

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Board talks about soccer fields

*Members discuss possibility of adding to Milton Miller*

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

Soccer fields could be coming to a Portland park. Portland Park Board discussed Tuesday possibly clearing most of Milton Miller Park for green space to be used for soccer games.

Park board president Brian Ison proposed the idea, noting none of the city's parks have designated soccer fields. (He added Jay Community Center uses Freeman Scouting Facility near Jay County Landfill, and said he's also seen soccer-related activity at East Jay Elementary.)

There are currently dirt mounds sitting in Milton Miller Park that need to be leveled and seeded to fill where the tennis courts used to be. Matt Shauer of the parks department noted the work has not yet been completed and shared his frustrations with the project, citing staffing as the major issue for it not yet being finished.

He proposed hiring a company to finish the work. The board OK'd him to seek bids for another entity to finish leveling the dirt at Milton Miller Park.

Ison added the baseball diamond at Milton Miller is degrading and no longer used regularly, and the restrooms need to be updated.

"What's the functional use of that ball diamond?" Ison asked board members. "Can that be turned into green space?"

See Soccer page 2

## Over too early

Jay County High School's Breanna Dirksen (32), Madison Dirksen (34) and Sophie Saxman (10) walk off the court Tuesday night after the sixth-ranked Patriots dropped a heart-breaking 36-33 decision to No. 8 Hamilton Heights in the opening round of the Class 3A Sectional 24 tournament at Yorktown. JCHS had three opportunities at game-winners in the final five seconds of regulation and two chances to tie the game at the end of overtime but couldn't get a shot to fall. For more on the game, see page 8.

## HELP process is getting underway

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The beginning stages of HELP are underway.

Christy Shauer of Jay County Community Development updated the Jay County Development Corporation board on the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program at its meeting Tuesday.

The board also made some changes to its annual meeting schedule.

Shauer told board members in attendance she has started working with Indiana Office of Community and Rural

### County's core team has gone through two training sessions

Affairs (OCRA) to set up meetings and training sessions regarding HELP. Those who are a part of the county's HELP core team have been through two such sessions, the first

of which was with OCRA, Indiana Arts Commission and Ball State University. "Community engagement was the focus on the first training along with brainstorming of people

who we thought would be good candidates for the pathway teams," said Shauer.

The second training session was a discussion of how American Rescue Plan Act funds can be spent under federal rules.

Shauer is scheduled to go through the HELP community coordinator training process March 23.

In November, Jay County was selected along with Kosciusko County and the City of Auburn to be in the first cohort for HELP. The program focuses on helping communities

decide how to best utilize the funds they received from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Jay County has about \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding and has discussed various initiatives, including child care, a new facility for Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Health Department and Jay County Coroner's Office and infrastructure for housing. (Through HELP, communities are eligible for up to an additional \$1 million in funding.)

See HELP page 5

## Governor extends emergency

By TOM DAVIES

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Gov. Eric Holcomb extended Indiana's COVID-19 public health emergency for another month on Tuesday, though his intentions to end the declaration remained ensnared in a legislative debate over whether the state should severely limit businesses from imposing workplace vaccination requirements.

The extension pushed the emergency declaration until March 4, which is just short of two years since it was declared at the start of the pandemic.

In extending it, Holcomb cited the state's high rate of infection and pointed out that the vast majority of people being hospitalized with COVID-19 aren't vaccinated. More than 21,000 people in Indiana have died of COVID-19, according to state health officials.

It is the 23rd month-long extension that Holcomb has signed. The declaration and Holcomb's COVID-19 executive orders stemming from it have been a persistent target of conservative criticism and pressure on him to end them.

Many health experts and medical groups have said ending the health emergency would send the wrong message with Indiana hospitals struggling to cope with high numbers of COVID-19 patients and the state averaging more than 50 deaths per day from the disease since mid-December.

Holcomb said in November that he would drop the emergency order if state legislators approved legal changes that would enable the state to keep receiving about \$40 million a month in enhanced federal funding for Medicaid and for about 200,000 households to continue receiving an additional \$95 a month in federal food assistance.

### Declaration runs for another month as legislature continues its debate

Another step would let the state health commissioner continue issuing a standing doctor's order for the administration of COVID-19 vaccinations to children ages 5 to 11.

The Republican-dominated state Senate has approved a bill limited to those administrative actions, while House Republicans have pushed through a broader bill that would also limit workplace COVID-19 vaccination requirements. That bill would force employers to grant exemptions to workers who claim medical or religious objections as reasons they won't get vaccinated and limit employers to requiring COVID-19 tests no more than once a week.

See Emergency page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Donna donates

Donna Bruggeman gets her arm wrapped after donating blood Tuesday at Jay Community Center. The drive brought in 51 donors.

### Deaths

**Richard Meyer Sr.**, 61, Celina, Ohio  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Tuesday. The low was 30.

Rain began this morning and is expected to change to snow this evening as the low drops to 20. Winds are expected to gust at 30 miles per hour. The forecast as of 10 a.m. today called for 7 to 13 inches of snow between tonight and Thursday night.

Jay Schools were closed today in anticipation of the winter storm.

A Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session that was scheduled for tonight has been postponed to 6 p.m. Monday in the auditorium at the courthouse.

For an extended forecast, see page 2.

### Coming up

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

**Saturday** — Results from the FRHS boys basketball game at Minster.





# New candidates file for May primary

A long list of new candidates filed Tuesday to run in the May primary election. New candidates filing to run for office included Democrat Kelly Stipp and Republican Brenda Beaty, both for Jay County Council, and Democrat Dottie Quakenbush for Redkey Town Council.

Also recently, John E. Bartlett of Hartford City filed to run for the Democratic nomination for state representative in District 33. (The district now includes the southern two-thirds of Jay County, all of Randolph and Blackford counties and parts of Delaware and Henry counties.) He is currently the only candi-

date for the office on the Democratic side of the ballot while incumbent J.D. Prescott faces a challenge from Brittany Kloer for the Republican nomination. Others filing Tuesday to seek office were Republicans Scott Coy and Tammy (Cowan) Horn for Pike Township Advisory Board, Phillip Zarate for Salam-

onia Town Council, Eldon Campbell for Noble Township Advisory Board and Missy Elliott, Chad Schlichter and Amy Schlichter for state convention delegate. Democrats filing Tuesday were Alvin Rodney Cassel and Robert Bailey, both for Greene Township Advisory Board.

Also, there was an error in the reporting of new election filers from Monday. Republicans Carrie Shaneyfelt, Michael Shreeve and Michelle Jones all filed to run for Salamonina Town Council. The deadline to file to run for office is noon Friday.

## CR almanac

Thursday 2/3	Friday 2/4	Saturday 2/5	Sunday 2/6	Monday 2/7
<b>22/9</b>	<b>17/-2</b>	<b>20/9</b>	<b>29/9</b>	<b>22/7</b>
Thursday will bring snow, with between 3 and 7 inches of precipitation and wind gusts up to 35 mph expected.	The forecast for Friday calls for mostly cloudy skies with a low dipping to about -2 degrees.	Saturday will be sunny, with the high reaching around 20 degrees. Mostly clear skies at night.	Mostly sunny skies are on the horizon for Sunday. At night, it will be mostly cloudy.	Monday looks to be mostly cloudy, with the low reaching 7 degrees.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Estimated jackpot: \$123 million	Quick Draw: 4-8-11-14-20-23-25-33-34-45-47-53-55-57-58-59-70-71-73-78 Cash 5: 8-16-19-27-45 Estimated jackpot: \$300,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> 11-24-38-62-66 Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$22 million	<b>Ohio</b> Midday Pick 3: 1-3-4 Pick 4: 9-4-9-1 Pick 5: 2-0-8-8-8 Evening Pick 3: 9-2-6 Pick 4: 5-2-9-8 Pick 5: 7-9-7-0-4 Rolling Cash: 10-14-15-18-30 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Midday Daily Three: 0-0-7 Daily Four: 0-1-9-3 Quick Draw: 6-9-13-18-23-26-29-33-35-36-38-44-47-59-64-66-68-70-71-76 Evening Daily Three: 6-2-7 Daily Four: 7-7-4-8	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.39 March corn.....6.41 Wheat.....7.46	Wheat.....7.61 March wheat.....7.61
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.43 March corn.....6.41 April corn.....6.40	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.25 Late Feb. corn.....6.27 Beans.....15.32 Late Feb. beans.....15.35 June wheat.....7.57
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.31 March corn.....6.31 Beans.....15.34 March beans.....15.34	<b>Sunrise St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.25 March corn.....6.25 Beans.....15.19 March beans.....15.23 Wheat.....7.36

## Today in history

On Feb. 2, 1990, in a dramatic concession to South Africa's Black majority, President F.W. de Klerk lifted a ban on the African National Congress and promised to free Nelson Mandela.

In 1536, present-day Buenos Aires, Argentina, was founded by Pedro de Mendoza of Spain.

In 1653, New Amsterdam — now New York City — was incorporated.

In 1887, Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania, held its first Groundhog Day festival.

In 1913, New York City's rebuilt Grand Central Terminal officially opened to the public at one minute past midnight.

In 1914, Charles Chaplin made his movie debut as the comedy short "Making a Living" was released by Keystone Film Co.

In 1925, the legendary Alaska Serum Run ended as the last of a series of dog mushers brought a life-saving treatment to Nome, the scene of a diphtheria epidemic, six days after the drug left Nenana.

In 1943, the remainder of Nazi forces from the Battle of Stalingrad surrendered in a major victory for the Soviets in World War II.

In 1948, President Harry S. Truman sent a 10-point civil rights program to Congress, where the proposals ran into fierce opposition from Southern lawmakers.

In 1972, there was a break-in at Bloomfield School. The thieves gained entry to the building through window, stole a few dollars from vending machines and forced open the office door and filing cabinets.

In 2006, House Republicans elected John Boehner of Ohio as their new majority leader to replace the indicted Tom DeLay.

—AP and The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Today</b> 6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council executive session, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.
<b>Thursday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city	<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

## Obituaries

### Richard Meyer

Dec. 17, 1960-Jan. 24, 2022  
Richard D. Meyer Sr., age 61, a resident of Celina, Ohio, passed away on Monday, Jan. 24, 2022, at his home in Celina. Richard was a former resident of Portland.

Richard was born on Dec. 17, 1960, in Portland, Indiana, the son of Robert Meyer Sr. and Margaret (Lawhorn) Meyer. He graduated from Jay County High School in 1980 and worked for Tyson Foods in Portland. He was a member of the Portland Moose Lodge.

Survivors include:

His children — Amanda Meyer, Portland, Indiana, and Michael McAbee, Portland, Indiana — Two siblings — Karen Meyer, Portland, Indiana, and Bobby Meyer, Portland, Indiana — Four grandchildren — Chelsea Bessesen, Christopher Bessesen Jr., Raylynn Meyer and Madison Meyer — He was preceded in death by a son, Richard Meyer Jr.; and a sister, Theresa Meyer.

Visitation will be held on Friday



Meyer

from 5 to 7 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Services to celebrate Richard's life will follow at 7 p.m. on Friday at the funeral home. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

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*The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.*

## Soccer ...

Continued from page 1  
He noted there are members of the community who have tried to play soccer at parks in the past and have conflicted with scheduled events, such as Pee Wee Football. Some individuals have opted to play soccer at the green space at the intersection of Tyson Road and Charles Street.

Taking into account the former tennis courts and baseball/softball diamond, noted Tom Leonhard of the parks department, the proposed green space would stretch 520 feet long and 258 feet wide. His estimates include six soccer fields for ages 6 to 10, one field for ages 11 to 16 and one field for adults. That would still leave room for a pickle ball court.

Questions arose about whether the department should install goals for the fields. Ison said he envisioned mainly green space, although the parks department could look into adding goals in the future. Board member Shauna Runkle said she thinks community members could bring their own for now and shared worries about the posts being vandalized if installed.

Park board member

Glen Bryant proposed the city sell the land where Milton Miller Park is.

"I don't know of any other town our size in the state that's got so many parks, so maybe, a thought, is we eliminate that," he said.

Ison said he's considered the thought, but one of the city employees who lives on the north side of Portland vouched for the park and its significance to the youth.

"I think if you take a park away like that, it may do more harm than good," Ison said.

Park board member Michael Brewster suggested the board speak with Kyle Cook of Jay Community Center to see if the organization would also be interested in utilizing soccer fields in the city.

Also Tuesday, park board members discussed the status of ongoing issues with Portland Water Park.

At this time, Portland

will not pursue legal action against the firms involved — HWC Engineering was the engineering firm and RLTurner was the contractor — in the construction and planning of the facility.

Arbitration and legal costs would amount to around \$20,000, explained Ison.

"You're not guaranteed to get any of those funds back," he said.

Portland Mayor John Boggs said he's not sure the case would produce the necessary funds to use for replacing the tiles. After talking with city attorney Wes Schemenaur, he said, it appears the city may not get anything out of taking legal action.

"Considering the tile only has a one-year warranty and we're six years in, we're not really hopeful we'll get anything from the arbitration," he said. "I know it might've been specced out wrong, but it still lasted longer than the

warranty on the tile."

"I'd rather spend the money on fixing the pool, and then if we have money left over, we can look at this later on," he added.

The new tiles coming from Blakely's of Indianapolis also have a one-year warranty.

In other news, park board members Glen Bryant, John McFarland, Brewster, Runkle and Ison: •Adjusted meetings to 5:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month. •Learned the board will be making minor changes to its five-year park plan. Ison noted a draft of the document was sent to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources on Jan. 15, and he received some recommended changes from the department Jan. 26. In order to be considered for the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant project application, it will need to implement those recommendations. •Welcomed new board members Brewster and McFarland. •Heard from Ison the board welcomes community volunteers. Those interested may contact the park board or city to get involved.

## City court

### Judge Donald Gillespie

**Fined and sentenced**  
Senouci Bait, Portland, speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Kegan B. Lawrence, Portland, driving without a valid license, \$160.50; Jerry L. Garcia, Adrian, Michigan, speeding 48 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$153.50

### Failed to appear

Keith L. Glover, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania, off the truck route in Dunkirk; Patricia Basinger, Round Rock, Texas, speeding 85 mph in a 55 mph zone; Nelly Grande, Carle Place, New York, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone; Terra S.

Ogan, Portland, driving with a suspended license; Madhat T. Yoseef, Carmel, speeding 52 mph in a 30 mph zone

### Trials scheduled

Brad Aul, Muncie, driving with a suspended license, Feb. 22; Christian Cavanon, Portland, passing a school bus, Feb. 22; William J. Godwin, Portland, driving without a valid license and without insurance, March 2.

See page 5



## Swiss Village

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Or email: [kaylar@swissvillage.org](mailto:kaylar@swissvillage.org)

## SERVICES

**Wednesday**  
Gillum, Brenda: 2 p.m., Gravel Hill Cemetery, rural Bryant.

**Friday**  
Meyer, Richard: 7 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

**Saturday**  
Green, Helen: 2 p.m., Brockman-Boeckman Funeral Home, 308 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

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# Poet longs for spring season

By KWAME DAWES

Ethelbert Miller is the master of the short, pithy lyric, packed with tenderness, a gentle wit, and moments of satisfying resonance.

Here is an ode to spring that is also, at once, a love lyric. Though the object of affection in his poem "Beloved" is spring, it is easy to see how the longing, the desire, the impulse to announce love of spring,

## American Life in Poetry

captures the sentiments of romantic love. But since we are now in the throes of winter, it is also fitting to meditate on our longing for the rebirth of love's season.

### Beloved

Please forgive me for forgetting.  
I wanted to go outside and look for you.  
I was told this was impossible.

I was instructed to stay indoors.  
But my words for you need sun.  
My heart needs air.

I love you Spring.  
I miss your warmth.  
Come unlock my door.

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May 15, 2020. Poem reprint-ed by permission of the author and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2022 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Kwame Dawes, is George W. Holmes Professor of English and Glenna Luschei Editor of Prairie Schooner at the University of Nebraska.

# Father hopes to reconnect

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife and I were divorced seven years ago. It was my doing. I had two affairs, the second of which resulted in my current marriage. I have always regretted my actions and the pain it caused, and I vowed to never make that mistake again.

My ex is happily remarried, but here's the problem: We have a daughter in her late 20s who seemed to adjust to our situation quickly. However, her mother has turned our daughter against me to the point where she has cut off all contact. It has been nearly three years and it eats away at me every day. Her mother has completely brainwashed her. I recently found out my daughter is pregnant, which has made it worse.

As it stands, I'll have no contact with my grandchild, while my ex rubs it in my face. Abby, I've never said a bad word about my ex, even though I know she's not a good person. She has used people, stolen, cheated and lied most of her life and apparently continues to do so. She's told outright lies about me to our daughter and others.

I have admitted my misdeeds, but my ex can't or won't do the same. I want to expose her, but I know I can't if I want any hope of reconciliation with my daughter. How can I talk to my

daughter, at least to get closure? — SAD DAD IN OHIO

DEAR DAD: Send your daughter a REGISTERED letter telling her how much you love her and congratulating her on her pregnancy. At the same time, without pointing fingers at your ex-wife, which might only further alienate your daughter, explain that some of the things she may have been told about you aren't true and you would like to discuss them with her. Then cross your fingers and hope she agrees.

\*\*\*\*\*

DEAR ABBY: I'm a married woman in my early 40s with two small children. I am blessed to enjoy a close relationship with my parents, both of whom are now in their mid-to-late 70s. My siblings and I all live within 15 minutes of them, and we spend a lot of time together for holidays, special occasions and general get-togethers.



Dear Abby

Lately, I can't stop thinking about my parents dying. It will be awful once they are gone. It has reached a point where if one of them gets a cold, I'm terrified it will turn into something more serious. I'm also scared that something else traumatic might happen, and I dread receiving that phone call.

I don't know how to stop thinking like this. I know death is a part of life, but I don't want every day to be clouded by thoughts of something bad happening. Is there any way to have a healthier mindset? — LOVING DAUGHTER IN TEXAS

DEAR DAUGHTER: There is more than one way to approach this. The first would be to turn off the news for a week and see if it lowers your level of anxiety, which may stem from the incessant drumbeat of reporting about COVID. If that doesn't help, then it might benefit you to talk with a licensed mental health practitioner for help to ease your anxiety by getting to the root of what is causing it. If your parents are in good health, they may be with you for many years to come. It would be a shame to waste that precious time because of fears about what will one day happen to us all.

# Free adult education is available

Free adult education classes are available.

John Jay Center for Learning is offering free classes for adults to receive a High School Equivalency diploma. The state has also supplied funding to help students pay for their final High School Equivalency Test in 2022.

Classes are available from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. For more information, call (260) 729-5525.

### Deadline extended

The deadline has been extended

### Taking Note

for Hoosier Homestead farmers to submit their farm history for publication.

Material for "Hoosier Homestead Farms," a book celebrating nearly 6,000 Indiana farms, is now due by March 30. Any farmer with a Hoosier Homestead Award can sub-

mit up to 300 words about their farm history, along with a photo of the farm, family, farm sign or anything else of significance.

Information requested includes the year your farm started, how many generations have worked or owned it, types of crops grown, places your crops are sold and the year your farm was inducted as a Hoosier Homestead Farm. The publisher's website at [acclaimpress.com](http://acclaimpress.com) has a page for farmers to fill out their history.

Copies of the book can be purchased on the website or by calling (573) 472-9800.

# Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

### Today

**SINGLES AND SEPARATES SUPPORT GROUP** — For anyone who's lost a loved one or has a spouse living in long-term care or suffering from an illness, the group will meet at 2 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month in the Arthur & Gloria Muselman Wellness Pavilion in Berne. For more information, call Sarah Conrad at (260) 589-4496.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** — New Beginnings, a support group for

friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

**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 Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

**PENNVILLE FAIR BOARD** — Will meet at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Pennville Community Center.

**STRESS AND ANXIETY**

**CLASS** — Meets each Wednesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

### Thursday

**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.

**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.

**PORTLAND LIONS CLUB** — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

**FORGET-ME-NOT** — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

### Friday

**SOFT SHOULDERS** — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m.

the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

**CINCINNATUS LEAGUE** — Will meet at noon Friday, Feb. 4, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

### Saturday

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

**DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

**MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER** — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

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# Where is our sense of exploration?

By JACK RONALD  
The Commercial Review

When was the last time you listened to new music?

I mean, really new music. That's the question I found myself pondering the other day after reading an article in The Atlantic that said old songs — those oldies we all love — now represent 70% of the U.S. music market, squeezing out the injection of new tunes we all used to yearn for.

Clearly, something fundamental has changed.

For generations, there was a pattern to shifts in America's pop music culture.

My parents listened to Big Band music, Swing and Broadway musicals. Then Elvis Presley came along and upset the apple cart.

Half a generation later, the

## Back in the Saddle



British Invasion led by the Beatles caused another seismic disruption. Hip-hop and rap — which I still have trouble getting my ears around — had a similar effect.

And now? It seems to be all oldies all the time.

Ted Gioia, who wrote The Atlantic piece, recounts stopping by a diner where the entire staff was under 30 years old but the music being played on the PA system was more than 40 years old.

I've found myself in the same situation, and I suspect you have too.

Something's been lost. Back in the day — in that period when Elvis was fading and British rock was taking off — it seemed something new was born musically every week.

In Portland, that required a regular stop at the Office Supply store where the top 50 or so 45 rpm disks were on display along with a copy of Billboard or Cashbox.

Whose record was "Number 5 with a Bullet" this week? Del Shannon? The Everly Brothers? The Moody Blues? Petula Clark? The Zombies?

The music was all over the place — from rockabilly to British pop — and all of it was exciting, a smorgasbord for the

listener to sample or feast upon.

And the cumulative effect was to send the listener looking for more and trying to broaden his or her musical horizons.

In my case, that led to discovering bluesman Lightnin' Hopkins in a discount rack at an Ayr-Way in Muncie. That gravely voice and guitar opened a whole new avenue. I bought all the albums I could find.

As a freshman in college, I was blown away by Nina Simone singing "If I Fell For You" on an album I bought at Specialty Records in Richmond. I can still replay it in my head even now.

Specialty also introduced me to The Doors, who weren't in Nina Simone's league, but who were fun just the same.

During a visit to Purdue University, my great friend Vickie Renbarger wouldn't let me get away without making sure I listened to Linda Ronstadt, one of her discoveries.

We were all musical explorers, or so it seemed.

And now? Not so much. I've been listening to African pop music for more than a decade and love it. But the performers — folks like Orchestra Baobab and Cesaria Evora — have retired or passed away.

Thanks to gifts from my kids, I'm a fan of Adele, Ray Lamontagne, Kaleo and the Tedeschi Trucks Band.

Thanks to Arts Place, I'm a fan of groups like the Wailin' Jennies.

But the sense of exploration? It seems it's gone. With a bullet, as Cashbox used to say.

# U.S. is drowning in its own secrets

The Washington Post

Nearly a decade ago, a federal board warned in a report that practices for classification and declassification of national security information were "outdated, unsustainable and keep too much information from the public."

The report found that petabytes of data were being classified annually. (A petabyte is a million gigabytes.) Then, in 2019, a top U.S. official warned the government was creating petabytes every month and the system was "unsustainable, and desperately requires modernization." In 2020, the federal board warned of an "explosion" of digital data now underway — and a "tsunami" in the years to come.

The U.S. government is drowning in its own secrets. Avril Haines, the director of national intelligence, recently wrote to Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Oregon, and Jerry Moran, R-Kansas, that "deficiencies in the current classification system undermine our national security, as well as critical democratic objectives, by impeding our ability to share information in a timely manner." The same conclusions have been drawn by the senators and many others for a long time.

The reasons for the logjam are well known. Too much national security information is over-classified and too little is declassified. The volume of digital secrets is burgeoning, but the declassification system lumbers along at an analog pace. According to the Public Interest Declassification Board's 2020 report, "The transition to email and other forms of instantaneous communications, and the pervasive use of social media applications have profoundly altered the way the Government conducts business." By contrast, the paper-based declassification system "was created before the United States entered World War II, and it remains entrenched today."

Hopefully, action to fix this long-festering mismatch will finally get underway. The 2020 report recommended that a new high-level executive be appointed to oversee the effort, and a new national declassification system be

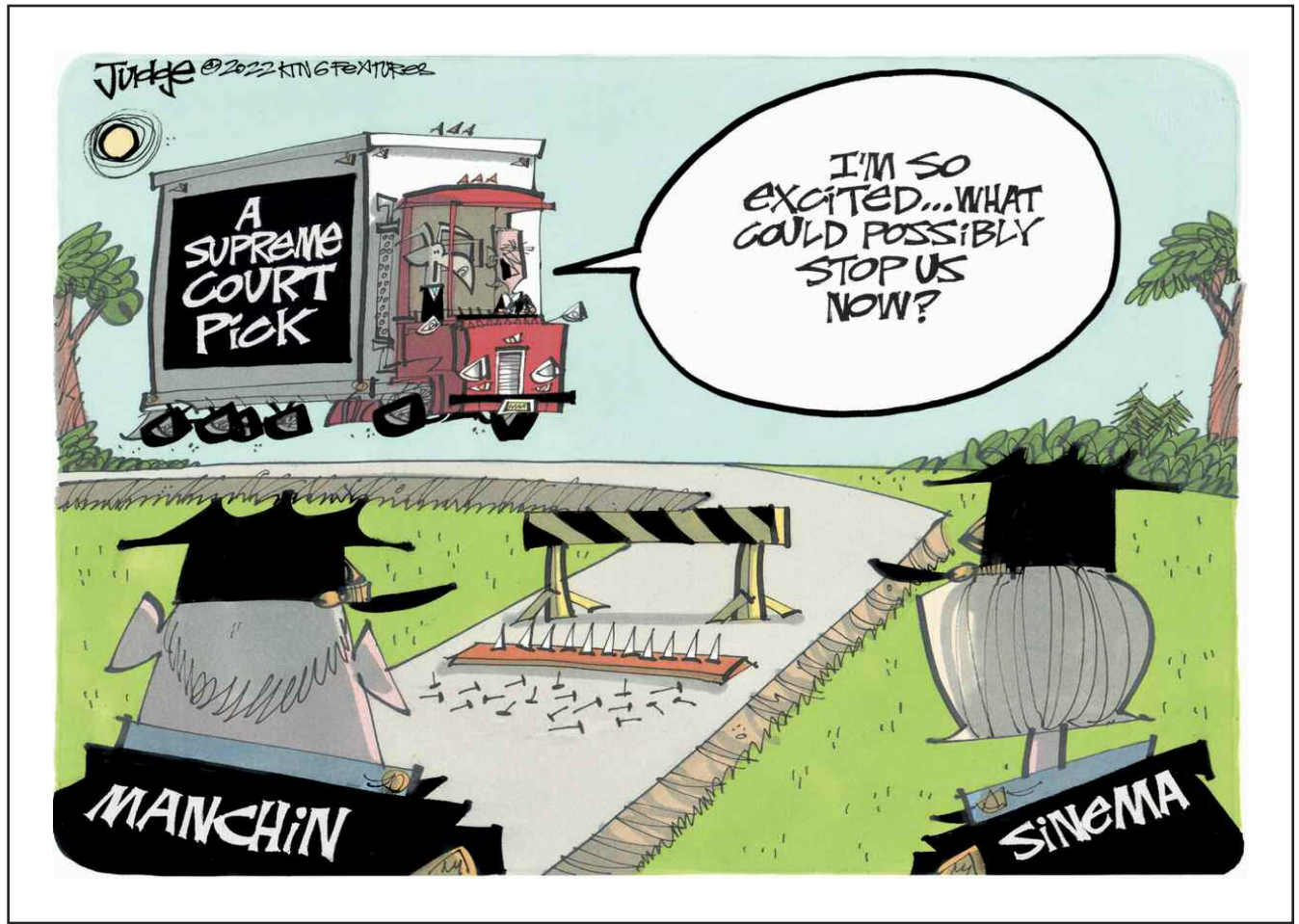
## Guest Editorial

*Too much national security information is over-classified and too little is declassified.*

created that would work toward timely release of information. Technology must be used to modernize the aging systems, the report found, and the government ought to deploy the tools of big data, artificial intelligence, machine learning, and cloud storage and retrieval to build a modern system with automation. Not everyone is sold on the automation concept, but it deserves exploration. The slow, page-by-page declassification process is broken.

So far, Haines said, current priorities and resources for fixing the classification systems "are simply not sufficient." The National Security Council is working on a revised presidential executive order governing classified information, and we hope the White House will come up with an ambitious blueprint for modernization.

The nation needs to guard its secrets to function properly. But over-classification is counterproductive and adds to public distrust. A big improvement would be to simplify the classification process into two tiers, secret and top secret, with appropriate protections and guidelines that will also prevent labeling as "classified" material that does not need to be protected. In the words of one chair of the Public Interest Declassification Board, Nancy E. Soderberg, "Transformation is not simply advisable but imperative." She was right about both the need and the urgency. That was nearly 10 years ago.



# Don't leave women behind

By HEATHER LONG  
The Washington Post

If two years of pandemic life has taught us anything, it is that the United States urgently needs its own version of Japan's "womenomics," an effort to boost women in the workforce.

Omicron January has offered yet another reminder that parents, especially moms, are at a breaking point over inadequate child care, intermittent schooling and the challenges of work, whether remote or in-person. It's also been a warning about what happens when the U.S. economy doesn't have enough workers: Growth slows as businesses are forced to cut hours or shut entirely. The 24-hour diner becomes the 16-hour place.

The irony of the moment is that at precisely the time when U.S. policymakers should think bigger about remaking the workplace to meet the needs of women, we are going in the wrong direction. The impending demise of Build Back Better threatens initiatives such as paid parental leave, more subsidies for child care and universal prekindergarten.

Addressing these long-standing problems is not just a matter of doing something nice for women, children and families — it's good for the overall economy. There's an immediate need to keep more women from quitting (or forgoing promotions) because they are burned out, but there's also a longer-term imperative to make it easier for more women to be part of the paid workforce in the years to come.

With baby boomers retiring, the United States is likely to be short on workers for years. Immigration would help, but so would policies that specifically target enabling more women to work.

The United States used to be a global leader in advancing women in the workforce, but that's not true anymore. In 1985, the United States was

## Heather Long



behind only Sweden in the share of women working. By 2019, the nation had fallen to 23rd, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Other nations have eclipsed the United States by following a formula: Offer flexibility, child care and paid parental leave.

In the short-term, parents need flexible scheduling from their employer to get through these covid-19 crunch periods. But to really change the game for women will require nationwide policies.

Japan launched "womenomics" in 2013 to try to increase the number of Japanese women in the formal workforce. It was far from perfect, but Japan's female labor force participation rate soared above the United States and many European countries.

The core of womenomics was 14 weeks paid maternity leave, more government-subsidized child care, tax reforms to incentivize work and goals to prod employers to promote women to management ranks and to encourage men to take paternity leave.

For years there have been calls to do something similar in the United States, not to mention outrage that the United States is one of only seven countries in the world without any mandated paid maternity leave. McKinsey and S&P Global — hardly left-leaning institutions — have produced reports arguing that the key to boosting U.S. economic growth is to get more women into the paid workforce.

That urgency has only grown after the pandemic's toll on the nation. Overall, the share of Americans working or looking for work is near the lowest levels since the 1970s. Put another way, there are 2.3 million fewer people working now than pre-pandemic, and more than half are women.

It's a major red flag that day cares are at only 90 percent of normal staffing levels and schools are in dire need of bus drivers and substitute teachers, among other positions.

The Build Back Better package was supposed to go a long way toward addressing these problems. "Probably the single biggest thing Build Back Better could do for the economy is boost women's labor force participation," said Adam Posen, president of the Peterson Institute for International Economics and a former adviser to the Japanese government.

But now it's become "Build Back Smaller." The measure has to be pared down significantly, if anything passes at all. There still seems to be momentum for universal pre-K, but other child-care efforts are in limbo and paid family leave looks likely to be cut.

"The reason this is not a top priority is this is invisible work that gets done by generation after generation of American women," said Alicia Sasser Modestino, associate professor at Northeastern University who has done extensive research on the impact of the pandemic on women.

There are trade-offs to any policy decisions, but let's be blunt: America is once again on the verge of leaving women behind. That's going to hurt families and the entire economy for years to come.

.....  
Long is a columnist and member of The Washington Post's Editorial Board.

# The Commercial Review

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



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Washington Post/Marvin Joseph

## Threats target

People walk on the campus of Howard University in Washington on Tuesday. For the third time in just a month, Howard University warned its campus on Tuesday of a bomb threat. Each time, a law enforcement search found no sign of the threatened explosives. It is one of a series of historically Black colleges and universities to receive bomb threats in the past month.

## Biden sending troops to Europe

By **AAMER MADHANI,**  
**LORNE COOK,**  
**DASHA LITVINOVA**  
and **LOLITA C. BALDOR**  
Associated Press

**BRUSSELS** — President Joe Biden is sending about 2,000 U.S.-based troops to Poland and Germany and shifting roughly 1,000 soldiers from Germany to Romania as demonstrations of American commitments to NATO allies amid fears of a possible Russian military invasion of Ukraine, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

In announcing the moves, Pentagon press secretary John Kirby said they will happen in coming days and operate under U.S. command.

"These are not permanent moves," he said, stressing that the purpose is to reassure allies at a

time of heightened tension over Russia's unusual buildup of military forces along Ukraine's border.

"These troops are not going to fight in Ukraine," Kirby said, referring to the soldiers being sent from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to Germany and Poland, and those being shifted from Germany to Romania. The 1,000 going to Romania are members of a cavalry unit and are in addition to about 900 U.S. troops already in that country, Kirby said.

"It's important that we send a strong signal to Mr. Putin and to the world" of the U.S. commitment to NATO, Kirby said.

Biden has said he will not put American troops in Ukraine to fight any Russian incursion, although the United States is supplying Ukraine with weapons to

defend itself and seeking to reassure allies in Eastern Europe that Washington will fulfill its treaty obligation to defend them in the event they are attacked.

The military moves come amid stalled talks with Russia over its military buildup at Ukraine's borders. And they underscore growing fears across Europe that Russian President Vladimir Putin is poised to invade Ukraine. Smaller NATO countries on the alliance's eastern flank worry they could be next, although Russia has said it has no intention of initiating conflict and is willing to continue diplomatic efforts.

Biden had said recently that he intended to provide additional U.S. forces to NATO allies in Eastern Europe as reassurance of an American commitment to treaty allies.

## Emergency ...

Continued from page 1  
Holcomb and major business organizations have argued against those limitations as wrongly interfering in the decisions of private businesses, while also opposing President Joe Biden's attempt to require COVID-19 vaccinations or testing for workers at big companies.

Leading state Senate Republicans have so far stood against the business limitations, although more debate is likely

before the legislative session ends in March.

"We'll continue to have conversations to try and find the right landing spot between the right of people to dictate what their health is and whether or not the vaccine is right for them, plus the employer's right to control what's going on in their work environment," Republican Senate President Pro Tem Rodric Bray said. "We'll have some pretty robust conversations."

## Portland City Court

Continued from page 2  
Kelly J. Nunley, Portland, speeding 48 mph in a 30 mph zone, March 2; Lexis A. Phenix, Winchester, operating with a false plate and driving without insurance, March 2

### Paid by waiver

Lindsay E. Moser, Portland, speeding 47 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$152.50; Adrienne R. Billue, Portland, speeding 56 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; Patricia L. Gibson, Portland, disregarding stop sign, \$160.50; Timothy L. Bruggeman, Fort Recovery, Ohio, speeding 74 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$154.50; Alisher Maseev, Brooklyn, New York, driving off the truck route in Dunkirk, \$160.50; Stanley J. Childs, Fredonia, New York, speeding

65 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$145.50; Justin P. Starr, Portland, failure to possess a hunting license, \$160.50; Stephen J. Kohli, Fort Wayne, speeding 57 mph in a 35 mph zone, \$171; James W. Hayes, Greencastle, speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Ronald D. Daugherty, Indianapolis, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$149.50; Thomas R. Robbins, Portland, junk vehicle on property; Ciara N. Leath, New Castle, speeding 60 mph in a 40 mph zone, \$171; Joshua A. Gullett, Fort Wayne, hunting violation, \$160; Ashton G. Hooker, Muncie, speeding 53 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; James Theurer, Portland, ordinance violations of unlawful growth (\$160), grass or weeds taller than eight inches (\$25), refusing to

remove grass or weeds (\$25), accumulation of rubbish (\$25) and storage of junk (\$25); Jason R. Drumm, Bryant, operating with a fictitious plate, \$160.50; Nathaniel L. Randall, Zionsville, speeding 85 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Steven R. Skolny, Brooksville, Florida, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150; Kris C. Wise, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, speeding 51 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; Joshua M. Casey, Clinton, Maine, failure to yield (\$161) and expired plates (\$25); Josel E. Guzman, Nashville, Tennessee, speeding 52 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171

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## HELP ...

Continued from page 1  
JCDC executive director Travis Richards also noted that the organization will be updating Shauver's job description so it includes the items required of all HELP community coordinators.

The board also gave its approval to modify the format of its annual meeting and regular meeting schedule.

Typically, the board has met on the first Tuesday in February, April, June, August, October and December, with its annual meeting, including a meal, in June. (The annual meeting has not occurred in that format for two years because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.)

Richards proposed eliminating the annual meeting meal and instead making a March presentation to the board, followed by providing the same information to Jay County Commissioners. He also proposed meeting every month, with even-numbered months continuing to be business meetings and odd-numbered months being used as informational sessions with guest speakers such as representatives from local industries, businesses and organizations like the small business development center.

JCDC president Doug Loy expressed his support for the changes, noting that leadership has been looking for more opportunities to engage the board.

"I think it'd be nice to be able to get to know some of the industries in Jay County," agreed board member Trent Paxson.

During his update of recent activities, Richards noted the 1.1% unemployment rate in Jay County in December. He explained various factors that have pushed that

number down, including the retirement of the Baby Boomer generation. He pointed out that the rate measures not the rate of unemployment for all residents, but the unemployment rate for those of working age who are seeking employment.

He added that he has made industry visits with Indiana Economic Development Corporation and has met with several small businesses that are looking to start or expand. And he noted that more information on the state's Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) is expected this month.

Shauver updated the board that progress is continuing with the Pennington library expansion project.

She also reported that she has helped Portland apply for a stormwater grant from OCRA and Redkey apply for a grant from The Portland Foundation for new flooring in its park cabin.

In other business, the board:

- Welcomed new members Ryan Johnson and Chad Towell.

- Was reminded that Fiber Fest will be March 11 and 12 at Jay Community Center.

- Received a final update about the Hoosier Opportunity jobs website. A partnership between Jay, Randolph and Wayne counties, the site was shut down Jan. 31.

- Heard from Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins that a Dunkirk Community Committee has been formed to help organize events sponsored by various groups in the city throughout the year. Mark Leavell noted that Redkey is working on a similar initiative through its Visit Redkey page on Facebook.

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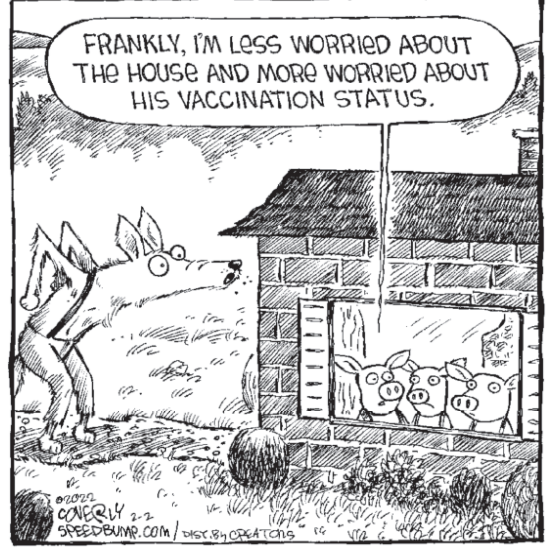
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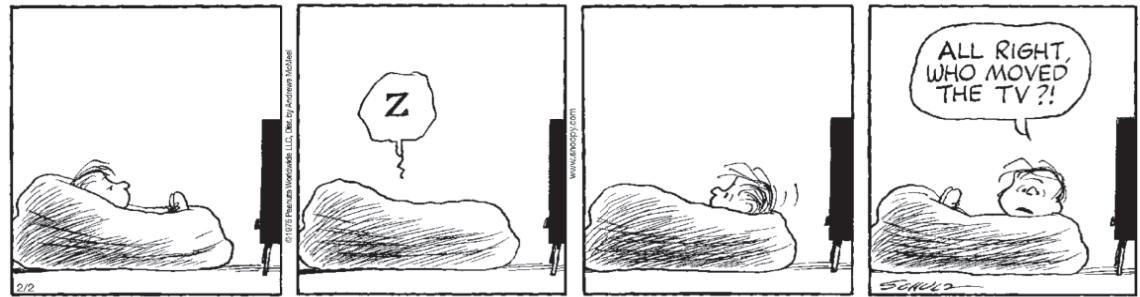
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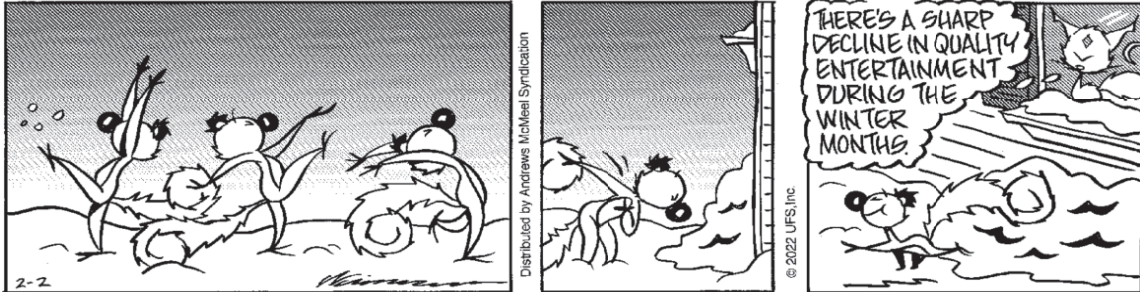
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



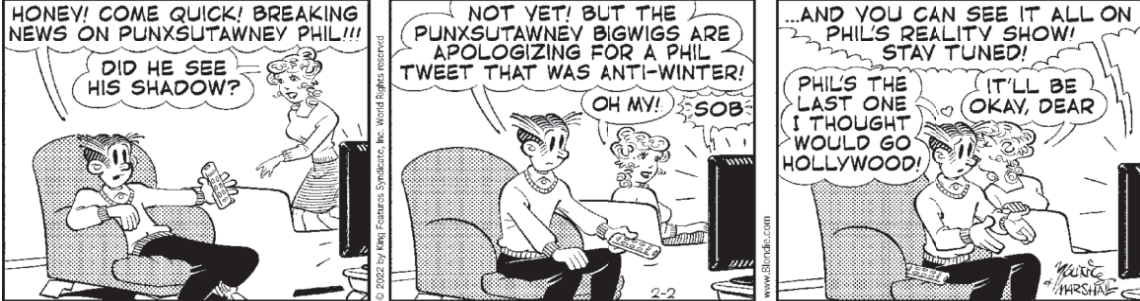
Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



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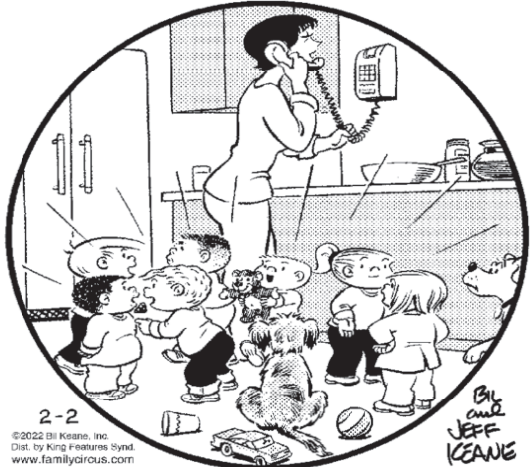
Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"You have the wrong number. But it's nice to hear an adult voice."

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The devil and the deep blue sea

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH A 6 4 J 10 9 7 2 A K 9 3 10 WEST K 10 9 5 6 Q 10 6 K J 9 8 5 EAST J 8 3 4 J 8 7 4 7 6 4 3 2 SOUTH Q 7 2 A K Q 8 5 3 5 2 A Q The bidding: South West North East 1♥ Dble Redble Pass 2♣ 4 NT Pass 5♥ Pass 6♥ Passing lead - six of hearts.

There are players who, at times, are constitutionally unable to say the word "pass." West was obviously a member of this school, as can be seen by studying the bidding and attempting to reconcile his takeout double of one heart with nine high-card points. North was likewise a distinguished member of the same school. In effect, he bid six hearts on only 12 high-card points opposite a partner who opened the bidding and never indicated any extra values.

Tomorrow: Every card tells a story. ©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

2-2 CRYPTOQUIP

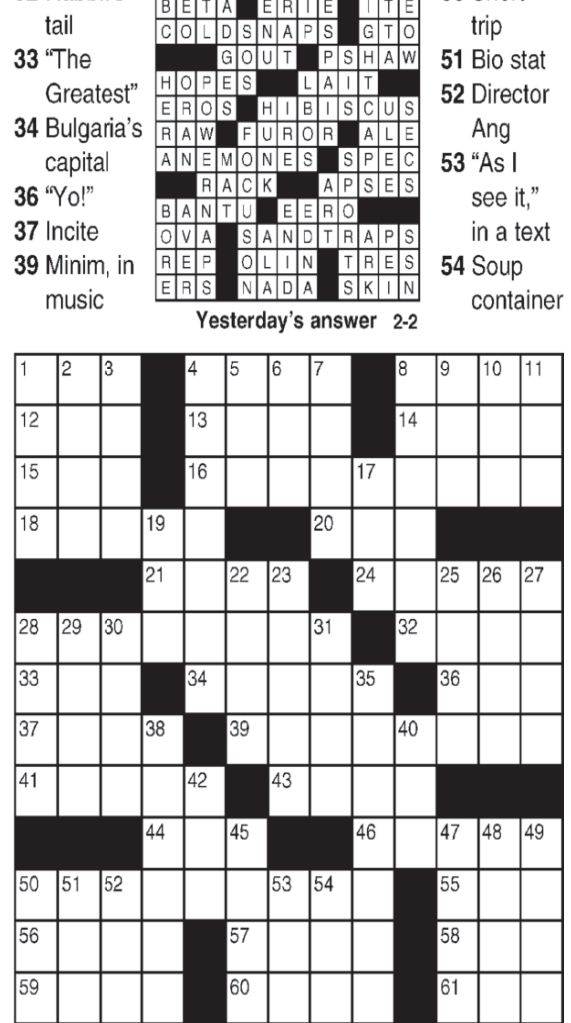
KOGA LGJLWG KGDG XUQUAX Z LJIURUQG DGLWC RJ TZDVIKJTZA ZAAUG, U ROUAV ROGC IZUP "JZVWGC-PJVG!" Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THAT BRAVE URSINE BEAST REALLY LOVES TO DO RISKY STUNTS RECKLESSLY. IT'S SUCH A BEAR-DEVIL. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: L equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 41 Play the 2 Region 27 Eyelid 1 Cleaning 43 Boxing 3 Mentor woe cloth 4 Long tale 4 Rifts 28 Croncs 8 Stage 44 Dandy 5 Lawyers' 29 Oodles org. 6 Solidify person show guy 7 Barks 31 Cleopatra's 12 French 46 Paint 8 Verifies 8 Verifies 9 Actress river 13 Trucker 50 50% off Taylor 35 "Argo" director with a 55 Leg, in 10 Chest-beating 38 Bad golfer handle slang 11 Hankering 40 Code-breaking 14 Ready for 56 Curved molding beast 42 Unruly do harvest 57 Apple on 17 "Gee, ya think?" 44 Unruly do 15 — Lingus 57 Apple on 11 Hankering 40 Code-breaking 16 Six a desk 17 "Gee, ya think?" 42 Unruly do 18 Riyadh 58 "— had it!" 19 "What's the —?" 45 Prudish resident 20 Minivan 59 Equal 22 Milne 47 End-of-wk. cry 21 AOL and 61 Swamp 23 To date 48 Roof overhang MSN 24 Obeys DOWN 1 Early TVs two 49 Marvel superheroes 28 Henry Hudson's ship 25 Repeat 50 Short trip 32 Rabbit's tail 26 Song for 51 Bio stat 33 "The Greatest" 27 Repeat 52 Director 34 Bulgaria's capital 28 Repeat 53 "As I see it," 36 "Yo!" 29 Repeat 54 Soup container 37 Incite 38 Repeat 55 Prudish 39 Minim, in music 39 Minim, in music

Solution time: 23 mins.

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## Ends ...

Continued from page 8  
Sophie Saxman tracked down the offensive rebound and dished the ball to Renna Schwieterman, but her triple try at the buzzer went long.

JCHS had similar opportunities with the game tied at the end of regulation. A Schwieterman drive to the hoop missed and went out of bounds with 2.7 seconds left. Then, inbounding from underneath the basket, the Patriots had a shot by Gabi Bilbrey go off the mark and offensive rebound and put-back attempt from Saxman bounce too hard off the glass as time expired.

"It seemed like five minutes underwater," said Cherry of those final seconds of regulation that could have sent his team home. "It's just a long, long time. They had a great look at it there at the end and then an offensive rebound. Winning games in the tournament involves some luck. I don't care what anybody says, you've got to be lucky. ...

"We're very fortunate to be moving on."

The game played out as a defensive chess match.

Hamilton Heights saw most of its success when it used a 1-3-1 full-court press that helped cause Patriot turnovers.

Jay County, meanwhile, went with a box-and-1 for most of the game with sophomores Sophie Sax-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

man (10 rebounds) and Breanna Dirksen trailing Runner, the Huskies' leading scorer, everywhere she went. After scoring 25 in last season's sectional title game and averaging 17.3 this year, she was limited to seven over the first 28 minutes Tuesday before hitting the final Hamilton Heights hoop of regulation and then scoring all of its points in overtime for a team-high 13. She also led the Huskies with nine rebounds.

Jay County had the hot start, with Schwieterman hitting four first-quarter 3-pointers that had the visiting team on the scoreboard up by seven. The Patriots

made the opening hoop of the second quarter to go up 17-8 and then were ahead 19-11 before Hamilton Heights came storming back. The Huskies tallied the final dozen points of the first half, taking a four-point lead and momentum into the intermission.

"It was hard, but I knew we had competitors in that locker room," said Comer. "I knew we wouldn't quit."

Hamilton Heights held the ball early in the third quarter in an attempt to pull JCHS out of the box-and-1. It eventually worked, and Runner hit a 3-pointer from the left wing for a 26-19 advantage.

A Schwieterman free

throw — she finished with a game-high 16 points — finally broke a 10 minute, 15 second scoreless drought for the Patriots with 3:47 left in the third quarter. (They would go 11:45 without a field goal.) They fought back to take the lead when Saxman scored on a second-chance opportunity with about 3:25 left in the game, only to have Runner immediately tie it and then both teams go scoreless for the rest of regulation.

"I thought defensively we did a good enough job to win," said Comer. "We just didn't make the plays offensively."

Box score			
<b>Class 3A No. 6</b>		<b>Score by quarters:</b>	
<b>Jay County Patriots vs.</b>		<b>Jay Co. 15 4 5 8 1-33</b>	
<b>Class 3A No. 8</b>		<b>HHS 8 15 5 4 4-36</b>	
<b>Hamilton Heights Huskies</b>			
<b>Sectional opening round</b>			
<b>at Yorktown</b>			
<b>Girls varsity summary</b>			
<b>Jay County (20-4)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Muhlinkmp	0-0	0-0	0
Saxman	2-7	1-2	5
Bilbrey	2-3	0-1	4
Rodgers	0-7	0-0	0
Schwtrmn	5-17	2-5	16
BDirksen	0-1	1-2	1
MDirksen	3-10	0-0	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12-45</b>	<b>4-10</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>.267</b>	<b>.400</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .710</b>			
<b>Hamilton Heights (16-5)</b>			
	<b>FG-FGA</b>	<b>FT-FTA</b>	<b>PTS</b>
Hickok	2-5	0-0	5
Shields	2-14	0-1	5
Runner	4-9	4-4	13
Rhoton	1-4	0-0	3
Cherry	0-1	0-0	0
Moran	4-7	2-8	10
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13-40</b>	<b>6-13</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>.325</b>	<b>.462</b>	
<b>Def. rebound percentage: .588</b>			
<b>Rebounds:</b> Jay County 35 (Saxman 12, Bilbrey 9, Schwieterman 7, MDirksen 5, Muhlenkamp 2, team 2). Hamilton Heights 29 (Runner 9, Moran 8, Shields 4, Hickok 3, team 3, Rhoton 2).			
<b>Assists:</b> Jay County 9 (Rodgers 5, Schwieterman 2, Muhlenkamp, Saxman). Hamilton Heights 7 (Hickok 4, Moran 2, Shields).			
<b>Blocks:</b> Jay County 4 (Schwieterman 2, Saxman, MDirksen). Hamilton Heights 0.			
<b>Personal fouls:</b> Jay County 12 (Schwieterman 4, MDirksen 4, Saxman 2, Bilbrey, Rodgers). Hamilton Heights 10 (Hickok 3, Runner 3, Shields 2, Moran 2).			
<b>Turnovers:</b> Jay County 15. Hamilton Heights 16.			

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday,**  
Jay County — Girls swimming hosts sectional preliminaries — 5:30 p.m.; Boys basketball tripleheader vs. Southern Wells — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Minster — 6 p.m.; Swimming vs. Coldwater and Versailles at South Adams — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball in Midwest Athletic Conference Tournament — TBA

**Friday**  
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Minster — 6 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Jay County — Wrestling hosts regional — 9 a.m.; Girls swimming hosts sectional finals — 9 a.m.  
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Ridgmont — 6 p.m.; Girls basketball at

Tri-Village — noon; Freshman boys basketball vs. Coldwater — 10 a.m.

### TV schedule

**Today**  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Purdue at Minnesota (BTN)  
7:30 p.m. — Soccer: World Cup qualification CONCACAF — Honduras at United States (FS1)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at New York Knicks (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wisconsin at Illinois (BTN)  
9:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Minnesota Wild at Chicago Blackhawks (TNT)  
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Villanova at Marquette (FS1)

**Thursday, Feb. 3**  
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. John's at Georgetown (FS1)  
6 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Maryland at Michigan State (BTN)

### STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

**HOLLAND KIWANIS**  
Gun & Knife Show — February 12 & 13, Sat 9-4, Sun 9-3 - \$6 Admission at Huntingburg Event Center, 200 E. 14th St., Huntingburg, IN — 200+ tables. For more information call 812-536-5252

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### 40 NOTICES

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

### 60 SERVICES

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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

### Public Notice

NOTICE OF DETERMINATION  
Notice is hereby given that the Board of School Trustees of The Jay School Corporation (Corporation) has determined to sell real estate owned by the Corporation (234 W Pearl St, Dunkirk, IN 47336) and to hire a real estate broker to assist in said sales. The hiring of the broker is planned for the regular Board meeting which is scheduled for February 14th, at 5:00 PM or any Board meeting thereafter.

Notice dated January 25, 2022. Board of School Trustees of the Jay School Corporation CR 1-28, NS 2-2-HSPALXP

### 260 PUBLIC AUCTION

**WICKEY CONSTRUCTION** Roofing, Siding, Pole Barns. Call for free estimate. 260-273-9776

### 90 SALE CALENDAR

### REAL ESTATE AUCTION

Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 10AM

221 E 900 S-38, Geneva, IN 46740

7 +/- acres, 3-4 bedrooms, Heated shop, Barn

Personal Property Online: Starts February 7th at 6PM-

Closing starts February 15th at 6PM

Richard Fifer, Owner Sale conducted by Green Auction — 260-589-8474.

See SoldonGreen.com for details and flyers.

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### PUBLIC AUCTION

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**Saturday, February 5, 2022**

10:00 A. M.

Consignments accepted Friday, February 4, 2022 between 4:00 — 6:00 pm

And Prior to Sale Time Saturday, February 5

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# Husky heartbreaker

## Hamilton Heights ends Patriots' season in OT thriller

By **RAY COONEY**  
The Commercial Review

YORKTOWN — As the final 3-point try that could have forced a second overtime bounced off the rim, Madison Dirksen's hands went to the back of her head. Other Patriots' hands went to their hips.

Dejected. When they emerged from the locker room about 15 minutes later, faces were tear-streaked.

For the second straight year, they had their hearts broken at the hands of the Huskies.

Jay County High School's Class 3A No. 6 girls basketball team missed three potential game-winning shots in the final five seconds of regulation. Then two potential game-tying 3-pointers in the final 10 seconds of overtime were off the mark as well Tuesday as the Patriots lost 36-33 in overtime to eighth-ranked Hamilton Heights in the opening game of the Sectional 24 tournament at Yorktown.

"What a game," said JCHS coach Kirk Comer, whose voice was quavering. "Both teams battled as hard as they could and it came down to just a play or two. They were able to make them down the stretch when we weren't, so they're moving on and we're not."

The Huskies (16-5), who fought back from a nine-point deficit in the first half, advance to Friday's semifinal against Delta (3-18). The championship game is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

They are now heavily favored to repeat as sectional champions, having blasted Delta 57-19 during the regular season. The Sagarin Ratings list them as at least 20-point favorites over potential championship opponents Yorktown and New Castle.

"I genuinely feel bad for coach Comer," said Hamilton Heights coach Keegan Cherry after his squad eliminated the Patriots for the second consecutive season. "He is one of the good guys. ... I know this is one that they wanted tonight and I hurt for him because he's one of the good ones and he's a tremendous coach and that's a great basketball team."

Jay County (20-4) found itself in a situation similar to last season. Trailing by one in overtime, they had the ball with 20 seconds left and the chance to take a lead.

Like last season, they turned it over.

The result was two Camryn Runner free throws that pushed the Hamilton Heights advantage to three points and put the Patriots' in a much more difficult position. They still had two opportunities at the end to force double overtime, but Izzy Rodgers' 3-pointer from the right wing was off the mark.

See **Ends** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School senior Madison Dirksen puts up a 3-pointer during the second half Tuesday. She recorded seven points, five rebounds and a block in the final game of her career.

# Bucs' Brady retires

By **ROB MAADDI**  
AP Pro Football Writer

TAMPA, Fla. — Tom Brady walked away from the NFL on his own terms, still at the top of his game.

Brady, the most successful quarterback in league history and one of the greatest champions in professional sports, has retired after winning seven Super Bowls and setting numerous passing records in an unprecedented 22-year career.

"This is difficult for me to write, but here it goes: I am not going to make that competitive commitment anymore," Brady wrote in a lengthy post on Instagram. "I have loved my NFL career, and now it is time to focus my time and energy on other things that require my attention."

Brady, 44, has long stated his desire to spend more time with his wife, supermodel Gisele Bundchen, and three children despite his unique ability to perform exceptionally well at an age when most athletes are way past their prime.

"Right now, it's best I leave the field of play to the next generation of dedicated and committed athletes," Brady said.



36



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# FEBRUARY

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