings Taylor, Madison and Logan Cain of Alabama. The band has been performing since 2012 and is coming off of a year when it was nominated for the American Music Award for favorite artist in the contemporary inspirational category and new artist of the year in the Gospel Music Association Dove Awards.

This will be the second year of Faith Night at the Fair after

Jordan Feliz and The Frye Family Band performed last summer.

"We thought it was a really good success last year, something we want to continue to grow with," said fair board secretary Travis Theurer. "It's something a little different than what we've done in years past. We're just trying to reach more people throughout our community and bring them to the fair. We had a lot of positive feedback."

The rest of the fair grand-

stand entertainment schedule is as follows:

- Demolition derbies on Saturdays July 9 and 16
- Micro wrestling on Sunday, July 10
- A monster truck show on Monday, July 11
- Autocross racing on Tuesday, July 12
- Harness racing on Wednesday, July 13

All grandstand events begin at 7 p.m., with the exception of a 4 p.m. start for harness racing. See Fair page 5

## School board hires broker

Jay School Board hired a real estate broker and received updates regarding the current Indiana legislative session and the SAT at its meeting Monday.

The school corporation received three proposals from real estate firms for handling the sale of the former Westlawn Elementary School building in Dunkirk. Only two of the firms met the requirements set forth by the corporation, and the board on Monday voted to hire Loy Real Estate and Auction to handle the sale. The firm had the lowest commission rate of 1.79%.

The building ceased operations as an elementary school following the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year in May. Students shifted to the former West Jay Middle School building this year.

Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley noted that the corporation still has the option to donate the building to a municipality or non-profit organization if a viable proposal is made.

At Dunkirk City Council's meeting Monday, Gloria Hamilton discussed the possibility of the city acquiring the building and splitting it into sections. She has talked with addiction recovery organization A Better Life - Brianna's Hope and Building Blocks Academy about possibly providing services in the former Westlawn building. She said she hopes to be able to have a proposal for the school board next month.

Gulley also provided the board with the most recent update on state legislation from Indiana School Boards Association. He encouraged board members to reach out to state legislators regarding school-related bills and informed them that 10 members of Jay Classroom Teachers Association will be attending Indiana State Teachers Associations Pack the House, which continues through Thursday.

See Board page 2

## Heading to DLGF

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

After more than seven years serving as auditor of Jay County, Anna Culy is leaving county office early for a position in state government.

Culy is resigning as Jay County Auditor effective March 5. She starts orientation for her new position as a budget field representative at Indiana Department of Local Government Finance two days later.

"It is weird. It's very weird to think that I will not be in the courthouse, but it doesn't necessarily mean I (won't) be around," Culy said.

She won't be moving for her new job. Instead she plans to commute from Jay County and work from home when needed.

### Culy resigning as auditor March 5 to take job in state government

Culy has worked in the auditor's office in various roles since 2003. She started as part-time help, and within five years she became the first deputy. In 2015, she took office as county auditor and has served just short of two terms, with her second term to end Dec. 31. (She was unable to run for re-election because of term limits.)

With Culy departing, a Republican caucus will

choose someone to fill out the rest of her term.

Two Republicans, current first deputy Emily Franks and Kristi Morningstar, are running for their party's nomination for county auditor in the May primary election.

(No Democrats filed for the primary, but the party could slate a candidate for the general election later this year.)

See DLGF page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Anna Culy, who has served as auditor of Jay County for more than seven years, is resigning effective March 5. She's joining the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance, where she'll be helping counties across the state with their budgets. Pictured, Culy sits at her desk in the auditor's office at Jay County Courthouse on Tuesday.

### Deaths

Mary Clear, 90, Portland  
Gloria Kelly, 80, Montpelier  
James Wilder, 90, Decatur  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 37 degrees Tuesday. The low was 18.

Tonight's low will be 50 with rain expected to begin after midnight and winds gusting to 35 miles per hour. Jay County is under a flood advisory until 7 p.m. Thursday.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

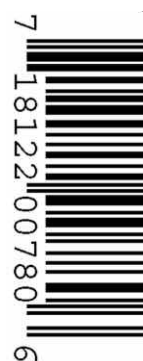
### In review

Need to fill out a birth announcement, engagement or wedding form to have your special event announced in the newspaper? They're now available electronically. Just go to thecr.com, hover over "Forms" and select the form you'd like to fill out.

### Coming up

Thursday — An update on the coronavirus pandemic in Jay County.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS wrestlers at the state finals.







# Everything is better with brownies

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

Brownies always make things better.

I lost track of how many times I shoveled our sidewalks during February's snow.

For the first couple of days, we received about an inch every night. A half hour or 20 minutes clearing off the overnight snow was a piece of cake. It didn't require much in the way of exertion, but it provided a nice dividend of virtue and righteousness.

Then the real snow hit. When the shoveling had been easy, I'd kept the sidewalk pathways wide enough for two people. When the real snow hit, I figured a single-file path was good enough.

Even that proved hard to keep up with.

Old snow would compact, new snow would arrive, some of that would melt and some of it would drift the single-file pathway closed.

Finally, with the wind abated

## Back in the Saddle



and drifting temporarily not a problem, it was time to address things properly.

I took one snow shovel and my wife took the other.

She concentrated on getting to her SUV, figuring she could drive up and down the driveway to create a good enough path.

I concentrated on the sidewalks — again. And this time, it was rough going for an old guy.

News stories about men my age collapsing in the snow flashed through my head. I tried to concentrate on a Billy Collins poem that's a favorite of mine. In it, the poet imagines shoveling snow with Buddha, who takes — not surprisingly — a very Buddhist

and laid-back approach to the task. At the end of the poem, the poet and the Buddha go inside for hot cocoa.

It was a pleasing image, a heck of a lot more pleasing than those news stories about guys in their 70s dying with snow shovels in their hands.

I was making good progress when I heard a noise from across the street. Then I heard it again. After about the fifth time, I figured out what it was: Someone was attempting to start a snowblower.

Just about the time I figured out what I was hearing, the snowblower took off and was ready to go to work.

Grandpa Bob to the rescue, I thought.

Sure enough, our neighbor across the street whose name has been omitted to protect his privacy, had fired up his equipment and was ready to put winter in its place.

I waved to my wife and pointed across the street, where Grandpa

Bob was already sending tornadoes of snow into the air as he cleared the family driveway.

Grandpa Bob sports a beard that would make Santa proud. And I usually encounter him in winter, which would be appropriate for Santa as well.

We've cleared walks together — me with my puny shovel and Grandpa Bob with his mighty snowblower — a few times over the years. It's mostly work, not conversation. But we have noted that we were probably the oldest guys on the block, doing the winter work while younger folks stayed safely inside.

In a matter of a few minutes, Grandpa Bob had cleared his family's sidewalks and drive while his granddaughter delighted in the flying snow.

Then he did what he has done in the past. He did what good neighbors do.

Grandpa Bob crossed the street and set to work on the snow-filled driveway behind Connie's SUV. Then he widened

my single-file path on the sidewalk at the street, making it safer for pedestrians. Then he went back across the street and cleared the sidewalks for a couple of other houses.

As he worked, I went back inside to warm up and to try to find that Billy Collins poem I'd been thinking about.

Connie went back inside and immediately did the right thing: She baked brownies.

Later, after Grandpa Bob was done and the snowblower had been put away and the brownies had come out of the oven and cooled, she took a plate of them across the street.

"That's not necessary," Grandpa Bob told her.

Of course not, she said, just as he wasn't obligated to clear our driveway.

Doing the right thing when it's not necessary is the whole point. It may be, in fact, the greatest lesson winter can teach us.

That, and the fact that brownies always make things better.

# Pence needs to do more

The Republic (Columbus)

Former Vice President and Columbus native Mike Pence made news last week for a statement that in a more rational time would not need to have been made.

"President Trump is wrong," Pence said. "I had no right to overturn the election."

Think about that. Pence made news for saying that he "had no right" to subvert the will of the American people. Of course, it's widely believed that Pence is running for president in 2024. For good or ill, Pence's relationship to Trump defines him at this moment, and Pence made a political calculation to finally say this now, more than a year after the deadly Capitol insurrection.

This remains, at this moment, the United States of America. We remain a democratic republic of 50 states, which chooses its president by electors, who reflect the will of the voters in each state, based on the votes that are counted in every precinct, in every county, and certified by every state.

And it's worked like this for not quite 250 years.

Until Donald Trump. Pence made news for saying what he did because the former president refuses, to this day, to accept the reality that he lost the 2020 election. Lost by 7 million votes. Lost the Electoral College by a margin of 306-232. Lost by a margin even greater than the electoral "landslide" he claimed he achieved in 2016.

As is his custom when someone speaks the truth about him, Trump lashed out.

"Just saw Mike Pence's statement on the fact that he had no right to do anything with respect to the Electoral Vote Count, other than being an automatic conveyor belt for the Old Crow Mitch McConnell to get Biden elected President as quickly as possible," Trump fumed in a statement. "Well, the Vice President's position is

## Hoosier Editorial

not an automatic conveyor or if obvious signs of voter fraud or irregularities exist."

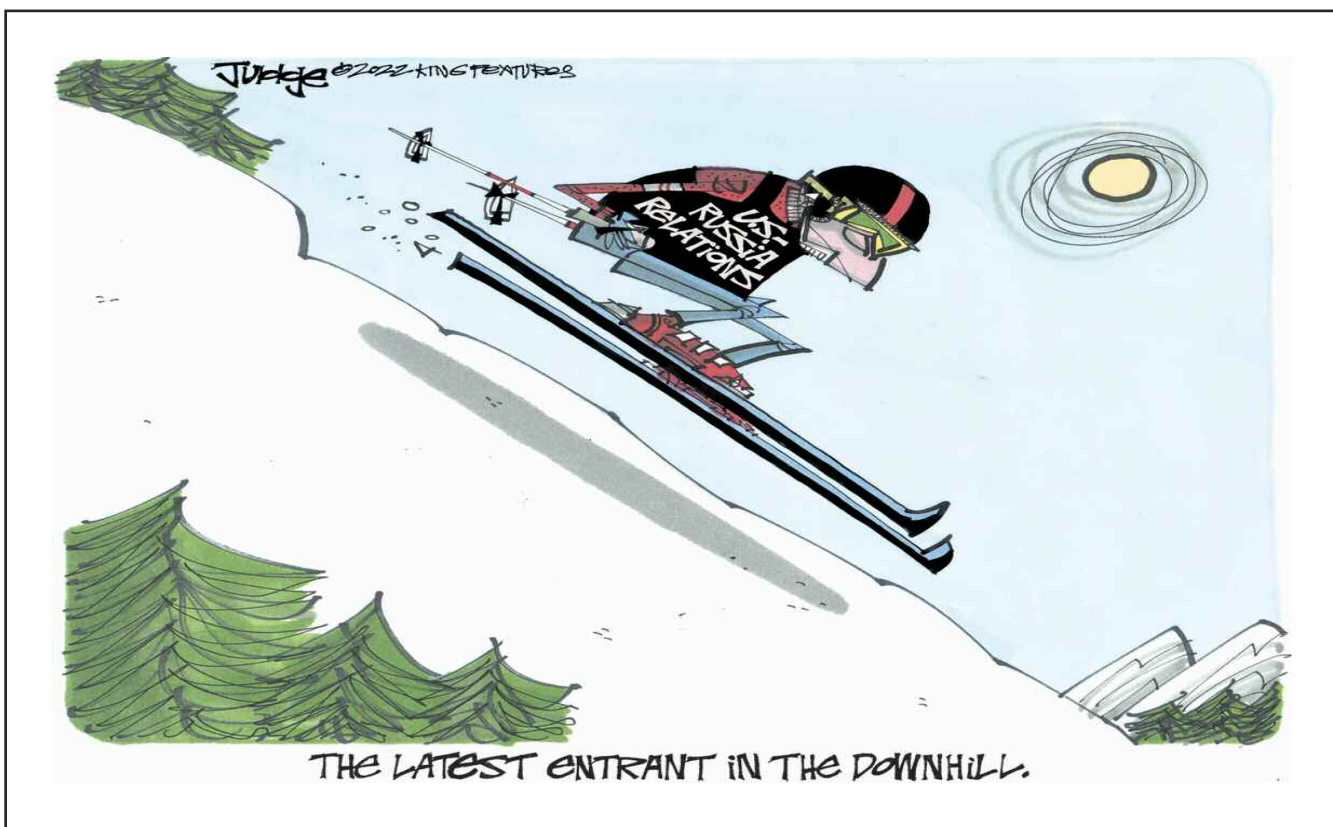
The "obvious signs of voter fraud or irregularities" exist only in Trump's delusions. He refuses to even entertain the possibility that he lost, let alone concede that he did. He went to court more than five dozen times on these bogus fraud claims. He couldn't convince a single judge — even some he himself appointed — that his fraud claims had any merit.

Yet Trump's pathology is now orthodoxy for a dangerous faction of what now constitutes the Republican Party and who refuse to call Joe Biden the president. Trump denies the possibility, and that's good enough for them.

But terrible for our country. Meanwhile, we are slowly learning that the only actual election fraud in 2020 was that which Trump's stooges tried to coerce Pence to engage in. They wanted him, in his ceremonial function in certifying the election, to reject the legitimate slates of states' electors, or delay them, while conspirators conscripted phony slates of electors from key states, thereby delaying or denying the lawful and peaceful transfer of power to Biden.

The January 6 committee is gathering evidence of this treacherous and seditious plot that was in the shadows of the deadly insurrection at the Capitol. "Hang Mike Pence," rioters chanted when they learned he would not, in fact, go along and overturn the election.

It's good that, at last, Pence is speaking the truth. He should testify to the Jan. 6 committee. Pence owes history, and the American people, his version of these critical events.



# Washington ignores suffering

By JAMES DOWNIE  
The Washington Post

On Sunday, the White House deployed national security adviser Jake Sullivan and Pentagon spokesman John Kirby to the Sunday talk shows for interviews on the urgent Russian threat to Ukraine. But as one war looms, those shows still had a few questions regarding the end of another: last summer's disastrous U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. CNN's Jake Tapper even ended "State of the Union" with a commentary on a U.S. Army review of the exit, first reported by The Washington Post.

More of that is needed. America's withdrawal from Afghanistan deserves all the attention and study it can get. The Army report provides pages and pages of evidence that policymakers badly misread conditions on the ground. But U.S. politicians and media frequently treat Afghanistan these days like a TV series that had its finale in 2021. Even the stories most focused on Afghans, such as George Packer's must-read feature for the Atlantic, usually end their tales when American boots leave the ground.

But Afghans' suffering is very much ongoing, and American decisions continue to make it worse.

"Afghanistan has become the world's largest humanitarian crisis," the New Yorker's Jane Ferguson reported last month. "Half of the country's population needs humanitarian assistance to survive, double the number from 2020. More than twenty million people are on the brink of famine." The U.N. World Food Program estimates that 95% of Afghan families lack enough to eat. The U.N. Development Program projects that by the summer, the poverty rate could be as high as 97%.

Of course, much of the blame must fall on the Taliban: As its members commit widespread human rights

violations, the government denies the scale of the famine. But that famine is a direct consequence of the United States' failure to create a self-sustaining economy there over two decades. More recently, the Biden administration's decision to freeze billions in Afghan government assets as the United States withdrew exacerbated the resulting economic crash. Since then, humanitarian groups have begged the White House to release the money as aid. Last week, Biden finally ordered the release of the \$7 billion held in U.S. banks — except he also ordered half held for Sept. 11 victims' legal claims against the Taliban.

That decision is indefensible both logically and morally. First, that money doesn't belong to the Taliban — indeed, that was the Biden administration's argument for freezing it in the first place. To now say that it should go to Sept. 11 victims, deserving as they are, is a complete flip-flop. Second, with half the money going to Afghanistan in aid anyway, there's no possible argument that this arrangement is about keeping money out of the Taliban's hands. Finally, and most important, however many lives \$3.5 billion in aid will save, \$7 billion would save that many more.

But neither Sullivan nor Kirby fielded a question on the Sunday talk shows about the seized funds.

This American-centric framing isn't just an abstract failing. A wider view may have led to better decisions from policymakers. One goal of the

## James Downie



United States was to help rebuild a stable government for the Afghan people. By that standard, the situation on the ground was almost never acceptable. But politicians and media outlets perpetuated the incompatible view that Afghanistan was only in crisis when America's soldiers and image were in imminent danger. That helped the war drag on long past any chance of stopping the Taliban, supporting a functioning Afghan state or any other measure of success. The everyday signs of failure were kept out of sight and out of mind for most Americans. A different approach, one that treated Afghan suffering like American suffering, would have almost certainly brought a quicker end to the quagmire.

Sadly, if a new way of thinking is ever to come out of the Afghanistan disaster, it seems unlikely to come from this White House. "Did you learn the lessons of Afghanistan?" CBS's Margaret Brennan asked Sullivan on "Face the Nation." "Are you applying them now?" Rather than answer the question, Sullivan disputed The Post's story. On "Fox News Sunday," Kirby was more respectful toward the Army report but still played down its findings. And no wonder, when the president flat-out rejected the report's conclusions.

"Did you learn the lessons of Afghanistan?" is a question many American institutions — politicians, military, media — should continue to ask themselves for the foreseeable future. And no lesson can be learned if the true cost is downplayed. If the United States is to avoid the next great quagmire, if some yet-unknown country's people is to avoid the terrible fate that has befallen millions of innocent Afghans, the Biden administration — and the rest of these institutions — will need a better answer.

Downie is The Washington Post's digital opinions editor.

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



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JACK RONALD  
President

TONIA HARDY  
Business manager

RAY COONEY  
Editor and publisher

BRIAN DODD  
Production manager

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." — Thomas Jefferson

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# Fair ...

Continued from page 1

The new attraction on the list is micro wrestling, which features a WWE-style show featuring performers shorter than 5 feet. The Micro Wrestling Federation, which was founded in 2000 and produces the shows, is based in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee.

"We're just always looking for something different," said fair board treasurer Aaron Loy. "A lot of times you can just get in a routine of just doing the same shows, and we try not to do that. ... We feel like we have a pretty big wrestling and WWE fan-base in the area ..."

The fair board is working on additional plans to celebrate the 150th fair, including hosting a community picnic. It also plans to recognize various fair-related groups — former queens, services groups, former fair board members, etc. — each night. And the fair will close with a fireworks display.

"We really just want to highlight the strong tradition and history that we have," said Loy.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Sledding starts

Scouts BSA members take off from the start line during a sledding competition Saturday at Jay County Scout Facility. Scout Troop 72 from Monroe finished in first place.

# Capsule Reports

### Highway crash

A Dunkirk woman and child and a Montpelier woman were taken to the hospital after their vehicles collided on Indiana 1 about 3:15 p.m. Friday.

Jacob R. Ross, 26, Muncie, told Jay County Sheriff's Office he was driving his 2002 Pontiac Sunfire east on county road 400 South and stopped in front of the intersection with the highway. According to a report from the sheriff's office, he proceeded east and pulled in front of a northbound 2000 Ford Focus, driven by 39-year-old Jennifer M. Parson, and the two vehicles collided.

Parson sustained a chest injury and was transported to IU Health Ball Memorial of Muncie. Ross' passengers, 25-year-old Breanna L. Fierstos and a two-year-old child, also sustained injuries and were taken to IU Health Ball Memorial.

Both vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. The car Par-

son was driving is registered to Mary N. Vazquez of Geneva.

### Lost control

An Ohio man drove off the side of Indiana 26 about 8:30 a.m. Saturday, causing his vehicle to flip on its top in a southern ditch.

James A. Arnett, 66, Celina, was driving west on Indiana 26 near county road 850 West when he drove off the south side of the road for an unknown reason, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. His 2003 Ford Ranger continued into a ditch, causing it to roll onto its top.

Arnett was trapped in his vehicle when police arrived. He sustained a head injury and was transported to IU Health Ball Memorial of Muncie.

His vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

### Troublesome trashcan

A Portland woman crashed her car into a trashcan on Indi-

ana 18 near Bryant about 12:20 p.m. Thursday.

Leeann E. Miller, 39, Portland, was driving her 2017 Honda Odyssey west on Indiana 18 near county road 550 West when she drove into a trash can. Miller told Jay County Sheriff's Office she didn't see the container on the road until it was too late.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The trash can belonged to Andrew Paxson.

### Backing collision

A Fort Wayne truck driver backed into a Geneva woman's car on Court Street in Portland about 3:10 p.m. Friday.

Terry L. Hakes, 44, told Portland Police he was backing up a 2015 Isuzu and got out of the vehicle to make sure he had enough room. He said he thought he didn't hit any cars and left the scene, but he later discovered he hit a parked 2015 Jeep Grand Cherokee registered to Madelyn R. Miller.

Damage is estimated between

\$1,000 and \$2,500. The vehicle Hakes was driving is registered to Office Three Sixty of Indianapolis.

### Walmart crash

A Portland woman backed into a sign in the Portland Walmart parking lot about 1:40 p.m. Saturday.

Rhonda J. Henry, 63, told Portland Police she was backing her 2011 General Motors Terrain out of a parking spot at 950 W. Votaw St. and didn't notice the sign behind her. Her vehicle crashed into the sign.

Henry's vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

### Walmart accident

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000 after a Hartford City woman drove out of the Portland Walmart parking lot and into oncoming traffic about 6:20 p.m. Monday.

Madison A. Franks, 18, Portland, told Portland Police she

was driving west on Votaw Street and passing the intersection with Williams Street when a 2009 Chevrolet Impala, driven by 23-year-old Elizabeth A. Reynard of Hartford City, pulled out of the parking lot at 950 W. Votaw St. and in front of her 2007 Honda Accord. (There is no stop for Votaw Street at the intersection.) Their vehicles collided and were later towed.

### Fled the scene

An unknown driver crashed into an Ohio woman's vehicle at the intersection of Votaw and Wayne streets and left the scene about 8 p.m. Monday.

Ruby M. Kelley, 61, Fort Recovery, told Portland Police she stopped her 2021 Jeep Renegade on Votaw Street at the intersection with Wayne Street. As she continued forward, a small red car hit her passenger side. The unknown driver fled the scene in their vehicle.

Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

# DLGF ...

Continued from page 1  
Culy is excited to pick up a job in a similar field.

The main aspect of her new job will be helping counties across the state with the "back end" of their budgets.

"I like the budget," she said. "And so I get to learn more about the other side of it."

She'll also serve as a communication link, guiding other auditors through the process.

The county auditor's office handles finances for the county, such as

putting together an annual budget and issuing payroll.

"A lot of people don't know what this office does, but it's essential to county operations," she added.

Her coworkers expressed they would miss having her in the office.

"She's a great leader, all around," said Amy Davis.

Franks said she's glad Culy is entering a similar career field. She and her coworkers will miss the woman who helped teach

them over the years, she added.

"We (knew) she was going to leave, we just didn't think it was going to be this soon," she said.

Working for the state also appealed to Culy because she may be able to help with parts of Jay County's budget in future years. She hopes to continue contributing toward the area however she can.

"I don't want to stop being a part of this county. It is my home," she said.

# Felony arrests

### Child molestation

A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for child molestation.

James L. Cordell, 62, 1207 N. Franklin St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 3 felony, along with two Level 4 felonies for incest and child solicitation.

He's being held on a \$35,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Theft

Two Dunkirk residents were arrested Friday for theft.

Jason L. Newman, 46, and Yvonnea M. Newman, both of 333 S. Indiana St., were each preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for receiving or possession of stolen property. Yvonnea Newman was also preliminarily charged with a Class A misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Jason Newman is being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail, and Yvonnea Newman is being held in Jay County Jail on a \$4,000 bond.

### Drunk driving

A Muncie man was arrested Monday for operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Donald H. Huff, 49, 1609 N. Dartmouth Ave., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony, along with another Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended license and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

He's being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Common nuisance

A Portland woman was arrested

Tuesday for maintaining a common nuisance.

Heather L. Sawyer, 38, 752 E. 450 South, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony, along with another Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

She's being held on a \$5,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Dependent nonsupport

A Redkey man was arrested Tuesday for nonsupport of a dependent child.

Jason C. Miller, 48, 900 W. High St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

He's being held on a \$500 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Drug possession

Two Portland residents were arrested this morning for drug possession.

Noah W. Teeter, 55, 520 E. Walnut St., was preliminarily charged with two Level 6 felonies for possession of methamphetamine and obstruction of justice, a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. He's being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Halley N. Clark, 27, 416 E. High St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 4 felony for escape, two Level 6 felonies for obstruction of justice and possession of methamphetamine, two Class A misdemeanors for resisting law enforcement and possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She's being held on a \$22,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

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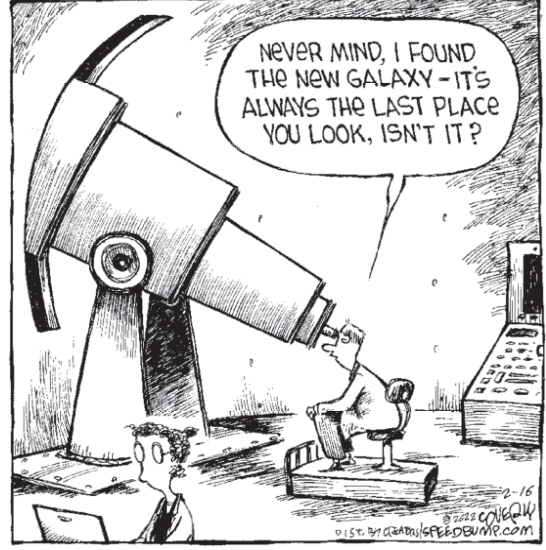
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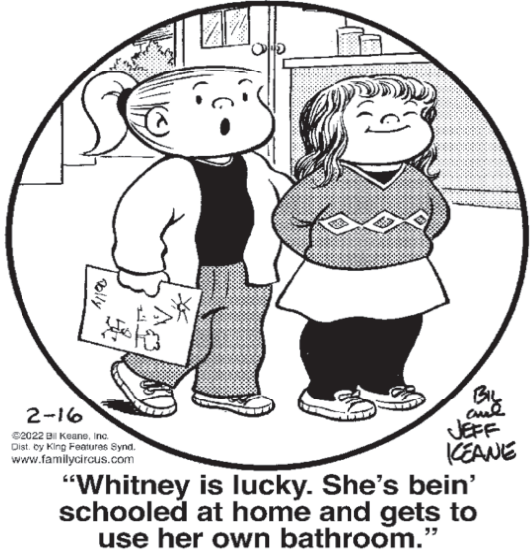
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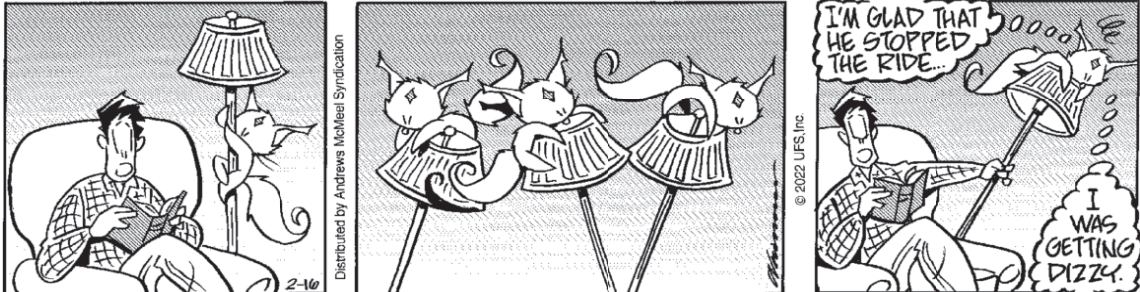
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Peanuts



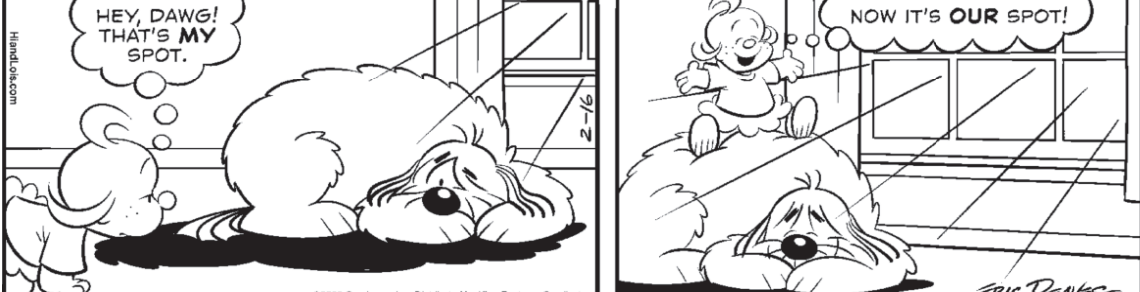
Rose is Rose



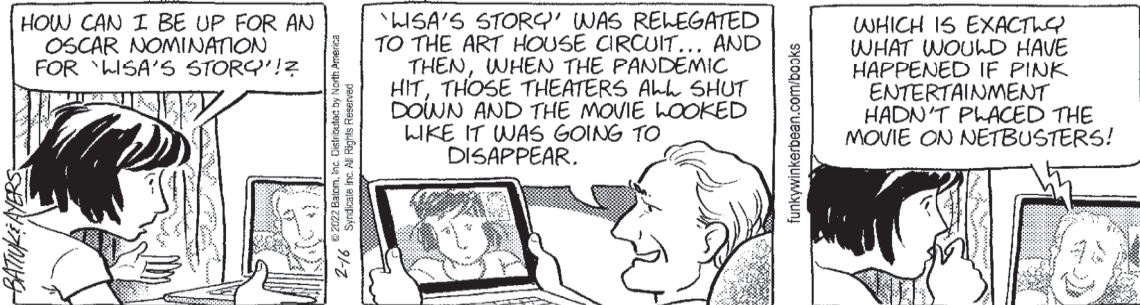
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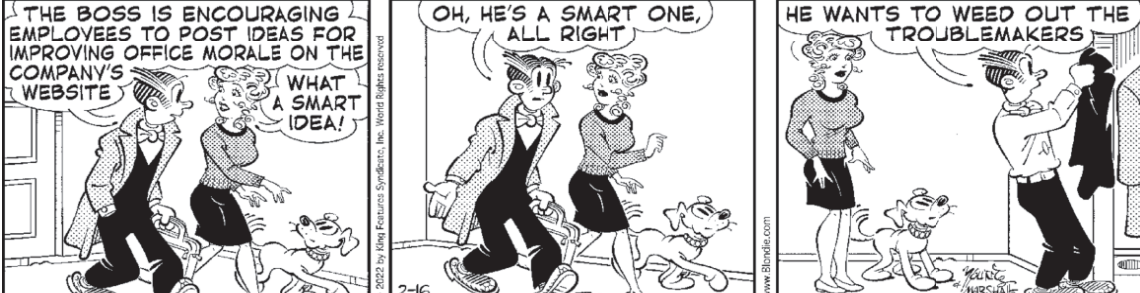
Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



2-16 CRYPTOQUIP

Z 'C EKNDDQ DZJK PG MKK
NSPGE MSGPP RDNQ N
FNLRZEK ZB N LGFZK. PTKB
TK'C UK N UNJIDN CENSIDN.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF PEOPLE REGULARLY GET PAID TO SNUGGLE UP TOGETHER, I'D SAY THAT'S PROFESSIONAL NESTLING.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 38 Wall St. 59 Cruising 16 Norwegian saint
1 Austen heroine 20 Clean air org.
5 Task 40 Aunt, in Mexico 1 "NFL Live" ainer 23 Kung — chicken
8 Transcript stats 41 "Funny!" 2 Hawaiian island 24 Historic time
12 Swedish auto 45 Ocean weather 3 Mardi Gras 25 Cork-board stickers
13 Coach Par-seghian 47 Rum cocktail 5 Fossil discovery 27 CEO's degree, maybe
14 Expel 51 Singer India.— 6 Tramcar contents 29 Sundial numeral
15 Sucker 52 Resis-tance 7 Dance 30 Hot tub
17 Nick and Nora's pooch 54 Puts on 55 Rock studio 32 Least messy
18 Physician Tesla producer 8 Needling 34 Bright red
19 Very popular 56 Days gone by vehicle 9 Vendor's 37 "Keep it down!"
21 Aries 57 Admin. aide gardening 10 Re- 39 Mediocre
22 Monumental 58 Dijon denial "Now!" 42 Skiers' mecca
23 Zing 26 Reunion gp. 44 Neighbor of Chad
28 Diarist Nin 45 Arp's art
31 Make — for it (flee) 46 Love god
33 Co. with a peacock logo 49 Farmland unit
35 Clench 50 Furniture brand
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Thursday's paper will include a preview story of the IHSAA wrestling state finals set for Friday

JCHS boys swim to host sectional prelims Thursday, see Sports on tap

# Sports

## Fourth powers Fort boys

MINSTER, Ohio — The Indians had a tough time shaking the Wildcats for three quarters.

The final eight minutes did the trick.

Fort Recovery High School's boys basketball team used a 16-11 margin in the fourth quarter to overtake and then pull away from the Minster Wildcats on Tuesday.

The win pushes the Tribe to 14-7 (4-4 Midwest Athletic Conference) on

the season while Minster dips to 5-17 (1-8 MAC).

Neither team gained much control after the first quarter; but the host Wildcats went into intermission leading by one, 18-17. Fort Recovery didn't allow Minster to get any separation, and the score was knotted at 26 with one quarter to play.

But that's when the Indians went 7-of-9 from the free-throw line.

Cale Rammel scored six of his

game-high 15 points in the final quarter. Caleb Evers joined him in double figures with 10 points, and Owen Jutte was close behind with nine points. Logan Homan was the only other Tribe player to score, and he put in eight points.

Fort Recovery's junior varsity team topped Minster 45-38. Reece Guggenbiller led the way with 13 points for FRHS, and Alex Dues was second with 11 points.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Triple threat

Jay County High School senior Ethan Dirksen launches a 3-pointer late in the Patriots' 76-29 victory Monday over Southern Wells. Dirksen was fouled on the shot — had it gone in, it would have been his 10th 3-pointer of the night to set a new single-game school record — and went to the line to make both free throws to complete his 33-point effort.

## Giannis pours in 50 to beat Pacers

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Giannis Antetokounmpo scored a season-high 50 points, two off his career best, and pulled down 14 rebounds to lead the Milwaukee Bucks past the skidding Indiana Pacers 128-119 on Tuesday night.

The Bucks (36-23) swept the four-game season series from the Pacers and have won eight straight against their Central Division foe.

Antetokounmpo, who didn't play in Milwaukee's loss to Portland on Monday night because of a sore left ankle, showed no ill effects as he racked up 12 first-quarter points that included a pair of thunderous dunks and a 3-pointer.

"I felt way better," Antetokounmpo said. "I was rested."

Antetokounmpo set a career high with his seventh 40-point game of the season and scored 50 for the first time since the memorable title-clinching game in the NBA Finals last season against Phoenix, which gave the Bucks their first

championship in 50 years. It was the fourth 50-point game of his nine-year career, including the post-season.

The NBA Finals MVP shrugged off the accomplishment.

"Obviously, it's a nice feeling to have 50, you'll always remember it, but I care about the win. I want to win games," Antetokounmpo said. "We have another one on Thursday. We'll try to finish and go to the All-Star break on a good note. As long as we're winning, I'm good. You do whatever it takes. If you are thinking about let me get to 50, let me get mine, it doesn't work that way. You have to focus on winning games."

Milwaukee bounced back after consecutive double-digit losses to hand Indiana (19-40) its seventh consecutive defeat.

Antetokounmpo scored 12 points in the first quarter, six in the second, 13 in the third and 19 in the final period.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Boys swimming hosts sectional preliminaries — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Muncie Southside — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball sectional opening round vs. Waynesfield-Goshen at Spencerville — 7:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
Jay County — Wrestling state finals at Gainbridge Fieldhouse — 6 p.m.; Boys basketball tripleheader at Norwell — 6:15 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at New Bremen — 6 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Wrestling state finals at Gainbridge Fieldhouse — 9 a.m.; Boys swimming hosts sectional finals — 9 a.m. (diving) and 1 p.m. (swimming); Gymnastics at New Castle — 11 a.m.; Boys basketball at Muncie Central — 6 p.m.

**Monday**  
Jay County — Junior high swimming at Norwell — 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday**  
Jay County — Boys basketball vs. Winchester — 6 p.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
3 p.m. — UEFA Champions League soccer: Liverpool at Inter Milan (CBS)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Illinois at Rutgers (BTN)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Washington Wizards at Indiana Pacers (BALLY); Brooklyn Nets at New York Knicks (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Florida Panthers at Carolina Hurricanes (TNT)  
8 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Dual at Daytona — Qualifying (FS1)  
8 p.m. — 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics: Freestyle Skiing (NBC)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Purdue at Northwestern (BTN); Baylor at Texas Tech (ESPN2)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Utah Jazz at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)  
10 p.m. — NHL hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Vegas Golden Knights (TNT)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Gonzaga at Pepperdine (ESPN2)

**Thursday**  
2 a.m. — 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics: Freestyle Skiing (NBC)  
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Minnesota at Penn State (BTN)  
4:30 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Camping World Truck Series — NextEra Energy 250 (FS1)  
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Northwestern at Indiana (BTN)  
7 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Montreal Canadiens (BALLY)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan at Iowa (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Bluegreen Vacations Dual 1 at Daytona (FS1)  
8 p.m. — 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics: Freestyle Skiing, Figure Skating & Speed Skating (NBC)  
8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Ohio State at Maryland (BTN)  
9:30 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Bluegreen Vacations Dual 1 at Daytona (FS1)  
10:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Milwaukee Bucks (TNT)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Washington State at UCLA (FS1)

## Jay swimmers sweep Muncie

Maisey Keller, Lauren Fisher and Sophia Hoevel each had a pair of wins. Peyton Yowell and Raif Beiswanger did too.

The Patriots owned the relays as well.

Jay County Junior High School's boys and girls swim teams both dominated a combined Muncie Community Schools team Tuesday.

The girls won every event but one for a 141-101 triumph, while the boys got a 153-130 victory behind 10

event wins.

Keller's victories came in the 200-yard freestyle and 100 backstroke with times of 2 minutes, 36.3 seconds, and 1:28.76, respectively. Fisher's wins were in the 50 freestyle (28.92) and 400 freestyle (5:44), while Hoevel was first in the 50 butterfly (36.81) and 100 freestyle (1:10.14). Kaitlyn Fisher (100 individual medley — 1:27.42) and Avery Wentz (100 breaststroke — 1:35.89) had single wins.

Nevaeh Wellman,

Mikalsh Shawver, Kaitlin Fisher and Ariel Beiswanger won the 200 medley relay. Lauren Fisher, Hoevel, Wentz and Keller teamed to win both the 200 freestyle and 300 freestyle relays.

Yowell topped his competitors in both the 100 IM (1:24.19) and 50 butterfly (35.63), while Raif Beiswanger was the best in the 100 freestyle (1:04.58) and 400 freestyle (5:39.69).

Matthew Fisher (200 freestyle — 2:31.64), Lincoln








Clamme (50 freestyle — 29.69) and Rocky Beiswanger (100 breaststroke — 1:29.54) picked up individual victories.

The 200 medley relay team of David Keen, Rocky Beiswanger, Fisher and Yowell came in first, as did Cooper Glentzer, Rocky Beiswanger, Raif Beiswanger and Clamme in the 200 freestyle relay.

Raif Beiswanger, Fisher, Clamme and Yowell ended the 300 freestyle relay with a victory.



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