

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Treasury is taking special measures

Department tapping funds in order to avoid default

By **CHRISTOPHER ANSTEY**
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

The Treasury Department is beginning the use of special measures to avoid a U.S. payments default, after the federal debt limit was reached Thursday.

The department is tapping the financial resources of two government-run funds for retirees, in a move that will give the Treasury scope to keep making federal payments while it's unable to boost the overall level of debt.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen informed congressional leaders of both parties of the step in a letter on Thursday. She had already notified them of the plan last week, when she flagged that the debt limit would be hit Jan. 19.

Yellen reiterated that the period of time that the extraordinary measures will avoid the government running out of cash is "subject to considerable uncertainty," and urged Congress to act promptly to boost the debt limit.

The specific funds affected by the Treasury's move are:

— The Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, which provides defined benefits to retired and disabled federal employees

— The Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Fund, which provides postal-service retiree health benefit premium payments. The fund is also invested in special-issue Treasuries.

The two funds invest in special-issue Treasury securities that count under the debt limit. After the debt limit is increased, the three will be "made whole," with participants unaffected.

It's far the first time the Treasury has resorted to these moves: Since 1985, the agency has used such measures more than a dozen times.

Board dispute



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The blue section shown above is the general area where Sunrise Aviation plans to construct a new hangar this year at Portland Municipal Airport. Jason Clearwaters of Butler, Fairman and Seufert told Portland Board of Aviation members Wednesday that funds from the 2021 federal infrastructure bill could be used to extend the taxiway to the new hangar. Discussion of the hangar and taxiway extension came during a meeting that also included a dispute over board membership.

Member walks out of meeting after former president calls makeup of group into question

By **RAY COONEY**
The Commercial Review

A public hearing regarding rent morphed into a dispute over board makeup, leading to one member resigning and walking out.

Portland Board of Aviation member Clyde Bray resigned and left about midway through Wednesday's meeting after former board president John Lyons pointed out that the board's membership does not comply with Indiana Code.

(The rest of the board and Portland Mayor John Boggs

later said they would not accept Bray's resignation.)

The dispute came during a public hearing regarding hangar rent after Lyons last month said the board had not followed proper procedure to raise rates.

Following some public comment on the issue Wednesday, Lyons passed out a copy of a section of Indiana Code to the board. He said the makeup of the group does not meet Indiana Code, which indicates that the four-member board may not have more than two members of the same political party. He

pointed out that there are currently three Republicans — Faron Parr; Caleb Lutes (previously Mitch Sutton) and Bray — on the board. (Lutes was in his first meeting as a board member as he was appointed to fill the seat Sutton resigned from for health reasons. The fourth member, John Ferguson, is a Democrat.)

Bray explained that he has always been a Democrat but that he took a Republican ballot in the 2022 primary election in order to vote against certain candidates. (In Indiana, party affili-

ation is officially determined by the ballot a voter takes in a primary.)

After Bray initially said he would resign, Lyons responded that the issue of his party affiliation can be resolved. (Lutes, who has served on the county's election board, noted that it would require agreement from both party chairs.)

After a brief back and forth, Bray resigned on the spot and walked out of the meeting with some choice words for Lyons as he did.

See **Dispute** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Singing spectacle

Members of Jay County High School's Just Treble, including Katie Rowles (front) perform in exhibition Saturday during the Jay County Show Choir Spectacular 2023.

Lawmakers debate bill on school choice

By **CASEY SMITH**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana lawmakers on Wednesday began a contentious debate over whether it should bring universal school choice — and its daunting potential long-term cost — to Hoosier students and parents.

Testimony heard in the Senate education committee raised questions about how much universal education scholarship accounts would cost and whether the state can afford to fund all students who are eligible to participate. This would be separate than the state's voucher program, known as Choice Scholarships.

Critics of the bill additionally doubled down on their concerns that the program expansion would pull additional dollars away from already cash-strapped public schools.

Bill author Sen. Brian

Buchanan, R-Lebanon, maintained that his bill seeks to give families more options and ensure that students who don't qualify for the program now — but want to — can participate.

"ESAs are designed all around to put parents in control of their kids' education, allowing them to have more say in essentially determining how the money is going to be spent and what accountability and transparency will look like," Buchanan said. "Anytime you can get more choice, more options for parents, I believe it's better, and that's what this bill is doing."

The bill is awaiting committee approval, which could come as early as next week. Senate education committee chairman Sen. Jeff Raatz, R-Richmond, said several amendments to the measure are likely to be adopted before a vote is held.

See **Bill** page 2

Deaths

Lisa Buckner, 53, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 37 and 42 degrees Wednesday. Tonight's forecast calls for rain and possible snow tonight with a low of 30 and winds gusting to 40 miles per hour. Conditions will be cloudy and windy Friday with a high of 30. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

One additional candidate filed Wednesday to run for office in this year's municipal election. Lindsay Wright, a Republican, filed to run for Pennville clerk-treasurer. She will challenge Krista Scholer for the GOP nomination for the position.

Coming up

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

Saturday — Results from Friday's ACAC swimming championships.



Obituaries

Lisa Buckner

Dec. 26, 1969-Jan. 10, 2023
Lisa Kaye Buckner, 53, Portland, passed away Jan. 10, 2023, at IU Health University Hospital in Indianapolis.
Lisa was born in Portland on Dec. 26, 1969. She was the daughter of Bob and Delores Denney.
Lisa graduated from Jay County High School in 1988. Lisa was a former employee of JCI, FCC, W&M, The Redkey

Restaurant and Dick's Pizza Palace. She was a member of River of Life (now Willow Tree Ministries) church of Portland.
Lisa enjoyed reading, learning and teaching the word of God. She loved bike rides in the evening, listening to music, having cookouts and, most of all, caring for and spending



Buckner

time with her grandchildren, Jaxson, Chloe, Willow and Carly.
Survivors include her husband of 31 years, Robbie Buckner, Portland; one daughter, Brittany Pinkston, Portland; three brothers, Jeff Caldwell, Portland, Brett Denney, Portland, and Todd Denney, Carmel; four grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.
She was preceded in death by three brothers, Martin Cald-

well, Bob Denney Jr. and Bill Denney; her sister, Joy Littler; her parents; one daughter, Samantha Pinkston; two nieces; and two grandchildren.
A celebration of Lisa's life will be held at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at River of Life/Willow Tree Ministries, 722 W. Main St. Portland. Viewing hours are from noon to 2 p.m.
Consider a monetary donation in lieu of flowers.
Thank you to the staff at IU Health Jay, IU Health Universi-

ty Hospital and the medical lifeline team that cared for her and her family.
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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services. There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Friday 1/20	Saturday 1/21	Sunday 1/22	Monday 1/23	Tuesday 1/24
33/25 Cloudy skies are in the forecast with wind gusts reaching up to 30 mph.	36/28 Mostly cloudy skies with a low around 25 degrees at night.	37/28 There's a 30% chance of snow or rain throughout the day, with a high near 37.	36/27 Mostly cloudy, with the low temperature hitting the mid 20s at night.	38/27 Another day of mostly cloudy skies with a chance of rain and snow.

Lotteries

Powerball 6-15-22-42-47 Power Ball: 26 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$473 million	67-68-69-70-71-72 Cash 5: 7-18-19-33-37 Hoosier Lotto: 6-12-17-22-37-43 Estimated jackpot: \$8.4 million
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$20 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 3-1-0 Pick 4: 4-5-0-7 Pick 5: 2-9-9-6-7 Evening Pick 3: 5-0-4 Pick 4: 5-7-6-4 Pick 5: 9-9-4-4-5 Rolling Cash: 1-4-18-19-28 Classic Lotto: 2-12-17-20-23-31 Kicker: 1-6-6-3-6-7 Estimated jackpot: \$4.2 million
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 1-8-6 Daily Four: 8-5-9-0 Quick Draw: 3-5-8-9-14-19-20-22-23-25-47-48-53-54-60-62-65-71-76-79 Evening Daily Three: 1-1-6 Daily Four: 0-6-6-2 Quick Draw: 2-4-8-9-10-25-36-39-40-41-48-49-59-60-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....7.01 Feb. corn7.01 Wheat7.26	Wheat 6.85 July wheat7.30
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....7.00 Feb. corn7.00 March corn7.02	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.82 March corn6.84 Beans15.10 Feb. beans15.12 Wheat7.31
The Andersons Richland Township Corn6.83 Feb. corn6.83 Beans15.08 Feb. beans15.15	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.53 Feb. corn6.55 Beans14.96 Feb. beans15.02 Wheat7.00

Today in history

In 1809, author Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston. He became editor of "Graham's Lady's and Gentleman's Magazine," publishing some of his most famous works including "The Pit and the Pendulum," "The Tell-Tale Heart" and "The Fall of the House of Usher."
In 1825, Thomas Kensett and Ezra Daggett received a patent for a preservation process to allow storage of food in tin cans.
In 1946, singer and actress Dolly Parton was born in Locust Ridge, Tennessee. She was the Country Music Association's female singer of the year in 1975 and '76.
In 2004, Portland City Council approved \$284,000 in economic development income tax funds to construct a 9,600-square-foot building on Tyson Road. Gym City Gymnastics was to lease the building, which is now home to Community Fiber Solutions.
In 2013, American cyclist Lance Armstrong admitted to doping in all seven of his Tour de France victories.
In 2019, the Jay County High School girls swim team repeated as the Allen County Athletic Conference champion, scoring 440 points to finish ahead of runner-up Bluffton (380). Eliza Bader, Ashlyn Dow and Erica Hathaway each had a pair of individual wins. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 5:30 p.m. — Redkey Town Council public hearing, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St. 6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.	3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.
Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.	

Dispute ...

Continued from page 1
At the conclusion of the meeting, the board voted not to accept his resignation with Boggs concurring that he would not accept it. (Aviation board members are appointed by the mayor.) Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman and Seufert advised the board to have the city attorney look into the issue.
The dispute came during a public hearing regarding hangar rent, which had been set to go up by \$10 in January. That increase was put on hold after Lyons visited December's aviation board meeting, noting that FAA documents say, among other things, that such an increase may be imposed "after consultation with users." He said he did not receive any notice regarding proposed changes prior to a letter informing him they had been implemented.
Josh Johnson, who also rents a hangar at the airport, brought up many of the same points during Wednesday's hearing. He said the FAA requires a consultation process and that the aviation board must provide justification for rent increases, including presenting financial books to the tenants for review.
Parr pointed out that rent had not been raised in about a decade, that the increase was not drastic and that the board had not

made its decision "on a whim."
Johnson said those points are "immaterial."
"You can't just, 'Do a little increase,'" said Johnson. "There is a process that has to be followed with this. ..."
"We've not gotten up to bat, as tenants, I guess is my point," he added later, "because we've not gotten the information that frankly we're entitled. And as a board, it's your job to present it before you start changing rates and fees."
He said he'd be happy to review the FAA regulations with board members and other officials.
The board received no other public comment regarding increasing rent and took no action on the issue.
Also Wednesday, Clearwaters reported to board members that the second round of funding from the 2021 federal infrastructure bill has been released. Through the bill, the airport is receiving \$110,000 annually over a five-year period for capital improvement projects. He noted that while the aviation board had previously indicated it would use those funds to construct a storage building for snow removal equipment, a taxiway extension would also be an eligible use for the money.
Sonrise Aviation, owned by airport manager Hal Tavzel, is planning construction of a new 80-by-80-foot corporate hangar at the airport this year. The new building would require a taxiway extension to provide access to the runway.
Clearwaters shared documents showing an extension of 209 feet would accommodate the new hangar. He said the board could also consider a longer extension in preparation for the possible construction of additional T-hangars in the future. (Tavzel noted earlier in the meeting that all current hangars are rented and there is a waiting list.)
In other business, the board:
•Elected Parr as its president and Ferguson as vice president.
•Heard from Clearwaters that there will be some final grading and seeding touch-up work by Milestone Contractors this spring to complete the airport's project that took the runway to 5,500 feet from the previous 4,000. He also noted that nearly \$100,000 in retainage is continuing to be withheld from HIS Constructors as the board has not yet received property releases from the two borrow pit sites that provided dirt for the project.
•Approved the following: Installation of concrete by Coblenz Construction of Geneva in four T-hangars at the airport at a cost of \$5,600 per hangar; Payment of claims totaling \$5,495.13; an FAA grant pay request totaling \$15,435.30;
•Learned from Tavzel that repairs were recently

made to the door of the Lutheran Air hangar at the airport. He noted that four pulleys and all cables were replaced and said the door would likely last for a while. (The board had previously discussed installing a hydraulic door.)
•Scheduled an executive session for 4 p.m. Jan. 26 to discuss the purchase of real estate.
•Heard from Tavzel that the airport sold 6,115 gallons of fuel in December for \$30,985.89. That's up from 5,719 gallons during December 2021.
•Heard various requests from Diana Michael, who owns property in a horse-shoe shape around the airport at its west side. She proposed buying back some of the land at the west end of the airport and or allowing a farmer she contracts with to use the land. Clearwaters indicated that the FAA would not entertain selling the land back to Michael. He said he would look into the farming question, though he said there are FAA restrictions on how close to an airport runway crops can be planted.
•Heard from Tavzel that the airport's automated weather observing system (AWOS) was completely down for about 10 days. It has been repaired. The board last month approved the purchase of a \$6,460 antennae to bring the system back to full service as it has not been working properly for more than a year.

Bill ...

Continued from page 1
Indiana's Education Scholarship Account (ESA) program was created by the General Assembly in 2021 despite pushback from public education advocates who argued that the program lacks oversight and takes money away from traditional public schools.
Currently, ESAs are limited to students who qualify for special education. Families must also meet income limits to participate. The income ceiling is high, however. A family of four can make up to \$154,000 annually — equal to 300% of the amount required for a student to qualify for

the federal free or reduced price lunch program.
But Buchanan's bill would extend the program to all students, regardless of a student's educational needs or their family's income level.
Accounts set up by the state treasurer's office provide each qualifying student with funding for private school tuition and various other educational services from providers outside of their school district.
Buchanan is seeking to increase the ESA grants from 90% to 100% of the per-pupil funding that the state provides to local public schools. That means, on average, a student is eligi-

ble to receive about \$7,500 per academic year.
The previous state budget appropriated \$10 million a year for the program, enough to fund about 1,300 ESAs. Fiscal year 2023 is the first year the program enrolled students. The treasurer's office reports that 143 students are participating in the program this year.
Buchanan said he "would be happy" if budget writers kept the ESA funding the same in the next biennium, noting that the program expansion "is contingent upon getting a line item for a fiscal line item in the budget."

Portland City Court

Judge Donald Gillespie
Fined and sentenced
Conrado Hernandez Jimenez, Portland, operating a vehicle with fictitious plates, \$160.50, driving without a valid license, \$25, and driving without insurance, \$25; Carter J. Link, Portland, speeding 97 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Jayse L. Roberts, Elwood, driving without insurance, \$160.50.

Jenson, Hartford City, driving without insurance, March 1; Brandi A. Likens, Dunkirk, driving without insurance, March 1; Austin May, Portland, disregarding auto signal, March 1; Marsha L. Morrical, Redkey, driving with a suspended license, March 1; Zachary A. Osborne, Avon, speeding 74 mph in a 55 mph zone and driving with a suspended license, March 1; Maria Perez, Portland, driving left of center, driving without a valid license

and driving without insurance, March 1; Megan J. Sutton-Robbins, Portland, operating a vehicle with fictitious plates, March 1.

Paid by waiver
Melissa A. Logan, Marion, speeding 70 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$150.50; Gregory S. Coons, Redkey, speeding 78 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Henry D. Schwartz, Bryant, deer possession

limit violation, \$160; Tiffany M. Comer, Portland, driving with expired plates, \$160.50; David A. Graber, Portland, deer possession limit violation, \$160; Jose Alvderez, Fort Wayne, driving without a valid license, \$160.50; Trinity H. Tucker, Lynn, distracted driving, \$160.50; Mijail Escudero Reyes, Dunkirk, disregarding stop sign, \$160.50.



Swiss Village

NOW SEEKING: PART-TIME LAUNDRY TECHNICIAN

Now seeking a Laundry Technician to work in the Housekeeping/Laundry department at Swiss Village. This position is responsible for washing, drying, folding, and storing laundry according to prescribed procedures in a sanitary and safe environment. Position will 3 days per week from 5:30am-2:00pm and every third Saturday required. Seeking candidates who are reliable, have good work habits, and are in good physical condition. Must be at least 18+ years of age to apply. Position eligible for insurance benefits, Paid Time Off, and 403(b) Retirement Plan participation.

Apply online at www.swissvillage.org or send Resume to:
Kayla Reilly, HR Specialist
Swiss Village
1350 W. Main St.
Berne, IN 46711
Or e-mail: careers@swissvillage.org

SERVICES

Thursday
Bentz, Roger: 6 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Sunday
Buckner, Lisa: 2:30 p.m., Willow Tree Ministries, 722 W. Main St., Portland.

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

Default
Delshwan L. Tate, Memphis, Tennessee, off the truck route in Dunkirk; Kaylee R. Bingham, Muncie, driving with a suspended license; Aaron Defenbaugh, Delphos, Ohio, driving with a suspended license; Nora Mullinix, Logansport, speeding 75 mph in a 55 mph zone; Logan N. Myers, Muncie, speeding 69 mph in a 55 mph zone and driving with expired plates; Paul L. Rice III, Muncie, driving with a suspended license; Stephany A. Young, Winchester, driving without insurance.

Trials scheduled
Alexandria L. Farmer, Hartford City, expired plates, March 1; James D.

New Year, new self-care routine

By **CHRISTINA SCHEMENAUR**

The start of a new year is a great for reflection and new beginnings.

January is National Staying Healthy Month, which is the perfect time to focus on your own overall well-being and self-care. Many people will make New Year's resolutions but quickly leave them behind. Resolving to focus on well-being and self-care can be a permanent lifestyle change.

What are some manageable healthy lifestyle

Your Health Matters



changes? Many people often make resolutions that are restrictive and hard to achieve, so they are easily broken and discarded. The key to success is to make manageable lifestyle changes. Some smaller

changes, made a little bit at a time, can be easier to sustain and maintain. Here are some examples:

1. Eat more whole foods such as vegetables, fruits, nuts, seeds, whole grains and fish — add a piece of fruit to your breakfast, a vegetable to your lunch and dinner, and some nuts as a snack.
2. Move more and spend more time outside — go for a short walk at lunch or break time to increase your overall physical activity.
3. Take some “me time”

— taking care of yourself does not have to be time consuming or expensive. Take a bath, read a book or get an extra hour of sleep. Caring for yourself is important for your overall health.

4. Reduce convenience foods and cook more meals at home using healthy ingredients.

5. Limit screen time — cutting back the time spent on electronic devices can boost your mood and enhance productivity.

6. Take care of your teeth

— oral health is an important part of overall health. Regular brushing and flossing are important to prevent gum disease and health conditions.

7. Visit your doctor — getting a regular examination by a healthcare provider is an important part of self-care. Wellness visits can indicate potentials problems and illness while they are still manageable and treatable. Wellness screenings, such as heart scans, lung scans, mammograms and colonoscopies are

available locally to help detect health issues early. Contact a local healthcare provider to schedule a routine check-up or for more information.

Even just a few small changes can make a difference. Although it may be difficult at times it is important to remember your goal to improve your overall health and well-being.

Christina Schemenaur is the vice president, chief operating officer/chief nursing officer at IU Health Jay.

Friend feels abandoned at worst possible time

DEAR ABBY: The last two years have been especially tough. I went through a breakup after a four-year relationship, my dog developed cancer and I had to put her to sleep, and I caught COVID and have been dealing with long-haul symptoms ever since. My energy is low because of it, plus I've been depressed with all the events that have happened.

I have two best friends I've known since I was 16. I'm 34 now. I thought they would be there for me through anything. We were close until recently. They no longer invite me to get-togethers, and they hang out and exclude me. I try to stay in contact, but when I talk with them, it doesn't progress from small talk. The few times I have seen them, I stayed

Dear Abby



positive and didn't discuss my problems.

They have children, and I'm single and childless, which may have caused the divide between us. Being excluded hurts. When I mention it, they say, “You don't have kids. I didn't think you'd want to come.” It feels like a slap in the face. I need my friends more than ever right now because I feel very alone through

one of the toughest times of my life. How do I mend these friendships? Am I unreasonable for being upset? — DISAPPOINTED FRIEND IN VIRGINIA

DEAR FRIEND: Discuss your feelings with your friends. They may not be trying to isolate you intentionally. You are in very different phases of your lives right now. They may sincerely believe that being invited to kid parties would bore you, as would their constant chatter about what their precious little ones are doing, saying, etc. (This may seem like blasphemy, but more than a few childless adults feel that way.)

If you explain that you need their emotional support after

everything you have been through, they may step forward. Recognize that your friends with kids are a “package deal.” If you bond with their kids, it might bring you all closer. However, if that doesn't happen, you will have to summon the energy to find new friends whose lives better align with yours.

DEAR ABBY: There is a man I may be attracted to and have a lot in common with. The problem is that his teeth are crooked and yellow, and I can't get past that. He's quite a bit older than I am, so I'm not sure that we would get together even if he got his teeth fixed. But I won't know unless something is done. I'm not someone

who likes confrontation, so I'm having a hard time saying something. How do I deal with this? — FROWNING OVER HIS SMILE

DEAR FROWNING: It would be appropriate to wait until you are SURE you are attracted to this person. Then, if you decide you are, talk to him at a time when you are both relaxed. Smile and say something like this: “You know, ‘John,’ you are such an attractive person. Perhaps you should consider talking to your dentist about having a little work done. If you did, you'd be an absolute Adonis.” His response should reveal if there is a path forward together, or give him something to chew on.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

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

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

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

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland

Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

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

Friday

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

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Jan. 20, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday

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

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

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Sunday

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

Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon

each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636. Walk-ins accepted.

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

Find Local Businesses & Services

Fortkamp Foam
3216 Wabash Road
Fort Recovery, OH 45846
419-852-1390
Fortkampfoam.com

Hopkins Repair, LLC
Auto & light truck repair
Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm
Call Scott Hopkins
260-251-0459

Adair Processing
190 N. Union St.
Pennville, IN
260-731-3221

All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning
(260)726-4822
24 hr Emergency Service
Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas

Dr. Thomas Banta
1413 W. Votaw St.,
Portland
260-726-7822

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260-726-7171

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Ft. Recovery, OH
419-375-4951
www.homeidea.com

This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50. Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included

Stop repeating the same mistake

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Dear Mr. Governor,
Normally, I don't write to you. I write to the people of Indiana and you may never see my weekly homily. But this week is different.

A few days ago, you gave your "State of the State" address to the General Assembly. It was a nice talk and well presented.

You had some good ideas for our state, but, and this is awkward for me to say, you don't have a staff that keeps you from making the same mistake time after time. You're not the only governor who makes this mistake. I've known them all from Gov. Edgar Whitcomb (1969-73) onward, and they all make the same mistake.

Eye on the Pie



Now, many Hoosiers would think that if Indiana governors all make the same mistake, it can't be a mistake at all.

OK. I'll yield. It's not a mistake; it's a misleading statistic that tends to falsify reality.

Almost always the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC - bless their hearts) tells us the average

wage going to be paid by a firm they have arranged (lured, bribed) to open or expand in Indiana.

Most of the media (bless their hearts) regurgitate the press release because they don't have the time or energy to remember that the average is the mean of a set of numbers. It can be heavily influenced by extreme (high or low) values.

The median, however, tells a different, more meaningful story (if you'll excuse a little pun there). The median is the wage above which half of the employees will get paid and below which the other half of the workers will be paid.

Let's say the top gun gets paid

\$150,000 per year. The No. 2 gets \$75,000, the other eight get \$30,000 each. That's a total payroll of \$465,000 for 10 employees or an average (mean) annual wage of \$46,500. Yet the median pay is \$30,000. That's \$16,500 (35%) below the IEDC-advertised average.

From what I hear, governor, you're not the type who intentionally misleads or lies to the people of Indiana. But by using the average (mean), rather than the median figure, you've been passing on some real whoppers over the years.

If I might have just a bit more of your attention, let me note the average (mean) annual pay for all occupations in Indiana in

2021 was \$50,440 (37th in the nation) or \$12,110 (32%) above the median Hoosier pay of \$38,330 (39th among the 50 states).

With just two years left in your term of office, you said you were going to work harder than ever for all Hoosiers. Maybe you could get IEDC and your staff to give you the most accurate, realistic numbers. Then the people of Indiana would not continue to be misled by excess enthusiasm and just plain ignorance.

Thank you and good luck.

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Effort to ban gas stoves is silly

Las Vegas Review-Journal
Tribune News Service

Federal bureaucrats aren't the only ones looking to ban gas stoves. Plenty of state and local officials want to do just that, including here in Nevada.

Last week, Bloomberg reported that the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission was considering a ban on gas stoves. Richard Trumka Jr., an agency commissioner, called them "a hidden hazard." He added: "Any option is on the table. Products that can't be made safe can be banned."

That assertion is downright laughable to the tens of millions of Americans who use gas stoves on a regular basis. What someone cooks on a gas stove may end up being hazardous, but people aren't quaking in fear as they turn them on.

Nor should they be. Trumka's claim appears to come from a study that finds 12.7% of childhood asthma cases are linked to gas stove usage. There are lots of problems with this. Most notably, as the American Lung Association says, "No one knows exactly what causes asthma."

This study relied on reviewing other manuscripts, not new testing. At best, this study established a low-level correlation, which is nowhere near showing causation. Don't take our word for it. Brady Seals, one of the study's authors, told the Washington Examiner that the study "does not assume or estimate a causal relationship" between gas stoves and asthma in children. Oh. You don't say.

Childhood asthma is a fig leaf to hide the real motivation here. Global warming alarmists want to ban gas stoves because they use natural gas. That produces carbon emissions, which alarmists claim is an "existential threat."

That's why Assemblywoman Lesley Cohen introduced a bill in 2021 to virtually eliminate natural gas usage in Nevada by 2050. "We are facing a climate crisis," she said when presenting AB380. She also said, "We must find a way to keep energy bills low while transitioning to renewable resources that are better for our health and climate."

The irony is that Nevada's largest source of elec-

Hoosier Editorial

tricity comes from natural gas power plants. Politicians want to ban natural gas appliances so people use electric appliances powered by natural gas. Brilliant stuff.

The theory is that Nevada will eventually transition to only using power generated by renewable energy. Leave aside the logical leaps required to think this would have any discernible effect on Earth's temperature. The immediate problem is that solar power doesn't work after the sun goes down, but people still want power. At this point, power from fossil fuels or nuclear power is needed to provide reliable power.

The push to move away from natural gas isn't just happening in Nevada. New York Gov. Kathy Hochul is pushing a proposal to ban all new gas appliances within the decade. That would include stoves, gas furnaces and water heaters. That's already happened in San Francisco. In 2020, it banned natural gas in new buildings. In 2021, New York City banned natural gas connections in most new buildings. Washington state and Massachusetts both have laws on the books restricting natural gas in some new construction.

Trumka's comments ignited a firestorm of national criticism. By the end of the week, he slightly walked back his remarks. Current gas stoves won't be outlawed, he tweeted. His interest is in a ban on new products.

That should still be unacceptable. This isn't any of the federal government's business. It certainly shouldn't be the realm of an agency almost no one has ever heard of. Americans have — or are supposed to have — the freedom to make their own decisions. Having a gas stove or not fits in that category.

The government's role isn't to coddle Americans like the parent of a 1-year-old baby protecting their child from getting a boo-boo. If you need an example of bureaucracy run amok, the push to ban gas stoves is it.



Appointment tells us something

By HARRY LITMAN
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Merrick Garland's appointment of special counsel Robert Hur to investigate the burgeoning Biden documents problem tells us something new about the attorney general.

Notwithstanding his image as a "just the facts and law" prosecutor, Garland, it appears, may factor into key high-profile decisions, political considerations and the importance of public confidence in the Justice Department's evenhandedness.

No surprise, one might say. But until now, Garland has maintained and burnished a reputation as a wholeheartedly apolitical attorney general, indifferent to the consequences of his actions on the other branches and the public.

Indeed, even as he turned over to Jack Smith the oversight role in the Justice Department's investigations of former President Donald Trump, Garland pointedly invoked the letter of the law, the "extraordinary circumstances" that required the appointment of a special counsel.

As the President Joe Biden documents surfaced this week — a small number, including classified documents, found in two places — the near-unanimous assessment of commentators has been that Garland had "no choice" but to appoint a special counsel in the matter.

But that's not what the law says. The Justice Department regulation calls for a special counsel to be appointed only "when the attorney general determines that a criminal investigation of a person or matter is warranted" and that "the investigation ... would present a conflict of interest for the department, or other extraordinary circumstances."

The key determination, then, is that a criminal investigation is warranted. Based on what we know to date — and it's possible the Justice Department's preliminary investigation turned up facts related to the Biden documents that are as yet unreported — there's simply no legal basis

Harry Litman



to conclude that a criminal investigation is warranted.

As we've learned again and again over the Trump years, the linchpin of most crimes, including document-based ones, is intent. Trump is in document hot water, and deservedly, because the evidence suggests strongly that he knowingly and intentionally took government documents that should have been turned over to the National Archives, and then spearheaded multiple rounds of resistance and lying to the authorities that wanted them back.

By contrast, nothing we know suggests in the slightest that Biden acted intentionally in violation of the law. The record is bare of any indication that the president even knew the documents had left the White House.

Don't get me wrong. The discovery of not one but two sets of government material in an office Biden used in Washington and at his Delaware residence certainly is cause for concern. It is most obviously a political headache that is now reaching migraine proportions. It also raises questions. How often do presidents and vice presidents leave office with classified documents? How are such documents accounted for, and how should those methods be tightened?

And the situation cries out for an investigation into how and why the documents weren't handed over to the archives when Biden left office as vice president.

But what it doesn't cry out for is a criminal investigation. (One politically useful aspect of Hur's appointment is the likelihood that he will determine that and put an end to the president's problem.)

It is without doubt understand-

able why Garland appointed Hur. A special counsel in charge of the investigation takes away a club that the Republican House majority has already begun using to beat up on Garland, the Justice Department and the president. No matter what Hur finds, the peanut gallery will continue to shout and clamor, but Hur's appointment — a former U.S. attorney, senior official at the Department of Justice, clerk to late Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist and a current partner at Gibson Dunn — should reassure the public that any decision in the case is not political.

In fact, it may be welcome news to the White House, which can more staunchly defend itself by arguing that the investigation is on the up and up, and point repeatedly down the street to the Justice Department.

But all that's a matter of politics and appearances, not the letter of the law, supposedly Garland's north star.

In public forums and in legal circles, there has been an ongoing debate about what role politics and public opinion could play in Garland's decisions related to the Justice Department's investigation of Trump's Jan. 6 actions and the White House documents he repeatedly refused to turn over to the National Archives.

I think we have an answer. Garland does not reside entirely in an empyrean realm of the law. He lives and works in Washington, where, as he famously said, during the outrageous stonewalling of his nomination to the Supreme Court, "If you want a friend, get a dog."

Garland's decision to appoint a special counsel in the Biden documents case displays a Washingtonian's situational awareness and an acknowledgment of nuanced political concerns. Not bad qualities for the head of a government agency, but a new gloss on the character of the most important attorney general since Watergate.

The Commercial Review



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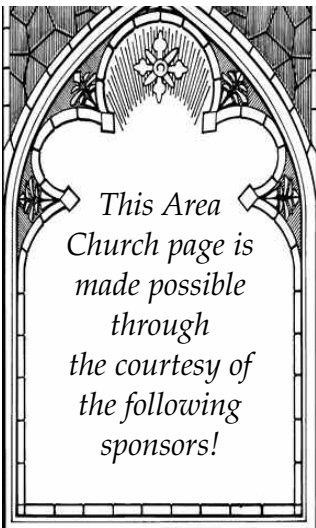
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— Thomas Jefferson

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VOLUME 149-NUMBER 188
THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 19, 2023

www.thecr.com

We welcome letters to the editor. Letters should be 700 words or fewer, signed and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit letters for content and clarity. Email letters to news@thecr.com.

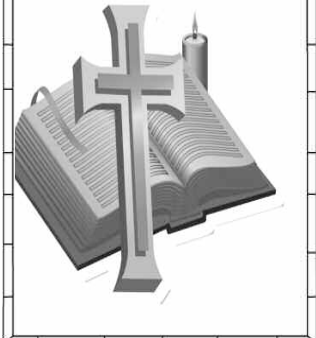


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SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist
204 E. Arch St., Portland
Joe Boggs
(260) 726-8464
Services: 9:30 a.m.
asburyministries.org

Banner Christian Assembly of God
1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
Michael Burk
(260) 726-4282
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefountain United Methodist
440 S. 600 East
Gordon Jackson
Services: 9 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist
Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends
80 E. 650 South
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul
Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
Ava Gannon
(260) 726-2373
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan
209 S. Hendricks St.
Paul VanCise
(260) 997-6231
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist
301 N. Main St., Dunkirk
Susan Durovey-Antrim
(765) 499-0368
Services: 10:30 a.m.
susan.duroveyantrim@in.unc.org

Christ Chapel
105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
Quentin Elsea
(419) 733-1469
christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside)
1209 S. Shank St., Portland
Bob Graham
(260) 726-7777
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30 p.m.

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)
8472 S. 800 East, Union City
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy
797 N. Creager Ave., Portland
Nanette Weesner
(260) 766-9334
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren
Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland
Kevin McClung
(260) 729-7295
Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
South Broad Street, Dunkirk
Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene
450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27
Billy Stanton
(260) 251-2403
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist
211 E. Main St., Portland
Wayne Ward
(260) 726-7714
Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville
190 W. Main St., Pennville
Gary Newton
(765) 669-1070
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene
226 E. Center St., Dunkirk
Tom Fett
(765) 768-6199
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist
930 W. Main St., Portland
Steve Arnold
(260) 251-0970
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County
2875 E. 200 South
Gordon Jackson
Lay leader: Beth Stephen
(260) 726-9184
Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community
9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk
Joe Schmit
(260) 251-5254
Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center
200 E. Elder St., Portland
Ronald Willis
(260) 726-4844
Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday
thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist
289 S. 200 West
Hugh Kelly
(260) 726-8873
Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m.
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist
427 S. Main St., Dunkirk
Dan Coffman
(765) 768-7157
Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ
1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery
David J. Nicholson
(419) 375-2860
Services: 10:30 a.m.
fccftrrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
Everett Bilbrey Jr.
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

First Free Will Baptist
12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian
402 N. Ship St., Portland
Rev. M. Rex Espiritu
(260) 726-8462
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:15 a.m.
firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene
401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
(419) 375-4680
Services: 10:30 a.m.
frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist
309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery
Rev. David Porath
(419) 678-2071
Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle
468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk
Robert Thomas
(765) 348-4620
Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist
100 W. Line St., Geneva
Barry McCune
(260) 368-7655
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene
225 Decatur St., Geneva
(260) 525-8609
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.
Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church
County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
Earl Doll
(260) 731-4477
Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
435 High St., Geneva
Rev. Joseph Hampton
(260) 368-7233
Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
Fr. Peter Logsdon
Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday
churchofthemoshtolytrinity.com

Hopewell of Life Ministries
County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1
Rev. Ruth Funk
(260) 251-8581
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic
506 E. Walnut St., Portland
Fr. Peter Logsdon
(260) 726-7055
Services: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel
4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk
Stuart Phillips
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help of Christians
403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
(419) 375-4153
Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor United Methodist
216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk
John Retter
(765) 768-7273
Services: 9 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist
County roads 600 East and 200 North
Rev. Darrell Borders
(260) 726-4786
Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
4017 W. 200 South
Randy Smith
(260) 251-2406
Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship
1238 W. 450 South
Chuck Myers
(260) 251-0063
Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries
415 S. Helen St., Portland
Dr. Kay Fairchild
(260) 755-6354
Services: 4 p.m.
drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
5905 S. Como Road
Neil Butcher
(765) 499-7838
Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian
1964 N. 800 East
Aaron Huey
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist
829 S. Indiana 1
Neil Butcher
(765) 760-9085
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill
9945 N. 800 East, Union City
Bruce Bryan
(765) 964-3664
Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m.
mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland First Church of Nazarene
920 S. Shank St., Portland
Steve Cecil
(260) 726-8040
Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends
226 E. Main St., Portland
Herb Hummel
(260) 202-9732
Services: 10 a.m.
Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God
4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line)
Rev. Josh Canfield
(765) 584-7045
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran
Malin and Elm streets, Bryant
Father Dan Layden
(260) 997-6787
Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries
9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey
Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman
(765) 369-2920
Services: 10 a.m.
RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First Christian
Union and Malin streets
Jeff Hammers
(765) 468-6172
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist
122 W. Main St.
Lori McIntosh
(765) 369-2085
Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
801 W. High St.
Chuck Hollandbeck
(765) 369-2676
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life
722 W. Main St., Portland
Susan Hathaway
(260) 729-1095
Services: 10:30 a.m.

The ROCK
1605 N. Meridian St., Portland
Matt Ransom
(260) 726-7474
Services: 10 a.m.
matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia Church of Christ
3900 S. 600 East
Bruce Phillips
(260) 335-2017
Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries
228 S. Meridian St., Portland
Dave Keen (260) 251-8792
Mike Eads (260) 703-0733
Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic
1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic
346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk
Rev. Kevin Hurley
Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic
517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic
1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery
Rev. Alexander Witt
Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene
County roads 400 North and 550 West
Rev. Mike Heckman
(260) 731-4733
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

Sugar Grove United Methodist
County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk
Scott McClain
Services: 9 a.m.

Temple Baptist
17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk
John Elam
(765) 768-7708
Sunday school: 10 a.m.
Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday
tpillarsdirector@gmail.com
templebaptistin.com

The Church at Westchester
4487 E. 400 North
(260) 726-6311
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Services: 10:35 a.m.

Trinity Lutheran
301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery
Robin Owen
(419) 375-4498
Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sunday)
pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity United Methodist
323 S. Meridian St., Portland
(260) 726-8391
Services: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 10:30 a.m.
portlandtrinity.com

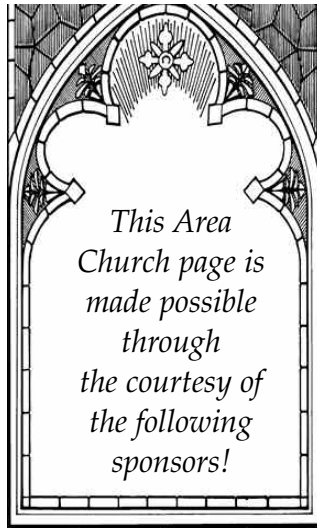
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
Fred Stevens
Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner
County roads 200 North and 500 West
Steve Rogers
(260) 251-1113
Services: 10:30 a.m.
Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut Church of Christ
204 W. Walnut St., Portland
Gil Alicea
(260) 726-4691
Services: 10 a.m.
westwalnutchurchof-christ.org

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Darrell Borders
218 E. High St., Portland
(260) 726-8832
zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
Services: 10:30 a.m.



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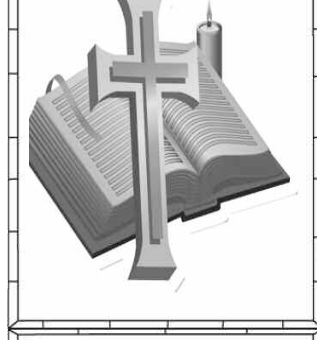
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"PJ's frosting at the mouth."

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The wrong medicine

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable. NORTH ♠K94 ♥Q975 ♦Q962 ♣A6 WEST ♠Q1082 ♥843 ♦3 ♣QJ1053 EAST ♠765 ♥6 ♦J1075 ♣K9842 SOUTH ♠AJ3 ♥AKJ102 ♦AK84 ♣7

showed out, South was faced with the problem of trying to avoid the loss of a spade as well as a diamond. So, rather than stake the outcome on a simple spade finesse, South cashed the king of diamonds and put East on lead with a fourth diamond. East returned a spade, and South, of course, followed low. This method of play would have been successful had East held the ten or queen of spades (or both), but with the spades situated as they were, South finished down one.

A plan of play that offers declarer a 75% chance of success is very good, but it is obviously not as good as a plan that offers a 100 percent chance. Consider this deal where South won the opening club lead with the ace, drew three rounds of trump, ruffed a club, cashed the ace of diamonds and continued with a diamond to the queen. When West

After cashing the ace of diamonds at trick six, South should have played the K-A and another spade. This would have guaranteed the contract no matter how the spades or diamonds were divided. Regardless of which defender won the third spade, that player would be forced to return a diamond or yield a ruff-and-discard. Either play was certain to eliminate the potential diamond loser and thus assure the slam.

Tomorrow: Test your play. ©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



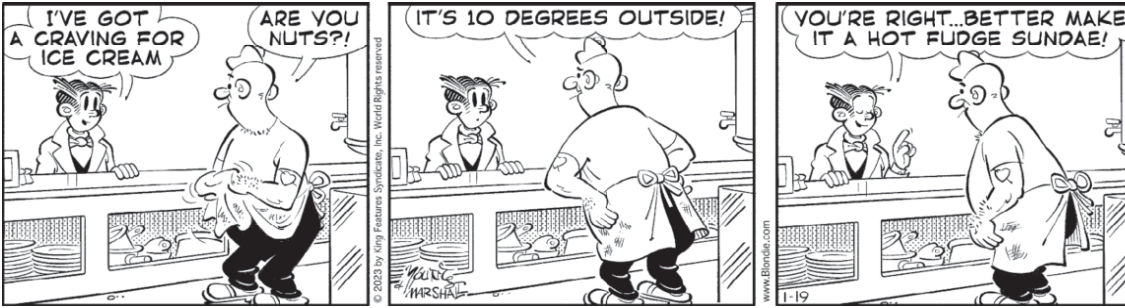
Hi and Lois



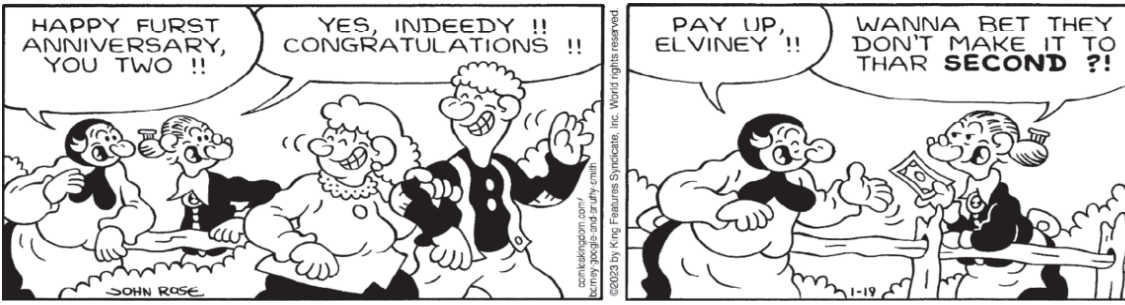
Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

EQ EQZQ KMTSWJ M AKMY MINCY ICSHVSJ WMZZNE LKQHTQL, ICY S ANCHVW'Y JQY M ENZV SW HQVJQ-ESLQ.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHENEVER CAVEMEN WANTED TO GET OUT AND HAVE A REALLY GREAT TIME, DID THEY GO CLUBBING? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down. Includes a solution time of 24 mins and a grid for yesterday's answer.

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Photo provided

Crossfit competitors

Members of Jay County Barbell Club competed Jan. 7 in the 2023 Winter Classic Crossfit Competition. Danny Bracy and Kurt Hess teamed to take first place in the men's scaled division. Carly Hess and Pazia Williams were second in the women's RX division and Sierra Kaiser and Shawnda Roussey teamed for seventh in the women's scaled division.

Pacers fall to surging Thunder

By CLEMENTE ALMANZA
Muskogee Phoenix
Tribune News Service

OKLAHOMA CITY — Any concerns of the Oklahoma City Thunder letting their egos be quickly diminished in their 126-106 win over the Indiana Pacers.

A little over three minutes into the game, the Thunder quickly created a 17-1 lead against the Pacers. A 42-point third quarter helped blow this game open for the Thunder as they entered the fourth quarter with a 100-73 lead.

It was another all-around effort for the Thunder as seven of the 11 players who played scored at least 10 points with nobody taking more than 17 shots.

The Pacers (23-23) had six players in double figures, but shot 41.5% compared to the much more efficient Oklahoma City squad. The Thunder were a scoring machine, as they shot 47-of-93 (50.5%) from the field and went 16-of-38 (42.1%) from outside. Of their 47 made shots, 41 were assisted — a franchise record.

This continues the recent trend of the Thunder being an offensive juggernaut. Since the start of 2023, the Thunder own the third-best offense in the league, scoring 121.9 points per 100 possessions.

The catalyst to the Thunder's recent success centers around their young backcourt.

Gilgeous-Alexander finished with 23 points on 7-of-17 shooting, six assists and three rebounds. Giddey finished with 16 points on 8-of-12 shooting, 11 assists and six rebounds.

Andrew Nembhard scored 18 points to lead the Pacers, with Ben Mathurin and Trevelin Queen each adding 13.

Hamlin visits Bill's practice facility

By CHUCK SCHILKEN
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

Damar Hamlin has visited the Buffalo Bills at their practice facility multiple times in recent days. Coach Sean McDermott indicated Wednesday the visits could become a daily occurrence as the Bills safety recovers after suffering cardiac arrest during a game earlier this month.

McDermott spoke with reporters before practice as the Bills prepare for their AFC divisional playoff game Sunday

against the Cincinnati Bengals, the team Buffalo was playing on Jan. 2 when Hamlin collapsed and had to be resuscitated on the field. The sixth-year coach was asked how his players were doing in the aftermath of such a traumatic experience.

"I think the guys are in a good spot," McDermott said. "You know, Damar's in the building now, almost starting daily, so that's good news. And as he continues to improve, that certainly helps."

Asked to elaborate

about Hamlin's visits to the facility, McDermott said Hamlin hasn't participated in team meetings but instead is just "dipping his toe back in here, you know, getting on the road to, just getting back to himself."

As for Hamlin's experiences at the facility, McDermott said: "It's limited, just overall. But he comes in, and really just started really today or yesterday, and just trying to get back to a little bit of a routine and just get himself acclimated again and taking it one

step, one baby step at a time here."

Hamlin was released from the hospital on Jan. 11 to continue his recovery at home. He visited his teammates for the first time three days later during their walk-through ahead of their wild-card game against the Miami Dolphins. Hamlin's parents and brother were with him at the time.

"Word traveled fast, because by the end of walk-through everyone had gotten down there to say hello," McDermott

said Sunday of that initial visit, "and he was trying to, you know, being the team guy that he is, trying to stay under the radar and he was kind of all the way down the one end zone there. But yeah, good to see him back in the building."

Cornerback Kairi Elam said Sunday: "That was special for the whole team, because everybody just ran up and just bombarded each other trying to get to see him and hug him. And I think that was very special and it lifted a lot of spirits as well."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Girls basketball vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Junior varsity wrestling at Belmont — 5:30 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball at Mississinewa — 6 p.m. Junior high girls basketball at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. South Adams — 6 p.m.; Junior high wrestling vs. Adams Central — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Marion Local — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball at Marion Local — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at Celina — 5 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Boys basketball (including freshman) vs. South Adams — 5 p.m.; Swimming hosts Allen County Athletic Conference Championships — 5:30 p.m.; Wrestling in Allen County Ath-

letic Conference Championships at Woodlan — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball vs. Marion Local — 6 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Boys basketball at Hagerstown — noon; Girls basketball at Southern Wells — 7:30 p.m.; Junior high wrestling at Noblesville West — 9 a.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Adams Central — 9 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Swimming at Auglaize YMCA — 8 a.m.; Girls basketball at Franklin Monroe — 10 a.m.; Boys basketball at Graham — 6 p.m.; Freshman boys basketball at Arcanum — 9 a.m.

TV sports

Today
3 p.m. — Soccer: Premier League —

Tottenham Hotspur at Manchester City (USA)

6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Rutgers at Michigan State (FS1)
6:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Northwestern at Ohio State (BTN)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Purdue vs. Minnesota (ESPN2); Michigan at Maryland (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Golden State Warriors at Boston Celtics (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL hockey: Nashville Predators at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)

8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Indiana at Illinois (FS1)

8:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Michigan at Rutgers (BTN)

9 p.m. — Tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)
9 p.m. — NHL hockey: Tampa Bay

Lightning at Edmonton Oilers (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Phoenix Suns (TNT)
10:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UCLA at Arizona State (FS1)

Friday
2:30 p.m. — Soccer: Bundesliga — Bayern Munchen at RB Leipzig (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Villanova at St. John's (FS1)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Miami Heat at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)
9 p.m. — Tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)

11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Boise State at New Mexico (FS1)

Saturday
10 a.m. — Soccer: Premier

League — Everton at West Ham United (USA)

Noon — Men's college basketball: Georgetown at Xavier (FS1); Mississippi at Arkansas (ESPN2); Miami at Duke (ESPN); Wisconsin at Northwestern (BTN); Syracuse at Georgia Tech (Bally Indiana)

12:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Dayton at George Washington (USA)

12:30 p.m. — Soccer: Premier League — Newcastle United at Crystal Palace (NBC)

1 p.m. — Men's college basketball: TCU at Kansas (CBS)

2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: UCLA at Arizona (ABC); Texas Tech at Kansas State (ESPN); Iowa State at Oklahoma State (FOX); DePaul at Providence (FS1); Boston College at Notre Dame (Bally Indiana)

2:15 p.m. — Men's college basket-

ball: Nebraska at Penn State (BTN)

2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: La Salle at Saint Louis (USA)

3 p.m. — Golf: LPGA Tour — Tournament of Champions (NBC)

4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Colorado State at Wyoming (FS1)

4:30 p.m. — NFL playoffs: AFC Divisional — Jacksonville Jaguars at Kansas City Chiefs (NBC)

8 p.m. — Tennis: Australian Open (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Michigan at Minnesota (BTN)

8:15 p.m. — NFL playoffs: NFC Divisional — New York Giants at Philadelphia Phillies (FOX)

9 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Phoenix Suns (Bally Indiana)

10 p.m. — Boxing: Glover Teixeira vs. Jamahal Hill (ABC/ESPN)

11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oregon at Stanford (FS1)

90 SALE CLENDAR

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Saturday Morning
JANUARY 21, 2023
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90 SALE CLENDAR

black steel railing; and other items not listed.
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City of Portland
2022-2 CCMG Portland Project
Sealed Bids for the 2022-2 CCMG Portland Project will be received by the City of Portland at the Jay County Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian Street, Suite D, Portland, Indiana 47371, until Friday, January 27, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.
The Project includes the following Work: The resurfacing of various streets within the City of Portland.
Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found and downloaded at the following website: choiceoneengineering.com/projects-out-for-bid. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office of Choice One.
For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.
Owner: City of Portland
By: John Boggs
Title: Mayor
Date: January 12, 2023
CR 1-12, 19-2023 - HSPAXLP

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City of Dunkirk
Dunkirk, Indiana
2022-2 CCMG Dunkirk Project
Sealed Bids for the 2022-2 CCMG Dunkirk Project will be received by the City of Dunkirk at the Jay County Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian Street, Suite D, Portland, Indiana 47371, until Friday, January 27, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.
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For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.
Owner: City of Dunkirk
By: Jack Robbins
Title: Mayor
Date: January 12, 2023
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ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Town of Redkey
2022-2 CCMG Redkey Project
Sealed Bids for the 2022-2 CCMG Redkey Project will be received by the Town of Redkey at the Jay County Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian Street, Suite D, Portland, Indiana 47371, until Friday, January 27, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read.
The Project includes the following Work: The resurfacing of various streets within the Town of Redkey.
Information and Bidding Documents for the Project can be found and downloaded at the following website: choiceoneengineering.com/projects-out-for-bid. All official notifications, addenda, and other Bidding Documents will be offered through the designated website. Neither Owner nor Engineer will be responsible for Bidding Documents, including addenda, if any, obtained from sources other than the Issuing Office of Choice One.
For all further requirements regarding bid submittal, qualifications, procedures, and contract award, refer to the Instructions to Bidders that are included in the Bidding Documents.
Owner: Town of Redkey
By: Erik Hammers
Title: Council President
Date: January 12, 2023
CR 1-12, 19-2023 - HSPAXLP

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Sports



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Third in a row

The Jay County High School girls basketball team celebrates with the Allen County Athletic Conference tournament championship trophy Saturday night at Bluffton after defeating Woodlan to win its third consecutive title. The Class 3A No. 2 Patriots, whose three tournament victories came by a combined 126 points, have won seven of the last nine ACAC tournament championships. The IHSAA draw for this year's sectional tournaments is scheduled for Sunday.

Vaughn hits three triples for HU

A former Indian had a strong shooting night from long distance.

It wasn't quite enough for a victory.

Alli Vaughn, a 2021 Fort Recovery High School graduate, hit three 3-pointers Wednesday night in the Huntington University women's basketball team's 87-84 loss to Spring Arbor.

Vaughn was one of five Foresters to score in double figures as she shot 3-of-6 from long distance and 6-of-11 from the field for 15

Collegiate Check-up

points. She also grabbed one rebound.

The sophomore also had two points, two rebounds, one steal and one assist Saturday as HU (8-12) fell 86-65 to Grace.

Vaughn is averaging 9.1

points per game along with 4.8 rebounds this year.

Val Muhlenkamp FRHS - 2020

Led the University of Findlay women's basketball team in rebounds Jan. 12 in its 78-54 loss to Kentucky Wesleyan.

Muhlenkamp grabbed five rebounds for the Oilers (4-13). She also had eight points.

She also had three points, two rebounds and a

steal in a 71-60 loss Saturday to Trevecca Nazarene.

Robby LeFevre FRHS - 2019

Competed in a pair of events Saturday for the Fordham University men's track team in the Lions Indoor Invitational hosted by The College of New Jersey.

LeFevre placed 15th out of 40 competitors in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.16 seconds. He also posted a time of 23.62 for 31st

out of more than 60 in the 200 dash.

Eliza Bader Jay County - 2021

Helped the Ball State University women's swim team start the new year with a split Saturday, as it edged Southern Illinois 152-148 and lost 197-103 to Indiana State.

Bader was 12th in both of her individual events, finishing the 50 freestyle in 25.31 and the 100 butterfly in 1 minute, 0.18 sec-

onds. She teamed with Betsy King, Alyssa Messenger and Kenzie Pierce for an eighth place finish in the 200 medley relay.

Olivia Patch FRHS - 2020

Played for the Hillsdale College women's basketball team Saturday as it topped Ohio Dominican 78-57.

Patch saw three minutes of action off the bench for the Chargers, who are now 12-7.



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