

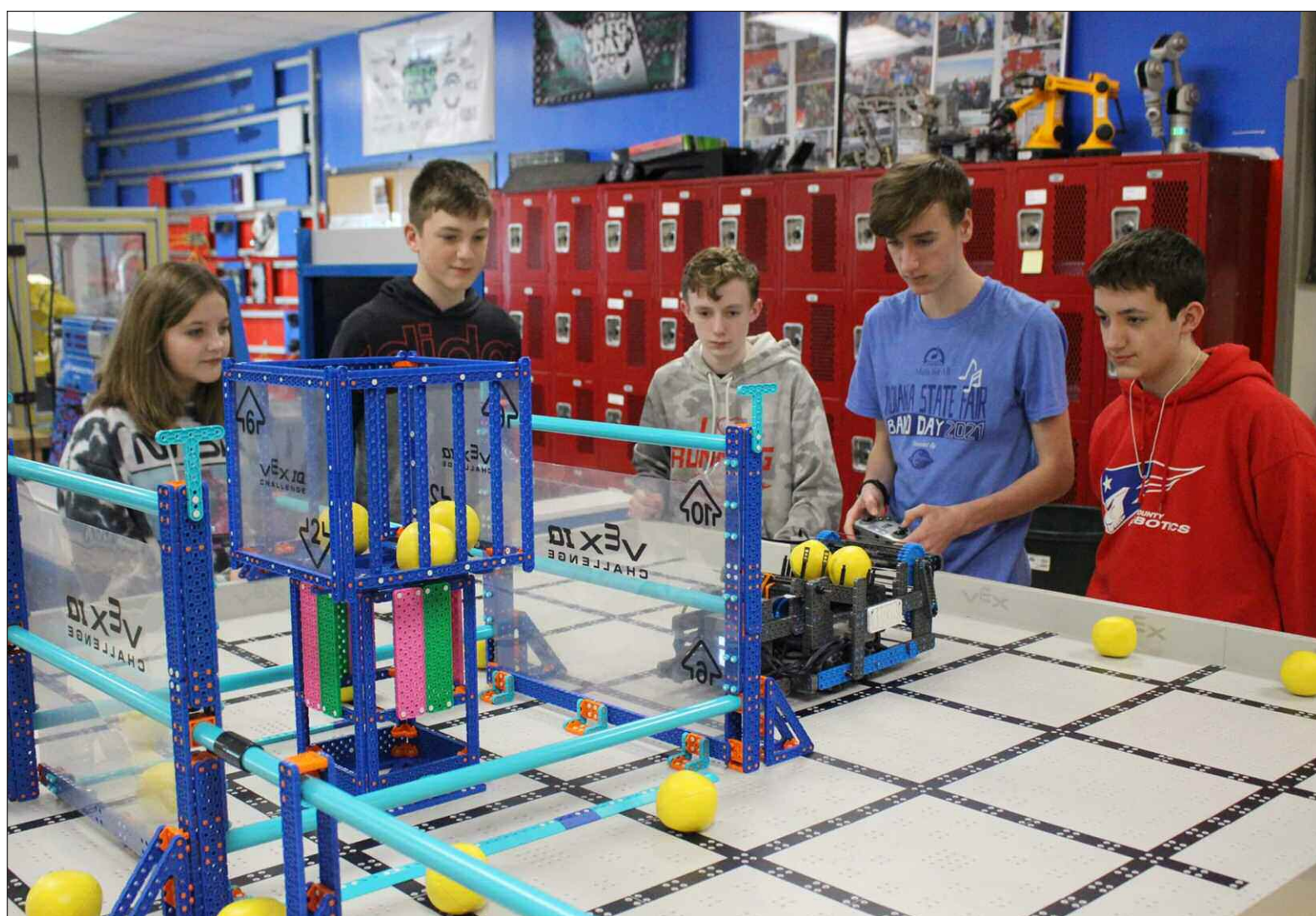
The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

On to Texas



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Jay County Junior High School eighth graders Callie Houck, Max Klopfenstein, Jake Kellogg, Joe Boggs and Brennan Chrisman demonstrate their robot's abilities Thursday. The group from the Jay County Robotics middle school team recently earned a bid into the VEX Robotics World Championship slated for May 7 through 11 in Dallas.

Jay County Junior High robotics competitors qualified for VEX world competition in Dallas

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

About 800 middle school teams will compete in May at the 2022 VEX Robotics World Championship in Dallas.

A group of eighth graders from Jay County Junior High School are one of those teams.

Jake Kellogg, Callie Houck, Max Klopfenstein, Joe Boggs and Brennan Chrisman earned an automatic bid to the competition with their performance in the Indiana VEX Robotics State Championship at Lucas Oil Stadium on March 12. They'll be competing at the world championship from May 7 to 11.

"It's a once in a lifetime, or once in a school year experience, to be able to go World,

especially if you're junior high," said Boggs.

The eighth graders on "The B Team" learned Tuesday they ranked 29th in robot skills scores, giving them an automatic entry into the world championship. (That score is determined by the robot's performance on its own with no driver — the team placed 54th overall.)

Six other Jay County robotics teams also made it to the state competition this year but did not advance to the world championship.

The VEX Robotics challenge is different each year. Throughout competition year 2021-22, students have been required to design a robot that could launch balls into the center pit of the field. Two drivers operate the

robot for about one minute, switching roles halfway through. The next minute, the programmed robot scores points on its own.

Each student has a role. Klopfenstein is the main builder, Chrisman is the programmer, Kellogg and Boggs are the drivers and Houck sketches and keeps record of scores, programming information and draws the robot and field. Although they're in charge of different aspects, they all helped design and build their current prototype.

Jay County Robotics teams have been working on their robot designs since September. Every Tuesday and Thursday, for about two and a half hours, members meet in Kyle Love's classroom to perfect their designs.

The original robot "The B Team" designed was not as efficient, Love explained. They competed with their first prototype beginning in the fall.

"We had so many problems with it, just trying to get the power to get it over the wall and trying to keep the gears in place," explained Klopfenstein.

Throughout the fall and early winter, the group started working on a second robot design, which implements a catapult-like mechanism. They switched to their new design around winter break.

"(They) kept tweaking on it up until last Thursday, when we packed up for state," Love said. "Obviously they made some good choices."

See World page 2

China warned not to help Russia

By AAMER MADHANI

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Face to face by video, President Joe Biden laid out to Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday the stiff consequences the Chinese would face from the U.S. if they provide military or economic assistance for Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

There was no indication he got any assurance in return.

In fact, Xi blamed the U.S. for the crisis and insisted with a Chinese proverb that the next move was up to Biden:

"He who tied the bell to the tiger must take it off," Xi said, according to a Chinese government readout.

More formally after the nearly two-hour conversation, China's Foreign Ministry deplored "conflict and confrontation" as "not in anyone's interest," but assigned no blame to Russia and said nothing of next steps.

At the White House, press secretary Jen Psaki said, "China has to make a decision for themselves, about where they want to stand and how they want the history books to look at them and view their actions."

She declined to detail possible consequences Biden specified to the Chinese president if his country provides support for the Russian invasion.

But a senior administration official who briefed reporters following the leaders' call said that Biden pointed to the economic isolation that Russia has faced — including economy-battering sanctions and major Western corporations suspending operations — as he sought to underscore the costs that China might suffer.

Xi urged the U.S. and Russia, which have had limited engagement since the Feb. 24 invasion, to negotiate.

See Warned page 2

Retrospect

Ice covered the county

Thirty years ago this week, Jay County was frozen.

The March 19, 1992, edition of The Commercial Review featured coverage of a storm that brought freezing rain, sleet and snow and left the county covered in ice that snapped off tree limbs, knocked out electrical and telephone service to many and forced one utility company to bring in extra crews to repair downed lines.

Crews from Jay County REMC and Indiana Michigan Power had worked through the night in an effort to restore power. Between 600 and 700 customers were still without power by morning.

"An ice storm is just a real bad thing for a utility," said Jay

County REMC operations manager Doug Shidler. "You're just at the mercy of nature."

Extra Crews and office personnel from Indiana Michigan Power had been dispatched to restore power, noted area manager Fred King.

"We hope by late this evening, maybe well after dark, to get them in service," he said.

Workers had to walk lines to locate the damage, he added.

Falling limbs caused most of the power losses, Shidler and King said. Shilder reported that just three poles broke during the storm.

More than 100 United Telephone Company customers lost service during the storm as well.

Meanwhile, Portland and Dunkirk street department crews had worked until midnight March 18 picking up limbs and salting streets. Red-key volunteer firefighters also spent about four hours working to put out fires started by live electrical wires falling on and igniting trees.

"There's quite a little damage in the alleys — a lot of hot wires down," said Jim Hedges, Portland Street Department superintendent.

In Dunkirk, several residents who had been forced out of the Leisure Lane apartment complex when power went out ended up spending the night at Miller's Merry Manor nursing home.



The Commercial Review/Dan Zinkand

Ice glazed the tiny apples on a tree in Dr. Eugene Gillum's office at 522 W. Arch St. in the wake of a March 1992 freezing rain storm. Ice from the storm covered trees throughout the area. Downed limbs were reported in several communities and hundreds of customers lost power during the storm.

Deaths

Richard Myers, 88,
Dunkirk
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature topped out at 66 degrees Friday.

Today's forecast calls for rain with winds gusting to 30 miles per hour and the temperature falling to 43 by about 5 p.m. Rain will continue into the evening.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins will hold his State of the City address at 6 p.m. Tuesday at West Jay Community Center.

Coming up

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

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



Obituaries

Richard Myers

Feb. 18, 1934-March 15, 2022
Richard Leon Myers of Dunkirk, Indiana, left the confines of this world and journeyed towards the light March 15, 2022, holding the hand of his wife of 55 years Daisy Katherine Myers (Bivens). Also present to witness his departure were several children and grandchildren.
Richard was born Feb. 18, 1934, in Pennville, Indiana, to Jehu Garth Myers and Katherine Myers (Webb).
He was a graduate of Redkey High School, where he was

active in baseball and basketball, and was a proud Redkey Wolf his entire life.
Richard began his work career in the U.S. Army; he would later become a railroadman, bread man, bartender and mechanic.
He finished his career as a papermaker and retired from Rock Tenn Corporation Mill Division in Eaton, Indiana, where he served as purchasing agent.



Myers

Richard was an avid basketball and sports fan and a member of the final Redkey High School Basketball team to ever win a sectional. He loved the Indiana Pacers and "The General" Bobby Knight.
Richard was a dedicated family man, husband and father. Imposing yet approachable, he had a stern demeanor that masked a quick wit and wry sense of humor.
He was quick to lend a hand to neighbors and friends, and a samaritan to strangers on many occasions.
Richard is survived by his

wife, Daisy Katherine "Katy" Myers of Dunkirk; and five children, Marc D Myers of Indianapolis, Susan Duran (husband: David) of Dunkirk, Terry Ridgway (wife: Valerie) of Dunkirk, Bruce Ridgway of Ontario, California, and Smokey Myers of Dunkirk. He was grandfather to eight, great-grandfather to 12; and great-great-grandfather to one.
He was preceded in death by his parents; and one brother, Robert Myers (wife: Sandra) of Albany, Indiana.
Services will be at MJS Mortuaries - Redkey Chapel with

viewing from 5 to 8 p.m. on Monday, March 21. The memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Tuesday with burial following at Pennville IOOF Cemetery.
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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.

CR almanac

Table with 5 columns: Sunday 3/20, Monday 3/21, Tuesday 3/22, Wednesday 3/23, Thursday 3/24. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Lotteries

Hoosier MIDDAY
Daily Three: 1-2-7
Daily Four: 2-9-7-3
Quick Draw: 3-6-10-14-20-23-25-27-30-41-44-45-47-49-51-55-58-61-70-79
Ohio MIDDAY
Pick 3: 7-1-8
Pick 4: 9-6-6-1
Pick 5: 9-8-6-8-8
Evening
Pick 3: 4-6-9
Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$147 million
Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$29 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....6.98
April corn.....6.98
Wheat.....8.45
Central States Montpelier
Corn.....7.03
April corn.....7.03
Beans.....16.40
April beans.....16.40
Wheat.....9.50
Sunrise St. Anthony
Corn.....6.92
April corn.....6.92
Beans.....16.06
April beans.....16.13
Wheat.....9.21

Today in history

On March 19, 1945, during World War II, 724 people were killed when a Japanese dive bomber attacked the carrier USS Franklin off Japan (the ship was saved). Adolf Hitler ordered the destruction of German facilities that could fall into Allied hands in his so-called "Nero Decree," which was largely disregarded.
In 1859, the opera "Faust" by Charles Gounod premiered in Paris.
In 1931, Nevada Gov. Fred B. Balzar signed a measure legalizing casino gambling.
In 1942, during World War II, President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered men between the ages of 45 and 64, inclusive, to register for non-military duty.
In 1972, Ludwig's Supermarket on Votaw Street in Portland was robbed when a man held a knife to a cashier's throat and demanded money from the cash register. A suspect was arrested by Decatur police just 35 minutes later.
In 1977, the series finale of "Mary Tyler Moore" aired on CBS-TV, ending the situation comedy's seven-season run.
In 1987, televangelist Jim Bakker resigned as chairman of his PTL ministry organization amid a sex and money scandal involving Jessica Hahn, a former church secretary.
In 1991, Polish President Lech Walesa arrived in Washington for his first state visit to the United States.
In 1995, after a 21-month hiatus, Michael Jordan returned to professional basketball with his former team, the Chicago Bulls.
In 1997, artist Willem de Kooning, considered one of the 20th century's greatest painters, died in East Hampton, New York, at age 92.
—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, conference room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
Wednesday 5 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building 131 S. Main St.
6 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water District, USDA office, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.

Holcomb to lead trade mission

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Gov. Eric Holcomb and two top aides will lead a weeklong trade mission to Slovakia and Israel beginning March 27, his office announced Friday.
The planned trip to Slovakia by Holcomb, Adjutant General R. Dale Lyles and Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers comes amid the war between neighboring Ukraine and Russia. The trio will meet with non-government and civil society organizations to lend Indiana's support of Ukraine and Ukrainian refugees.

"This visit also provides an opportunity to do what's right and offer Hoosier support through humanitarian efforts to the Ukrainians who have found refuge in Slovakia and the greater region," Holcomb said in a news release.
The delegation will meet with Slovak leadership in the capital of Bratislava, Slovakia's capital, to also promote Indiana as a destination for sustainable energy and other industries, the announcement said.
Indiana exports more than \$1 bil-

lion worth of goods to Slovakia including chemicals, computer and electronic products, machinery, petroleum and coal products, and transportation equipment.
The Indiana National Guard also shares a more than 25-year partnership with Slovakia through joint military trainings and security cooperation.
On March 30-31, the delegation will meet with Israeli leaders in Tel Aviv to discuss agriculture, pharmaceuticals, life sciences and other topics.

Warned ...

Continued from page 1
He noted China's donations of humanitarian aid for Ukraine, while accusing the U.S. of provoking Russia and fueling the conflict by shipping arms to the embattled country. He also renewed China's criticism of sanctions imposed on Russia over the invasion, according to State media.
As in the past, Xi did not use the terms war or invasion to describe Russia's actions.
Ahead of the call, Psaki noted Beijing's "rhetorical support" of Putin and an "absence of denunciation" of Russia's invasion.
Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying pushed back,

calling the U.S. administration "overbearing" for suggesting China risks falling on the wrong side of history.
The leaders also discussed the longer-simmering U.S.-China dispute over Taiwan. In a reminder of China's threat to assert its claim by force, the aircraft carrier Shandong sailed through the Taiwan Strait just hours before the Biden-Xi call. The U.S. is legally obligated to ensure the self-governing island democracy can defend itself and treats threats to it with "grave concern."
Planning for the leaders' discussion had been in the works since Biden and Xi held a virtual summit in

November, but differences between Washington and Beijing over Russian President Vladimir Putin's prosecution of his three-week-old war against Ukraine were at the center of Friday's conversation.
The U.S.-China relationship, long fraught, has only become more strained since the start of Biden's presidency. Biden has repeatedly criticized China for military provocations against Taiwan, human rights abuses against ethnic minorities and efforts to squelch pro-democracy advocates in Hong Kong.
In the days after Putin deployed Russian forces in Ukraine, Xi's government tried to distance itself from

Russia's offensive but avoided the criticism many other nations have leveled at Moscow. At other moments, Beijing's actions have been provocative including amplifying unverified Russian claims that Ukraine ran chemical and biological weapons labs with U.S. support.
Earlier this week, the U.S. informed Asian and European allies that American intelligence had determined that China had signaled to Russia that it would be willing to provide both military support for the campaign in Ukraine and financial backing to help stave off the impact of severe sanctions imposed by the West.

Capsule Reports

Officers elected

Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals re-elected its officers from last year.
It will also be hosting meetings an hour earlier.
Scott Hilfiker was re-elected Thursday as chairman, Angela Paxson was re-elected as vice chairman and Steve Ford was re-elected as secretary. The board

also decided to begin all meetings at 6 p.m. It had previously held meetings at 7 p.m.
Intersection crash
A Winchester man turned his vehicle into an Ohio woman's car at the intersection of Votaw and Meridian streets in Portland about 10 a.m. Thursday.
Floyd Garringer, 87, was turning

left from Votaw Street to go south on Meridian Street.
He failed to see a northbound 2009 Honda CRV driven by 69-year-old Janice A. Hummel of Weston on the road and crashed into the side of it.
Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Garringer was cited with an infraction for driving without a license.

World ...

Continued from page 1
Their current design will pick up and launch balls, as well as strafe in different directions. However, it is not able to hang, which will be a crucial addition they make to the robot before the May competition, explained Klopfenstein and Boggs.
(The robot can hang from one of the surrounding bars for extra points.) At an estimated five pounds, the mechanism is currently too heavy to accomplish that task.
"They need to be able to hang," confirmed Love. "So that's going to be their focus when we come back from spring break."
Students from more than 34 countries attended the world competition in 2019. (In response to the coronavirus pandemic, VEX Robotics didn't host a championship in 2020 and held its 2021 competition virtually.) So far, teams from across the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, Columbia, Australia, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Khazakistan and more

have signed up to participate.
"At the world level, you're going to see a lot of perfect scores," said Love. "I just want to see improvement at that level, because we'll be competing against schools where they work on these robots five days a week."
Other Jay County Robotics middle school placings included the following: Matthew Fisher, David Keen and Dawson Goldsworthy placing 50th, and Liam McBride, Gavin Ray and Rhoen Brown placing 81st.
In the high school division: Ryne Goldsworthy, George Weesner and Trenten Hamilton placed sixth overall; Aidan Garlinger, Kenny Carducci and Rose Carter lost in the sweet 16; Corben Lugar, Elijah Stephens and Carly Shaneyfelt placed 37th; and Nathan Lothridge, Ty Paxson, Landon Weaver and Ashton Yowell placed 48th.
Overall, Klopfenstein said, he and his teammates are excited for the opportunity to compete with

countries across the world.
"We are very nervous, but excited at the same time," he said. "We know we need to get a lot of work done with our robot, but we are pretty sure we can make it through."
Love expressed his belief in the students. Their abilities, he said, will help them do well.
"They're ready for it," Love said. "I've got confidence they're going to go down, we're not going to have a single bad match, we're going to compete well, we're going to maximize that robot as best as we can and get the best result. I think, skill-wise, they're prepared to be on that stage."

SERVICES
Saturday
Garr, Ruth: 11 a.m., Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 N. High St., Hartford City.
Bourne, Nancy: 4 p.m., Maus Funeral Home, 704 S. Council St., Attica.
Tuesday
High, Dorothy: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Myers, Richard: 1 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

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BPA competed

Eight Jay County High School students competed at the state Business Professionals of America competition March 13-15 in Indianapolis. Pictured from left to right are Evan Toney, Samuel Bracy, James Larowe, Marisa Gallegos, Aidan Garlinger, Ralyn Chafins, Darren Fisher, Charles Bye and business teacher Rhonda Clott. Two students, Larowe and Bracy, qualified for the national competition in Dallas May 4 through 8. Larowe placed first in all four events he participated in and received \$24,000 in scholarships to Sullivan University.

Bluegrass band performs Thursday

Bluegrass is on the way. The John Jorgenson Bluegrass Band will be performing in Muncie at Ball State University's Pruis Hall at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Four award-winning musicians make up the group: John Jorgenson on acoustic guitar, mandolin and vocals; Herb Pedersen on banjo, acoustic guitar and vocals; Mark Fain on bass; and Patrick Sauber on acoustic guitar and vocals. "The four combine forces to form a spot-on union of impeccable musicianship, incomparable songwriting, seasoned showmanship, and incredible harmony vocals that include a fresh twist combining bluegrass with elements of West Coast folk rock," according to a press release from

Taking Note

Ball State University. Tickets are available at Emens Auditorium box office, 1800 W. Riverside Ave., Muncie, by phone at (765) 285-1539, or by visiting Ticketmaster.com.

Kids Clinic

Jay County Color Guard will host its kids clinic from noon to 4 p.m. April 9 at East Jay Elementary School. The program is open to all students from kindergarten through

12th grade. Registration forms can be picked up at any Jay school front office.

The deadline to register is March 28 — registrations after that date are not guaranteed a T-shirt.

Brain health

Jay County Public Library will host a discussion on brain health and memory at 6 p.m. March 29.

Amanda Bullion of Jay County Purdue Extension Office will be speaking, with the library's adult services librarian Hannah Moody sharing tools needed and ideas for making memory kits.

To register, visit the library at 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or call the library during regular business hours at (260) 726-7890.

Jealousy leads to cracks in relationships

DEAR ABBY: My best friend of a few years, "Leia," and I are very close. We were basically a unit, spending every day together. But now I have a girlfriend, "Kara." She's a mutual friend of both of us.

Dear Abby



Kara and I have been together for only a few months, but I already care about her very much. I don't want things to change. The problem is, she's jealous of the connection I have with Leia, and Leia feels ditched, like I'm not spending enough time with her.

I know the conventional advice is to dump one or the other, but I care about them both too much to lose either one, and I need to find a balance instead. How do I go about having a best friend and a relationship at the same time?

— PULLED IN TWO DIRECTIONS

DEAR PULLED: Start by telling Kara that if you wanted a romance with Leia, it would have already happened, and that your friendship with Leia is important to you. Then tell Kara you care about her and feel there could be a future with her, but ONLY if she's able to control her jealousy and insecurity where Leia is concerned.

After that, explain to Leia that you care about your friendship very much and don't want her to feel neg-

lected, but now that you have a girlfriend, you have less time to spend with her than you did in the past. Then cross your fingers.

.....

DEAR ABBY: From the time I was a child, I've always wanted to be helpful. If people asked me for favors, no matter how small or out of the way they were, I was always happy to help. Recently, though, I have been noticing that when I ask for help in return, there are very few people I can actually rely on.

I know a lot of people consider me naive and gullible because of my willingness to help, but I have reached the point where I don't want to do anything for anyone unless they're sincere about their friendship. How do I politely show them I'm not as clueless and naive as they think I am? — FRUSTRATED AND ANNOYED

DEAR FRUSTRATED: You don't have to be confrontational or unpleasant. Accomplish that goal by being less helpful — FAR less helpful — to those who don't return the favors you bestow.

Community Calendar

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

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.
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. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.
BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER — Walking from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.
EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.
PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland.
TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.
PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.
BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday.
JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.
THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.
A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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

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Teacher praised, communication questioned

To the editor:
In Tuesday's paper a brief mention of my remarks made at the school board meeting on Monday, March 14, 2022, need some clarification.

First, I overwhelmingly praised Anni McClung for her excellent service to her students. She is a teacher that goes the extra mile time and time again. My son had the trip of his lifetime when she led a group to Germany this fall.

Letters to the Editor

She sent out an email that was able to reach every parent, offering to take other students to Germany next spring. Which brought me to the

next point: communication (or lack of) to parents.

At the previous school board meeting, I expressed concern that in the spring of a student's junior year, communication to parents is cut-off.

The administration told me because the students are emerging adults the student should start to be responsible for their own affairs. That decision is not for the school to make; that is a parent choice

for their child. Leaving parents out of the communication loop is wrong. It is up to the parent, not the school, to determine how much, if any, support their young adult needs.

Oddly enough, sometime after that meeting, my younger son approached me with a class schedule to be turned in the next day. Zero communication on scheduling had been sent out to parents. I sent an email to the administration

asking why nothing had been communicated to parents.

The next day, my son informed me that turning in schedules had been delayed. In a matter of a couple days, parents received a very informative email.

If a teacher can communicate with all parents with the click of a button, why can't senior parents be informed?

Cindy Bracy
Portland

U.S. needs a better strategy

The Washington Post

A trip to Home Depot and a few hundred dollars is all it takes to breach former President Donald Trump's border wall. Smugglers using power tools available at hardware stores have hacked through bollards in the barrier along the southwest border more than 3,200 times over the past three years, The Post's Nick Miroff reported.

There's no sign of slackening in the bollard-breaking that has left the wall as gapped as a 7-year-old's grin, and prompted a federal repair program with no end in sight.

Undeterred, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott has launched his own wall-building project, determined to spend state funds for miles of new barrier no more impenetrable than Trump's. Abbott, a Republican who is running for a third term in office, is trumpeting the wall's construction in a fundraising campaign, promising that it will "secure the border." In email appeals that offer donors a "limited edition border security sticker," the governor contrasts his efforts to lock down the border with President Joe Biden's, which he terms "disgusting."

Texans in some border areas were alarmed last year by a huge surge in smugglers and migrants trespassing through farmland and communities. Some landowners likened the influx to an invasion. Cars and SUVs carrying migrants from the border to cities in Texas and elsewhere were involved in a number of horrific crashes.

The trouble with border walls — in addition to the risk they pose of flooding, environmental degradation and harm to animal habitats — is that they don't work very well. In some instances, they might slow the smuggling of people and contraband, but they do little to stop it.

At roughly \$20 million a mile — the price incurred by the Lone Star State for its first segment of border wall construction, as calculated by the Texas Tribune — they're also not cost-effective. For the \$1 billion that Abbott plans to spend on the project, Texas might be able to build roughly 50 miles of wall along its 1,254-mile border with Mexico, most of which has no wall. Which smugglers will then penetrate with relative ease.

Much of the 458 miles of new border barriers

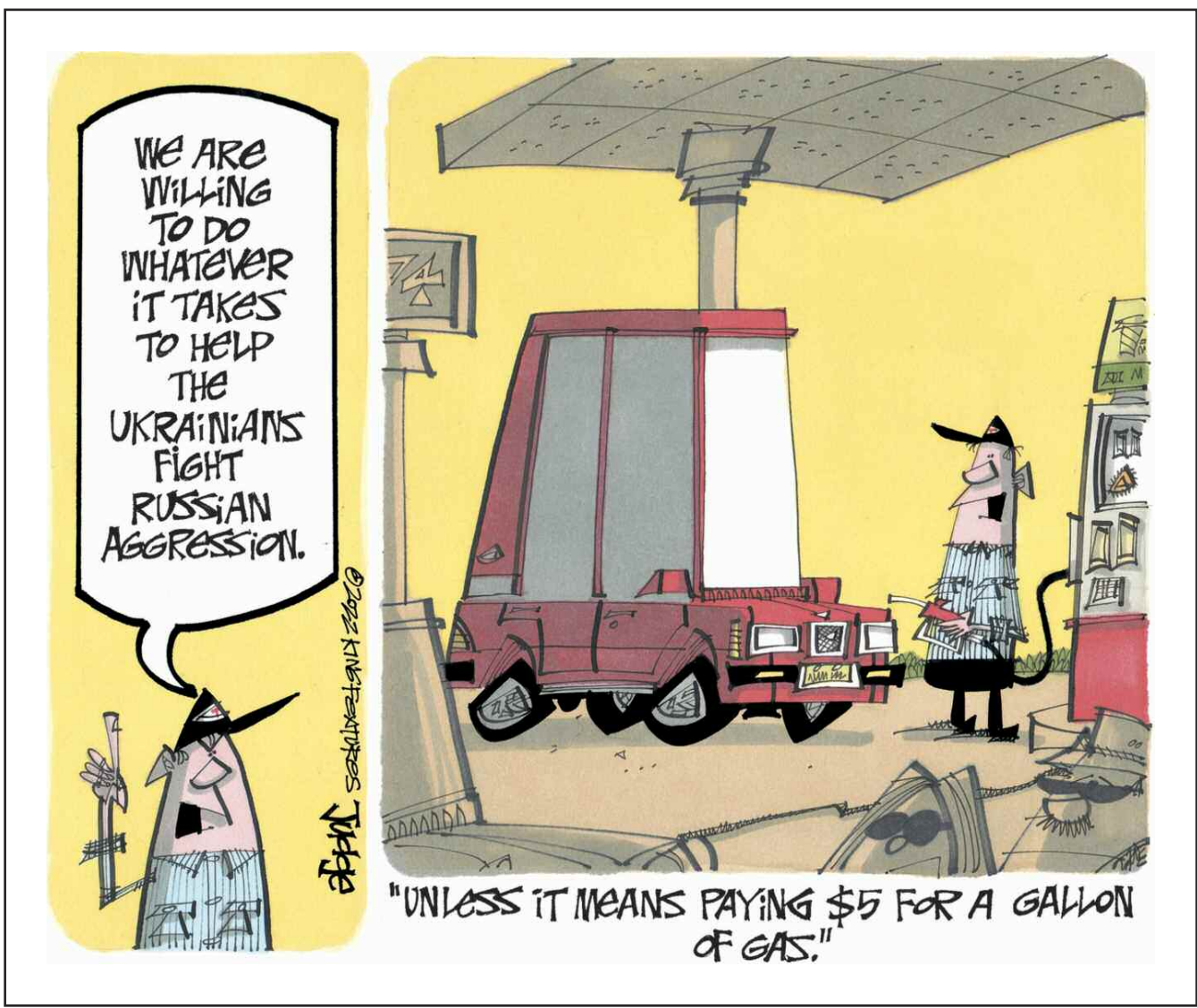
Guest Editorial

The trouble with border walls — in addition to the risk they pose of flooding, environmental degradation and harm to animal habitats — is that they don't work very well. In some instances, they might slow the smuggling of people and contraband, but they do little to stop it.

erected during the Trump administration were located in remote areas of New Mexico and Arizona, generally on federal land. Biden halted construction when he took office, rightly regarding it as an ineffective use of money.

Abbott can proceed without federal permission because he is using mainly state land for his wall, along with property offered up for the project by some private landowners. Yet even if he completes the wall segments he is currently planning, and, in a prospective third term, secures more funding from the state legislature and private donors to put up more barriers, smugglers will very likely continue to cut, scale and otherwise defeat the wall.

Securing the border is a legitimate objective. A strategy more likely to succeed would rely on beefed-up technology, equipment and personnel, along with a sustained long-term effort by Washington to address the causes of migration south of the border — poverty, crime and poor governance.



Reading remains essential

By MIKE LUNSFORD

For The Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)

The wind has come to call this week. As if a blustery winter blowing out has not been enough, it appears as if spring is going to be blowing in just as hard; it has already taken a bit of my barn roof with it. Just a few days ago — the eve of which I had gone to bed after witnessing a crescent moon and clear, calm skies — I woke up to find a few shingles off the roof of a small barn I built with a good buddy 20 years ago. The vast majority of the roof is still intact, but a single shingle must have been raised up just enough near a vent to catch a surprisingly strong overnight wind; it, and a few others around it, lifted off like brittle kites, much of their mess ending up in a gutter.

The spot is patched now, but I'm sure I'll need to replace the whole roof sometime reasonably soon. Since the past couple of weeks have also spelled disaster for our old refrigerator, my truck is in need of repairs, and my wife had an unfortunate accident with her computer, we might as well add those old shingles to the casualty list too.

I was, however, reminded two Friday nights ago, when we attended the keynote for the 2022 "Big Read" at the Vigo County Library, that March is also National Reading Month, and despite the fact that every month in our house is a reading one, the special designation for March simply reminds us that no matter how much we have to spend on repairs — or how high a gallon of gasoline goes — I will still be buying books and heading into town to the public library to borrow more. The "Big Read," of course, supplied us with a free featured book, Toni Morrison's "Beloved."

Tomorrow, I will be speaking to a class of high school sophomores about reading. Their teacher invited me in because she says that despite the group's academic talent, they just don't read very much; I am hoping to convince them to try a little harder. I guess our timing for March has been doubly appropriate, for the class is also just about ready to crack Ray

Mike Lunsford



Bradbury's "Fahrenheit 451," a favorite book of mine, and one, that despite being over 70 years old, seems appropriate for the times in which we live. It too was a National Endowment for the Arts/Vigo County Public Library "Big Read" choice a number of years back.

I often write about reading and its importance, not just because it's entertaining and helps an old man pass the cold windy hours of an Indiana winter, but because it is even more critical in this age of information — and misinformation — than ever before. While I have never read "Beloved," I plan to now, and not just because it was a free book. If you don't know already, "Beloved," which won the 1988 Pulitzer Prize for fiction, is a novel based on the life of escaped slave, Margaret Garner, who killed her two-year-old child rather than see her returned to a life of abuse in chains. It is, as VCPL Event Manager Sarah Trover says, "a hard book, because it deals with difficult subjects. But, it's a book that needs to be read."

Reading should never be used as punishment, although it can sometimes be difficult. A great read is one of the most entertaining things I can possibly think of, but we also need "hard" books in our lives, classrooms and homes. As we already know, it's an easy thing to simply turn off the horrors of the news, to ignore the poverty down the street, to shut out or legislatively delete all that is unpleasant or uncomfortable.

Years ago, not long after I started in college, I was assigned Alvin Toffler's "Future Shock" in a basic sociology class. Written over a half-century ago now, I considered it a hard book when I read it, mainly because we weren't,

and still aren't, really taught to think much about the future. After all, we are hardly able to teach about the past without considerable argument.

One thing Toffler wrote stayed with me — which doesn't say much for my attention span since his book is over 600 pages — yet I had to search for the quote to make sure it is correct here. Toffler said, "Future shock is the shattering stress and disorientation that we induce in individuals by subjecting them to too much change in too short a time." I think that's a perfect description of us right now.

I probably would never have assigned Morrison or Toffler to sophomores in high school, but Bradbury's work — often banned, which is ironic because it is about the burning of books — is different. Through it, he warns of a future where reading isn't allowed, because, as one of its book-burning "firemen" says, "Books are the loaded gun in the house next door."

Bradbury paraphrases Boswell and Smith, Pope and Shakespeare in "Fahrenheit," and he introduces us to unforgettable characters, the best of which lament the passing of a generation that venerated front porch conversations, social work, and homemade toys, but it is apparently his occasional slip of the tongue that gets him in trouble with censors. Yet, there he is, absolutely spot on when he says, "... books are to remind us what asses and fools we are. They're Caesar's praetorian guard, whispering as the parade roars down the avenue, 'Remember, Caesar, thou art mortal.'"

Years ago, Ray Bradbury was interviewed about his writing life. He lamented a bit that he and his family had not had the money to send him to college, yet he came to consider it an advantage. "I didn't go to college," he said, "but when I graduated from high school I went down to the local library and I spent ten years there, two or three days a week, and I got a better education than most people get from universities. So I graduated from the library when I was twenty-eight years old."

The Commercial Review

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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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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



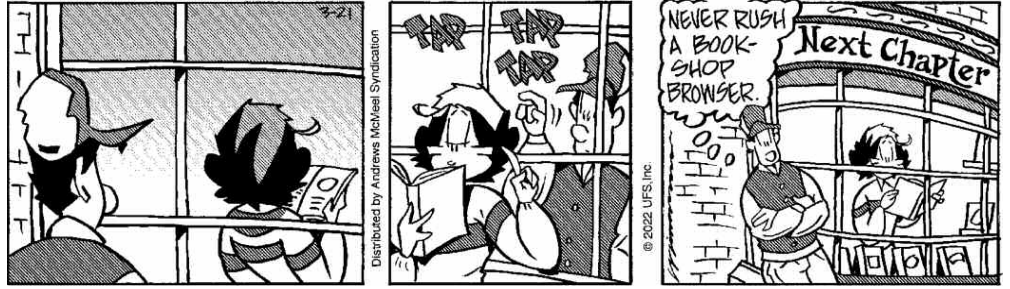
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Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



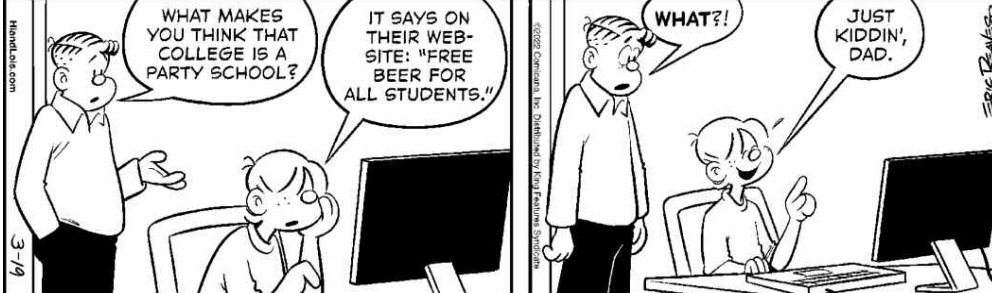
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Agnes



Hi and Lois



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



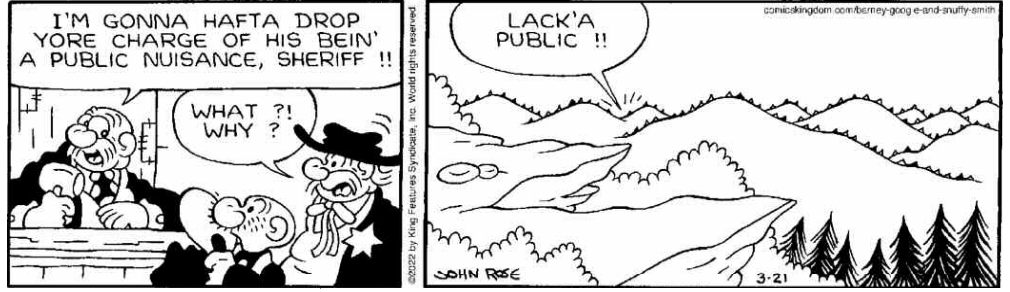
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Beetle Bailey



We Deliver

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

Laughter

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Located : 1675 W Highway 18, Bryant IN, Saturday Morning, MARCH 26, 2022 AT 10:00 A. M.
REAL ESTATE
1 ½ story home with 1580 square feet of living space located West of Bryant Indiana in Jackson Township on 5 acres. This property features a 3 bedroom home with 1 full bath, and heating system. Additional property features include large 2 story barn, machine shed, granary, and other out-buildings. For more information or a private showing contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.
GUNS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD ITEMS
Hopkins & Allen Arms Company 12 gauge single shot; Triumph 16 gauge single shot; CF Mossberg & Sons 22LR semi automatic rifle; R & G 22 cal revolver; Whirlpool washer; Kenmore dryer; Gibson refrigerator; Baldwin grandfather clock; cedar chest; pistol safe lock box; wind chimes; and many other items not listed.
TRACTOR - MOWER - TOOLS
Massey Ferguson Model 65 gas tractor with 3 speed, multi power and remote hydraulics; Carbon Arc torch; welding rods; Dewalt 18V tool kit; Milwaukee grinder; Craftsman tool box; Paslode framing nailer kit;
set of leather welding chaps; 24" meat saw; plumbing supplies; Binks air brush air compressor; tile cutter; and many other items not listed.
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By Randy Lewis, POA
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Public Notice

LEGAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL BIDS
Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the office of the Jay County Auditor, at the Courthouse in Portland, Indiana, 47371, Friday April 8, 2022 until the hour of 4:00 PM local time for Item 1 to be delivered to the county highway department in the amounts and at such time as ordered by the head of the department. Bids are to be from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 with optional escalator clause as an alternate.
Specifications are available in the Jay County Auditor's Office, Portland, Indiana 47371 for the following items:
Item #1 Asphalt Emulsions - RS-2, AE-90S
The Board of Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and/or all bids, or to accept the one which, in their judgment will be in the best interest of Jay County, being the best and/or lowest response and responsible bidder for each line or class of materials by the order of the Board of Commissioners of Jay County, Indiana.
Anna Culy
Jay County Auditor
CR 3-19,26-2022
NS 3-16,23-2022-HSPAXLP

260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located at 1675 W Highway 18, Bryant Indiana on Saturday Morning

MARCH 26, 2022

10:00 A.M.

REAL ESTATE

1 ½ story home with 1580 square feet of living space located West of Bryant Indiana in Jackson Township on 5 acres. This property features a 3 bedroom home with 1 full bath, and heating system. Additional property features include large 2 story barn, machine shed, granary, and other outbuildings. This rural property offers a very nice country setting with a nice set of buildings. For private showing contact Gary Loy, Auctioneer at (260) 726-5160 or Kim Loy, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700.

GUNS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD ITEMS

JC Higgins Model 20 - 12 gauge pump shotgun; Sears & Roebuck 12 gauge; Mossberg Model 500 - 12 gauge Camo pump shotgun; Hopkins & Allen Arms Company 12 gauge single shot; Triumph 16 gauge single shot; CF Mossberg & Sons 22LR semi automatic rifle; Coast 410 ga. pump shotgun; Remington "Home Defender" 20 ga. pump shotgun; Savage model 1909 22 cal rifle; Savage 22 cal single shot rifle; R & G 22 cal revolver; Oak 3 stack double bookcase; Whirlpool washer; Kenmore dryer; Gibson refrigerator; wood table with 6 chairs; (4) bar stools; Samsung flatscreen TV; love seats; wood rocker; dresser; lamp stand; wood bench; commode; twin beds; Flexsteel sleeper sofa; Baldwin grandfather clock; cedar chest; knee hole desk; lift top desk; Emerson microwave; records; guitar with case; Ancona; Marx dump truck; Buddy L dump truck; Tonka dump truck; Fisher Price toys; large wood crate on steel wheels; egg scale; flat irons; lanterns; galvanized watering can; wash board; antlers; milk can; tricycles; bicycles; gas grill; toaster oven; baking dishes; cannister set; Pyrex; small kitchen appliances; utensils; Corelle dishes; cookware; flatware; lamps; TV trays; sleeping bags; child's rocker; fans; snowmobile helmets and boots; lockers; metal patio furniture; Coleman gas lantern; double air bed; Bower Bluetooth speaker, new in box; Nintendo Wii with balance board and games; MTX audio dual speakers; Stop and No Parking signs; tent; hunting stool; pistol safe lock box; wind chimes; and many other items not listed.

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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Practice swing

Brenna Haines of the Jay County High School girls tennis team connects with a shot while playing against teammate Grace Brewster during practice Wednesday. The Patriots' first match of the season will be at home April 4 against Blackford.

Ivey scores 22, Purdue tops Yale

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Mean Green seemed like a distant memory as the Boilermakers pulled away from the 14th-seeded Bulldogs at the beginning of the second half. Next up is sixth-seeded Texas — an 81-73 winner against Virginia Tech — in the second round of the East Region on Sunday.

Ivey raced his way to 22 points and Edey controlled the action inside, helping the Boilermakers shut down the Bulldogs for a 78-56 victory in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Friday.

Ivey, one of the fastest players in college basketball, went 3 for 6 from 3-point range and 7 for 9 at the free-throw line in 27 minutes. The 7-foot-4 Edey made the most of his size advantage against the Ivy League champions, finishing with 16 points and nine rebounds in 19 minutes.

"On the rebounds, I felt like I could just kind of get it over them," Edey said. No kidding. Yale coach James Jones inserted 6-8 EJ Jarvis into his starting lineup, looking for a bigger body to help with Purdue's size. But it had little effect.

"Have you seen anybody in your life as big as (Edey) is?" Jones said. "Other than Yao Ming, I've seen nobody as big as he is. He is the second-largest man I've ever seen."

Led by Ivey and Edey, No. 3 seed Purdue (28-7) won its NCAA opener for the fourth time in its last five tournaments. The lone exception occurred last year, when Purdue was upset by 13th-seeded North Texas in the first round.

The overtime loss to the 17-2 run.

Ivey made two foul shots and a 3-pointer during a 10-0 spurt that put Purdue ahead to stay. Gabbidon's driving layup got Yale within nine early in the second half, but the Boilermakers responded with a 17-2 run.

Browns trade for QB Watson

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

Deshaun Watson changed his mind. The Browns have their franchise quarterback, one with some extra heavy baggage.

Despite sexual misconduct allegations made by nearly two dozen women against Watson while he was with Houston, Cleveland will make him its starting QB, the face of its organization and the highest-paid player in the NFL.

Watson waived his no-trade clause Friday and accepted a trade to the

Browns after previously rejecting the team — a stunning reversal that rocked the NFL and changed the trajectory of two organizations.

In deciding to bring on Watson, the Browns have gone all in to win a Super Bowl. It's a choice they hope not to regret.

The Texans announced that they're agreed to terms with the Browns, one of four teams to actively court Watson this week.

The three-time Pro Bowler, who didn't play last season, had informed the Browns on Thursday that he was-

n't coming. However, he had a change of heart, called them Friday and said he was ready to start fresh in Cleveland, said a person who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The Browns are paying a hefty price for Watson. They're sending the Texans first-round draft picks the next three years plus a 2023 third-round pick and 2024 fourth-round pick. Houston is shipping Watson and a 2024 fifth-round pick to Cleveland.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Softball scrimmage at Covington — noon

April 2
Jay County — Baseball scrimmage at Belmont — 11 a.m.; Softball scrimmage at Winchester — 11 a.m.

TV schedule

Today
8 a.m. — Formula 1 Racing: Bahrain Grand Prix — Last practice (ESPN2)
10:30 a.m. — NASCAR Racing: Camping World Truck Series — Fr8Auctions 200 qualifying (FS1)
11:30 a.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Kansas State vs. Washington State (ESPN2)
11:30 a.m. — NASCAR Racing: Xfinity Series — Nalley Cars 250 Qualifying (FS1)
Noon — Men's college basketball: NIT Tournament — Second round (ESPN2)
12:10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Baylor vs. North Carolina (CBS)
12:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Cup Series — Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 Qualifying (FS1)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Mercer vs. UConn (ABC)
1:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Charlotte vs. Indiana (ESPN2)
2 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — TBD vs. North Carolina State (ESPN)
2:30 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Camping World Truck Series — Fr8Auctions 200 (FS1)
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Kansas vs. Creighton (CBS)
3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Buffalo vs. Tennessee (ABC)

nessee (ABC)
3:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — American vs. Michigan (ESPN2)
4 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Princeton vs. Kentucky (ESPN)
5 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Xfinity Series — Nalley Cars 250 (FS1)
5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Tennessee vs. Michigan (CBS)
5 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Columbus Blue Jackets (BALLY)
5:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Belmont vs. Oregon (ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Providence vs. Richmond (TNT)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — UCLA vs. Saint Mary's (TBS)
7:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — UMass vs. Notre Dame (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Murray State vs. Saint Peter's (CBS)
8 p.m. — NHL hockey: New York Rangers at Tampa Bay Lightning (ABC)
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Arkansas vs. New Mexico State (TNT)
9:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Gonzaga vs. Memphis (TBS)
10 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — UNLV vs. Arizona (ESPN2)

Sunday
Noon — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (CBS)
1 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (ABC)
1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT Tournament — Florida vs. Xavier (ESPN)
2 p.m. — NHL hockey: New York Islanders vs. Philadelphia Flyers (TNT)
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (CBS)
3 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NIT Tournament — Dayton vs. Vanderbilt (ESPN2)
3 p.m. — NASCAR Racing: Cup Series — Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 (FOX)
3:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Portland Trail Blazers at Indiana Pacers (BALLY)
4:05 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs vs. Los Angeles Dodgers (MLBN)
4:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Seattle Sounders vs. Austin (FS1)
5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (CBS)
5 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (ESPN/ESPN2)
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (TNT)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (TBS)
7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (ESPN/ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (TruTV)
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (TNT)
9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Second round (ESPN)
11:06 p.m. — Liga MX Soccer: Juarez vs. Tijuana (FS1)

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