

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

Katja retired

Portland Police Department's dog is no longer with force because of concerns about her health

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Portland Police dog Katja had worked the streets since 2016.

Nearly every morning, she trained in apprehension and drug work. Every day, Katja would hop in her handler's police cruiser in preparation for her police duties.

Now, roughly six years later, Katja has retired. The 8-year-old German Shepherd/Belgian Malinois mix's retirement came suddenly this month because of health issues.

Trained in narcotics and patrol work, Katja detected drugs, as well as assisted in detaining suspects, building searches and tracking citizens.

In 2020, Katja helped with a total of 270 drug-related cases, according to a press release from Portland police. She has also conducted three searches for Jay County Jail and assisted in 15 tracks.

"She's a huge asset as far as taking drugs off the street," said officer Eric Fields, Katja's former handler for the last two years.

Likewise, she's also effective in chases. The moment most runaways hear her barking, they surrender, Fields said.

Assistant chief Steve Schlechty explained police dogs are trained to indicate on a vehicle if there are drugs inside it. If the animal gives the signal, police are permitted to do a search.

See **Retired** page 2



Photo provided

Eight-year-old police dog Katja retired suddenly this month after six years in service. Portland police are currently seeking donations from the community to hire a new police dog. Pictured, Katja and handler Eric Fields stand in front of a police cruiser.

Board gives OK to new options

Programs are intended to address teacher shortage

By SUE LOUGHLIN
The Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)
Tribune News Service

The Indiana State Board of Education this week approved initiatives aimed at increasing Indiana's pipeline of special education teachers and addressing a serious shortage in the field.

Of Indiana's 1.1 million students, almost 16% receive special education services, according to an Indiana Department of Education news release.

According to Katie Jenner, Indiana secretary of education, "Through a new license option, approval of additional transition to teaching programs and financial assistance to support training for our current and future special education teachers, we're committed to supporting our local schools as we seek to grow the pipeline of educators in this high-demand field."

The number of working special education teachers in Indiana declined around 4% from 2014 to 2021, while the number of students in special education grew 12%, according to a Chalkbeat Indiana report, citing IDOE data.

See **Options** page 5

Russian ship sinks

By ADAM SCHRECK
and YESICA FISCH
Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine — Russia's Defense Ministry promised Friday to ramp up missile attacks on the Ukrainian capital in response to Ukraine's alleged aggression on Russian territory, an ominous warning that followed Moscow's stinging loss of its flagship in the Black Sea.

The threat of intensified attacks on Kyiv came after Russian authorities accused Ukraine of wounding seven people and damaging about 100 residential buildings with airstrikes in Bryansk, a region bordering Ukraine. Authorities in another border region of Russia also reported Ukrainian shelling Thursday.

"The number and the scale of missile attacks on objects in Kyiv will be ramped up in response to the Kyiv nationalist regime committing any terrorist attacks or diversions on the Russian territory," Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov said.

A renewed bombardment could return Kyiv's residents to the steady wail of air raid sirens

heard during the early days of Russia's invasion and to fearful nights sheltering in subway stations. The capital has displayed tentative signs of pre-war life after Russian troops failed to capture the city and retreated to concentrate on eastern Ukraine, leaving behind evidence of possible war crimes.

Ukrainian officials have not confirmed striking targets in Russia, and the reports could not be independently verified.

However, Ukrainian officials said their forces did strike a key Russian warship with missiles. If true, the reported Wednesday attack on the guided-missile cruiser Moskva, named for the Russian capital, would represent an important victory for Ukraine and a

symbolic defeat for Russia.

The warship sank while being towed to port Thursday after suffering heavy damage under circumstances that remained in dispute. Moscow acknowledged a fire on board but not any attack. U.S. and other Western officials could not confirm what caused the blaze.

The Moskva had the capacity to carry 16 long-range cruise missiles. If Ukrainian forces took out the vessel, it was likely the largest warship to be sunk in combat since the Falklands War. A British submarine torpedoed an Argentine navy cruiser called the ARA General Belgrano during the 1982 conflict, killing over 300 sailors.

See **Ship** page 5

Increased attacks are planned for Ukrainian capital

Winter wonder

Ralyn Chaffins (foreground) and Sophia Hoewel of the Jay County High School Winter Guard perform Sunday during the Jay County High School band program's winter concert. The winter guard finished 10th at the state finals in Regional Class A this year.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Deaths

John McClung, 74, Portland

Floyd Thrailkill, 89, Hartford City

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees on a windy Thursday. The low was 37.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low of 41. Showers are expected beginning early Saturday with winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. The high will be in the low 50s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS softball game against Norwell.

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





Photos provided

Optimists donate

Portland Breakfast Optimist Club recently made donations of \$300 to the Jay County High School prom and \$200 to the Jay County Junior-Senior High School Pre-vocational Education Club. Pictured at left, Optimist club president Scott Benter presents a check to prom sponsors Christie Sommers and Lori Reece, and right, Benter presents a check to Andrea Hodson and Sommers of the pre-vocational education club.

Mystery man appears in friend's life

DEAR ABBY: A friend of mine lost her husband a couple of years ago. I didn't think she was looking for love or companionship, but all of a sudden she has met a younger man, and I'm concerned. I have observed several red flags, but I'm not sure if I should say something.

She owns a home in a big city and another smaller, very nice one with a view of the lake in a resort town three hours away. This man has posted on his main Facebook page a picture of "his" new cabin. (I don't have any details regarding who else was there.) I looked at his Facebook pictures and saw one of his daughter, who looks to be around 13, along with several pictures of a woman I assume to be his beautiful significant other posing with him and his daughter.

On my friend's birthday, he showed up at her door with a huge bouquet, balloons and all. She called a mutual friend about the flowers and was all giddy. This

scenario makes me suspect he's a predator who may start asking her for money. What, if anything, should I do? — FRIEND SEEING SIGNS

DEAR FRIEND: If it were me, I'd ask my friend how SHE enjoyed the family party at her lake house — and whether she has seen what this new man in her life has posted about it on his FB. Then, I would tell her how seeing his claim that the place is "his" made you do a double-take. After that, I would simply listen.

DEAR ABBY: My mother-in-



Dear Abby

law, "Gladys," was never a particularly good mother as her kids were growing up. We don't get along very well. She interjects herself into every aspect of my family's life, especially when some sort of crisis happens. Most recently, it concerned the death of my wife's father's second wife. Gladys actually parked her truck in front of ours to prevent us from going over there to give him emotional support.

When she acts like this, my wife refuses to stand up to her. This woman has more than once come between me and my family. How should I confront her and my wife about this? I feel like Gladys had her chance, but now it is my place to call the shots. Please tell me if I am being unreasonable. — HUSBAND AND DAD IN GEORGIA

DEAR HUSBAND: I don't think you are being unreasonable. I do think you need to have a serious, private conversation with your wife. You

both need to learn how to set firm boundaries for her mother. If you need help doing that, consult a marriage counselor. A marriage in which one spouse feels sidelined is headed for trouble.

DEAR ABBY: When I texted my faraway sibling, "Pat," to thank them for a thoughtful gift I really liked, they said, "Oh no, the mailing labels for the boxes mailed to you and our other sibling must have been mixed up." Then Pat insisted I immediately trade gifts with our sibling. Pat immediately contacted our mutual sibling's spouse to inform them of the mix-up rather than trust me to handle the situation.

Am I wrong to feel that Pat should have left well enough alone, since I had expressed appreciation for the gift, and sent a similarly thoughtful gift to its intended sibling to rectify things? I have never been in a situation like this before, but it seems to me

that I am getting the short end of the stick. — MIXED-UP OVER THE MIXUP

DEAR MIXED-UP: Not knowing the discrepancy between the gift you received and the one your sibling received, I can't judge whether you got "the short end of the stick." But Pat should have replaced the gift received by the sibling rather than insist you relinquish the one you received. I don't blame you for being offended. The way Pat handled the situation was beyond rude.

DEAR READERS: At sundown, the first night of Passover begins. This major Jewish holiday celebrates the most momentous event in Jewish history — the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery in Egypt. Happy Passover to my readers who observe this important holiday. — LOVE, ABBY

Community Calendar

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

Reunions

Bryant High School will hold its alumni banquet on May 14. Honor classes this year are the classes of 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1970, 1971 and 1972.

Portland High School will celebrate its 50th anniversary from June 17 to June 19. For more information, email alicemiley23@gmail.com or wsanders317@gmail.com.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

Monday

PORTLAND BREAK-

MOUS — 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.

FAST 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. Walk-ins accepted.

BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Everyone is welcome.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 p.m. each Monday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

Tuesday

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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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Let's remember what got us here

Herald Bulletin (Anderson)

There was already a nurse shortage in Indiana before COVID-19 hit in 2020.

On top of that, employment in nursing and residential care facilities dropped by 5,600 in the past year, according to a February workforce report by the state. Hospitals saw 900 fewer employees.

This year, state Rep. Ethan Manning, R-Denver, said Indiana needs to graduate 1,300 more nurses every year until 2030 to meet health care needs.

This past session, one of Manning's bills passed all the hurdles into law and will ease some requirements to allow for

Hoosier Editorial

temporary licenses of retired or inactive medical workers, among other provisions that might help the situation.

Related to the nursing shortage, health care organizations recently received some good news.

The Associated Press reported that COVID-19 hospitalizations dropped to the lowest lev-

els since the onset of the pandemic. Some hospitals were going days without a single COVID-19 patient in the intensive care unit for the first time since early 2020.

Declining COVID cases also speaks admirably for those who took preventive measures such as receiving vaccinations, wearing masks and maintaining social distance.

But Hoosiers are pragmatic. As the United States deals with the new BA.2 variant of the omicron strain, we also hear of the omicron XE variant, which is a combination of the BA.1 version with the BA.2 variant, making the combination XE a

recombinant variant. It was found in England, which recently reduced COVID-related actions such as mandatory self-isolation and free testing. Other variants will surely come along, some relatively benign and others more dangerous.

In Indiana, long-term care reporting requirements have changed, so the data are no longer being updated by the state, an action that affects the collection of trends in deaths and weekly cases.

The same is true in removing measures to record data from individual Hoosier schools.

The Indiana State Depart-

ment of Health now provides COVID-19 updates only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Not so fast, some of us might say. Some medical experts say the pandemic won't be over "until it's over."

Let's not forgo data collection simply because cases are on the decrease. Let's not disregard vaccines and other safety measures that have prevented many of us from contracting COVID-19. Let's not scare away more nurses from the profession.

Our health care workers have toiled day and night to get us to this point. Let's not forget the past two years.

Academy finally has gotten tough

Los Angeles Times

Tribune News Service

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Friday ruled that Will Smith will be banned from attending the Oscars ceremony — as a guest or presenter — as well as any other academy events for the next 10 years.

That may seem like a harsh punishment for Smith smacking Chris Rock onstage at the ceremony, nearly two weeks ago, over a joke the comic told about Smith's wife, actress Jada Pinkett Smith. But consider the enormity of what happened that night.

This isn't like Smith confronted Rock backstage or in a Dolby Theatre parking garage and hit him.

That would have been bad enough. He did it on global TV.

And then Smith went back to his seat and screamed profanities across the theater at Rock — lest any of us (including Rock) think the whole thing was just a comic bit.

If it were any other awards ceremony for achievements in a profession, chances are someone who rushed the stage and hit the presenter would be arrested and/or fired from their job.

Smith effectively derailed the rest of the show. All anyone could talk or think about was what they had just seen. Musician and director Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson, whose "Summer of Soul" won for documentary feature; Jane Campion, only the third woman to win an Oscar for directing; and the producers, director and actors of the groundbreaking film "CODA," which won best picture, all had their moments overshadowed by this insane act.

Since then, Smith apologized, incrementally, to everyone and resigned from the academy. Officials from the academy have apologized for mishandling the event after kinda, sorta asking Smith to leave and then not making him leave that night.

In the announcement Friday, Academy officials again apologized, saying they had an opportunity that night to set an example for everyone, "and we fell short — unprepared for the unprecedented."

So are they overcompensating now?

Guest Editorial

... the academy did what it needed to do: Send a clear message to the public and to movie stars ... that this kind of behavior will not be tolerated.

Is 10 years too long to banish Smith?

Should it have been five years, or three?

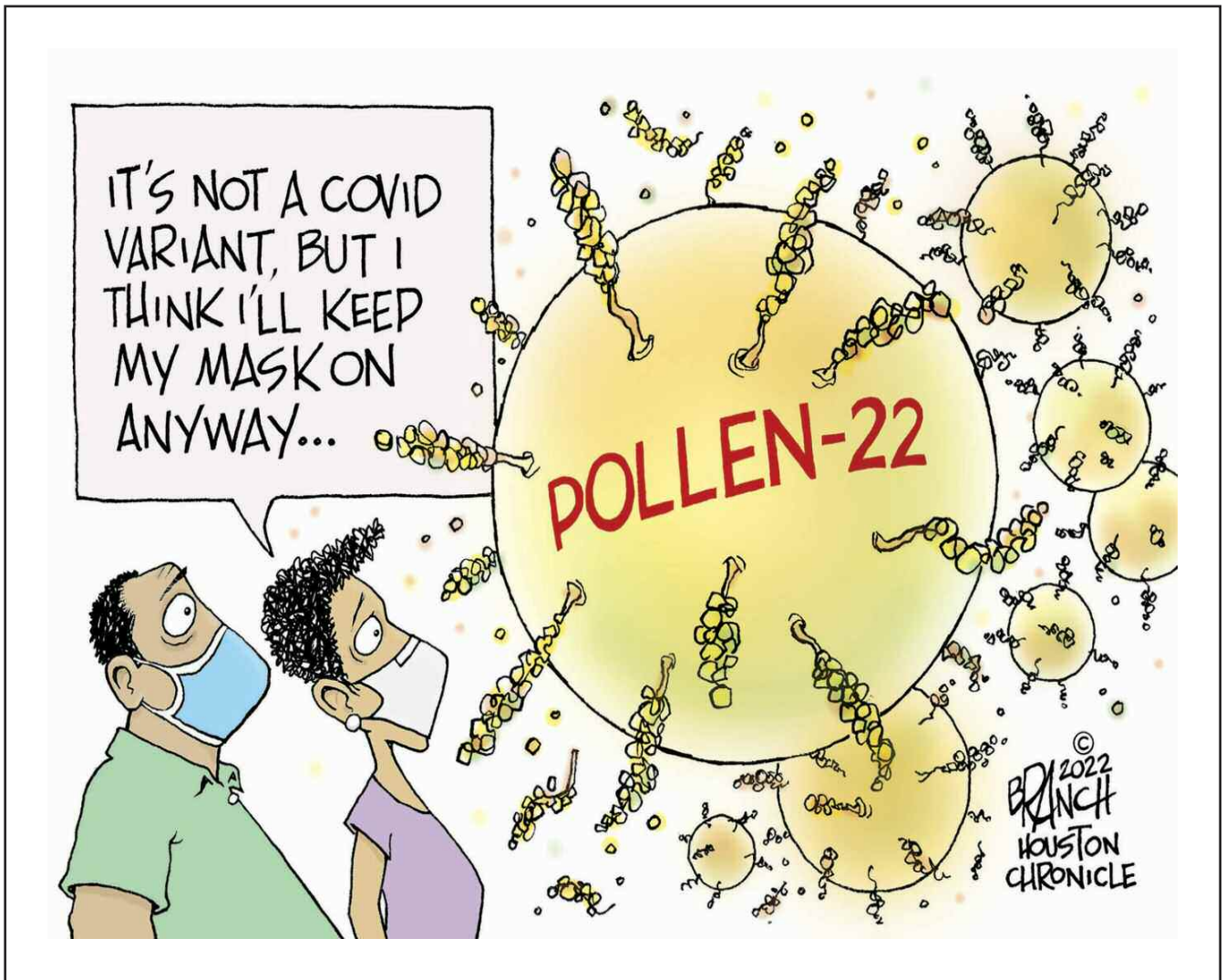
Hard to know.

There isn't a sentencing commission report on assaults committed at the Academy Awards. (This page called for him to not be allowed to present at or attend the Oscars next year.) This doesn't stop Smith from working or being nominated for an Oscar, or even winning one — although he couldn't accept it in person or on a virtual screen.

The decision was made by the 54-member Board of Governors, a diverse group of Hollywood entertainers and professionals.

The point is that the academy did what it needed to do: Send a clear message to the public and to movie stars — who are among the most indulged people on the planet, accustomed to doing whatever they want, whenever they want — that this kind of behavior will not be tolerated.

In response, Smith released a statement saying, "I accept and respect the academy's decision." That's the smartest thing he's said in two weeks.



Conservatism needs revitalization

By TYLER COWEN

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

If you are a true conservative — and I use the term not as Ted Cruz might, but in its literal sense, as in conserving what is of value in the modern world — then you should be obsessed with three threats to the most vital parts of our civilizational heritage, all of which are coming to the fore: war, pandemic and environmental catastrophe.

These three events have frequently caused or contributed to the collapse or decline of great civilizations of the past. After being seriously weakened by pandemics and environmental problems, the Roman Empire was taken over by barbarian tribes. The Aztecs were conquered by the Spanish, who had superior weapons and also brought disease. The decline of the Mayans likely was rooted in water and deforestation problems.

I think of true conservatism as most of all the desire to learn from history. So let us take those lessons to heart.

The odds are that nuclear weapons will not be used in the war in Ukraine. Still, there is some chance of a major escalation, or the deployment of other weapons of mass destruction. That chance is difficult to estimate, but it's not crazy to put it at or above 1%. A desperate Vladimir Putin might well resort to a strategy of escalation, if only as a misguided attempt to de-escalate.

Here is the dilemma: If you play that "1% chance of massive destruction" repeatedly over decades, sooner or later an actual escalation is going to erupt. The cumulative probabilities of a major nuclear exchange are not actually low, even if the probability is low in any single war.

A true conservatism thus ought

Tyler Cowen



to make limiting the probability of a nuclear exchange its top priority. Such an emphasis would not itself solve the problem, of course. Nonetheless, any observer of American political debate for the last 20 years or more will admit that the issue is nowhere close to a major emphasis.

This brand of conservatism does not necessarily insist on higher levels of defense spending, as conservatives pushed for in the 1980s. But it does suggest that alliances, military readiness and flexibility are major policy issues. If more defense spending is called for, that should be the federal government's No. 1 priority. While President Joe Biden so far has done a reasonable job executing America's Ukraine policy, he has not made these issues top priorities, nor have the Republican or Democratic parties. When was the last time a major politician gave a speech about how long the military procurement cycle has become, relative to the pace of technological change?

The relevance of pandemics is all too obvious. Still, Congress is dragging its heels on a \$10 billion pandemic assistance bill, and snags remain. The final legislation is unlikely to include a global component, despite the continuing risk of new virus strains from abroad. The U.S. should also be looking to gear up for an Operation Warp Speed #2, directed at developing a pan-coronavirus vac-

cine, effective against a broad swath of possible future strains.

Even after more than 1 million excess deaths during this pandemic, Americans are still not taking pandemic risk seriously. Is America so much better prepared for the next time around? If you ask the simple question of whether the government has reformed or improved the CDC, FDA or NIH — regardless of what kind of reforms you might favor — the answer seems to be no. America continues to just putter along.

Finally, a true conservatism would prioritize the most important environmental problems. To use a specific example: It should not take seven years to get permits for an offshore wind farm. Just accept the reality that wind farms will involve some modest environmental problems of their own and get on with building them.

Unfortunately, even as environmental regulations proliferate in the U.S., there is an unwillingness to push through a carbon tax or make nuclear power plants easier to build. America is getting the big stuff wrong, in part because it is focused on politics over policy. Consider that California's governor has proposed giving car owners a \$400 gas-tax refund, while the Biden administration is more worried about jobs and competition from China than about trying to make solar panels as affordable as possible.

The main task of a revitalized conservatism should be to restore America's moral seriousness on these issues. At the moment, neither political party is doing that.

Cowen is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a professor of economics at George Mason University and writes for the blog Marginal Revolution.

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



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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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Capsule Reports

Failed to yield

A Portland man crashed the vehicle he was driving into oncoming traffic at the intersection of 7th Street and Blaine Pike in Portland about 5:25 p.m. Wednesday.

Sebastian Solis, 18, was driving his 2007 Honda Fit on 7th Street when he failed to yield the right of way to traffic on Blaine Pike, according to a Portland Police Department accident report. His vehicle crashed into a 2010 Nissan Murano driven by 60-year-old Phyllis

Hartzell of Portland. She told police Solis didn't stop at the stop sign.

Hartzell was taken to IU Health Jay for her injuries. Her vehicle was towed, with damage estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000. The car Solis was driving is registered to Vista Landscape and Design of Portland.

High school crash

A Portland teen turned the car he was driving into another Portland teen's vehicle in the Jay County High School park-

ing lot about 3:30 p.m. Thursday.

Brady Davis, 17, told Jay County Sheriff's Office he was turning and didn't notice the 2014 Nissan Rogue, driven by 16-year-old Madison Reier. The 2014 Ford Focus Davis was driving crashed into Reier's car.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000.

Backing accident

A Portland woman backed her car into another Portland woman's vehicle at the intersection of

Industrial Drive and Meridian Street about 7:45 a.m. Friday.

Mary Owens, 27, and Ashlyn Hudson, 23, were both stopped on Industrial Drive at the intersection with Meridian Street. Owens told Portland Police a semi was turning onto the road and she backed up her 2018 Ford Escape to make more room for the truck. She didn't notice Hudson's 2009 Pontiac G6 behind her and crashed into it.

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



Photo provided

Ribbon cutting

Jay County Chamber of Commerce recently held a grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony for Valhalla Axe Hall. Pictured, from left are Flip Roberts, Shea Fields, LeRoy and Shayla Brown, Xailynn Brinkley and Daxton Brown. The business is located at 120 W. High St., Redkey.

Felony arrests

Theft

A woman was arrested Thursday for theft.

Yvonnea M. Newman, 42, was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.

She's being held on a \$10,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Fraud

A Portland woman was arrested for Fraud on Thursday.

Christina R. Norris, 44, 703 S. Meridian St., was preliminarily charged with six counts of Fraud, a Level 6 felony.

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

Options ...

Continued from page 1
In addition, after this school year, Indiana will no longer grant emergency permits for special education teachers, the result of a change in federal law. It comes at a time when special education teacher shortages are a serious problem not only throughout the

state, but across the nation.

Wednesday's actions by the state Board of Education include final approval of an alternative route license in special education.

The new license will allow special education teachers previously working on an emergency per-

mit to continue serving in Indiana classrooms while completing a professional educator license in special education or an addition to their existing license.

It will be valid for three years, require an educator to hold a bachelor's degree, be employed by an Indiana school and be enrolled in an approved alternative spe-

cial education program. Over the three years, the educator will work to complete all requirements for professional licensure.

The state board also approved two special education transition to teaching programs to bachelor's degree holders who are interested in becoming special education teachers.

Ship ...

Continued from page 1

The sinking of the Russian warship reduces Russia's firepower in the Black Sea, although military analysts disagreed on the event's significance to the course of the war. Either way, the loss was viewed as emblematic of Moscow's fortunes in a seven-week invasion widely seen as a historic blunder following the retreat from the Kyiv region and much of northern Ukraine.

"A 'flagship' Russian warship is a worthy diving site. We have one more diving spot in the Black Sea now. Will definitely visit the wreck after our victory in the war," Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov tweeted Friday in a likely apocryphal boast.

In his nightly address Thursday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy told Ukrainians they should be proud of having survived

50 days under Russian attack when the invaders "gave us a maximum of five."

Russia's warning of renewed airstrikes did not stop Kyiv residents from taking advantage of a sunny and slightly warmer spring day as the weekend approached. More people than usual were out on the streets Friday, walking their dogs, riding electric scooters and strolling hand in hand.

Portland City Court

Judge Donald Gillespie Paid by waiver

Nigel S. Garawadya, Indianapolis, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$160.50; Richard M. Budaj, Hartford City, speeding 49 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$154.50; Brian L. Couch, Portland, failure to yield, \$160.50; Joseph Sam-Dadzie, Waterbury, Connecticut, driving off the truck route in Dunkirk, \$160.50; Enrique Mulato-Zapot, Indianapolis, driving without registration (\$160.50) and without a valid license (\$25); Alejandro Martinez, Winchester, failure to signal (\$160.50) and driving without a valid license (\$25); Angel Y. Sosa,

Union City, fictitious plate (\$160.50) and driving without a valid license (\$25); Bailey M. Miller, Portland, speeding 80 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Sean R. Harrison, Plainfield, speeding 50 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; Isabella N. Sagarese, McLean, Virginia, speeding 48 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$153; Pedro O. Ramirez, Portland, driving without a valid license, \$160.50; Alexis Ragsdale, Chicago, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$155.50; Tijhyrean Keys, Welsh, Louisiana, driving off the truck route in Dunkirk, \$160.50; Desie K. Beyane, Clarkston, Georgia, driving off the truck route in Dunkirk, \$160.50; Brayden

Kaup, Coldwater, Ohio, speeding 56 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; Hayden S. Cristobal, Hartford City, speeding 66 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$146.50; Brooke L. Patterson, Greenwood, speeding 44 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$149.50; David S. Gray, Fort Recovery, Ohio, speeding 51 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$171; Allison R. Speck, St. Henry, Ohio, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Miguel A. Perez Hernandez, Portland, speeding 45 mph in a 30 mph zone, \$150.50; Thomas C. Cox, Dunkirk, animal at large in Dunkirk (\$160) and harboring a non-immunized dog (\$25); Yassine Hibbou, Winchester, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph

zone, \$149.50; Hannah M. Johnson, Normal, Illinois, speeding 90 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Shannon P. Kuhn, Bryant, speeding 78 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Jesus E. Aro, Miami, Florida, driving off the truck route in Dunkirk, \$160.50; Ivan R. Riddlebarger, Redkey, seat belt violation, \$25; Melissa Franks, Dunkirk, ordinance violation, \$160; Tara L. King, Uniondale, speeding 65 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$147.50; Michael E. Campbell, Albany, speeding 67 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$147.50; Ethan T. Lairson, Portland, speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Tabitha L. White, Winchester, failure to change information, \$160.50

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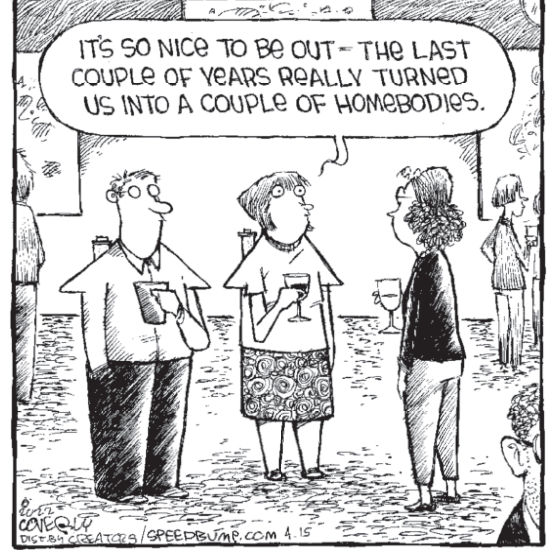
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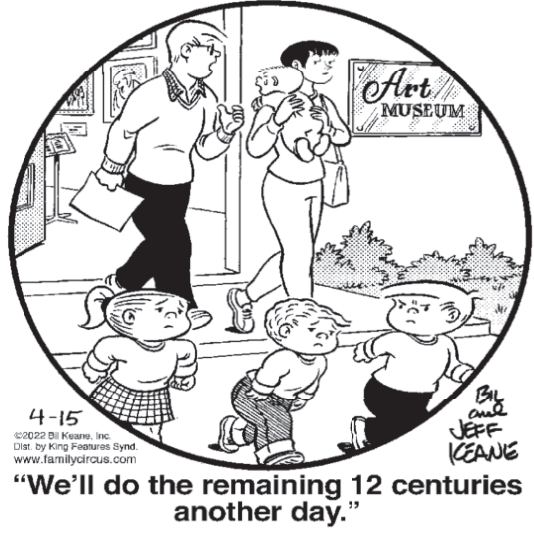
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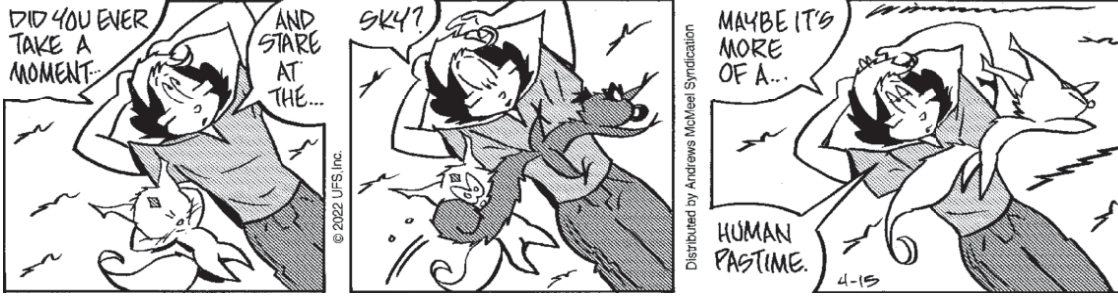
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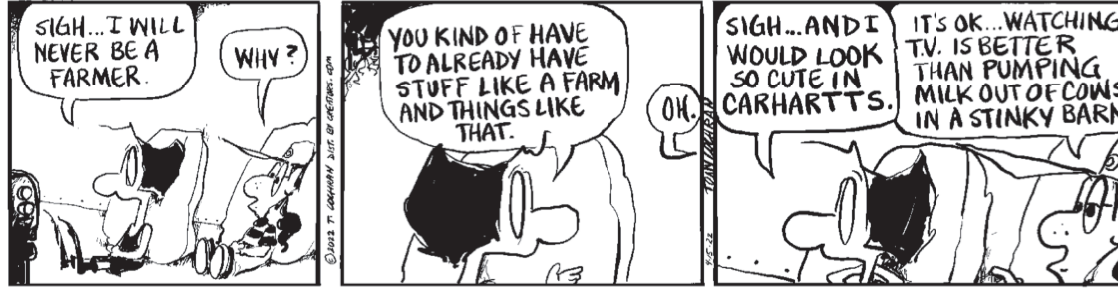
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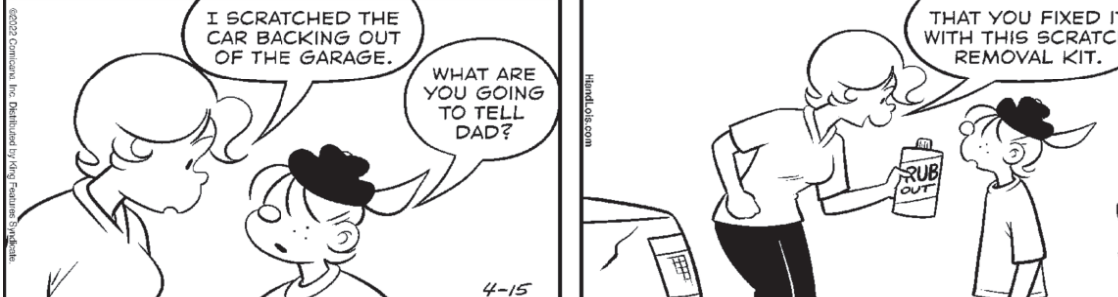
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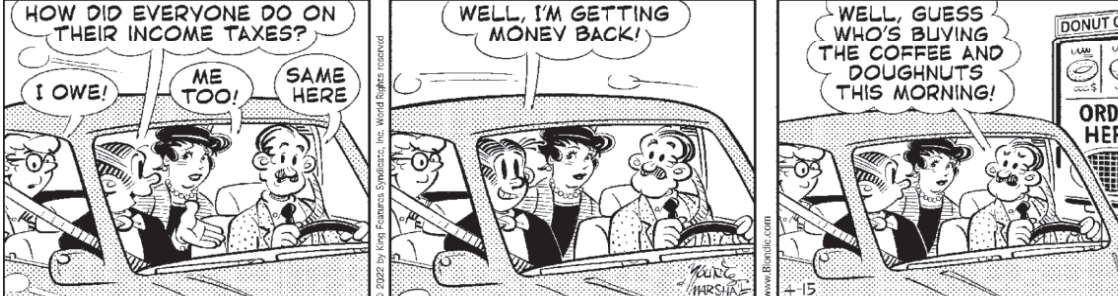
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Thriller ...

Continued from page 8
“I was singing the whole time while I hit it,” she said.

The song? Hardy’s “Give Heaven Some Hell.”

“It was amazing,” added Will, who was greeted at the plate by all of her teammates. “That’s a good experience to have.”

Then it was Homan’s turn.

The senior, who tossed four innings before giving way to freshman Maddie Guggenbiller, returned to the rubber to finish what she started. She induced a fly out from Ison for the first out, got Janae Jacobs to tap the ball just in front of the plate for the second and then struck out Abbie Fields to end the game.

“It was awesome,” said Homan. “I’m super excited I got to do that.”

“(Fields) hit a home run off me before, so I was a little nervous. But I threw some curveballs. I knew she didn’t like the outside ... I was confident my curveball to get her out.”

Homan recorded the save in a game she started thanks to her clean eighth inning. In all, she gave up five runs on six hits and a walk in five innings while striking out eight.

She was also a leader at the plate, going 3-for-5 with a run.

Perhaps most importantly for the Indians, she wanted the ball in her hands with the game on the line.

“Before we even started the inning, she came to me and she wanted it,” said Thien. “She had a couple innings rest and she came back throwing the ball hard.”

Guggenbiller went 2-for-3 with a solo home run in the second inning, a double in the third, three RBIs and a



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Tricia Ison of Jay County follows through on her swing in a two-run home run in the sixth inning.

run. Knapke joined Will and Guggenbiller in going deep for the Indians, and Schoen’s two-strike, bases-loaded single through the right side with two outs in the top of the seventh inning kept them alive.

Haleigh Clayton suffered the loss in relief for JCHS, allowing six runs — four earned — on eight hits and a walk while striking out four.

Despite the result, there were plenty of exciting moments for the Patriots as well. They included Ison’s two-run homer to give them the lead in the bottom of the sixth inning and Fields’

two-run blast in the bottom of the fourth in her first varsity at-bat.

“I called a bunt,” said Green. “She missed the bunt. And then she blasted it over the fence. I was actually crying by the time she got to third base. That’s just a cool moment for her.”

Jaelynn Lykins paced the Jay County offense, going 3-for-4 with a double, two runs and two RBIs. Olivia Bright had two hits, including a double, and two runs, Renna Schwieterman, Fields and Ison each drove in two runs, and Riah Champ scored twice.

“They did a lot of good

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. Fort Recovery Indians				
Fort Recovery (6-1)				
	ab	r	h	bi
Will rf	5	1	1	1
CGrisez ss	5	1	2	0
Homan p	5	1	3	0
Bubp cr	0	1	0	0
Pearson 1b	5	0	2	0
AGrizez pr	0	1	0	0
Guggenbiller c	3	1	2	3
Heitkamp cr	0	1	0	0
Gaerke cf	4	1	0	0
Schoen 3b	4	1	2	2
Wendel 2b	4	0	1	0
Knapke eh	4	1	1	2
Shinberry lf	0	0	0	0
Totals	39	10	14	8

Jay County (2-3)				
	ab	r	h	bi
Fralei cf	4	0	0	0
Bright 2b	4	2	2	0
Lykins c	4	2	3	2
Schwieterman ss	3	0	1	2
Shimp 1b	3	0	0	1
Champ 3b	4	2	1	0
Ison dp	4	1	1	2
Jacobs lf	4	1	1	0
Ardizzone rf	1	0	0	0
Fields rf	3	1	1	2
Winner p	0	0	0	0
Clayton p	0	0	0	0
Totals	34	9	10	9

Fort Rec.	031	911	31	10
Jay Co.	003	202	20	9

LOB — Fort Recovery 6, Jay County 3. 2B — Fort Recovery 3 (Homan, Pearson, Guggenbiller), Jay County 3 (Bright, Lykins, Champ). HR — Fort Recovery 3 (Will, Guggenbiller, Knapke), Jay County 2 (Ison, Fields).

Fort Recovery	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Homan W	5	6	5	5	1	8
Guggenbiller	3	4	4	3	0	4

Jay County	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Winner	4	6	4	3	0	7
Clayton L	4	8	6	4	1	4

Thwaits tosses in 2 for TinCaps

FRHS grad pitched in opener, loss Thursday to South Bend

FORT WAYNE — In the first week of the season, a former Indian has taken the hill twice for the TinCaps.

Nick Thwaits, a 2018 Fort Recovery High School graduate, tossed in the season opener for

the Fort Wayne TinCaps and returned to the mound again Thursday in a 7-2 loss in the first game of a doubleheader against the South Bend Cubs following Wednesday’s rain out.

Thwaits was strong in the opener — a 6-5 loss to the host Dayton Dragons — tossing a pair of scoreless innings in relief. He recorded five of his six outs with strikeouts while giving up two hits and a walk.

On Thursday, he allowed two runs on four hits and a walk in 2 1/3 innings for the TinCaps — they are the High-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres — who are now 3-3 on the year.

Roundup ...

Continued from page 8
Dusty Pearson went 3-for-3 to lead JCHS, which got two runs in the first and third innings for the early lead. The Tigers pulled ahead with two in the fifth and added six more in the top of the sixth. The Patriots closed the gap to 11-8 with four runs — Sam Myers, Dusty Pearson and Christian Runkle all had RBIs — but Yorktown added two in the seventh.

Sam Dunlavy took the loss, giving up five runs on two hits in 4 1/3 innings.

Blue tops Red
Portland’s pair of 10-and-younger all-star

baseball teams went head-to-head Thursday with the Blue squad defeating the Red 10-3 and 19-0.

Eli Westgerdes had a hit, a run and an RBI for Portland Blue in the game-one win, and Finn Hemmelgarn added a hit and two RBIs. Hemmelgarn also tossed 2 2/3 scoreless innings, striking out six.

In game two, Benson Armstrong delivered a double, three RBIs and a run. Karson Schilling also had a double while scoring three times and driving in two runs. Westgerdes got the win with two scoreless innings of work.

Sports on tap

Local schedule
Today
Jay County — Softball at Norwell — 5 p.m.; JV softball vs. Norwell — 5 p.m.
Fort Recovery — JV softball vs. Minster — 5 p.m.
Saturday
Jay County — Softball at Richmond Invitational — 9 a.m.; Girls tennis in Eastern Hancock Invitational — 9 a.m.; Baseball doubleheader vs. Centerville — 10 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Baseball doubleheader at South Adams — 11 a.m.; Softball at Defiance Ayrersville tourney — noon; JV baseball vs. South Adams — 5 p.m.

TV schedule
Today
1 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Arizona Diamondbacks at New York Mets or Minnesota Twins at Boston Red Sox (MLBN)
3 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Camping World Truck Series — Pinty’s Truck Race on Dirt, practice (FS1)
4 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Cup Series — Food City Dirt Race, final practice (FS1)
5:30 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Camping World Truck Series — Pinty’s Truck Race on Dirt, practice (FS1)
6:30 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Cup Series — Food City Dirt Race, final practice (FS1)

7 p.m. — College baseball: Florida at Vanderbilt (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Play-in game — Atlanta Hawks at Cleveland Cavaliers (ESPN)
8 p.m. — College baseball: Minnesota at Iowa (BTN)
8:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at Milwaukee Brewers (BALLY)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Play-in game — New Orleans Pelicans at Los Angeles Clippers (TNT)
10 p.m. — College baseball: Stanford at UCLA (ESPN2)
Saturday
Noon — College football: Ohio State Spring Game (BTN)

1 p.m. — NBA basketball: Utah Jazz at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)
1 p.m. — College football: Georgia Spring Game (ESPN2)
1:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Arizona Diamondbacks at New York Mets (MLBN)
2 p.m. — College football: Michigan State Spring Game (BTN) 3 p.m. — NHL hockey: Minnesota Wild at St. Louis Blues (ABC)
3 p.m. — AMA Supercross (NBC)
4:05 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Atlanta Braves at San Diego Padres (FS1)
6 p.m. — NBA basketball: Toronto Raptors at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)
7 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at Milwaukee Brewers (BALLY)

8 p.m. — NASCAR racing: Camping World Truck Series — Pinty’s Truck Race on Dirt (FS1)
8:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Denver Nuggets at Golden State Warriors (ABC)
10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Cincinnati Reds at Los Angeles Dodgers (BALLY)
10 p.m. — Major League Soccer: Inter Miami at Seattle Sounders (FS1)
Local notes
Race is moved to April 23
Jay Community Center’s Sprint to Spring 5K has been moved to April 23. It will kick off the annual Jay County 5K Circuit. Registration is \$20. A tech t-shirt is a

\$10 add on, while a cotton t-shirt is a \$5 add on. The race begins and ends at Jay Community Center, and will go through Hudson Family Park.
For more information, contact Jay Community Center at (260) 726-6477.
Boomer registration is open
Registration is now open for Jay Community 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 fields.
Cost is \$55 before May 16, and registration includes t-shirt, hat and practice ball. Multiple child discounts are available.
For more information, contact Jay Community Center at (260) 726-6477.

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<p>90 SALE CALENDAR</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION Located in the Bubp Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN Saturday Morning April 23rd, 2022 9:30 a.m. CUSHMANS — GARDEN TRACTORS — MOTORS - PARTS Cushman Civilian Airborne motorbike (no title); Cushman Eagle scooter; Cushman 3 wheel industrial cart; Cushman 3 wheel cart with dump bed; Cushman frame, Lobster; Cushman hit and miss engine; Cushman motors; Cushman parts; Steiner articulating 4 x 4 garden tractor with new tires; Bolens garden tractor; Wheelhorse C120 — 8 speed garden tractor; Bushhog ATH720, 3pt., 72 inch finish mower; several Briggs & Stratton engines; several hit and miss engines; mini bikes; mini bike frames; Kohler engines; several Bolens Handy Hoe 1 wheel garden tractors; LARGE SELECTION OF NEW/OLD PARTS STOCK TO INCLUDE: blades, belts, pulleys, filter, gaskets, etc; cultivators; LARGE LOT OF MANUALS; and other items not listed. Please note that we will be running 2 rings. . Please visit Auction Zip for photos. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. day of sale for preview. FRED KAUFMAN Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Troy Foust AU19800068</p>	<p>90 SALE CALENDAR</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 2022 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 1/2 miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwy 67 and County Road 200 South. FARM TRACTORS — FARM EQUIP. — CONSTRUCTION EQUIP. — TRUCKS — TRAILERS — VEHICLES — RIDING MOWERS — ATVS — ATTACHMENTS — MISC. NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad. Terms: Cash or Good Check. Not responsible for accidents. Not responsible for no shows. AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com - Auctioneer ID#4243</p>	<p>110 HELP WANTED</p> <p>JAY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE taking applications for the position of Jay County Emergency Management Director through noon on April 18, 2022. Applications may be picked up at and returned to the Jay County Auditor’s Office at 120 North Court Street in Portland, Indiana. Job Description available upon request. Jay County Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer.</p> <p>PROBATION OFFICER-HIRING Bachelor’s degree required. Related field of study preferred. Submit resume & references by April 20, 2022, to Judge Hutchison, 120 N Court Street Ste 316, Portland, IN 47371.</p> <p>JAY COUNTY PURDUE EXTENSION seeks part-time summer clerical help. May-August. Approx. 20hrs/week. Send resume and cover letter to: ddcolema@purdue.edu by April 18th. An Equal Opportunity Employer.</p> <p>CROWNPOINTE OF PORTLAND IS hiring hard working, dedicated part time kitchen cook. Pay is negotiable. Please apply in house at 745 Patriot Drive, Portland, IN 47371 or online at www.cpcommunities.com/portland.&#8203; For questions please call 260-726-3577.&#8203;</p>	<p>130 MISC. FOR SALE</p> <p>ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side. .35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.</p> <p>190 FARMERS COLLUMN</p> <p>AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/ful cab, heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309</p> <p>200 FOR RENT</p> <p>INMAN U-LOC Storage. Mini storage, five sizes. Security fence or 24 hour access units. Gate hours: 8:00-8:00 daily. Pearl Street, Portland. 260-726-2833</p> <p>LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. 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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 forever barred. Dated my hand and seal of said Court, this : March 8, 2022. Jon Eads Clerk, Jay County Courts Aaron M. Henderson #32364-05 502 W. Main Street, Ste A Hartford City, IN 47348 CR 4-15-22-2022-HSPAXLP</p>	<p>250 PUBLIC NOTICE</p> <p>Public Notice</p> <p>CITY OF PORTLAND ZONING ADMINISTRATION PORTLAND BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: Dean DiMichele, Ft Wayne, IN, with McDonalds Corporation, has filed with the City of Portland Board of Zoning Appeals a petition, #VAR2022-04-05, requesting a Variance to the zoning regulations, to wit: Parcel ID: 38-07-20-101-020.000-034 Location: 618 N Meridian Street, Portland, Wayne Township, Section 20 Area Zoned: Central Business (CB) and Highway Service (HS) Description of Action Requested: Requesting approval for the replacement of a fallen pole sign on said property. The proposed pole sign will be approximately 53.25 feet in height, requiring a variance of 18.25 feet; the proposed sign face will be approximately 243 square feet space overall, requiring a variance of approximately 157 square feet. A public hearing will be held by said Board on May 10, 2022 at 5:30 pm at the Community Resource Building, 118 S Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana. At that time, all interested persons will be given the opportunity to be heard in reference to matters set out in the petition. The petition and file on this matter are available for public inspection at the Jay/Portland Building & Planning Department, 118 S Meridian Street Ste E, Portland, Indiana 47371. If unable to attend the meeting, the Department will accept letters from the public prior to the meeting date. Letters may be sent or taken to the Jay/Portland Building Department. City of Portland Board of Zoning Appeals John Hemmelgarn Zoning Administrator/Director April 11, 2022 4-15-2022 HSPAXLP</p>
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READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

Sports

FR in a thriller

Tribe freshman and senior come through in eighth inning during Thursday's back-and-forth battle with Jay County

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Both teams kept taking turns coming up big.

In the top of the sixth inning it was Allison Knapke.

Then Tricia Ison.

Then Ella Schoen.

Then a series of Patriots to tie the game and force extras.

In the end, it was a freshman breakthrough and some veteran pitching that sent the visitors home with a win.

Emma Will's first career home run gave the Fort Recovery High School softball team the lead in the top of the eighth inning Thursday night as it fought off Jay County for a 10-9 win with senior Jackie Homan returning to retire the side in order to end the game.

"We've actually had some back-and-forth games this year," said FRHS coach Ryan Thien, noting that his squad's only loss came in nine innings against Lima Bath. "This team, they don't give up, even when they're down some runs. We've been down in a lot of games. And so they just don't give up. They keep fighting and find a way to put the bat on the ball and good things happen."

The loss was another heart-breaker for the Patriots.

They dropped a back-and-forth game 7-6 to Bellmont on April 5. And they came back from four runs down in the first inning April 7 at Delta to tie the game before falling 10-7.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Fort Recovery High School freshman Emma Will is greeted by her teammates as she jumps onto home plate after hitting her first career home run to give the Indians the lead in the top of the eighth inning Thursday against Jay County. Jackie Homan (22) went on to toss a one-two-three bottom of the inning to secure the win in a game that saw five home runs and four lead changes.

It's eliminating the little mistakes — both physical errors and mental miscues — that will help them get over the hump in tight contests, said JCHS coach Trisha Green.

"They were four costly errors. They were huge," she said. (Two of them came in the top of the seventh inning, allowing two unearned runs to score.) "I think if we can iron some

of those out ... those little errors have been killing us every game."

There were big moments for both teams throughout, but after the Patriots (2-3) tied the game with two sac-

rifice flies in the bottom of the seventh inning it was Fort Recovery (6-1) that came through in the eighth.

Will, the Tribe's leadoff hitter went first. Hitless in her first four at bats, her

coaches gave her some advice: sing while you're batting. It worked, as she smashed a line-drive homer to straight-away center field with one out.

See **Thriller** page 7

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Patriots third in close meet

The Patriots, Eagles and Tigers could not have been closer.

Jay County High School's girls track team came up just short in a three-team meet Thursday, scoring 51 points to finish behind the visiting Yorktown Tigers (53) and Delta Eagles (52).

Delta easily won the boys meet with 83 points. Yorktown was second with 54 and the Patriots had 19.

Jay County's girls got two of their three wins in field events, with junior Gabi Bilbrey dominating the discus with her winning toss of 10 feet, 2.5 inches. Freshman Jenna Dues took the high jump at 5 feet even.

Another freshman, Morgan DeHoff, earned the other JCHS victory with a time of 17.74 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles.

Jay County roundup

The Patriot boys were winless on the night. Dylan Knapschafer finished second in the long jump and also teamed with Cristian Marentes, Isaac Kunkler and Aaron Funkhouser for second in the 4x400 relay.

Leads slips late

The Jay County baseball team had a one-run lead through three innings but the Yorktown Tigers outscored the host Patriots 10-4 in the final three frames to hand them a 13-8 defeat.

See **Roundup** page 7

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Thien pitches Tribe to MAC victory

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians are used to being in low-scoring games.

Bo Thien made sure Thursday's resulted in a win.

Thien went the distance on the mound as the Fort Recovery High School baseball team shut out the New Knoxville Rangers 2-0.

It was a stellar night on the hill for Thien, who whiffed 13 rangers en route to the victory. He gave up just two hits and two walks in the complete-game victory.

Fort Recovery (5-3, 201 Midwest Athletic Conference) scored its only runs in the first and third innings.

The loss dropped New Knoxville to 2-5 and 0-3 in the MAC.

Landon Post led the offense for the Tribe, which won despite managing just a single hit. He had a single, a walk and a run.

Troy Homan scored the other run for FRHS, Wyatt Bihn added an RBI.

The Indians have played in a series of tight, low-scoring games this season. In addition to Thursday's win, they have victories of 2-0 over Mississinawa Valley and 3-2 over Houston this year. They have also lost 3-0 to Celina and 2-1 to Crestview.

Fort Recovery takes tonight off before traveling to South Adams for a double-header Saturday.