The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Concerns raised about project

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

Some Portland residents were unhappy about a 2019 proposed Indiana Department of

Transportation project. A group of area residents visited Portland City Council on Monday to express their concerns about the updated version of the project that is planned for year.

Jeff Upp, Ryan Myers and Rodney Miles spoke in opposition to the project, which would reduce the number of lanes on Meridian Street (U.S. 27) between Water and Votaw Streets and install bump outs.

INDOT proposal calls for reducing lanes on Meridian in downtown Portland

as follows:

 Reducing through lanes from two to one in each direction, with an alternating turn lane in the middle

The basics of the project are allel parking" in both directions

 Installing curb extensions at each intersection

"community Providing areas" such as seating, plants •Creating "well-defined par- or art, near curb extensions.

crash study has shown "a higher than expected frequency and severity of crashes" and that the reduction in lanes would improve safety.

Upp expressed concerns about the reduction of lanes resulting in more traffic on other streets, the ability for large trucks and safety vehicles to navigate effectively, issues with snow removal and less effective parking in the downtown area. He also addressed the removal of traffic lights at the intersections with Walnut and High Streets, which was part of the project

INDOT indicated that a when it was initially discussed at public meetings in 2019.

Ryan Myers, former superintendent of the city's street and parks department, and Rodney Miles, who serves on Rescue 19 and runs a business that includes snow removal, noted similar concerns.

They asked that the mayor and city council write a letter or otherwise push back against the proposed project.

Council members Janet Powers and Dave Golden both said they had already reached out to INDOT, with Golden reading the response he received.

See Concerns page 2

Just **Treble** 4th at **ISSMA** state

INDIANAPOLIS — In its first trip to the state finals, Just Treble proved it more than belongs with the best in Indiana.

Just Treble, Jay County High School's all-girl show choir, placed fourth Saturday at the Indiana State School Music Association Small School Finals at Franklin Cen-

Patriot Edition, the JCHS co-ed group, placed

Just Treble finished fourth in the women's division behind Emerald Suites of Pendleton Heights, Starlights of Northridge and City Lights of Columbia City. Emerald Suites earned awards for best vocals and best choreography, while Starlights won for best band.

Finishing behind Just Treble in the field of nine choirs were groups from Fairfield, Huntington North, New Palestine, East Noble and Monrovia.

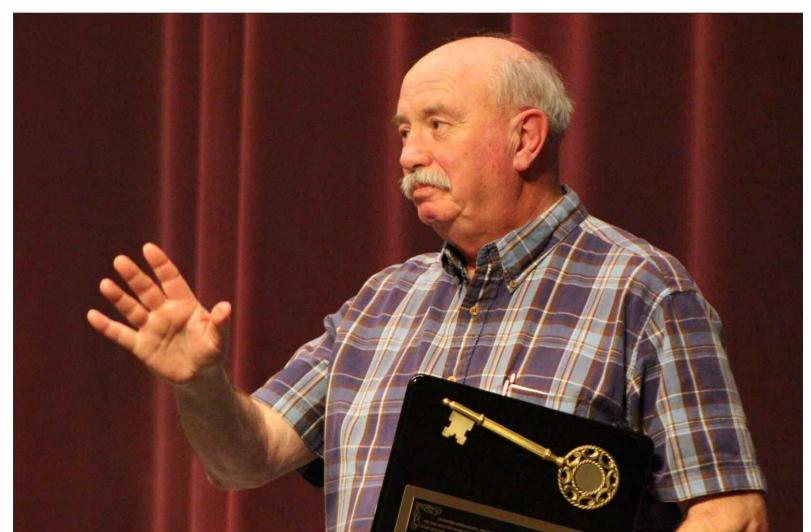
In the mixed division, Jay County's Patriot Edition was sixth ahead of Fairfield, New Palestine Columbia groups. (The group had placed eighth at the 2019 state finals. The event was canceled each of the last two years because of the coronavirus pandem-

The Pendletones of Pendleton Heights finished first while earning awards for best vocals and choreography, with Northern Lights Northridge second and Varsity Singers of Huntington North third. Churubusco's New Era was fourth while New Castle's Red Hot Blues finished

The fourth-place finish for Just Treble closed out a season in which it won the Pendleton Heights Arabian Spectacular and the Garrett Railroader Rush Invitational.

It was also second at the Carroll Classic and third at the Churubusco Show Choir Invitational.

Patriot Edition won at the Homestead Classic Showcase. It was third at Pendleton Heights, Carroll and Garrett.



The Commercial Review/Bailev Cline

Gala honored

Neal Spencer waves while receiving the Mayor's Outstanding Community Service award for the Fort Recovery Radio Christmas Gala Committee during the Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce awards banquet on Sunday. Other awards included: Janice Fiely, Citizen of the Year; Tess Kaup and Chuck Hein, Hall of Fame inductees; Wendel Poultry Service, Business of the Year; Marisa Gaerke, Chamber of Commerce/Rabe scholarship; Pat Wendel, Best Landscaping; Tyler and Kendra Thobe, Most Improved Residential Property; and Ted and Allison Homan, Most Improved Dwelling.

Arts Place reaches campaign goal

Gift from Young pushes

total past \$2.4 million

The goal has been reached.

Arts Place announced Monday that it has surpassed its \$2.4 million capital campaign goal thanks to another gift from John Young.

Young, a former Jay County resident who died last month, provided an additional \$75,000 to the campaign. That pushed the total to \$2,401,889.

"John was an integral part of the campaign," said campaign chair Mindy Weaver in a press

"He was determined that we reach the goal and

worked very hard to that end. I am very grateful for his service to Arts Place."

Young, who was a member of Arts Place's Legacy Capital Campaign Cabinet, and his wife Gretchen had already contributed about \$260,000 to the cam-

The bulk of the capital campaign project already complete. included the construction of the new Hudson Center for the Visual Arts — at 2,100 square feet, it houses a 2-D art room, 3-D art room, storage, a waiting room and space for small-

drainage issues, installing new lighting and reconfiguring the Performing Arts Center to provide more effective rehearsal space and create a larger reception area featuring The Weaver Community Gallery. (The corridor that features music rehearsal rooms was named the Young Music Education Wing in honor of John and Gretchen.) Landscaping and parking lot improvements were also made.

"With John's most recent gift, we are now able to fulfill the final

er exhibits — addressing major components of the Legacy Capital Project,' said Arts Place executive director Eric Rogers. "In the coming weeks, commitments will be signed for installing new lighting and sound equipment in Hall Moser Theatre, along with a number of other equipment and musical instrument purchases."

The theatre work will bring to a close a capital campaign and project that have been in the works for eight years. Planning began in 2014 with the launch of the capital campaign in September 2017.

FR board approves staffing plans

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Next year's staffing plan is all about adjusting to fill gaps.

Overall, not much is chang-Fort Recovery School Board

discussed and approved its 2022-23 staffing plan Monday.

outlook.

Schools won't be adding new positions or removing staff next year. Instead, it will reassign one elementary school teacher in order to meet rising enrollment numbers. Also, a preschool aide will be taking over for Mary Diller, the current preschool program director, grant admin-

explained Fort Recovery Local has worked in the school system signed to first grade. (The curher retirement at the end of the school year.

"We're not cutting staff, we're not adding staff," Brown said following the meeting. "We're just pretty much keeping the balance."

Second grade teacher Superintendent Larry Brown istrator and lead teacher who Michelle Stammen will be reas-

for more than 30 years, following rent first grade class has 56 students, and the current kindergarten class has 92 students.) Courtney Westgerdes, who worked alongside Diller, will become head preschool teacher/grant administrator. Both staffing changes will be effective Aug. 1.

See **Staffing** page 2

Deaths

Juanita Groce, 56, Port-

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 70 degrees Mon-

day. The low was 43. More rain is expected tonight with winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. The low will be 51. Rain and windy conditions are expected to continue

Wednesday. See page 2 for an extended

In review

Throughout this week, Jay County Public Library has blank puzzle pieces available for children to decorate. Following spring break, the puzzle pieces will be connected together to form collaborative

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of tonight's Dunkirk State of the City address.

Friday — A preview of Fort Recovery High School's spring sports teams.



Concerns

Continued from page 1 He read, in part: "The intent of this project is to improve the pavement condition on U.S. 27 and improve safety and pedestrian accessibility in The City of

"INDOT is currently in the planning and development stage of this project in coordination with the mayor's office ... and project alternatives are still being evaluated. We understand citizens are concerned with specific elements of this project ...

Boggs responded, saying INDOT has not been in contact

"They have not returned my

Wednesday Thursday

phone calls or come up here to dell Ernstberger Associates see me," he said.

He added that he hopes to have a face-to-face meeting with INDOT's project team soon.

"I've got a lot of reasons to sit down and talk to them, find out what their reasoning is and let them know what they're causing by this plan," said Boggs. promise you, I'm going to be very active on this.

Powers noted that anyone can issue comments to INDOT by visiting INDOT4U.com or calling (855) 463-6848.

Boggs also reported that the city has started discussions with design and planning firm Run-

regarding updating the city's economic development plan. (The existing plan was developed in 2002 and approved in 2004, he

The mayor added that he plans to put together a steering committee and meet with elected officials, business owners and others, likely in late May or June, to begin the process.

"The strength of Rundell Ernstberger is the implementation stage," said Boggs. "They get on the ground with you and make sure it isn't a study that sits on

In other business, council:

•Voted to reestablish the city's cumulative capital development fund. The fund already existed, but by law required a council

vote to keep it in place. ·Approved the following additional appropriations: \$100,000 to the motor vehicle highway, street and alley fund; \$35,000 for animal control (for 2021 and 2022); and \$25,350 for sidewalk repairs and improvements.

·Heard from Boggs that his State of the City address will be at noon June 28 at Portland Lions Club Civic Center. Those interested in attending can RSVP by calling Jay County Chamber of Commerce at (260) 726-4481.

Obituaries

Juanita Groce. Portland. Aug. 22, 1965-March 15, 2022. There will be no services. •••••

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 serv-

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary servic-

CR almanac

Friday

Saturday

| 3/23 | 3/24 | 3/25 | 3/26 | 3/27 |
|---|----------------|--|--|---|
| | | | | |
| 66/44 | 51/39 | 47/34 | 43/26 | 45/29 |
| Rain is expected Wednesday, with thunder- storms possi- ble in the late morning and afternoon. | Thursday, with | Another chance of rain Friday coupled with mostly cloudy skies. The high may raech 47. | Rain and snow are possible before 10 a.m. Satur- day. Other- wise, mostly cloudy. | Mostly sunny skies are expected Sunday, with the low dip- ping to 29 degrees. |
| Lat | toric | 16 | | |

LULLETIES

Powerball

Monday 1-15-26-63-65 Powerball: 16 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$167 Ohio million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$39 million

Hoosier

Monday Midday Daily Three: 0-2-1 Daily Four: 2-2-8-0 **Evening** Daily Three: 1-9-4 Daily Four: 6-7-3-5 Quick Draw: 4-8-9-16-21-23-24-36-40-42-44-47-57-58-

Cash 5: 2-16-32-36-41 jackpot: Estimated \$130,000

64-66-69-72-73-79

Monday

Midday Pick 3: 9-4-9 Pick 4: 8-4-9-0 Pick 5: 3-8-9-4-8 Evening Pick 3: 2-0-3 Pick 4: 5-0-4-5 Pick 5: 8-5-0-7-9 Rolling Cash 5: 10-11-18-Estimated jackpot: \$297,000 Classic Lotto: 9-18-23-29-31-32 Kicker: 0-4-8-8-9-0

Jackpot: \$24.2 million

Staffing

School board members Anne Guggenbiller, Sean Kahlig, Jake Knapke, Nick Wehrkamp and Don Wendel approved the 2022-23 staffing plan and teacher reassignments unanimously.

In other business, board members:

•Recognized Paul Homan, a junior at Fort Recovery High School, for getting a perfect score on the annual American Legion Americanism and Government test taken by sophomores, juniors and seniors. Homan received and went on a free trip to Washington, D.C., and Gettsyburg from Feb. 28 through March 4 with other high-scoring students from

•Heard from Fort Recovery Middle School principal Ryan Steinbrunner the school will host its science fair in the elementary/middle school auditeria from 1 to 3 p.m. Thursday.

•OK'd two overnight trips for students. The FFA Wildlife Judging team will attend the state Wildlife Judging competition April 1 and 2 at Hocking Technical Community College in Nelsonville, Ohio. FFA members will attend the state FFA convention from May 4 through 6 at Ohio State Fairgrounds in Colum-

·Heard from treasurer Deanna Knapke the board will review its five-year forecast at 6 p.m. May 16.

Approved a service agreement testing snacks.

with Mercer County Educational Service Center for the 2022-23 school

·Hired Kourtney Diller as a high school assistant track coach.

•Accepted bus driver Tony Homan's resignation, effective March 10.

•OK'd Matt Minor to replace outgoing Fort Recovery Library trustee Jerry Stammen. Minor will serve a term of seven years on the library

•Accepted a \$680 donation from Fort Recovery Athletic Boosters for field winterization and a \$225 donation from Fort Recovery Academic Booster Club for middle school state

Capsule Reports

Drunk driving

A Portland man was arrested for drunk driving after the vehicle he was driving crashed into a mailbox and utility pole at the intersection of Park and Race streets about 9:16 a.m. Sunday.

Jose J. Ruiz, 54, 1136 Wayside Place, was driving a 2016 Jeep Patriot north on Park Street and passing the intersection with Race Street. He told Portland Police Department he reached for his phone and drove off the

western side of the road, hitting a mailbox and a utility pole.

preliminarily charged with a Class A misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated in a manner that endangers a person and a Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He's being held on a \$1,500 bond in Jay County

Drove off road

An Ohio man drove off

Indiana 67 and into a sign about 4:12 p.m. Sunday. James Cathcart, 73, St.

Ruiz was arrested and Marys, was driving northeast on the highway just southwest of county road 500 South when the 2018 Ford Fusion he was driving went off the road and struck a sign.

The vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. It is registered to GLM Transport of Rockford, Ohio.

Fence struck

A Portland teen lost con-\$2,500 and \$5,000.

trol of the vehicle she was driving and struck a fence about 5:58 p.m. Saturday.

Kadence Nibarger, 17, was driving south on county road 300 West just south of county road 200 South when the 2008 Mercury Milan she was driving hit a rock. She lost control of the wheel and drove into a fence.

The vehicle Nibarger was driving is registered to Laura Garringer of Portland. It was towed, with damage estimated between

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn......7.11

| Wheat | 9.00 |
|-------------|-------|
| POET Bioref | ining |

Portland Corn......7.16

| • |
|---|
| May corn7.36 |
| April corn7.26 |

he Andersons **Richland Township**

| April corn | |
|-------------|-------|
| Beans | 16.68 |
| April beans | 16.68 |
| | |

| April wheat | 10.2 |
|-----------------------|------|
| Central States | |

Wheat 10.29

| Corn | 15 |
|----------------|----|
| April corn7. | 15 |
| Beans16. | |
| April beans16. | |

Sunrise St. Anthony

Montpelier

| Corn | 7.06 |
|-------------|-------|
| April corn | 7.06 |
| Beans | |
| April beans | 16.41 |
| March wheat | 9.78 |
| | |

Today in history

hockey's first Stanley attempting to walk a Cup championship game was played; home team Montreal defeated Ottawa, 3-1.

Parliament passed the President Ronald Rea-Stamp Act to raise money from the American colonies, which fiercely resisted the tax. (The Stamp Act was Pentium computer chip. repealed a year later.)

Chester Alan Arthur signed a measure outlawing polygamy.

In 1963, The Beatles' debut album, "Please Please Me," was released in the United Kingdom by Parlophone.

In 1978, Karl Wallenarch of "The Flying Wallendas" high-wire act, fell

On March 22, 1894, to his death while

gan's veto of the Civil Rights Restoration Act.

In 1993, Intel Corp.

In 1882, President at age 14 years and 10 months, became the youngest ladies' world figure skating champion in Lausanne, Switzerland.

In Board of Works chose Cincinnati-based Rumpke as its new provider for da, the 73-year-old patri- curbside recycling collection services.

courthouse, 120 N. Court

ty Solid Waste Manage-

ment District, 5948 W.

6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city

building 131 S. Main St.

Indiana 67, Portland.

3:30 p.m. — Jay Coun-

Felony arrests

A Portland woman was arrested Friday for theft.

Lisa M. Nocki, 50, 121 S. Wayne **Drunk driving** St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

She was booked into Jay County

Jail and later released on a \$3,000 400 South, was preliminarily

A Salamonia man was arrested while intoxicated. Sunday for drunk driving.

Douglas H. Hudson, 49, 5901 E. Jail on a \$4,000 bond.

charged with a Level 6 felony and a Class C misdemeanor on two counts of operating a vehicle

He's being held in Jay County

Deeds

Krieg, warranty deed — Part of Section 13, Greene Township, 1.5 acres

Steven E. Schwieterman to Gregory J. and Stephanie J. Owen, warranty deed — Section 33, Greene Township, 79.546

Tamara D. Tighe (also known as Tamara D. Wiemer) to herself and Kevin M. Tighe, warranty deed — Part of Lots 1, 2 and 3, R A Andrews Addition of Redkey

Lucinda A. Welch to herself, death deed — Lots 39, 40 and 41, Grisells Third Addition

John (deceased) to Mary H. Rigby, deed affidavit — Part of Section 24, Greene Township

Mary H. Rigby to herself, death deed — Part of Section 24, Greene Town-

Christopher J. and Jill M. Miller to Katie R. and Noah A. Schwartz, war-

Janet S. and John Cain ranty deed — Part of Secto Alex P. and Malarie K. tion 17, Jackson Township, 5.84 acres

Vehicles , deed affidavit — Part of Lot 318, Shank Addition

Brenda Martin, Cindy Nelson and Phyllis Trinidad to Eric E. Parker, warranty deed — Part of Lot 318, Shank Addition

G and W Properties to Gaerke Properties, warranty deed — Woodlawn Park Addition

Maureen D. Grady

Grays

Farmers and Merchants Phyllis Trinidad to Indi-State Bank to Pamela S. ana Bureau of Motor Lamontagne, corporate warranty deed — Part of Section 21, Madison Township, 1.25 acres

Glen Funk Family Trust and Janice Funk Family Trust to J. Frank and Marcie L. Vormohr, trustee deed - Part of Section 29, Wayne Township, 0.18 acres

J. Frank and Marcie L. Vormohr to Glen Funk Family Trust and Janice (deceased) and Jack F. Funk Family Trust, quit Grady to Jack F. Grady, claim deed — Part of Sec-

death deed — Lot 44, tion 29, Wayne Township, 0.18 acres

CGJ Properties to Larry D. Johnson, warranty deed — Lot 12, Cadwallader and Edger Second Addi-

Lone J. Kunkle Revocable Trust to Cameron Kunkle, trustee deed — Section 9, Madison Township, 91 acres

John A. Hogg Revocable Living Trust and Rosemary E. Hogg Revocable Living Trust to Bradley A. and Patricia A. Daniels, warranty deed — Part of Lot 2, Block 5, original plat of Portland

Citizen's calendar

missioners'

St., Portland.

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.

Monday

londay 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City 9 a.m. — Jay County Council, city building Commissioners, com- 131 S. Main St.

cable strung between two hotel towers in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In 1988, both houses In 1765, the British of Congress overrode

unveiled the original

In 1997, Tara Lipinski,

2007, Portland

—AP and The CR

SERVICES

Today

Myers, Richard: I p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.

> **PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS** 120 N. Meridian St.

Portland, Indiana 47371

(260) 726-9201

progressiveofficeproducts.com

Service listings provided by

every day for a week (five days total) normally cost \$937.50.)
Ads must run five consecutive publication days. every day for a week (five days total) The Commercial Review to take advantage normally cost \$390.) of this special Ads must run five 260-726-8141 consecutive publication days.

Anniversaries are for recalling earlier times

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review We helped a cousin and her husband celebrate 50th wedding anniversary this past weekend. They are a year or two younger than me.

They invited us to get together with their chilgrandchildren. dren, extended family and friends. They rented a building at their local fairgrounds to contain the crowd. Thankfully it was as warm inside as it was chilly and rainy outside.

We didn't know many people there so we introduced ourselves and had a very nice evening. Toward we left and the drive home bor's basement. Their

As I See It



the end of the party the DJ turned up the music. The younger attendees began showing the toddlers and preschoolers how to do the chicken dance. It was funny to watch them. I was almost expecting the happy couple to join in but they did-

uncomfortable driving at night in the rain. It was a relatively short trip but it seemed much longer because of the rain.

I am amazed that the happy couple has been married for half a century. There was a time when I couldn't imagine living long enough to be old enough to have a 50th celebration, let alone be married to the same person for that long.

I remember when my in-laws celebrated their 50th anniversary. They It was still raining when had a party in the neigh-

evening. When I think never..." to whatever it is back on it all the adults seemed so old.

All of the in-laws are gone now. That must mean that we are the ones who are old. When did that happen? I certainly don't feel that old. Wait a minute — there are times when I do feel old. Parts of me that I didn't know I had ache. I find myself hanging onto the banister when I go up or down the stairs. If I am weeding then I make sure there is something within reach to help me get up. I can't stand loud music. I have found myself wanting to

that is getting on my nerves.

In a few weeks we will celebrate our anniversary. It will be our 43rd, not 50th. That is more than half our lives. I never once expected to be married that long. Now I am not sure where he leaves off and I begin.

Marriage can be a beautiful thing. For some it can be ugly. For yet others it can be deadly. I am one of the lucky ones. I have a friend who is willing to drive in the rain to be with a relative and her husband who are celebrat-

reminded us that we have friends came and went all say "back in my day we ing a milestone in their lives. At one point their wedding album passed around. The bride and groom were so young in the pictures. The groom's hair was long and full. The bride's hair was lighter and longer than she wears it now. There was a veil of innocence over the entire wedding

None of us are innocent any more. Too many years have passed by.

But as long as young people are teaching their little ones how to do the chicken dance at a 50th anniversary party, there is hope for the world.

Man isn't invested in relationship

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Brent" for four years. Prior to meeting him, I was divorced with two children. Brent shows little interest in my kids' lives. He doesn't want us to live together before the kids are out of the house, and he never plans to get married. (My youngest is 10.)

Even if he would agree to move in now, I don't want to move to his city because my kids need to be close to their school, their friends and their father. Brent doesn't want to relocate because it's heavily populated and he thinks my town is geared more toward a younger generation.

I really would like to take our relationship to the next level. I have been trying to do it for four years, but he ignores my subtle hints. I can't imagine life without him. I have even considered getting pregnant to make this relationship go further, in spite of knowing he doesn't want a baby. — GETTING DESPER-Advice? ATE IN THE HEARTLAND

DEAR GETTING DESPER-ATE: You have wasted four years of your life on the wrong man. Brent is centered on himself and would be a negative, disruptive influence in your **responsibility must be to** asked her if she was avoiding me

Dear Abby



them. If they were miserable, you would be too. Trust me on that.

As to the idea of "trapping" him by becoming pregnant in spite of the fact that he doesn't want to be a father — I DON'T RECOMMEND IT! You could get a rude awakening and end up parenting a child you didn't really want all by yourself. So start imagining a life without him. It will be a happier one that way.

DEAR ABBY: I have a co-worker I enjoyed talking to and being around. I'm 27, and she is 41. We used to sit together at lunch and during our break. All of a sudden, she stopped sitting with me during the first break but she still ate with me at lunch. Then she stopped eating with me at lunch!

I asked her if I said or did anychildren's lives. Your first thing wrong and she said no. I

or had found something wrong, and she insisted there was nothing wrong and I worry too much. So now I sit alone and she sits somewhere else by herself with her phone. I was nice to her. We talked about our day and sometimes shared snacks during the break. All that is gone now.

I know people grow apart, but it stings. Being an adult means moving on, but when something happens for no apparent reason, there has to be an explanation. Can you share your insight on this dilemma? — LUNCHING ALONE

DEAR LUNCHING ALONE: There is always a reason. Perhaps you should believe your co-worker when she says you didn't do or say anything wrong. What may have changed are her circumstances.

You mentioned that rather than sit with you, she now sits alone with her cellphone. It's possible that something is going on with her family — or her personal life that requires her attention.

I know it stings, but you have to let it go. Find someone else to socialize with during breaks. It would be less painful if she explained it to you, but your coworker may be a private per-

TV show will film in Indiana

A popular television series will be returning to Indiana in May.

"American Pickers," a documentary series on The History Channel about the search for valuable antiques, will be filming episodes in the area.

"As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, they want to meet characters with remarkand able exceptional items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on life while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way," a press release from Cineflix Productions says.

The show is currently looking for leads, such as someone who owns a large, private collection or has an accumulation of antiques, according to the press release. Those interested may send their name, phone number, location and a description of their collection with pho**Taking Note**

tos by email to americanpickers@cineflix.com or Facebook @GotAPick. They may also call (646) 493-2184.

Classes offered 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,

Community Calendar

uem, news@thecr.com.

Tuesday

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. The public is wel-

SUPPORT GROUP — Will conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay for cancer patients, sur- Nazarene

Community Calendar as anyone interested in help- Nazarene church, 249 E. space is available. To sub- ing with the group. For Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-THE LANDING — A 12-

JAY COUNTY PASTORS 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 – BRI-JAY COUNTY CANCER ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 Hospital. Open discussion p.m. every Tuesday at the Fellowship

Notices will appear in vivors, family members or Building across from the more imormation, Amanda Price at (765) 283-

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

NARCOTICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

Wednesday

WEDNESDAY MORN-ING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

FAMILY AL-ANON 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 - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased 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.



BANNE Order Today About the Greeting Birthdays, Anniversaries, Get Well, Parades, Happy New Year,

Valentine's Day, Merry Christmas and Many Others. Over 150 different images have been preselected for you to choose from.



309 West Main Street Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8141 · print@thecr.com



2

Sudoku

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

5

2

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

9

3

Theurer family offers its thanks

To the editor:

The family and friends of Mandy Theurer would like to

Letters to people many the Editor contributed to the

success of the fund raising event in Mandy's memory.

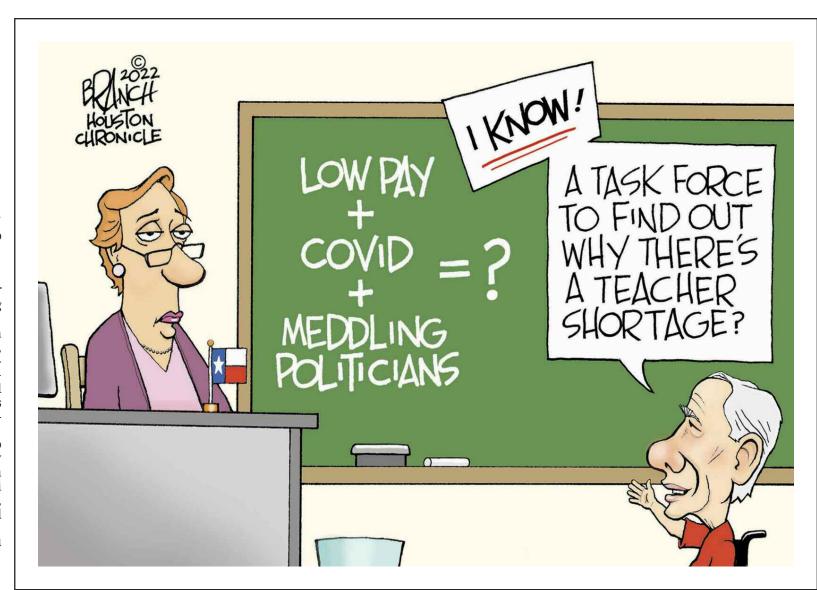
Over the years, we have been able to help hundreds of people, hundreds. Middle school students, cancer patients and survivors, graduating high school students, have all helped thanks to the generosity of this wonderful community.

Thank you to those who helped or contributed in any way, with special thanks to Josh Stewart, Carol Kennedy, Becki Rigby and girls, Sharon Beeler, Jay Community Center and Delta Theta Tau sorority.

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Roger and Charlene Theurer

Jay County



Truth is despots' kryptonite

By JENNIFER RUBIN
The Washington Post

Few Americans can imagine the bravery it took for Marina Ovsyannikova to burst onto the set of Russia's Channel One this week and hold up a "no war" sign. BBC reports, "She said she had been questioned for 14 hours and not slept for two days, and was not given access to legal help."

She was also fined for a video she made in which "she called on the Russian people to protest the war, saying only they have the power to 'stop all this madness." That may be not be the end of her troubles. BBC reports: "It is not clear if she will face separate charges relating to her protest on live TV, and there had been fears she would be prosecuted under a more serious, new criminal law that bans calling Russia's military action in Ukraine an 'invasion' or spreading 'fake news' about the conflict.

Ovsyannikova's determination to tell the truth in an autocracy fueled by lies puts herself and her two children in grave danger. Her message is a threat to the Kremlin because she points a finger directly at Russian President Vladimir Putin and punctures his lies. As she explained, "What is happening in Ukraine is a crime, and Russia is the aggressor. The responsibility of this aggression lies on the shoulders of only one person: Vladimir Putin." Even more dangerous to Putin, she reminds ordinary Russians they have a choice: "Only we have the power to stop all this madness. Go to the protests. Don't be afraid of anything. They can't imprison us all.'

Despots rely on enforcing an atmosphere of inevitability that makes resistance to the regime seem futile. Ovsyannikova directly refuted that message. She is inarguably correct: Even Russia's police state cannot arrest everyone.

Arnold Schwarzenegger made a similar appeal to the heart of Russia." Russian people this week. In a remarkable video posted on messages can be kept from social media on Thursday, the Russians. Russia is not North

Jennifer Rubin



movie actor and bodybuilder spoke directly to the camera, declaring, "[T]here are things that are going on in the world that have been kept from you, terrible things that you should know about. Let me tell you the truth about the war in Ukraine.'

Like Ovsyannikova, he told Russians that their government fed them lies:

"The world has turned against Russia because of its actions in Ukraine,' he said. 'The destruction that Russian bombs are raining down on innocent civilians has so outraged the world that the been imposed on your country. ... This is not the war to defend Russia like your grandfather or your greatgrandfather fought. This is an illegal war!"

father's Nazi past in the Gerarmy attacking Leningrad so as to appeal to Russian troops. "When my father arrived in Leningrad, he was all pumped up on the lies of his government. When he left Leningrad, he was broken — physically and mentally. ... To the Russian soldiers listening to this broadcast: You already know much of the truth that I'm speaking. You've seen it in your own eyes. I don't want you to be broken like my father."

Schwarzenegger also extolled the bravery of average Russians who risked their lives to protest. "The world has seen your bravery. We know that you've suffered the consequences of courage. You have been arrested, you've been jailed, and you've been beaten. You are my new heroes." He told them, "You have the true

No one should think such former California governor, Korea. As The Washington ion for The Washington Post.

Her message is a threat to the Kremlin because she points a finger directly at Russian **President** Vladimir Putin and punctures his lies.

Post reports, "In the weeks since Russia invaded Ukraine and imposed new laws penalizing speech that knocked major news sites offline, Russtrongest global economic sians have flocked to the app sanctions ever taken have stores, tech workers there been imposed on your counsaid." They are downloading "virtual private networks for connecting across borders and such messaging apps as Telegram, WhatsApp and Threema, all of which are He candidly invoked his major ways of sharing unapather's Nazi past in the Ger- proved news." This new media, combined with old technology such as shortwave radio, can provide uncensored news to a significant number of Russians.

Meanwhile, hackers continue to wreak havoc with Russian state media. The Post reports: "Wednesday evening, the Russian Emergency Situations Ministry website was defaced by hackers, who altered its content. Notably, the hack replaced the department hotline with a number for Russian soldiers to call if they want to defect from the army — under the title 'Come back from Ukraine alive."

Truth and personal agency are despots' kryptonite. Messages such as those from Ovsyannikova, Schwarzenegger and the army of prodemocracy hackers are spreading across Russia, overwhelming a desperate and humiliated regime. To them we can say, well done.

Rubin writes reported opin-

Public notices remain essential

News and Tribune

(Jeffersonville & New Albany) For years, legislatures across the country have been searching for any excuse to remove public notices from newspapers of record.

For years, those same government bodies have been making headway. During that same span, newspaper readers have been lulled into believing that the governmental motive of "saving tax-

payer dollars" is pure.
Pure in motive? Hardly.
Pure nonsense? More likely.

Fact: Newspapers count public notices (also called legal notices)

as a revenue stream. Revenue used to pay for the service of delivering important information about actions of government to its constituency without editorial spin or editing — as pre-scribed by state law or regula-

Fact: Newspaper print circulation continues to decline. Overall readership, however, thanks to digital access, is increasing.

Fact: Other forms of information dissemination have grown ed. since the advent of a printed newspaper edition.

Many publishers make the mistake of hanging their hats on the argument that removing public notices from newspapers of record will be financially devastating. In truth, nobody cares about that — except newspaper publishers. The reality is that we have been adjusting our business model for years to remain relevant. If, God forbid, legislatures are successful in removing notices from newspapers, we'll

reinvent ourselves yet again. For those still reading, here's what you need to know ... government bodies, by and large, really don't want you to know what they are doing behind closed doors. They'd rather you remain ignorantly blissful.

Some of those entities feel that way because, frankly, they don't want the hassle of hearing you complain about how they spend your money. Others have more devious intentions, like punishing the news media for less than positive coverage.

A recent example of the latter is the Florida legislative action that calls for public notices to be stripped from some Florida newspapers in favor of county web-

According to a report in the Tampa Bay Times, critics of the move think it's a jab at publications that sometimes publish sto-dollars a year.

Hoosier **Editorial**

ries and editorials critical of the Republican leadership in Florida. Proponents, however, counter that it shouldn't be the state's job to make local governments subsidize newspapers.

Right here in Indiana, legislators continue to pull similar shenanigans with the same arguments. Public notices in Hoosier news-

papers cost each taxpayer just \$1.06 per year, according to a study by the Hoosier State Press Association.

For individual government bodies in every county across the state to effectively and efficiently post public notices online, they would have to create a website for placement and hire staffing to ensure every public notice is post-

As it stands today, newspapers of record — with circulation in print and online — have a longstanding, accessible, verifiable, archivable and, most importantly, independent process to inform the citizens of Indiana.

According to HSPA representatives, it is "unduly burdensome to expect people to seek out numerous government websites to be updated on the ongoings of their local government." Newspapers have always provided public notices in a consistent, consolidated, and manageable location and are the experts on the legal requirements for effective public notices.

Public notices in newspapers inform Hoosiers of actions of their government to ensure accountability, encourage participation and protect the government from the perception of par-tiality. And, HSPA operates indianapublicnotices.com, aggregates all of the public notices from the 140-plus member newspapers.

To offer them on governmentrun websites or social media as an alternative would be akin to the fox guarding the henhouse.

And what should be most important to our elected officials is that 63% of Hoosier adults believe public notices should appear in local newspapers even if it costs them several thousand

The Commercial Review



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VOLUME 149-NUMBER 228 TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 22, 2022

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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

Subscription rates: City delivery and Internet-only pay at the office rates: 13 weeks – \$32; six months – \$60; one year – \$108. Motor route pay at the office rates: 13 weeks – \$39; six months – \$68; one year – \$125; Mail: 13 weeks – \$47; six months – \$77; one year - \$135.

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The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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

Ukraine retakes key Kyiv suburb

By NEBI QENA and CARA ANNA

KYIV, Ukraine — Ukraine said it retook a strategically important suburb of Kyiv on Tuesday, as Russian forces squeezed other areas near the capital and pressed their attack on the embattled southern port of Mariupol.

Explosions and bursts of gunfire shook Kyiv, and black smoke rose from a spot in the north. Intensified artillery fire could be heard from the northwest, where Russia has sought to encircle and capture several suburban areas of the capital, a crucial target.

Residents sheltered at home or underground under a 35-hour curfew imposed by city authorities that runs to Wednesday morning.

refused demands to surrender, with fleeing civilians describing relentless bombardments and corpses lying in the streets. But the Kremlin's ground offensive in other parts of the country advanced slowly or not at all, knocked back by lethal hit-andrun attacks by the Ukrainians.

Tuesday, Ukrainian troops drove Russian forces out of the Kyiv suburb of Makariv after a fierce battle, Ukraine's Defense Ministry said. The regained territory allowed Ukrainian forces to retake control of a key highway and block Russian troops from surrounding Kyiv from the northwest.

Still, the Defense Ministry said Russian forces were able to par-Russian forces also continued tially take other northwest sub-

their siege of Mariupol after the urbs, Bucha, Hostomel and Irpin, reported Monday that almost southern port city's defenders some of which had been under 10,000 Russian soldiers had been attack almost since Russia's military invaded almost a month ago.

Russia's invasion has driven more than 10 million people from their homes, almost a quarter of Ukraine's pre-war population, according to the United Nations. The U.N. has confirmed 953 civilian deaths while saying the real toll is probably much higher.

Estimates of Russian military casualties in the grinding war have been hard to come by and vary, but even conservative figures by Western officials are in the low thousands. Russia has not given an update since it said March 2 that 498 soldiers had been killed in action in Ukraine. Russia's pro-Kremlin Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper, citing the Defense Ministry, briefly

killed. The report was quickly removed, and newspaper blamed hackers. The Kremlin refused to comment on Tuesday.

Beyond the terrible human toll, the war has shaken the post-Cold War global security consensus, imperiled the global supply of key crops including wheat, and repeatedly raised worries it could set off a nuclear accident. Ukraine's natural resources minister said wildfires near the Chernobyl nuclear power plant have been extinguished and radiation levels in the area are within norms. Fires are not uncommon in the area, but raise concern about the potential release of radiation from fallout from the 1986 explosion and fire at the

Concerns expressed for safety at the decommissioned plant since it was seized by Russian forces last month. The power supply was temporarily cut amid fighting earlier this month, and Ukraine's nuclear regulatory agency said Monday that radiation monitors around the plant had stopped working.

Facing unexpectedly stiff resistance. Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces are increasingly concentrating their air power and artillery on Ukraine's cities and the civilians living there. A senior U.S. defense official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the military's assessment, said Russia had increased its air sorties, carrying out as many as 300 over a 24-hour period.

Transgender ban vetoed

Associated Press
INDIANAPOLIS — Indiana's governor on Monday vetoed a bill banning transgender females from participating in girls school sports.

Opponents of the transgender

sports bill argued it was a bigoted response to a problem that doesn't exist, with the American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana saying it planned a lawsuit against what it called "hateful legislation."

Republican sponsors of the bill said it was needed to protect the integrity of female sports and opportunities for girls to gain college athletic scholarship but pointed out no instances in the state of girls being outperformed by transgender athletes.

Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb signaled support for the bill last month but said in his veto letter that the legislation "falls short" of providing a consistent statewide policy for what he called "fairness in K-12 sports."

Holcomb also signed a bill eliminating the state's permit requirement to carry handguns in public.

Holcomb's decisions come after both measures faced intense opposition before being approved by the GOP-dominated legislature that embraced what have become a pair of conservative causes across the

The governor stayed on the sidelines as legislators debated both issues and made his decisions just before his Tuesday deadline to act.

Holcomb, on the transgender sports bill veto, also pointed to the Indiana High School Athletic Association, which has a policy covering transgender students wanting to play sports that match their gender identity and has said it has had no transgender girls finalize a request to play on girls team.

"The presumption of the policy laid out in HEA 1041 is that there is an existing problem in K-12 sports in Amendment, was criticized by

Governor says there's 'no evidence' for claims; bill eliminating handgun permits signed into law

Indiana that requires further state government intervention," Holcomb said in his letter. "It implies that the goals of consistency and fairness in competitive female sports are not currently being met. After thorough review, I find no evidence to support either claim even if I support the effort overall.'

Indiana lawmakers can override the governor's veto with simple majorities in both the House and Senate. A veto override vote could happen as soon as May 24, which legislative leaders have scheduled as a tentative one-day meeting.

The Indiana law would prohibit K-12 students who were born male but who identify as female from participating in a sport or on an athletic team that is designated for women or girls. But it wouldn't prevent students who identify as female or transgender men from playing on men's sports teams.

Eleven other Republican-led states have adopted such laws.

Democrats argued Republican lawmakers were following a national conservative "culture war" with the transgender girls sports ban.

In signing the handgun permit requirement repeal, Holcomb went against the vocal opposition of his state police superintendent to the further loosening of the state's lenient firearms laws.

The permit repeal, called "constitutional carry" by gun-rights supporters in reference to the Second major law enforcement groups who argued eliminating the permit system would endanger officers by stripping them of a screening tool for quickly identifying dangerous people who shouldn't have guns.

At least 21 other states already allow residents to carry handguns without permit — and Ohio's Republican governor signed a similar bill

Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter joined leaders of the state's Fraternal Order of Police, police chiefs association and county prosecutors association in speaking out against the change.

Carter, wearing his state police uniform, stood in the back of the Senate chamber as the bill was being debated. He said after the vote that approval of the measure "does not support law enforcement — period."

Holcomb said in a statement that the permit repeal bill "entrusts Hoosiers who can lawfully carry a handgun to responsibly do so within our state.'

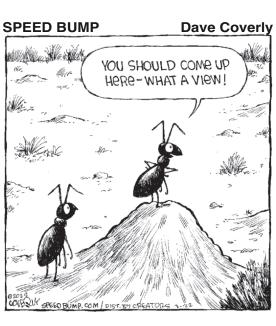
'It's important to note that if a person is prohibited, under federal or state laws, from possessing a firearm before this law goes into effect, that person will still be prohibited," Holcomb said.

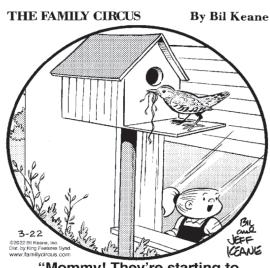
The firearms law, which will take effect July 1, will allow anyone age 18 or older to carry a handgun in public except for reasons such as having a felony conviction, facing a restraining order from a court or having a dangerous mental illness.











"Mommy! They're starting to redecorate the birdhouse!'

Peanuts









Rose is Rose









Agnes









Funky Winkerbean







Blondie







Snuffy Smith





Beetle Bailey





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As ye sow, so shall ye reap

Let's say you're South and win South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH

A 9 4

Q 10 9 8

K Q J 5

A J West's king-of-spades lead with the ace, East playing the five. You draw three rounds of trump and then cash the A-K-Q of diamonds and A-K of clubs, ending in your hand. At this point you lead the six of spades toward dummy's 9-4, and West, who holds the Q-10 of WEST EAST **♦** K Q 10 7 2 **♦** J 5 ♥ 7 6 4 spades, must decide which of them to play.

If he makes the normal play of ♣Q 10 7 6 5 the ten, you make the slam! East wins with the jack, and since his SOUTH **★**863

only remaining cards are the Q-10-7

West has a very difficult decision

to make when you lead the spade. From his point of view, he should

play the ten if he thinks you started with the J-6-3, and the queen if he thinks you started with 8-6-3. West

might guess right, or he might guess wrong, but at least he should

make an error.

of clubs, he must lead one of them. This allows you to discard a spade from one hand while you ruff in the The bidding: West other, and the slam is home.

If West is smart enough to play North 2 ♣ 6 ♥ Pass his queen when you lead the spade toward dummy, he can defeat you. Pass Opening lead - king of spades. but it has cost you nothing to pres-ent him with an opportunity to

play consists of inducing your opponents to make errors. The more often a declarer gives the opposition a chance to make an error, the more often will the desired result be attained. Consider this deal where South is

Part of the skill of good declarer

South

3-22

declarer at six hearts. The contract cannot be made against best defense, yet there is a real possibility to make the slam if declarer sets the stage properly.

be given the chance to go astray. Lots of points — 1,530 of them ride on his decision Tomorrow: Doing what comes unnaturally.

QAP NWJTHI XADH LJLQ-

CRYPTOQUIP

TJWDOKF OSHDX OKSA

TJSHFAEOHX, QAP TAPWI LH J

NJTOVOHE TWJXXOVOHE.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: PAST HOLLYWOOD HEARTTHROB WHO WOULD ALWAYS DELIGHT IN DOING PROHIBITED THINGS: TABOO HUNTER. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals I

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

| CRODD | WORD | Dy Lugen | ic Bhejjei |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ACROSS | 36 Spoken | DOWN | 22 Jungfrau |
| 1 Classic | for | 1 Dance | e.g. |
| Monopoly | 38 Sound of | move | 23 Bit of |
| token | delight | 2 Under- | advice |
| 5 601, to | 39 Sam- | world | 24 Hooter |
| Nero | ovar | 3 Pearl | 25 Thee |
| 8 Gospel | 40 Cauter- | Harbor | 26 Standar |
| writer | izes | site | 27 Genesis |
| 12 Squad | 43 Dove | 4 Asylum | vessel |
| 13 Tic-tac- | deep | seeker, | 28 Caustic |
| toe win | 47 Most | perhaps | cleaner |
| 14 Writer | luxurious | 5 Inane | 29 D.C. |
| James | 49 Shoppe | 6 Frigid | bigwig |
| 15 K thru 12 | descrip- | 7 Debtor's | 31 "Not im- |
| 16 Snake | tion | letters | pressed |
| handlers? | 50 Staffer | 8 Talk | *** |
| 18 Adver- | 51 Blemish | rapidly | 34 Wee bit |
| tised | 52 Medita- | 9 Curved | 35 Ritzy |
| 20 Critic | tive | molding | 36 Capote |
| | | | |

21 "Crying" 53 Banister fellow **37** Irks 54 Acting 39 Prefix singer **11** Egg Orbison coach container with violet 22 Hydro-Hagen 17 Carte 40 Mast carbon 55 Raced 19 Deity 41 Lamb ending alias

10 Frankfurt

nickname

45 Perimeter

46 Conked

bird of

Australia

out **48** Big

practice

Roger

chart

bread

zaftig

33 More

Solution time: 22 mins. 23 Trifled 42 German car name (with) 26 Guys and 43 Jrs.' dolls, e.g. exam 44 lcky stuff



Yesterday's answer 3-22

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
|----|----|----------|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|
| 12 | | | | | 13 | | | | 14 | | | |
| 15 | | Γ | | | 16 | | | 17 | | | | |
| 18 | Γ | Г | Γ | 19 | | | | 20 | | | | |
| | | | 21 | | | | 22 | | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | | | | 26 | | | | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | Т | Г | | | 31 | | | | | 32 | | Г |
| 33 | Т | Г | 34 | 35 | | Г | | 36 | 37 | | | Т |
| | | | 38 | Г | | | 39 | | | | | |
| 40 | 41 | 42 | | | | 43 | | | | 44 | 45 | 46 |
| 47 | T | \vdash | \vdash | | 48 | | | | 49 | | | \vdash |
| 50 | T | \vdash | \vdash | | 51 | | | | 52 | | | \vdash |
| 53 | T | \vdash | \vdash | | 54 | | | | 55 | | | \vdash |

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Sports/Classifieds

Three-time champ Michelson to sit out Masters

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer Three-time Masters champion

Phil Mickelson, out of public view since his inflammatory remarks about the Saudi-funded rival league and the PGA Tour, has decided not to play at Augusta National this year.

Mickelson's name was moved from the list of players expected to compete in the Masters to a 'past champions not playing."

The club confirmed that Mick-

The Masters is April 7-10.

It will be the first time Mickelson is not at the Masters since 1994, when he was recovering from a broken leg suffered while skiing.

Mickelson, who last year became golf's oldest major champion when he won the PGA Championship at age 50, was at the Saudi International when he accused the PGA Tour in a Golf section at the bottom titled, Digest interview of "obnoxious greed."

Two weeks later, golf writer elson has notified Augusta and author Alan Shipnuck pub-National he will not be playing. lished part of his upcoming ington Post columnist Jamal) relationship with Mickelson.

biography on Mickelson that Khashoggi and have a horrible Amstel Light followed suit, shed further insight into his involved with Greg Norman and the Saudi-funded "Super Golf League.

Mickelson told Shipnuck the Saudis behind a proposed breakaway rival league were "scary mother (expletive)s to get involved with.

He also said it was worth getting in bed with the Saudis, despite their history of human rights abuses, if it meant a chance to change the PGA Tour.

"We know they killed (Wash-

record on human rights. They execute people over there for being gay," he said. "Knowing all of this, why would I even consider it? Because this is a once-in-alifetime opportunity to reshape how the PGA Tour operates."

The interview took place last November. Mickelson apologized for the comments that he described as "reckless." He also said they were off the record. Shipnuck says they were not.

Longtime corporate sponsor KPMG said it was ending its

while Workday said it would not be renewing its contract, which was due to expire. Callaway Golf said its relationship with Mickelson that dates to 2004 would be while paused, American Express no longer wanted Mickelson as its tournament host of the PGA Tour event La Quinta, California.

Mickelson has not played since the Saudi International on Feb. 6. He said in his statement that he "desperately needed" time away to sort our his priori-

Trade

Continued from page 8 'This business is not without its difficult decisions," Blank said in a statement. "While this is one of the most difficult decisions we have faced as a club, we feel it is in the best long-term interests of both the Atlanta Falcons

and Matt Ryan." Ryan will become the sixth quarterback to start in Week 1 for the Colts in six years, adding his name to a list that already is composed of Scott Tolzien, Luck, Jacoby Brissett, Philip Rivers and Wentz.

He joins a franchise in which vice chairman Bill Polian once said he considered Ryan the most similar player in the league to Peyton Manning.

The Falcons put themselves in quite a bind with their pursuit of Watson, surrendering the longtime face of the franchise for a single, second-day draft pick.

As soon as they made a pitch to acquire the embattled Houston quarterback, it became clear Ryan would not want to return to a team where he had played his entire NFL career that then openly tried to replace him.

Watson supposedly narrowed his potential choices for a trade to New Orleans and Atlanta with speculation the Falcons were the favorite because Watson is a Georgia native. But he changed his mind and accepted a \$230 million, fully guaranteed deal with the Cleveland Browns, who sent three first-round picks to the Texans in the deal

Ryan is undoubtedly the greatest quarterback in Falcons history, arriving from Boston College at a pivotal moment to replace Michael Vick. He steadied a franchise rocked by coach Bobby Petrino's departure after 13 games and Vick's imprisonment for running a dogfighting



Photo provided

Ison honored

Portland Junior League and its board of directors last week honored Brian Ison for his decade of service to the organization. Ison began serving on the board in 2012 and was league president from 2013 to 2021.

Sports on tap

TV schedule

Today 1:05 p.m. — Major League baseball: Miami Marlins vs. St. Louis Cardinals (BALLY)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT Tournament - Quarterfinal (ESPN) 7 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis

Blues at Washington Capitals (BALLY)
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Atlanta
Hawks at New York Knicks (TNT)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball:

NIT Tournament – Quarterfinal (ESPN) 10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Denver Nuggets (TNT)

TV schedule

Today 1:05 p.m. — Major League baseball:

Miami Marlins vs. St. Louis Cardinals (BALLY)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT Tournament – Quarterfinal (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Washington Capitals (BALLY) 7:30 p.m. - NBA basketball: Atlanta

Hawks at New York Knicks (TNT) 9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT Tournament - Quarterfinal (FSPN) 10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Los Angeles Clippers at Denver Nuggets (TNT)

Local notes

Race is April 2

Jay Community Center will kick off its Jay County 5K Circuit on April 2 with the Sprint to Spring 5K. Registration is \$20. A tech t-shirt is a

\$10 add on, while a cotton t-shirt is a \$5

The race begins and ends at Jav Community Center, and will go through Hudson Family Park

Community Center at (260) 726-6477.

Boomer registration is open Registration is now open for Jay Com Center's Boomer T-Ball and

Coach Pitch. The program is open to boys and girls ages 3 through 6. Games will be played Saturdays at Portland Junior League

Cost is \$55 before May 16, and registration includes t-shirt, hat and practice ball. Multiple child discounts are avail-

For more information, contact Jay Community Center at (260) 726-6477.

Begins

Continued from page 8 Johnson was the new kid in class at 45 years old, and trying to catching up on all the material was often overwhelming. Johnson had been deeply shaken in 2011 by the death of two-time Indianapolis 500 winner Dan Wheldon in a crash at Las Vegas, and to him and his wife, skipping the oval races was a comfortable decision.

He changed his mind ahead of this second season with Chip Ganassi Racing, and even though his seven NASCAR wins at Texas are the most in track history, expectations were measured. He was disappointed to qualify 18th and really only hoped to finish inside the top 10.

But at a track where passing is extremely difficult in an Indy car, Johnson passed 21 cars — 17 for position. Of those, seven passes were inside the top 10 and two were in the top five, including his brief move past teammate and six-time IndyCar champion Scott Dixon.

Afterward, he dismissed the obvious question: Did he regret skipping the ovals last year?

"I hadn't thought about that until now," he said. "No. I really don't have any regrets. It's been a great journey. No regrets at all.

race-winner When Josef Newgarden was champion's told Johnson had finished sixth.

"Did Jimmie finish sixth? That's legit. Hard to finish sixth at Texas. It's hard. Like, that's really good," Newgarden said. "It has been a steep learning curve. He's had to unlearn an entire career of operating procedures. The Indy

what a stock car is. For him to be able to get on top of that so quickly, it makes sense it's going better here at Texas, it's closer to what he's used to procedurally.

"I don't want to act too surprised because he is a seven-time champ, incredible worker and teammate. I need to watch this race back, see how he got there. I'm sure he'll be a huge threat at Indy.'

He received another ringing endorsement from runner-up Scott McLaughlin, one of Johnson's new golfing buddies. McLaughlin led 186 laps only to lose the race when teammate Newgarden passed him in the final turn. McLaughlin said he noticed Johnson passing drivers on the outside — a lane at Texas few choose to try because a traction compound sprayed for NASCAR has made the top too slippery for IndyCar.

"He's certainly coming strong. I'm sure he feels a lot more confident on the ovals. He's going to be good at Indy," McLaughlin said.

Johnson's finish was part of a strong day for Ganassi, which placed all four of its drivers in the top seven. Marcus Ericsson led the way in third, a career-best finish on an oval, and said the organization leaned on Johnson's knowledge of Texas in race prep.

"Jimmie was a great asked later about his asset for us this weekend Johnson's performance, with all his experience on the two-time IndyCar ovals. You could definitely mouth feel already from lap one dropped wide open when this is more like his home, driving on the ovals," Ericsson said. "Even though the cars are very different than what he's used to, he's been helping a lot this weekend.

"It bodes well for the rest of the year to have that many strong cars and drivers on the ovals. That's going to help us especially car is so removed from for the 500 coming up."

in The Commercial Review

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT $2022\,\mathrm{TERM}$

Cause No. 38-C01-2203-MI-6 IN RE THE NAME CHANGE OF

DAVID KAMERON SIRK (Petitioner)

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME Petitioner, David Kameron Sirk, whose mailing and residential address is Portland, Indiana, 47371, of Jay County Indiana, hereby gives notice that he filed a petition in Jay County Circuit Court on March 2, 2022 requesting that his name, David Kameron Sirk be changed to Teagon James Morgan. Notice is further given that any person has the right to object to said name change and to file objections of said petition.

Dated this 2nd day of March,

2022

Jon Eads, Clerk of Jay Circuit Court 3-8,15,22-2022 hspaxlp

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT

CAUSE NO: 38C01-2202-EU-000004 IN THE MATTER OF THE

UNSUPERVISED ESTATE JOHN L. DULL (Deceased) NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED

ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Gre gory Dull and Joshua A. Atkinson were appointed as Co-Personal Representatives of the estate of John L. Dull, deceased, on the 17th day of February, 2022, who died on the 6th day of

December, 2021. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be for-

> Dated this 23rd day of February, 2022. Jon Eads CLERK OF THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT COLDREN, FRANTZ & SPRUNGER Attorneys at Law 940 N. Meridian St. Portland, IN 47371

ever barred.

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www.thecr.com Page 8 **The Commercial Review**

Colts trade for QB Matt Ryan

BY MICHAEL MAROT AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indianapolis Colts may have found another shortterm answer at quarterback by trading for Matt Ryan.

How much longer the 37-year-old, soon-to-be four-time Pro Bowler sticks around isn't clear.

On Monday, Indy acquired the 2016 NFL MVP from Atlanta for a third-round pick in this year's draft (No. 82 over-

The Falcons wasted no time finding Ryan's possible replacement they'd announcing signed free agent Marcus Mariota to a two-year contract.

For Indy, the deal completes a two-week search for a successor to Carson Wentz, who was traded to the Washington Commanders after just one season with the Colts.

For Indianapolis general manager Chris Ballard, it's also the latest attempt to plug a hole created by Andrew Luck's surprise retirement at age 29 just before the start of the 2018 season.

"Matt's leadership and skill set will complement our roster's growth and success," Ballard said. "He's long been a great ambassador for the NFL and the Atlanta Falcons, and we're excited he can continue his accomplished career in Indi-

anapolis.' For the Falcons, it was the end of an era.

Ryan had started all but three games for the

Falcons to receive third-round pick from Indy

team since he was drafted No. 3 overall in 2008, leading Atlanta to only the second Super Bowl appearance in franchise history.

His fate was effectively sealed when the Falcons made an ill-fated bid for Deshaun Watson as their new quarterback.

"Matt Ryan has been the epitome of a franchise quarterback," team owner Arthur Blank said. "It is difficult to overstate what he has meant to me personally, our organization, his teammates and our fans."

But the Falcons decided to move on with a major rebuilding job that was only made more difficult by Ryan's onerous contract, which was restructured multiple times in recent years as the team kept pushing a difficult decision down the road without drafting a possible successor.

The Falcons will carry a roughly \$40 million cap charge in dead money this season, while Ryan's salary cap hit for the Colts is a reported \$23.75 million in 2022, rising to \$28 million if he's still on the team next year.

See **Trade** page 7



Getting ready

Fort Recovery High School freshman Ella Schoen makes a play on a ground ball while warming up for a junior varsity softball scrimmage Monday. The FRHS varsity squad will open its season at home Monday against Ansonia.

Jay's Dollar makes history

MOORESVILLE — Lizzie Dollar represent the state at the event. been active for nearly 30 years. made girls wrestling history this weekend.

Dollar, a Jay County High School senior, became the first Patriot girl to compete in the Indiana vs. Illinois Girls Classic Duals on Sunday at Mooresville High School.

The top finishing senior

Dollar, a four-time state medalist for JCHS, placed sixth at 106 pounds this year.

the event, but was unable to compete because of a prior commit-

This marked the inaugural year wrestler from each weight class in for the Indiana vs. Illinois Girls runner-up in 2019 and '20. She finthe state tournament is selected to Classic Duals, while the boys has ished fourth in the state in 2021.

Dollar came up just a bit short in her march Sunday as she took on ounds this year.

(Tricia Ison also qualified for tional South High School.

King, who was the Illinois state runner-up, defeated Dollar 10-7.

Prior to her sixth-place state finish this year, Dollar was the state

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JJ's Indy 500 hype begins

By JENNA FRYER AP Auto Racing Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas — Oh, JJ, if only vou had run IndvCar's ovals from the

That was the sentiment following Jimmie Johnson's sixth-place finish Sunday at Texas Motor Speedway, where he ran his first career open-wheel race on an oval track. He had barely crossed the finish line before race engineer Eric Cowdin was already in his ear with the newest goal: "Now let's go win the Indy 500."

Hyperbole? Johnson certainly thought so as soaked in the forgotten feeling of a successful race.

"I feel like that's an aggressive statement, for sure," said Johnson, who then paused to consider his odds. "But why not? Why can't we? The 500 is a special race. We've seen favorites win. We've seen the race won by strategy, first-time winners, a variety of different things."

And just like that, Jimmie Johnson is now considered a contender for "The Jenna



Greatest Spectacle in Racing." It seems absurd considering he went to Texas last weekend with a pair of back-to-back 17thplace finishes to close his rookie season as the highlights of his move to IndyCar after a NASCAR career spanning two decades.

The transition has been hard, even for a seven-time NASCAR champion and future Hall of Famer with 83 career Cup Series victories. Everything in IndyCar has been brand new to Johnson, from the car, the street and road circuits, the rules, even where to find the bathrooms at the tracks.

See **Begins** page 7



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