

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Portland projects planned for '23

Sewer work likely to be delayed; bridge replacement is scheduled

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Next year is expected to be a busy one for infrastructure construction in Portland.

Portland Mayor John Boggs told city council during its meeting Monday that one project that had been planned to start this fall will likely be delayed while another scheduled for 2023 is expected to shut down a stretch of highway for about seven months.

Boggs said Watson Excavating of Redkey will seek permission from the city's board of works to delay the start date on the Meridian Street storm sewer project to February. (It involves installing a new line below Meridian Street in the downtown area in order to take pressure off of the frequently overloaded Millers Branch line.) Construction had been planned to start this fall, but Boggs indicated the date change would allow contractors to get the materials needed to do the work.

"Everything's a go, it's just not go, go, go," said Boggs. "It's not as fast as we would like."

The project is scheduled for 275 days (about nine months), which with the delay would push the end date to the fourth quarter of 2023.

Indiana Department of Transportation plans to pave U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) in downtown Portland next year.

See **Projects** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Military maneuvers

A tank makes the turn from Main Street onto Meridian Street during a military vehicle parade Saturday morning in Portland. Vehicles were in the city for the Indiana Military Vehicle Preservation Association Rally and Swap Meet at Jay County Fairgrounds.

County continues to look at raises

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A countywide hiring freeze is on the table.

So are a few more budget cuts in order to make larger raises for county employees possible.

Jay County Personnel Committee reviewed the county's 2023 budget Monday, deciding to recommend a hiring freeze as well as removing a few extra positions that would have been added to the budget in January.

Jay County Council proposed Sept. 8 cutting roughly \$450,000 from the county budget to help

accommodate larger raises for county employees. (The additional cost to factor in a 6% across-the-board raise as well as higher raises for some departments comes to about \$1.2 million.) More cuts have

been proposed to Jay County Auditor Emily Franks since that date.

Personnel committee recommended a hiring freeze, meaning department heads would need to come to county officials in order to

hire new employees. They recommended not to add a new dispatcher position or jail employee next year, which had been previously OK'd.

See **County** page 2

Cuts suggested, hiring freeze proposed in effort to implement larger pay increases

FR council looks at option for wastewater

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — The village is looking into an alternative method to remove sludge from its wastewater lagoons.

Fort Recovery Village Council agreed to move forward with the process Monday.

The village has been dealing with an odor wafting off the lagoons, causing some local residents to voice concerns at council meetings. Part of the issue is the layer of sludge measuring on average two feet along the bottom of the ponds.

Melvin Stein, a representative from Kainos Ag of Muncie, explained to council members Monday he may have a product that would eliminate most of the sludge. The product is organic and would be safe to use in the lagoons.

Kainos Ag has worked on treating water coming from Schwieterman Farm and at Grand Lake Saint Marys State Park.

Stein noted his company has been working with a product to digest fish waste in order to feed plants. Generally this requires changing out the system water — the nutrients don't efficiently biodegrade — about once a week. With his product, he said, the nutrients are broken down and converted into biodegradable materials.

"The fish grow very healthy," he said, noting they were using yellow perches, which are sensitive to dirty environments.

Stein explained he matched lagoon conditions in a bucket test and treated the water with the company's product.

See **Option** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Scott Pearson and Cliff Wendel ask Melvin Stein of Kainos Ag questions about his company's water treatment product outside village hall during a Fort Recovery Village Council meeting Monday. Council is considering working with the company to remove sludge from its wastewater lagoons.

School board OKs '23 budget

Total is up about \$1.4 million

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

The 2023 budget is in place.

Jay School Board approved the corporation's 2023 budget without comment Monday. It also approved the 2023-25 capital projects plan and the 2023-27 bus replacement plan.

Board members OK'd a request from CB Development to run a sewer line across the front of the Jay County Junior-Senior High School property.

The approved budget of \$36.9 million is up about \$1.4 million (3.9%) from the current year. It includes \$20.1 million in the education fund, \$10.4 million in the operations fund, \$5.5 million for debt service and \$894,709 in pension debt service.

The school corporation's

three-year capital projects plan calls for more than \$350,000 in roof replacement projects each year, \$175,000 in Chromebooks annually and \$150,000 in parking lot work in 2024 and 2025.

The bus replacement plan calls for five new buses each in 2023 and 2024 and four each of the next three years.

Based on the budget, business manager Shannon Current projects the school corporation will have a \$6.7 million cash balance in its education fund at the end of 2023. Previously known as the general fund, its balance was as low as \$1.4 million in 2017 before steadily climbing since.

Board members Ron Laux, Phil Ford, Donna Geesaman, Mike Shannon, Chris Snow, Vickie Reitz and Jason Phillips also authorized superintendent Jeremy Gulley to implement an easement for CB Development to run a sewer line on the junior-senior high school property along U.S. 27.

See **Budget** page 2

Deaths

Richard Hall, 36, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature reached 86 degrees Monday. The low was 84.

Tonight's low will be 69. Skies will be mostly sunny early Wednesday. The high will be 89 and there is a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the afternoon.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Civic Theatre is holding auditions for its productions of "Frosty the Snowman" and "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical" from 6 to 8:30 p.m. tonight at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland. There are roles available for performers of all ages.

Coming up

Wednesday — A look at the local unemployment numbers for August.

Friday — Results from Thursday's JCHS boys tennis match against South Adams.



County ...

Continued from page 1
They also suggested cooks at Jay County Jail stay at 30 hours per week instead of jumping to 40 hours.
Personnel committee members Jeanne Houchins, Ted Champ and Chad Aker reviewed their copies of the budget, highlighting cuts they have discussed in previous meetings. They recommended a few more cuts, which included removing \$200,000 from dollars allotted for road conversions. (Aker, who also serves as Jay County Commissioner, noted there would still be some funds left over for road conversions.)

Houchins pointed out Jay County Country Living superintendent Melissa Blankley would like to begin working part-time for the county, visiting two days a week. The committee suggested decreasing her wages by \$18,000 to accommodate for the change.
Houchins asked Franks about how the cuts would calculate into the budget. Franks pointed out many of the cuts may not help the bottom line.
“So guys, what are we going to do?” asked Houchins. “I mean, we have to get this narrowed down. I can’t go through too

many more nights dreaming about numbers.”
Aker spoke in favor of giving larger raises to employees at Jay County Sheriff’s Office, Jay Emergency Medical Service and Jay County Highway Department.
“I’ll be the guy to say it,” said Aker: “They’re putting their lives on the line in those three departments, the way I look at it. And they are the three that are furthest behind ... they are very important for public service, and I really think we need to take care of those people first.”
Houchins pointed out those

departments have wages farthest behind the average pay for their position based on a study from consulting firm Waggoner, Irwin and Scheele.
Council member Ray Newton, who was present, added he believes the county will lose employees without better raises. As a result, he said, the county will also spend more dollars training new workers to fill those roles.
“We have to do something or we’re going to lose people,” he said.
Champ advocated for emergency personnel. He also spoke in

favor of giving raises to all employees.
“We’ve got to somehow fix them three departments and hopefully be able to give everybody else something,” he said.
Personnel committee asked Franks to configure how much it would cost the county to give 3%, 4% and 6% across-the-board raises, with suggested wage increases for employees at the sheriff’s office, highway department and JEMS decreased by 50 cents an hour.
The committee agreed to meet at 2 p.m. Sept. 28 to finalize its proposal for raises.

CR almanac

Wednesday 9/21	Thursday 9/22	Friday 9/23	Saturday 9/24	Sunday 9/25
89/55	67/40	63/48	72/53	74/51
There’s a 40% chance of rain and thunderstorms today after 2 p.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	Thursday has a slight chance of rain in the morning. The day looks to be mostly sunny, with a high of 67.	Mostly sunny skies are expected Friday, with the high dipping to the low 60s. Mostly cloudy at night.	Temperatures will rise to the mid 70s Saturday under partly sunny skies. Rain is possible late.	Thunderstorms are possible Sunday with a 40% chance of precipitation. The high will be 74.

Lotteries

Powerball
Monday
7-15-36-46-67
Powerball: 7
Power Play: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$251 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$277 million

Hoosier
Monday
Midday
Daily Three: 4-2-4
Daily Four: 5-8-8-9
Quick Draw: 1-9-10-16-19-22-32-34-35-42-43-48-54-56-61-62-66-72-75-77
Evening
Daily Three: 0-1-6
Daily Four: 6-4-4-1
Quick Draw: 8-13-14

15-23-27-34-36-42-46-48-49-52-55-59-60-64-68-70-72
Cash 5: 5-15-17-34-35
Estimated jackpot: \$95,000

Ohio
Monday
Midday
Pick 3: 2-5-7
Pick 4: 5-6-3-7
Pick 5: 2-8-1-4-3
Evening
Pick 3: 1-5-9
Pick 4: 9-3-6-8
Pick 5: 6-7-8-4-0
Rolling Cash 5: 1-9-11-18-32
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
Classic Lotto: 1-11-13-19-36-47
Kicker: 8-4-7-3-1-0
Jackpot: \$36.3 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....6.94
Sept. corn6.74
Wheat7.20

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....7.19
Late Sept. corn6.99
Oct. corn6.74

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....6.64
Late Sept. corn6.64
Beans14.45
Sept. beans14.40

Wheat 8.10
Nov. wheat 8.80

Central States Montpelier
Corn.....6.79
Late Sept. corn6.79
Beans14.46
Late Sept. beans14.46
Wheat8.58

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....6.89
Oct. corn6.54
Beans14.59
Oct. beans14.21
Wheat8.28

Today in history

In 1519, a group led by Ferdinand Magellan of Portugal departed on a quest to circumnavigate the globe. Though he died during the voyage, the expedition accomplished its goal.
In 1850, Congress abolished the slave trade in Washington, D.C. It came as part of legislation referred to as the Compromise of 1850.
In 1870, Italian troops occupied Rome. The military move eventually led to Rome being incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy and limiting the Pope’s governing authority.
In 1878, Upton Sinclair, “author of ‘The Jungle,’” was born in Baltimore, Maryland.
In 1886, Johannesburg was founded in South Africa.
In 1973, Billie Jean King defeated Bobby Riggs in a “Battle of the Sexes” tennis match.
In 1984, a suicide car bomber killed 22 in an attack on the U.S. embassy in Beirut.
In 1997, the Jay County High School volleyball team won the Eastbrook Invitational. Kim Flowers racked up 15 aces and 27 digs in the tournament.
In 2001, President George W. Bush declared a global military campaign against terrorism.
In 2017, Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico. The storm was responsible for nearly 3,000 deaths and more than \$90 billion in damage.
In 2021, Fort Recovery School Board approved the hiring of Kevin Eyink as baseball coach. Eyink had been an assistant under former coach Jerry Kaup. —The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Wednesday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, Portland Municipal Airport, 661 W. 100 North.
5:30 p.m. — Jay County Economic Development Income Tax Advisory Committee, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Obituaries

Richard Hall
Sept. 26, 1985-Sept. 13, 2022
Richard Dewayne Hall, age 36, of Portland passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022, at his residence.
He was born in Portland on Sept. 26, 1985, the son of Thomas Hodge and Brenda Sue Neely. He worked at Priority Plastics in Portland.
Surviving is his father and step-mother, Tom and Debbie Hodge of Redkey; three brothers, Shawn Hodge of Portland, Tommy Hodge

of Dunkirk and Shane Hodge of Portland; two sisters, Jennifer Murphy of Sevierville, Tennessee, and Leslie Gannon of Topeka, Kansas; and several aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.
Memorial services will be held at a later date.
Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.



Memorials can be made to the funeral home to help with expenses. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.
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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.

Budget ...

Continued from page 1
The company is planning a condominium development off of county road 75 South near the high school. Glen Coblentz of CB Development said digging would be minimal, with boring slated for the bulk of the underground line.
In other business, the board:
•During the Patriot Pride moment, acknowledged the extra efforts for Bloomfield fifth graders to create video reenactments, movie-style

trailers and stop-motion videos for their project after reading the book “Hatchet” for class.
•Accepted a \$2,000 grant from The Portland Foundation for game elements for the robotics program and multiple donations totaling \$24,730 for the Raised Beds: Building Better Together project at the junior-senior high school.
•Approved the following: The extracurricular assignments of Megean Rice as Best Buddies Sponsor for

the junior-senior high school, Darian Jones as junior high newspaper sponsor and Tami Tillman as high school art sponsor; a leave of absence for Redkey Elementary School second grade teacher Shelly Miskinis; contracts with Ball State University for psychology services and Community Development Institute Head Start for services for preschool students with disabilities.
•Learned from assistant superintendent Trent Pax-

Projects ...

Continued from page 1
Boggs also reported to council that a meeting with INDOT regarding the Indiana 26 bridge over the Salamonie River on the east side of the city indicated that it will be replaced with a new concrete structure. Plans call for closing the highway heading out of the city to the east in early April. It would reopen in November 2023.
The planned detours for local traffic will use county road 200 South, county road 300 East and Division Road/Votaw Street. The truck detour will utilize Indiana 67/Ohio 29, Ohio 49 and Indiana 28/Ohio 47.

Council members Kent McClung, Janet Powers, Don Gillespie, Michele Brewster, Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker and Dave Golden also unanimously approved the city’s proposed 2023 budget of just over \$7.5 million on first reading.
After council discussed the budget briefly at its Sept. 6 meeting, there were no further comments Monday.
The proposed 2023 budget is up \$916,759 from the current year, an increase of 13.8%. (The 2022 budget was down about \$50,000 from 2021.)
The budget includes just over \$4 million in the general fund, \$1.3 mil-

lion in the motor vehicle highway fund and \$452,300 in the park and recreation fund.
A vote on adoption of the budget is planned for council’s Oct. 3 meeting.
In other business, council:
•Approved fire protection contracts at a 5% increase.
•Was reminded by the mayor that Jay County High School’s homecoming is this week. The parade in downtown Portland is slated for 5 p.m. with the football game against Woodlan at 7:30 p.m.
•Was reminded that fall clean-up day will be Oct. 29.

Option ...

Continued from page 1
He stirred the bucket once a day. Within a week, the water cleared up.
“We are not a bioaugmentation product,” he said. “We are not a metabo-

lizer of any kind. What we do is break down nutrients to the tiniest micelles on the planet and make it so it’s bioavailable for the biology in the lagoon.”
He ushered council members outside to demonstrate the results of his test, pouring water samples into different buckets. He took a sip from the water that had been treated, which appeared clear.
Stein said he believes the process can be completed in about 30 days. He proposed a deal with the village, asking local officials to provide samples so they can pursue additional testing. (They’re looking into a solution for breaking down pharmaceutical materials, such as chemicals left over from drugs and skincare products. He said currently those pass through most treatment systems.)
The company’s rate comes to \$13,865 per inch of sludge removed.
See Option page 5

SERVICES

Wednesday
Brown, Carolyn: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Saturday
Adair, Donald: noon, Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by
PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS
120 N. Meridian St.
Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

Meat Manager/Meat Cutter

Community Markets is seeking experienced Meat Managers and Meat Cutters for the Berne location.

Retail meat management experience is required. Please send your resume to careers@freshencounter.com, apply online at apply4positions.com/fe or call Ed Green at (419) 957-6975.

Jay County Conservation Club

ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH & CHICKEN FRY
September 24, 2022
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Adults \$12.00 Kids 5 & under FREE
6243 S. 325 W Portland, IN

Jay County Sheriff’s Department

is now taking applications for **Correction Officers and Cooks.**
Applications may be picked up at the Jay County Sheriff’s Department 224 W. Water St., Portland. E.O.E.

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 2 (EAA2), Fort Wayne is giving kids ages 8 - 17 a FREE AIRPLANE RIDE in small airplanes.

It’s the only program of its kind with the sole mission to introduce and inspire kids in the world of aviation. The flights will take place at
Portland Municipal Airport
661 W 100 N, Portland IN
Flights are weather permitting.

THE DATE FOR THE FLIGHTS IS SEPTEMBER 24 from 9:00 to 1:00
Registration is required at YEday.org. There is a link on our website: eaa2.org.

Grandkids never cease to amaze

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

It was a short video that popped up on my screen recently. It featured our youngest grandson, Nicholas, AKA Nicky. He was holding a weed wacker and dancing to the music coming through his headphones. It looked like fun. The weeds were in absolutely no danger. I assume that he eventually got to them.

His school requires the students to sign up for band, art or drama. Like his big brother, Jacob, Nicky signed up for the band. Jacob plays the trombone, while Nicky has chosen the cello. Jacob

As I See It



tends to keep his trombone at school most of the time. Nicky brings his instrument home. His mom has signed up for extra help for him. After his first lesson he declared that he wanted to be tutored every day. His mom said that was too expensive so he will just have to make do with what they can afford.

She thinks that Nicky is in love with the tutor. I

remember when he was in kindergarten and he made a necklace for his teacher. Only problem was that it was a magical necklace that turned the teacher into a frog. The magic had to wear off on its own. I sure hope Nicky has outgrown the art of turning favorite teachers into frogs.

He is a beginning musician. His teacher has him plucking the strings instead of using the bow. I know nothing about cellos or any other band instrument. I am more than happy to hear that he enjoys the process of learning to make music.

The boys are also play-

ing ball. Jacob still plays baseball while Nicky is on a football team. If we lived a lot closer we could attend their games. I am not sports-minded at all, but I do enjoy watching children play. It is far more entertaining than watching professionals play.

I remember a very long time ago. I was younger than 4 years old. We went to a high school football game. My uncle Norman was the quarterback. Of course he got tackled. That's what quarterbacks do. I tried to run out on the field because I was convinced they were hurting him. Mom grabbed me

before I could rescue him from all those guys piled on top of him.

I was in high school before I attended another football game.

I'm glad that my school didn't offer the choices my grandkids have. I would have flunked in a heartbeat. I have no musical ability. I have very little talent for art and the thought of having to participate in a school play makes me want to run and hide.

Thankfully, my grandkids are much braver than I will ever be. They readily try any activity they can. I can't remember all of the sports and stuff they have

participated in through the years. This includes activities that aren't taught in school. They each can turn a cute deer into supper. They are all capable of fixing a complete meal and cleaning up after. They are adept at making friends.

They never cease to amaze me. I can't remember ever dancing with a weed wacker, never mind that they weren't invented yet when I was Nicky's age. As much as I have difficulty with technology, it is watching my loved ones from afar that brings me great pleasure. I am so glad I was privileged to share in his happiness.

Sixtieth anniversary looms with no recognition

DEAR ABBY: I have a good, if not terribly close, relationship with my adult son and daughter. We speak every few weeks. They live some distance away. There's no drama, no negative angst between us. My husband and I will soon be celebrating our 60th wedding anniversary. Neither our son nor our daughter has acknowledged the occasion nor asked if we wish to celebrate it. I assume they are somehow unaware of this milestone.

Should I contact them about it? It's not like we're incommunicado or estranged, because we're not. This anniversary is a BIG deal to us, yet they seem unaware. I'm blaming myself somehow. Their father has been

Dear Abby



treated for cancer and is, fortunately, deemed cancer-free now. What is your advice? — READY TO CELEBRATE IN FLORIDA

DEAR READY: Your son and daughter may be so wrapped up in themselves and their own lives that it hasn't occurred to them to volunteer to host something or ask what you and their father would like. Call them

and raise the subject. They may be waiting to be told what, if anything, you have planned for the occasion. If they are not available, do not let that stop you from having the celebration the occasion deserves.

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DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend broke up with me. After a few weeks, I was OK with it. Then he wanted to visit me, but I was busy that day and, truth be told, I didn't want to see him. I was going to hang out with a guy friend when my ex showed up although I had told him not to. When I went out with my friend, my ex couldn't go in my house because I didn't want him there if I wasn't there.

When I returned home, my ex was mad that we went out to eat and didn't get him anything. Was I supposed to buy him food if I didn't even want him there to begin with? This happened months ago and I'm still furious. — DEE IN NEW YORK

DEAR DEE: Being furious is a waste of your time and energy. That your former boyfriend would force himself on you in spite of having been told he was unwelcome was rude and boorish. You did exactly the right thing by not allowing him to insert himself into your plans. I hope you are now rid of him. If he keeps it up, it could be considered borderline stalking.

Marriage licenses

Alexis L. Raszkowski, 21, Portland, and Jason R. Thobe, 39, Portland

Chance L.M. Mata, 25, Portland, and Megan J. Sutton-Robbins, 23, Portland

Korbyn L.H. Mock, 20, Pennville, and Oliva P.L. White, 21, Sidney, Ohio

John W. Fike III, 46, Portland, and Rebecca L. Zimmerman, 29, Portland

Lara E. Keppler, 28, Portland, and Matthew A. Vore, 34, Portland

Matthew O. Conn, 41, Redkey, and Jordan M. Moreillon, 20, Redkey

Ohio, and Katie D. McGoron, 37, Cincinnati, Ohio

Stephen D. Cecil, 63, Portland, and Sherry M. Cole, 61, Yukon, Oklahoma

Hailey M. Lennartz, 25, Portland, and Triston S. VanSkyock, 25, Dunkirk

Community Calendar

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

Tuesday

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

ALZHEIMER'S CARE-GIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at Jay County Public Library community room. For more information, call Deb Tipton at (260) 729-2806 or Elasha Lennartz at (765) 729-4567.

THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each

Tuesday at 2nd Chance at Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

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

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

Wednesday

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

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

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

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 - BRI-ANNA'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.

LAWYERS IN LIBRARIES — Free and confidential consultations with a lawyer are available from 10 a.m. to noon at Jay County Public Library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland. Consulting is available on topics including divorce, custody, guardianship, tenant-landlord issues, bankruptcy, debt collection, estates and immigration. Those interested in participating should sign up in advance at the library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland, or by calling (260) 726-7890.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

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.

Medicare has changed.

Find out how it can affect you.

- Know **critical dates** for Medicare eligibility
- Get **options** that can help limit your out-of-pocket expenses
- Learn about **Medicare benefits** many retirees may not be aware of

For **FREE** Medicare Supplement information from Physicians Life Insurance Company, call:

1-844-750-9981

or visit MedSupBenefit.com/hoosier

We are not connected with, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Federal Medicare Program. I understand I have no obligation. This is a solicitation of insurance. A licensed agent/producer may contact you. (MD, VA: These policies are available to people under age 65 eligible for Medicare due to a disability). (VA: For a complete description of policy exclusions, limitations, and costs or other coverage details, please contact your insurance agent or the company). Policy form number L030, L035, L036, L037, L038, F001, F002 (OK: L030OK, L035OK, L036OK, L037OK, L038OK; TN: L030TN, L035TN, L036TN, L037TN, L038TN, F001TN, F002TN; L030VA, L035VA, L036VA, L037VA, L038VA).

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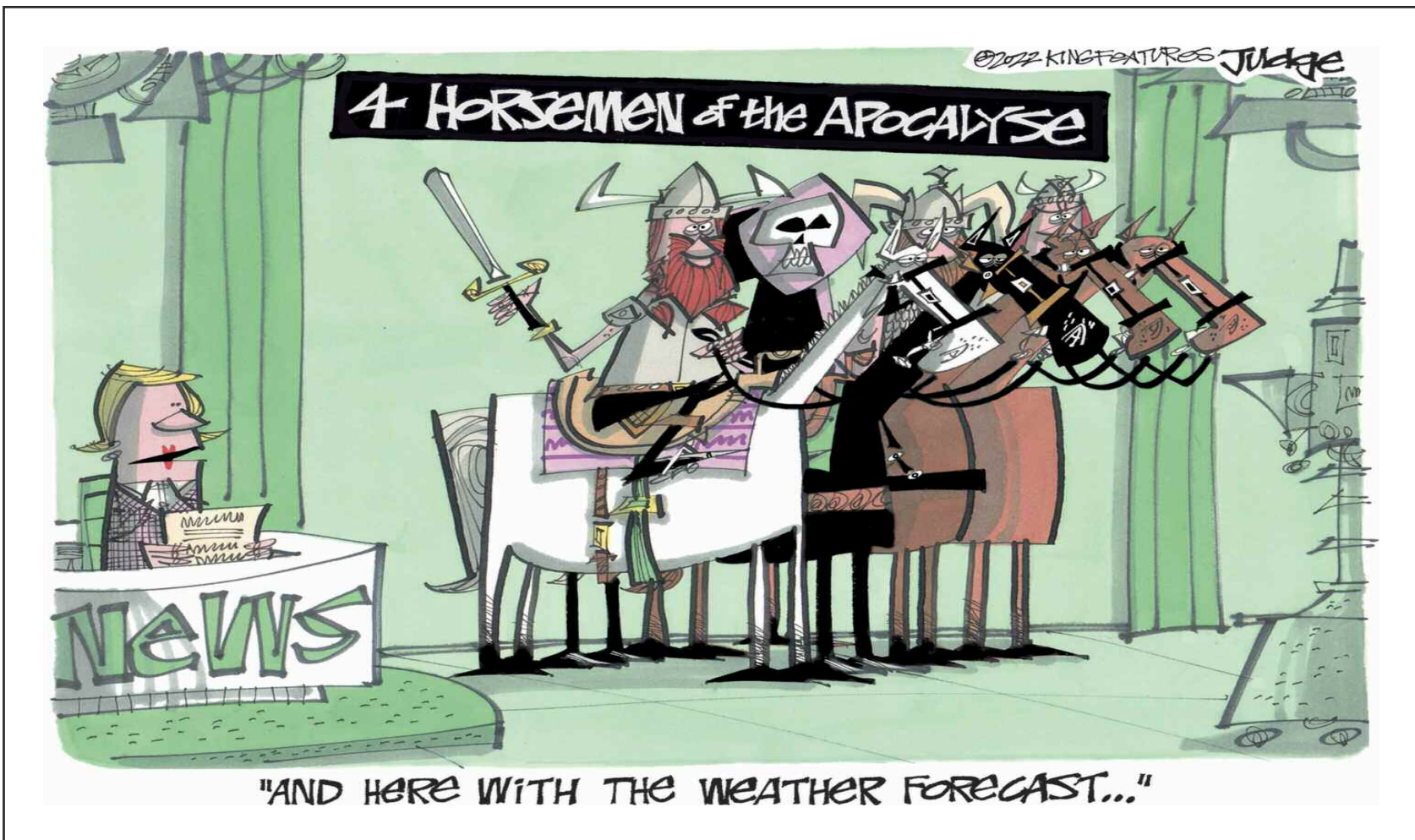
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Thanks for work on town sidewalk

To the editor:
It is nice to know that there are still people that care about the town they live in and the way it looks.
A big thank you to Ted Champ, Gene Stigleman and Steve Reynolds for the hard work they put in to repairing the sidewalk in front of the post office in Redkey. Great job guys.
Also a thank you to The Portland Foundation and Mid-States Construction for the new floor in the Redkey Park Cabin. It looks great.
Thank you,
Dottie Quakenbush
Redkey

Letters to the Editor



Invest in state schools

By EDUARDO PORTER
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

Eduardo Porter



A good place to start might be to bolster the financial wherewithal of the state colleges and university systems that have done the best job so far of providing affordable higher education to Americans of limited means.

President Joe Biden is going to spend several hundred billion dollars to cancel the debts of millions of college students. This big outlay will probably bolster his standing among graduates in the up-to-\$125,000-a-year salary range who populate the deep-blue voting grounds of urban America.

Education would grow to meet rising demand.

Perhaps the next administration will try to fix the problem with America's higher education.

This federal strategy didn't just spawn a predatory for-profit educational industry that set tuition at the very limit of what student loans could bear. Pretty much the entire educational ecosystem set out to capture as much of the federal money as it could by pumping up tuition and fees.

A generation or so ago, America decided that expanding access to a college education was critical to underpinning economic progress and extending economic opportunity across American society.

One study by economists at Brigham Young University, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and Harvard found that for every dollar increase in the ceiling that students were eligible to borrow from the subsidized federal loan program, sticker-price increases captured 60 cents. The students didn't get any more education. They were just left holding a heavier bag.

The decision, unfortunately, didn't come with the necessary resources. The network of state and city public colleges and universities — the nation's main, if not only source of affordable, quality higher education — could not cope.

Maybe one shouldn't fault Biden's good intentions, as he tries to lift some of this burden. But his offer to cancel the debt of several million students doesn't correct the policy mistakes. It's no more than a Band-Aid over a wound inflicted on society by bad public policy.

Fall undergraduate enrollment in college swelled by more than half from 1990 to its peak of 21 million in 2010, vastly outstripping the roughly 13% increase in state and local appropriations for higher education during the same period.

Indeed, calling it that may be too generous. If college administrators come to believe that periodic loan forgiveness has become a regular policy tool, they will inevitably work it into their tuition schedules: Students can bear more debt, and afford higher tuition, if the government is going to step in down the road to pick up the tab.

Not only has the share of kids enrolling in public colleges and universities dropped to 73%, from 78% in 1990, those who enroll have to fork out more for the privilege to make up for the decline in state and local funding. Tuition now covers 42% of revenue at public colleges and universities, according to the State Higher Education Officers Association, up from 29% at the turn of the century.

So what can be done? Instead of juicing demand for whatever education the industry will provide, Washington should work on the supply side. A good place to start might be to bolster the financial wherewithal of the state colleges and university systems that have done the best job so far of providing affordable higher education to Americans of limited means.

Those kids, by the way, are the lucky ones. The unlucky ones who didn't make the cut got trapped in the maw of for-profit schools selling the mirage of success. Two million students enrolled in for-profit colleges in the fall of 2010, the peak year for the industry, almost 10 times as many as did 20 years before. On average, they paid some \$14,000 more per year than students at public institutions. Many ended up with a worthless degree or no degree at all. (Following years of scandals, annual enrollment in for-profit colleges has fallen back to about 1 million.)

Appropriations to pay for public higher education have declined to \$9,327 per full-time equivalent student, according to the higher education officers association. That's about 10% less than at the turn of the century.

To be fair, the federal government has tried to cover some of the shortfalls in state and local funding. The problem is that it chose to provide the money in a fairly boneheaded way: handing out grants and loans so students could pay for more schooling without doing anything to ensure that the supply of quality of edu-

It might not be politically palatable for the Biden administration to just grab the \$500 billion-plus in planned debt relief and hand it over to the states to invest in their colleges. But the feds could nudge

state governments to stop the decline in educational funding.

Consider Medicaid, which absorbs about 20% of state budgets. The growth of Medicaid has been crowding out state educational budgets for years. It enjoys what state college administrators might consider an unfair advantage: For every dollar the state devotes to the program, the federal government adds up to \$5.

David Deming of Harvard suggests that public education would benefit from similar support. A \$1-for-\$1 matching grant would not only provide substantial financial backing to state colleges and universities. It would also reduce the financial incentive for states to take money out of schools and plow it into hospitals. And the aid could come with strings to ensure quality and accountability, maybe even to the point of standardizing some features of higher education.

This approach might be politically challenging at a moment in which a big chunk of the political class is heatedly accusing the higher education system of brainwashing children into questioning their privilege and adopting liberal causes. And yet the political downside can't be any worse than what comes from handing tens of thousands of dollars to young graduates making \$125,000 a year in blue urban America.

Porter is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering Latin America, U.S. economic policy and immigration.

Give Ukraine what it needs

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

Guest Editorial

Russian President Vladimir Putin told a gathering in Vladivostok last week that his country had "not lost anything and will not lose anything." He may be less certain of decisive victory today.

An offensive by Ukraine's armed forces has made spectacular progress, retaking more than 2,300 square miles of territory, according to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and reversing gains Russia took months to achieve. Whatever happens next, there's no question the charge has been a major strategic and operational defeat for the Kremlin. Allied nations must help Ukraine make the most of it.

Much is still changing on the ground. But Ukraine's victories in the northeast have stretched the Russian army thin and forced it back from key command points and supply depots, including the crucial logistics hub of Izyum. More troops will need to be pulled from other regions to replace exhausted local forces, leaving vulnerable spots that Ukraine is likely to exploit. The scale of the losses has prompted unusual dissent even among prominent pro-Kremlin voices. And then there's the scramble to replace the huge amounts of weapons and equipment the retreating forces have left behind.

Such battlefield success should provide momentum and a much-needed morale boost for Ukrainian forces. Crucially, it has also demonstrated impressive military leadership, planning and the ability to use Western weapons and supplies to good effect, not only for defensive purposes but for offense — whether that's US long-range rocket systems taking out ammunition dumps or the use of radar-targeting missiles to deter Russian air defenses.

This is the moment for the West to step up. As a start, weapons deliveries need to accelerate. Washington last week announced an additional \$675 million package of hardware, including ammunition for high mobility artillery rocket systems, anti-armor mines and howitzers. Such sup-

plies have proved effective. But munitions are being consumed at a staggering rate — Ukraine estimates daily expenditure of artillery rounds per gun at triple that recorded by the British Army's artillery during World War I. Steady rearmament could prove decisive in this conflict.

Next, the allies must hold the line on trade and financial sanctions and close what enforcement loopholes remain. Europe has made admirable progress to prepare for a long winter without Russian energy, and much suffering may yet lie ahead. But Ukraine's striking successes in recent days should help disgruntled publics see that their sacrifices aren't in vain.

It's certainly fair for Western countries to worry about these expenses and hardships. Yet helping Ukraine capitalize on its gains is manifestly in their best interests. Not only could it hasten negotiations to end the war, but it sends a powerful message to adversaries worldwide — not least China — about the West's willingness to present a united front and endure significant costs to protect its way of life.

Of course, Putin isn't defeated yet. The land that Ukraine has regained this month is only a fraction of what Russia occupies, and the Kremlin has other options, including assaulting power and water supplies, launching cyberattacks, or even accepting the risk of an air campaign. Russian forces will continue to threaten a disaster at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant. And mass mobilization may still be in the cards — though it would effectively concede that Putin's "special military operation" has so far failed.

However the conflict unfolds from here, it's key to remember that any war ends at the negotiating table. The West should ensure that Ukraine is in a position of strength when it gets there.

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RAY COONEY
Editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY
Business Manager

BRIAN DODD
Production manager

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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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Option ...

Continued from page 1
Village administrator Randy Diller noted Stein's deal for additional testing would take just over \$2,000 per inch off the original \$16,000 rate.

He noted the product may or may not effectively treat other Ohio Environmental Protection Agency requirements for phosphorus, ammonia and e-coli. Once the sludge has been removed, he added, the lagoons may operate differently.

"We pretty much have to wait and see what happens at that point," he said. "If this is successful, we remove all the sludge, we'd have to figure out at that point what moving forward would look like."

Poggemeyer Design Group recently conducted a wastewater study for the village and presented its results in August. Its plan for wastewater treatment in the future presented a few different options, including the construction of a mechanical wastewater treatment plant. Part of the plan calls for sludge removal. (Diller noted estimates for landfill-applying the sludge are anywhere from \$600,000 to \$750,000.)

"We don't know this is going to change our wastewater study plan," said Diller. "It may take care of that first step, which is always removing the sludge."

Village council will likely need to accept bids for the project. The council OK'd Diller to move forward with the process in hopes of hiring Kainos Ag.

In other business, council members Greg Schmitz, Scott Pearson, Al Post, Luke Knapke, and Cliff Wendel, absent Erik Fiely:

•Heard a local committee will be forming soon to develop a school transportation plan. Diller noted several officials would be on the committee, including himself, Fort Recovery Local Schools superintendent Larry Brown and Fort Recovery police chief Jared Laux. He added they are looking for more local residents to join the committee.

•Learned reconstruction of Milligan Street will begin in mid-October. The multi-thousand dollar project is expected to be finished within two weeks.

•Renewed an agreement with Ohio Department of Transportation for bridge inspection program services.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

West Jay stretch

West Jay Middle School first graders Tyler Murray, Adaline Rogers and Rylan Pearson stretch alongside physical education teacher Emily Muhlenkamp at the beginning of class Thursday.

Russia hurrying to annex territory

Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

The Kremlin is moving hastily to stage sham votes on annexing the regions of Ukraine its forces still control, after Kyiv's military drove Russian troops from large areas of territory taken in their seven-month-old invasion.

The so-called Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, as well as Kherson, may hold their votes as soon as this weekend, Interfax quoted officials as saying Tuesday. Ukraine and its allies have denounced the referendums as illegal and few countries are likely to recognize the results. Russian-backed officials in Zaporizhzhia, where they don't hold even the regional capital, still vowed to move quickly toward a vote.

In Moscow, officials said they'd grant the regions' requests to be

annexed if they made them. Former President Dmitry Medvedev, who's now deputy head of the Security Council, said the annexation would be "irreversible" and enable Russia to use "all possible force in self-defense" in the newly-acquired territory.

The move threatens to escalate the conflict even further, potentially giving President Vladimir

Putin the formal legal basis to use nuclear weapons to defend what Moscow would consider Russian territory. Annexation, even though it's sure to be rejected internationally, would likely torpedo any future peace talks, as Russia has said it won't cede territory it considers its own while Kyiv has refused to give up any land taken by Moscow.

Putin is laying down another ultimatum to Kyiv and its U.S. and European allies with the implicit threat of nuclear escalation, said Tatiana Stanovaya, founder of the R.Politik research group.

"To guarantee 'victory,' Putin is ready to immediately hold referendums to gain the right (as he understands it) to use nuclear weapons to defend Russian territory," she said. "Either Ukraine retreats, or it's nuclear war."

President Joe Biden over the weekend said any use by Russia of chemical or tactical nuclear weapons would draw a "consequential" response. "They'll become more of a pariah in the world than they ever have been," he told 60 Minutes. "And depending on the extent of what they do will determine what response would occur."

'They'll become more of a pariah in the world than they ever have been.'

—President Joe Biden

State joins coalition

By **LESLIE BONITA MUNIZ**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb on Monday joined the governors of six other Midwestern states in a coalition aimed at boosting hydrogen energy.

"Strong partnerships and collaborations with our neighbors will foster a robust hydrogen ecosystem

that will spur future growth in Indiana," Holcomb said in a news release.

The coalition will provide a regional framework for creating a hydrogen market, supply chain and workforce "ecosystem," according to the voluntary Midwest Hydrogen Coalition Memorandum of Understanding.

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"Hang around in case I need some backup!"

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Percentages aren't always right

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 8 6 4
 ♥ 8 5 2
 ♦ A K J
 ♣ K Q 10 6

EAST
 ♠ 10 7
 ♥ A Q J 10 9 6
 ♦ 8 2
 ♣ J 8 3

SOUTH
 ♠ K J 5
 ♥ K 7 4 3
 ♦ Q 10 9 3
 ♣ A 7

The bidding:
 West North East South
 Pass 1♣ 2♥ 3NT

Opening lead — three of spades.

Sometimes a play favored by the percentages should not be made because declarer has a sure thing if he goes against the odds.

This seeming paradox arose in today's deal where South wound up in three notrump after a pre-emptive two-heart overall by East. West led the three of spades, and two things were immediately apparent: West obviously had no hearts and also was almost surely leading from a five-card spade suit (assuming he was leading fourth-best, the only card lower than the three was the missing deuce).

Declarer won East's ten with the jack and mulled over the situation. The easiest way to gain a ninth trick would be to lead a heart from dummy toward his hand. But this was not feasible, since East would go up with the ace and return a spade through the K-5 to sink the contract.

South therefore decided that his best chance was to score a trick with dummy's ten of clubs. Before broaching that suit, though, he first cashed four diamond tricks, discarding a heart from dummy as East discarded two hearts.

The play of the diamonds revealed that West had started with four of them, marking him with four clubs as well (and East with three). The odds thus became 4-to-3 that West held the jack, so a finesse of the ten on the second round seemed in order. But as can be seen, this would not have met with great success.

However, South realized that if he simply cashed the A-K-Q of clubs instead of finessing, he had a sure thing regardless of who had the club jack. Accordingly, he took the three top clubs, dropped East's jack and so made the contract.

And what if West had held the jack? In that case, declarer would next have played the ten of clubs from dummy. West would win with the jack but would then be forced to lead a spade, handing South the king of spades as his ninth trick.

Tomorrow: Indemnifying the contract.

9-20 CRYPTOQUIP

HSMI KZ YMIU RUZRYU TNU
 LA ISUX'OU OTEELEJ KZHE
 GZOOKLZON IZ GMIGS AYLJSIN?
 MLORZOI JMLIN.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FAMOUS POP STAR WHO HAS COLLECTED VERY COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF DECORATIVE KNICKKNACKS: LADY GEWGAW.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
 1 Like lemons
 5 Rock concert booster
 8 Farm fathers
 12 "The Kite Runner" boy
 13 Saloon lake
 14 Buffalo's lake
 15 Yellow-brown gemstone
 17 Blaze
 18 Industrious insect
 19 Actor Karl
 21 Entices
 24 Small rodents
 25 Common connections
 26 Vision tests
 30 Enjoy Aspen
 31 Camper owners, for short
 32 Yule quaff
 33 Close watch

35 Blog entry
36 Hibernia
37 Trousers
38 Brief time
41 De-bussy's "La —"
42 Author Hunter
43 Good-looking person
48 Laptop connection
49 Fair-hiring letters
50 Shabby beer joint
51 Feeder filler
52 Slangy denial

53 Way out
54 Fix illegally
55 Help a hood
6 Spring month
7 Opening night
8 Automatic reaction
9 Saharan terrain
11 Viewed workers
16 ER
20 Experts

21 Pyramid part
22 "Puppy Love" singer
23 Beatnik's assent
24 "No way!"
26 Katniss in "The Hunger Games"
27 Shortly
28 Lion's share
29 Boot camp VIPs
31 Check
34 Mr. Brezhnev
35 Saint Patrick's Day event
37 Chest muscle
38 Stitches
39 Marisa's "Only Love" role
40 Parisian eatery
41 Cat call
44 Pro vote
45 Veto
46 506, in old Rome
47 However

Solution time: 22 mins.

MIT	SNITS	ARI
ICE	HOSEA	LES
AHAMOMENT	MMM	
AVA	DELAYS	
HEADED	SEEM	
ANI	LIP	NEATO
NOMS	COB	STOP
DWEEB	DUA	ENT
ELLA	FLARES	
ARMLET	FAM	
LEA	ASI	AMINOR
ANN	CELLO	EWI
NON	HALOS	ELO

Peanuts

ASK YOUR MOM IF SHE'D LIKE ONE OF HER LEAVES RAKED.

ONE?! WE HAVE A WHOLE YARD FULL OF LEAVES!

WELL, I'M KIND OF NEW AT THIS...

WHY DON'T WE JUST START WITH ONE, AND SEE HOW IT GOES?

Rose is Rose

I HAD TO WORK LATE...

I MISSED MIMI'S TEA PARTY.

THESE THINGS HAPPEN, CORKY.

WOULD YOU MIND GIVING ME A QUICK RUN-THROUGH OF WHAT I MISSED?

Agnes

MY BOOK REPORT IS CALLED "I KNOW WHY THE BOWLED FISH SWIMS."

THAT'S THE BOOK'S NAME?

NO... JUST THE BOOK REPORT'S NAME.

WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE BOOK?

WHY ARE YOU GRILLING ME LIKE THIS?!

IS THERE ANYONE ELSE IN THE WORLD WHO HAS READ THE BOOK?

Hi and Lois

CAN WE GET THIS CEREAL?

IT HAS A TOY INSIDE.

WHY DID YOU GET THIS CEREAL?

IT REMINDED ME OF MY YOUTH.

Funky Winkerbean

SO WHO EXACTLY DID YOU COME HERE ANYWAY?!

I NEVER GOT TO REALLY KNOW MY DAD, AND WHEN CHANNEL ONE STARTED RUNNING HIS OLD SHOWS... WELL, I GUESS I WAS HOPING TO FIND SOME KIND OF PHYSICAL MEMENTO FOR MYSELF.

I CAN'T HELP YOU!

HEY!

Blondie

HONEY, ARE YOU WEARING COLOGNE?

NOPE... YOU'RE PROBABLY SMELLING THE MEATBALL PEPPERONI AND ANCHOVY SANDWICH I JUST HAD

I KNOW! DO YOU THINK YOU SHOULD WEAR SOME COLOGNE?

Snuffy Smith

GOT ENNYTHIN' FER BUG BITES AN' STINGS, SILAS?

SHORE DO !!

Beetle Bailey

THE GENERAL'S NOT A BIG RUM DRINKER

I KNOW

THAT'S WHY I MADE HIM A SCOTCH CAKE FOR HIS BIRTHDAY

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Jay County ...

Continued from page 8
Maria Hemmelgarn exploded for 17 kills, Elizabeth Barnett added 11 kills and Brenna Bailey totaled nine aces.

Boys soccer drops 2

It was a tough back-to-back for the Jay County boys soccer team, which lost 2-1 Monday to host Heritage after falling 5-4 at home Saturday to the Centerville Bulldogs.

The two sets of Patriots were tied at the half Monday but Heritage shut out JCHS in the second and eked out the one-goal win. Carter Link had the lone goal for Jay County (4-5-1, 1-1 Allen County Athletic Conference).

There was more scoring Saturday but the result was the same — a one-goal defeat. Josh Dowlen, Dylan Marentes, Levi Muhlenkamp and Link each had goals against the Bulldogs. Kaleb Meadows and Muhlenkamp added one assist apiece.

First in invite

SELMA — Jay County's junior high girls cross country team put three runners — all seventh graders — in the top six Friday as it won the Selma Invitational.

The Patriot girls scored 49 points to finish nine ahead of runner-up Yorktown in the eight-team field. The boys team was third out of 11 with 77 points,

trailing Madison-Grant (48) and Yorktown (49).

Brooklyn Byrum led Jay County's girls to the victory with a runner-up finish in 12 minutes, 50.2 seconds. She was one second behind champion Kynlie Keffer of Wes-Del.

Abby Fifer was fourth in 12:54 and Jessie Homan finished sixth in 13:20. Kaitlyn Fisher posted a time of 13:57 for 13th place and Lyla Kunkler finished in 14:45 for 24th.

Raif Beiswanger and Caleb Garringer were third and fifth, respectively, for the boys team in 11:14 and 11:38. Rounding out the team score were Rocky Beiswanger (20th - 12:16), Sa3m

Wiggins (24th - 12:20) and Beckett Brandenburg (25th - 12:24).

MS spikers lose

MUNCIE — All three Jay County junior high volleyball teams lost Monday at Delta, with the eighth graders falling 25-18, 25-16. The seventh grade A team lost 25-14, 25-16 while the B team suffered a 25-20, 25-12 defeat.

The eighth grade Patriots got four points from Hallie Schwieterman and three from Lucy Mace. Makayla Bishop had five points for the seventh grade A team while Mallory Hudson recorded five points and two kills for the B team.

The squads also competed Sat-

urday in the Munciana Tournament with the seventh graders going 2-3 while the eighth graders finished 1-4.

Brenna Ruble led the Patriot seventh graders with a combined 25 points against Selma and Daleville. Emalyn Homan chipped in 10 points, including five aces, against Selma and Amelia Heath notched six kills against Daleville.

The eighth grade team, which earned its lone win 25-22, 25-19 over Selma, got 18 points from Brenna Schmiesing and 16 from Schwieterman. Lydia Johnson had eight kills, Ella Rigby recorded 13 assists and Carley Trinidad finished with 10 digs.

Best ...

Continued from page 8

Delta won the tournament with a 335, with Daleville (358) and Yorktown (369) claiming the other two regional berths. (The top three teams and top three individuals not on advancing teams move on to the regional.) Yorktown's Kayleigh Agugliaro made par on the final hole to flip a one-stroke deficit to a two-stroke win, taking the sectional title by two strokes over Delta's Belle Brown with a 3-over-par 75.

Earning the three individual regional berths were Wapahani's Delaney Dodd (89), Wes-Del's Lauren Cox (90) and Blue River's Maci Chamberlain (91).

Jay County, which won just one dual match this season, had a slow start on the back nine at Crestview. Every player except senior Rosealynne Smith recorded a 10 — the double-par maximum score for a hole — on the 410-yard, par-5 10th. The team would make the turn at 244, improving by more than 20 strokes on the front nine.

Smith led the Patriots in her final outing, playing her best on the par 3s on

the front nine. She recorded bogeys on both the 170-yard, par-3 third hole and the 156-yard, par-3 ninth. She was on the green with her first shot on the final hole and proceeded to three-putt for the bogey.

She also had three bogeys in a stretch of four holes from the 13th through 16th and finished with nine on the day to shoot 107. It was the best 18-hole score of her career — three strokes better than at least season's sectional.

"She didn't get down on herself like she seems to in a lot of matches," said Buckner. "Today it seemed like her mood was lighter. ... If she did have a bad hole, she would show it, but then she'd go on to the next hole and shoot a bogey or double."

While sophomore Maddy Snow was unable to match the 99 she put up a week earlier to earn All-Allen County Athletic Conference first-team honors, she still improved by six strokes over her 2021 sectional score at Crestview. After a difficult first two holes she bounced back to bogey the next two. She recorded back-to-back pars

on the 347-yard, par-4 fifth hole and the 230-yard, par-4 sixth en route to a 109.

"From the first tee, she was struggling," said Buckner. "However, after the first nine ... she kind of lightened up on herself. ... She was able to calm herself down and shoot several strokes lower."

Ellie Klarer, Stacy Fomina and Meah Devoe, all of whom were new to varsity this year with two playing golf for the first time, all shot their best 18-hole scores of the season.

Klarer, who had been in the 130s in each of the Patriots' three previous tournaments this year, shot 59 on the front nine to close with a 125. Fomina, an exchange student from Ukraine taking up golf for the first time, improved on her ACAC Tournament score by 16 strokes to finish at 126. And Devoe, a new golfer who joined the team at mid-season, was seven strokes better than her only 18-hole event this year with a 131.

"This was our goal all along," said Buckner. "Our goal was for sectional to do the best we can ... I think we accomplished that."

FRHS ...

Continued from page 8

Ellie Will and Jenna Hart finished back-to-back in 61st and 62nd for the Tribe girls with times of 21:10.2 and 21:10.7, respectively. Joelle Kaup recorded a time of 21:31.3 for 75th place and Caitlin Weitzel crossed the finish line in 21:49.3 for 85th.

Parker Brunswick was sixth in the Gray race for the Indian boys as he had a time of 17:24.7. Behind him were Ethan Evers (90th - 19:35.7), Evan Evers (92nd - 19:37.6), Caleb Rammel (183rd - 20:58) and Caden Marchal (294th - 23:46.1).

Golfers go low

The Fort Recovery boys golf team posted its best score of the year Monday for a 167-195 victory over the Celina Bulldogs at Portland Golf Club. The Indians also posted a 350 to finish fifth out of 18 teams in Saturday's Jordan Moeller Invitational at Mercer County Elks Golf Club.

Isaac LeFevre paced FRHS (6-9), which has won three of its last four dual matches, with a 3-over-par 38. He had birdies on the 401-yard, par-3 third hole and the 471-yard, par-5 sixth.

Celina's Nick Steinbrunner was the match medalist with a 36.

Keegan Muhlenkamp birdied the opening hole as he followed LeFevre for the Indians with a 41. Alex Dues shot 43 and Eli Lennartz completed the team score with a 45.

Lennartz recorded 10 pars Saturday to lead FRHS with an 82. LeFevre shot 84, Alex Dues had an 87 and Nate Jutte finished at 97.

Thwaits back to FW

Fort Recovery High School graduate Nick Thwaits was sent back to the Class High A Fort Wayne TinCaps on Sunday after making one appearance with the Class 2A San Antonio Missions.

The move was a formality for Fort Wayne as the team's season is over. (The Missions start their divisional playoffs series tonight.)

In his one appearance, Thwaits gave up one unearned run on two hits in 1 1/3 innings.

Two records fall

TROY, Ohio — Reese Diller and Makenna Huelskamp of Fort Recovery

Middle School both broke records Saturday at Troy Twilight.

Huelskamp's effort powered the Tribe girls to an eighth-place finish out of 16 teams. Diller led the Indian boys to a 13th-place finish out of 19 teams.

It was another win for Huelskamp, who is undefeated on the season. She won in 11 minutes, 45.6 seconds — runner-up Brylie Greve of Botkins was 28 seconds back — to break the FRMS record of 11:47 she set last season.

Diller's record came with a time of 10:56.2 for seventh place. He broke the previous mark of 11:14 set by Parker Brunswick last season.

Courtney Klenske (14:21) and Riley Heitkamp (14:24) followed Huelskamp, going back-to-back in 48th and 49th, respectively. Kendall Ranly posted a time of 14:48 for 68th and Madilyn Reinhard had a time of 18:33 for 161st.

The No. 2 runner for the Indian boys was Russell Hart in 70th at 12:47. Trailing him were Milo Fiely (80th - 12:56), Chase Fiely (147th - 14:14) and Evan Diller (176th - 15:08).

90 SALE CALENDAR

KIRBY & OTHERS AUCTION
Saturday, September 24, 2022

10:00 A.M. / 10:30 A.M. — Double Ring

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Jay Co. Fairgrounds
Bob Schmit Memorial Hall

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Laci Smitley AU10600051

(260)-729-2281 - Cell

Gary White AU19800069

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
OCTOBER 1, 2022
TIME 10:00 A. M.

LOCATED: 8108 W. 400 S. Redkey IN REAL ESTATE

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Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

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PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 525 N Middle Street Portland, IN
Friday afternoon

OCTOBER 7, 2022
4:30 P.M.

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Auctioneers

Gary Loy AU01031608
Ben Lyons AU10700085
Travis Theurer AU11200131

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Located: 7845 W 300 N Pennville, IN
Saturday Morning

SEPTEMBER 24, 2022
10:00 A.M.

GUNS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - HOUSEHOLD GOODS
Savage Model 40 - 22 bolt action; Marlin Model 60 - 22 single shot; Glenfield Model 60 - 22 semiautomatic; gun cabinet; scopes; Knickerbocker ice box; milk crates; Hanson dietetic metal scales; and other items not listed.

VEHICLES - ATV - EQUIPMENT - TOOLS
2001 Pontiac Montana Van; 1996 Geo Tracker 4 wheel Drive; Ford 600 tractor, non running; 18' x 20' carport; Honda Elite 250 motorcycle (title); 6' x 8' trailers (no titles); garden planter; tarps; rakes; shovels; oil cans; dog cage; hose reel; and many other items not listed.

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2022 TERM

IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF: BROOKE LYNN DELANEY CAUSE NO.:

38C01-2208-MI-000036
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Petitioner: FELICIA LYNETTE RETTER, whose mailing address and residence is 115 N. Meridian St., Redkey, IN 47373, hereby gives notice that on August 31, 2022 she filed a petition in the Jay Circuit Court requesting that the legal name Brooke Lynn Delaney be changed to: Brooke Lynn Retter. Notice is further given that a hearing will be held on said Petition for Change of name on the 18 day of November, 2022 at 9:00 am. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file objections. Dated: 8/31/2022

Jon Eads
Clerk of the Circuit Court for Jay County, Indiana
Jason E. Welch, Attorney for Petitioner
111 North Main Street
Winchester, IN 47394
Atty. No. 19617-49
CR 9-6,13,20-2022 - HSPAXLP

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT OAKWOOD MHC INDIANA, LLC, Plaintiff,

v. UNKNOWN OWNER(S) OF ABANDONED MOBILE HOME, and INDIANA BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES, Defendants.

CAUSE NO. 38C01-2209-MI-000040
SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION NOTICE OF SUIT

To the Defendants named and any other person who may be concerned, The Unknown Owner(s) of the Abandoned Mobile Home who may be interested in the mobile home described in this notice you are notified that you have been sued in the Court above-named cause.

Oakwood MHC Indiana, LLC has filed a Verified Complaint for Court Order to Issue Mobile Home title regarding a certain mobile home situated at 1237 N U.S. 27 #43, Portland, Jay County, Indiana 47371 at a manufactured home community known as Oakwood. The mobile home is described as a 1993 MAKE: PATRIOT, MODEL: UNKNOWN, VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER UNKNOWN. Title and ownership of the mobile home is unknown. Plaintiff is requesting that title and ownership of the mobile home be transferred to BSREP II MH Bayshore Heritage, LLC. This summons by publication is directed to any person who may claim an ownership interest in the mobile home and whose identity and whereabouts are unknown. This summons by publication is directed to the Unknown Owner(s) of Abandoned Mobile Home whose whereabouts are unknown. An answer or other appropriate response in writing to the Complaint must be filed either by you or your attorney on or before thirty (30) days after the last publication of notice of the suit, and if you fail to do so, a judgment will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Responses must be filed at the Jay County Clerk's Office, 120 North Court Street, #11, Portland, Indiana 47371. The names and address of the attorneys representing the plaintiff are:

Kathryn M. Merritt-Thrasher, #30769-29
J. F. Beatty, #4170-49
LANDMAN BEATTY, LAWYERS
9100 Keystone Crossing, Suite 870
Post Office Box 40960
Indianapolis, IN 46240-0960
Lawyers for Plaintiff
Oakwood MHC Indiana, LLC
Date: 9/8/2022
Jon Eads
Clerk of the Jay County Courts
CR 9-20, 27,10-4-2022-HSPAXLP

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Season's best

Patriots post lowest 18-hole total at sectional

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review
MUNCIE — The goal all season for the Patriots was individual improvement with a focus on playing their best golf by the end of the season.

They mostly accomplished that goal as their campaign came to a close Saturday.

Jay County High School's girls golf team finished last in a field of nine in the sectional tournament hosted by Muncie Central at Crestview Golf Course, but did so with four out of five players posting career-best 18-hole rounds.

"Everything went the way we expected it to," said JCHS coach Marvin Buckner. "The scores indicated that they played their best 18-hole match that they played all year. ... Even though our record doesn't indicate our progress, it's all for the sectional, and I think our scores today proved that. Everyone has improved ..."

The Patriots' score of 467 put them 30 strokes behind eighth-place Monroe Central.

See **Best** page 7



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School senior Rosealynne Smith hits out of the bunker in front of the seventh green at Crestview Golf Course during the sectional tournament Saturday. In her final outing with the Patriots, she shot a career-best 107 to lead the team.

Tribe runners break school records

TROY, Ohio — An evening run resulted in multiple records for the Indians.

Fort Recovery High School juniors Trevor Heitkamp and Natalie Brunswick each set school records

FRHS
Saturday **roundup**
at the Troy Twilight Cross Country Invitational.

The Indian girls were ninth out of 17 teams in the Scarlet race with 270 points. The boys team, minus Heitkamp, competed in the Gray race and was 16th out of 29 with 488 points.

Heitkamp was nearly 40 seconds faster than his previous best time, placing fourth in the high school Scarlet race in 15 minutes, 48.2 seconds. He obliterated the previous boys record of 16:11 set by Phil Ranly in 1996.

Asher Long (15:40.6) won a loaded race that saw nine athletes break the 16-minute mark.

Natalie Brunswick was 14th in the girls Scarlet race as she finished in 19:07.6, also easily outpacing the previous FRHS record. That mark of 19:24 was set by Chloe Will in 2016.

See **FRHS** page 7

Bader, Bilbrey lead JC

The Bader and Bilbrey show was too much for the Bulldogs.

Mara Bader and Gabi Bilbrey each recorded 10 points as the Jay County High School girls soccer team destroyed the sectional rival Centerville Bulldogs 9-1 Saturday afternoon.

Bader and Bilbrey wasted little time getting the Patriots (6-3) on the scoreboard as the latter assisted the former on two goals in the first 10 minutes. Bilbrey scored unassisted with 8:48 on the first-half clock and Bader found the net from another Bilbrey assist to make it 4-0 at half-time.

Bilbrey scored again unassisted just three minutes into the second half, with Bader then adding two more goals on assists from Morgan DeHoff and Bilbrey. With 19:33 left, Bilbrey scored her third goal, and then Jayla Huelskamp capped the scoring at the 15:01 mark.

The Patriots will continue their run of sectional opponents when they host Delta tonight and then visit Yorktown on Thursday.

Gold at state

The Jay County Special Olympics golfers competed Saturday in the state tournament at Hickory Stick Golf Club in Greenwood.

Winning gold medals were the unified teams of Connor Hoyt and Dr. Dave Fullenkamp, and Ron Smith and Mark Smith.

Earning silver was the team of Sam Glessner and Dr. Tom Dunn II.

Randy Lucas and Seth Scott picked up a fifth-

Jay County roundup

place medal while Mark Knipp and Troy Atkinson finished sixth.

Back to .500

DECATUR — Jay County's boys tennis team evened its record Monday with a 5-0 victory over the host Belmont Braves.

The Patriots, who are 8-8 after losing five of their first six matches, were especially strong at doubles Monday. Sam Myers and Gage Sims breezed past Bryson Ball and Hayden Huss 6-1, 6-0 at the No. 1 spot while the No. 2 team of Luke Muhlenkamp and Austin Dirksen topped Layne Lemaster and Ben Mendoza 6-1, 6-2.

Abraham Dirksen fought off Dustin Henkenius 7-5, 7-5 at No. 1 singles while his cousin Simon Dirksen beat Jacob Hirn 6-3, 6-0 at No. 2 singles. Eli Dirksen got a forfeit win at No. 3 singles.

Sibray leads CC

YORKTOWN — Alexis Sibray turned in the top finish for the Jay County cross country teams as they competed Saturday at the Yorktown Invitational.

The Patriot boys were last out of 11 teams with 281 points. New Castle was 10th with 265 while Wapahani won with 25.

The JCHS girls did not have enough runners for a team score.

Sibray posted a time of

23 minutes, 54 seconds, to finish 25th in the girls race. Daleville's Faith Norris won the event in 20:08.

Willow Hardy finished 38th in 25:17, Paityn Wendel was 43rd in 26:41 and Courtney Harris finished 49th in 29:52.

Sebastian Solis posted a time of 19:12 to lead the Patriot boys with a 37th-place finish. Freshman Max Klopfenstein and senior Owen Ransom each had career-best times as they finished in 20:26 for 54th place and 20:55 for 58th place. Darren Fisher was 69th in 22:24 and Lukes Powers had a career-best time of 22:40 for 71st place to complete the team total.

Spikers fall short

HARTFORD CITY — Jay County's volleyball team rallied from a two-set deficit to force a fifth only to lose 25-17, 28-26, 20-25, 18-25, 15-11 Monday to the host Blackford Bruins.

The Patriots, who are now 3-11, started slowly before pushing Blackford to extra points in the second set. They then took the next two sets before falling to the hosts in the five-set marathon.

Brenna Haines totaled 31 digs and three aces for JCHS in the defeat. Abbie Fields finished with 19 kills and three blocks, and Maggie Dillon had 20 digs and nine kills.

Joske Herndon put up 27 assists, Bella Denton notched four blocks and Madison Brunswick matched Haines with three aces.

The junior varsity team dominated the Bruins, 25-3, 25-15.

See **Jay County** page 7

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Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls soccer vs. Delta — 5 p.m.; Volleyball vs. South Adams — 6 p.m.; JV boys soccer at Daleville — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high cross country at Muncie Southside — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high volleyball vs. South Adams — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high football vs. South Adams — 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys golf at Lehman Catholic — 4 p.m.; Girls golf vs. Marion

Local — 4:30 p.m.; Volleyball (varsity only) at Coldwater — 5:30 p.m.; Middle school volleyball vs. Coldwater — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
6:40 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Boston Red Sox at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — College soccer: Penn State at Maryland (BTN)

Wednesday
6:40 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Boston Red Sox at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — Soccer: Club friendlies — Guadalajara at FC Cincinnati (ESPN2)
9 p.m. — Soccer: Club friendlies — America at Nashville SC (ESPN2)
9:40 p.m. — Major League Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at San Diego Padres (Bally Indiana)