

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Relationships through music



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Kelly Smeltzer directs during his final concert leading the Jay County High School band program on April 10. Smeltzer's last day teaching at the school will be Thursday, with his last gig as director at graduation June 5. Smeltzer spent 33 years with the Jay County band program, including the last 17 as its director.

As he heads toward retirement, it's time spent with students and staff Smeltzer will miss most

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Kelly Smeltzer was helping out with the Noblesville High School summer band program while he was a student at Ball State University.

The Millers at that time didn't march at any of the shows leading up to the Indiana State Fair Band Day. So, while other groups were competing, the staff would scout.

"We were sitting there at Winchester Speedway, 1985, and this

huge band, I'm talking probably 200 plus, marched out on this track," Smeltzer said. "And I'll tell ya, they were amazing."

"At one point in time they were facing backfield, and when they turned around, 200, and played, it was like 'Holy cow.' Talk about making an impression like no other. ...

"And I thought, 'I want to be a part of that group someday.'"

That group was the Jay County High School Marching Patriots.

Shortly after he graduated from Ball State two years later, he drove past JCHS for the first time on a trip back from visiting a cousin in New York. About two weeks after that, the job was posted. He applied. Then he interviewed with band director Dave Humbert, principal James Elbert and superintendent Larry Paxson.

He got the job. More than three decades later, Thursday will be Smeltzer's last as a teacher at the school that

made such an impression on him as a college kid.

"It's been a great journey," said Smeltzer, 57, after being honored along with other Jay School Corporation employees at Monday's school board meeting. "I've really enjoyed working with the kids, I really have. That's what I'm going to miss. ...

"Thank you for giving me a great life experience. I've got quite a story to tell."

See Relationships page 5

Redkey marshal resigns his post

Miller is taking job with county probation office

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — The town marshal has resigned, leaving Redkey without any police officers.

Jay County Sheriff's Office will be filling in the gaps until at least one new officer is hired.

Todd Miller, Redkey town marshal, turned in his letter of resignation Monday. Paired with the vacant second-shift position and recent resignation of former deputy marshal Tim Fishbaugh, the town now has no officers in its police department.

Although his resignation is not effective immediately, he's taking his remaining vacation time off until his official departure early June.

Redkey Town Council president Erik Hammers explained Tuesday that council is actively looking to hire another police officer as soon as possible. Council members are consulting with town attorney Wes Schemenaur for how to move forward with the process quickly.

"There is definitely action being taken," said Hammers. "We're in limbo, but we're doing the best with the time we have."

Jay County Sheriff Dwane Ford confirmed this morning his department is temporarily fielding calls — mostly emergencies — from the town.

"We're not going to let the people in Redkey go without law enforcement," said Ford.

An officer will also be on standby in the area during Thursday's town council meeting, if needed.

See Resigns page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Choir concert

Jay County junior high choir members perform Tuesday during their spring concert in the auditorium at Jay County High School.

Russian soldier pleads to war crime

Fears grew about Ukrainian soldiers who surrendered

By PATRICK J. MCDONNELL and DAVID PIERSON

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

LVIV, Ukraine — As the first Russian soldier to be tried for war crimes pleaded guilty to killing a Ukrainian civilian, fears grew today over the fate of hundreds of Ukrainian soldiers who surrendered at the Azovstal steelworks in Mariupol a day earlier.

Ukrainian officials say they are negotiating to exchange the beleaguered fighters for Russian prisoners of war. But Russia's parliament is expected to take up a resolution today blocking the swap, citing the Azov regiment, a

former right-wing militia absorbed into Ukraine's military that Moscow says comprises Nazis. Troops from the regiment held out in the steel plant for weeks in a last stand against a complete Russian takeover of Mariupol.

Their fate was left hanging even as 21-year-old Russian Sgt. Vadim Shyshmarin pleaded guilty in Kyiv in the fatal shooting of a Ukrainian man in the northeastern Sumy region Feb. 28, four days after Russian forces swept into Ukraine. Shyshmarin, who could be sentenced to life in prison, shot the unarmed man in the head.

Shyshmarin's trial is the first war-crimes proceeding in Ukraine since the war began — and as Russian forces continue to strike military and civilian targets across the country. Ukraine's prosecutor general has said that her office is preparing cases against 41 Russian troops accused of killing and raping civilians, bombing civilian infrastructure and looting.

See Russian page 5

Deaths

Donnie Corn, 49, Portland
Betty LeMaster, 87, Portland
Paul LeMaster, 89, Portland
Nancy LeMaster, 57, Portland
Michael Luttmann, 73, Greenwood
Gerald Kriegbaum, 83, Marion
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 75 degrees Tuesday. The low was 57.
Rain is expected this afternoon and evening. The low will be 57. The forecast calls for mostly sunny skies Thursday with the high climbing back into the 80s.
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

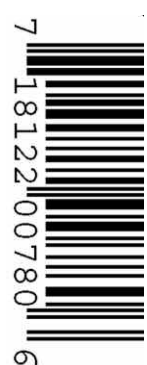
In review

Jay County Commissioners have scheduled a special meeting for 2 p.m. Friday. The agenda involves addressing administrative matters in the county's highway department following the death of superintendent Donnie Corn.

Coming up

Thursday — Coverage of today's The Portland Foundation annual meeting.

Saturday — Results from the FRHS softball team's district championship game.



CR almanac

Thursday 5/19	Friday 5/20	Saturday 5/21	Sunday 5/22	Monday 5/23
81/67	89/67	80/52	64/45	66/49
Mostly sunny skies are expected Thursday with a high in the low 80s.	There's a chance of showers and thunderstorms on Friday, with a higher chance at night.	Rain and thunderstorms are expected Saturday with an 80% chance of showers.	Showers may continue into Sunday, with the high staying in the 80s.	Monday's forecast looks mostly sunny, with a high in the mid 60s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$101 million	Quick Draw: 7-11-12-14-23-24-29-41-42-47-49-59-61-62-65-68-71-73-75-77 Cash 5: 3-15-25-36-39 Estimated jackpot: \$383,000
Mega Millions 7-21-24-41-65 Mega Ball: 24 Megaplier: 4 Estimated jackpot: \$131 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 4-2-0 Pick 4: 3-1-9-7 Pick 5: 8-6-6-5-3 Evening Pick 3: 9-0-2 Pick 4: 5-1-3-2 Pick 5: 4-1-7-5-5 Rolling Cash: 2-3-12-16-32 Estimated jackpot: \$161,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 7-9-7 Daily Four: 7-6-7-2 Quick Draw: 2-4-8-11-18-31-32-35-38-43-44-46-47-58-60-63-72-73-75-77 Evening Daily Three: 8-7-4 Daily Four: 2-4-5-5	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....7.98 June corn7.98 Wheat.....10.32	Wheat 11.36 June wheat11.36
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....8.03 June corn7.98 July corn.....7.97	Central States Montpelier Corn.....7.76 July corn.....7.66 Beans16.67 July beans16.52 Wheat.....11.78
The Andersons Richland Township Corn7.74 June corn7.84 Beans16.66 June beans16.71	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....7.58 June corn7.58 Beans16.58 June beans16.63 Wheat.....11.90

Today in history

In 1896, the Supreme Court, in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, ruled “separate-but-equal” facilities were constitutional. The decision was overruled in 1954.

In 1920, Pope John Paul II was born in Wadowice, Poland.

In 1933, President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Tennessee Valley Authority Act.

In 1951, the United Nations moved its headquarters to New York City.

In 1953, Jacqueline Cochran, an American aviator, became the first woman to break the sound barrier.

In 1955, Educator and political leader Mary McLeod Bethune, founder of Daytona Educational and Industrial School for Negro Girls (now Bethune-Cookman College) died at the age of 80.

In 1970, comedian, actress and writer Tina Fey was born in 1970. She was a cast member on Saturday Night Live and also served as the show's first female head writer.

In 1980, Mount St. Helens in Washington erupted following an earthquake.

In 1997, Tom Casey, managing editor of The Commercial Review, died at the age of 41 after an apparent heart attack at Lutheran Hospital in Chicago. He had cancer, for which he was scheduled for surgery the next day at the Mayor Clinic in Minnesota.

In 2001, the animated movie “Shrek,” featuring the voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy and Cameron Diaz, was released nationwide in the United States.

In 2004, Randy Johnson became the oldest Major League Baseball pitcher to throw a perfect game. The 40-year-old accomplished the feat for the Arizona Diamondbacks in their game against the Atlanta Braves.

In 2021, Elisa Parazzi and Kinsey Shannon each won sectional championships for the Jay County High School girls track team, which was third in the meet at Delta. Parazzi hit a career high of 5 feet, 6 inches, in the high jump while Shannon won the 100 dash in 12.97 seconds.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North, Portland.	Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
Thursday 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, town hall, 200 S. Mooney St.	5 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Friday 2 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners, special session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	6 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council executive session, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Monday 3 p.m. — Jay County	7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
	Tuesday 6 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 1331 Indiana 67, Portland.

Obituaries

Donnie Corn

Sept. 18, 1972-May 16, 2022
Donnie Corn, age 49, a resident of Portland, passed away Monday, May 16, 2022, at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Donnie was born Sept. 18, 1972, in Winchester, Indiana. Donnie graduated from Winchester High School. Donnie was the Jay County Highway Superintendent. He was an organ donor, a volunteer fire fighter and a member of the Indiana Volunteer Fire Fighter Association, County Highway Superintendent Association, Legion Riders and the National Wild Turkey Federation.



Corn

Donnie married Carin (Wallace) Corn on Oct. 6, 1996. She passed away on Dec. 10, 2000. Survivors include girlfriend Carrie Funk of Portland, Indiana; son Bailey Corn of Portland, Indiana; daughter Emily Wallace (fiancé: Isaac Moeller) of Albany, Indiana; bonus children Zachary, Ian, Hannah and Emma James. Visitation will be held Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held Saturday at 11 a.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church in Portland. Burial will be held in Lawnedale Cemetery east of Ridgeville with Pastor Hugh Kelly to officiate the services. Memorials may be directed to the Portland Foundation. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Betty LeMaster

Aug. 11, 1934-May 16, 2022
Betty LeMaster, age 87, a resident of Portland, passed away on Monday, May 16, 2022, from an automobile accident in Portland. Betty was born on Aug. 11, 1934, in Portland, Indiana, the daughter of Gerald and Elma (Smith) Lanning. She graduated from Governor I.P. Gray High School. Betty worked for Dryden Rubber in Montpelier, Horizon Mobile Home in Portland and drove a school bus for the Jay School Corporation for 35 years. She attended Fellowship Baptist Church and Asbury United Methodist Church. She was a member of Vocational Women's Group, Women's Circle at Asbury United Methodist Church, Port-



LeMaster

land Moose Lodge and Tri-State Gas Engine and Tractor Association. Betty married Paul LeMaster on Jan. 1, 1952, and he also passed away on May 16, 2022, as a result of the auto accident. Survivors include children Gerald LeMaster of Portland, Mike LeMaster (wife Marsha) of Portland, Phillip LeMaster of Portland and Stanley LeMaster of Portland; brother Bob Lanning of Portland; 19 grandchildren and several great-grandchildren. Her daughter, Nancy LeMaster, also passed away on Monday. Visitation will be held on Friday from 2 to 6 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland, Indiana. A memorial service will follow at 6 p.m. on Friday at the church. Burial will be later in Mt. Zion Cemetery, northeast of Portland. Memorials may be directed toward the Jay County Fair Association Tree Fund or Jay County Cancer Society. Arrangements are being handled by Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Paul LeMaster

July 24, 1932-May 16, 2022
Paul LeMaster, age 89, a resident of Portland, passed away on Monday, May 16, 2022 from an automobile accident in Portland. Paul was born on July 24, 1932, in Jay County, the son of Ord and Ruth (Haley) LeMaster. He graduated from Portland High School in 1950 and worked as a meat cutter for Kroger, a Feed Salesman and Sales Manager for Haynes Milling Company in Portland. He was a farmer in Jay County and was inducted to the FFA Hall of Fame. He attended Fellowship Baptist and Asbury United Methodist Church. Paul was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Odd Fellows Lodge and Tri-State Gas Engine and Tractor Association, Fort Wayne Shrine and the Jayland Antique Car Club. Paul married Betty Lanning on Jan. 1, 1952, and she passed away on May 16, 2022. Survivors include children Gerald LeMaster of Portland, Mike LeMaster (wife: Marsha) of Portland, Phillip LeMaster of Portland and Stanley LeMaster of Portland; sisters Idola Coats of Selma, Juanita Steigerwalt of Muncie and Ruth Davis (husband: Doug) of Gas City; brothers Weldon LeMaster (wife:



LeMaster

Gloria) of Alexandria and Victor LeMaster of Berne; 19 grandchildren and several great grandchildren. His daughter, Nancy LeMaster, also passed away on Monday. Visitation will be held on Friday from 2 to 6 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland, Indiana. A memorial service will follow at 6 p.m. on Friday at the church. Burial will be held later in Mt. Zion Cemetery, northeast of Portland. Memorials may be directed towards the Jay County Fair Association Tree Fund or Jay County Cancer Society. Arrangements are being handled by Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Nancy LeMaster

Nov. 17, 1964-May 16, 2022
Nancy LeMaster, age 57, a resident of Portland, passed away on Monday, May 16, 2022, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in Portland. Nancy was born on Nov. 17, 1964, in Portland, the daughter of Paul and Betty (Lanning) LeMaster. She graduated from Jay County High School in 1984 and worked at Future Polyworks in Coldwater, Ohio. She was an avid Harley Rider who enjoyed riding with her friends. Survivors include: children Jasmine LeMaster Link (husband: Anthony) of rural Pennville, and Jessica LeMaster of Yorktown; brothers Gerald LeMaster of Portland, Mike LeMaster (wife: Marsha) of Portland, Phillip LeMaster of Portland and Stanley LeMaster of Portland; and grandchildren Skylor and Grayson Johnson, with one additional grandchild expected at the end of the month. Her parents, Paul and Betty LeMaster, also passed away on Monday as a result of the auto accident. Visitation will be held on Friday from 2-6 p.m. at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, Portland, Indiana. A memorial service will follow at 6 p.m. on Friday at the church. Burial will be at a later date in Mt. Zion Cemetery, northeast of Portland. Memorials may be directed towards the Jay County Fair Association Tree Fund or Jay County Cancer Society. Arrangements are being handled by Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home. Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com. See page 5



LeMaster

Marshal ...

Continued from page 1
Redkey previously employed three officers — one for each shift. It has been short an officer since November and down another following Fishbaugh's resignation in late April. “It's been me working alone, and I kinda had the same expectations as three officers did,” explained Miller on Tuesday. In his resignation letter, he mentioned a high turnover at the department, noting eight full-time deputies have worked there during his time as town marshal. “The Town Board's failure to provide these officers with satisfactory working conditions and pay is the reason officers have sought employment elsewhere,” said Miller in the letter. He cited multiple rea-

sons, including the department's lack of a take-home vehicle policy, no overtime pay or retirement fund, and high-costing family plan insurance. “Sadly, there is no incentive to come here or stay here,” he said in the letter. Miller added he also has disagreements with some of Redkey council's expectations. He cited a lack of attention to the staffing issue for being the reason the department has been understaffed for months. Miller has accepted a position with Jay County Probation Office, and his start date is set in June. “I really enjoyed the people of Redkey,” he said. “It is kind of bitter-sweet, but I've got a lot of better opportunities ... sometimes another opportunity knocks, and you have to take advantage of that.”

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Taylor Lehman, VP of HR
Swiss Village
1350 W. Main St., Berne, IN 46711
Or e-mail: careers@swissvillage.org

Vore gets state scholarship

A Pennville resident was announced recently as the recipient of a state-level scholarship.

McKenna Vore, a Jay County High School senior, was one of 200 students Indiana Commission for Higher Education awarded scholarships as part of its sixth class of Next Generation Hoosier Educators.

Scholarship winners — they receive \$7,500 annually for com-

mitting to teach in Indiana for at least five years after graduation — are selected through a process based on academic achievement and other factors. To be eligible, they must be in the top 20% of their graduating class, earn a score in the 20th percentile on the SAT or ACT or have at least a 3.5 grade point average.

“Recipients of the Next Generation Hoosier Educators

scholarship will bring dedication, creativity and passion to classrooms across the state,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery in a press release. “Teachers play an important and vital role in preparing students for academic and life success. It’s encouraging to see so many students committed to teaching in Indiana as the number of applicants increases each year.”

Small details tell a story

By KWAME DAWES

Poets often have the insight to see, in a single detail or feature, a complex universe of meaning.

Melissa Johnson, in “Mama’s Hair,” fixates on an ordinary detail of our lives — the hair that we carry around as extensions of our skins — to tell a tender and painful story about the relationship between a mother and a daughter.

Contained in this small pocket of verse are moments of care, regret,

American Life in Poetry

guilt, humor, tenderness, illness and hurt that are all triggered by a meditation on hair.

Johnson is the author of “Cancer Voodoo” and “Looking Twice at the World.” She works at Pennsylvania State University.

Mama’s Hair

Heavy, slick-straight, black as coal,

Mama’s hair could be pulled

over the headrest as she drove,

gathered and stroked in the back seat.

When she cut it, I thought

it was my fault, maybe she told me so.

Every year she went shorter.

It never passed her nape again.

The last time she reached out to me,

she mimed clipping my curls with scissored

fingers, her mouth determined

as I leaned to lift her back to bed.

American Life in Poetry (Diode Editions 2021.) is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2019 by Melissa Johnson, “Mama’s Hair” from *Cancer Voodoo* of Nebraska.

Dessert best shared with others

DEAR ABBY: I lost your cookbooklet collection! My family and I have really enjoyed some of those recipes. I have loved all the ones I have tried, but my favorites are the desserts. Particularly noteworthy is your Peanut Butter Pie. It is yummy! Please let me know how I can order the booklets again. I need them because I’m having a family celebration for Father’s Day. — SWEET TOOTH IN PHOENIX

DEAR SWEET TOOTH: You and I have something in common — our affinity for desserts. I have made the Peanut Butter Pie for guests many times, and it has been well received. The last time I prepared it, I thought I’d try to “de-calorie” it. I drained some nonfat yogurt in cheesecloth until it thickened and substituted it for the cream cheese. It worked beautifully. My guests couldn’t tell the difference. For readers who might like to try it, here’s the original recipe:

Heavenly Peanut Butter Pie Crust:

2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup butter (1/2 cube), melted
2 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, grated

Filling: 1 cup crunchy peanut butter

1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese, softened

2 teaspoons butter, softened

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

1/2 cup miniature chocolate chips
1/2 cup salted peanuts (optional)
1 pkg. (8 oz.) frozen whipped topping, thawed

In medium bowl, combine cracker crumbs, butter and chocolate; mix well. Reserve 1/4 cup crumb mixture to use as garnish. Press remaining crumb mixture onto bottom and sides of 9-inch pie plate. Chill.

In large bowl, beat together peanut butter, cream cheese and butter. Add sugar and vanilla. Blend well.

Stir in chocolate chips and peanuts. Fold in whipped topping. Pour into chilled crust and garnish with reserved crumb mixture. Chill overnight.

Serves: 8 DISCIPLINED people. My cookbooklet set contains more than 100 tasty recipes for soups, salads, appetizers, main courses and, of course, desserts for special occasions. Order by sending your name and address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mt. Morris, Illinois, 61054. Shipping and

handling are included in the price.

I’m proud to say that some of the recipes included have won blue ribbons in country fairs, while others were featured on the cover of women’s magazines. But whether your entertaining is formal or casual, remember it’s who you put in the chairs in ADDITION to the food that makes a great party.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter’s boyfriend recently stayed at our home for eight days. He’s 50; we are in our 60s. He regarded “help yourself” to mean it was OK to drink our liquor from early afternoon to bedtime. How can we have some control over this situation without causing a scene? — BAR’S CLOSED IN NORTH CAROLINA

DEAR BAR’S CLOSED: Put a lock on the cabinet where you stow your liquor, or move it out of the house entirely when you know he’s planning a return visit. And while you’re at it, have a serious conversation with your daughter about her boyfriend’s insatiable appetite for alcohol, because it could have a negative impact on her future.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Dear Abby



Community Calendar

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

Reunions

Graduates of Portland High School will host an alumni banquet on June 18 at Jay County High School. Honor classes are from the years 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1972. All Portland High School graduates are welcome. For more information, call Judy or Neil Medler at (260) 726-7209.

Jay County High School Class of 1997 will hold its 25th reunion at 7 p.m. June 11 at Jay County Event Center.

Today

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

STRESS AND ANXIETY CLASS — Meets each

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

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library. The public is welcome.

A BETTER LIFE – BRIANNA’S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday’s Solution

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

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

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Package C
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There was always time to fly a kite

(Editor's note: This May 21, 1997, column appeared as "Dear Reader" in *The Commercial Review* while Jack's regular "Back in the Saddle" column was still exclusive to *The News and Sun*. It shared thoughts following the untimely death of CR managing editor Tom Casey at the age of 41.)

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

He was late for the interview, which should have been a clue.

And when the big, red-headed, Irish Chicagoan came through the door, I knew I was onto something out of the ordinary. That was true two hours later when, the formal interview over, we were downing beers across the street and comparing opinions on reporters, newspapers, poets, novelists, actors, politicians, columnists, playwrights, movie directors and stand-up comics.

Tom Casey could have been any of those. And, in fact, he managed to fill a number of those roles in his too-short life.

Though barely past 41 when he died Sunday, he had been a newspaperman — and a damned good one — as well as a playwright, an actor and an award-winning columnist. He had also, back in college, tried his hand as a stand-

Back in the Saddle



up comic, an occupation he said was reserved for masochists.

Along the way, he'd also played some unexpected roles, as teacher, as father and as husband.

Like the rest of us, he didn't play them all as well as he'd hoped to. An Irish temper, high standards and a tendency to reach critical-mass explosiveness could get in the way.

But like any good actor, he knew when he'd gone over the top and was quick to make amends. The best directors, he often said, were those who knew when to rein him in. That's what I had to do six weeks after I hired him.

Tom had represented an expansion of *The CR's* newsroom when he took his first journalism job out of college.

Like most community newspapers, this one always suffers from two contradictory prob-

lems. There's never enough space to report all the news we have to cram in, and there are never enough editorial staff members to throw at all the news we'd like to cover.

But after six weeks on the job, Tom looked as if he had blown it.

Through a quirk in our computer system at the time, it was amazingly easy to catch him goofing off, reading the sports wire to check on his beloved Chicago Cubs or Chicago Bears when he should have been doing something productive.

To his credit, it only took one sharp tug on the reins to turn the situation around. Within six months, he'd gone from potentially unemployed to being the best reporter on our small staff.

And he got better. Like the best journalists, Tom believed in the power of reporting.

He believed — as an article of faith — that if you gave the readers as much information as possible, as accurately as possible, and as thoughtfully as possible, the community would benefit.

Did it work? I think so.

In fact, I believe that Tom's clear-headed, thorough, passionately objective coverage of the issues surrounding the old Jay

County Jail helped county officials deal with that problem in a climate of public awareness and understanding which led to sound decisions for the public good.

If you doubt the importance of that kind of journalism, just take a look at Delaware County where ghosts of "the jail problem" linger to this day.

Sometimes, of course, that got him in trouble.

There are times when truth-telling isn't a valued attribute.

But if you'd asked Tom to describe his job, that would have been it: To learn the truth as best you are able and share that truth coherently with others.

Over the past few days, a big chunk of the community has been telling one another stories about Tom. Members of his catechism class, civic theatre members from plays he directed, friends and family members all have their tales.

Let me share one.

It was in the early 1980s. Tom was driving an aging Chevy Nova at the time. He was always driving an aging something, though it always — he insisted — had a great engine that his brothers in Chicago had checked out.

This time, the engine had failed.

Tom had gone out looking for "wild art," feature photos for the next day's paper. It's a valid assignment, but it's one that often has more appeal when the weather is nice and you'd like to get out of the office for a while.

When he called in, Tom said his car had broken down east of Portland. He gave us the location and asked if Dave Marchand and I could come out in Dave's truck and give him a tow back to town. Fair enough. Dave and I were equally willing to get out of the office on a sunny summer day.

We headed out in Dave's truck and were a few hundred yards away when we caught a glimpse of Tom.

There he was, beside an unreliable machine, a ball of string in his hand, and up from the string — barely visible in the bright blue sky — was a kite, wafting on the breeze.

Tom was smiling like a kid.

No matter what happened to the machine that had brought him to that desolate spot on a lonely back road, there was always time to fly a kite.

My guess is, he's flying one now.

Protests at homes need to be ended

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Tribune News Service

The apparently pending Supreme Court opinion overturning *Roe v. Wade* is an affront to women's rights to biological self-determination and to all Americans' rights to privacy. This is why wide majorities of the country oppose the coming reversal of *Roe*. But if that support is to remain strong and eventually translate into abortion-protection legislation, pro-choice forces must quit sabotaging themselves by engaging in threatening protests at justices' homes — and the Biden administration must enforce federal law prohibiting such actions.

To be sure, the leaked draft of Justice Samuel Alito's opinion, joined by four other conservatives on the court, is infuriating. In language berating and dismissive of a right that has been a cherished and transformative one to more than half the U.S. population for almost half a century, Alito effectively struck down the entire premise of a right to privacy implicit in the Constitution. Were he right (he's not), other rights like access to conception, same-sex marriage and even interracial marriage could also be on the chopping block.

Activists lately have staged protests outside the homes of Alito and other conservative justices. In response, Govs. Glenn Youngkin of Virginia and Larry Hogan of Maryland sent a letter this week to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland demanding that he enforce a federal law making it a crime to "picket" judges' residences "with the intent of influencing" their decisions.

The protesters argue that law doesn't apply in this case because their intent is to express their fury, not to influence the upcoming decision. Even if that's true, they miss a broader point. The potential loss of *Roe* is a huge issue that should be debated as an issue, not as a per-

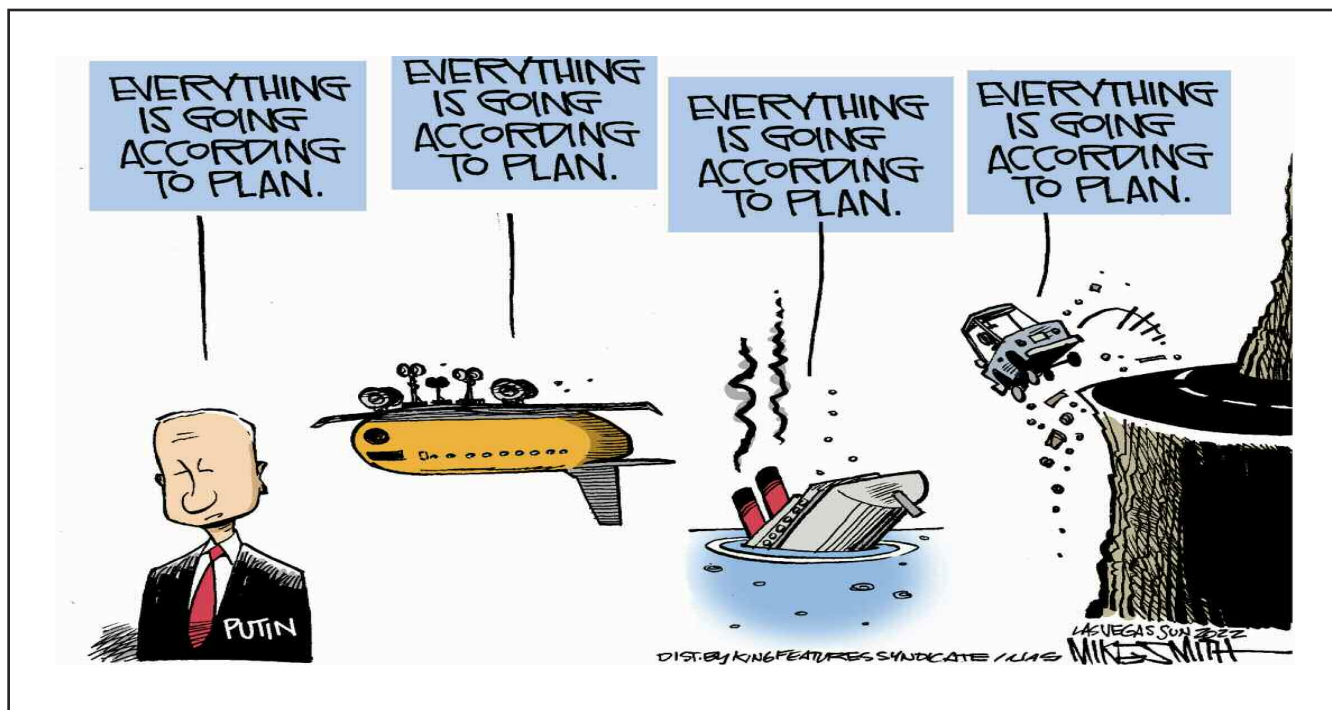
Guest Editorial

The potential loss of Roe is a huge issue that should be debated as an issue, not as a personal attack on individuals.

sonal attack on individuals. What they're doing is comparable to anti-choice demonstrators intimidating women as they enter abortion clinics.

The key to keeping some legislative or other form of abortion rights in place is to convince the broad middle. Polls indicate moderates strongly favor keeping some level of abortion rights in force. If pro-choice activists want to keep that tentative majority alliance in place, the last thing they should do is present themselves as radicals who shout slogans at judges' families in their homes in response to rulings they don't like.

Yes, as one protester told *The Washington Post*, there is something galling about the premise that "the Supreme Court wants to have domain over women's uteruses and yet the sidewalk in front of their homes is somehow sacred ground." It may not be sacred ground, but it is outside the legitimate parameters of debate and protest. For the sake of both political propriety and strategic effectiveness, those activists should keep to the Supreme Court steps.



Communities must be rebuilt

By LYNN SCHMIDT

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Tribune News Service

A few weeks ago, my husband and I lost a friend to an opioid overdose. He was not the first person we knew who died from an overdose, but he was perhaps the closest. And while I am still working through the five stages of grief (denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance), the anger I have been feeling has been particularly intense. Probably because deaths by overdose are senseless.

Our friend was not alone. There were an estimated 100,306 drug overdose deaths in the United States during 12-month period ending in April 2021, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, with "an increase of 28.5% from the 78,056 deaths during the same period the year before."

Highly addictive opioids include prescription drugs like oxycodone, and addictions can lead to the use of heroin. Opioids can be effective at managing acute pain, for example after surgery or when used with compassionate care, such as with late-stage cancer patients. Opioids were never appropriate for treatment of chronic pain due to their highly addictive nature.

The opioid crisis began in the 1990s as clinicians were instructed to pay close attention to pain management and as new pain medications were manufactured and marketed. Purdue Pharma introduced OxyContin, claiming it had features that made it non-addictive and thus safe to use as a chronic pain solution. Other pharmaceutical companies introduced similar products.

The safety claims were mostly false, and many patients became addicted to the pills. Heroin traffickers seized on the opportunity to pro-

Lynn Schmidt



vide (and profit from) cheaper alternatives that quickly got desperate people hooked. Heroin purportedly features a more intense high. Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid that is 80 to 100 times stronger than morphine and far more potent than heroin. It is also easier to overdose on fentanyl. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that 80% of people who turn to heroin started with prescription opioids first.

After we learned of the loss of our friend, I felt anger but also indignation. Most times when I experience this level of anger, I try to convert that into passion and look for ways to tackle the issue.

Starting from the top down, I found myself outraged at the role Purdue Pharma played in this public health crisis. Purdue's directors knew that OxyContin was being misused but continued to promote it. Back in 2019, Purdue filed for bankruptcy as lawsuits piled up by the thousands accusing the company and its owners, the Sackler family, of being partially responsible for the opioid epidemic.

Just a few weeks before my friend lost his life, the Sacklers and Purdue reached a settlement with a group of states that had long resisted the company's bankruptcy plan. This settlement will funnel billions of dollars from the Sackler family fortune into addiction-treatment programs nationwide. While the deal is a step, the Sackler family has yet to

acknowledge any wrongdoing or personal responsibility.

While it is important to acknowledge that chronic pain is a difficult medical problem that causes suffering, our medical establishment has yet to keep up with this public health crisis. At this level, my ire rests with the medical providers who continue to overprescribe opioids. Provider education can help in this arena. Alternative therapies and treatments should be encouraged, researched and paid for by the companies that created this problem.

There are many treatment options available for people already addicted. Some studies link Medicaid expansion and access to treatment. There are two pieces of good news coming out of Missouri. Missourians voted in 2020 to expand Medicaid, and the state finally joined the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program in 2021.

For days after we learned of the news of our friend, my husband and I kept wondering: What did we miss? How could we have helped? I experienced a profound sense of disappointment in our friend's family and other friends for not recognizing his physical and emotional pain and offering help. I admit that I am mad at him too for leaving us too soon.

The roots of the situation can be traced back to the decline of the working class, especially in rural communities, and the erosion of families and communities. Perhaps the hardest work our society needs to do is rebuilding our communities. The implications of this work can extend well beyond the opioid crisis. I personally look forward to pursuing this endeavor, in memory of my friend.

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Schmidt is a columnist and Editorial Board member of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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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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Obituaries

Continued from page 2

Michael Luttmann

Jan. 14, 1949-May 10, 2022

Michael Douglas Luttmann, 73, of Greenwood, Indiana, passed away on May 10th, 2022, with his loving daughters by his side.

Born on Jan. 14, 1949, to the late Lois and Michael Luttmann in Portland, he grew up in the town of Redkey with his parents and two brothers, Kenny and Jon Bill.



Luttmann

After Doug graduated from Redkey High School in 1967, he pursued his dream of flying and he attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Institute, Daytona Beach, Florida. He also attended Stetson University, DeLand, Florida.

His college studies were put on hold so that he could proudly serve his country in Vietnam.

After graduation, he worked

as a private pilot for the Lawrence Co. and as a commercial pilot for Eastern Airlines. He retired from Valspar Corporation.

Doug married Charlotte of Indianapolis, in 1978. They resided in Indianapolis and raised their family there. After retirement, Doug spent his time with friends and family. He found joy watching his grandchildren perform and tried not to miss their plays, music concerts, or ball games.

Doug was predeceased by his parents, Lois and Mike, and his brother Jon Bill.

He is survived by his wife, Charlotte, and their two daughters Lora Hansell (Tim), and Dana Laraway (Justin); grandchildren, Abigail Pittenger, Samuel Hansell, Charles Hansell, Isabelle and Scarlett Laraway; great-granddaughter, Vera Curtis, brother Ken Luttmann (Connie); and multiple nieces, nephews and cousins.

Services will be arranged by

MJS Mortuary in Redkey. Grave-side funeral services will be held at Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey, Indiana, on Saturday at noon and officiated by Pastor Randy Davis.

Gerald Kriegbaum

Aug. 22, 1938-May 12, 2022

Gerald "Jerry" L. Kriegbaum, age 83, of Marion passed away on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at Marion Health.

He was born on Aug. 22, 1938, in Marion, Indiana the son of the late Charles and Magdalene (Nuck) Kriegbaum. He graduated from Marion High School in 1956 and proudly served in the United States Army. He also attended Michigan State University.

On June 12, 1965, he married Patricia A. (Keller) Kriegbaum. Jerry worked for Kriegbaum Farm Equipment and later

retired from John Deere. He was a dedicated member of St. Paul Catholic Church and was a 4th Degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia; children, Pam (Bob) Kline of Phoenix, Arizona, Steve (Jennifer) Kriegbaum, of Brandon, Florida, Rick (Lianne) Kriegbaum of Valrico, Florida and Rob (Brooke) Kriegbaum of Portland, Indiana; grandchildren, Kyle and Kristen Kline, Collin, Max and Jake Kriegbaum, and Carter and Brooke Miles; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, and his brothers, Tom, Bill and Dave Kriegbaum.

Visitation will take place from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursday, May 19, 2022, at Raven-Choate Funeral Home, 1202 W. Kem Road, Marion, Indiana. A Rosary Service will be held at 6:30 p.m.

Visitation will also be held from noon to 1 p.m. on Friday, May 20, 2022, at St. Paul Catholic Church, 1009 Kem Road, Marion,

Indiana. Funeral Mass will begin at 1 p.m. with Father Ted Rothrock officiating.

Burial will follow the funeral mass at Grant Memorial Park Cemetery, Marion, Indiana.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Paul Catholic School or St. Paul Catholic Church, 1009 Kem Road, Marion, Indiana.

Condolences and memories for the family can be shared at ravenchoate.com.

Terry Lee Fulk, Muncie, a member of Dunkirk Moose Lodge, Feb. 24, 1950-May 11, 2022. Services will be private.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

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

War ...

Continued from page 1

It was unclear whether Shyshimarin's trial would affect negotiations over the Ukrainian fighters evacuated from Mariupol. But Russian lawmakers have spoken harshly of the Azov regiment.

"Nazi criminals should not be exchanged," Vyacheslav Volodin, speaker of Russia's lower house, the Duma, said Tuesday about the Ukrainian prisoners, who are being held in a former penal colony in a Russian-controlled part of eastern Ukraine.

Investigators in the Kremlin have already indicated that they plan to interrogate the Ukrainian captives over alleged war crimes, and the country's Supreme Court has been asked to label the Azov regiment a terrorist organization.

Ukraine's deputy defense minister, Hanna Maliar, said talks were ongoing to exchange prisoners and evacuate an undisclosed number of Ukrainian fighters still inside the encircled steelworks. Russia said nearly 1,000 Ukrainian troops emerged from the Azovstal complex and handed themselves over this week, but Ukraine has declined to give figures.

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has pleaded for patience, describing Ukraine's pullout from Mariupol as a way to save the Azovstal defenders' lives and the negotiations over them as requiring "delicacy and time."

The uncertainty surrounding the Ukrainian fighters, many of whom were seriously injured, adds one more tense chapter to a battle that has become a focal point in the nearly three-month-old war.

Russian forces were thwarted for months from capturing Mariupol, a key port city along the Sea of Azov, because of the stubborn defense of the Azov regiment and other Ukrainian fighters inside the steel mill.

Their resistance prevented Moscow from freeing up troops and other resources to fight elsewhere and "inflicted costly personnel losses amongst Russian forces," Britain's Ministry of Defense said in a daily assessment today.

Though Moscow has now all but won the fight for Mariupol, its long siege has emerged as a symbol of the grinding road ahead for Russia's military ambitions, which now seem resigned to a long-term fight.

"The war is entering a protracted phase," Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksii Reznikov told a meeting of the European Union Foreign Affairs Council on Tuesday. "We can already see how the Russian occupiers are beginning engineering and fortification works in the Kherson region [and in the south-eastern city of] Zaporizhzhia in order to move to defense if necessary."

Chuck Roesch, the new Jay County High School band director, talks with senior Ralyn Chaffins during a meet and greet at the high school Tuesday. Families were invited to meet Roesch, who will take over the program from retiring director Kelly Smeltzer. He previously led the band at Centerville.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Relationships ...

Continued from page 1

Smeltzer's story started in Arcadia, where he grew up and graduated from Hamilton Heights High School in 1983. (His wife Jamie was also an Arcadia kid, one year behind him in school.) He went on to earn his bachelor's degree in music education from Ball State University and remembers vividly that day he first saw the marching band that would shape his life for more than three decades.

He recalls the moment he learned he would become the Marching Patriots' assistant band director under Dave Humbert.

"I was elated," said Smeltzer. "To learn under somebody like this, I was in heaven."

To this day, he and Humbert are the only directors in the 46-year history of Jay County High School.

Smeltzer spent about eight years at JCHS before going back home to be the assistant at Hamilton Heights, a growing pro-

gram that was hiring an assistant for the first time. But he discovered that Jay County had become home.

He returned to the Marching Patriots after just two years away and was tabbed to take over the program after Humbert retired in 2005.

As he looks back on the last 35 years — 33 of which were at JCHS — fond memories arise.

Among his favorite shows as the man in charge were "We are ..." in 2011, "4our" in 2016 and "Sideshow" in 2018.

He relishes his time with staff groups, working for years with Pete Vogler (assistant director), Bev Arnold and Lori Mark (both color guard) and Humbert, and more recently with mainstays Emily Garringer (color guard) and Mitch Snyder (percussion).

But no single moment beat that night in 1992 when the Marching Patriots won their first Indiana State Fair Band Day cham-

pionship. (They would win again in 2001.) He remembers jumping into Vogler's arms and hugging him, the celebration that went until well after midnight at the state fairgrounds, the police escort into Jay County and the fireworks going off upon the band's arrival.

"To me, you won that for all the kids who wanted to win all those years," said Smeltzer, who around the same time went back to school with Vogler as they both earned master's degrees from Ball State. "It was for everybody. So, special moment."

In his 16 years at the state fair — there was no event in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic — Smeltzer led the Marching Patriots to top-five finishes five times, including every contest since 2016. His high-water mark was 2006, when the band finished second to Muncie Southside.

He said he decided it was time to step away because

he's found himself growing more tired. Paperwork has become more of the job than it used to be, he added.

It will be not seeing the students every day that he misses most.

"That's the part I'm going to miss is working with the kids," said Smeltzer. "I really will miss that a lot."

He plans to continue working — part-time — after leaving the JCHS program, though he hasn't identified a new role yet. It may be helping out with a band program. It may be completely unrelated to music.

Right now, he's looking forward to having options.

He's also excited to have more time with his children Katy, who is starting her third year at Indiana University School of Medicine, and Tayler, who graduated from Ball State University this weekend and will go on to chiropractic school at Logan University in St. Louis.

"I'll finally hopefully get to spend some time with

my kids, although their life is getting ready to get busy too," said Smeltzer. "I'm looking forward to that, and spending some time with Jamie."

Smeltzer's last gig leading the Patriot band program before he turns it over to former Centerville director Chuck Roesch — the school held a meet-the-director night for him Tuesday — will be at graduation June 5.

As he thought about that day and his 33 years at Jay County, one word kept coming up — relationships.

"To me it's about the relationships I've had," Smeltzer said. "I feel like I can call any of these band kinds or parents and say, 'Hey, you guys want to go out and eat and visit?' ... Man, I'll take that to the grave. I'm happy about that. I've created some great relationships along the way, whether that's staff, parents kids. I don't know what else I could dream of to have on this earth."

Felony court news

Dependent nonsupport

A Portland man was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty in Jay Circuit Court to nonsupport of a dependent child, a Level 5 felony.

Michael A. Lemaster, 39, 235 E. Rogers St., was sentenced to six years in Indiana Department of Correction with three years suspended and given credit for time served. Lemaster was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay \$28,287.06 in restitution to Michelle LeMaster. The court recommended him for purposeful incarceration, meaning that upon completing a substance abuse treatment program, the court will consider modifying his sentence.

Drunk driving

A Dunkirk man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 felony.

Jacob Winters, 36, 5291 S. 1225 West, Dunkirk, was sentenced to

730 days in Jay County Jail with all but 180 days suspended and given six days credit for time served. Winters was placed on probation for 550 days, assessed \$185.50 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug and alcohol countermeasures fee. He was also ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days following his sentencing for substance abuse counseling.

The court recommended Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles suspend his license for 180 days retroactive to March 1, 2021. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15% or more was dismissed.

Criminal confinement

A Portland man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Circuit Court to criminal confinement, a Level 6 felony, and interference with reporting a crime, a Class A misdemeanor.

Kipp A. Haffner, 18, 224 W. Water St., Portland, was sen-

tenced to two years in Jay County jail with one year suspended and given credit for time served. He was assessed \$185 in court costs.

Habitual offender

A Dunkirk man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to two charges of operating a vehicle after being a habitual traffic offender, both Level 6 felonies.

Dennis E. Roush, 56, 740 South 1100 West, pleaded guilty to the same charge in two separate court cases. In the first case, he was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and given four days credit for time served. In the second case — it will be served consecutively with the first — he was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail and given 10 days credit for time served. He was fined \$50 and assessed \$371 in court costs.

Common nuisance

Two Indiana residents were sentenced to jail after pleading

guilty in Jay Superior Court to maintaining common nuisance, a Level 6 felony.

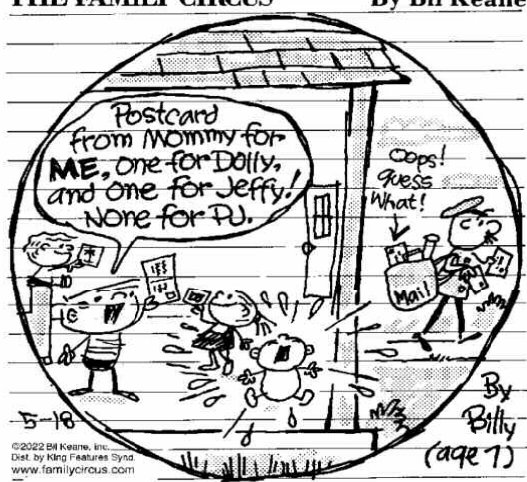
Feranda M. Frazier, 35, 5277 Tardy Ford Road, Vevay, was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 180 days credit for time served. Frazier was fined \$25 and assessed \$185 in court costs. As part of her plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Jeffrey L. Shope, 42, 1212 North Franklin St., Portland, was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 10 days suspended and given 10 days credit for time served. Shope was assessed \$185 in court costs and placed on probation for 355 days. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

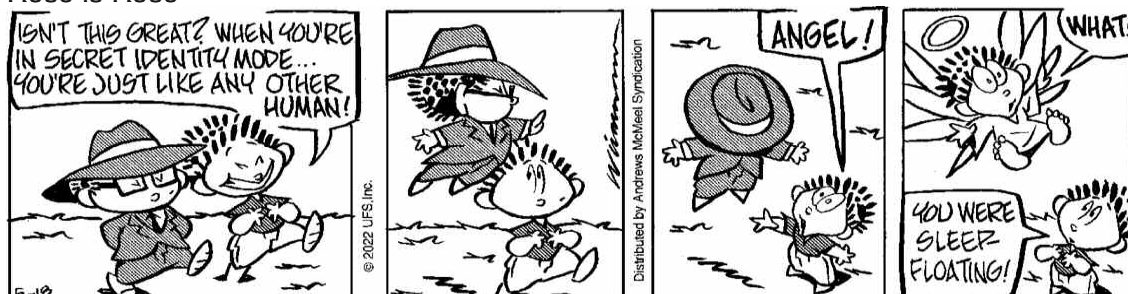


Another family scene by Daddy's volunteer backup artist.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



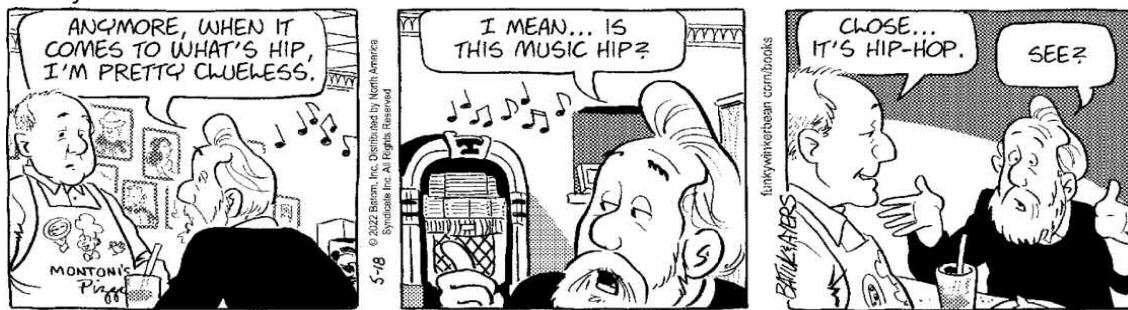
Agnes



Hi and Lois



Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Card-reading

South dealer. East-West vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 9 7 6
♥ K Q
♦ A Q 9 4
♣ K 8 5

WEST
♠ Q 10 4 2
♥ 9 7 6 5 2
♦ 2
♣ 10 9 7

EAST
♠ J 5 3
♥ 10 4
♦ K J 6 5 3
♣ 6 4 3

South
♠ A 9 7
♥ A Q 9
♦ 9
♣ 2

West
♠ Q 10 4 2
♥ 9
♦ 2

East
♠ J 5 3
♥ K J 6
♦ J

South
♠ K 8
♥ A J 8 3
♦ 10 8 7
♣ A Q J 2

The bidding:
1 NT Pass 2♣ Pass
2♥ Pass 2 NT Pass
3♣ Pass 6 NT Pass

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

When South next played the jack of clubs, West and dummy discarded spades. East was also forced to part with a spade in order to guard diamonds.

At this point, Radin knew East had started with three clubs and only two hearts, which meant that most of East's original hand was comprised of spades and diamonds. Furthermore, East had made two diamond discards when the A-J of hearts were cashed, increasing the likelihood that East had started with at least five diamonds.

Reading the situation perfectly, Radin cashed the A-K of spades and then led a diamond to the nine. East won but had to return a diamond from the K-6 into dummy's A-Q, and the slam was home.

Tomorrow: Malfeasance in office.
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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU WERE CONSTANTLY HUNGERING FOR THE TRUTH, I'D SAY YOU WOULD HAVE A VERACIOUS APPETITE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals W

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Sailor dam
4 "Kapow!" Govt.
7 "—" lender
8 Student relating
10 Bit of outer space mischief
11 Comes up
13 Culminating in a big letdown
16 — Alamos
17 Province of China
18 British ref. work
19 Puts on
20 Samples of word-play
21 Country music's Tuckor
23 Water filter brand
25 Pro-longed sleep
26 Cravats
27 Tofu source

DOWN

19 DNA evidence
20 Math ratios
21 Animated figures
22 "The Joy Luck Club" author
23 Actress Jessica
24 Soviet fighting force
25 Hit CBS series
26 Garbage
28 Witch
29 Marble type
30 Scarecrow stuffing
31 Prejudice
32 Oft-torn knee part, for short
34 Send forth
35 Rubik's baffler

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One ...

Continued from page 8

Bilbrey's effort in the discus along with her runner-up effort in the shot put led the Jay County High School girls track team as it finished fourth Tuesday in the sectional meet at Delta.

"It felt pretty good," said Bilbrey, who led a group of five regional qualifiers in six events for the Patriots. "I felt like I have a lot more in the tank left."

JCHS scored 69 points to finish 24.5 ahead of fifth-place Winchester in the 11-team field. It trailed champion Delta (130), runner-up Yorktown (107) and third-place Muncie Central (104.5).

The top three finishers in each event earned regional berths, with Natalie Wehrly and Makinsey Murphy joining Bilbrey as qualifiers in individual events. JCHS also advanced in the 4x100-meter relay.

"We've got to be really happy about that," said Imel of his regional-qualifying group. "First place in discus. Second place in shot put on the last throw ... We had a lot of (personal records) today ..."

Bilbrey was clearly the top discus athlete at the meet Tuesday, as she could have stopped after her first throw cleared the 116-foot mark and still won easily. Her only real competition was herself.

She even cleared that bar as her second throw went a career-best 122 feet, 2 inches. It surpassed the previous mark of 120 feet even that she set a few weeks ago at the Muncie Central Relays.

That new career-best mark would not last long.

Though Bilbrey looked unhappy after her second throw of the finals, it proved to be the best of



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Makinsey Murphy (left) of Jay County clears the final hurdle just ahead of Amya Kates of Muncie Central during Tuesday's sectional meet at Delta. Murphy was able to hold off Kates by 0.4 seconds for third place in the 300-meter hurdles to join Gabi Bilbrey and Natalie Wehrly in earning regional berths in individual events.

the night. Her expression shifted to one of surprise when her distance — 123 feet, 10 inches — was announced.

"I didn't pull through like I usually do," said Bilbrey, who won by more than 20 feet over Tiamaya Vargas of Muncie Central. "It felt like a lag pull. So I didn't feel like I got enough power on it. But it went far just because of my release."

She nearly walked away as a

double sectional champion, taking the lead in the preliminaries of the shot put with a career-best throw of 37 feet, 1 1/2 inches. That number kept her on top until the final throw from Yorktown's Gretchen Moore went just a half-inch further.

Wehrly picked up both of her regional berths with third-place finishes after deceptive preliminary runs. She held a

little something back at the beginning of the night, qualifying seventh in the 100 dash and eighth in the 200 dash.

Then, with regional berths on the line, she went all out. She made it through in the 100 dash by the narrowest of margins as her time of 13.13 seconds was 0.01 faster than Yorktown's Mya Spangler.

She then fought off Madilyn Howell of Cowan for the No. 3

spot in the 200 dash by just 0.23 seconds in her time of 27.35.

"Natalie Wehrly did a really great job," said Imel. "She ran smart prelims. We had a long conversation about that this week ... Just save it for finals. I think that strategy really helped out with her today."

Wehrly will compete in three events at the regional at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Ben Davis as she also anchored the Jay County 4x100 relay. She teamed with Makinsey Murphy, Morgan DeHoff and Jenna Dues to finish in 52.61 seconds for third place by more than a second over the squad from Delta.

Murphy faced a tight race in the 300 hurdles, running neck-and-neck with Muncie Central's Amya Kates for third place in the final 80 meters. But Murphy had the slightest edge at the final hurdle and Kates stumbled as she landed. Murphy went on to finish in 50.72 to take third place by 0.4 seconds.

Molly Muhlenkamp came up less than two seconds short of a regional berth, placing fourth in the 800 run in 2:39.04.

Also scoring points for the Patriots in individual events were Kylie Klopfenstein (fifth — shot put), Lindy Wood (sixth — 300 run), Chelsea Frontz (seventh — discus), Dues (seventh — 100 dash, seventh — high jump), DeHoff (seventh — 300 hurdles, seventh — long jump) and Muhlenkamp (seventh — high jump).

The team of Lotta Birkert, Willow Hardy, Muhlenkamp and Wood was fifth in the 4x800 relay, and Breanne Siegrist, Beyza Emen, Hardy and Wehrly were eighth in the 4x400 relay.

Jay County ...

Continued from page 8

He scored the other run as well, hitting a triple to right field and scoring on a Heniser sacrifice fly in the sixth.

In a game in which offense was at a premium, Dusty Pearson singled for the only other Patriot hit. Josh Dowlen drew a walk.

JH golfers cruise

Jay County's junior high golf team closed its season Tuesday with a 135-156 victory over the Monroe Central Golden Bears at Portland Golf Club.

Cody DeHoff scored a 30 in the six-hole match to earn medalist honors. He recorded a par on the par-3 second hole.

Jacob Monroe and Dawson Goldsworthy followed with matching scores of 34. Syllas Wenk shot a 36.

Lincoln Clamme also had a par, but his total of 41 did not factor in the team score.

Barnett's, Lions win
Barnett's edged Matt's Garage 11-10 while Cook's Nursery clob-

bered Williams Auto Parts Tuesday in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball. In other PJL games, CrossRoads Financial Federal Credit Union topped Fisher Meats 16-7 and 13-8 in a Minor softball doubleheader and Lions Club defeated Flamespray 12-3 in Willie Mays baseball.

Tuck Hemmelgarn hit a two-run, walk-off home run to complete the cycle as he led Barnett's. Madden Barnett was 4-for-4 with a double. Ethan Peterson and Liam Ride-

nour each had three hits for Matt's.

Ashton Conn had a home run, a double, a single, three runs and three RBIs to lead Cooks while Trey Ranley added three hits, three runs and two RBIs. Easton Steed, Brett Huntsman and T. Wyatt Fennig each had two hits for Williams.

Maddy Taylor, Ava Newsome and Hailey Welling pitched CrossRoads to its doubleheader sweep.

Bryce Ritchie led the way for Lions with two doubles, a single and three RBIs.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls tennis sectional semifinal vs. Randolph Southern — 5 p.m.

Thursday, May 19
Jay County — Girls tennis hosts sectional championship — 5 p.m.; Softball at Northeastern — 5 p.m.; Baseball vs. Bellmont — 5 p.m.; Boys track sectional at Muncie Central — 5 p.m.; JV softball at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Baseball sectional championship at Lima Perry — 5 p.m.; Track district at Spencerville — 4 p.m.

Friday, May 20
Jay County — Softball vs. Richmond — 5:30 p.m.; JV baseball at Blackford — 5 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Softball district championship vs. Lincolnview at Wapakoneta — 5 p.m.; Track district at Spencerville — 4 p.m.; JV baseball at Fort Loramie — 5 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
6:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Cincinnati Reds at Cleveland Guardians (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — NHL playoffs: New York Rangers at Carolina Hurricanes (ESPN)
9 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Western Conference Finals — Dallas Mavericks at Golden State Warriors (TNT)
9:30 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Edmonton Oilers at Calgary Flames (ESPN)

Thursday
1 p.m. — Golf: PGA Championship (ESPN)

1:05 p.m. — Major League Baseball: San Diego Padres at Philadelphia Phillies (NBC)

1:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at New York Mets (Bally Indiana)
8 p.m. — College baseball: LSU vs. Vanderbilt (ESPN2)
8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Eastern Conference Finals (ESPN)

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Sports

A one and a two

Bilbrey leads Patriots with win in discus, runner-up effort in shot put

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — Gabi Bilbrey released the discus and watched it fly.

Her reaction was one of disappointment.

The result belied her expression.

The junior's second throw in the finals gave her a new career best for the second time of the night and further proved her dominance over her opponents.

See **One** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School junior Gabi Bilbrey prepares to release the discus as her hair whips around her neck Thursday during the sectional meet at Delta. Bilbrey recorded a career-best toss of 123 feet, 6 inches, to dominate the event and earn the only sectional title for the Patriots, who finished fourth in the 11-team field



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FR ousts No. 6 'Cats

WAPAKONETA, Ohio — The Indians trailed.

But they had been in that position before.

Fort Recovery High School's softball team pulled even late and scored its second extra-innings win of the tournament, upsetting top-seeded and sixth-ranked Minster 8-6 in eight innings Tuesday in the semifinal round of the Division IV Wapakoneta District tournament.

The No. 4 seed Tribe (13-8), which knocked off Marion Local 2-1 in nine innings in the sectional championship round last week, advances to play No. 3 seed Lincolnview for the district title at 5 p.m. Friday at Wapakoneta. The winner will move forward to the Clyde regional.

FRHS was down by one late in the game but pulled even to force extra innings. Ava Grisez broke the tie with a one-out single in the top of the eighth inning and the Indians added a second run for the final margin.

Maddie Guggenbiller hit a home run in the second inning as part of a 12-hit evening for the Indians. Chloey Grisez finished 3-for-5, and Ella Schoen, Ava Grisez and Guggenbiller each added two hits.

Sophie Pearson earned the win with two innings of scoreless relief.

Baseball rallies
DELPHOS, Ohio — The

FRHS roundup

Fort Recovery baseball team fought back from a deficit Tuesday, scoring three times in the fifth inning as it knocked off host St. John's Blue Jays 7-6 in the Division IV sectional semifinal.

The eighth-seeded Indians advance to play at Lima Perry at 5 p.m. Thursday for the sectional championship. The winner will advance to the district tournament at Coldwater.

Fort Recovery scored three times in the top of the third inning for a 4-1 lead but fell behind when the No. 6 seed Blue Jays plated five runs in the bottom of the frame. But the pitching staff held St. John's scoreless the rest of the way and the Tribe rallied in the fifth inning to take the lead for good.

Brock Dues was 2-for-2 with two RBIs to lead the Indians' offense. Troy Homan doubled and scored twice, and Wyatt Bihn had a double and a single.

Alex Dues picked up the win in relief, limiting St. John's to one run on two hits in 4 2/3 innings. He struck out six batters.

Patriots win 4th in a row

HUNTINGTON — Make it four in a row.

The Jay County High School softball team continued its winning streak Tuesday behind a shutout pitching effort from Haleigh Clayton as it defeated the Huntington North Vikings 3-0.

Clayton went the distance while scattering seven hits and not allowing a walk for the Patriots (13-7), who were coming off of a doubleheader sweep of Hagerstown on Saturday and a win Monday over Marion. She struck out two batters.

Jay County scored the only run it would need in the third inning. It added a pair of insurance runs in the top of the seventh, though Clayton didn't need them.

Jozey Shimp powered the Patriots at the plate with a hit and two RBIs. Jaelynn Lykins and Janae Jacobs

Jay County roundup

each singled and scored a run, and Mallory Winner had a single and an RBI.

Heniser blanks

Crosby Heniser shut out the visiting Blackford Bruins on Thursday to lead the Jay County baseball team to a 2-0 victory.

Heniser struck out 10 batters as he went the distance for the Patriots, who improved to 12-8. He allowed just three hits while giving up four walks.

Quinn Faulkner gave JCHS the only run it would need with a solo home run to lead off the bottom of the first inning.

See **Jay County** page 7

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