

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Sewer work gets green light

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The Meridian Street storm sewer project can finally, officially move forward.

Portland Board of Works during a special meeting Monday approved a notice of award to Watson Excavating of Redkey for the \$2.42 million project that is designed to mitigate downtown flooding.

Following the meeting, Bill Watson of Watson excavating said the work will begin this fall although it's difficult to pinpoint a date. He said that will be

Project timeline is 275 days once construction is underway

dependent on getting the necessary materials.

The project is scheduled for 275 days. That means if it started Sept. 1, the completion date would be early June. An Oct. 1

start would push the end date to July.

The board of works had already voted more than two months ago to award the project to Watson Excavating. But it had

not been allowed to move forward because Portland's \$1.355 million in federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act that are being used to cover part of the cost had not yet been received by the city. Those funds were deposited into the city's account Tuesday.

The rest of the project will be funded through a \$780,450 State Transportation and Stormwater Grant from the State Water Infrastructure Fund and \$350,000 from the city's redevelopment commission.

Portland Mayor John Boggs

has repeatedly expressed hope to get the project started as soon as possible, as Indiana Department of Transportation has a 2023 project on the schedule to pave U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) through the city.

Wessler Engineering originally proposed the project in March 2021 as a way to eliminate problems during what is referred to as "10-year-flood." (Its estimated cost at that time was \$1.3 million, but costs have increased dramatically in the 17 months since then.)

See Sewer page 2

Duane donates

Duane Monroe holds up his arm while phlebotomist Brooklyn Cripe puts away his blood donation Tuesday at Jay Community Center. The American Red Cross blood drive brought in 50 donors.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Giuliani set to testify in Georgia

Former Trump attorney is target of investigation

By TAMAR HALLERMAN and BILL RANKIN

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution Tribune News Service

ATLANTA — Rudy Giuliani, the onetime personal attorney of former President Donald Trump, entered the Fulton County courthouse this morning to testify before the special purpose grand jury examining Georgia's 2020 elections.

Pryor Street in downtown Atlanta took on a circus-like atmosphere as some three-dozen reporters and camerapeople from local and national news outlets jockeyed for the best view of the former New York City mayor. He arrived around 8:30 a.m., accompanied by his lawyer and former GOP gubernatorial candidate Vernon Jones.

The commotion came after one of Giuliani's attorneys confirmed that his client was notified on Monday that he's a target of the investigation and could be indicted.

Giuliani later cited the development as evidence that "we're starting to live in a fascist state."

"It's just a further desecration of the Sixth Amendment. I was his lawyer of record in that case," Giuliani said on Newsmax Monday, referencing Trump. "The statements that I made are either attorney-client privilege, because they were between me and him, or they were being made on his behalf in order to defend him."

He added, "When you start turning around lawyers into defendants when they're defending their clients, we're starting to live in a fascist state. Look, I've already had my law office raided. I never thought I'd ever see that happen."

Giuliani's appearance is undoubtedly one of the most high-profile for the 23-person grand jury, which was selected in May and has already interviewed dozens of witnesses.

See Testify page 5

Braun advocates for ag spending

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

LEESBURG, Ind. — Indiana Sen. Mike Braun said increasing government spending on agriculture research should be a top priority for the

federal government as lawmakers in Congress craft their ongoing response to food security issues.

The Republican senator met with agricultural industry leaders, including from Bayer and Pur-

due University, during a panel talk on Tuesday at Tom Farms in Leesburg, a rural farm community just north of Warsaw.

The farm — one of the largest in Indiana — is owned by mega-farmer and former U.S. Ambassa-

dor Kip Tom, who moderated the discussion.

Panelists emphasized that the world's food system is under increasing pressure due to supply chain issues affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the war in Ukraine, severe

weather events, and high fertilizer costs.

Rising input costs for farmers translates to higher prices for consumers and creates challenges for mitigating record levels of global hunger.

See Braun page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Dunk celebration

Destiny McManus, a member of the percussion section for the Jay County High School Marching Patriots, celebrates after dropping band director Chuck Roesch in the dunk tank Saturday during the Gas Boom Days festival in Redkey. Roesch had been good-naturedly taunting McManus prior to her throws. She warned that it was not a good idea to taunt a softball player and then promptly struck the target on her first attempt.

Deaths

Teresa Teeple, 61, Geneva
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 81 degrees Tuesday. The low was 58.

Tonight's low will be 56. Expect sunny skies Thursday with a high of 80.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

The Arts Place summer concert series continues Thursday with The Barefoot Movement taking the stage at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Hudson Family Park amphitheatre. The roots and bluegrass group was founded in North Carolina in 2006.

Admission to the concert is free.

Coming up

Thursday — Coverage of today's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.

Saturday — Results from Friday's JCHS football season opener at Blackford.



Sewer ...

Continued from page 1
The work calls for the installation of a new sewer line about 2,000 feet long from the north end of the downtown area to the Salamon River. It would be used to drain three Meridian Street catch basin systems — those that drain the area between Main and North streets — and take them off of the Millers Branch line that is about a half-block to the east. The Millers Branch line has experienced issues with being overloaded and having water back up onto the streets over the last decade-plus.

Flap gates will be installed on the new line in order to stop water from backing up through catch basins.
Watson said Tuesday that when work begins, crews will start between the Salamon River and Water street, working north one block at a time. (That section of street will need to be closed for the project. Other blocks from Water Street to the north will be able to maintain traffic during construction.)
Also Tuesday, the board heard from Blaine Pike resident Corey

Dunmoyer regarding a planned sidewalk project on his street. Dunmoyer was one of the residents who rejected city offers for the purchase of the right of way on his property. The process then went to court-appointed appraisers, which set the amount at \$7,000.
Dunmoyer said he rejected that amount and asked what the next step in the process is.
Boggs said he was unsure and that Dunmoyer should work through his attorney regarding the matter.
The purchases of the rights of

way are necessary for Indiana Department of Transportation to move forward with the installation of a new sidewalk along Blaine Pike from near Water Street to Bittersweet Lane. Construction is expected in 2023.
Blaine Pike resident Fred Bailey also commented on the project, saying the area currently staked out for the sidewalks is too far away from the road.
Also Monday, the board approved the hiring of Jonathan Peterson to the city's street department.

Obituaries

Teresa Ann Teeple, Geneva, Feb. 8, 1961-Aug. 13, 2022. There will be no services.

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

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

CR almanac

Thursday 8/18	Friday 8/19	Saturday 8/20	Sunday 8/21	Monday 8/22
80/60	83/62	83/63	81/63	78/63
Sunny skies are set for Thursday with the high reaching 80 degrees. Mostly clear at night.	Friday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high around 83 degrees.	There's a 40% chance of showers Saturday, with thunderstorms possible in the afternoon.	Sunday has a higher chance of rain, with a 70% chance of thunderstorms.	Rain is possible Monday with a 40% chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$66 million	Quick Draw: 6-13-17-18-19-20-26-27-28-34-47-54-58-60-61-62-63-64-69-71 Cash 5: 3-9-21-27-34 Estimated jackpot: \$176,000
Mega Millions 33-35-41-45-51 Mega Ball: 1 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$99 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 0-0-9 Pick 4: 7-5-4-2 Pick 5: 6-3-9-4-4 Evening Pick 3: 4-1-0 Pick 4: 9-0-1-0 Pick 5: 4-4-5-9-3 Rolling Cash: 12-26-32-34-39 Estimated jackpot: \$216,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 8-3-0 Daily Four: 8-0-1-7 Quick Draw: 2-3-4-5-6-9-11-15-19-27-28-31-32-34-42-48-64-67-75-76 Evening Daily Three: 0-6-9 Daily Four: 8-3-0-9	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.52 Sept. corn6.50 Wheat6.18	Wheat 7.25 Sept. wheat7.25
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.71 Sept. corn6.25 Oct. corn5.95	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.65 Sept. corn6.63 Beans14.43 Sept. beans14.43 Wheat7.39
The Andersons Richland Township Corn6.62 Sept. corn5.84 Beans14.47 Sept. beans13.57	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.53 Sept. corn6.28 Beans14.39 Oct. beans13.36 Wheat7.29

Today in history

In 1790, the Hebrew Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, presented a congratulatory address to President George Washington during his visit to the city. According to the Library of Congress, Washington's response was the "first presidential affirmation of the free and equal status of Jewish-American citizens."
In 1807, the Clermont, the first practical steamboat, had its maiden voyage. It was designed by American engineer Robert Fulton.
In 1933, Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees played his 1,308th consecutive game. His record for consecutive games played stood for more than 60 years.
In 1943, actor Robert De Niro was born in New York City. De Niro's first film was Brian De Palma's "The Wedding Party" and he went on to star in movies including "The Godfather, Part II," "Taxi Driver," "Goodfellas" and "Raging Bull," for which he won the Academy Award for best actor.
In 1999, an earthquake hit Izmit, Turkey, killing more than 17,000 and leaving about 500,000 homeless.
In 2008, American Michael Phelps was part of the winning U.S. 4x100-meter medley relay team in Beijing, becoming the first athlete to win eight medals in a single Olympics.
In 2021, the Jay County High School boys tennis team won its home opener 4-1 over Alexandria-Monroe. Picking up wins were singles players Crosby Heniser, Abraham Dirksen and Simon Dirksen, and the doubles team of brothers Gavin and Sam Myers.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North. 5 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 1331 Indiana 67, Portland.	Thursday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, fire station, 400 W. Railroad St.
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Staffers push for run

Retiring Purdue president served for two terms

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com
Staffers who worked under former governor Mitch Daniels filed with the Indiana Secretary of State's office last week to create a political action committee urging Daniels to run for governor in 2024.

Daniels led the state from 2005 until 2013 and announced his intention to retire as president of Purdue University at the end of the year. During his two terms as governor, Daniels curtailed state spending, implemented Daylight Savings Time and introduced the ground-breaking Healthy Indiana Plan.
Christine Hurst and Ben Ledo spearhead the committee as chairperson and treasurer, respectively, under the name Frugal Hoosiers for Mitch 2024. The organization, in its filing, simply says, "We are encouraging Mitch Daniels to run for Governor in 2024."
Hurst, Daniels' former communications director, previously worked at Angie's List before becoming the vice president of marketing at MakeMyMove, an Indianapolis-based relocation firm, according to her LinkedIn.
Ledo, the vice president of enterprise sales at MakeMyMove, also worked for

Angie's List and held positions for nearly five years in various capacities in Daniels' administration. During Daniels' initial campaign, Ledo drove Daniels around the state to various events in his signature-laden RV.
Ledo is also a board member for the Mitch Daniels Leadership Foundation.
"I cherished the time I worked for him; he really inspired me," Ledo told the Capital Chronicle. "(The committee is) a conversation starter; We are encouraging him to consider it. Who knows if he will."
The filing doesn't include any fundraising so far, but Hurst told the IndyStar that a website would go live later this week to accept donations.
"We know he loves the state, and we know he's got big ideas," Hurst told the Star. "But not sure what he's going to do next, so we just are sort of gathering the voices to encourage him to consider running."
Gov. Eric Holcomb is term limited and cannot pursue another term in 2024. Daniels served two consecutive terms but politicians seeking the office can seek a new term after an eight-year gap. Publicly, Daniels has declined to announce his retirement plans following his time leading Purdue University.
Though several other prominent Republicans are rumored to be considering a run, including Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch, only Fort Wayne businessman Eric Doden has publicly announced his campaign.
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Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Felony arrests

Probation violation
A Portland man was arrested Tuesday for violating his probation.
Ernest Martinez Jr., 29, 1020 1/2 W. High St., pleaded guilty Aug. 11, 2021, in Jay Superior Court to theft, a Level 6 felony. He was placed on probation for one year.
Martinez was released from Jay County Jail on a \$350 bond.

Felony courts

Possession
Several Indiana residents were sentenced to serve time after pleading guilty in Jay courts to varying levels of methamphetamine possession.
Brittney M. Shewmake, 30, 1237 N. U.S. 27, Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 18 months in Jay County Jail, with all but 178 days of her sentence suspended and given 178 days credit for time served. Shewmake was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.
Dakota A. Baker, 23, 640 S. Main St., Piqua, Ohio, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 180 days in Jay County Jail and given 178 days credit for time served. Baker was fined \$25, assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for resisting law enforcement and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.
See page 5

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Mothers mend all types of tears

By KWAME DAWES

"Mend" is a poem of great intimacy. L. Renée, remembers her mother as the mender of garments, and as someone who had a life of rich experiences before the poet was born. This moment of separation described in this poem is a testing and revelatory rite of passage for mother and daughter. Her mother's gift of precise hand-sewing is also a gift that mends whatever may seek

American Life in Poetry

to separate mother and daughter.

Renée's work has been nominated for Best New Poets and a Pushcart Prize. She lives in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Mend

My Mama had the gift of hand sewing—one perfect stitch after another perfect stitch, eyeballing the precise length

of thread needed to repair what had ripped a gaping hole, unmaking the whole swath of cotton-polyester fabric

she draped across her delicate boney shoulders before a night out with my father—painting the town red

she said of those early dates when he handed her his fat quarters hoping they would be enough to make something

beautiful like the outfits she sewed: plaid culottes with matching vests, paisley dresses, fringed halters—she tells me this while

I watch the needle bully a ruby rivulet from her thumb, sully the myth of cotton without the blood, when she tries to mend

my middle-school uniform skirt, a navy pleat I never noticed had been stretched into splitting—

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Ex requests affection

DEAR ABBY: I have been separated from my husband for a year and a half. The divorce became final five months ago. He had major mood swings, and was nice one minute and hateful the next. We have two children together.

I have a boyfriend I've been seeing for about a year. We are casual, but monogamous. Suddenly, my ex is being really nice, telling me he loves me and if I "change," he'd want me to come back. He has a lot of changing to do as well, and he acknowledges that. Lately, he has been asking to come over to cuddle, he says, for some type of human contact. I doubt my boyfriend would agree this is a good idea. Sex is not on the table, and everyone knows that. What do you think? — MOVING ON IN ARKANSAS

DEAR MOVING: I think it's a terrible idea. It isn't your job to cuddle with your ex so he has human contact. Unless you actually plan to reconcile with him, do not buy what he's trying to sell. Tell him you will always want a cordial relationship with him — for the sake of the children — but it's time he finds himself a girlfriend to cuddle with.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I enjoy wine and the tasting

Dear Abby



her? — WHISKEY'S NOT WINE IN OREGON

DEAR W.N.W.: Your wife appears to have gone from a connoisseur to a binge drinker. If you haven't pointed out that her behavior changes after she drinks large quantities of hard liquor (how many ounces do those glasses hold?), you should. That you have had to intervene in social situations should be a clue to both of you that she can't handle the amount she's drinking.

Because this is new behavior, it should be discussed with her doctor. It could be a symptom of a physical problem or even her age. Her doctor can explain how drinking large amounts of alcohol can damage her health, safety and cognition, and recommend a path to follow. Please don't procrastinate, because this is serious.

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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.

and selecting of fine vintages. We also enjoy learning more about and tasting fine spirits like single malt scotches and Kentucky bourbon. The challenge is, my wife pours whiskey like it's wine. She fills a glass halfway to the brim and drinks these spirits at the same pace she would drink wine. As you can imagine, she quickly becomes very intoxicated.

She seems unaware that her behavior changes when she's drinking large volumes of spirits. I don't think she's an alcoholic because she goes for weeks without drinking. But when she does, the amount of whiskey she imbibes makes her very drunk. There have been times at social events when I had to intervene because her behavior became erratic. This is new behavior and I'm concerned she is developing a dependence. What strategy can I take to discuss this with

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

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

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 - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions,

will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet 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.

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

CINCINNATUS

LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Aug. 19, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday

JAY COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY — Will meet at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at Democrat Party headquarters, 221 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, contact party chairman Joel Bowers at chairjays@gmail.com.

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St.

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

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

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All Circuit Electrical, LLC
5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN
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www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition
100 N. Meridian St.,
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259
Email:
jcdpcontact@gmail.com

Dunn Family Dental Care
110 W. North St.
Portland, IN 47371
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Northeast Ohio exit brings a smile

(Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Aug. 18, 2004. Columns connecting to vacations in New England were regular fodder for Jack's column. Often, like this one, they involved the trials and tribulations that can come with vacations that are supposed to be relaxing. At least it made for a good story.)

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

Plugging down Interstate 90, heading for home after two weeks of vacation, we passed the exit for Geneva on the Lake, east of Cleveland, and I found myself smiling.

The memories were much too strong.

It was 1979, I think, when we were taking the same route in a VW camper bus that we'd borrowed from my parents. They only owned the thing for a couple of years, and I think their children camped with it almost as much as they did.

We'd taken the Geneva

Back in the Saddle



on the Lake exit in search of a campground there and had stopped at a supermarket to get some supplies before heading on.

It was a horribly hot day, a classic August oven, and everyone was getting a little grouchy. By everyone, I mean my wife and I and our twins, who were at that point just two years old.

Doing anything with two-year-old twins requires planning, maneuvering, and logistics, even if it's just a matter of going to the supermarket. So we unloaded a double-wide, collapsible stroller, plonked the girls into it, and enjoyed the air-condition-

ing in the supermarket for about 20 minutes.

Then we loaded up the groceries, including things which were starting to melt in the heat, put the twins back into their car seats, collapsed the stroller, and got ready to take off.

But when I turned the key, the engine wouldn't start. There was plenty of juice, but the VW had an early version of fuel injection and the engine wasn't getting enough gas. Opening the engine cover did no good because I didn't have a clue what the heck I was looking for. The air-cooled VW engine looked as much like a sewing machine as it did a motor.

So there we were. It was about 6:30 p.m. It was hot and muggy. The two-year-olds were getting fussy, and so were their parents.

We did the only thing we could think of. We took a walk. Actually, it was an attempt to keep the kids occupied while we

talked about what to do next. Someone had suggested that VW fuel injectors were balky in hot weather, so we figured that letting the engine cool off wasn't a bad idea either.

Still, when you're as all-thumbs mechanically as I am and you're a long drive from home and the ice cream's melting, you're not far from panicking.

Maybe that's what prompted me to flag someone down. We'd walked about a block from the store when I spotted a VW bus. It wasn't a camper, and it was a newer model. But VW owners are famous for doing their own service when they can. I figured the driver could help.

And boy did he help.

Before we knew it, the driver and his wife scooped us into their van, took us back to the parking lot, and set to work.

They couldn't start the thing

either, but they weren't willing to give up.

Next thing we knew, we were at their house and the driver was on the phone to a guy he knew who was a VW mechanic for a Cleveland dealership.

It was about half an hour later that we reassembled with the mechanic at the supermarket parking lot. The ice cream, as I recall, had already been consumed. And, sure enough, the fuel injection system had cooled off sufficiently so that the engine started.

There were thank-yous all around as we headed down the road.

It was a long, long time ago. The twins are grown and living in Boston. The VW camper didn't stay with the family more than another year, and I have no idea whatever became of the folks who were so kind to us that hot August afternoon.

But it still brings a smile to my face as I pass Geneva on the Lake.

Textbooks need state investment

By NIKI KELLY
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

There was lots of talk during special session on how to get money in Hoosiers' hands from the state's unprecedented \$6.1 billion surplus. Cutting gas taxes, suspending utility taxes and sending refund checks were just a few.

Ultimately lawmakers settled for a \$1 billion rebate. The problem is millions of Hoosiers are still waiting for the first automatic taxpayer refund. And the second one could take months.

One change that would have had an immediate impact is eliminating state textbook fees.

Kids around the state returned to schools this week — don't get me started on that — and parents are shelling out hundreds in textbook fees for what is supposed to be a free public education.

How can Indiana still be one of only seven states to charge parents for books in the first place?

To make matters worse, the Indiana General Assembly created a \$1,000 tax deduction for children who go to private school or are homeschooled. Parents can claim any approved educational expenses such as tuition, textbooks, fees, software, tutoring and supplies.

But parents of public school children are not eligible.

And they are sued for those textbook fees too — even during the pandemic.

A ProPublica report noted hundreds of lawsuits filed in 2020 by Mishawaka City Schools.

A bill is filed virtually every year on the topic — usually by a Democrat.

Earlier this year it was Sen. Jean Breaux, D-Indianapolis. Senate Bill 335 would have required each public school to provide curricular materials — i.e. textbooks and other materials — at no cost to each student enrolled in the public school. It established the Curricular Materials Fund to provide state advancements for costs incurred by public schools.

The cost would have been a maximum \$68 million annually to the state General Fund.

Those bills are never

Niki Kelly



How can Indiana still be one of only seven states to charge parents for books in the first place?

given a hearing, and often similar amendments are voted down by Republicans.

Perhaps this can be part of the conversation when lawmakers return in January to craft a new biennial state budget. After all, it is pretty clear the state has plenty of money and can afford these long-overdue investments.

And while they are at it, legislators should invest in another low-hanging education issue — the learning gap for poor and/or minority students. The best way to do this is to put their money where their mouth is — the complexity index in the state's school funding formula.

That index takes into account that some students have increased needs and funds them at a higher rate.

A WFYI story from the last budget cycle in 2021 said in the past seven years, the amount of state dollars budgeted for complexity decreased by 41%. And the definition of how those kids are counted has also been changed.

Legislators have been more focused on per student base funding than lifting up those who need extra help. Here's the thing though — the state can and should do both.

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Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.



Campuses could revitalize democracy

By CLARISSA UNGER
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

On July 11, Sen. Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Nikema Williams introduced the Youth Voting Rights Act, which if enacted would be perhaps the most significant expansion of voting access for young people in more than 50 years. It's the second major action intended to make voting easier for young people, including and especially college students, in just the past few months, following an April Dear Colleague letter from the Department of Education to every college campus in the United States reminding them of their obligation under the Higher Education Act to conduct voter registration efforts at their institutions.

To be clear, both actions were taken separately, by different public officials in different branches of the federal government. But their proximity in timing is no coincidence. There is a burgeoning student vote movement on college campuses throughout the country — one that could help revitalize U.S. democracy. And national leaders are beginning to notice.

It used to be seen as gospel that college students don't vote. That narrative simply isn't true anymore. During the last two presidential elections, the college student voting rate grew from 52 percent to a record-breaking 66 percent, virtually matching the general population's sky-high turnout while growing by 14 points — twice as much as overall turnout growth. During the last two midterms, the student voting rate more than doubled — from 19 percent in 2014 to 40 percent in

Clarissa Unger



2018. And polling indicates a similar turnout rate is likely in 2022.

Perhaps even more encouraging is the rising institutional support that is necessary to ensure these gains are sustainable. As of this week a record 413 college and university presidents have signed the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge's Presidents' Commitment, a pledge to strive for 100 percent registration and turnout rates among eligible student voters at their institutions. And in 2020, nearly 1,200 campuses (also a record) participated in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement, a study performed by Tufts University's Institute for Democracy & Higher Education that provides an in-depth look into student voting behavior at the campus level.

The Dear Colleague letter and introduction of the YVRA — which would, among other things, require public colleges and universities to provide voter registration services, guarantee that student IDs are accepted as voter IDs where required, and require public colleges and universities to set up a polling place for all federal elections — will fuel this movement further. But its potential benefit to our democracy goes beyond voter participation.

From protesting for civil rights and against the Vietnam War in

the 1960s and 1970s to anti-apartheid protests in the 1980s, college campuses have long been home to movements through which young people have helped elevate issues on the national stage. In 2022, with our country's democratic values and institutions backsliding, democracy itself could use a similar jolt of energy from the communities that house millions of our youngest voters.

That's why it's vital that leaders, both national and local, seeking to support the rising student vote movement view voter participation as the start — and not the end result — of a deeper renewal of the civic values and practices that sustain democracy over the long term. The same elements that often make college campuses the center of protest movements — shared spaces that encourage social interaction, a common identity and the exchange of ideas — make them ideal places to foster a culture of active civic engagement, civil discourse across differences, and inclusivity.

At minimum doing so would help ensure institutions of higher learning help produce more informed and engaged participants in our democracy, especially among first-time voters, for whom the voting process is frequently habit-forming for life. But if history is any indication, widespread student movements are capable of impacting the rest of the country.

For a country in sore need of a democratic revitalization, college campuses are a great place to start.

.....
Unger is co-founder and executive director of the Students Learn Students Vote Coalition.

The Commercial Review



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VOLUME 149—NUMBER 77
WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 17, 2022

www.thecr.com

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Testify ...

Continued from page 1
It's tasked with investigating whether Trump or his allies like Giuliani broke any state laws as they tried to overturn Georgia's 2020 presidential election results.

Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis, who is advising the grand jury and will ultimately decide whether to press charges, has faced increasing resistance from witnesses as she's gotten closer to Trump's inner circle.

It's unclear whether Giuliani plans to plead the Fifth Amendment to avoid self-incrimination, though he's likely to cite attorney-client privilege to avoid answering questions about specific conversations he had with Trump.

That may cut off many queries from jurors and prosecutors, but some legal experts argue that Giuliani won't have blanket legal immunity. That's because of what's known as the "crime-fraud exception," which exempts discussions from attorney-client privilege if the objective was to commit a crime or perpetrate a fraud.

Some believe that prosecutors could try and cite the exception by pointing to the fact that Giuliani's law license was suspended in June 2021.

In their honor

Krista Muhlenkamp speaks Sunday during the Jay County Hometown Heroes banner dedication at Freedom Park in Portland. Muhlenkamp launched the project through Jake's Little Patriot Fund in remembrance of her late son Jake. The result, so far, has been the creation of banners — they are hung in downtown Portland and Dunkirk — honoring more than 150 local veterans.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Braun ...

Continued from page 1
Tom said those issues have increased the need for the U.S. to invest in agricultural research and development.

"We've relied heavily on the private sector in the past, but we need to get the government involved in some of these activities," said Tom, who ran an unsuccessful GOP bid for the U.S. House in 2016 and later served on a Trump agricultural advisory

committee. "We can help prevent another further food crisis." He noted that the country's public investment in agricultural research has declined since 2003, putting U.S. trade and competitiveness at risk. Agriculture is particularly important to Indiana, where the sector contributes \$31.2 billion to the state's economy.

When asked about the upcoming 2023 Farm Bill, Braun said

makers haven't talked enough about food security issues but maintained that would be part of his focus as discussions within the Senate Agricultural Committee continue.

He said the bill will originate in the House and focus primarily on nutrition, conservation and "securing the food supply."

"When it comes to the Farm Bill, I don't expect any drama," Braun said, adding that he

wished lawmakers in the Senate would have started the bill's crafting sooner. "(The emphasis is) putting that long-term research and development into things that are going to increasingly allow us to get more out of the acres."

Braun continued that investment by businesses, whether towards agriculture or manufacturing, "has got to be part of our GDP."

Felony court news

Continued from page 2
Brandin M. Herniak, 28, 3115 S. Hackley St., Muncie, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to two years in Jay County Jail and given credit for time served since Jan. 21. The rest of his sentence was suspended, and he was placed on probation for 400 days. Herniak was fined \$25, assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse,

prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 5 felony, possession of marijuana, a Class B misdemeanor, and possession of paraphernalia, a Class C misdemeanor.

Ariel M. Stewart, 28, 321 W. Vine St., Union City, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 felony. (Her charge was lessened from a Level

2 felony for dealing in methamphetamine.) Stewart was sentenced to three years in Indiana Department of Correction with one year suspended and given credit for time served. She was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: a Level 5 felony for possession of a narcotic drug, a Level 6 felony for main-

taining a common nuisance, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Cassandra R. Myers, 44, 202 N. Meridian St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 240 days in Jay County Jail and given 186 days credit for time served. Myers was fined \$25, assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to

pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. In a separate Jay Superior Court case, she pleaded guilty to another Level 6 felony charge for possession of methamphetamine. Myers was sentenced to 240 days to Jay County Jail, with her sentence to be served

consecutive to her other guilty charge. She was given eight days credit for time served, fined \$25, assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: two Class A misdemeanors for resisting law enforcement and possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.



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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly
HOLD FOR ONE MORE PAGE, THEN ROLL OVER INTO THE "BENDED ELBOW, RESTING CHIN" POSE.
BOOK YOGA

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane
"I hope they have hamburgers, cause that's what I'm gonna order."

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

So near and yet so far
North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH: 83, A 742, K 6, A K 732. WEST: A Q J, J 10 6 5, 8 2, Q J 8 4. EAST: 6 2, 9 8 3, A Q J 9 7 5, 10 6. SOUTH: K 10 9 7 5 4, K Q, 10 4 3, 9 5.

The bidding: North East South West. Opening lead - eight of diamonds. In general, it is not wise to double the opponents for penalties unless you think you can defeat the contract at least two tricks.

Peanuts
ANOTHER MILKSHAKE FOR SPIKE? YOU'RE GONNA SPOIL THAT DOG! HEY! OUR TV IS GONE! SERGEANT SCHULTZ, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I SEE NOTHING COLONEL HOBAN...NOTHINGGG...

Rose is Rose
JIMBO. I'M HAVING TROUBLE COMING UP WITH AN INTERESTING JOURNAL ENTRY. INCLUDE THE WORDS "WITH FIERCE DETERMINATION!". I HEMMED THAT SKIRT... WITH A NEEDLE, THREAD AND FIERCE DETERMINATION. ABSOLUTELY RNETING.

Agnes
WHY IS YOUR FINGER HALF GONE? THERE IS A HOLE IN THE POOL. I'M PLUGGING IT. WHY DON'T YOU FIX THE LEAK? HOW AM I NOT FIXING THE LEAK? I MEAN FOR GOOD? HA! LIKE I'LL BE IN HERE FOREVER.

Hi and Lois
THERE ARE 45 MILES OF CARRIAGE TRAILS ON THE ISLAND. THEY WERE BUILT BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER. I GUESS HE COULDN'T AFFORD A CAR.

Funky Winkerbean
I'M SORRY, HARRY... I'M JUST FEELING SORRY FOR MYSELF. I GUESS IT'S JUST SINKING IN THAT I'LL NEVER BE THE MOTHER WHO GETS TO GIVE ADVICE TO HER DAUGHTER ABOUT HER FIRST DATE... HER FIRST PROM... I DON'T KNOW... I THINK THERE MAY BE A WAY...

Blondie
MOM, HAVE YOU SEEN MY PURSE? IT'S ON THE DINING ROOM TABLE. MOM, DO YOU KNOW WHERE MY FAVORITE BLUE SHIRT IS? YOU LEFT IT HANGING ON THE UPSTAIRS RAILING. RRR-R? YOUR CHEW TOY IS UNDER THE LIVING ROOM SOFA.

Snuffy Smith
WAIT !! DON'T SHOOT, LUKEY !! THAT THAR'S TH' FAWN THAT MAW RESCUED !! HE'S ALL GROWNED UP !! SHE NURSED HIM BACK TO HEALTH WIF OL' BESSIE'S MILK !! MOOOO !!

Beetle Bailey
I'M SICK AND TIRED OF BEING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PECKING ORDER. YOU NEED TO PECK YOUR WAY TO THE TOP! I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT PECKING.

8-17 CRYPTOQUIP
JZWMC BRBDZG WTPVQ PVUAMG
IKR IZP ZU MOBMGS ZS
MOSGZQSVUA DMZC RGM JGRW
WVUMP: AZDMUZ KRGUM.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT COULD YOU CALL PEOPLE WHO SEEM TO MAKE DUMB MISTAKES AT EVERY TURN? BLUNDER-ACHIEVERS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

CROSSWORD grid with clues: ACROSS 1 Doubtfire or Dalloway, 4 Pesky insect, 8 Blaze, 12 "Alley -", 13 Verdi heroine, 14 Booty, 15 Sugar suffix, 16 Some online essays, 18 Doppler device, 20 "Diamonds" singer, 21 Brzezinski of MSNBC, 24 Group character, 28 Coin that keeps turning up, 32 Stitched, 33 Artist Yoko, 34 "- luck!", 36 Actor Stephen, 37 Euro fraction, 39 Pub game. DOWN 1 Heath, 2 Activist Parks, 3 Raced with a trumpet, 5 Zero crime motion, 7 Labels, 8 Parade attractions, 9 Cyclades island, 10 Decay, 11 UFO engineers, 17 Diner dessert, 19 Sound booster, 22 Handle, 23 Poker payments, 25 Medal earner, 26 Actor Clive, 27 Hitch, 28 - Raton, Fla., 29 From the start, 30 Lady of Spain, 31 Belgian river, 35 Stirs up, 38 "We hold these - to be ..." addenda, for short, 42 Sixth sense, 45 Top-notch, 47 Beehive State, 48 Get up, 49 Tibetan herd, 50 "Kapow!", 51 Before, 52 Play segment, 53 Where Lux. is, 54 Ring decision.

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Crossword grid with numbers 1-61 and black squares indicating non-letter positions.

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Argylls, errors

Pattern of miscues hurts Jay in opener

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

When they were connecting on serves and getting into the flow of their offense, the Patriots looked good.

But that only happened in one set, with the other three marred by too many unforced errors to keep them in the match.

The Jay County High School volleyball team built a couple of big leads and held off the visiting Madison-Grant Argylls in the second set, but the other three were not particularly close as it dropped the season opener 25-16, 23-25, 25-10, 25-15.

"A lot," said JCHS coach Amy Dillon of the errors. "A lot of hitting errors. A lot of not being in position. A lot of looking and not just playing the ball."

"I really think it was just a little bit of learning how to play with each other on the floor. ... And figuring out what defense is going to work best for us."

After dropping the first set, the Patriots (0-1) had pulled even as they held off Madison-Grant (1-0) in the second when a Madison Brunswick attack barely stayed inside the baseline. The third set started out competitive, with JCHS trailing only 11-9 when Dillon called her first timeout. The rest was all Argylls, as they scored 14 of the next 15 points with many of them coming on unforced errors.

The score was tied 7-7 in the fourth set before a Patriot service error gave the ball back to Madison-Grant.

See **Errors** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School senior Abbie Fields smacks an attack past Madison-Grant junior Maddy Moore during the Patriots' four-set loss Tuesday in their season opener. Fields led JCHS, which will play again Thursday at Delta, with eight kills.

FRHS girls earn first victory

The young Indians now have their first taste of victory.

The Fort Recovery High School girls golf team posted four scores in the 50s — coach Joe Brun's goal at the beginning of the season — and knocked off the Parkway Panthers on Monday at Portland Golf Club.

Ella Schoen came up big for the Indians, who graduated their entire starting lineup from last season and opened with back-to-back losses to Tri-Village and Arcanum. She recorded five bogeys, including four in a stretch of five holes from No. 2 through 6 at PGC, to lead the team with a 53.

Parkway's Sarah Shepard was the match medalist with a 50.

The rest of the Tribe scores lined up in a row with Ella Westgerdes notching two bogeys en route to a 54, Emma Will recording two bogeys for a 55 and Eva Kahlig totaling three bogeys to round out the team score with a 56.

Also playing for Fort Recovery but not factoring in the team score were Brynn Stammen at 60 and Georgia Wenning at 65.

See **FR** page 7

JC netters top Tigers

ALEXANDRIA — After a difficult home opener Monday, the Patriots were happy to get right back on the court.

On the road Tuesday, the Jay County High School boys tennis team earned its first win of the season 4-1 over the Alexandria Tigers.

The Patriots' No. 1 doubles team of Sam Myers and Gage Sims set the tone, dominating their way to a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Jesse Lipps and Tanner Norris.

The other three JCHS points came in the singles matches, where Eli Dirksen evened his 2022 record at 2-2 with a 6-2, 6-2 victory over Benjamin DeVault. His

cousin Abraham Dirksen earned his first career No. 1 singles victory, defeating James Ward 6-4, 6-1. And Simon Dirksen, Eli's brother, bounced back from a tough three-set loss Monday in the Patriots' match against Madison-Grant to top Owen May 6-3, 6-4.

Luke Muhlenkamp and Austin Dirksen suffered the lone loss of the night for Jay County (1-3) at No. 2 doubles by a 6-2, 6-2 score.

The Patriots, who opened the season with losses to Knightstown and New Castle on Saturday, will return to action Thursday with a trip to Norwell.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Brenden Runyon of the Jay County High School boys soccer team battles for the ball against Muncie Central's Brady McNabb during the Patriots' 4-1 loss Tuesday in their season opener. JCHS gave up three goals in the first 14 minutes and got its only tally with 41 seconds left on the clock.

MC handles Patriots

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The Patriots entered the season with a small roster and minimal experience following the graduation of eight seniors.

Down three more expected starters in the season opener, they were in a tough spot against a sectional rival.

Jay County High School's boys soccer team gave up three goals in the first 14 minutes Tuesday night and narrowly avoided a shutout

in a 4-1 loss to the visiting Muncie Central Bearcats.

The Patriots were with three goals in the first 14 minutes Tuesday night and narrowly avoided a shutout

to be eligible, Gavin Young with an injury and another projected starter who was deemed academically ineligible.

See **Handles** page 7

Small Jay squad can't keep up with Wildcats

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