The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Hospitals filling with flu patients

By LESLIE BONITA MUNIZ

Indiana Capital Chronicle With The Commercial Review staff reports

Hoosier health and hospital officials on Monday urged residents to get the flu vaccine as hospitals strain under the weight of a fast-growing caseload and rising death toll. The flu has killed 24 people as of a December 3 report; the next such update will Box in a news release. As resi-culating strains, and it is your include the state's first child flu fatality.

"Like many states, Indiana is experiencing very high levels of flu activity right now," said State Health Commissioner Dr. Kris

State health chief pushes for vaccination

dents prepare to travel and gather with family for the holidays, she encouraged vaccination for anyone six months and older.

"This year's flu vaccine continues to be a good match for the cir-

best protection against a severe, and possibly tragic, outcome," Box said. It takes two weeks for the antibodies triggered by the vaccine to develop.

Indiana hospitals are tackling

triple the trouble this winter, as ment of health's influenza dashthe flu, respiratory syncytial board, 5.9% of all emergency virus — known for its deadly potential for infants — and COVID-19 circulate. The flu is different, and more severe, than the common cold.

More than 11,000 people are in inpatient care as of this week, Indiana Hospital Association President Brian Tabor said in a news release. And he warned that the state could break records for inpatient capacity set during the height of the COVID-19 pandem-

According to the stated depart-

room patients in Jay County are displaying an "influenza-like illness." That's below the state average of 7.3%.

Randolph County is the highest in the area at 11.1%, and Delaware County is at 7.3%. Wells County is at 4.7%, with Adams County at 3.6% and Blackford County at 2.9%.

The highest levels are in the south central portion of the state, with Washington County coming in at 21.1%.

See Flu page 2





Holiday story

Bloomfield Elementary School held its Christmas program, based on the book "The Bear Stays up for Christmas," on Tuesday at East Jay Elementary School. Pictured above, Jackson Westgerdes, a second grader, performs during the show that included "O Christmas Tree," "Rock the Holly" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town." Below, first grader Vicki Suman smacks a drum.

Biden signs bill on marriage

Measure protects same-sex partnerships

By MICHAEL MACAGNONE

CQ-Roll Call Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — President Joe Biden signed into law Tuesday a bill to protect same-sex marriages, at a White House ceremony resembling a victory lap set to a soundtrack of pop music stars Sam Smith and Cyndi Lauper.

The South Lawn ceremony featured performances from the two artists, as well as speeches from Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer and the couple that brought the lawsuit that prompted a Massachusetts court to legalize same-sex marriage in that state.

Accompanied by an acoustic guitar, Lauper performed her song "True Colors," which also shares the name of a group to fight LGBTQ homelessness she co-founded in 2008. Smith, who performed the hit song "Stay With Me," came out as gay in 2014 and nonbinary in 2019.

Biden, in a speech, emphasized the impor-tance of congressional action to formally repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and codify federal recognition of same-sex marriages. Supporters said the law in part would be a backstop in case the Supreme Court ever reversed its 2015 ruling that legalized same-sex marriages nationwide.

"It is one thing for the Supreme Court to rule on a case, but it is another thing entirely for elected representatives of the people to take a vote on the floor of the United States Congress and say loudly and clearly, 'Love is love,'" Biden said.

The bill, which passed both chambers of Congress with bipartisan support, is one of the last major pieces of legislation that Democrats will pass before handing control of the House over to Republicans next Congress.

Pelosi noted that the law served as a bookend to her own time as House speaker. She had prioritized LGBTQ issues such as funding to fight HIV and AIDS from her first term as Congress.

See Marriage page 5

Deaths

Michael McBeth, Albany Christopher Morgan, 34,

Portland Details on page 2.

Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 34 and 39 degrees Tuesday.

Tonight's low will be 39 with rain expected after midnight and winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. More rain is possible Thursday with a high

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. The agenda includes a variance for a setback for turkey confined feeding operation.

Coming up

Thursday — A look at local athletes who are competing at the college level.

Friday — Coverage of Thursday's Redkey Town Council meeting.



ISTA pushes for better pay, benefits

The Times (Munster) Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana State Teachers Association is pushing the Legislature to increase teacher pay and benefits as the state deals with more than 1,500 teacher vacancies.

"More than a decade of inadequate education funding and efforts to de-professionalize the education profession has resulted in an educator shortage crisis," ISTA wrote in its annual list of

priorities ahead of the 2023 leg- to public schools that can be used designed to recruit and retain islative session. "ISTA has a plan, but it will take us all — educators, school administrators and parents — to make sure all students have caring, qualified, committed educators in their school."

ISTA released that list Tuesday morning, addressing teacher compensation and benefits, learning and working conditions, and giving teachers more autonomy. The ITSA is asking legislators, among other things, to:

Significantly increase funding

to reach teacher-salary goals.

·Create a commission to identify and report comprehensive information regarding educational support professionals, such as bus drivers, food-service employees, custodians, technicians, skilled trades, administrative staff, security and instructional aides.

•Expand collective bargaining and give those rights to educational support professionals.

•Create a grant program for public school employees.

educational support professionals, including signing bonuses, benefits packages and commercial driver's license certification

 Amend state law to exempt loan debt relief student from Indiana's state income taxation, with the goal of alleviating the financial burden of studying education at the college level.

•Provide up to 12 weeks of state-funded paid parental leave

special-education and English language-learner funding.

 Develop and fund universal and free public preschool within the next three years.

·Increase scholarships aimed at attracting and retaining teachers, with a particular focus on increasing the number of Black, Indigenous or people-of-color teachers.

•Support paraprofessionals to transition to become licensed teachers.

Condolences and other expres-

Christopher Morgan, Portland, Dec.

14, 1987-Dec. 12, 2022. Services will

sions of sympathy may be

expressed at MeachamFuneralSer-

CR almanac

Thursday 12/15	Friday Saturday 12/16 12/17		Sunday 12/18	Monday 12/19	
46/29	36/23	29/20	30/19	33/20	
There's a slight chance of rain Thurs- day under mostly cloudy skies.	day. The low is	cloudy skies with tempera-	Partly sunny throughout the day. The low may dip to 19 degrees.	Mostly sunny Mon- day with a high of 33 degrees.	

Lotteries

Powerball

Estimated \$134 million

Mega Millions

14-22-48-58-68 Mega Ball: 6 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot:

\$429 million

Hoosier Midday

Daily Three: 2-1-7 Daily Four: 9-2-4-1 Quick Draw: 4-11-18-19-27-34-39-40-43-46-48-56-57-60-64-65-70-72-73-75 Evening Daily Three: 4-6-7

Quick Draw: 3-4-12-19-39-45-63-71-73-76-77

Cash 5: 12-18-20-24-42 Estimated jackpot: \$90,000

Ohio

Pick 3: 7-6-8 Pick 4: 1-6-6-9 Pick 5: 2-8-7-6-0 Evening Pick 3: 8-7-3 Pick 4: 4-1-8-5 Pick 5: 0-0-0-9-5

31-33

jackpot: 23-24-26-27-29-30-31-36-37-

Midday

Rolling Cash: 7-16-28-

Estimated jackpot: \$300,000

Daily Four: 6-0-8-3 **Markets**

Cooper F	
Fort Rec	overy
Corn	6.68
-	0.0=

Wheat	6.58
POET Biorefini Portland	ing
Corn	6.65
Jan corn	6 62

Jan. corn......6.65

Jan. corn6.62 Feb. corn6.64

The And	ersons
	Township
Corn	6 47

Richland Tov	wnship
Corn	6.47
Jan. corn	6.47
Beans	14.69
Ian hoans	1/1 7/

Jan.	whea	at	•••••	7.32
Cen			tes	
Mar	tno	liar		

Wheat 6.81

Montpelier	_
Corn	
Jan. corn	

1
3
5
5
1

Heartland St. Anthony

Corn	6.17
Jan. corn	6.19
Beans	14.52
Jan. beans	14.57
Wheat	6.89

Today in history

In 557, Constantinople withstands a 6.4 magnitude earthquake. The capital of the Byzantine Empire sustained major damage from the event.

In 1287, more than 50,000 lives were lost after the Zuiderzee seawall collapsed during St. Lucia's Flood in the northwest Netherlands. It's known as the fifth largest recorded flood in history.

In 1503, astrologer and physician Michel de Nostredame (also known simply as Nostradamus) was born in France. Nostradamus is best known for his collection of poems, "Les Prophéties", that allegedly predicted the future during the Renaissance.

Scottish In **1542**, princess Mary Stuart School in Newtown, Contook over the throne from necticut. her father, James V, and

became Queen Mary I.

Stuart was six days old.

In 1799, George Washington died at his Mt. Vernon home in Virginia. After serving his country for more than five decades, including in the American Revolutionary War and as the United States' first president for two terms, he died at the age of 67.

1920, Jack Dempsey KO'd Bill Brennan in the heavyweight boxing title in New York

In 1939, The League of Nations expelled the Soviet Union for its demands of Finland.

In 2012, Twenty children and six adults were killed in the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today

1 p.m. — Jay County Sheriff's Office Merit Board, sheriff's office, 224 W. Water St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint executive session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N.

Court St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Jay County St., Portland.

Council. auditorium. courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Thursday

6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.

6 p.m. — Jay County Board of Zoning Appeals, Community Resource Central, 118 S. Meridian

Obituaries

Michael McBeth

April 10, 1945-Dec. 11, 2022 Michael D. McBeth, age 77, Albany, died Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital following a short illness.

Born in Portland on April 10, 1945, he grew up in Redkey and was a 1963 graduate of Redkey High School. Mike was a U.S. Navy veteran who served during the Vietnam War. He worked at General Motors for 31 years and was a member of American Legion Post 507, Ridgeville. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed playing cards.

Survivors include his wife of 59 years, Judy McBeth; son Skylan

McBeth (wife: Jill), Michigan; Troy, daughter Brooke McBeth (partner: John Mock Jr.), Alexandria; brother Dean McBeth (wife: Carol), Plainwell, Michigan; and

grandchildren Joseph McBeth (partner: Chelsea Martin), Winchester, Nicklaus McBeth, Troy, Michigan, and Lauren McBeth, Troy, Michigan.

parents, Joseph F. and Mildred time/date/location of services. Eileen (Friend) McBeth.

Cremation was chosen.



McBeth

be held at a later date. The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free

of charge. They include the name, city of He was preceded in death by his residence, birth/death date and

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funer-There will be no public services. *al homes or mortuary services*.

Continued from page 1 Ohio influenza activity has also spiked, with more than 1,400 hospitalizations as of the last weekly report. The five-year average for early December is less than 100, with flu activity typically peaking in mid-February.

Tabor and Box said that, when possible, Hoosiers should get tested for respiratory illnesses and seek care for mild symptoms at a family physician's office or a local urgent care, rather than at a hospital emergency room.

"Our hospitals are dealing with the triple impact of influenza, RSV and COVID-19 right now, along with normal emergencies and illnesses, and we want to keep emergency rooms clear for Hoosiers who urgently need them," Box

Those most at risk for developing flu-related pneumonia, requiring hospitalization or even cle is an independent, nondying include pregnant profit news organization. people, young children, Its website is indianacapielderly people, and those talchronicle.com.

Our hospitals are dealing with the triple impact of influenza, RSV and COVID-19 right now.'

—Dr. Kris Box

with chronic illnesses or otherwise who are immunocompromised.

The Indiana Department of Health recommends washing hands often with warm and soapy water, covering a cough or sneeze with an elbow or tissue, and staying home when sick.

Indiana Capital Chroni-

Felony courts

Unlawful possession

A Pennville man was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty to unlawful possession, a Level 6 felony, in Jay Circuit Court.

Parker M. Squier, 32, admitted he is a habitual offender. Squier was sentenced to four years in Indiana Department of Correction — two years were added onto the sentence because he is a habitual offender — and given credit for time served. He was assessed \$185 in court costs.

As part of his plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor for resisting law enforcement was missed.

SERVICES

Today

Jones, Doug: 5 p.m., Fairhaven Funeral Home, 6557 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne.

Friday

Smith, Mary: 10 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by **PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS** 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371

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Alternating holidays makes life easier

By JANN BLACKSTONE

Tribune News Service Ex-etiquette is a weekly column. Each week I answer your questions about breaking up, starting over, and co-parenting. In last week's column I made a comment about not being in favor of coparents splitting the holidays. Because my readers felt this was out of character, I got a lot of emails. Comments like, "You always say children have the right to time with both parents. How can you say you are not in

truth is, parenting plans are written for the parents, and the first rule of good ex-etiquette is, "Put the children first." It's difficult for children to do things like get up in the middle of Thanksgiving dinner because they are other parent's home at a

favor of splitting the holi-

days? I thought you were

about what's fair.'





parents tell me, "It's not me! That's what it said in the court order!" it is a little crazy-making to me. Many parents simply don't know they can agree to adjust the court order any time they want.

Let me explain a little further.

When co-parents live around the corner from Of course, I am. But the one another or even across town, they can easily split the holidays, the children with one parent on Christmas Eve and the other parent on Christmas Day.

> However, when you live an hour away from your co-parent, or two or three

says you are supposed to share the children's time on a holiday, you have to ask yourself, "Is this really in the best interest of my children?

That's when I am not in favor of splitting the holidays. Alternating the holidays in those cases may be easier on everyone especially the kids.

This was the decision of two of my clients who realized even driving across town in the middle of a holiday frustrated their children. During a co-parenting session they were comparing notes and talking about how the children celebrated Thanksgiving this year with dad instead of trying to juggle portions of the day. Mom was smiling as she listened to dad talk about the spontaneous family recital initiated by her children, and that prompted me to ask dad if it would it be a stretch scheduled to be at the hours, and try to shuffle for him to videotape a the kids back-and-forth spontaneous moment and



When co-parents live around the corner from one another or even across town, they can easily split the holidays, the children with one parent on Christmas Eve and the other parent on Christmas Day, writes Dr. Jann Blackstone. However, when you live an hour or more away from your co-parent and try to shuffle the kids back and forth because the court order says you are supposed to share the children's time on a holiday, you have to ask yourself, "Is this really in the best interest of my children?"

could see how well the smiled and said, "Of children were adjusting to celebrating at dad's home.

He thought for a second and I could see the wheels turning as he considered specific time. And when because the court order send it to mom so she my question. Then he Now, because they had

course.'

This was a huge step for them. Months ago these parents couldn't talk to one another, even separately in a Zoom meeting.

learned to put their own issues aside and put their children first, they were considering sending each other videos.

Some might ask why I didn't suggest FaceTime or a video call.

These parents are just in the beginning stages of co-parenting. If co-parents are not ready for that sort of interaction, they may find video calls to the other parent intrusive, whereas sending a video that someone just took demonstrates forethought and a desire to cooperate. As these parents become more comfortable working together, FaceTime might be a great alternative, but not yet. We start with baby steps. That's good ex-etiquette.

Blackstone is the author of "Ex-etiquette for Parents: BehaviorDivorce or Separation," and the founder of Bonus Families, bonusfamilies.com. Email her at dr.jann@exeti-

Man blindsided by his ex's new boyfriend

DEAR ABBY: My ex-wife, "Jenny," and I were together seven years, married for almost five of them. We have a young child together. We have been divorced for eight months. I have been trying to reconcile with her because she is the love of my life and I want our family to be together.

The problem is, since we separated, she has been seeing my ex-best friend, "Mack," who was the best man at our wedding. I was crushed when I found out. I have tried to show Jenny that Mack is a manipulator and a liar and that he hasn't been honest with her dur- accept ing their time together.

I know that I am clearly the best man for Jenny, our son and our family. However, she conDear Abby



his true colors have been shown and after I have done everything to make things right with us and win her back. How should I proceed, knowing she's making the wrong decision? — RIGHTING A WRONG

DEAR RIGHTING: Please sympathy $\mathbf{m}\mathbf{y}$ because it's obvious you are hurting. You can't save your marriage all by yourself. It

n't been honest, and some- dinner. The apartment was a her and enjoys living with her. times people must learn the hard way. As much as you'd like to "save" Jenny, she's going to have to make her own mistakes. Stay close so you can buffer your son if there are stormy seas ahead. If Mack is as bad as you say, their romance likely will not last.

DEAR ABBY: My husband

and I have two adult sons, 22 and 20. We helped them become independent by teaching them as teenagers to cook, do their laundry, scrub their bathrooms, vacuum, do dishes, etc.

Our oldest moved out a year ago and rented an apartment with his 28-year-old girlfriend.

mess. We let our son know they need to spend 15 to 30 minutes every day picking up after themselves so their days off won't be spent cleaning. They both work crazy hours.

Neither one thinks cleaning their apartment is important! We have bought them cleaning supplies, a vacuum, a mop, etc., to help them maintain their apartment, but they sit unused. Their place is now a total disaster. It pains me to see them live like this. This isn't in imminent danger. how our son was raised.

By the way, she is the mother of a 5-year-old who stays with her three days a week. Part of me wants to call CPS because no child should live in these takes two. Your ex is unwill- A month after he moved, we conditions, but I'm hesitant DearAbby.com or P.O. Box tinues to see Mack even after ing to accept that Mack has- were invited to their place for because of my son. He loves 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

I desperately need advice on how to best handle this. — FAS-TIDIOUS IN WASHINGTON

DEAR FASTIDIOUS: understand that you are disgusted, but the "best way to handle this" would be to step back and stay out of it. This is how your son has chosen to live — for now. If he is bothered by the mess, he's capable of stepping in to rectify it. You should not call CPS unless the child is

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

Community Calendar

space is available. To submit an item. email news@thecr.com.

TodayJAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in room 205 on the second floor of John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — For caregivers persons group will meet at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of ference room, 410 Pilgrim Davis at (765) 369-2085.

Notices will appear in Boulevard in Hartford City. Community Calendar as For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-

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

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will Alzheimer's disease or meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. related dementias, the each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early each month at Blackford for a meal. For more infor-Community Hospital con- mation, call Pastor Randy

ORGANIZATION — Will meet for its annual meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at the scout facility, 4684 S. Waste Management Drive, rurai Portland.

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.

ÈN 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.
PORTLAND LIC

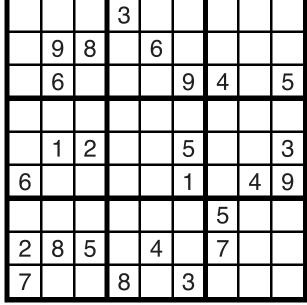
CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

MISSISSINEWA CHAP-TER OF NATIONAL SOCI-ETY OF DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVO-LUTION — Will meet on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Jay County Historical Museum. Chapter will give the Citizenship for Outstanding Volunteerism Award. Please bring non-perishable food items to donate to Trinity United Methodist Church in Portland. This is the last chapter meeting until March 2023. Any ques-tions, please call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (260) 726-

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.



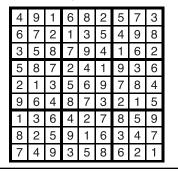
Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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



Kind moment was pure Americana

(Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Dec. 14, 2005. I can picture Jack walking up the steps to the post office making his second visit of the day after his regular morning visit to pick up mail from the newspaper's P.O. Box. And I can't help but wonder who his helper was and if the man remembers the interaction as well.)

By JACK RONALD The Commercial

well came here to paint.

It's just that sort of place.

before the big snow hit. I was trying to get an early jump on

Back in the Saddle



things by mailing some Christmas packages to our daughters in Boston.

There I was, looking like a No wonder Norman Rock- holiday caricature, bundled up against the weather and carrying three large cardboard It was an afternoon last week boxes, stacked so high I could barely see where I was going.

Ascending the steps in front

of the post office, I was watch- of ing for my footing out of the corner of my eye.

When I was about halfway up the steps, the door swung open.

Out came a guy I didn't know.

He was of medium build, and his hair was closely cropped.

He had a beard that was only about half a step up from a five o'clock shadow.

He zipped past me, flipping through his and mail reading the envelopes as he went down the stairs.

Then the Norman Rockwell moment happened.

As he neared the foot

steps neared the top, he swung suddenly around, ran up the stairs, and beat me to the door.

Grabbing the handle, he swung it open to let me in.

Then, remembering the second doors from the vestibule into the post office lobby, he followed me

repeated the gesture.
"Thanks," I said. "Thanks.
And Merry Christmas!"

"Merry Christmas," he said. And he was gone.

And I stood there, having received a very special Christmas gift in that simple act of courtesy and generosity, and grinned like an idiot.

Norman Rockwell, I thought, could have turned that into a classic cover for the old Saturday Evening Post.

would He captured the chill in the air and how ridiculous I looked with that big stack of packages. He would have done justo the humanity tice of the moment. It was pure Americana.

For the record, Rockwell did come here to paint at one point in the early 1950s. A print of his charming rendition of thencounty-extension-agent Herald Rippey hangs in the Jay County Courthouse.

Feds continue to kick the can

Las Vegas Review-

Journal Tribune News Service

More than 20 years after 9/11, Americans are still taking their shoes off at airport checkpoints and remain prohibited from packing larger bottles in their luggage. Yet the folks at the Department of Homeland Security continue to be flummoxed about how to implement more stringent identification requirements for airline passengers.

On Monday, the department announced that it again delaying enforcement of the Real ID Act, which Congress passed 17 years ago. The legislation imposed certain standards on states for issuing driver's licenses and ID cards, forcing recipients to provide additional documentation. The purpose was to enhance travel security by improving the reliability of state-issued identification.

The latest extension means air travelers have been granted a two-year reprieve and won't need federally approved IDs until May 2025.

Department officials blame the most recent delay on the coronavirus, claiming that "Real ID progress over the past two years has been significantly hindered by state driver's licensing agencies having to work through the backlogs created by the pandemic." But this ignores the fact that missed deadlines have been a feature of the law from the outset. The act was initially supposed to be applied in 2008, and the latest delay is the seventh time enforcement has been pushed back.

The real problem is that many Americans still don't have the upgraded licenses. According to the DHS, only 43 percent of stateissued IDs as of 2021 met the law's requirements. Many people still don't realize that at some point they will be unable to board a flight without the Real ID or a passport. Imagine the chaos — and the effect on airlines and airports — if half of all travelers were turned away because they had only a traditional driver's

license. Those in the travel industry have warned of disruptions. In 2020, Kevin Burke, president and CEO of The Airports Council-North America,

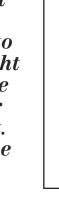
Guest **Editorial**

Many people still don't realize that at some point they will be unable to board a flight without the Real ID or a passport. Imagine the chaos and the effect on airlines and airports if half of all travelers were turned away because they had only a traditional driver's license.

on our hands."

however, is the debate over whether the Real ID will actually have any significant impact on airline safety. Homeland Security officials have been unable to enforce the requirement for 17 years, yet the nation has avoided a repeat of 9/11. "There is precious little in way of evidence supporting the idea that this additional hurdle could prevent terrorism," notes Reason magazine's Emma Camp.

told NBC News that should reconsider imposenforcement of the law is ing this mandate at all.



"a crisis waiting to happen." He added, "If the government doesn't make a definitive statement now that they're going to extend this, then we're going to have a real crisis

Equally important,

Attempting to minimize disruptions that will accompany enforcement of the new ID policy makes sense. But disruptions are inevitable. If Congress isn't willing to live with that after nearly two decades, perhaps it



Chamber missed an opportunity

By JOHN KRULL TheStatehousefile.com

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Chamber of Commerce missed a huge opportunity the other day.

The chamber had a chance to transform Indiana's bitter and unproductive battles over education into a discussion that might lead somewhere and help this state and its people.

But the voice of Hoosier business let the moment go by — in fact, it probably added to the bitterness so everyone in Indiana is condemned to still more angry and pointless wrangling over the state's schools.

Here's what happened.

The chamber released a report, "Indiana's Leaking Talent Pipeline." That report noted that our state performs abysmally when it comes to retaining and attracting talent. The chamber cited a CNBC report that ranked Indiana 48th when it came to alluring qualified workers to come work and live here.

The chamber then veered to blame schools for this sorry showing. The report said Indiana had too few students going on to get certificates or degrees beyond high school and too many school districts.

The chamber's verdict, as usual, was that Indiana's education system was a failing business.

Educators, understandably and predictably, reacted with fury.

Three former state superintendents of public instruction — Suellen Reed, Glenda Ritz and Jennifer McCormick — dismissed the chamber's report as nothing more than hack work. The head of the Indiana State Teachers Association attacked the chamber's findings as driven by ideological, partisan and even financial motivations.

And this state settled for another season of protracted siege warfare with our children being used as both cannon fodder and targets.

John Krull



There are many frustrating things about Indiana's education debates, but perhaps the most maddening is that both sides in the struggle have valid points.

But neither is being heard because there is just too much noise accompanying their ongoing strife.

The chamber's overarching point is a pertinent one. In many ways, Indiana's schools are not serving Hoosier students, businesses or taxpayers well. There is significant room for improvement.

That said, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce is in no position to point fingers.

For almost 20 years, the chamber has been the driving force when it comes to shaping education policy in Indiana.

Running roughshod over the concerns of and objections from teachers and many parents, the chamber and its allies in the Indiana General Assembly and elsewhere have rammed through one supposed "reform" after another.

They created the most expansive and expensive school voucher program in the nation. They encouraged charter schools to pop up and often blow away like weeds in an untended garden. While claiming to empower parents, they denied those same parents the power to choose their own education chief by making the state superintendent of public instruction an appointed rather than an elected position. They changed the state's standardized testing system again and again, sometimes more often than File.com.

once a year, so that the data collected from the tests are close to worth-

They also took pains to make sure that many of their reforms were exempt from the assessment and accountability measures they imposed on traditional public schools.

So, if the leaders of the Indiana Chamber of Commerce don't think the state's schools are up to snuff and they want to hold someone responsible, all they need to do is find a mirror.

In fact, that is what the chamber's leaders should have done.

That is, if they want to move the discussion forward.

The challenges facing Indiana's schools are neither easy nor simple. They will not yield to magic-bullet or wishful-thinking solutions, which is what the self-proclaimed education reformers championed by the chamber often have offered.

Those challenges surely won't be met if we don't find some way to get everyone on the same side of the table.

Even more important, we need to make it clear that admitting to a mistake isn't a sin or a character flaw. It's the natural byproduct of trying new things — an essential component of innovation. It falls to the chamber to send

those signals and set that tone because the chamber has dominated the education debate for at least two decades.

But the chamber didn't do that with this latest report.

Instead, it scored some political points.

And missed the opportunity to do something much more important.

••••• Krull, director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouse-

The Commercial Review



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Marriage

Continued from page 1 Her first term as speaker concluded with her shepherding a bill into law that ended the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" polallowing openly LGBTQ people to serve in the military.

"With courage, fortitude and unity, we have achieved a landmark victory in equality," Pelosi said. "For millions of Americans, the impacts of this law are necessary and fundamental."

Pelosi said she and others still want to push further on legislation, including bills that would establish federal anti-discrimination protections for LGBTQ people.

emphasized Biden Pelosi's central role in pushing for the legislation.

"Equality and dignity for The law repeals the the LGBT community have Defense of Marriage Act, always been her North Star," Biden said.

expressed a desire to go furmarriages, which ther than the legislation signed into law Tuesday, ly unconstitutional in a particularly for federal pro- 2013 decision.

tections against discrimination

"When a person can be married in the morning and be thrown out of a restaurant for being gay in the afternoon, this is still wrong," Biden said.

Such a bill is unlikely to pass in the next two years with a Republican-controlled House and a closely divided Senate.

The new law celebrated Tuesday, known as the Respect for Marriage Act, passed the House on a 258-169-1 vote last week, with 39 Republicans voting to support the measure. Last month it passed the Senate on a 61-36 vote after months of bipartisan negotiations led by Sens. Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisconsin, and Susan Collins, R-Maine.

the 1996 law that prevented the federal government The president also from recognizing same-sex Supreme Court ruled large-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Bunny buddy

"Holidaisy" snuggles up with her rabbit buddy as she shows him off to those gathered for a Silly Safaris event Monday at Jay County Public Library. Other holiday activities scheduled at the library this month include Christmas shopping, crafts and activities on Dec. 15 and 16, and a visit from Santa from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 19.

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Judge Donald Gillespie Paid by waiver

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a 55 mph zone, \$171; Sebastian Perez, Bound Brook, New Jersey, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Robert E. Becker, Geneva, Ohio, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Gurbinderjit Singh, South Ozone Park, New York, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Luis A. Cortez Bautista Cortez, Laredo, Texas, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Alexis O. Lopez, Houston, Texas, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Skylar Meer, Muncie, speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Ethan D. Snapp, Richmond, speeding 77 mph in a 55 mp zone, \$171; Rajinder Kumar, South Richmond Hill, New York, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance, \$385.50; Yean C. Hernan-

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Funky Winkerbean

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I GOT

MY OLD CHRISTMAS

STOCKING

SOM

Snuffy Smith

Beetle Bailey

BARLOW

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CHEESE OR BACON

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ONCE A YEAR, BUT THAT GUY BRINGS THEM

ALL YEAR LONG..

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GUY! HOW

HAVE YOU

BEEN?







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HE DOESN'TLIKE

BEING GRILLED

FOR INFOLIKE

AND HE

DOESN'T NEED

SLEIGH AND REINDEER.

HOW DO

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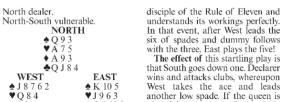
YOUR WAY



12-14

An indispensable tool

Contract By Steve Becker



SOUTH A 4 ▼ K 10 2 The bidding:

North 1 **♣** 3 NT 2 NT Opening lead — six of spades.

The Rule of Eleven is a handy gadget that can be used by either

South

East

side. Here is an unusual case that demonstrates the value of the rule.

West leads the six of spades, dummy following low, and the question is what East should play on this trick. If he plays the ten, which is probably what most players would do, declarer can make the contract by establishing clubs and guessing to play the pipe of and guessing to play the nine of spades on West's spade return (or later leading a spade to the nine himself) to produce his ninth trick. Let's suppose that East is a devout

six of spades and dummy follows with the three, East plays the five! The effect of this startling play is

The effect of this startling play is that South goes down one. Declarer wins and attacks clubs, whereupon West takes the ace and leads another low spade. If the queen is played from dummy, East quickly defeats the contract by taking the king and continuing with the ten to West's jack; if the nine is played from dummy. East wins with the from dummy, East wins with the ten, cashes the king and returns the queen of diamonds, leaving South with only eight tricks.

In applying the Rule of Eleven (which assumes that the lead is fourth-best), East subtracts the number of the card led from 11, which in this case tells him that there are five cards higher than the six in the North, East and South

East sees two of them in dummy and two of them in his own hand, so he knows South has only one spade higher than the six. Given South's two no-trump bid, this card is most likely to be the ace, which means East can safely play the five. Even if South's spade honor is the jack, the play of the five can do no worse than break even, since South is assured of a spade trick no matter what East plays.

Tomorrow: Extra chance

CRYPTOQUIP

DBSWOX UCQM CSBXQ

WFEVSBFSZX FM RNN VCBQQ

VBFDNQ EBSUM BREQX, FV'X R

UFM-UFM-UFM XFVZRVFSM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT IS A STORAGE SITE CONTAINING CRATES FULL OF SMALL ITEMS FOR HOMES? A HOUSEWARE WAREHOUSE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals R

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

C	ROSS	37	Orna-	DC	OWN	22	Fresh
1	Audubon		mental		— Raton	23	Caravan
	subject		jug	2	"— a roll!"		stops
5	Dog's	38	End-of-	3	En-	25	Food
	foot		wk. cry		grossed		additive
8	Early TVs	39	Apply	4	Over-	26	"Entou-
2	Poet		cream		night-		rage"
	Khayyám	41	Fly like a		package		agent
3	Promising		hawk		cooler	27	Sparkling
	words?	43	Curtain	5	Chart		wine
4	Close		fabric		format	29	Octavia's
5	Editing	46	Bob	6	Billboards		spouse
	site for		Marley	7	Stirred	31	Frazier
	news		fan, often	8	Answers		foe
	stories	50	Border on		an invita-	32	Dict. info
7	"La Dolce	51	"Cool it!"		tion	34	C&W

54 Places **9** Spicy artist 18 Caper ballpark 55 Candle McEntire 19 Hire count frank 38 Swaps 56 Redact **40** "The **21** Pisa **10** Car 57 Youngfarewell 11 Remain Sopra-**24** CBS ster **16** 601, in nos" res-

forensic **58** Fluffy old Rome taurateur 42 Branch drama 20 Future neck-25 Spiked doc's 43 Beer piece club **59** Swift jets exam ingredient 28 "Peter 44 Beyoncé's "If I Pan" Solution time: 23 mins. Were —" pooch

45 Wound |B|O|U|T|||Q|U|E|

30 Pop 33 Hit show 47 Freshens letters N E B R I E 34 Stop-Y BOUNTIES 48 Ninny watch AREGODAH 49 Picnic button 35 Flamenco BYHANDNET cheer 52 Past 53 Tony 36 Baseball's X E S Hodges

Yesterday's answer 12-14

17 15 16 18 19 20 23 22 30 31 32 26 27 28 33 35 36 38 39 40 42 47 48 50 51 52 53 54 55

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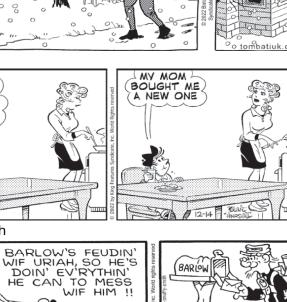
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The Commercial Review Wednesday, December 14, 2022 Sports/Classifieds

Tops

Continued from page 8 He fought through a tough six minutes for a 3-0 victory.

After the Knights and Jay County split the next two matches, both by pins, Wenk, the 20th-ranked 182 pounder in the state, bumped up to 195 and fought off 2022 semi-state qualifier Tyler Luther for a 5-1 victory.

Had Norwell been able to flip the decision in those two matches, it could have been up by 24 points and put some real pressure on the Patriots to convert pins in the second half of the match.

"Landon Mills-Blowers got it started off against one of their better kids, hung with that guy and won a close match," said Myers. "I felt like that really set the tone for us going forward.

"Whenever we can go out there and wrestle hard and pull off wins in close matches, that kind of sets the tone for the night.

'Bryce Wenk went out and beat a really good Tyler Luther semi-state guy, a guy that's ranked pretty high. He just put together a solid all-around match.

Even with those two key

wins, Jay County trailed Ethan Reiley (132) ran up tkamp (152) defeating Cody 24-12 midway through the match. Then it hit the strength of its lineup.

The Patriots won each of the next four contested matches by pin and also got a couple of forfeits as they pulled away.

Eighth-ranked Cody Rowles earned the quickest of those pins, sticking Norwell's Jason Prough in just 44 seconds at 126 pounds. No. 4 Cameron Clark (145) also recorded a first-period pin as he beat Nicholas Stephens in 1:16.

Daniel Moore (113)topped Connor Fojtik in 20th-ranked 3:19, and

the score on Connor Dreiband before finishing him off in 2:44.

"I hate to not mention the guys that just dominated, but there wasn't a whole lot to say there," said Myers of seven straight victories to finish the match. "They went out Ethan Reiley scored 13 points by the time I got done talking to the last guy off the mat and it was

Jayla Huelskamp (120) and Tony Wood (138) each picked up forfeits during the run, which closed with 14th-ranked Christian Wit-

over.

Cox by a 12-1 major decision.

The next test for the undefeated Patriots, who are ranked 13th in the state overall, comes Saturday in tournament action at Carroll with a field that includes Class 2A No. 4 Gar-

"We feel pretty good. We've always had a pretty good schedule, a pretty tough schedule," said said Myers, noting his team's wins thus far over Class 2A No. 2 Delta and Class 1A No. 2 Adams Central prior to Tuesday's triumph over the Knights. "Saturday we get No. 4 in 2A Garrett. I know that Garrett has had their eyes on us for a little while. We're pretty excited for that match on Saturday.

"I know our guys are excited. It's just a matter of keeping them focused.

"Sometimes I ride them a little bit and I'm nervous that they may lose focus, and they go out there and wrestle tough, hard matches. I'm really proud of the way they're able to stay mentally tough.'

Winning JV matches for the Patriots were AJ Heskett, Dominick Bright, Trey Nichols and Carter Barton.



Abigail Johnson swims to a fifth-place finish in the 500-yard freestyle Tuesday during the Jay County High School girls team's 189-126 loss to the visiting Delta Eagles.

Wins limited against Eagles

With the 2022 sectional run-seconds, and took the top spot in ners-up visiting, victories were difficult to come by for the Patri-

Jay County High School swim teams managed just a combined three victories Tuesday while the Delta Eagles swept the relays and took the top two spots in 10 individual events.

The result was a 189-126 loss to Delta for the Patriot girls and a 165-101 defeat for the JCHS boys.

Senior Mara Bader earned two of the three victories for Jay County, dominating both of her races. She was first in the 200yard individual medley by nearly five seconds in 2 minutes, 23.89 the 100 breaststroke by more than four seconds in 1:14.9. Josh Monroe, also a senior.

earned the only other victory for the Patriots. He came in the 200 individual medley by two seconds over Caleb Greiner in 2:21.25.

Morgan DeHoff was the runner-up in both the 50 freestyle and 100 backstroke for the Jay County girls.

Also picking up second-place finishes were Maddy Snow in diving and Aubrey Millspaugh in the 500 freestyle for the girls team and Wyatt Kunkler in the 100 butterfly for the boys team.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Thursday Jay County — Girls basketball at New Castle - 6 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball vs. Muncie Central - 6 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball at Southern Wells -5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Southern Wells - 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. /ersailles - 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball vs. Versailles - 5 p.m

Friday Jay County — Girls wrestling at Findlay - 4 p.m.; Boys basketball at Delta -

6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boys basketball (including freshman) at Versailles - 6

TV sports Today

2 p.m. — Soccer: World Cup semifinal - Morocco vs. France (FOX) 7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Golden State Warriors at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Ohio at Florida (ESPN2)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: New York Knicks at Chicago Bulls (ESPN) 7:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Detroit Red Wings at Minnesota Wild (TNT)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Minneso-

ta Timberwolves at Los Angeles Clippers

Thursday

7 p.m. — Women's college basket-ball: South Carolina vs. South Dakota State (ESPN2) 9 p.m. - NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Edmonton Oilers (Bally Indiana) Miami (Ohio) vs. UAB (ESPN) 3 p.m. — College football: UTSA vs. Troy (ESPN)

College football:

Friday

7:30 p.m. — Indiana Pacers at Cleveland Cavaliers (Bally Indiana); Golden State Warriors at Philadelphia 76ers

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION THURSDAY, DECEM-BER 29, 2022 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W

State Road 67, Portland, IN **BACKHOE-TRACTORS-COMBINES-SPRAYER** CAT 420 E-loader backhoe 4x4 w/extend a hoe and 4 in 1 bucket; IH

5088 tractor CHA 7646 hrs. w/duals and weights, Century 1000 gallon sprayer w/60'

boom.

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disc VEHICLES-TRAILERS-COLLECTABLES-MISC. 2007 Toyota Tundra Crewmax Limited 4x4 156,600 miles; 2004 Ford F350 4x4 6.0 dsl. 142000 miles; 2009 Int. single axle dump truck.

20' w/dovetail and ramps; 2020 Stealth 16' enclosed trailer w/ramp door: 2006 Neckover 24'

gooseneck livestock trailer; PTO generator on transport; large lot of wood working and other tools.

NOTE: This is a live and online auction, starting online at 9:30 with ProxiBid.com. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS

AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com -

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90 SALE CALENCAR

PUBLIC AUCTION ABSOLUTE REAL **ESTATE ACTION** THURSDAY DECEM-BER 15,2022 @ 5PM

Located at 7510 s us highway 27 Berne, IN . OPEN HOUSE **DECEMBER 4TH** FROM 1-3PM Up for Absolute public

Action is a 3 bedroom, 2 Bath home, This home was built in 1965 and has 2 car

attached garage and 1304 Square feet of living space with full partially finished basement. Sitting on 2 acres of ground. Many updates made

OWNER: KEITH AFFOLDER Statements day of auction take precedence over any & all previous statements. GRUBE AUCTIONEER-ING<LLC SHAWVER AUCTION-

> & REAL EASTATE Adrian Grube #AU1150034 419-305-9202 Pete Shawver #AU19700040 260-726-5587

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PUBLIC AUCTION ARCHITECTURAL AND SALVAGE

Located at 4209 S 600 E Salamonia, Indiana Saturday Morning **DECEMBER 17, 2022** AT 11:00 A.M.

After serving the community since 1859 the St James Lutheran Church held its final service. The con-

tents of the current church which was built in 1895 includ-

ing the

historic stained glass windows will be sold. STAINED GLASS WIN-DOWS - FURNITURE -WOODWORK 30+ stained glass windows that originated

from Germany. Windows include: 5' x 54" arched shaped with a picture of Jesus, (3) arch shaped panels 36" x 30", (3)

middle panels 36" x 33", (3) bottom panels 36" x 33", (2) arch shaped panels 40" x 34", (2) middle panels 40" x 42", (2) bottom panels 40" x 44" (18) -

12' church pews; (2) -

90 SALE CALENDAR

128" church pews; 60+ wood folding chairs; folding tables; early 1900's scrolls; ornate pulpit; and other items not listed. ST JAMES LUTHERAN

CHURCH LOY AUCTION AC#31600027 Gary Loy AU01031608 Ben Lyons AU10700085 Travis Theurer AU11200131

PUBLIC AUCTION Auction held at 8339 N 400 E (Bearcreek Farms) Bryant, Indiana Friday Evening DECEMBER 16, 2022

6:00 P.M. REAL ESTATE: Located on CR 250 W just north of CR 850 N. Approximately 8.17 acres total with approximately 6.5 acres tillable, .70 acres wooded and the balance in ditch and roadway. This parcel is

fairly level. 10% nonrefundable deposit day of sale with balance due at closing. Seller will provide General Warranty Deed and Owners Title Insurance.

Seller will provide a survey. Buyer to assume taxes due and payable in May 2023 and thereafter. FOR MORE INFORMA-

TION CONTACT LOY AUCTION 260-726-2700 OR GARY LOY AUC-TIONEER 260-726-5160. KARL KAISER

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Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTER-ESTED PARTIES

SHERIFF'S SALE NOTICE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Jay Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2208-MF-000015 wherein The Huntington National Bank was Plaintiff, and Chastidy A Russell, Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., Discover Bank c/o Discover Products, Inc. and Citizens State Bank were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder on January 19. 2023 at the hour of 10:00 AM, or as soon thereafter as is possible, at the Jay County Courthouse at 120 N Court Street, Portland, IN 47371 the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.

Lot Number Eight (8) in Block Number Seven (7) in the Original Plat of the Town, now City of Portland, Indiana.

Commonly known address: 322 West Walnut Street, Portland, IN 47371

Together with rents, issues, income and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisement laws Nicholas M. Smith

Manley Deas Kochalski LLC

P.O. Box 165028 Columbus OH 43216-5028 Attorney for Plaintiff Dwane Ford, Sheriff of Jay County Township: Wayne Parcel No./Tax Id#: 38-07-20-104-053.000-034 The Sheriff's Department does

not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein. CR 12-14,21,28-2022 HSPAXLP

The CR Classifieds www.thecr.com

√ Out

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



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Daniel Moore of Jay County High School puts all of his weight on Norwell's Connor Fojtik en route to a pin during their 113-pound match Tuesday.

JC tops No. 6

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

A run of seven straight victories to end the match turned it into a blowout.

But it may have been a couple of early decisions that set the tone.

Key early wins from Landon Mills-Blowers and Bryce Wenk kept the Class 2A No. 6 Norwell Knights from ramping up too much momentum early and the top-ranked Jay County High School wrestling team dominated down the stretch Tuesday for a 52-24 victory.

Key early victories set tone for Patriots

"We came out and we Blowers and Wenk matches wrestled all right," said JCHS coach Eric Myers. "We came out and won some pretty big matches and were able to beat a pretty good Norwell team.'

While the dominating run came later, the Millsmay well have been the ones to erase any hope Norwell had of victory.

Mills-Blowers started off the evening at 160 pounds against Norwell's Max Walker.

See **Tops** page 7

Indian girls drop to 0-6

already trailing at the end of the first quarter.

points the rest of the way. Fort Recovery High School's girls basketball team slipped to 0-6 Tuesday as it fell 44-21 to the host Memorial Roughrid-

The first quarter was the best offensively for the Indians, but they still found themselves trailing 17-9. They managed just four points apiece in each Niekamp added six.

MARYS, Ohio of the final three quar-The Indians were ters as Memorial pulled

Three players handled They struggled to score almost all of the scoring for the Roughriders, with sophomore Reese Rable hitting four first-quarter 3-pointers on the way to a 17-point effort. Rable added 13 points and Morgan Hesse scored a dozen.

Kennedy lenkamp's nine points were the team high for Fort Recovery. Karlie

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Christian Bader, DVM

Argentina moves to World Cup final

By KEVIN BAXTER

Los Angeles Times Tribune News Service

LUSAIL, Qatar — Lionel Messi scored one goal and set up two others Tuesday, leading Argentina to a 3-0 victory over Croatia in a World Cup semifinal, keeping alive his quest to win the one trophy that has eluded him during a stellar career.

Argentina will face the winner of Wednesday's semifinal between Morocco and defending champion France in Sunday's final.

Messi put Argentina ahead to stay with a penalty kick in the 34th minute.

forward Argentine Julián Álvarez drew the foul that sent up the penalty, charging into the 18-yard box a couple of steps clear of Croatian midfielder Mateo Kovacic, forcing Croatia goalkeeper Dominik Livakovic to come his line. When Livakovic's clumsy challenge and took Ålvarez down, Italian referee Daniele Orsato pointed at the spot immediately.

At the other end of the field Argentina keeper Emiliano Martínez turned his back and looked the other way, unable to watch as Messi drilled his leftfooted shot into the upper right corner. The crowd's reaction told Martinez that Messi had scored, him giving him an Argentinerecord 11 World Cup goals and five in this tournament, matching France's Kylian Mbappe for the scoring lead.

It wouldn't be the last time Álvarez and Messi, who was playing in his 25th World Cup match, tying Germany's Lothar Matthaus' record, would get together.

Alvarez got the next goal five minutes later, doubling Argentina's lead with a brilliant effort. Released by Messi at the halfway line, Alvarez charged up the center of the field, weaving his way through the Croatia defense. In the box he steered around defender Josip Juranovic and away from Borna Sosa, got help from a fortunate deflection, then poked the ball in with his right front from close range.

The goal gave Álvarez, 22, six scores in eight starts for Argentina in all competition. It also marked the first time in 29 World Cup games that Croatia has trailed by two goals at the intermission. Argentina, meanwhile, had history of its side since it has never lost in the semifinals.

Messi and Álvarez hooked up in the 69th minute, this time with Messi doing most of the work, hugging the touchline as he battled Josko Gvardiol up the right wing before turning into the penalty area and delivering a beautiful ball for Álvarez in the center of the box.

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